The World of Shakespeare

Dear Friends and Supporters of the YSO:

On behalf of the entire Yakima Symphony Orchestra organization, I hope that you had a wonderful summer and that you are ready to join us for another year of great music. This year we celebrate the 400th anniversary of the life of the greatest playwright in history and the greatest English-language author of all time. For our 2015-16 season, the Yakima Symphony Orchestra celebrates The World of Shakespeare! Composers have been inspired by the works of William Shakespeare for centuries. While we couldn’t possibly play them all, our Classical Series will feature some of the greatest Shakespeare-inspired pieces ever written. However, we begin the season with the first concert of our Pops Series, which is not connected to the Shakespeare theme.

Cirque de la Symphonie

We will start the year in truly spectacular fashion on September 26th with Cirque de la Symphonie. While the orchestra plays some of the most beloved classical music ever written, some of the world’s greatest circus performers will be flying through the air, balancing, juggling or contorting to the music! Some of the selections you will hear include Berlioz: Roman Carnival Overture, Debussy: Clair de Lune, Bernstein: Candide Overture, Kabalevsky: Colas Breugnon Overture, Wagner: Ride of the Valkyries, Glinka: Ruslan and Lyudmila Overture, Saint-Saëns: “Bacchanale” from Samson and Dalila, Rimsky-Korsakov: “Dance of the Buffoons” from The Snow Maiden, Williams: “Devil’s Dance” from Witches of Eastwick, Smetana: “Dance of the Comedians” from The Bartered Bride, Tchaikovsky: Waltz from Swan Lake, and Bizet: “Les Toreadors” from Carmen Suite No. 1.

This amazing show sells out wherever it plays so if you don’t already have your tickets, please be sure to get them right away.

We look forward to seeing you on September 26th at the Capitol Theatre for Cirque de la Symphonie!

Sincerely,

Lawrence Golan
The Helen N. Jewett Music Director
Yakima Symphony Orchestra

For Single Tickets:
853-ARTS or (877) 330-ARTS
or link to TicketsWest through www.ysomusic.org

Stay in touch for music, podcasts and concert information. ysomusic.org
From the Executive Director

As we gear up for a thrilling season opener, I have some exciting changes to share with you since our last Prelude in May. First, we have rolled out single ticket prices for this year starting as low as $9 for the general public, and we have reduced our student ticket price to $5. As always, subscriptions offer an even deeper discount. These prices are simply too good to pass up, especially for a season with as many musical and visual treats as this one. I hope you’ll help us spread the word!

Second, the Yakima Symphony Chorus has begun rehearsals for the season under a new chorusmaster, and on a new night in a new location: Monday evenings at St. Paul Cathedral. Justin Raffa’s name may be familiar to you from recent YSO collaborations with the Mid-Columbia Mastersingers, where he continues to serve as artistic director. As our new chorusmaster, he is working to increase the size of our chorus to 100 members; so if you love to sing and would like to join us on stage for any or all of this season’s choral programs, contact him at chorusmaster@ysomusic.org.

Third, the YSO has in the past month adopted the Yakima Music en Acción (YAMA) program as a third subsidiary affiliate, alongside YYSO and YSC. Established in January 2013 as a program of OIC of Washington, YAMA is a social action program that uses music and education to change the life trajectories of East Yakima children and their families. Working under YSO’s umbrella this year allows the program to continue as planned while a steering committee explores options for growth and eventual independence as a stand-alone non-profit entity.

Finally, we bid a fond farewell to two members of our office staff. Sue Chirco-Coontz has taken a position as office manager for St. Paul Cathedral School; as the voice and face of the symphony office for more than sixteen years and the go-to problem-solver in innumerable areas of symphony business, “Sue at the Symphony” will be sorely missed by patrons, colleagues and musicians alike. Alex Pualani also is leaving YSO as Orchestra Librarian in order to teach music at the same school, but his continuing role as YAMA Teaching Artist will keep him within the YSO family. Please join me in wishing both of them well in their new endeavors, and welcome back to an exciting new season!

David Rogers, Executive Director
Yakima Symphony Orchestra
Affiliate & Partnership Updates

Yakima Youth Symphony Orchestra (YYSO) & Yakima Ensemble for Strings (YES!)  www.yyso.org
Bruce Walker, YYSO Conductor and YSO Cover Conductor
Christy Baisinger, YES! Conductor

Happy Anniversary! This season the Yakima Youth Symphony Orchestra celebrates 50 years of making beautiful music in the Yakima Valley. We look forward to sharing this special milestone with our community.

Rehearsals for both the YYSO and YES! are underway. We had a wonderful pre-season camp, highlighted by a special Question & Answer session with Maestro Lawrence Golan. Open rehearsals and fall auditions brought us six new musicians. Please join us for the first concert of our 2015-16 Symphonic Bridges season: November 1, Sunday, 3:00pm, Halloween Concert at The Seasons Performance Hall. FREE! Join the fun—come in costume! Donations of canned food items for local food banks will be gratefully accepted.

Yakima Symphony Chorus (YSC)
Justin Raffa, Chorusmaster

The Yakima Symphony Chorus is already going to work on next month’s performance of Mozart’s Requiem, with rehearsals every Monday night at St. Paul Cathedral. We are still looking for new singers (especially men!) as we grow in numbers—singers may commit to the entire season, or may be assigned to specific projects and still remain active members of the chorus. For audition information, contact Justin Raffa at chorusmaster@ysomusic.org.

Yakima Music en Acción (YAMA)
Stephanie Hsu, Director

YAMA is gearing up to kick off yet another year, with many exciting changes and opportunities ahead. After almost three full years of operation as a program of OIC, YAMA gratefully acknowledges all of the support from OIC that has enabled the birth and healthy growth of the program to date, and announces its next chapter as it launches its fourth year, now as a subsidiary of the YSO. Among other changes, YAMA enthusiastically welcomes YSO percussionist Aaron Julyan on board this year as a YSO Teaching Artist, and announces a new performance series—the YAMA Living Room Series—an intimate, multi-genre performance series that uses music to build bridges across the community while also supporting the YAMA program. For more information, visit www.yamamusic.org or e-mail stephanie@yamamusic.org.

Meet The Orchestra!

Children learn what they live…
The YSO joins the Yakima Valley Museum on the first Wednesday of each month at 10:00am at their children’s story hour. FREE!

Wednesday, October 7th
Themes: Shakespeare, Tchaikovsky
Special Guest: To be announced

Wednesday, November 4th
Theme: Shakespeare, Elgar
Special Guest: Alex Pualani, Cellist

Sharing in the Life of our Community

Maestro Lawrence Golan visited Children’s Village on August 27th for a mini-back-to-school recital and violin demonstration.

Photo Credit: Yakima Valley Memorial Hospital

♥ YSO! Share the experience of live symphonic music with others in our community—bring friends and acquaintances to our concerts, give your tickets to others when you can’t attend and help us tell all of the Yakima Valley what a remarkable treasure we have in our symphony.
Cirque de la Symphonie is an exciting production designed to bring the magic of cirque to the music hall. It is an elegant adaptation of some of the most amazing cirque acts performed on a stage shared with the full symphony orchestra, showcasing many of the best artists in the world. The audience is thrilled and bedazzled by aerial flyers, acrobats, contortionists, dancers, jugglers, balancers, and strongmen. These accomplished veterans include world record holders, gold-medal winners of international competitions, Olympians and some of the most original talent ever seen. Each performance is perfectly choreographed to classical masterpieces, raising cirque artistry to a fine arts level. Adding a stunning visual element to the concert experience, these aerialists and acrobats provide a three-dimensional entertainment extravaganza. Fusing the power and majesty of the live orchestra with the best of cirque artistry, Cirque de la Symphonie is the only cirque company in the world that performs exclusively with symphony orchestras. Over one hundred orchestras worldwide have featured Cirque de la Symphonie in sold-out venues, adding energy and excitement to the concert experience. Join us on Facebook and explore our website for images, video, schedule, reviews, and more: www.cirquedelasymphonie.com

Sarah Sporich is a classically trained dancer and contortionist, studying under various high caliber choreographers at the Talent Lab in Los Angeles. She combines the fluidity and grace of dance with the athleticism of aerial arts and the extreme lines of contortion all in one. Sarah’s mixture of skills has brought her a diverse career including performances on GLEE, Michael Jackson Billboard Music Awards and Jennifer Lopez American Music Awards. Theatrical stage shows include touring with Le Ombre Shadow Acrobatics & Dance, Revelations, Troupe Vertigo, and a live show of Pixar’s film Inside Out at the El Capitan in Hollywood. When not performing she teaches Pilates and Aerial skills at Cirque School and is the head coach for their Cirque Kids programming.

Vladimir Tsarkov comes from a famous circus family rich in the traditions of Russian circus artistry. Trained by masters in the circus arts, he exhibits exceptional talents and skills in all of his performances. His “Mask” juggling act is a fascinating blend of illusion and juggling skills. Vova is a worldwide star, having performed in the major productions from Las Vegas to Korea. He enchanted audiences in Busch Gardens’ cirque shows, starred in dozens of special corporate events, and with many symphony orchestras across North America. Vova is one of the most multi-talented performers in Cirque de la Symphonie, with performances that include various juggling acts, the spinning cube and frame, diablo, and other uniquely entertaining acts.

Alina Sergeeva is a third-generation circus performer from Russia. She began performing on stage at the age of three with her family in a hand balancing adagio act with her father, later branching out into various acts such as aerial silks, lira, and hoops. Alina’s professional performances have taken her around the world to countries in South America, Europe, and Asia. Along the way, she won the “most talented” award for youth performers in Brazil. Alina’s career in the US includes numerous circus tours, corporate shows, cruise ship productions and special events. Alina has starred in numerous Cirque de la Symphonie productions as an amazing hula hoops performer, with accompanying hand balancing, acrobatic and contortion skills. Her mastery of illusion includes the amazing quick change and magic jacket acts.

Armando Munoz began his performance career as a Latin dancer. His passion and tenacity lead him to win consecutive medals at both the 2010 & 2011 World Latin Dance Cup Championship in Las Vegas. Additional competitions include being a Finalist in the Mexico Salsa Competition and 3rd Place at the International Salsa Competition in San Francisco. Despite his elite recognition in Latin Dance he longed to fuse his talents with the Circus Arts. He sought aerial training from Master Ivo Gueorguiev from Cirque Du Soleil’s Dralion production, and he specialized in Flying Straps and Fabric. This unique combo of skills led him to a dynamic career working with the San Diego Opera, California Ballet Company and Troupe Vertigo. Armando became co-director of the Alma Latina Performing Arts School in San Diego from 2006-2013, and now teaches aerial straps at Cirque School in Hollywood when not performing with Cirque de la Symphonie.

Continued next page
Andrey Moraru is a native of Kiev, Ukraine, and a graduate of the prestigious Kiev Circus School where he trained hand balancing under the legendary Vitold Kuvshinov. Upon graduating with an act fused with both balance and dance, Andrey joined the cast of Le Reve, directed by Franco Dragone in Las Vegas as a hand balancing specialist. After many years with Le Reve, Andrey pursued a solo career, which brought opportunities in Europe for numerous cabarets, variety shows, and circuses, including “Flic Flac” from Germany. He was recently a finalist on America’s Got Talent. Los Angeles has become his new home where he has performed with Symbiotic, Quixotic, and Troupe Vertigo. When not performing, Andrey teaches master hand balancing classes at Cirque School. Andrey’s trademark hand-balancing and acrobatic skills are now a standard part of Cirque de la Symphonie, which includes a mesmerizing acrobatic “adagio” act with partner.

Aloysia Gavre is an incredible aerial performer from the prestigious Ecole National de Cirque, Montreal, with early training from Master Lu-Yi and the Pickle Family Circus School. Her aerial acrobatics and graceful maneuvers on the aerial hoop, suspended high above the stage, add three-dimensional excitement to the symphony and the music hall. Aloysia was the Special Prize Winner at the International Circus Festival in Monte Carlo. A veteran of stage and theater performances worldwide, Aloysia is best known as a veteran of Cirque du Soleil’s “Quidam” and “O.” Her five years with Quidam established her as one of the best aerial artists in the world, and today she shares that experience with others as choreographer for Cirque Mechanics and Troupe Vertigo and as director of Cirque School in Los Angeles. Aloysia’s regular performances with Cirque de la Symphonie and live orchestras take aerial acrobatics to a new level.