



The Power of Music

2018-19 **ANNUAL REPORT**

ALBANY
SYMPHONY

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FROM THE MUSIC DIRECTOR, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, AND BOARD CHAIR



Thank you for reviewing the Albany Symphony's 2018-19 Annual Report. We are delighted to share with you the season's highlights, which took place on concert stages, in our schools and libraries, senior communities and arts centers, and in our parks and on our riverfronts.

We want to call your attention to two streams that run through our season and indeed through the heart and history of the Albany Symphony: **Community** and **Music of Our Time**. This season, we redoubled our efforts to be more deeply infused by and into our community, to use our unique skill set as a top flight American orchestra to nourish, enrich, and inspire our community. Through the creation and creators of music of our time, we amplified the voices and concerns of today while connecting viscerally our history and our present. We brought people together with their different life perspectives to share in these common experiences.

In our 2018-19 season, the confluences of **Community** and **Music of Our Time** flowed into two wide and rich deltas:

- **ARMISTICE CENTENNIAL** (*page 5 and 9*) – 12 events – recitals, lectures, film screenings, a pop-up exhibit, a food drive – in collaboration with community partners commemorating the end of World War I and connected to the Symphony's performance of Benjamin Britten's War Requiem.
- **SING OUT! NEW YORK** (*pages 6-7*) – Anchored by the centennial of the passage of the 19th Amendment and the 50th anniversary of the Stonewall uprising, our 2019 American Music Festival celebrated New York's leading role as a champion of equal rights through wall-to-wall programming, including four free community concerts.

We hope you will take the time to peruse our Strategic Priorities on page 11. We are in Year 2 of aligning our activities, culture, and goals toward our vision to ***Transform the lives of all people of the Capital Region through the power of music.***

The work of the Albany Symphony is the result of tremendous dedication from many talented and passionately caring people. We would like to thank the Albany Symphony musicians for their artistry and dedication; the administrative staff for their tireless hard work and creativity; the Vanguard volunteers for the myriad ways they support our efforts; and the Board for their thoughtful governance, deep support, and great commitment to the Symphony and the community.

We would like to thank the many other individuals and organizations who support our efforts to enrich and celebrate the Capital Region. Please see page 8 for the list of our partners.

Finally, we want to thank you, our Albany Symphony friends and champions, for your continued support of our work on stage and in the community.

Jerry Golub
Chair, Board of Directors

David Alan Miller
Heinrich Medicus Music Director

Anna Kuwabara
Executive Director

2018-2019 ORCHESTRA ROSTER

SYMBOL KEY: ^ Stationary Chair + On Leave * Substitute for 2018-19 Season

The Albany Symphony Orchestra's string sections use revolving seating. Players behind the stationary chairs change seats systematically and are listed alphabetically.

Conductor David Alan Miller, *Heinrich Medicus Music Director*

Violin

Jill Levy
CONCERTMASTER
LIFETIME CHAIR,
Goldberg Charitable Trust
Eiko Kano
ASSISTANT
CONCERTMASTER
Elizabeth Silver ^
Jamecyn Morey ^
Paula Oakes ^
Funda Cizmecioglu
PRINCIPAL
SECOND VIOLIN
Mitsuko Suzuki
ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL
SECOND VIOLIN
Barbara Lapidus ^
*Endowed by Marisa
and Allan Eisemann*
Gabriela Rengel ^
John Bosela
Brigitte Brodwin
Ouisa Fohrhaltz
Heather Frank-Olsen
Emily Frederick
Rowan Harvey
Margret E. Hickey
Christine Kim
Aleksandra Labinska
Yinbin Qian
Yue Sun
Muneyoshi Takahashi
Harriet Dearden Welther

Viola

Noriko Futagami
PRINCIPAL VIOLA
*Endowed in Perpetuity
by the Estate of
Allan F. Nickerson*
Sharon Bielik
ASSISTANT
PRINCIPAL VIOLA
Carla Bellosa
Daniel Brye
Ting-Ying Chang-Chien
Anna Griffis
Dana Huyge +
Hannah Levinson

Cello

Susan Debronsky
PRINCIPAL CELLO
*Sponsored by Al De Salvo
& Susan Thompson*
Erica Pickhardt
ASSISTANT
PRINCIPAL CELLO
Petia Kassarova ^
Kevin Bellosa
Matthew Capobianco
Marie-Thérèse Dugré
Catherine Hackert
Hikaru Tamaki

Bass

Bradley Aikman
PRINCIPAL BASS
Philip R. Helm
ASSISTANT
PRINCIPAL BASS
Michael Fittipaldi ^
Luke Baker
James Caiello
Jeffrey Herchenroder +

Flute

Ji Weon Ryu
PRINCIPAL
Jake Chabot

Oboe

Karen Hosmer
PRINCIPAL
Grace Shryock+
Nathaniel Fossner

English Horn

Nathaniel Fossner

Clarinet

Weixiong Wang
PRINCIPAL
*In Memory of F.S. DeBeer,
Jr. - Elsa DeBeer
In Memory of Justine R.B.
Perry - David A. Perry*
Bixby Kennedy

Bassoon

Stephan Walt
PRINCIPAL
*Endowed in
Perpetuity by the
Estate of
Richard Salisbury*
William Hestand

Horn

William J. Hughes
PRINCIPAL
Joseph Demko
Alan Parshley
Victor Sungarian

Trumpet

Eric M. Berlin
PRINCIPAL
Eric J. Latini

Trombone

Greg Spiridopoulos
PRINCIPAL
Karna Millen

Bass Trombone

Charles Morris

Tuba

Derek Fenstermacher +
PRINCIPAL

Timpani

Kuljit Rehncy
PRINCIPAL

Percussion

Richard Albagli
PRINCIPAL
Mark Foster
Scott Stacey*

Harp

Lynette Wardle
PRINCIPAL

Personnel Manager

Susan Debronsky

Librarian

Elizabeth Silver

Union Steward

Nathaniel Fossner

2018-19 ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

EXECUTIVE

Anna Kuwabara, *Executive Director*

FINANCE

Scott Allen, *Finance Director*

DEVELOPMENT

Tiffany Wright, *Development Assistant*

MARKETING & PATRON SERVICES

Justin Cook, *Marketing & Patron Services Manager*
Amanda Irwin, *Box Office & Marketing Coordinator*

EDUCATION & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Sophie Moss, *Director of Education
& Community Engagement*

OPERATIONS

Derek Smith, *Operations and
Programming Manager*
Susan Ruzow Debronsky, *Personnel Manager*
Elizabeth Silver, *Music Librarian*



For current staff listing visit: <http://www.albanysymphony.com/management>



2018-2019 SEASON | BY THE NUMBERS



262,090
SPOTIFY STREAMS
175,710 Spotify Listeners

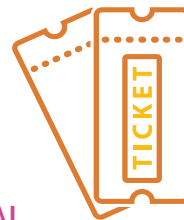
44,000
SYMPHONY LISTENERS
ON WMHT CLASSICAL FM



1,631
NEW
PATRONS
and 421 new
subscribers

AMERICAN
MUSIC
FESTIVAL
**SING
OUT!**
NEW YORK

12,000
AMERICAN
MUSIC FESTIVAL
ATTENDEES



30,837
CONCERT
ATTENDEES

27 WORLD PREMIERES



CONCERT HIGHLIGHTS

Opening Night | Ride of the Valkyries

October 2018 at the Palace Theatre

David Alan Miller, conductor | Stefan Jackiw, violin | Sandbox Percussion

Viet Cuong: *Re(new)al*

Brahms: Violin Concerto

The Ride of the Valkyries and selections from Grand Opera

Armistice Centennial Commemoration

November 2018 at Proctors

David Alan Miller, conductor | Albany Pro Musica | Cathedral of All Saints Boychoir | Tyler Nelson, tenor | Hubert Zapiór, baritone | Emalie Savoy, soprano
Britten: *War Requiem* with text by Wilfred Owens

Viennese Classics – Heinrich Medicus 100th Birthday Concert

December 2018 at Troy Savings Bank Music Hall

David Alan Miller, conductor

J. Strauss Jr: *Wine, Women and Song Waltzes*

J. Strauss Jr: *Champagne Polka*

J. Strauss Jr: Overture to *Die Fledermaus*

Benjamin Wallace: *Chocolate Waltzes**

Bruckner: Symphony No. 6

New Year Begins! Beethoven's Seventh

January 2019 at Troy Savings Bank Music Hall

David Alan Miller, conductor | Tessa Lark, violin

Steven Stucky: *Chamber Concerto*

Michael Torke: *SKY Concerto for Violin and Orchestra**

Beethoven: Symphony No. 7

Valentines Day! Romantic Chopin

February 2019 at Troy Savings Bank Music Hall

David Alan Miller, conductor | Orion Weiss, piano

Annika Socolofsky: *Gaze**

Chopin: Piano Concerto No. 2

Schumann: Symphony No. 2

Boléro

March 2019 at Palace Theatre

David Alan Miller, conductor | Colin Currie, percussion

Hindemith: *Mathis der Maler*

Robert Honstein: Percussion Concerto*

Morton Gould: *Fall River Legend*

RAVEL: *Boléro*

Tchaikovsky's Violin Concerto

April 2019 at Troy Savings Bank Music Hall

Lawrence Loh, conductor | Chee-Yun, violin

Polina Nazaykinskaya: *Fenix**

Tchaikovsky: Violin Concerto

Mendelssohn: Symphony No. 4, "Italian"

FAMILY FUN AT THE SYMPHONY

Magic of Christmas

December 2018 at Palace Theatre

David Alan Miller, conductor | Capital District Youth Chorale |

The Music Studio | Bowland School of Irish Dance |

UMASS Amherst Brass Choir | Santa Claus

Symphonic Superheroes

March 2019 at Palace Theatre

David Alan Miller, Super Orchestra Man

May the 4th Be With You! Salute to John Williams

May 2019 at Palace Theatre

David Alan Miller, conductor

Selections from *Star Wars*, *Harry Potter*, *ET*, and *Superman*

Photos on facing page, clockwise from top left: 1. Wind, hydro, and solar power inspired Viet Cuong's Re (new) al. Sandbox Percussion's incredible energy made the work a "break out hit" (Albany Times Union) 2. Capital Region native and Met Opera soprano, Emalie Savoy delivered the music of Britten's moving War Requiem with "ease, nuance and operatic grandeur." (Albany Times Union) 3 and 4. Symphonic music stirs the imagination and brings smiles to the faces of young at heart listeners. 5. Darth Vader invaded the Palace Theatre on National Star Wars Day for a salute to John Williams. 6. Violinist and fiddle virtuoso, Tessa Lark premiered and recorded SKY by Michael Torke, nominated in November 2019 for best Classical Instrumental Solo Grammy®.

* = World Premieres

AMERICAN MUSIC FESTIVAL

ALBANY SYMPHONY

SING OUT! NEW YORK

MAY 11

Stonewall Inn Meet up
with David Del Tredici, NYC

MAY 28-JUNE 2

Composer Workshop,
“Orchestrating for the 21st Century”

MAY 31

Literacy Through Songwriting - Student
Performance | “Prevue” Concert Talk |
Exclusive Dinner with John Corigliano |
Special Preview Screening: “Of Rage
and Remembrance: A Portrait of John
Corigliano” | **Dogs of Desire** Concert | Late
Night Lounge: Molly Joyce,
Breaking and Entering

JUNE 2

Suffragist Brunch and Monumental Music

MAY 18

Seneca Falls Day Trip and Concert

MAY 30

Composer Masterclass | **Dogs of Desire**
Open Rehearsal | “First Draughts” Composer
Reading Session & Beer Tasting

JUNE 1

IAMIAMIAM: Raise Your Voice! | “Speak Out,
Justice” | Argus Quartet | Molly Joyce -
YOUSAIDSHESAIDHESAID | Pre-Concert Talk |
American Music Festival Orchestra Concert |
Late Night Lounge: Clarice Assad | Film
Viewing: “The Secret Music of David Del Tredici”

IMAGES FROM THE 2019 AMERICAN MUSIC FESTIVAL

1: The Dogs of Desire premiered 5 commissioned works inspired by New York’s legacy as a champion for equal rights. Viet Cuong’s *Transfiguration* commemorated the 50th Anniversary of the Stonewall uprising, a pivotal moment in the struggle for LGBTQ equality. **2:** Music rang out at Hudson Crossing Park in Schuylerville when the Albany Symphony and Capital Repertory Theatre brought the suffrage movement to life with Loren Loiacono’s *Petticoats of Steel*. **3:** By boat, by car, or by bike, over 12,000 people came out to enjoy summer and celebrate Sing Out! New York at the American Music Festival with FREE outdoor performances in Schuylerville, Albany, Schenectady, and Hudson. **4:** The powerful words of Frederick Douglass echoed throughout Downtown Albany as the Albany Symphony and spoken-word poets from Albany High School performed Andre Myers’ hip-hop influenced work, *Studies in Hope*. **5:** Live music is at the heart of Schenectady’s Mohawk Harbor. The inspirational words and legacy of Sojourner Truth’s *Ain’t I A Woman* speech along with the music of Clarice Assad filled the harbor with the sounds of freedom and equality. **6:** The Argus Quartet brought David Del Tredici’s moving piano sextet, *Bullycide*, to St. Paul’s Episcopal Church. **7 and 8:** The Albany Symphony’s mainstage performance featured John Corigliano’s Piano Concerto with pianist Phillip Fisher and David Del Tredici’s colorful Alice work, *Pop-Pourri*. **9:** Back Barn Brewing Co. premiered the American Music Festival’s signature beer - The 19th Amendment- at the First Draughts Reading Session. **10:** Festival goers met vanguard composers John Corigliano and David Del Tredici before a private screening of a new documentary about the creation of Corigliano’s Symphony No. 1 “Of Rage and Remembrance.” **11:** Composer/performer, Molly Joyce wowed the audience with her vintage toy organ on Friday night at the Festival’s Late Night Lounge.





2



3



5



4



6



7

AMERICAN MUSIC FESTIVAL

by the numbers

19 CONCERTS | 13 VENUES

Arts Center of the Capital Region, Troy Savings Bank Music Hall, EMPAC Theatre, EMPAC Concert Hall, Studio Beta, EMPAC Café, St. Paul's, Monument Square in Downtown Troy, Jennings Landing, Hudson Crossing Park, Basilica Hudson, Mohawk Harbor, Christopher Street Park NYC, Wesleyan Chapel Seneca Falls



FREE

COMMUNITY CONCERTS

- June 6 | Hudson Crossing Park, Schuylerville
- June 7 | Jennings Landing, Albany
- June 8 | Mohawk Harbor, Schenectady
- June 9 | Basilica Hudson



38 AMF COMPOSERS

2 RECORDING SESSIONS

Corigliano: Piano Concerto w/ soloist Philip Fisher | Del Tredici: Pop-Pourri w/ soloist Hila Plitmann



THANK YOU TO OUR 2018-19 COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Albany Public Library
The Arts Center of the
Capital Region
Bard College Graduate
Vocal Arts Program
Basilica Hudson
Capital District
Youth Chorale
Capital Region
Vegan Network
Capital Repertory Theatre
City of Albany
City of Troy
The College of Saint Rose
Congregation Beth Emeth
Discover Albany
Discover Schenectady
Fort Orange Club
Hudson Crossing Park
Hudson Dance Collective
John Keal Music
Musicians of
Ma'alwyck
The Music Studio
National Museum
of Dance
New York State Museum
Palace Performing
Arts Center
Proctors Theatre
Rensselaer
Polytechnic Institute
Schenectady County
Community College
Schenectady County
Historical Society
Schenectady
Public Library
Shaker Heritage Society
Skidmore College
Troy Savings Bank
Music Hall
UMass Amherst
Brass Choir

THANK YOU TO OUR 2018-19 K-12 SCHOOL PARTNERS

Albany Community
Charter School
Albany School
of Humanities
Albany High School
Algonquin
Middle School
Arbor Hill
Elementary School
Carroll Hill
Elementary School
Cathedral of All Saints
Men and Boys' Choir
Delaware
Community School
Eagle Point
Elementary School
Giffen Memorial
Elementary School
Lost Radio Rounders
Miller Hill-Sand Lake
Elementary School
Montessori
Magnet School
New Scotland
Elementary School
North Albany Academy
Philip J. Schuyler
Achievement Academy
Pine Hills
Elementary School
Poestenkill
Elementary School
Sheridan
Preparatory Academy
Thomas O'Brien
Academy of Science
and Technology
Troy School 2
Troy School 14
Troy School 16
Troy School 18
Veterans & Community
Housing Coalition
West Sand Lake
Elementary School

2018-2019 EDUCATION & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT HIGHLIGHTS

CREATING HANDS-ON LEARNING
EXPERIENCES AND ACCESSIBLE NEW
WAYS OF UTILIZING THE CREATION AND
PERFORMANCE OF MUSIC FOR THE
COMMON GOOD.



SYMPHONY IN OUR SCHOOLS

Formerly “Adopt-a-School,” our newly branded flagship elementary program provided in-school musician visits to **more than 1,600 students** in the Albany, Troy, and Averill Park public school districts.



ARMISTICE CENTENNIAL

The Albany Symphony commemorated the 100th anniversary of the end of WWI with a festival encompassing **12 community events**, including a **food drive** benefiting veterans in need; **film screenings**; a **pop-up exhibit**; and **collaborations** with local historians and artists. The festival culminated with the orchestra's performance of Benjamin Britten's monumental **War Requiem**. Audiences explored the "War to End All Wars" through films, lectures, and performances presented in collaboration with the Musicians of Ma'alwyck, Proctors, Schenectady County Historical Society, Discover Schenectady, and the New York State Museum.



LITERACY THROUGH SONGWRITING

25 students from Giffen and New Scotland Elementary Schools worked with Composer-Educator Angélica Negrón during **8 in-school visits** to create their own musical instruments and musical compositions, focusing on building skills in storytelling, teamwork, and communication.



SANDBOX PERCUSSION MASTERCLASS

The four percussionists of **Sandbox Percussion** gave a free masterclass, performance, and Q&A panel for students in music performance, music education, and music business at **The College of Saint Rose** prior to their opening night performance with the Albany Symphony.

Thank You

TO ALL OUR CHAMPIONS

Igniting the imagination. Exploring new sonic landscapes. Setting sail on fantastic musical adventures. When the orchestra comes to life, anything is possible - and all because of you!

Your generosity is transforming the lives of thousands of Capital Region residents through a unique combination of artistic excellence, community engagement, and creative innovation. You have provided the foundation to building meaningful encounters with the music of our time for listeners of all ages and backgrounds.

We are deeply grateful for your support. Thank you for investing in lifetimes of exploration through live orchestral music!



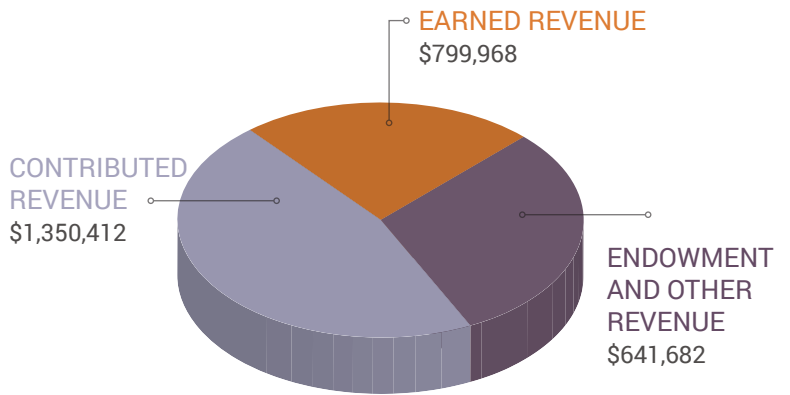
A SPECIAL APPRECIATION FOR VANGUARD - ALBANY SYMPHONY INC.

Vanguard's impact on the Albany Symphony is both long-standing and immense, providing support in the forefront of events and behind the scenes. Beginning in 1963, Vanguard has continued to facilitate the mission of the Albany Symphony through volunteer activities including: ushering, greeting and coordinating will call at concerts, providing housing and transportation for visiting artists, preparing food for musicians, hosting special events like concert prevues, Showhouse and June Farm days, supporting staff and much more. Vanguard's incredible stewardship generated over \$73,000 in the 2018-2019 season!

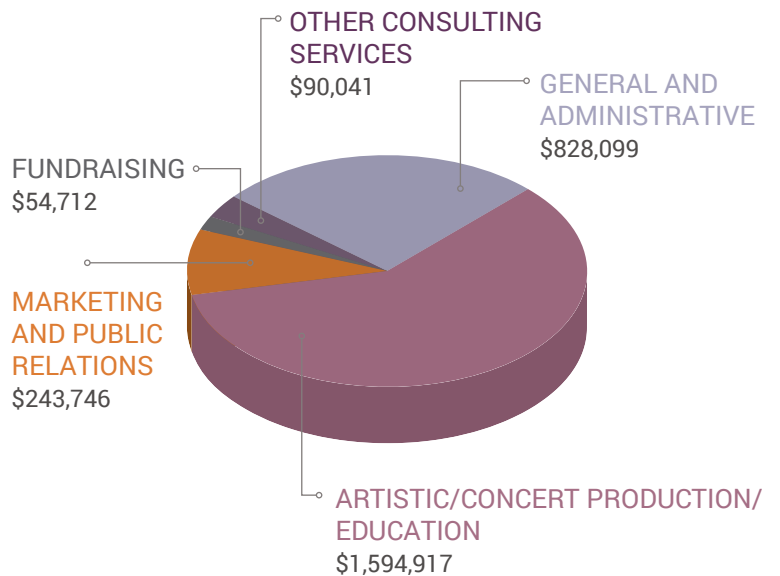
2018-2019 FINANCIAL REPORT

Operating Results: Fiscal Year 2019* | July 1, 2018 - June 30, 2019
*Audited Results

REVENUE TOTAL OPERATING REVENUE = \$2,792,062



EXPENSES TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES = \$2,811,114



RIGHT HERE RIGHT NOW: COMMUNITY AND MUSIC OF OUR TIME

THE STRATEGIC PRIORITIES FOR THE ALBANY SYMPHONY

(initiated June 7, 2018)

You'll notice examples of our Strategic Priorities throughout this annual report. Below are highlights of additional accomplishments of the 2018-2019 season. The full Strategic Plan can be found at: www.albanysymphony.com/whatwedo

Our Vision:

To transform the lives of all people of the Capital Region through the power of music.

We Value:

The power of music to transform perspectives and lives | Excellence in performance, education and in the audience experience | Championing both our musical heritage and the music and composers of our time | Playing a vital cultural, economic, and social role in our community | Diverse perspectives

Our Strategic Priorities:

- Provide bold, meaningful, and superb experiences through music
- Enrich and celebrate the people and history of the Capital Region
- Champion the music of our time and its creators in innovative ways
- Ensure the Albany Symphony is serving the community through its 100th anniversary (2030) and beyond

FROM THE DIVERSITY, EQUITY AND INCLUSION TASK FORCE CHARTER:

- A diversity of perspectives creates better art, and better dialogue about art.
- Creating inclusive environments helps us better serve and represent our community.
- DEI-friendly environments lead to better business outcomes and financial success.



CONCERT SHUTTLE PROGRAM

We were thrilled to pilot our new shuttle for all evening subscription concerts from the Delmar CDTA lot.

NEW 4 YEAR COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT SIGNED WITH LOCAL 14 OF THE AMERICAN FEDERATION OF MUSICIANS (AFM)

In July, the Albany Symphony and the Albany Musicians' Association, Local 14 of the AFM signed a new four-year collective bargaining agreement, which was ratified by the Members of the Orchestra on July 22 and is effective through June of 2023. Representatives from the Albany Symphony Board of Directors, administrative staff, Albany Symphony Orchestra Committee, and Local 14 participated in the negotiations, which took place over a five-month period. Underlying the intensive process, the parties engaged in meaningful discussions about ensuring the artistic integrity and excellence of the Albany Symphony, the financial sustainability of the organization, and the role of the Albany Symphony and its musicians in serving the Capital Region through the power of music.

ALBANY SYMPHONY



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Albany, NY 12207

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ALBANYSYMPHONY.COM

The Power of Music

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