

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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# Press Release



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**Albany Symphony**  
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## American Masterpieces Highlight Concert

West Side Story, Adagio for Strings among favorites on January 21 program

**(ALBANY, NY)** – On January 21, the Albany Symphony will present a program that celebrates and pays tribute to American masterpieces, and features audience-favorite works like Leonard Bernstein’s energetic Symphonic Dances from *West Side Story* and Samuel Barber’s heartfelt *Adagio for Strings*. The concert also highlights a recent Grammy Award-winning piano concerto by living American composer Michael Daugherty. The concert will be held at the Palace Theatre on January 21 at 7:30PM, and is sponsored by both Sano-Rubin Construction Services and BST Financial and Management Consultants. **Tickets start at just \$19.**

Michael Daugherty is one of the most commissioned, performed, and recorded composers on the American music scene today. His Piano Concerto *Deus Ex Machina*, is "musical response" to the world of trains that was honored with three GRAMMY® Awards in 2011, including Best Classical Contemporary Composition. The *Washington Post* raved that Daugherty "writes music that is propulsive, accessible yet well-constructed and deeply imbued with the spirits of both romanticism and postmodernism." The work will be performed by pianist Terrence Wilson, who has established a reputation as one of today's most gifted instrumentalists and was the soloist on the Grammy Award-winning recording of the concerto. *The Cincinnati Enquirer* noted that "Wilson demonstrated not only a masterful technique, but also a depth of musical artistry at the keyboard that was nothing short of astounding."

The program will also feature Leonard Bernstein’s energetic, jazzy Symphonic Dances from *West Side Story* – including all of the most unforgettable moments from the musical – as well as Samuel Barber’s achingly beautiful *Adagio for Strings*; a work that can be heard in many TV shows and movies, was played at the funerals at many famous people, including Albert Einstein and President Franklin D. Roosevelt, and was one of the few American works to be played regularly in the Soviet Union during the Cold War. The concert will round out with the great American composer Aaron Copland’s *El Salón Mexico*, a lively musical depiction of an eponymous dance hall in Mexico City.

More information about Albany Symphony performances, subscriptions, or featured artists and composers can be found at [www.AlbanySymphony.com](http://www.AlbanySymphony.com), or by calling 518.465.4755.

## **The Albany Symphony presents: Copland, Barber, and Bernstein!**

Saturday, January 21, 7:30PM - Palace Theatre

For tickets, call 518.465.4663 x2 or visit [www.albanysymphony.com](http://www.albanysymphony.com)

**Tickets start at just \$19!**

### **About the ASO**

The Albany Symphony is one of the Capital Region's most revered music and cultural institutions, having won numerous national awards for its adventurous concert programming, recording projects, composer residencies, and innovative educational efforts. As the only professional symphony orchestra based within the Capital Region, the Albany Symphony enriches a broad and diverse community, engaging over 150,000 people each year across an extended geographical area. After the Albany Symphony's Carnegie Hall debut in May 2011, National Public Radio raved that the Albany Symphony is a "world-class orchestra" and The New York Times declared the orchestra's playing as "bold...polished and clear."

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