

NJSO Youth Orchestras present spring concert

Sun, May 7, at 4 pm at Science Park High School in Newark



Concert showcases Academy Orchestra, Chamber Orchestra, String Ensemble and Training Ensemble

Training Ensemble is part of MANY partnership between NJPAC and NJSO

Reception for all ticketholders starts at 3 pm

NEWARK, NJ (April 7, 2017)—The NJSO Youth Orchestras present their annual spring concert on Sunday, May 7, at 4 pm at Science Park High School in Newark. The event showcases all four of the student ensembles that comprise the NJSO's youth-orchestra family—the Academy Orchestra, Chamber Orchestra, String Ensemble and Training Ensemble.

The Academy Orchestra (AO) performs under the baton of NJSO Youth Orchestras Artistic Director Jeffrey Grogan, the NJSO's Education & Community Engagement Conductor. AO will perform Dana Wilson's *Peaks*, Rimsky-Korsakov's *Russian Easter Overture* and the first movement of Lalo's Cello Concerto in D Minor featuring Noel Cho, winner of the 2016–17 NJSO Youth Orchestras' Henry Lewis Concerto Competition.

Cho, 14, is a freshman at Nutley High School and studies privately with Miho Weber. Held annually, the Henry Lewis Concerto Competition celebrates discipline, dedication and accomplishment by providing members of the Academy Orchestra—the NJSO Youth Orchestras' top ensemble—with the opportunity to perform as soloists with AO.

The Chamber Orchestra (CO), led by conductor and NJSO violist Henry Kao, performs Britten's *Simple Symphony* and Bartók's Romanian Dances. The String Ensemble (SE), led by NJSO first violinist Naomi Youngstein, performs a suite of dances by Handel.

The Training Ensemble (TE)—one of the two programs that comprise the Music Advancement for Newark-area Youth (MANY) partnership between NJPAC and the NJSO—will perform Rossini's *William Tell* Overture and Offenbach's "Can-Can," led by Grogan. Now in its third season, MANY is designed to provide students in the Newark area with high-quality instrumental music instruction and allows beginning and experienced students to study string, woodwind, brass and percussion instruments with the goal of developing musical and instrumental proficiency while building leadership skills.

A pre-concert reception starts at 3 pm and is free for all ticketholders.

TICKETS

All tickets are \$15 and are available for purchase by phone at 1.800.ALLEGRO (255.3476). Learn more at www.njsymphony.org/events/detail/njsy-youth-orchestras-spring-concert.

NJSO YOUTH ORCHESTRAS

Part of the NJSO Academy

The NJSO Youth Orchestras give qualified middle- and high-school students—especially African-American and Latino youth in the Greater Newark area—unparalleled opportunities to achieve personal and musical excellence. Coaching by NJSO musicians and a supportive peer-to-peer environment provide quality learning and performing experiences and build a unique culture of collaboration. The achievements of this program and its impact on the lives of these young musicians have received national recognition from the President's Committee on the Arts and Humanities.

Four distinct ensembles—the Academy Orchestra, Chamber Orchestra, String Ensemble and Training Ensemble—perform two full concerts each year and participate in masterclasses and workshops with renowned guest artists. In addition, the Training Ensemble offers joint instructional and performance opportunities with its sister program, the NJPAC Symphonic Band. Through this partnership (known as Music Advancement for Newark-area Youth, or MANY), the two organizations lay the foundation for students' membership in their more advanced ensembles.

The NJSO Youth Orchestras annually serve more than 200 students from 11 counties across northern and central New Jersey.

Students who play orchestral instruments can apply for membership in the NJSO Youth Orchestras. Entrance auditions will take place on Saturday, June 10, at Rutgers–Newark's Bradley Hall. For more information and to register for auditions, visit www.njsymphony.org/youthorchestras.

MUSIC ADVANCEMENT FOR NEWARK AREA YOUTH (MANY)

A partnership designed to provide students in the Newark area with high-quality instrumental music instruction

Initiated by two of New Jersey's premier performing arts organizations—New Jersey Performing Arts Center (NJPAC) and New Jersey Symphony Orchestra (NJSO)—MANY offers programs for beginning and experienced instrumental music students alike.

Participants study string, woodwind, brass and percussion instruments to develop musical and instrumental proficiency while building leadership skills. MANY also aims to prepare young instrumentalists for acceptance into performance-based educational programs within the community, including the Arts High School Orchestra and Concert Band, Newark School of the Arts, NJPAC Brick City Jazz Orchestra, Wells Fargo Jazz for Teens program and NJSO Youth Orchestras.

Annually serving more than 100 students, MANY bridges two programs: the NJPAC Symphonic Band and the NJSO Training Ensemble. The NJPAC Symphonic Band, for grades 5–8, is designed for students with little or no prior

instrumental experience and provides a musical foundation in woodwinds, brass and percussion. The NJSO Training Ensemble, for grades 5–10, provides intensive musical instruction and leadership development to advanced beginner and intermediate string students.

Lawrence Liggins directs the NJPAC Symphonic Band; Jeffrey Grogan directs the NJSO Training Ensemble.

NJSO ACADEMY

Through the education programs that comprise the NJSO Academy, the New Jersey Symphony Orchestra provides intensive coaching and instruction for musicians of all ages. The lauded youth orchestra program, El Sistema-modeled NJSO CHAMPS (Character, Achievement and Music Project), NJSO Edward T. Cone Composition Institute, NJSO Coach-in-Residence Program and customized in-school clinics and master classes create participatory learning environments across the state that foster meaningful connections with live music.

NEW JERSEY 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.

The NJSO welcomes new Music Director Xian Zhang in the 2016–17 season. The Orchestra 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 New Jersey 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 (ECE) programs that promote meaningful, lifelong engagement with live music. Programs include school-time Concerts for Young People performances, NJSO Youth Orchestras family of student ensembles and El Sistema-inspired NJSO CHAMPS (Character, Achievement and Music Project). NJSO musicians annually perform original chamber music programs at nearly 200 community events in a variety of settings through the NJSO’s REACH (Resources for Education and Community Harmony) program. The Orchestra’s ECE programs annually serve more than 60,000 New Jerseyans in nearly 21 counties.

For more information about the NJSO, visit www.njsymphony.org or email information@njsymphony.org. Tickets are available for purchase by phone at 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.

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