

HOCHSTEIN

NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Hochstein Alumni Orchestra Performs Music of Borodin and Skoryk

Free concert features more than 40 former Hochstein students

ROCHESTER, N.Y. — Alumni of The Hochstein School return to Rochester to present a free orchestral concert on **Friday, January 3, 2025 at 8:00 pm** in the Hochstein Performance Hall. Directed by **Evan Meccarello**, the **Hochstein Alumni Orchestra** (HAO) performs Myrslav Skoryk's *Melody* and Borodin's Symphony No. 2.

Ukrainian composer Myrslav Skoryk's *Melody* has become a celebrated emblem of his home country. The beautiful score has outgrown its film origin and is beloved for its sincere beauty.

Borodin's Symphony No. 2 is a treasure trove of Romantic-era tunes, featuring a powerful, athletic first movement, followed by a laughing scherzo with a gorgeous slower midsection. The third movement is a special, slowly unfolding tale with clarinet, harp, and French horn solos. The final movement is like attending a festival of dances in the old Russian countryside, with a brief stop by a monastery along the way.

The concert is free, with cash donations accepted to benefit Hochstein's Tuition Assistance Program. **See below for a calendar listing.** The concert will also be livestreamed on Hochstein's YouTube channel at <https://youtube.com/live/o-imD6tcfEU>.

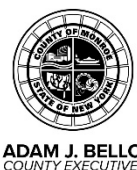
Created in 2010 as a reunion of musicians with connections to Hochstein, the Hochstein Alumni Orchestra has reunited each year to present free, high-quality concerts. "The Hochstein School has a deep history of giving to the community," said conductor Evan Meccarello, a Hochstein alumnus and Master of Music graduate of Bowling Green State University. "We see these free concerts as a way of giving back. With them, we honor Hochstein and we further its mission of bringing music to the Greater Rochester community."

Members of the HAO have gone on to study at top conservatories, win international competitions, have received mention by music critic Alex Ross in *The New Yorker* magazine, and are members of professional orchestras including the Detroit Symphony, Pittsburgh Symphony, Rochester Philharmonic, Buffalo Philharmonic, and Fort Worth Symphony. Multiple live recordings of HAO have been featured on the radio through WXXI-FM's *Performance Rochester* broadcast series.

Conductor **Evan Meccarello** is founder and director of the Hochstein Alumni Orchestra. Since 2010, he has led the group in world-premiere performances of Rochester composers and showcased talented musicians in a concert tour of the region. He was a member of the Hochstein Youth Symphony Orchestra in high school, serving as Co-Concertmaster and Apprentice Conductor. Meccarello is Artistic Director of Cordancia Chamber Orchestra and Music Director of the Binghamton Community Orchestra. In 2023, Meccarello was Artist in Residence at Breadcrumbs Productions in Syracuse, NY, where he conceived and built the team that produced *String Quartet Theatre*, an experience bridging the worlds of professional chamber music and immersive theatre. The production toured upstate New York and performed at Rochester Fringe Festival. Meccarello's conducting experience spans professional, collegiate, youth, and community ensembles, including as guest conductor of the Penfield Symphony Orchestra. He holds a Master's degree in orchestral conducting from Bowling Green State University and a violin performance degree from Nazareth University, where he was a two-time winner of the school's concerto competition.

Photographs of the ensemble, director, and soloists are available in the Hochstein press photo folder on Google Drive:

https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/0B4gOTOGVRYOhRHZGRzJ2eDVUTkE?resourcekey=0-fgqftceHiuNfAXp1Ly0PFQ&usp=share_link



Hochstein programs are made possible by the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of the Office of the Governor and the New York State Legislature. Hochstein programs are also made possible by the Monroe County Legislature; Adam Bello, Monroe County Executive.

About Hochstein: The Hochstein School is a vibrant organization in Rochester, NY, offering high-quality instruction in music, dance, and Expressive Arts (music, art, and dance therapy). Established in 1920 to commemorate the artistry, life, and service of David Hochstein – a prodigious violinist who died serving in World War I – the School welcomes students of all ages, abilities, proficiency levels, ethnicities, and socio-economic backgrounds in an inclusive and accessible environment that provides artistic opportunities for all. More than 100 years after its founding, Hochstein annually serves more than 3,500 students from a 12-county region surrounding Rochester. The School is active throughout the community and provides tuition assistance to more than 50% of its students. The acclaimed Hochstein Performance Hall, located within the school's historic downtown building, hosts concerts and events throughout the year. For more information, visit www.hochstein.org.

CALENDAR LISTINGS

Please visit the Hochstein website at <https://hochstein.org/Calendar> for more information.

Hochstein Alumni Orchestra Winter Concert

Friday, January 3, 2025; 8:00 pm; Hochstein Performance Hall; free, cash donations accepted to benefit Hochstein's Tuition Assistance Program

Former Hochstein students return to Rochester to present a free concert. Directed by Evan Meccarello, the Hochstein Alumni Orchestra performs Myrslav Skoryk's *Melody* and Borodin's Symphony No. 2. This concert will also be livestreamed on Hochstein's YouTube channel at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UgZWNYZ-Hek>.

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