

WAUKEGAN PARK DISTRICT

Press Release

Waukegan Symphony Orchestra

Presents

AT THE THEATRE

Sunday, October 21

4PM

Trapp Auditorium, Waukegan High School, Brookside Campus

Waukegan, IL (October 16, 2018) Join the Waukegan Symphony Orchestra for its first concert of the season, titled *At the Theatre* with pieces from Beethoven, Corigliano, Grieg, Copland, and Tchaikovsky, on Sunday, October 21 at 4pm at Waukegan High School's Trapp Auditorium, Brookside Campus. The Waukegan Symphony Orchestra will play works that have been famously used in theatre productions, movie and television scores, and even commercials. The works include Beethoven's *Coriolan Overture*, Corigliano's *Elegy for Orchestra*, Grieg's *Peer Gynt Suite No. 1*, Copland's *Quiet City*, and Tchaikovsky's *Romeo and Juliet*.

This concert will feature guest conductor Dr. Alexandra Dee. Dr. Dee is one of the four finalists auditioning to be the next director of the Waukegan Symphony Orchestra. Dr. Alexandra Dee is Director of Orchestral Activities at the University of St. Francis in Joliet, IL. In this capacity, she serves as Music Director and Conductor of the Joliet Symphony Orchestra and chair of the Department of Music and Performing Arts. Additionally, she is the Music Director and Conductor of Chicago's South Loop Symphony Orchestra and a Cover Conductor for the Joffrey Ballet, with whom she debuted in 2017, leading an opening week of performances with the Chicago Philharmonic on one day's notice. In August 2017, she was an Emerging Conductor at the Peninsula Music Festival (Door County, WI). Also at home in the opera pit, Dr. Dee was Guest Conductor for Northwestern University Opera Theater's 2016 Chicago premiere of John Musto's opera *Later the Same Evening*, and in August 2018 she served as Guest Conductor for *Don Giovanni* at Manitoba Underground Opera (Winnipeg). Internationally, she has conducted the Scottish Chamber Orchestra at the Orkney Conductors Course in Scotland and the Dulwich International Music Academy's Festival Orchestra in Beijing, China.

Dr. Dee completed her doctoral studies in orchestral conducting at Northwestern University's Bienen School of Music, where she studied with Victor Yampolsky and led performances with the University Symphony, Chamber Orchestra, Opera Theater, and Baroque Music Ensemble. She is an alumna of the Florida State University College of Music, where she completed both a Master of Music degree in orchestral conducting and a Bachelor of Music Education. While at FSU, Dr. Dee studied conducting with Dr. Alexander Jiménez, choral conducting with André

Thomas, and violin with Corinne Stillwell. Her conducting positions at FSU included founding Music Director and Conductor of the Campus Orchestra, a string orchestra geared toward non-music majors from across the university community. In addition to her formal studies, Dr. Dee has attended conducting workshops and festivals at such institutions as the Pierre Monteux School for Conductors and Orchestral Musicians, the Cabrillo Festival of Contemporary Music, and the Royal Northern College of Music in Manchester, UK. A consistent advocate for contemporary music, Dr. Dee has performed and premiered numerous works by living composers. In particular, she is a vigorous champion of the works of her husband, composer Roger Zare.

FEATURED SOLOISTS

Alison Rye on English horn. Allison is an active oboe performer and teacher in the Chicago area. She performs regularly with several orchestras, including the DeKalb Symphony Orchestra and the Civic Orchestra of Chicago. She holds a Master of Music degree in oboe performance from Northwestern University, and was awarded the Ray Still Award for excellence in the study and teaching of oboe.

Michael Pranger on trumpet. Michael is principal trumpet of the Peoria Symphony Orchestra and in his final year of studies for a Master of Music degree in trumpet performance from Northwestern University.

Tickets may be purchased four ways:

- Stop by the Jack Benny Center for the Arts, 39 Jack Benny Drive, Waukegan, IL
- Online at <https://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/3716356>
- Call Brown Paper Tickets at 1-800-838-3006
- Register online at the District's website: www.waukeganparks.org/register

Tickets are \$15 for adults, \$10 senior 62+/Military, \$7 student, and free for students 18 years and under. There is a service fee with Brown Paper Tickets. Anyone interested in becoming a member of the 2018-19 Waukegan Symphony Orchestra, please call 847-360-4744 or email haines@waukeganparks.org.

The Waukegan Symphony Orchestra was established in 1974. The Waukegan Symphony Orchestra is proud to be sponsored by the Waukegan Park District Cultural Arts Department; and a grant is provided by the Illinois Arts Council, a State of Illinois agency.

Additional information and photographs of past concerts may be obtained from:

**Ty Rohrer, Manager of Cultural Arts-Waukegan Park District,
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About the Waukegan Park District

Established on December 26, 1916, the district has 50 properties and more than 736 acres of land, including the 18-hole Bonnie Brook and 9-hole Greenshire Golf Courses. Properties are managed to the highest environmental and conservation standards. Facilities operated by the district include the Field House Sports, Fitness and Aquatics Center, the Jack Benny Center for the Arts, the Waukegan's Greg Petry SportsPark, the Waukegan Skate Park, the Waukegan BMX Track, recreational centers, disc golf course, dog exercise area and agility course, outdoor sports fields, picnic areas, playgrounds, and sports courts including basketball, tennis and pickleball. A full range of programs and services is offered year round for all ages, from infants to seniors as well as special needs populations. Healthy lifestyles, wellness initiatives, and a connection with the outdoors and nature are integrated throughout programs, services, and special events. Cultural events are provided by the Waukegan Symphony Orchestra and Concert Chorus, and the Waukegan History Museum. There is something for everyone! The award-winning District employs 62 full-time and over 230 part-time, year round, seasonal, and temporary employees. The District is a member of the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA), Illinois Association of Park Districts (IAPD), and Illinois Park and Recreation Association (IPRA). The district maintains national accreditation from the NRPA Commission for Accreditation of Park and Recreation Agencies (CAPRA), Illinois Association of Park Districts (IAPD) Distinguished Agency accreditation and Park District Risk Management Agency (PDRMA) accreditation and maintains a Level A Loss Control Program. The district was a NRPA Gold Medal Finalist in 2012 and 2013, and awarded the NRPA National Gold Medal Award for Excellence in Park and Recreation Management in 2013.