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***Magic Spells!* – Next WPO Concert Highlights Halloween Delights**

The Warren Philharmonic Orchestra's fall concert – ***Magic Spells!*** – features a magic spell gone awry, a tale from Arabian Nights, singing witches, an upbeat American and a surprise from the son of J.S. Bach. The concert begins at 3 p.m. on October 6, 2019, at First Presbyterian Church, 256 Mahoning Avenue, NW, Warren. Conducted by Music Director/Conductor Susan Davenny Wyner, the orchestra will perform *Abu Hassan Overture* by Carl Maria von Weber, *Symphony in D Major* by C.P.E. Bach, *The Sorcerer's Apprentice* by Paul Dukas, *Witches Music* from *Macbeth* by Giuseppe Verdi, *Night on Bald Mountain* by Modest Mussorgsky and *Upbeat!* by Ellen Taaffe Zwilich. Guest performers Erika Walker Duderstadt, mezzo soprano, and Sierra McCorvey and Rebecca Enlow, sopranos, will star in the Verdi.

"High jinks, moods, fantastic musical stories: I invite all to join the fun as these great composers serve up tricks and treats – a broom that works magic, spooky spirits, ghosts, a tale from Arabian Nights and some unexpected surprises," explains Davenny Wyner. "Even without their stories, these pieces cast spells. The music is teeming with ideas – interweaving themes, dance tunes, mists and swirls of sound, contrasting with glorious dramatic outbursts from the orchestra's instruments."

Davenny Wyner continues, "Though some of the pieces are famous and beloved from Disney's depictions (*Sorcerer's Apprentice* and *Night on Bald Mountain*) much will be refreshing and new. Verdi's musical brew for *Macbeth's* witches is intriguingly unexpected. And hiding in the program is a secret face-off between J.S. Bach and his second son, Carl Philip Emanuel. The symphony that we will play by the younger Bach simply astonishes with its startling and touching effects, but actually it is his father who has the 'last word'! We are giving the Ohio premiere of *Upbeat!* written in 1998 by the Pulitzer-prize-winning composer Ellen Taaffe Zwilich. In her piece, Ellen takes themes from one of Papa Bach's most famous solo violin pieces and wittily scatters and dances them throughout the orchestra

sections. To hear J.S. Bach skewed in a 20th century musical work is truly an unexpected adventure. I think both Bachs would be as astounded as we are!"

The Warren Philharmonic Orchestra continues its outreach to area third through eighth grade students by sponsoring an instructional concert for students at Lakeview High School Auditorium in Cortland on October 4, 2019, at 9:15 and 10:40 a.m. These live performances encourage students to discover the thrill of classical music and the instruments, performers and composers that enrich our lives. The concert is free to Trumbull-area students. Reservation details have been sent to building principals. The orchestra will perform excerpts from the fall public concert. A registration form and instructional materials are available on the WPO website under the *2019-2020 Season* tab. The Community Foundation of the Mahoning Valley and the Youngstown Warren Regional Chamber of Commerce Foundation provided financial support for this event.

Art in Music Contest winning entries will be on display. Kindergarten through eighth grade students in the Warren City School District were invited to listen to recorded excerpts of the upcoming concert and interpret their experiences with visual artworks. First, second and third place works will be on view at the First Presbyterian Church. WPO board member and contest coordinator Judith Solomon states that "the Art in Music Contest has been wildly popular during its 11 years and has produced amazing works of art while exposing students to great music." This year's Art in Music Contest is co-sponsored by Any Given Child and SMARTS.

Tickets for the October concert can be purchased at the door; adults \$25, students \$15. Children under the age of 13 are admitted free, with parent or guardian. A season subscription campaign for both 2019-2020 concerts is now underway. For more information about the concerts or any of our youth outreach programs, contact the Philharmonic office at 330-399-3606 or email warren.philharmonic@gmail.com. Facebook: Warren Philharmonic Orchestra. Website: <http://www.warrenphilharmonic.org/>

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