

RPO

BRAVO

18-19 SEASON
SEPT 13-OCT 3



DVOŘÁK'S NEW WORLD | JENNIFER HIGDON: LIVE RECORDING
 DISTANT WORLDS: MUSIC FROM FINAL FANTASY | CIRQUE DE LA SYMPHONIE
 THIBAUDET PLAYS GERSHWIN

SEASON SPONSOR **ROCHESTER** | Dawn and Jacques
 REGIONAL HEALTH | Lipson Cancer Institute

Dear RPO Patron,

With Ward's first downbeat, the RPO will begin its 96th season. If the ghosts of RPO musicians past could tell us stories, one thing would be certain – a theme of community would resurface again and again.

The RPO has always prided itself on being a vital part of the Rochester community. Through education and community engagement programs, the RPO brings music to all four quadrants of the City and beyond. The Orchestra performs in Kodak Hall at Eastman Theatre, but also in churches, temples, rec centers, and in outdoor spaces. The musicians and staff individually contribute within their communities as well, by volunteering for a variety of local non-profits, partnering with organizations to spread music and education, and championing worthwhile causes. Simply put: we love being Rochesterians.

This past season, and most notably this summer, our community stepped up to the Community Challenge. Initiated by our board as a 2:1 match, we saw new donors round up their ticket purchase, add on donations at the Patron Services Center, and respond to our emails or social media appeals for action. The number of people within our community who support the RPO financially increased this past season, as did the overall amount donated. For that, we are grateful.

We also saw another year of record-setting ticket sales. Multiple sold-out performances, unbelievable musical memories, and generous financial support from our community all helped to make the 2017/18 season one to celebrate!

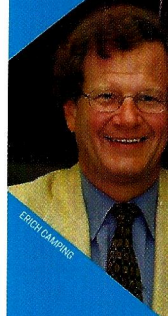
But we're not resting on our laurels. The musicians, staff, and board of the RPO are committed to making the 2018/19 season even better. Thank you for joining us as we begin another season long musical journey. Here's to a year of exciting music, beautiful memories, and making Rochester a great place to live, work and raise our families.

Sincerely,



Curtis S. Long
President & CEO

Welcome from the President and CEO



ERIC LAMPING

FROM THE MUSIC DIRECTOR

Welcome to 2018-19! We are excited to begin this new season with a new look--including a brand new logo. It's modern and energetic while containing sonic imagery to represent the world-class music you've come to expect from your RPO. We hope you like it.

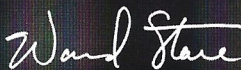
Speaking of fantastic music, our 2018-19 season is jam-packed with quality musical experiences. We'll welcome back celebrated guest artists like Jon Nakamatsu and Vadym Kholodenko; take on symphonic monoliths such as Beethoven's triumphant *Eroica* and Mahler's dramatic Symphony No. 7; and provide the score to cinematic favorites like *Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets* and *Star Wars: The Empire Strikes Back* - in Concert.

In addition to our time in the concert hall, we are excited to continue our work out in the community with free educational and community concerts. Our musicians will continue to extend their reach beyond the RPO and into small ensembles and outside concert venues. Like you, we live and work in Rochester--and we couldn't be happier to be part of this community.

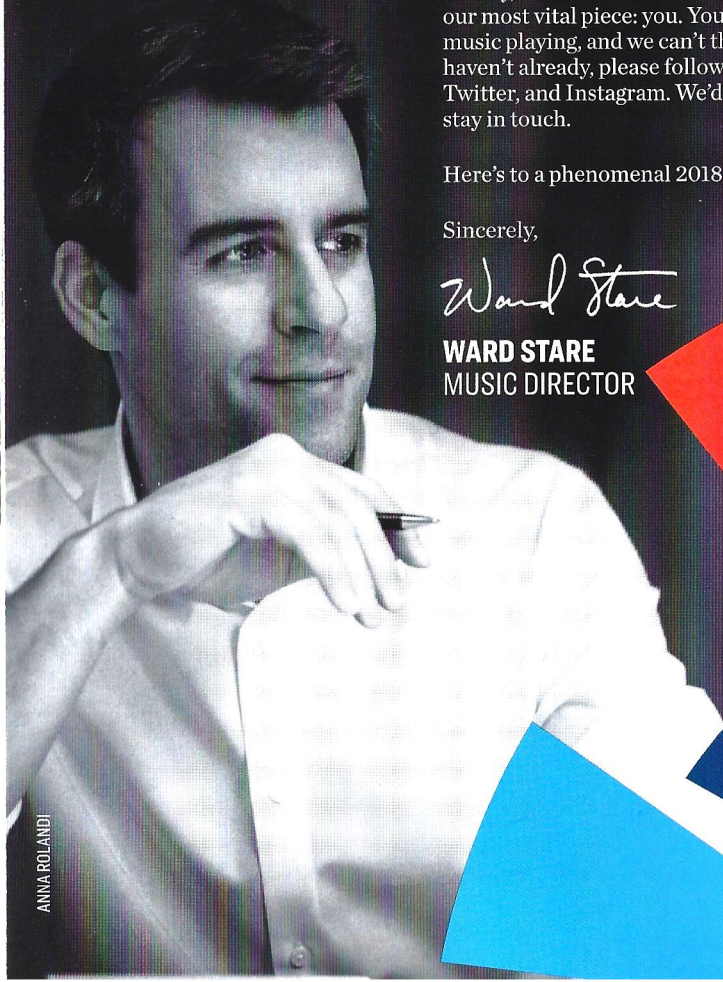
Finally, we couldn't continue to do what we do without our most vital piece: you. Your support is what keeps the music playing, and we can't thank you enough. If you haven't already, please follow the RPO on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram. We'd love to connect with you and stay in touch.

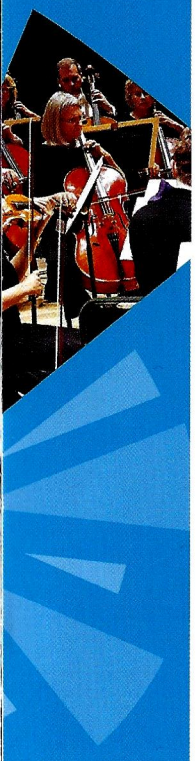
Here's to a phenomenal 2018-19!

Sincerely,



WARD STARE
MUSIC DIRECTOR





VIOLIN 1

Juliana Athayde, *Concertmaster*
 Wilfredo Deglans,
Associate Concertmaster
 Shannon Nance,
Assistant Concertmaster
 Perrin Yang
 Tigran Vardanyan
 Willa Finck
 Thomas Rodgers
 Aika Ito
 Youngsun Kim
 Kenneth Langley
 Molly McDonald
 Cynthia Burton
 Jeremy Hill
 An-Chi Lin

VIOLIN 2

Daryl Perlo, *Acting Principal*
 Patricia Sunwoo
 John Sullivan
 Lara Sipols
 Nancy Hunt
 Boris Zapasochny
 Liana Koteva Kirvan
 Margaret Leenhouts
 Heidi Brodwin
 Catherine Arai
 Ellen Sonnenberg

VIOLA

Melissa Matson, *Principal*
 Marc Anderson,
Assistant Principal
 Samantha Rodriguez*
 Mary Ferrillo
 Olita Povero
 Olivia Chew
 Neil Miller
 David Hult
 Aaron Mossburg*
 Matthew Ross
 Benjamin Magruder

CELLO

Ahrim Kim, *Principal*
 Kathleen Murphy Kemp,
Assistant Principal
 Lars Kirvan
 Christopher Haritatos
 Zexun Shen
 Benjamin Krug
 Ingrid Bock
 Jennifer Carpenter

BASS

Cory Palmer, *Principal*
 Michael Griffin,
Assistant Principal
 Gaelen McCormick*
 Edward Castilano
 Fred Dole
 Jeff Campbell+
 Eric Polenik

FLUTE

Rebecca Gilbert, *Principal*
 Joanna Bassott
 Jessica Sindell
 Diane Smith

PICCOLO

Joanna Bassott
 Jessica Sindell

OBOE

Erik Behr, *Principal*
 Anna Steltenpohl
 Geoff Sanford

ENGLISH HORN

Anna Steltenpohl

CLARINET

Kenneth Grant, + *Principal*
 Andrew Brown

BASS CLARINET

Andrew Brown

SAXOPHONE

Ramon Ricker

BASSOON

Matthew McDonald, *Principal*
 Karl Vilcins
 Martha Sholl

CONTRA-BASSOON

Karl Vilcins

HORN

W. Peter Kurau, + *Principal*
 Nikolette Labonte,
Associate/Assistant/Utility
 Maura McCune Corvington
 David Angus
 Stephen Laifer

TRUMPET

Douglas Prosser, + *Principal*
 Wesley Nance
 Herbert Smith
 Paul Shewan

TROMBONE

David Bruestle, *Principal*
 Lisa Albrecht
 Jeffrey Gray

BASS TROMBONE

Jeffrey Gray

TUBA

W. Craig Sutherland, *Principal*

TIMPANI

Charles Ross, *Principal*
 Jim Tiller, *Assistant Principal*

PERCUSSION

Jim Tiller, *Principal*
 Brian Stotz
 Bradley Loudis
 Kyle Peters
 Jillian Pritchard

HARP

Grace Browning, *Principal*
 Rosanna Moore

KEYBOARD

Joseph Werner, *Principal*
 Cary Ratcliff

PERSONNEL MANAGER

Fred Dole

PRINCIPAL LIBRARIAN

Kimberly Hartquist

STAGE MANAGERS

David Zaccaria
 Deirdre Street

* On Leave

+ Full-time faculty at the
 Eastman School of Music

MEET OUR NEW MUSICIANS

Please join us in welcoming two new full-time musicians to the RPO! Willa Finck and Zexun (Jason) Shen joined the RPO as part-time musicians in 2017 and 2016, respectively. This season you'll be seeing them onstage a lot more often!

WILLA FINCK, violin

Willa Finck, a native of Boone, North Carolina, joined the RPO in January of 2017. She is the fiddle instructor at the Eastman Community Music School, and a founding member of the Rochester-based folk band, Copper Hill. She received her Bachelor of Music degree with high distinction from the Eastman School of Music in May 2018. During her time at Eastman Willa was invited to perform with faculty members, Steven Doane, Rosemary Elliot, Masumi Per Rostad, and her own teacher, Mikhail Kopelman. Willa served as a concertmaster in both the Eastman School Symphony Orchestra and the Eastman Philharmonia, starting both positions in her sophomore year. In 2016 she won Eastman's Violin Concerto Competition, which led to her performance as soloist with the Eastman School Symphony Orchestra. Willa has also been a soloist with the North Carolina Symphony and the Asheville Symphony.

In addition to her solo and orchestral endeavors, Willa is a dedicated chamber musician. While at Eastman she worked with the same quartet for three years and this group was selected four times to perform in the Honors Chamber Recital. In the summer of 2018 Willa performed with cellist Christopher Costanza of the St. Lawrence String Quartet at the Madeline Island Chamber Music Festival.

Willa grew up playing Irish and Old-Time music with her family and has made more recent forays into Bluegrass and song-writing. She plays a 2013 violin made by her father, David Finck, luthier.

ZEXUN (JASON) SHEN, cello

Born in Shanghai, China, Zexun (Jason) Shen studied at the Shanghai Conservatory of Music with Professor Da-Hai Liu and graduated with honors in 2009. In the same year, he began his studies with Timothy Eddy at the Mannes College of Music (BM 2013, MM 2015), where he was presented with a full scholarship and the Goldsmith Foundation Award. Shen has served as the principal cellist of the Mannes Orchestra since 2011.

Shen has performed extensively in the U.S. and abroad (including China, Australia, and Poland) as a soloist and chamber musician, playing at venues such as the Alice Tully Hall, Carnegie Hall, the Steinway Hall, Merkin Concert Hall, Metropolitan Museum, Morgan Library Museum, and has taken part in music festivals such as the Sarasota Music Festival, Heifetz International Music Institute (String Quartet Seminar), and the Taos Chamber Music Festival, working with the members of the Borromeo String Quartet, Brentano String Quartet, the Moscow Rachmaninoff Piano Trio, the Guarneri String Quartet, and the Orion String Quartet, amongst others. He has also performed in solo and chamber master classes given by world-renowned musicians such as Shmuel Ashkenazi, Colin Carr, Christoph Henkel, Andres Diaz, Paul Katz, Ralph Kirshbaum, Laurence Lesser, Robert McDonald, Joseph Silverstein, and Michael Tree.

Shen is currently studying with Philippe Muller at the Manhattan School of Music. He plays on an 1889 Giovanni Dollenz cello made in Triesta, Italy, with an 1860 Charles Peccatte bow made available to him as a gift from a private sponsor.



WARD STARE

Music Director

Appointed the 12th music director of the Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra in July 2014, Rochester native Ward Stare has been described as “inspiring musicians to impressive heights” by *The New York Times*, and “a dynamic music director” by Rochester *CITY Newspaper*.

Stare’s recent seasons have seen a number of highly anticipated debuts with orchestras around the world, including performances with the Baltimore Symphony, Sydney Symphony, Pittsburgh Symphony, Toronto Symphony, and the Calgary Philharmonic. Last season he made his debut with the Hawaii Symphony Orchestra followed by his return to the St. Louis Symphony in December.

Stare’s frequent collaboration with the Lyric Opera of Chicago began with his debut in 2012 conducting performances of *Hansel and Gretel*; he returned in 2013 to lead *Die Fledermaus*, and again in November 2014 to lead *Porgy and Bess* to rave reviews. He made his debut with the Washington National Opera conducting Donizetti’s comic opera *L’Elisir d’amore* in 2014.

Stare served as resident conductor of the Saint Louis Symphony Orchestra from 2008 to 2012. In 2009, he made his highly successful Carnegie Hall debut with the orchestra, stepping in at the last minute to lead H. K. Gruber’s *Frankenstein!* The 2013–14 season saw his return to the Atlanta and Detroit symphony orchestras, as well as his debuts with the Syracuse Symphoria, the Jacksonville Symphony, and the Naples Philharmonic with Lang Lang as soloist.

Stare was trained as a trombonist at The Juilliard School in Manhattan. At 18, he was appointed principal trombonist of the Lyric Opera of Chicago and has performed as an orchestral musician with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra and the New York Philharmonic, among others. As a soloist, he has concertized in both the U.S. and Europe. wardstare.com

JEFF TYZIK

Principal Pops Conductor

Grammy Award winner Jeff Tyzik is one of America’s most innovative and sought after pops conductors, recognized for his brilliant arrangements, original programming and engaging rapport with audiences of all ages. This season Tyzik celebrates 25 years as principal pops conductor of the RPO, a title he also holds at the Detroit Symphony, the Oregon Symphony, and The Florida Orchestra. This is also the sixth season that Tyzik has held The Dot and Paul Mason Principal Pops Conductor’s Podium at the Dallas Symphony Orchestra.

Frequently invited as a guest conductor, Tyzik has appeared with the Boston Pops, Cincinnati Pops, Milwaukee Symphony, Pittsburgh Symphony, Toronto Symphony, Indianapolis Symphony, Philadelphia Orchestra, Los Angeles Philharmonic, and the Royal Scottish National Orchestra.

Tyzik has written more than 200 arrangements, orchestrations, and compositions for orchestra. A consummate musician, Tyzik regularly appears as a guest conductor in the RPO’s subscription series. In the 2015–16 season, Tyzik premiered a new violin concerto written for RPO Concertmaster Juliana Athayde.

Tyzik has collaborated with such diverse artists as Megan Hilty, Chris Botti, Matthew Morrison, Wynonna Judd, Tony Bennett, Art Garfunkel, Dawn Upshaw, Marilyn Horne, Arturo Sandoval, The Chieftains, Mark O’Connor, Doc Severinsen, and John Pizzarelli. He has created numerous original programs that include the greatest music from jazz and classical to Motown, Broadway, film, dance, Latin, and swing.

Tyzik holds both his bachelor and master’s degree from the Eastman School of Music. jeff tyzik.com.

CHRISTOPHER SEAMAN

Conductor Laureate

The Christopher Seaman Chair, Supported by Barbara and Patrick Fulford and The Conductor Laureate Society

Christopher Seaman was music director of the RPO from 1998-2011, and was subsequently named conductor laureate. During his 13-year tenure, the longest in RPO history, he raised the Orchestra’s artistic level, broadened its audience base, and created a new concert series. This contribution was recognized with an award from the American Society of Composers, Authors, and Publishers. In May 2009, the University of Rochester made him an honorary doctor of music.

Previous positions include music director of the Naples Philharmonic Orchestra (Florida) for 10 years, conductor-in-residence with the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra, and artistic advisor of the San Antonio Symphony.

He is recognized for his wealth of repertoire, which ranges from baroque to contemporary, and in particular the works of Bruckner, Brahms, and Sibelius, Seaman also is highly regarded for his work with younger musicians, and he served as course director for the Symphony Services International Conductor Development Program (Australia) for many years.

Recent conducting engagements include the Aspen Music Festival, Detroit, Houston, St. Louis, Cincinnati, Milwaukee, and Seattle symphony orchestras; the Warsaw Philharmonic Orchestra, Kristiansand Symphony Orchestra, Orchestra of Opera North, and Orquestra Filarmônica de Minas Gerais in Brazil. He frequently visits Australia and Asia where he has conducted the Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra and the National Taiwan, Sydney, Melbourne, Adelaide, and Singapore symphony orchestras, among others.

RPO

AN EVENING OF
GERSHWIN & CLAM

18-19 SEASON
OPENING GALA
CELEBRATION

October 3, 2018
5:30 PM | THE WILDER ROOM

Join us for an evening filled with 1920s glitz and glamour featuring your Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra with special guest, Jean-Yves Thibaudet.

TICKETS ON SALE NOW
585.454.2100 OR VISIT RPO.ORG/GALA
RSVP BY SEPTEMBER 21

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Understanding what's important.

FRI
SEPT 28
8 PM

SAT
SEPT 29
8 PM

KODAK HALL
AT EASTMAN
THEATRE

Jeff Tyzik, conductor
Cirque de la Symphonie

WILLIAMS

Superman March

WILLIAMS

*Harry's Wondrous World from
Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone*

SCHIFRIN

Theme from Mission: Impossible

WILLIAMS

Sayuri's Theme from Memoirs of a Geisha

WILLIAMS

Devil's Dance from The Witches of Eastwick

HORNER

"My Heart Will Go On" from Titanic

WILLIAMS

The Flight from Neverland from Hook

INTERMISSION

KANDER

Chicago Medley

WILLIAMS

Throne Room and End Credits from Star Wars

BERNSTEIN

Candide Overture

WILLIAMS

Hooray for Hollywood

KABALEVSKY

Galop from The Comedians, op. 26

OFFENBACH

Can-can from Orpheus in the Underworld Overture

WILLIAMS

*The Imperial March (Darth Vader's Theme)
from Star Wars*

WILLIAMS

*Across the Stars (Love Theme) from Star Wars:
Attack of the Clones*

RAVEL

Theme from 10

WILLIAMS

Raiders March from Raiders of the Lost Ark

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Wegmans

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We kindly ask you to please silence all cellphones and electronic devices.
Also, please note that photography and video recordings are prohibited during the performance.

CONNECT WITH US:

**POPS SEASON OPENER:
Cirque de la Symphonie**



ARTISTS

CHRISTINE VAN LOO is a 7-time consecutive National Champion, Female Olympic Athlete of the Year, and Athlete of the Decade in acrobatic gymnastics. She was inducted into the USSA (acro-gymnastics) Hall of Fame and the World Acrobatics Society Gallery of Honor. As a professional aerialist and acrobat, she has performed in the 2002 Winter Olympics, at two Grammy Awards (with No Doubt and with Ricky Martin), at the American Music Awards (with Aerosmith), the Miss Universe pageant, and Paul McCartney's European tour. She was a trainer and performer with NBC's Celebrity Circus, and she choreographed the aerials for Britney Spears World Tour and the Stars on Ice US tour. Christine provides spell-binding performances of aerial silks, rope, lira, and trapeze with Cirque de la Symphonie.

ELENA TSARKOVA, the "Lady in White," is a graduate of the famed Moscow Circus School and first-place winner of the prestigious National Russian Circus Festival. From her "Master of Sports" in gymnastics, Elena developed into a unique and graceful performer with the Big Apple Circus, Switzerland's Circus Knie, and Germany's Circus Roncalli. Her combination of contortion, balance, and graceful dance moves has made her a major star with Cirque de la Mur in Florida and Circus Circus in Las Vegas. Elena's experience with many major stage and theater productions offers a professional background that allows for a truly unforgettable performance with the live symphony. The "Lady in White" provides an elegant touch to Cirque de la Symphonie.

VLADIMIR TSARKOV provides a spell-binding performance with combinations of mime and juggling feats. A favorite of the younger members of the audiences, Vladimir's Red Harlequin act features rings, balls, and batons, and he's even been known to teach the maestro a trick or two! He is a veteran of Circus Circus, Cirque Ingenieux, and various Cirque de la Symphonie performances. Vladimir graduated from Russia's prestigious State College of Circus and Theater Arts and won the gold medal at the Cirque de Demain International Festival in France. His performance with the symphony is pure entertainment and guaranteed to please audiences of all ages.

ALEKSANDR DEEV began training at the circus school in Moscow Russia at the age of twelve and went to study at Moscow University of Circus and Variety art at the age of fifteen. All of this training landed him roles in major movie productions and television commercials, along with performances in the Kremlin. His circus work extended to Ukraine and beyond while still a teenager, working with the Moscow circus and other special projects. He toured the U.S. with the Moscow State circus at the age nineteen, and found many new opportunities, beginning with Cirque Dreams production at Bush Gardens and Six Flags park. Since then Aleks has starred in productions at Beau Rivage Casino, the South Seas resort of Captiva island and Circus Fantasia, Hawaii circus, Cirque de la Symphonie and more. His multiple skills include spinning Cube and electrifying performances on the German Wheel.

GABOR CZIVISZ & IOURI SAFRONOV provide one of the most popular acts to be included in Cirque de la Symphonie's captivating program. A powerful performance of two-man hand and body balancing. Their act is an incredible display of strength, stamina and concentration which requires extreme physiques and trust between each other. After many years of performing all over the world this act is currently featured in variety of very prestigious Las Vegas shows.

MAXIMILIANO TORANDELL was born and raised in Argentina, where he discovered his passion for aerial arts. His natural skill as an aerialist and flair for the performing arts inspired him early in his career to create the company Circo De Mente in Mexico, which organized the First and Third International Circus Conventions in Mexico, as well as many other events throughout Central America.

Since moving to the U.S., Max has worked with numerous companies including De la Guarda, Terry Beeman Dance Company, Hollywood Aerial Arts, Lucent Dossier, Les 7 Doigts de la Main and Artcirq. He has been featured in special performances for the renowned Getty Museum, the Lincoln Center, LA Fashion Week, several Grammy Awards, and the 2008 World Gymnastics Gala in Korea. He has appeared regularly as an aerialist on a variety of TV shows and films, including HBO's hit series True Blood, Hollywood's 12 Sexiest Jobs, and The Greatest Show Man coming up in December 2017.

He has been a permanent acrobat in Cabaret the musical, Cher's show at Caesars Palace in Las Vegas, as well as her recent Dressed To Kill world tour 2014.