



Highland Park Strings



Photo: Simon Darby



Photo: Simon Darby



All in the Family

39th Season 2017-2018

Dr. Robert G. Hasty, Principal Conductor

FREE Community Concerts

All in the Family

Our 39th Season
Four Community Concerts
Sundays at 3:00 pm

As we begin our 39th Season, the mission of the Strings remains to provide community concerts free of charge where families, friends and north shore neighbors can gather for an afternoon of musical enjoyment at the highest level. This unique policy of free admission is made possible primarily by the Park District of Highland Park, YEA! Highland Park and the generosity of supportive foundations and individual donors.

Our last season, which many have said was the "best ever", featured young artists including Kimberly Han, 15 year old pianist, John-Henry Crawford, 22 year old cellist, Daniel Kaler, 17 year old cellist and Joshua Brown, 17 year old violinist. All of them distinguished themselves with extraordinary performances. Daniel appeared with his father, the acclaimed violinist Ilya Kaler, which gave us the idea of featuring this season soloists who are related. Hence, "All in the Family"!

Our opening concert in October will present the outstanding pianist **Mikhail Yanovitsky** who will perform the beloved "Emperor" Concerto of Beethoven. His wife, **Galina Sachnovskaya**, will sing the Bachianas Brasileiras No. 5 by Villa-Lobos accompanied only by eight cellos! Beethoven's Symphony No. 1 will conclude the program.

Our holiday concert in December (devoted to all (nearly) repertoire for string orchestra) will provide an opportunity to see and hear Highland Park native, **Steven Honigberg**. A member of the National Symphony in Washington, DC, Steven will perform the delightful Concerto in D Major by Haydn. His daughter, **Lily Honigberg**, will add the "Spring" Concerto for violin from the Four Seasons by Vivaldi. The orchestra will perform two rarely heard pieces, The Adagio by Albinoni and the Concerto for Strings by Nino Rota, composer of the music for the "Godfather".

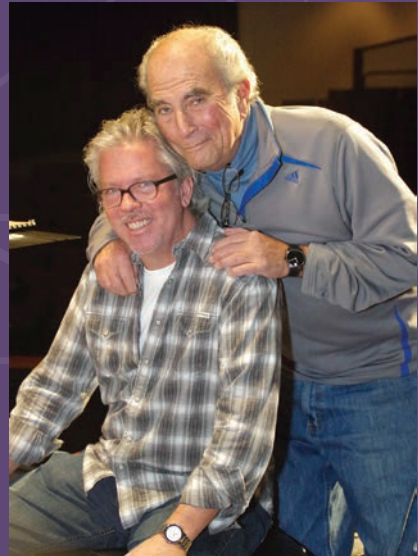
Our gala Benefit Concert at Ravinia on February 10 will present the Chooi brothers, Nikki and Timothy, both phenomenal violinists. Niikki, currently serving as Concertmaster of the Metropolitan Opera, will play our first performance of the Concerto by Samuel Barber and Timothy will perform the Chaconne by Vitali and Tzigane by Ravel. The Strings will play the penultimate Symphony of Mozart, No. 40 in G minor.

The final concert in May features the superstar violinist, 16 year old **Masha Lakisova**, who will perform with her mother, the brilliant pianist, **Lyudmila Lakisova**, the Concerto for Violin and Piano by Mendelssohn. Masha will add the "Summer" Concerto from the Four Seasons by Vivaldi. Concluding the program for all strings, the orchestra will play the Serenade for Strings by Tchaikovsky.

We look forward to your continued support. On behalf of the Strings, I am deeply grateful



Lawrence Block
Founder and General Manager



"The Highland Park Strings is loved now as much as it was 38 seasons ago when a group of musicians first played classical string music for the community."

- Hillary Anderson
Highland Park Landmark.

Call 847.831.3622

Visit hpstrings.org



Photo: Bruce Powell



Photo: Yavren Wu

Dr. Robert G. Hasty, Principal Conductor

The Strings is pleased to announce that Dr. Robert G. Hasty has been appointed Principal Conductor, making him only the third person to hold that position in 39 years. Dr. Hasty is the Music Director of the Kenosha Symphony and the conductor of the Chamber Orchestra and the Philharmonia at

Northwestern University where he also serves as the Associate Director of Orchestras. He is also Artistic Director of the International Schools Choral Music Society. Dr. Hasty began his career teaching music in the public schools in Southern California. A noted researcher in music cognition, Dr. Hasty has been an author for two publications delivered at the 7th International Conference on Music Perception and Cognition in Sydney, Australia. As a conductor, Dr. Hasty has

appeared with the All-American College Orchestra, Beijing Youth Orchestra, Elmhurst, Grant Park and Skokie Valley Symphonies, among many others. Dr. Hasty continues to perform as a freelance violinist and violist. Currently, he is living out a long-held musical fantasy as a fiddler, performing and recording with the band for his wife, singer-songwriter Christina Trulio.



Photo: Yavren Wu



Francesco Milioto displaying the award he received upon retirement which reads :

"Thank you for 10 years of leadership, enthusiasm and dedication to the Highland Park Strings. Your conducting has led us to new heights."



Stephanie Ettelson presents
"The Art of Listening to Today's Concert"
prior to each concert at 2:00 pm.

October 22

The Emperor Concerto

3pm | Free Admission | Highland Park High School
433 Vine Avenue
Sponsored by YEA! Highland Park

VILLA-LOBOS

Bachianas Brasilieras No. 5
Galina Sakhnovskaya, Soprano

BEETHOVEN

Concerto No. 5 for Piano in E-flat Major,
Op. 73 (the "Emperor")
Mikhail Yanovitsky, Piano

BEETHOVEN

Symphony No. 1 in C Major, Op. 21

Mikhail Yanovitsky returns for his third appearance with the Strings. Born in Leningrad (St. Petersburg), he graduated from the Leningrad Music School for Gifted Children and then from the Moscow Tchaikovsky Conservatory. After debuts with the Leningrad Chamber Orchestra and the Moscow and Leningrad Philharmonics, Mikhail relocated to the US and, in 1991, won the Young Concert Artists Auditions, becoming their most frequently reengaged artist. Yanovitsky has performed in thirty-four American states, including appearances at the Isabel Stewart Gardner Museum (Boston), Carnegie Recital Hall (New York), Convention Center (Philadelphia) the Chicago Cultural Center and the Kennedy Center (Washington). He has also performed in fifteen European countries, as well as in Mexico, South Africa, Uruguay, Australia, Israel, Japan, South Korea and China. The winner of numerous awards, he has been regularly performing in Russia. Named a Steinway Artist in 2001, Dr. Yanovitsky currently teaches piano at Temple University. His wife, lyric soprano, Galina Sakhnovskaya, born in Moldava, has emerged as an artist of remarkable versatility and great vocal beauty. A graduate of Peabody Conservatory of Music where she received a Master's Degree in Vocal performance (after receiving her Bachelor's Degree in Music from the University of Pennsylvania), Galina is a dedicated voice teacher. She and her husband are co-founders of the Elite Music Academy located near Philadelphia. The recipient of several awards and scholarships, her repertoire encompasses a wide range and includes lieder, chamber music, oratorio and opera, sung in various languages including Russian, German, French, Italian, Czech, English and Spanish. She will sing the famous Aria from Bachianas Brasilieras No. 5, accompanied by eight celli. Mikhail will perform the monumental Emperor Concerto by Beethoven and the Strings will add Beethoven's Symphony No. 1.



"Particularly striking was the sound: big without brutality, rich but always clear in focus"

- New York Times

"Yanovitsky will become one of the great piano talents of our time"

- Duluth News-Tribune

"Galina possesses a most glorious soprano voice...a great singer and performer."

- John Shirley-Quirk, Baltimore, MD

December 10

All (Mostly) Strings

3pm | Free Admission | Highland Park High School
433 Vine Avenue
Sponsored by YEA! Highland Park and
First Bank of Highland Park

VIVALDI

Concerto for Violin in E Major ("Spring")
from "The Four Seasons"
Lily Honigberg, Violin

HAYDN

Concerto for Cello in D Major
Steven Honigberg, Cello

ALBINONI

Adagio in G minor

ROTA

Concerto for Strings

A native of Highland Park, Steven Honigberg (born 1962) gave eight performances with the Chicago Symphony as a 16 year-old winner of the CSO's Youth Competition. He graduated from the Juilliard School of Music with a Master's Degree in 1984 where he studied with the famed American cellist Leonard Rose and Channing Robbins. That year he soloed with the Juilliard Orchestra in Alice Tully Hall and presented his New York Debut recital as a competition winner in Carnegie Hall. That same year, he was chosen by Mstislav Rostropovich to become a member of the National Symphony Orchestra in Washington, D.C. where he been for 33 years. In February of 1988, Rostropovich led the National Symphony in the world premiere of "Concerto for Two Cellos" by David Ott, with David Teie and Honigberg as soloists. The Washington Times reported: "It was a case of love at first hearing". Messrs Teie and Honigberg have played the work 30 times to great acclaim. With an extensive discography, Steven was principal cellist and chamber music director of the Bronfman Series in Sun Valley, Idaho where he was featured soloist in concerti by Barber, Bartok, Bloch, Boccherini, Dvorak, Schumann and many others.. Honigberg performs on a Lorenzo Storioni cello made in Cremona in 1789. Steven's daughter, Lily Honigberg, began playing violin at age four. Lily spent her high school years at the Interlochen Arts Academy in Michigan and subsequently at the New England conservatory of Music in Boston where she studies with Lucy Chapman. A winner of several competitions, Lily is deeply interested in improvisation. Lily's pan-celtic band, "Night Tree" won the New England Conservatory Honors Ensemble Award. Lily will perform "Spring" from the Four Seasons, Steven will play Haydn's beloved Concerto in D Major and the Strings will add two very different pieces by Italian composers, the "Adagio" by Albinoni and the "Concerto for Strings" by the "Godfather" composer, Nino Rota.



"Many many thanks to you and the Strings for all the years of truly wonderful concerts. The Strings are a real gem and true asset to the area. Every single concert has always been...of downtown caliber."

- Philip Bechen

February 11 Annual Benefit

The Chooi Brothers

3pm | \$40 General Admission
Bennett-Gordon Hall, Ravinia
Call 847.831.3622 for tickets.

Sponsored by The Negaunee Foundation

VITALI

Chaconne in G minor for Violin
Timothy Chooi, Violin

RAVEL

Tzigane for Violin
Timothy Chooi, Violin

BARBER

Violin Concerto, Op. 14
Nikki Chooi, Violin

MOZART

Symphony No. 40 in G minor, K. 550

Canadian violinist, Nikki Chooi returns for his third appearance with the Strings. Appointed by Maestro James Levine, Nikki served as Concertmaster of New York's Metropolitan Opera Orchestra for the 2016-17 season. The prior season, Nikki was a member of the genre-breaking ensemble, Time for Three, performing internationally with highlights in Barbados, Grand Teton, La Jolla Summerfest, and with the Hong Kong Philharmonic. The First Prize winner of the 2013 Michael Hill Violin Competition and a Laureate of the 2012 Queen Elizabeth Violin Competition, his many engagements have included solo performances with the Montreal, Winnipeg, Edmonton, Calgary, and Santa Cruz Symphonies, as well as the National Orchestra of Belgium and the Auckland Philharmonia. An active chamber musician, he has appeared in many international festivals including Marlboro, Ravinia, Dresden and the Montreal. He recently graduated from the Curtis Institute and the Juilliard School. His brother, Timothy, has been described as "the miracle" (Montreal Lapresse). Regarded as one of Canada's most promising and exciting young artists, he was recently the Bronze Medal Winner of the 2015 Michael Hill Violin Competition, performed with Pinchas Zukerman and the National Arts Orchestra and was featured at Ravinia. He has also appeared with the Vancouver, Santa Barbara, Toronto and the Edmonton Symphonies. Timothy and Nikki often appear together where they perform theme-based programs. Timothy is enrolled at the Curtis Institute studying with Ida Kavafian and previously studied with Pinchas Zukerman. He will perform Vitali's Chaconne and Ravel's Tzigane. Nikki will be heard in Barber's Violin Concerto and the Strings will add one of Mozart's final symphonies, No. 40 in G minor.



Photo: Simon Darby



Photo: Simon Darby

"Richly expressive and technically assured"

- Calgary Herald

"Vigorous and colorful"

- New York Times

Bonus for Major Contributors

Show how important Strings concerts are to you and the community by making a donation of \$100 or more. You will receive a minimum of two tickets, preferred seating, listing in the Program Book, and free tickets to a Donor Appreciation Chamber Music Concert at 3pm on Sunday, April 8, at the Highland Park Community House. The Strings is exempt from federal income tax under Internal Revenue Code Section 501(c)(3).

May 20

Mendelssohn and Tchaikovsky

3pm | Free Admission | Highland Park High School
433 Vine Avenue
Sponsored by YEA! Highland Park and the
Rotary Club of Highland Park/Highwood

VIVALDI

Concerto for Violin in G minor ("Summer") from The Four Seasons
Masha Lakisova, Violin

MENDELSSOHN

Concerto for Violin and Piano in D minor
Masha Lakisova, Violin
Lyudmila Lakisova, Piano

TCHAIKOVSKY

Serenade for Strings in C Major, Op. 48

Masha Lakisova, brilliant 15 year old violinist, returns for her second appearance with the Strings. Masha has also performed in Carnegie Hall, Jordan Hall at the New England Conservatory, the Chicago Cultural Center, Ravinia's Bennett-Gordon Hall and Northwestern's Pick-Staiger Hall. Masha appeared as soloist at Vadim Gluzman's North Shore Music Festival and on NPR's "From The Top". She took top awards in several prestigious competitions and, as a chamber music player, her string quartets received Gold Medals at the Fischoff International Music Competitions in each of the last two years. In past summers, Masha attended the Heifetz Music Institute, the Manhattan in the Mountains Summer Festival, and the Perlman Music Program. She plays a 1784 Lorenzo Storioni violin on generous loan from Kenneth Warren & Son. Her mother, Lyudmila Lakisova, earned her Bachelor's Degree from the School of Music for Gifted Children at the Belorussian State Conservatory of Music and her Master's and Ph.D Degrees as well from the Belorussian State Conservatory. She has performed in many prominent venues, including Carnegie Hall, and has toured extensively as a chamber and collaborative pianist. Lyudmila is also a chamber music coach at Midwest Young Artists in Highwood. Mother and daughter will perform the rarely heard Concerto for Violin and Piano by Mendelssohn. Masha will add "Summer" from Vivaldi's Four Seasons and the Strings will conclude with Tchaikovsky's beloved Serenade for Strings.



"I think the ...Strings is great. It's one of the things that makes the fabric of Highland Park special."

- Ken Henry, YEA! Highland Park

"What an unbelievably wonderful concert today. It was...a gift...to everyone there. I ...cannot say enough to describe it. Thank you for such a privilege to hear such incredible talent."

- Susan Olsen



Park District of Highland Park
636 Ridge Road
Highland Park, Illinois 60035

Presorted Standard
U.S. Postage
Paid
Permit No. 127
Highland Park, IL
60035

Residential Postal Patron Highland Park, Illinois 60035



Highland Park Strings

39th Season | 2017-2018 | Dr. Robert G. Hasty, Principal Conductor

October 22 - The Emperor Concerto/ Highland Park High School

December 10 - All (Mostly) Strings/ Highland Park High School

February 11 (Benefit) - The Chooi Brothers/ Bennett-Gordon Hall, Ravinia

May 20 - Mendelssohn and Tchaikovsky/ Highland Park High School

Call 847.831.3622

Visit hpstrings.org

Free Admission