



Malofeev Plays Tchaikovsky

The Opening Night Concert and Gala is sponsored by Carolyn and John Yurtchuk
🌅 **Sat Sep 20, 8pm**
JoAnn Falletta, *conductor*
Alexander Malofeev, *piano*
Tchaikovsky's dramatic Piano Concerto No. 1 soars under Sasha Malofeev's dazzling musicianship on Opening Night. Leonard Bernstein's brilliant overture to the witty operetta *Candide*—inspired by Voltaire's satire—contrasts Richard Strauss' famed *Der Rosenkavalier* Suite, evoking an era of splendid waltzes, courting rituals, and romance.

For information on the pre-concert Gala dinner celebration or table sponsorship benefits, call (716) 242-7821.

Fabio, Folklore & Fantasy

🌅 **Fri Oct 3, 10:30am**
🌅 🎻 **Sat Oct 4, 7:30pm**
JoAnn Falletta, *conductor*
Fabio Bidini, *piano*
Menacing timpani rolls set the tone for Rossini's solemn Overture to *Semiramide*, a deceptively upbeat narration of family rivalries. Bartók's *Dance Suite*—featuring five original Hungarian folk soundscapes composed for the 50th anniversary of the merger of Buda and Pest—offers a vibrant musical journey. Chopin's poetic Piano Concerto No. 1 stands as a sparkling showcase of virtuosity.

Nikki Plays Beethoven

BEETHOVEN FESTIVAL
🌅 **Fri Oct 17, 10:30am**
🌅 🎻 **Sat Oct 18, 7:30pm**
JoAnn Falletta, *conductor*
Nikki Chooi, *violin*
The spirited orchestration of Gould's *Cowboy Rhapsody*, filled with yodels and cowboy calls, is complemented by Jessie Montgomery's contemporary *Snapshots*, which captures childhood's playful spirit amid a looming storm. Concertmaster Nikki Chooi masterfully leads Beethoven's monumental Violin Concerto in D major, celebrated for its improvised cadenzas.



Beethoven's Pastoral

BEETHOVEN FESTIVAL
🌅 **Fri Oct 24, 10:30am**
🌅 🎻 **Sat Oct 25, 7:30pm**
JoAnn Falletta, *conductor*
Nikki Chooi, *violin*
Roman Mekinulov, *cello*
Eric Huebner, *piano*
Britten's mysterious and moving Four Sea Interludes from *Peter Grimes* powerfully interprets an outcast fisherman's tragic end amid turbulent seas. Buffalo-born Robert Paterson's colorful *Triple Concerto* compellingly examines Earth's fragility, while Beethoven's gentle Sixth Symphony portrays a charming countryside turn, evoking deep relaxation and contentment.



Mahler & Mahler

🌅 **Fri Nov 7, 10:30am**
🌅 🎻 🌐 **Sat Nov 8, 7:30pm**
JoAnn Falletta, *conductor*
Andrea Bickford, *soprano*
Only sixteen *Lieder* (songs for voice and piano) survive from Alma Mahler's vast output, as her husband Gustav curtailed her publication efforts. Five poem-based works evoke love—intoxicating, intimate, infinite, and reflective of loves past. Gustav's initially panned Symphony No. 1 employs musical imagery akin to a song cycle, interpreting nature's joys and sorrows.

Grieg & Schumann: Romantic Impressions

🎻 **Sat Nov 22, 7:30pm**
🎻 **Sun Nov 23, 2:30pm**
Eric Jacobsen, *conductor*
Adam Golka, *piano*
Brahms' vibrant and lively Hungarian Dances were inspired by the cherished traditional heritage of a long-time friend. Schumann's passionate Fourth Symphony, emblematic of his joyful marriage to Clara, languished for ten long years before final publication. Grieg's heroic Piano Concerto shines with rich Norwegian folk melodies, virtuosic cadenzas, and majestic flourishes.

JoAnn's Classical Christmas

🌅 **Fri Dec 12, 10:30am**
🌅 🎻 **Sat Dec 13, 7:30pm**
JoAnn Falletta, *conductor*
Sirgourney Cook, *soprano*
Buffalo Philharmonic Chorus
Join JoAnn Falletta on a captivating journey through centuries of seasonal music. This festive concert weaves a rich tapestry of timeless holiday treasures and evocative winter themes, inviting you to experience the season's universal beauty. Perfect for the whole family, this performance promises a warm, illuminating feast celebrating winter's spirit and charm.

Mozart's Great Mass

MOZART FESTIVAL
🌅 **Fri Jan 16, 10:30am**
🎻 **Sat Jan 17, 7:30pm**
Maximiano Valdés, *conductor*
Buffalo Philharmonic Chorus
Our Mozart Festival opens with the "Prague" Symphony No. 38, composed on the heels of *The Marriage of Figaro*'s tremendous success. Rich in complex subtleties and lyrical sophistication, it spans a full spectrum of emotion. Mozart's unfinished "Great" Mass in C minor—his most exalted and personal sacred work—was deeply influenced by the Baroque traditions of Bach and Handel. Its original movements journey from somber to soaring, with later 20th-century revisions completing the piece.



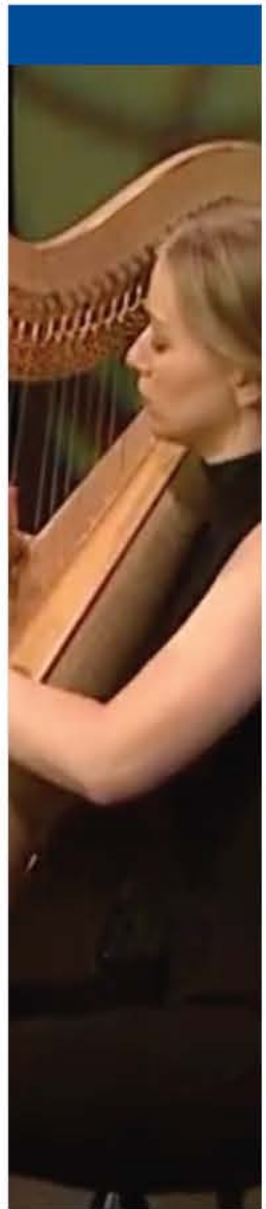
Mozart's Violin

MOZART FESTIVAL
🎻 **Sat Jan 24, 7:30pm**
🎻 **Sun Jan 25, 2:30pm**
Anthony Parnter, *conductor*
Aubree Oliverson, *violin*
Continuing our Mozart Festival, enjoy works by two peers: Joseph Bologna's jaunty Symphony No. 2 and Maria Theresia von Paradis's Overture to *The School Candidate*, her sole surviving orchestral piece, in commedia dell'arte form. Mozart's five violin concertos, composed in 1775, culminate in a Fifth that is imaginative and technically challenging. The fiery "Haffner" Symphony, honoring a former Salzburg patron, is bold and regal.



Shostakovich No. 5

🌅 **Fri Feb 6, 10:30am**
🌅 🎻 **Sat Feb 7, 7:30pm**
JoAnn Falletta, *conductor*
Madeline Olson, *harp*
Composed to acknowledge an honorary degree despite not attending university, a mischievous Brahms penned the tongue-in-cheek *Academic Festival Overture*, featuring boisterous student drinking songs. Reinecke's Concerto in E minor spotlights the harp in a virtuosic display of shimmering arpeggios and mesmerizing rhythms. The forced optimism of Symphony No. 5, glorifying Stalin's regime, proved both career and life-saving for Shostakovich.



All programs and performers subject to change



Haydn Cello Concerto

🌅 **Fri May 8, 10:30am**
🌅 **Sat May 9, 7:30pm**
Rune Bergmann, *conductor*
Sterling Elliott, *cello*
Canadian Larisa Kuzmenko composed *Fantasy on a Theme by Beethoven* in celebration of his birthday. Haydn's high-spirited and dramatic Cello Concerto No. 1 remained undiscovered for two centuries until its chance 1961 find at the Czech National Library. Fittingly, Grieg's four charming *Symphonic Dances*, inspired by Norwegian folk tunes, played a key role in formalizing Norway's national identity.

Carmina Burana

🌅 🎻 **Sat May 30, 7:30pm**
🌅 🎻 **Sun May 31, 2:30pm**
JoAnn Falletta, *conductor*
Eva Rae Martinez, *soprano*
Kameron Lopreore, *tenor*
Joshua Conyers, *baritone*
Buffalo Philharmonic Chorus
As the first of a trilogy of cantatas, Orff's irreverent Carmina Burana draws from a 13th century compilation of vagabond songs and poems detailing fate's fickleness, pagan delights, and corruption with hypnotic sensuality and powerful rhythms. Hindemith's reworked Symphonic Dances emerged from a discarded ballet collaboration.

Tchaikovsky Meets Elfman

🌅 🎻 **Sat Mar 7, 7:30pm**
🌅 🎻 **Sun Mar 8, 2:30pm**
JoAnn Falletta, *conductor*
Colin Currie, *percussion*
A myriad of eclectic instruments—including pots, pans, and metal gadgets—accompany world-renowned percussionist Colin Currie and his BPO brethren in performing Danny Elfman's offbeat, idiosyncratic Percussion Concerto, composed without brass or woodwinds. Tchaikovsky's Fifth Symphony, once plagued by poor reviews and personal self-doubt, endures as a beloved, emotionally lyrical masterpiece, proving its timeless appeal.

Brahms & Bruch

🌅 **Fri Mar 20, 10:30am**
🌅 🎻 🌐 **Sat Mar 21, 7:30pm**
JoAnn Falletta, *conductor*
Simone Porter, *violin*
Two English folk songs form George Butterworth's idyllic *The Banks of Green Willow*, premiered just two years before the promising young composer's demise in the trenches of World War I. German Max Bruch, captivated by Scottish traditions, wove these melodies into his violin showpiece, *Scottish Fantasy*. Meanwhile, Brahms' expressive Symphony No. 1, finely dubbed "Beethoven's Tenth," gestated for 22 years due to his remarkable perfectionism.

Pablo's Guitar

🎻 **Sat Apr 11, 7:30pm**
🎻 **Sun Apr 12, 2:30pm**
Anna Sulkowska-Migoni, *conductor*
Pablo Sáinz Villegas, *guitar*
Bacewicz's six-minute *Overture for Orchestra*, composed during the German occupation of Poland, offers a perpetually shifting palette of colors. Spaniard Joaquín Rodrigo's animated *Concierto de Aranjuez* features elaborate orchestration for classical guitar. Lutosławski's energetic *Little Suite* for Symphony Orchestra espouses Polish folk tunes, while Borodin's colorful Symphony No. 2 evokes the exuberance of Russian folk dances.



All programs and performers subject to change



Mendelssohn & Dvořák

🌅 **Fri Apr 24, 10:30am**
🌅 **Sat Apr 25, 7:30pm**
Roberto Minczuk, *conductor*
Amaryn Olmeda, *violin*
Ellen Taaffe Zwilich declared her popular Concerto Grosso 1985 as a "20th century response to the spirit of Handel," created for his 300th birthday celebration. Inspired by Handel's Violin Sonata in D, it serves as a fitting precursor to Mendelssohn's exquisite and romantic Violin Concerto in E minor. Dvořák's pastoral Eighth Symphony vividly depicts Czech songs and dances through rich, pleasing melodic harmonies.



Beethoven's Fifth

🌅 🎻 **Sat Feb 21, 7:30pm**
🌅 🎻 **Sun Feb 22, 2:30pm**
JoAnn Falletta, *conductor*
George Li, *piano*
Four notes instantly recognizable across generations welcome back the much-loved Symphony No. 5 to the Kleinhans stage. *Dance Symphony*'s rhythmic jazz motifs were drawn from an evocative Copland ballet about a morbid conjurer who could raise the dead and make them dance. Beethoven expands on Mozart's influence in his Piano Concerto No. 1, featuring challenging key changes and bold harmonies.



American Soundscapes

🌅 **Fri Jun 5, 10:30am**
🌅 🎻 **Sat Jun 6, 7:30pm**
JoAnn Falletta, *conductor*
Jon Kimura Parker, *piano*
Our season concludes with three iconic compositions and two orchestral world premieres. Bernstein's toe-tapping Three Dance Episodes from *On the Town*, Copland's distinctively American *Appalachian Spring* Suite, and Gershwin's jazz-infused *Rhapsody in Blue* are paired with two works rooted in Western New York. Michael Daugherty's *Niagara Falls* is a musical journey through one of the world's great scenic wonders, while Buffalo-born Paul Moravec's *Serenade*—inspired by the Great Western Staircase at the New York State Capitol, a marvel of intricate sculpture and history—offers a stirring narrative of ascent and aspiration.