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Hunterdon Medical Center to host Family Night concert for patients and families featuring New Jersey Symphony Orchestra chamber ensemble on June 10

Horizon Blue Cross Blue Shield of New Jersey sponsors performance

Concert is part of NJSO's Music and Wellness Program

NEWARK, NJ (May 26, 2016)—A New Jersey Symphony Orchestra chamber ensemble will perform for patients and families at the Hunterdon Medical Center's Family Night on Friday, June 10, at 6 pm, in a concert sponsored by Horizon Blue Cross Blue Shield of New Jersey as part of the NJSO's Music and Wellness Program.

An NJSO trio featuring Principal Viola Frank Foerster, Principal Bass Jonathan Storck and bassoonist Mark Timmerman will perform a chamber concert inspired by *The Jungle Book*. The musicians will bring Kipling's classic to life, narrating the story with a fun mix of music, puppets and props. Musical selections include classical favorites by Handel, Beethoven, Tchaikovsky and more, as well as tangos and American fiddle, boogie and Lady Gaga tunes.

Timmerman, who will also perform flute and saxophone at the concert, says performing for patients, families and staff through the Music and Wellness Program "is a uniquely rewarding musical experience. 'Perform' doesn't seem like the right word—I would say 'sharing' music is more apt. It [is] wonderful to bring brightness to the patients as well as the staff; the experience has definitely strengthened my belief in the healing power of live music."

"It has been inspiring to see the happiness and comfort live music has brought to patients, their family members and hospital staff, and we are thrilled to partner with Horizon Blue Cross Blue Shield of New Jersey to bring this program to Hunterdon Medical Center," says NJSO Director of Institutional Giving Ingrid Novak.

Through its partnership with the NJSO, Horizon Blue Cross Blue Shield of New Jersey is bringing customized Music and Wellness events to several medical centers and partner hospitals. NJSO musicians have performed for patients at their bedsides and given chamber music concerts in common areas.

The NJSO's Music and Wellness Program is made possible by partnerships with Horizon Blue Cross Blue Shield of New Jersey, Newark Beth Israel Medical Center (NBIMC), Children's Hospital of New Jersey (CHoNJ) and Hackensack University Medical Center.

To register for this evening program, please call 908-788-6157 or e-mail Exley.Jennifer@Hunterdonhealthcare.org.

HORIZON BLUE CROSS BLUE SHIELD OF NEW JERSEY

Horizon Blue Cross Blue Shield of New Jersey, the state's oldest and largest health insurer, is a tax-paying, not-for-profit health service corporation, providing a wide array of medical, dental and prescription insurance products and services. Horizon BCBSNJ is leading the transformation of health care in New Jersey by working with doctors and hospitals to deliver innovative, patient-centered programs that reward the quality, not quantity, of care patients receive. Learn more at www.HorizonBlue.com. Horizon BCBSNJ is an independent licensee of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association, serving more than 3.8 million members.

HUNTERDON MEDICAL CENTER

Hunterdon Medical Center, is a 178-bed non-profit community hospital that is acknowledged as a leader in developing comprehensive medical and health care services. Our goal is to meet the needs with health care that is compassionate and effective. We provide a full range of preventive, diagnostic and therapeutic inpatient and outpatient hospital and community health services. Our staff is committed to providing the highest quality care to our patients.

NEW IERSEY SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

Named "a vital, artistically significant musical organization" by *The Wall Street Journal*, the New Jersey Symphony Orchestra embodies that vitality through its statewide presence and critically acclaimed performances, education partnerships and unparalleled access to music and the Orchestra's superb musicians.

Under the bold leadership of Music Director Jacques Lacombe, the NJSO presents classical, pops and family programs, as well as outdoor summer concerts and special events. Embracing its legacy as a statewide orchestra, the NJSO is the resident orchestra of the New Jersey Performing Arts Center in Newark and regularly performs at the State Theatre in New Brunswick, Count Basie Theatre in Red Bank, Richardson Auditorium in Princeton, Mayo Performing Arts Center in Morristown and bergenPAC in Englewood. Partnerships with New Jersey arts organizations, universities and civic organizations remain a key element of the Orchestra's statewide identity.

In addition to its lauded artistic programming, the NJSO presents a suite of education and community engagement programs that promote meaningful, lifelong engagement with live music. Programs include school-time Concerts for Young People performances and multiple offerings—including the NJSO Youth Orchestras and El Sistema-inspired NJSO CHAMPS (Character, Achievement and Music Project)—that provide and promote in-school instrumental instruction as part of the NJSO Academy. The NJSO's REACH (Resources for Education and Community Harmony) chamber music program annually brings original programs—designed and performed by NJSO musicians—to a variety of settings, reaching as many as 17,000 people in nearly all of New Jersey's 21 counties.

For more information about the NJSO, visit www.njsymphony.org or email information@njsymphony.org. Tickets are available for purchase by phone 1.800.ALLEGRO (255.3476) or on the Orchestra's website.

The New Jersey Symphony Orchestra's programs are made possible in part by The New Jersey State Council on the Arts, along with many other foundations, corporations and individual donors.

PRESS CONTACT

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