

HOCHSTEIN

NEWS RELEASE

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Hochstein Youth Symphony Orchestra to Tour and Perform in Italy during Spring Break

ROCHESTER, N.Y.— More than 100 students, family members, and friends of the **Hochstein Youth Symphony Orchestra** (HYSO) are set to depart Rochester this coming Saturday, March 30, for a weeklong tour to Italy, with performances in **Rome and Cremona** during spring break, **March 30–April 7, 2024**. The trip also includes visits to historic and cultural sites in Vatican City, Florence, Pisa, and Milan.

Follow along on the 2024 HYSO Tour adventure through a special Facebook event page which will have photos and updates posted by HYSO Director Casey Springstead and tour participants. Visit <https://www.facebook.com/events/7395867840498852>.

Hochstein works with **Music Celebrations International** (MCI) to create an exciting and educational tour for students and the family members who choose to join them. MCI coordinates not only the three performances in scenic venues – and arranges for things like music stands, a conductor’s podium, and percussion instruments and string basses in each venue – but also sets up guided tours of architectural treasures and historic sites and takes care of travel arrangements. One of the HYSO’s performances will be part of the host theater’s “Beyond the Desks” project with an audience comprised mostly of elementary and middle school-age children. These concerts are part of the American Celebration of Music in Italy.

HYSO Director Casey Springstead has selected works that are not only educationally beneficial, but also those that feature influences from the host country. The HYSO’s concert program includes the overtures to Verdi’s *La Forza del Destino* and Mozart’s *The Magic Flute*, Finzi’s Romance in Eb for strings, Holst’s *The Planets*, Tchaikovsky’s *Capriccio Italien*, and music from John Williams’ score for the movie *E.T.*

The Hochstein Youth Symphony Orchestra is an advanced youth orchestra comprised of grade 7-12 students from all over the Rochester region who play string, brass, woodwind, and percussion instruments. Auditions are now open for the HYSO’s 2024-25 school year. **The application**

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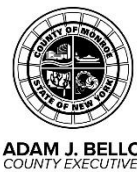
deadline for auditions is April 15, 2024. For more information, visit <https://hochstein.org/Ensembles/Orchestras/Orchestra-Audition-Info>.

The HYSO made its first performance tour in spring 2001 and has continued to travel every other year to various European cities, including representing the state of New York in 2014 at the "American Celebration of Music," with performances commemorating the 70th Anniversary of the D-Day Invasion and the Liberation of France.

Photographs of the HYSO are available in this folder on Google Drive:

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/0B4gOTOGVRYOhRHZGRzJ2eDVUTkE?resourcekey=0-fgqftceHiuNfAXp1Ly0PFQ>

The Hochstein Orchestra and Chamber Music Programs are supported in part by the Louise Alfreda Hill Memorial Fund.



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.