



**ERIE
PHILHARMONIC**

PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release

Erie Philharmonic to begin a week of outreach in the community

Beginning on Monday, November 2, the Erie Philharmonic is planning to launch an unprecedented week of educational outreach events coinciding with our November 7 symphonic concert, the Romance of Schumann. This is the first such series of events in the 102 year history of the Philharmonic; it includes two piano donations, an instrumental petting zoo, two youth concerts, master classes, and more.

“As the landmark performance organization in Erie, we owe it to our audience members, sponsors, and donors to take the initiative when it comes to outreach in the community,” said new Executive Director, Steve Weiser. “We have the resources and capacity to affect change of the highest level and across the broadest spectrum, and with our new team firmly in place, we are anxious to start this new era of community engagement.”

With renowned piano soloist Andrew von Oeyen scheduled to perform at Saturday evening's concert, this week of outreach has a distinct piano-feel to it. We will be donating baby grand pianos to both the Downtown YMCA as well as the Benjamin Wiley Community Charter School. Additional events are planned at Asbury Elementary, the LECOM Senior Center, Springhill Retirement Community, the Experience Children's Museum, St. Martin's Early Learning Center, St. Benedict's Early Learning Center, and Early Connections.

The centerpiece of our educational week is the Philharmonic's annual Youth Concerts, presented to over 4,000 children from across the region. Students will travel to the Warner Theatre from as far away as Ripley, NY for these concerts, entitled "Musicalympics." This year's concerts focus on sports and music, showcasing the multitude of connections that exist between seemingly disparate worlds. Special guest appearances by local sports mascots are also planned.

Please refer to the below schedule for more details about locations and times of each outreach activity.

The Erie Philharmonic presents “Romance of Schumann” on Saturday, November 7. The concert starts at 8:00pm at the Warner Theatre, located at 811 State Street. Tickets may be purchased by calling 814/455-1375 or online at EriePhil.org.

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2015-2016 Season Education Week Schedule

Monday, November 2, 2015

Piano Donation to YMCA Downtown (31 West 10th Street)

9:15am

The Erie Philharmonic is proud to donate a baby grand piano to the Downtown Y to be included in their Multi-Purpose room, an integral part of their Teen Center program on their newly-renovated 5th floor.

Tuesday, November 3, 2015

Grow Up Great Classes

9:30-10:00am: St. Martin's Early Learning Center (1301 French Street)

10:30-11:00am: St. Benedict's Early Learning Center (345 E. 9th Street)

11:15-11:45am: Early Connections (420 W. 6th Street)

Steve Weiser, new Executive Director, and former musician of the Orchestra, will be teaching at 3 local pre-schools as part of PNC's Grow Up Great program. He will be demonstrating the percussion family of the orchestra and preparing students for upcoming Youth Concerts.

LECOM Outreach (LECOM Senior Living Center, Millcreek Manor, 5535 Peach Street)

10:30-11:30am

Conductor and Music Director Daniel Meyer will present insider information about the Erie Philharmonic and bring the Philharmonic to patrons that might not otherwise be able to attend one of the concerts. This is our first presentation to the LECOM Senior Living Center.

Wednesday, November 4, 2015

Youth Concerts at Warner Theatre (811 State Street)

10:00-10:45am

11:30am-12:15pm

Over 4,000 students from the Erie region will attend one of the Youth Concerts provided by the Philharmonic. This year, the 14 elementary and middle schools in the city of Erie and Robert Benjamin Wiley Community Charter School were able to attend the concert at zero cost with support from local companies and the Philharmonic Board covering admission and busing costs. The Jr. Philharmonic will perform side by side with the Orchestra.

Springhill Outreach (2323 Edinboro Road)

3:00-4:00pm

Conductor and Music Director Daniel Meyer will return to Springhill to present insider information about the upcoming Erie Philharmonic concert, including video and music clips.

2015-2016 Season Education Week Schedule (cont'd)

Thursday, November 5, 2015

Piano Donation to Benjamin Wiley Community Charter School (1446 E. Lake Road)

Afternoon – Time TBD

The Erie Philharmonic is proud to donate a piano to the Benjamin Wiley Community Charter School for their school library. Currently, 98% of their student population is classified as low income, and 30% of the population is diagnosed as exceptional and in need of special education services. We are thrilled that the students of Benjamin Wiley will have a baby grand piano to use in their school.

Friday, November 6, 2015

Piano Soloist, Andrew von Oeyen, to visit Asbury Elementary 5th Graders (5875 Sterrettania Road, Fairview)

9:45-10:30am

Andrew von Oeyen, piano soloist for our upcoming November 7 concert, will head to Asbury Elementary of Millcreek Township School District to present and perform for their 5th grade classes.

Saturday, November 7, 2015

Instrumental Petting Zoo at ExpERIEence Children's Museum (420 French Street)

11:00am-1:00pm

Musicians from the Erie Philharmonic will participate in "Erie Arts & Culture" at the ExpERIEence Children's Museum. All children in attendance will have the opportunity to listen and learn about the violin, cello, and French horn, as well as have the opportunity to play some of the instruments.

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