

Sunday, June 12, 2016 at 3:00 PM
Adelphi University Performing Arts Center

The Metropolitan Youth Orchestra of New York Alumni Choir and Orchestra



JOSEPH HAYDN
(1732-1809)

Sanctus, No. 4 from *Nelson Mass in D minor*

DAVID C. DICKAU
(b. 1953)

If Music Be the Food of Love

ELIZA GILKYSON
(b. 1950)
Arr. Craig Hella Johnson

Requiem

KINLEY LANGE
(b. 1950)

Esto Les Digo

Shoshana Hershkowitz, *Alumni Choir Director*
Sandra Baskin, *Pianist*

GIOVANNI PALESTRINA
(1525-1594)

Sicut Cervus

SIR ELTON JOHN
(b. 1947)
Arr. Fidel Calalang Jr.

Circle of Life, from *The Lion King*

Edward P. Norris III, *Alumni Choir Director*
Sandra Baskin, *Pianist*

LUDWIG VAN BEETHOVEN
(1770-1827)

Symphony No. 5 in C minor, Op. 67
I. Allegro con brio
IV. Allegro

Phil Preddice, *Alumni Orchestra Director*

HECTOR BERLIOZ
(1803-1869)

Symphonie Fantastique, Op. 14
III. Scene in the Fields
IV. March to the Scaffold
V. Dream of a Witches' Sabbath

Scott Stickley, *Alumni Orchestra Director*

Presentation of Senior Scholarship Awards

GIUSEPPE VERDI
(1813-1901)

La donna é mobile, from Act III of *Rigoletto*

FRANK LOESSER
(1910-1969)

**My Heart is So Full of You, from
*The Most Happy Fella***

FREDERICK LOEWE
(1901-1988)

**I Could Have Danced All Night, from
*My Fair Lady***

RICHARD RODGERS
(1902-1979)

If I Loved You, from *Carousel*

GIUSEPPE VERDI
(1813-1901)

**Brindisi: Libiamo ne' lieti calici, from
*La Traviata***

Phil Preddice, *Alumni Orchestra Director*
Leah Edwards, *Soprano*
Dimitri Pittas, *Tenor*

Please join us after the performance for a free reception to celebrate the MYO community

Special Guest Soloists



Leah Edwards

Born on the fourth of July, this Yankee Doodle has dandled with being a professional gymnast, dancer, pianist and singer. The long road across multiple disciplines ultimately lead to her auspicious Broadway debut in 2011 as a member of the company of Terrence McNally's Master Class. Leah has danced with tap icons Harold Nicholas and Sandy Duncan, acted alongside theatre greats John Cullum and Rosie O'Donnell, played in festivals with leading pianists Orion Weiss and Leif Ove Andnes, sung with opera stars Stephanie Blythe and Joyce DiDonato and Broadway divas Kristin Chenoweth and Kelli O'Hara. She has had a unique career of combining all of her different disciplines including performing as a vocal soloist with the New York City Ballet's presentation of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, as a company member of seven shows with New York City Center's Encores! series and was most recently afforded the chance to perform both the role and dance the dream ballet as Laurey Williams in *Oklahoma!* Other opportunities that have presented themselves during Leah's career have included her rendition of The National Anthem at The Pentagon, her radio sound bite of a political spoof entitled "Don't cry for me North Korea" and her appearance on *The Price is Right* with Bob Barker. She can be seen on PBS' *Live from Lincoln Center* and her recordings from the *Opera America Songbook* can be purchased on iTunes. Leah is an avid Yankees fan, a nature nerd, a lover of all things Santa Fe and when she is not working, enjoys practicing yoga, rock climbing, reading *The Week*, watching crime drama marathons, drinking wine and doing sudokus. Having formed a habit of consolidating holidays, Leah married the love of her life, Dimitri Pittas, on her birthday in 2010 and, since then, they have performed in concert together, appeared on *The Newlywed Game* and, otherwise, have lived happily ever after either globe-trotting or at their residence in Charleston.



Dimitri Pittas has performed on leading opera stages throughout North America and Europe, including debuts with the Bavarian State Opera, the Vienna State Opera, the Royal Opera at Covent Garden, and the Canadian Opera Company. He is a graduate of the Metropolitan Opera's Lindemann Young Artist Development Program and has been heard on the Met stage as Rodolfo in *La bohème*, Macduff in *Macbeth*, Nemorino in *L'elisir d'amore*, and Tamino in *Die Zauberflöte*. For his debut with Canadian Opera Company as the Duke in *Rigoletto*, the *Toronto Star* said, "Dimitri Pittas comes off the best as the Duke of Mantua, with a flexible voice that can express real love and shallow

desire with equal conviction." Mr. Pittas begins the current season at the Metropolitan Opera singing the role of Cassio in a new Opening Night production of *Otello*, directed by Bartlett Sher. He also performs the role of Alfred in *Die Fledermaus* at the Met, and in Japan at the Saito Kinen Festival. On the concert stage, he will sing Beethoven's Symphony No. 9 with the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra, Beethoven's *Missa Solemnis* with the BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra, and will also be presented in recital by the George London Foundation. Last season, Dimitri Pittas' engagements included Rodolfo in *La bohème* with Opera de Paris, Opera National de Bordeaux, Dallas Opera, and Palm Beach Opera. He performed the title role of *Don Carlo* in a new production for Opera Philadelphia, Nemorino in *L'elisir d'amore* with Deutsche Oper Berlin, and Michele in the world premiere of *La Ciocara (Two Women)* by Marco Tutino, with San Francisco Opera. Concert highlights comprise Beethoven's Symphony No. 9 with the Cincinnati Symphony and the Cleveland Orchestra, Verdi's Requiem with the Colorado Symphony Orchestra, as well as at Carnegie Hall at the annual recital of the Marilyn Horne Foundation.

Music Directors



Shoshana Hershkowitz (Suffolk Youth Chorale) is an artist in residence at Stony Brook University, where she conducts the Stony Brook Chorale and Camerata Singers, prepares choirs for the opera productions, and has taught voice for the Pre-College Music Program. Prior to her work at Stony Brook University, Mrs. Hershkowitz taught at Commack High School from 1999-2009. As a guest conductor, Mrs. Hershkowitz has conducted choirs for the Vermont Music Educators Association, Nassau Music Educators Association, Suffolk County Music Educators Association, and the Hamptons Music Educators Association. As a clinician, Mrs. Hershkowitz has presented workshops for NYSCAME, SCMEA, Society for Ethics in Education, and the Balanced Mind Conference. Mrs. Hershkowitz sings with the eVoco Voice Collective, a semi-professional chamber choir. She holds degrees in music education and vocal performance from the Crane School of Music at SUNY Potsdam.



Edward P. Norris III (Nassau Chamber Chorale) is the director of Choral Music at Glen Cove High School. He conducts the 75 voice Mixed Chorus and the 45 voice Select Chorale. Mr. Norris also teaches courses in Music Theory, AP Music Theory, and Music In Our Lives. He serves as the director and conductor of the school's musical productions and advisor of the Tri-M National Music Honors Society. Mr. Norris is a graduate of the Aaron Copland School of Music at Queens College, where he received both his Bachelor of Arts Degree, and his Masters Degree in Music Education and Choral Conducting. Mr. Norris has furthered his choral studies singing under the batons of Anton Armstrong, Lawrence Eisman, Weston Noble, Tim Peter, and John Rutter. During Mr. Norris' tenure at Glen Cove High School, the Mixed Chorus and Select Chorale have only received Gold Medals and Gold Medals with Distinction at the NYSSMA Major Ensemble festivals. The Chorale has also performed at the NYACDA Choral Directors Conference, as well as choral festivals at Westminster Choir College and the Aaron Copland School of Music. In 2013, the Select Chorale was invited to perform at the White House for the President and First Lady, as well as other invited guests. In January of 2016, Mr. Norris and the Select Chorale performed in a concert tour of Italy which included performances at St. Peter's Basilica, the Church of San Lorenzo, and the Basilica of St. Francis of Assisi. While on tour, the Chorale had the distinct honor to perform for His Holiness; Pope Francis at the Feast of the Epiphany. Mr. Norris has also been a guest conductor for the Long Island Choral festival at Adelphi University, Suffolk County Music Educators Association's All County Festival (Division II and Division III), Massachusetts Music Educators Association All District Festival, and at Hofstra University. Mr. Norris is extremely proud to be the director of the Nassau Chamber Chorale. Although this is his 9th year in MYO (he previously directed the Nassau Youth Chorale), this is only his second year directing the newly formed Chamber Chorale. Under his direction, the MYO Choirs have performed works such as Mozart's *Requiem*, Rutter's *Requiem*, Poulenc's *Gloria*, Handel's *Messiah*, and Gjeilo's *To The East And To The West* (world premiere 2014). Mr. Norris is very thankful to work with some of Long Island's best singers and looks forward to many more years with MYO!



Phil Preddice (Suffolk Principal Orchestra) is a graduate of the Crane School of Music where he studied viola with Lamar Alsop, Theodore Israel, and Maurice Baritaud. His conducting studies were carefully guided by Professor Brock McElheran. Performances under the batons of Eugene Ormandy, James Levine, Stanley Chappel, Howard Hanson, Christopher Keene, and Aaron Copland inspired Mr. Preddice to reach for new heights as a conductor. He has been the conductor of the Suffolk Principal Orchestra since its formation in 2008. Mr. Preddice is the founding and Principal Conductor of the Crane Alumni Festival Orchestra. This ensemble founded in 2014, performs concerts to raise scholarship funds for students wishing to pursue advanced music studies at the Crane School of Music at SUNY Potsdam. Mr. Preddice also frequently conducts State, and Regional Festival Orchestras. For many years, he worked as Principal Conductor of the New York State Summer School of the Arts String Orchestra in Saratoga. This orchestra is administered by the New York State Education Department, and is

coached by principal members of the Philadelphia Orchestra. Mr. Preddice is a past President of the Suffolk County Music Educators' Association, a past Executive Board member of Long Island String Festival Association, and a past Vice President of the New York State American String Teachers Association. He is currently retired from a career as Orchestra director in the Commack, Shoreham- Wading River, and Three Village school districts. Mr. Preddice is the recipient of the 2000 Helen Hosmer Excellence in Music Teaching Award, granted by the Alumni Association of the Crane School of Music at SUNY Potsdam. Music is always being played in the Preddice household. Wife Susan, daughter Alisa, son Jon, and daughter Leanne are all Music Teachers and active local musicians. The Preddice Family String Quartet plays for brides and grooms throughout the Long Island and the Metropolitan NYC area. When he is not conducting, Mr. Preddice can frequently be found fishing on a quiet Adirondack pond or surf casting the rocky shoals of Montauk.



Scott Stickley (Nassau Principal Orchestra) hails from Oregon and he holds degrees from the University of Oregon and the University of Michigan. He studied conducting at the Tanglewood Music Center and has attended conducting seminars with Gustav Meier, Michael Tilson Thomas, and Roger Norrington. Highlights of Mr. Stickley's tenure with The Metropolitan Youth Orchestra of New York have included a 2014 performance of *To The East and To The West*, a choral masterwork by Norwegian composer Ola Gjeilo at Carnegie Hall, and a critically acclaimed tour of China featuring members of MYO that same year, a 2007 performance at the New York State School Music Association Conference in Rochester NY, Beethoven's Ninth Symphony at Avery Fisher Hall in 2006, and conducting Pulitzer Prizewinning composer Paul Moravec's MYO commission and world premiere, *New York Dances* in 2004. Soloists featured with MYO under his direction include the New York Philharmonic's Stanley Drucker and Philip Myers, Metropolitan Opera soprano Danielle de Niese, and international piano soloist Gilles Vonsattel. Scott Stickley

teaches instrumental music for the Herricks Schools, has served as interim director for the Adelphi University Orchestra, and guest conducted the orchestra at the Crane School of Music at SUNY Potsdam. Mr. Stickley tours extensively with MYO, leading concerts in China, England, Germany, Italy, Spain, Poland, Austria and the Czech Republic.



Sandra Baskin (President of the MYO Board) is an accomplished and dedicated music educator and has been teaching and performing in the greater Long Island area for 39 years. Ms. Baskin has led The MYO choirs on the past five tours to China, Eastern and Western Europe, Australia, and New Zealand. She has also performed as a piano accompanist at the White House and throughout the Eastern United States. In addition to her musical leadership, Ms. Baskin is also the President of the MYO Board of Directors.

The Musicians

Alumni Choir

Soprano

Katie Bent-Koerick, *Class of 2014*
Taylor Burgess, *Class of 2014*
Amanda Caliguiri, *Class of 2015*
Esther Chung, *Class of 2015*
Emma Haley, *Class of 2015*
Dina Paci, *Class of 2014*
Mary Kate Petsky, *Class of 2016*
Juliet Rafanelli, *Class of 2016*
Heather Robertson, *Class of 2014*
Emily Shallbetter, *Class of 2016*
Mary-Catherine Skoulos, *Class of 2010*
Rachel Steiner, *Class of 2015*
Catherine Sweeney, *Class of 2016*
Molly Trabich, *Class of 2006*

Alto

Jasmine Benjamin, *Class of 2016*
Kayla Boedner, *Class of 2015*
Lauren Bourguet, *Class of 2008*
Manjot Chhabra, *Class of 2015*

Juliana D'Alessandro, *Class of 2016*
Ishna Kapoor, *Class of 2015*
Franny Krieger, *Class of 2011*
Veronica Mak, *Class of 2015*
Casey Rice, *Class of 2011*
Breann Rissland, *Class of 2014*
Joslyn Thomas, *Class of 2014*
Alison Varghese, *Class of 2014*
Noelle Young, *Class of 2016*

Tenor

Jimmy Gratta, *Class of 2015*
Jeremy Lopez, *Class of 2016*
Jake Shefts, *Class of 2015*
Joseph Tancredi, *Class of 2015*

Bass

Thomas Loomis, *Class of 2016*
Andy O'Brien, *Class of 2016*
Laurence Plonsky, *Class of 2016*

Alumni Orchestra

Violin

Christina Ashby, *Class of 2014*
Adam Birke, *Class of 2005*
Catherine Chang, *Class of 2008*
August Chen, *Class of 2016*
Esther Chung, *Class of 2015*
Joseph Field, *Class of 2014*
Sapphire Greene, *Class of 2010*
April Gulotti, *Class of 2010*
Shannon Haselton, *Class of 2014*
Laura Kobrinsky, *Class of 2015*
Peter Li, *Class of 2015*
Laura Maila, *Class of 2016*

Michael Massina, *Class of 2013*
Katelyn Odierna, *Class of 2011*
Elizabeth Ostaszewski, *Class of 2006*
Bridget Pitre, *Class of 2016*
Michelle Popal, *Class of 2010*
Cindy Reyes, *Class of 2007*
Cristian Rodriguez, *Class of 2016*
John Rotolo, *Class of 2014*
Pearl Shin, *Class of 2008*
Rebecca Stein, *Class of 2014*
Arya Tousi, *Class of 2016*
Laura Vega, *Class of 2015*

Viola

Madeleine Carroll, *Class of 2012*
Lisa Famularo, *Class of 2012*
Jessica Herman, *Class of 2016*
Nick O'Brien, *Class of 2014*
Noreen Prunier, *Class of 2013*
David Vakili, *Class of 2012*

Cello

Alexander Arellano, *Class of 2008*
Brett Baskin, *Class of 2008*
Celia Bittman, *Class of 2015*
Cedric Chang, *Class of 2011*
Tashauna Dyer, *Class of 2010*

Bass

Kristine Beckmann, *Class of 2009*
Brandon Dering, *Class of 2016*
Julian Eichholz, *Class of 2015*
James Mitaritonna, *Class of 2009*
Max Naftol, *Class of 2015*
Meron Sebhatu, *Class of 2014*

Flute

Beatrice Brown, *Class of 2015*
Mark Carr, *Class of 2012*
Sarah Ferrante, *Class of 2015*
Anastasia King, *Class of 2016*
Nicole Mihalek, *Class of 2011*
Mallory Rutigliano, *Class of 2013*
Gabriella Schwartz, *Class of 2015*

Oboe

Taylor Baldwin, *Class of 2015*
Christopher Leech, *Class of 2013*
Henry Mulligan, *Class of 2012*
Robin Shum, *Class of 2016*

Clarinet

Bryan Filetto, *Class of 2015*
Diana Herrera, *Class of 2015*
Melvin Li, *Class of 2013*
Cassandra Nielsen, *Class of 2016*
Kristen Papillo, *Class of 2012*
Catherine Wilshusen, *Class of 2010*

Bassoon

Emily Roach, *Class of 2015*
Kevin Solomowitz, *Class of 2013*

French Horn

Nicole Bardabelias, *Class of 2014*
Robert Esposito, *Class of 2015*
Jennifer Keys, *Class of 2004*
Andrew Morrison, *Class of 2015*
Nick Pepino, *Class of 2015*
Tanner Schaper, *Class of 2013*

Trumpet

Edward DeNicola, *Class of 2016*
Joseph Nickel, *Class of 2015*

Trombone

John Burke-McGoldrick, *Class of 2016*
James Khoury, *Class of 2016*
Edward Matin, *Class of 2015*

Tuba

Alex Della Ratta, *Class of 2014*
Casey Poon, *Class of 2016*
Joseph Randazzo, *Class of 2012*

Percussion

Brian Fitzpatrick, *Class of 2016*
Harry Petropoulos, *Class of 2016*
Fred Trumpy, *Guest Performer*

Harp

Lauren Schrempp, *Guest Performer*

Please save the date for the next MYO Alumni Concert on June 11, 2017!

About The Metropolitan Youth Orchestra of New York

The Metropolitan Youth Orchestra of New York (MYO) is committed to fostering a community of talented young musicians from Long Island and providing them with an opportunity to rehearse and perform orchestral and choral masterworks at the highest possible level with recognized leaders in music education and performance. Founded in the fall of 1993 by Founder and Executive Director Emeritus John C. McNeur, MYO has grown from one orchestra of fifteen members to seven orchestras, a flute choir, and seven choral ensembles, serving 990 young musicians between the ages of 8 and 18. Over the past several summers, MYO has embarked on performance tours, including Central and Eastern Europe, the United Kingdom, and most recently to The People's Republic of China. MYO will embark on a performance tour of Spain in July 2016.

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Anissa Arnold, *Executive Liaison*
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