

# Binghamton

## COMMUNITY ORCHESTRA

November 2007

Dear BCO Friends,

Please Note: Our Fall concert is only a week away!  
"Viennese Classics", Sunday, November 18, 3:00 pm,  
First Presbyterian Church, Binghamton.

When people speak of economic revitalization and efforts to attract and retain young professionals to our area they often mention the wealth of arts available in the community. Performing groups such as the Philharmonic, the Opera and the Broadway Theater League provide products of the highest caliber, their concerts and performances. The Binghamton Community Orchestra also provides such products in the form of our concerts, but what sets us apart is that we provide an opportunity for members of the community to participate in our art. BCO members come together once a week to share the incomparable experience of creating music. We are amateur musicians; we have a variety of day jobs. What we have in common is that we love making music, beautiful symphonic orchestral music. We share this with the community through our concerts, but more importantly we share an opportunity to join and participate, and that is a resource to be valued and nurtured.

The Binghamton Community Orchestra is now in its 24<sup>th</sup> season and has evolved and matured over time. In addition to playing concerts, the orchestra has collaborated with school choral groups, string music programs and even the Binghamton High School steel drum band. We have featured some of our region's outstanding soloists and brought in recording artists such as electric violinist Ritsu Katsumata and steel pan virtuoso Liam Teague. We have commissioned and premiered new compositions. And every year we have the joy of highlighting the best of our area's young musicians, winners of the Southern Tier Music Teachers Association's student concerto competition. Every now and then we take our show on the road, playing concerts in surrounding counties, playing for the dedication of the downtown veterans memorial, or performing at First Night. The members of the BCO do all of this for the love of making music.

For all of its years of existence, the behind-the-scenes work of the BCO has been carried out by volunteers. Many of these have been members of our Board of Directors. In the past year we have restructured our Board, allowing it to concentrate on advocacy, developing new opportunities and fundraising for the orchestra. We still rely on a strong and capable cadre of volunteers. I cannot thank enough recent board members Linda Best, Don Brister, Michelle Goins, Leonard Levine, Harry Lincoln, Bill Loso, Heather Roseboom, Lee Roseboom, John Ruth, Bernie Shifrin and Dick Thomas for their tireless service over the years. I welcome Pete Andreasen and Naima Kradjian to our board, where they join orchestra members Ron Miles, Tammy Nist, Carol Smith, King Weimann and myself. The orchestra benefits tremendously from the creative leadership and

amazing energy of Music Director Cayenna Ponchione

The financial well being of the orchestra depends on the generous support from our "Angels", our donors. I hope you'll note the list of donors in our concert programs and know how much we thank them for their contributions. If you can make a tax-deductible contribution, please see the information below, and thank you in advance. You can also find this year's concert program below. The Fall concert features violinist Patricia Sunwoo and the Spring concert features STMTA student concerto competition winners Colin Liu and Dennis Bergevin. In February we will hold our second Ballroom Bash, and evening of dinner, dancing and a concert, all at a very reasonable price. This is an important fundraiser for the orchestra, so I hope you'll mark your calendar and join us. It should be a wonderful evening. Finally, please spread the word about the orchestra. If you know an amateur musician looking for an opportunity to play, direct them to our website: [www.bcorchestra.com](http://www.bcorchestra.com). And thank you for your continued support.

Sincerely,



Jeff Barker

(BCO Board President, and a member of the horn section)

### **BCO 2007-2008 Season**

#### **Viennese Classics**

Sunday, November 18th, 3pm  
First Presbyterian Church, Binghamton  
Featuring violinist *Patricia Sunwoo* in  
Mozart's *Violin Concerto in D*. Also on  
the program are Haydn's *Symphony*  
*No. 83* and Mozart's *Symphony No. 26*.

#### **A Ballroom Bash**

Saturday, February 9th, 6pm  
Polish Community Center,  
347 Prospect St., Binghamton  
Dinner, dancing and vocal music  
featuring Carol Bryant as well as the  
music of Strauss, Smetana, Bach and  
Brahms.

#### **America: Musical Melting Pot**

Sunday, April 27th, 3pm  
West Middle School, Binghamton  
Featuring STMTA student soloists *Colin*  
*Liu* (piano) and *Dennis Bergevin* (bass),  
and Dvorak's *New World Symphony*.

Please consider a tax-deductible donation. Our contributor levels are: Benefactor (\$300 or more), Patron (\$100-\$299), Sponsor (\$50-\$99) and Friend (up to \$50). Please make checks payable to the Binghamton Community Orchestra.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_

Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Please mail to:  
Binghamton Community Orchestra  
P.O. Box 1901  
Binghamton, NY 13902

Season tickets are available at a price of \$16 for Adults, \$10 for Seniors and Students. These include our Fall and Spring concerts and a \$5 reduction in the cost of the Ballroom Bash.