



2021 —————  
2022 SEASON  
**IMPACT  
REPORT**

# A MESSAGE FROM OUR BOARD CHAIR

Dear Friends,

This year, Symphony in C celebrated its 70th Anniversary – and we were able to do so in person with a wonderful gala and a return to live concerts. From our beginning as the Haddonfield Symphony, we have been a locus for high quality classical music performance and education in Southern New Jersey. As one of only three professional training orchestras in the United States, Symphony in C provides many of the most talented young musicians in the world the chance to perform with a full orchestra of extraordinary peers, who are on the way to major appointments in the world's great orchestras. Symphony in C's two major themes— professional training and community education benefit the region in many ways, providing jobs, supporting local businesses, and providing opportunities for personal growth and regional identity. While much of this work takes place in Camden, our programs are regional in scope.

Historically, pandemics have forced humans to break with the past and imagine their world anew. This year, our talented staff and dedicated Board of Directors have worked hard to emerge from the pandemic a stronger, more relevant organization than ever before. We were fortunate to qualify for Federal and State Covid Relief Grants, which have strengthened our financial health and will help set us on the path to secure the future of Symphony in C.

We are taking advantage of new technologies to spread our message and attract new audiences, and we are focusing on making Symphony in C a more diverse and equitable organization that reflects the communities where we teach and perform.



The arts are integral to the social, civic, and economic wellbeing and vitality of our nation. Symphony in C will continue to help our region recover, renew, and re-energize through the power of music.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jack Tarditi". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping initial "J".

Hon. Jack Tarditi, Board Chair

*The mission of Symphony in C is to maintain a world class symphony orchestra that provides training for tomorrow's orchestra musicians, music directors, composers, and soloists; well-rounded, artistically excellent performances for a variety of audiences, and access to classical music and education programs for children, particularly those in its home community of Camden, New Jersey.*

# A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

Dear Friends,

In this pivotal year, we began to emerge from the Covid shutdown, returning to the stage and classroom. Performances took place outdoors at Cooper River Park and the Collingswood Grand Ballroom, then moved indoors with two concerts at Haddonfield United Methodist Church. The first was a collaboration by the Symphony in C Brass, led by Paul Bryan and HUMC organist Matthew Smith. In the spring, audiences also enjoyed ensembles by Beethoven and Mendelssohn. All these concerts were free, thanks in part to a generous grant from the Camden County Commissioners.

After a two-year absence, Symphony in C returned to the Gordon Theater at Rutgers-Camden with three full orchestra concerts. Assistant Conductor Kenneth Bean conducted the first on February 26th and gave a second performance the next day at Rowan University. In March, we welcomed back former Music Director Rossen Milanov, who led the orchestra in a performance of Brahms' Symphony No. 1 and dedicated it to the people of Ukraine. Kazem Abdullah, a former member of the orchestra, and a rising star in the classical music world conducted the final concert.

Our education programs gradually returned to in-person programming. We moved the 2021 Summer Camp to Haddonfield United Methodist Church with stringent Covid protocols observed. After-school music lessons were a hybrid of virtual and in-person classes at the Camden Catholic Partnership Schools. The orchestra presented a Family Concert at Rowan University. The youth orchestra began the year with virtual classes and returned to in-person rehearsals in April 2022, performing a live, in-person concert a month later.

We celebrated our 70th Anniversary with a gala and honored two long-time supporters and Board members, Chuck Heuisler and Chick Savery. Our long-delayed Music Director search is taking place in the 2022-23 season.



I want to thank our loyal patrons and supporters who have bravely returned to the theater – masked and vaccinated – and excited to hear more great music. The longing for shared experiences by our audience as well as our musicians is strong. Symphony in C's brilliant future begins now.

Most Sincerely,

*Pamela Brant*

Pamela Brant



# CONDUCTORS



## KENNETH BEAN

Appointed Assistant Conductor of Symphony in C in 2018, Kenneth Bean also serves as Music Director of the Symphony in C Youth Orchestra, and co-directs Symphony in C's Summer Camp. Kenneth Bean also serves as the Assistant Conductor of the Princeton Symphony, Music Director of Youth Orchestra of Central Jersey's Symphonic Orchestra, Director/Conductor of the Young Musicians Debut Orchestra and Conductor of Orchestra and Chorus at Kinhaven Music School Junior Session. As a trumpeter, Kenneth Bean has appeared with numerous ensembles, including Mississippi Symphony, Sphinx Symphony Orchestra and as a soloist with Asociación Filarmónica Coral de Honduras.



## ROSSEN MILANOV

Rossen Milanov was Symphony in C's Music Director for 15 years and is largely responsible for raising the artistic profile of the orchestra. Respected and admired by audiences and musicians alike, Rossen Milanov is currently the Music Director of the Columbus Symphony Orchestra (CSO), Chautauqua Symphony Orchestra, Princeton Symphony Orchestra and newly appointed Chief Conductor of the Slovenian RTV Orchestra in Ljubljana.



## KAZEM ABDULLAH

American conductor Kazem Abdullah conducted the final symphonic concert of the season. A passionate advocate of new music as well as established repertoire, Mr. Abdullah continues to develop relationships with national and international orchestras and opera houses. Among his recent orchestral credits are the symphony orchestras of Oregon, Indianapolis, Detroit, Pittsburgh, and Cincinnati. Trained as a clarinetist, Kazem Abdullah has performed extensively as an orchestral musician, chamber musician, and soloist. He spent two seasons as a member of the New World Symphony and has performed as a soloist with many orchestras including the Cincinnati and National Symphony Orchestras. He is also an alumnus of Symphony in C.

# 2021-2022 SEASON HIGHLIGHTS

## SYMPHONY IN C DIDN'T LET COVID-19 STOP OUR MUSIC MAKING!

We kicked off the season in September with a festive outdoor performance by the Elegance Electric String Quartet on the steps of the Collingswood Grand Ballroom.

For the first time since the beginning of the pandemic, we returned to the Gordon Theater at Rutgers-Camden Center for the Arts to perform 3 symphonic concerts in February, March, and May, 2022. Kenneth Bean opened with Haydn's Symphony No. 104 and Mozart's Piano Concerto No. 24 featuring pianist Avery Gagliano. We gave a second performance Rowan University the next day.

In March, we welcomed back our former Music Director Rossen Milanov and violinist William Hagen in a program of Brahms Symphony No. 1 and Sibelius' Violin Concerto in D minor. In May, Symphony in C alumnus Kazem Abdullah returned to conduct Beethoven's Symphony No. 6 and Schumann's Piano Concerto in A minor with pianist Anna Stoytcheva.

Covid funding allowed us to perform 2 free concerts at Haddonfield United Methodist Church. In November we collaborated with organist Matthew Smith to present a Brass & Organ concert, conducted by Paul Bryan and featuring our amazing brass dectet. The concert was also livestreamed. The following March, we presented Beethoven's Septet in Eb Major and Mendelssohn's Octet in Eb Major.



(top to bottom) Elegance Electric String Quartet;  
Avery Gagliano; William Hagen; Anna Stoytcheva;  
Symphony in C Brass Ensemble

# 2021-2022

## ALUMNI ACHIEVEMENTS



Violinist **Robyn Bollinger** is the newly appointed Concertmaster of the Detroit Symphony Orchestra. Equally at home as soloist, chamber musician, orchestral leader, and pedagogue, Ms. Bollinger is an artist at the forefront of classical music.

Having made her Philadelphia Orchestra debut at age twelve, Ms. Bollinger regularly performs with orchestras across the United States. Past highlights include engagements with the Boston Pops and the symphony orchestras of Brevard, California, Charleston, Grand Tetons Music Festival, Helena, Illinois, Indian Hill, Knoxville, and Symphony in C. In 2019, Ms. Bollinger gave the world premiere of *Artifacts*, a four-movement violin concerto commissioned by the California Symphony by composer Katherine Balch written specifically for Ms. Bollinger.

Robyn, who grew up in nearby Haddonfield, was a member of the orchestra, appeared twice as a soloist, and even served as a teaching artist in our Summer Music Camp.



**Michael Casimir** is the Principal Violist of the Toronto Symphony Orchestra, which appointed his seat in 2022. In 2018-2022, Michael performed as a section violist of the Saint Louis Symphony Orchestra. He was awarded second place in the 2015 Sphinx Competition, and was winner of the grand prize at the Hudson Valley String Competition in 2013.

Michael received his undergraduate degree from The Juilliard School and his post-baccalaureate degree from the Curtis Institute of Music under the tutelage of Roberto Díaz, Hsin-Yun Huang, and Ed Gazouleas. While studying at Curtis, Michael performed regularly with the New York Philharmonic, The Philadelphia Orchestra, and the Orpheus Chamber Orchestra.

He recorded for Disney's 2019 *The Lion King* soundtrack, *Space Jam: A New Legacy*, and enjoys playing, recording, filming, and editing solo and chamber music projects.



Israeli-born cellist **Yoni Draiblate** joined The Florida Orchestra (St. Petersburg) in the fall of 2022. He began playing the cello at age 5, entering the conservatory at age 7. He earned his undergraduate degree at Tel-Aviv University and his master's degree from New England Conservatory. He also holds a doctoral degree in music performance from Temple University in Philadelphia.

He has performed at Carnegie Hall in New York, Royal Albert Hall and Barbican Center in London, Symphony Hall in Boston, Kimmel Center in Philadelphia, Teatro Colon in Argentina, the Philharmonie Berlin, and many more. He is a former principal cellist of Symphony in C, and appeared as a soloist. Before moving to Florida, he was a full-time member of the Columbus Symphony Orchestra.

# SYMPHONY IN C MUSICIAN APPOINTMENTS

SYMPHONY IN C ALUMNI RECENT APPOINTMENTS TO MAJOR ORCHESTRAS,  
CHAMBER ENSEMBLES, CONDUCTORS, AND SOLOISTS:

**Robyn Bollinger**, Concertmaster  
*Detroit Symphony Orchestra*

**Michael Casimir**, Principal Viola  
*Toronto Symphony*

**Cristina Cutts Dougherty**, Tuba  
*Seraph Brass*

**Yoni Draiblate**, Cello  
*The Florida Orchestra, St. Petersburg*

**Rainer Eudeikis**, Principal Cello  
*San Francisco Symphony Orchestra*

**Shannon Fitzhenry**, Section Violin  
*Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra*

**Ming-Yu Hsu**, Principal Viola  
*Kansas City Symphony Orchestra*

**Markus Lang**, Principal Bass  
*Gothenburg Symphony Orchestra*

**Vincent Luciano**, Assistant Principal Bass  
*Louisville Orchestra*

**Chelsea McFarland**, 3<sup>rd</sup> horn  
*The Philadelphia Orchestra*

**Adelya Nartadjieva**, Concertmaster  
*Jacksonville Symphony Orchestra*

**Evan Pasternak**, Section Violin  
*San Diego Symphony Orchestra*

**Jahleel Smith**, Bass Trombone  
*Kansas City Symphony Orchestra\**

**Cherry Choi Tung Yeung**, Assoc. Principal 2nd Violin  
*San Diego Symphony Orchestra*

\*one year position



**Ming Yu-Hsu**, age 22 was appointed Principal Viola of the Kansas City Symphony Orchestra following her graduation from the Curtis Institute of Music.



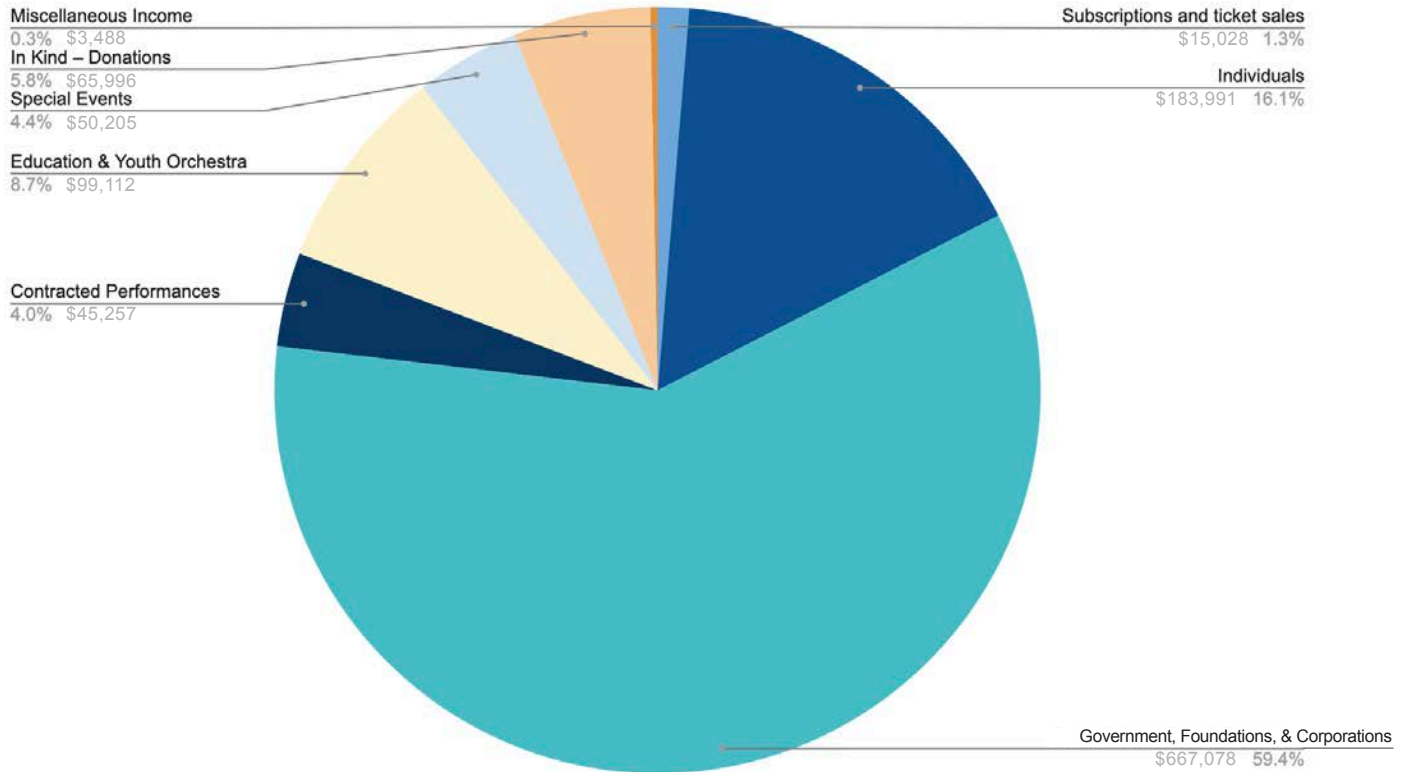
Bass trombonist **Jahleel Smith** received a one-year appointment to the Kansas City Symphony Orchestra



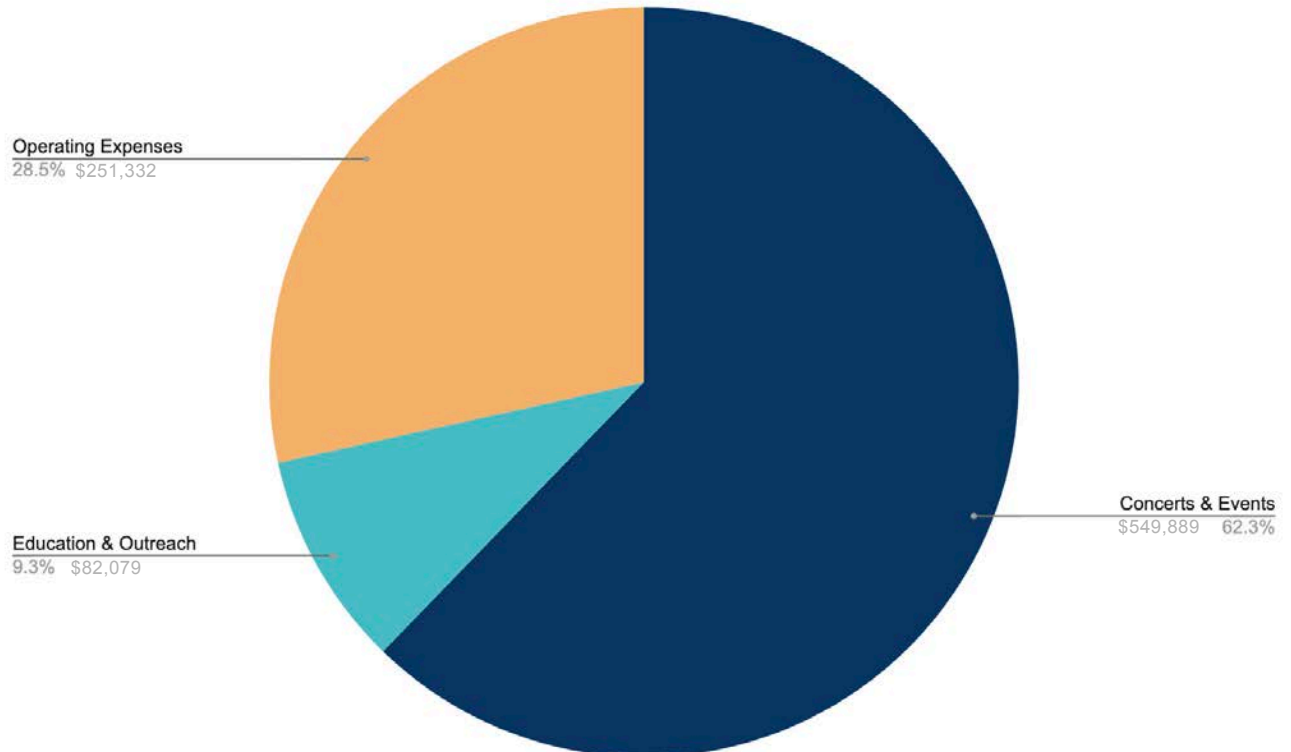
**Cristina Cutts Dougherty** was recently appointed to the Seraph Brass, a dynamic ensemble drawing from a roster of America's top brass players.

## FINANCIAL REPORT

### Revenue: \$1,140,155



### Expenses: \$883,300





# 2021 SUMMER MUSIC CAMP

## KENNETH BEAN & PAUL BRYAN, CO-DIRECTORS

During the pandemic, “pivot” became the new buzzword. After a successful “virtual” camp in 2020, we were determined to hold an in-person camp, but the Rutgers-Camden campus was still closed to outside groups. We pivoted to Haddonfield United Methodist Church, which is where our youth orchestra rehearses. We went to great lengths to enforce masking and vaccination requirements and invested some of our Covid relief funds in air cleaners and other Covid mitigating equipment and supplies, including special masks for wind and brass players. Co-directed by Kenneth Bean and Paul Bryan, 30 students attended and performed side-by-side with 11 Symphony in C teaching artists in a well-attended concert at the close of the two-week camp. There were no reported cases of Covid-19.



Camp Directors Paul Bryan and Kenneth Bean address the audience at the “Grand Finale” concert, August 6, 2021 at Haddonfield United Methodist Church.





# SYMPHONY IN C YOUTH ORCHESTRA

The Symphony in C Youth Orchestra, under the direction of Kenneth Bean, returned to in-person rehearsals on Monday evenings at Haddonfield United Methodist Church. 12 Symphony in C teaching artists worked with a diverse group of 21 middle and high school students from across the region. Economically disadvantaged students received full and partial scholarships. The Youth Orchestra gave 2 concerts on December 6, 2021 and May 2, 2022 side-by-side with their teachers. These student-mentor relationships are so important, helping students prepare for honors orchestras and college auditions.



## SIDE BY SIDE WITH THE PROS

We opened our final symphonic concert on May 21st with our Youth Symphony performing Shostakovich's Waltz #2 side-by-side with Symphony in C. Family members and friends attended and the audience cheered!

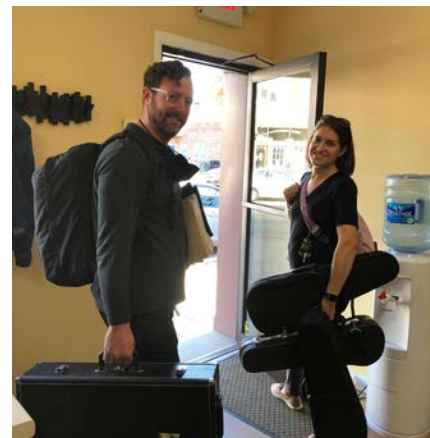
## MASTER CLASS

Former Symphony in C Principal bassoon, Stephen Rudman was appointed to the prestigious President's Own Marine Band in 2020. While in Philadelphia to perform his final Doctoral Recital at Temple University, now Staff Sergeant Stephen Rudman graciously shared his insights and talents with our youth orchestra musicians.



# AFTER SCHOOL BAND AND ORCHESTRA PROGRAM AT THE CAMDEN CATHOLIC PARTNERSHIP SCHOOLS

Symphony in C is committed to providing opportunities for our region's children and youth to benefit from the social, intellectual, and emotional growth that the study of music provides. Funded by the Domenica Foundation and an Arts Education Special Initiative Grant from the New Jersey State Council on the Arts, Our After-School Music Program at the Camden Catholic Partnership Schools includes instruction in flute, clarinet, saxophone, trumpet, trombone, percussion, violin, viola, and cello. In January, we introduced a class in Music Theory, which plays an important role in intellectual development. The students surprised us by how much they loved the class. We will be adding a new cohort of beginner students in the fall, and expect to enroll at least 50 students in 22-23. This program began in 2012 and continues to flourish, thanks to the school's leadership, generous funders, and enthusiastic students!



## SYMPHONY IN C IN THE COMMUNITY



The Elegance Electric String Quartet performed a free concert on a beautiful fall evening on the steps of the Collingswood Mansion to an appreciative crowd.



Symphony in C, conducted by Kenneth Bean, performed a **Concert for Young People** at Rowan University on October 2, 2021. Children and families got to "Meet the Instruments" after the performance.

SYMPHONY IN C

# 70TH

ANNIVERSARY

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Charles Heuisler, Esq. and C. Carney Savery

Symphony in C celebrated its 70th Anniversary on Sunday, April 24, 2022 at Tavistock Country Club. Guests enjoyed a delicious dinner with wine, dancing, and entertainment by the Elegance Electric String Quartet. We honored former Board Chair C. Carney (Chick) Savery and longtime Counsel Charles W. (Chuck) Heuisler, Esq. and paid tribute to our former Board Chairs Robert R. Kugler and Lee Hymerling.



PHOTOS - DAVID MICHAEL HOWARTH

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*\*in memory of Robert R. Kugler  
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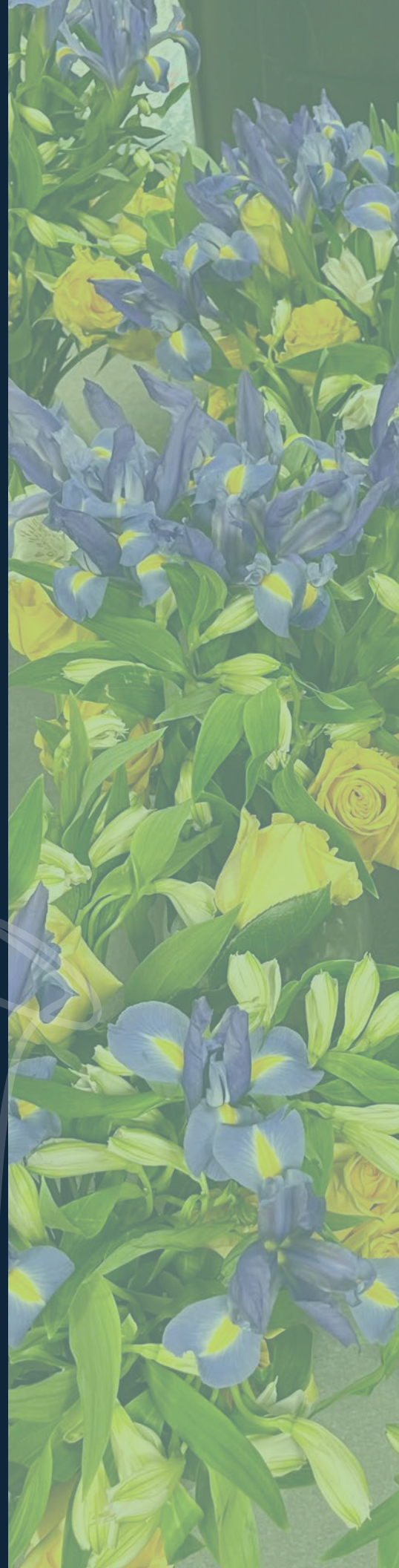
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accuracy. Please let us know if there is an error.*



# SYMPHONY IN C

## 2022-2023 SEASON

### SYMPHONIC SERIES

Rutgers-Camden Center for the Arts

#### **Tchaikovsky Piano Concerto**

**September 24, 2022 at 8 pm.**

Jacob Joyce, conductor

*Program*

Samuel Coleridge-Taylor: Ballade in A minor, Op. 33

Piotr Tchaikovsky: Piano Concerto No. 1 in B-flat minor, Op. 23

Maxim Lando, piano

Carl Nielsen: Symphony No. 4, Op. 29

“The Inextinguishable”

#### **Totally Mozart**

**December 3, 2022 at 8 pm..**

Joshua Hong, conductor

*Program*

W. A. Mozart: Exsultate Jubilate, K. 165

Alexandra Nowakowski, soprano

(appearing courtesy of the Metropolitan Opera)

W. A. Mozart: Piano Concerto No. 23 in A Major, K. 488

Clayton Stephenson, piano

W. A. Mozart: Symphony No. 40 in G minor, K. 550

#### **Fantastic French**

**January 21, 2023 at 8 pm.**

Noam Aviel, conductor

*Program*

Franz Liszt: Mephisto Waltz No. 1, S.110/2

Henri Vieuxtemps: Violin Concerto No. 5, Op. 37, A minor

**Stella Chen**, violin

Hector Berlioz: Symphonie Fantastique, Op. 14

#### **Beethoven Eroica**

**March 4, 2023 @ 8 pm.**

Ankush Kumar Bahl, conductor

*Program*

Caroline Shaw: Entr'acte

Johann Nepomuk Hummel: Trumpet Concerto in E-flat

**Major Caleb Hudson**, trumpet

Ludwig Van Beethoven: Symphony No. 3, Op. 55

“Eroica”

#### **Mendelssohn Italian Symphony**

**May 6, 2023 @ 8 pm..**

Joseph Young, conductor

*Program*

Antonin Dvorak: Serenade for Winds, Op. 44, B.77, D

Minor Florence Price: Violin Concerto No. 1, D Major

TBA, violin

Felix Mendelssohn: Symphony No. 4 in A Major, Op.

90 “Italian”

### VIRTUOSI SERIES

Haddonfield United Methodist Church

#### **Haydn & Brahms Piano Trios**

**November 13, 2022 @ 4 pm**

*Program*

Franz Joseph Haydn: Piano Trio No. 39 in G major,

Hob. XV/25 “Gypsy” Johannes Brahms: Piano Trio No. 1 in B major, Op. 8

#### **Goldberg Variations**

**February 12, 2023 @ 4 pm**

*Program*

J.S. Bach: Goldberg Variations, BWV 988 for String Trio

(arr. Dmitry Sitkovetski)

#### **Schubert Favorites**

**March 26, 2023 @ 4 pm**

*Program*

Franz Schubert: Der Hirt auf dem Felsen

(Shepherd on the Rock) D. 965

Soprano, clarinet, and piano

Franz Schubert: Piano Quintet in A Major, D. 667

“The Trout”

### GALA

#### **The Grand Tour**

**Sunday, April 30, 2023**

Collingswood Grand Ballroom



SYMPHONY IN C