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NJIO Notes is published 3 times a year for both members and the general community to keep abreast of NJIO activities and plans. To be added or dropped from the NJIO Notes mailing list please contact us at: newsletter@njio.org.

NJIO relies on financial support from individuals to make our programs possible. Please consider making a tax-deductible donation today! Thanks!

Winter Concerts in Cranford and Maplewood

NJIO's annual Winter concerts will take place on Saturday, January 20 at 7:30 p.m. at Cranford High School, 201 West End Place, Cranford and on Sunday, January 28 at 3:00 p.m. at Columbia High School, 17 Parker Avenue, Maplewood. All NJIO concerts are free and open to the public.

"The featured work at this concert is the Dvorak 9th Symphony, also known as the 'New World' Symphony," according to NJIO Music Director Todd Van Beveren. "The symphony was written on a visit to America where Dvorak fell in love with Iowa. The piece conveys the majesty and grandeur of the American Heartland.

This is one of my favorite pieces because it's so beautiful and it fits in with the artistic vision of NJIO, which is to present serious classical repertoire that is more familiar to the audience."

Other works on the program include Mozart's 25th Symphony (the famous one from the film "Amadeus") and works by Bach and Vivaldi.

As always, the concerts are handicap accessible. If you would like to reserve a block of seats for your group, please contact Susan Peterson at 908-522-0100. All ages are invited to attend. For directions and further information visit www.njio.org.

NJIO Gala to honor Susan Coen with ArtsBridge Award

NJIO is pleased to announce its first annual ArtsBridge Award will be presented at a gala benefit event on Saturday, March 24th 2007 at the Murray Hill Inn in New Providence from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. This award is presented to an individual

who has been instrumental in bringing people of all ages together through the arts. NJIO's mission to Bridge the Generations Through Music celebrates lifelong learning and intergenerational understanding through musical performance. ArtsBridge Award

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NJIO Stories — Muriel Eagle

Muriel Eagle, an NJIO member since 2000 on second violin, describes her experience with NJIO:

The New Jersey Intergenerational Orchestra has added an additional dimension to my life, and my playing skills have improved a great deal over the years. It's interesting to see how music can be a great equalizer (or common denominator) between children and adults. Playing with musicians who are at so many different levels is a wonderful learning experience. I have also been impressed with the number of adults who have more recently learned to play their instrument and the great pleasure and pride we all feel as a group. I especially enjoy having my children and grandchildren see their mother and grandmother perform and appreciating the mixture of young and old(er). My only regret is not finding out about the orchestra much sooner!



Muriel Eagle performing in concert, Ellen Leavitt in background on flute.

(photo by Cheri Rogowsky)



New NJIO
President Len Avdey

From the President — Len Avdey

NJIO's 2006-07 season is off to a wonderful start. We have grown to over 100 members in our three Orchestras, Nouveau, Full Symphony and Chamber Orchestra. I am very pleased to see so many new faces. The Nouveau has grown to over 20 members and I love hearing how well they play. The Full Symphony is as strong as ever, and our Chamber Orchestra, although small, creates a great sound.

Our Winter concerts are on Saturday, January 20, 2007, at the Cranford High School - 7:30 p.m. and Sunday, January 28, 2007, at the Columbia High School in Maplewood - 3:00 p.m. The Nouveau will be performing pieces by Pachelbel, Offenbach and Vivaldi and the Full Symphony will perform music by Bach, Dvorak, and Mozart. The Chamber Group will perform the complete Symphony No. 25 by Mozart. It will be a very classical performance that everyone will enjoy.

NJIO relies on individual and corporate contributions to bring the various

programs to our members and the public. All of our concerts are free so we depend on your donations. Please take the time to complete the enclosed envelope and help us continue to Bridge the Generations Through Music.

Another important fundraising effort is our Concert Program. I want to thank our members for their efforts in getting ads from their local merchants. Thanks also to the advertisers who continue to support NJIO.

Finally, I would like to highlight what a wonderful job our Gala Committee is doing with planning our Gala. Put the date in your calendar - March 24 2007 at the Murray Hill Inn in New Providence from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. There will be entertainment, food, wine, 50/50 raffle and a silent auction. Last year's gala was great fun, and I expect that this year's event will be even better. Tickets are \$50 (\$40 for NJIO members) and will be sold at our Winter concerts.

See you at our concerts.

NJIO Participates in National Conference

NJIO was recently invited to participate at the National Conference on Arts and Aging: Creativity Matters, which was held at NJPAC on November 3rd and 4th. The conference, which was cosponsored by the National Center for Creative Aging and NJPAC, focused on the emerging field of Arts and Aging, a recent priority of the National Endowment for the Arts.

Susan Peterson represented NJIO at a Round Table on Intergenerational Arts. NJIO was one of three groups at this Round Table. Each was selected as an example of "best practices" in the field. NJIO will also be featured in a "toolkit" being prepared as a product of the conference.

Keynote speaker was Dr. Gene Cohen, author of *The Mature Mind*. Dr. Cohen presented results of NEA sponsored research which shows conclusively that professionally conducted arts programs, like the ones offered by NJIO, have a positive impact on the physical health, mental health, and social functioning of older adults. Those who participated in community based arts programs were on fewer medications, had fewer doctor visits, and socialized better than those in the control group. NJIO is proud to be considered a pioneer in this exciting field. To find out more about Arts and Aging, visit http://www.nea.gov/resources/Accessibility/artsnAging_top.html.

**Mark your calendars
for the NJIO Gala —
March 24, 2006
4:00-7:00 p.m.
Murray Hill Inn
New Providence, NJ**

**Tickets \$50
(\$40 for NJIO
members)**

NJIO Outreach Program Receives Grants

NJIO is proud to report that it has once again received a grant from the **Lillian P. Schenck Fund** and a new grant from the **Ambrose and Ida Frederickson Foundation** to support its Outreach Program.

“NJIO is deeply appreciative of the Schenck Fund’s continuing support of our Outreach program.” said Len Avdey, NJIO President. “We are also very pleased to be welcoming the Frederickson foundation into the NJIO family of supporters. With this funding

we will be able to bring small groups of NJIO members into the community to perform at more libraries, senior centers and other community locations than ever before.”

Outreach performances are currently being scheduled for the 2006-07 season. NJIO Volunteer Beth Hanscom is coordinating the Outreach Program this year. To arrange for an NJIO ensemble to come to your location, contact the orchestra office at 908-522-0100 or info@njio.org

NJIO Gala (continued from page 1)

honorees recognize that participating in arts activities enhance the lives of people of all ages and abilities and enrich communities.

The inaugural recipient is Susan Coen, recently retired director of the Union County Division of Cultural and Heritage Affairs. “Susan Coen is the perfect recipient for this award because she embodies the spirit of Bridging the Generations Through the Arts” said NJIO President Len Avdey.

In addition to the award presentation, the gala will feature entertainment from operatic tenor and great friend to NJIO Willy Falk. Willy will be singing operatic selections accompanied by Constantine Kitsopoulos of the Chatham Opera. Their performance was one of the highlights of last year’s NJIO gala and we are pleased to welcome them back.

Classical music presentations continue with NJIO Music Director, Todd Van Beveren, who will play violin solo repertoire. Rounding out the afternoon will be Jamie Baer Peterson and friends,

presenting some cabaret and musical theater favorites. Jamie will be accompanied by Susan Caldwell Nelson of the Manhattan School of Music and New York City Opera.

On the menu are Italian specialties from the Ponte Vecchio restaurant and wines from the Wine Merchant in Summit.

The Silent Auction, a highlight of last year’s gala, will feature items such as theatre and music performance tickets, artwork and photographs, handmade crafts, music lessons and more. Contact Susan Peterson if you have an item to donate this year.

New this year is a 50/50 raffle with three winners to be chosen. Raffle tickets are \$5 each and will be sold at our winter concerts and by NJIO members. Entrants need not be present at the gala to win. Contact any NJIO member to purchase a raffle ticket.

Tickets for the gala are \$50 each (\$40 for NJIO members). To find out more information about this special event or to reserve tickets contact Susan Peterson at info@njio.org or 908-522-0100.

“The Dvorak
‘New World’
Symphony conveys
the majesty and
grandeur of the
American Heartland
as seen through the
eyes of an
immigrant
composer”

Todd Van Beveren

Hear the
“New World”
at NJIO’s Winter
Concerts



Willy Falk



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Bridging The Generations Through Music

Mailing Label Here

Funding for NJIO has been made possible in part by the New Jersey State Council on the Arts, Department of State, a partner agency of the National Endowment for the Arts, through a grant administered by the Union County Office of Cultural and Heritage Affairs.

NJIO Dates to Remember	
Details Inside	
Jan. 20	Winter Concert, 7:30 p.m. Cranford High School 201 West End Place, Cranford
Jan 28	Winter Concert, 3:00 p.m. Columbia High School 17 Parker Ave., Maplewood
Feb. 1	Spring Open House Registration Cranford High School 201 West End Place, Cranford
Feb. 8	Spring Open House Registration Columbia High School 17 Parker Ave., Maplewood
March 24	NJIO Spring Gala — ArtsBridge Award Honoring Susan Coen, 4:00 p.m. Murray Hill Inn 535 Central Avenue, New Providence
Apr. 28	Spring Concert, 7:30 p.m. Cranford High School 201 West End Place, Cranford
May 4	Spring Concert, 7:30 p.m. Summit High School 125 Kent Place Boulevard, Summit



Please Tell Us What You Think

We welcome your feedback about the newsletter or any aspect of NJIO. Please e-mail us at info@njio.org or drop us a note at PO Box 432, Cranford, NJ, 07016.

