



NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Unprecedented Joint Orchestra Concert Celebrates The Hochstein School's 100th Anniversary

Special concert with all four youth orchestras features Respighi's "Pines of Rome," plus music of Schubert, Mussorgsky, Bach, John Williams, and Saint-Saëns

ROCHESTER, N.Y.— For the first time ever, all four Hochstein youth orchestras combine to perform a joint concert as part of Hochstein's Centennial Celebration on **Sunday, February 9, 2020 at 2:00 pm**. These include musicians from the 86-member Hochstein Youth Symphony Orchestra, directed by Casey Springstead, and Philharmonia, directed by John Fetter and Matt Osika. For the last piece of this special **Centennial Orchestra Concert**, they will be joined by Sinfonia, directed by John Fetter, and Concertino Strings, directed by Marcos Kreutzer – with all four groups together (more than 180 students) playing the last movement of Respighi's *Pines of Rome*.

Founded in 1920 to commemorate the genius of the late David Hochstein – an acclaimed violinist who was killed in action in World War I – the School opened in the Hochstein family home on Joseph Avenue to 250 eager students on January 2, 1920 and now serves approximately 3,500 students each year, many supported by need-based tuition assistance. This is one of a series of events all year long to **commemorate the School's 100th anniversary in 2020**.

In the first half of the concert, **Hochstein's Philharmonia** performs Schubert's Military March No. 1, an orchestra medley of memorable themes from the swashbuckling blockbuster film *Pirates of the Caribbean*, the Spanish bullfighting march "El Relicario," and "The Great Gate of Kiev" from Mussorgsky's dramatic *Pictures at an Exhibition*.

Then, the **Hochstein Youth Symphony Orchestra** (HYSO) takes the stage in the second half with one of Bach's best-known fugues, the Little Fugue in G Minor, with Conductor Apprentice and HYSO Concertmaster **Luke Pisani** leading the orchestra; selections from John Williams' robust and brassy soundtrack to the 1972 movie *The Cowboys*; the first and third movements of Gideon

Klein's Partita for Strings, written at the Terezín concentration camp during the Second World War; and Romanian Rhapsody No. 1 by George Enescu, drawing on Romanian folk songs. In addition, HYSO Concerto Competition winner **Amy Feng** plays the Allegro non troppo from Saint-Saëns' Cello Concerto No. 1.

The Klein piece is particularly timely, with orchestra members scheduled to visit Terezín on the HYSO tour to Germany and the Czech Republic in April 2020. The Klein Partita and Williams' soundtrack to *The Cowboys* are among the works to be performed on the tour.

The concert concludes with all four groups together playing the last movement, "The Pines of the Appian Way," from Respighi's celebrated orchestral tone poem *Pines of Rome*. In addition to all the musicians on stage, there will be brass choirs playing in the balcony.

The 86-member **HYSO** is a full orchestra for advanced strings, brass, woodwinds, and percussion students in grades 7–12 from the greater Rochester region. Directed by Casey Springstead, the HYSO presents three concerts per year along with periodic international tours including a 2016 tour to Austria and Germany and 2018 tour of Portugal and Spain.

Philharmonia is a full orchestra providing students in grades 6–11 the opportunity to learn intermediate to advanced repertoire while refining orchestral technique. Led by John Fetter, Director, and Matt Osika, Assistant Director, Philharmonia presents three concerts annually.

Luke Pisani (Hilton), a 9th grader at Hilton High School, is in his sixth season with HYSO, currently as Concertmaster. Luke plays violin (teacher, Shannon Nance) and piano (teacher, Gary Palmer) in several ensembles including the Hochstein Saturday Scholarship String Quartet, Hilton Jazz Ensemble, and Cornerstone Presbyterian Church praise team. In May, he will be a violin soloist with the HYSO as a winner of the HYSO Concerto Competition. Luke is pursuing the Honors Music Certificate at Hochstein and Music Theory Certificate at Eastman Community School, and he has received Hochstein Merit Scholarships on piano the past four years. This is his first full orchestra conducting performance, but he has been learning from inspiring conductors while playing in each of Hochstein's youth orchestras since age 5. Luke also plays on the Hilton basketball team.

Amy Feng (Pittsford), a 10th grader at Pittsford Sutherland High School, has studied cello with Hochstein's Kathy Kemp since age 7. Feng is the principal cellist of the Hochstein Symphony Youth Orchestra (HYSO) and the 2018 NYSSMA Junior High Area All-State Orchestra. She has been playing with HYSO for the past five years. Amy was one of the winners of the 2019 HYSO Concerto Competition and has also been a Hochstein Merit Scholarship recipient for the past two years. Also a pianist studying with Elier Suarez since age 5, Amy has been a featured piano soloist with both the Genesee Symphony Orchestra and HYSO as a Concerto Competition winner. As a chamber musician, she is the cellist of the Hochstein Saturday Scholarship String Quartet. Aside from music, Amy loves math and science and plays tennis on the Sutherland varsity team.

About Hochstein: The Hochstein School was founded in commemoration of genius and is dedicated to providing access to opportunity regardless of age, level of skill, ethnicity, or ability to pay. Hochstein's vibrant community of musicians, dancers, and supporters choose to come together to develop the ability to speak and communicate through music, dance, and expressive arts (music, art, and dance therapy). Established in 1920 as The David Hochstein Memorial Music School, today Hochstein serves approximately 3,500 students annually from a 12-county region surrounding Rochester, N.Y. and continues its commitment to the Rochester community by offering a variety of free and low-cost concerts and performances in the Hochstein Performance Hall—and locations around our city—throughout the year. For more information, visit www.hochstein.org.

CALENDAR LISTINGS

Youth Wind Symphony Concert

Saturday, February 1, 2020; 7:30 pm; Hochstein Performance Hall; free and open to the public. *Part of Hochstein's Centennial Celebration!*

The Hochstein Youth Wind Symphony, directed by John Rolland, presents a winter concert of wind band music. Hochstein's Youth Wind Symphony features wind, percussion, and brass players in grades 9–12. The ensemble meets for six weeks in January and February to prepare music for this concert.

The program includes *Elegy for a Young American* by Ronald LoPresti – an Eastman grad – who originally wrote it in memory of John F. Kennedy. Here it's a tribute to another young American who served his country, David Hochstein, to celebrate The Hochstein School's centennial.

The concert also includes the lively *Chorale and Shaker Dance* by John Zdechlik, including the familiar tune of "Simple Gifts"; *Cajun Folk Songs* by Frank Ticheli, a colorful work in the rich tradition of Cajun music; and *Abram's Pursuit*, a rollicking piece by David Holsinger based on a story from the Book of Genesis.

Hochstein Winter Dance Showcase

Friday, February 7, 2020; 7:30-9:00 pm; Hochstein Performance Hall, 50 North Plymouth Avenue, Rochester NY 14614; free

Students take the stage in this free performance celebrating Hochstein's unique and diverse dance department, which includes ballet, tap, modern, hip-hop, and African dance. At Hochstein, the emphasis is on the educational experience and the joy of dance, led by teachers specifically trained to work with children.

Centennial Orchestra Concert

Sunday, February 9, 2020; 2:00 pm; Hochstein Performance Hall, 50 North Plymouth Avenue, Rochester NY 14614. A very limited number of free tickets may be available at the door – call the Hochstein office at (585) 454-4596 for more information. *Part of Hochstein's Centennial Celebration!*

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from *Pirates of the Caribbean*. Then the HYSO performs works by Bach and Enescu, and highlights from John Williams' score to *The Cowboys*. The program also includes movements of Gideon Klein's Partita for Strings, written at the Terezín concentration camp during the Second World War. Hochstein Concerto Competition winner Amy Feng is featured in the Allegro non troppo from Saint-Saëns' Cello Concerto No. 1. HYSO Concertmaster Luke Pisani is the Conductor Apprentice for this concert.

Hochstein Building Tours

Wednesday, February 26 at 5:45 pm AND Saturday, February 29 at 10:30 am; free but space is limited. Advanced registration is REQUIRED. Please email development@hochstein.org to schedule your tour. *Part of Hochstein's Centennial Celebration!*

Join us for a tour to learn about our building's history, hear David Hochstein's inspiring yet tragic story, and see how The Hochstein School plays a vital role in Rochester's vibrant community today.

Spotlight on Faculty – Music of Schubert and Kreisler

Thursday, February 27, 2020; 7:00 pm; Hochstein Performance Hall; admission at the door is \$10 per person, with a \$20 family maximum; a "meet the artists" reception follows the concert. *Part of Hochstein's Centennial Celebration!*

Featuring Tyler Cassidy-Heacock, soprano; Cora Swenson Lee, cello; and Warner Iveris, guitar. The program is built around two pieces David Hochstein is known to have played on violin: Schubert's lied "Ave Maria" and Fritz Kreisler's "Liebesleid."

Using arrangements made by 19th-century Parisian guitarist Napoléon Coste, Tyler Cassidy-Heacock will be singing three Schubert songs accompanied Warner Iveris on guitar. Cora Swenson Lee will perform Schubert's famous Arpeggione Sonata, originally written for a type of bowed guitar-like instrument but here played on cello with guitar accompaniment. Austrian-born violinist Fritz Kreisler was one of the most famous classical musicians in the world during the first decade of the 20th century and his original compositions – such as "Liebesleid" ("Love's Sorrow") – remain violin staples; here played on cello and guitar.

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