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Contact: Simone Viola, Marketing & Communications Coordinator
sviola@bpo.org, (716) 242-7814

Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra opens 90th anniversary season Saturday

Opening night features violin virtuoso Joshua Bell, Buffalo-inspired world premiere,
and gala honoring JoAnn Falletta's 25th anniversary as BPO Music Director



The Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra proudly opens their 2024-25 concert season on Saturday, September 28 at Kleinhans Music Hall, marking the start of their milestone 90th anniversary season. **Opening Night with Joshua Bell** kicks off the festivities with a gala honoring JoAnn Falletta's 25th anniversary as BPO Music Director, which the orchestra celebrated throughout the past year.

The concert program includes Stravinsky's fan-favorite suite from *The Firebird*, world-renowned violin virtuoso Joshua Bell performing Henryk Wieniawski's second violin concerto, and the special world premiere performance of a new work composed by Daron Hagen, titled *City of Light*. Hagen's composition was generously commissioned by the Scott Bieler Family Foundation in 2023 to commemorate JoAnn Falletta's 25-year legacy in Buffalo.

Hagen describes, "*City of Light* celebrates JoAnn's 25th anniversary, the 90th anniversary of the BPO, and the city of Buffalo itself, which was known as the 'City of Light' (like another city, in France). The piece is about energy, joy, inspiration – electricity that Niagara Falls generated for Buffalo, and that music generates for us."

The evening's gala, graciously sponsored by Carolyn and John Yurtchuk, includes a pre-concert cocktail reception and post-concert dinner to celebrate the jubilee. For gala details, visit bpo.org/gala.

For concert details, visit bpo.org/opening-night. Tickets can be purchased online, in-person at the Box Office in Kleinhans Music Hall, or by calling (716) 885-5000.

Find images [here](#). For additional information, interviews, photos, or video, contact Simone Viola at sviola@bpo.org or (716) 242-7814.

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786 Delaware Ave. Buffalo, NY 14209 | (716) 885-5000 | bpo.org