

The BPO, in cooperation with the Buffalo & Erie County Public Libraries, presents a chance to get to know your Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra on a personal level. These free talks given by BPO musicians and staff give an intimate look inside the BPO while providing a basis of knowledge about the orchestral world. Located at: Downtown Library, 1 Lafayette Square, Buffalo • Orchard Park Library, S-4570 South Buffalo Street, Orchard Park • Audubon Library, 350 John J. Audubon Parkway, Amherst.



Stefan Sanders – The Life of a Conductor

October 5, 2015 - 12 noon Downtown

October 14, 2015 – 6:30pm Orchard Park

October 21, 2015 – 7:00pm Amherst-Audubon

BPO associate conductor Stefan Sanders shares his personal path to the podium at Kleinhans Music Hall, which includes the unique circumstance of many years of experience on the other side of the conductor's baton. He shares his insights on the life of a modern conductor and answers the questions about what a conductor really does, both on and off the stage, to prepare an orchestra for an exceptional performance.



Anna Mattix – Embedded Soloist

January 20, 2016 – 12 noon Downtown and 6:30pm Orchard Park

January 27, 2016 – 7:00pm Amherst-Audubon branch

BPO English hornist Anna Mattix describes her experiences playing an instrument that is often called upon to play a solo role within the orchestra. As the daughter of a professional opera singer and a music teacher, her background gives her a strong foundation to draw upon. Learn about the difference in concert preparation and mindset between a section player and a principal solo player.



Travis Hendra – A Music Librarian's Insights

February 24, 2016 – 12 noon Downtown and 6:30pm Orchard Park

March 2, 2016 – 7:00pm Amherst-Audubon branch

BPO music librarian Travis Hendra gives his insights on the role of this integral position in every orchestra. He sheds light on the preparation and knowledge required to ensure that every marking on every page is accurate, from bowings to articulations to the notes themselves. He also shares his experiences with our special recording projects which often give lesser known musical gems a wider audience.



Matthew Bassett – Path to the BPO

May 25, 2016 – 12 noon Downtown and 6:30pm Orchard Park

June 1, 2016 – 7:00pm Amherst-Audubon

What is the life of a BPO musician like? How does one become a professional orchestral musician? BPO principal timpanist Matthew Bassett shares the uncommon path that a professional musician must take in order to secure a spot in an orchestra, including the audition process that is so unique to the orchestra industry.