Arts & Entertainment

Souhegan Valley Chorus Spring Concerts Plannned for April 27 & 28

Director Jennifer K. Erdody

MILFORD – Souhegan Valley Chorus invites you to its spring concert on April 27th and 28th. This concert, titled "Director's Choice," celebrates Director Jennifer K. Erdody's 10th year as director of the chorus. The program includes a wide variety of musical types specifically chosen by Director Erdody to showcase the versatility of the chorus and entertain the audience.

There will be two performances: Saturday evening, April 27th at 7:00 p.m. and Sunday afternoon, April 28th at 2:00 p.m. Both will be in the Milford Town Hall Auditorium located on the third floor of the Milford Town Hall on the Oval in downtown Milford. The auditorium is handicap accessible from the elevator located on Middle Street.

Director Erdody says, "The repertoire for chorus is so extensive. Instead of selecting a theme, we are including a wide variety of pieces this time. It's the kind of concert we love to do – exploring everything from standards to spirituals, Broadway to light classical!"

Kimberly Vars Whitehead accompanies the chorus of 64 members from the Milford-Amherst area and surrounding towns. The concert will also include selections performed by The Valleyaires and two quartets, all made up of auditioned chorus members.

Admission is $15 for adults, $10 for Seniors and Students, and free for children 12 and under. Tickets are available at The Toadstool Bookshop in Milford, from members, and at the door.

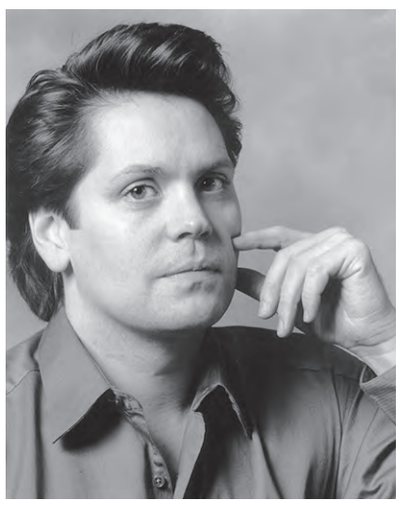
More information about the chorus is online at www.souheganvalleychorus.org or on Facebook.

Broadway and Opera Meet in NH on April 27

NASHUA - On Saturday, April 27, Symphony NH will present "Center Stage", a concert that combines the power and drama of opera with the mainstream appeal of Broadway. The program, which includes music of Giuseppe Verdi and Giacomo Puccini, as well as suites from Broadway hits Les Misérables and Phantom of the Opera, begins at 8:00 pm at Nashua's Keefe Center for the Arts. Jonathan McPhee, Music Director and Principal Conductor, will share the podium with Holly MacEwen Krafka, who leads the Symphony NH Chorus.

"The chorus has been asking to sing some of these opera choruses for years," says Symphony NH Executive Director Eric Valliere of selections from Verdi's Aïda, Il Trovatore, Nabucco, and Macbeth, "and I'm delighted that Jonathan McPhee came up with the right program on which to feature them. These are great works that our audience will love, and that the chorus loves to sing." There's more from the world of opera, too: McPhee opens the concert with Verdi's overture to La Forza del Destino (The Force of Destiny), and then leads the orchestra and two outstanding vocal soloists in selections from Puccini's best-known and most beloved opera: La Bohème.

Soprano Robin Farnsley



Tenor Stephen Mark Brown

"We're fortunate in southern New England to have a wealth of vocal talent living right here," notes McPhee. "We didn't have to look far to find soloists who could handle the different stylistic and technical demands of Puccini and Les Mis and Phantom."

For this performance, McPhee selected soprano Robin Farnsley and tenor Stephen Mark Brown. Ms. Farnsley has had an active career in opera, musical theater, and on the concert stage, playing leading roles with Arizona Opera, West Bay Opera, and New World Chorale among others. Mr. Brown, who made his New York City Opera debut playing Pinkerton in Madama Butterfly, is known to NH audiences for his appearances with Granite State Opera. He has also played leading roles – most in the grand Italian tradition – with the Boston Lyric, Palm Beach, Minnesota, Vancouver, and San Francisco Operas.

The soloists appear thanks to generous support from Artist Sponsor Splash Bath Showroom, and from Garry N. Henkel.

"It will be great fun to share this music – both the operatic excerpts as well as the big Broadway suites – with the New Hampshire audience," says McPhee. "Even on Broadway you rarely hear this stuff with the full orchestral treatment; pit orchestras are usually pretty pared down. Having 60 players on stage and 80 voices in the chorus will have quite an impact on anyone used to seeing these done by touring companies or listening to them on CDs. This will be a memorable experience."

Audiences are thrilled by the Symphony's "professionalism & style one might expect only in Boston", praising the "great concert(s) for a great price."

The program begins at 8:00 pm at Keefe Center for the Arts, 117 Elm Street, in Nashua. Tickets, priced from $12 to $48 (with discounts for students, seniors, and groups of ten or more), are available at the door, or by calling 595.9156, or online at SymphonyNH.org.

Exhibits

East Colony Fine Art Gallery

Last year's 2012 People's Choice Award went to floral designer joanne Russavage interpreting artist Dawn Sanel's 'Solitary'.

"Spring is in the Air at the 10th Annual Petals 2 Paint"

MANCHESTER – For the 10th consecutive year, East Colony Fine Art Gallery springs to life with its much anticipated "Petals 2 Paint" show. The Petals 2 Paint Show features fresh flowers arranged in an artful way. Over 25 local floral designers will create floral arrangements to compliment a piece of art in the Gallery. Catch a glimpse of Spring and Summer at this highly acclaimed exhibition, which runs from April 25th through 27th, with a Gala Grand Opening Reception on Thursday evening, April 25th. Refreshments will be served from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. The floral displays will be shown all day Friday from 11:00 – 5:00 p.m. and on Saturday 10:00 – 3:00 p.m. Visit this event full of splendor, scents, and floral creativity at its finest! Come get your spring fever going and vote for your favorite floral creation !!

All gallery events are free and open to the public with free on site parking. East Colony Fine Art, Langer Place, 55 South Commercial Street, Manchester. Hours: Tuesday-Friday 11-5 and Sat 10-3. Phone: 621-7400. www.eastcolony.com" www.eastcolony.com.

Mauritz F. H. De Haas (1832-1895), Steamship to a Rescue

Marine Paintings And Objects Exhibit Opens At NH Antique Co-Op

MILFORD – New Hampshire Antique Co-op is pleased to present Sailing Home! Marine Paintings 18th Century to Present, a fine art exhibit and sale consisting of more than 100 works of marine and coastal paintings. From traditional nineteenth century ship portraits to modern and contemporary nautical representations, this comprehensive marine show highlights the natural rugged beauty of the New England coast that has long inspired artists and still continues to do so today.

This exhibition is on view in the Upstairs Gallery and Tower Gallery at New Hampshire Antique Co-op through September 30, 2013. New works will continue to be added to the show during its duration.

Featured artists include George Curtis (1816-1881), Mauritz F. H. De Haas (1832-1895), Emile Gruppe (1896-1978), Antonio Jacobsen (1850-1921), Myron Lechay (1898-1972), Wendell Macy (1845-1913), George Herbert McCord (1848-1909), George Washington Nicholson (1832-1912), William Edward Norton (1843-1916), Warren Sheppard (1855-1937), William Pierce Stubbs (1842–1909), Anthony Thieme (1888-1954), William Torgerson (1833-1890) and many others. Also included in this exhibit are contemporary New England artists William R. Davis, Erick Ingraham, Erik Koeppel and Lauren Sansariq. In addition to paintings, this exhibit will showcase other nautical finds such as sailors' valentines, a bosun whistle collection, ship models and more.

New Hampshire Antique Co-op is located at 323 Elm Street/Rte. 101A Milford. Phone: 673-8499

The Craftworkers' Guild Opens the Spring Craft Shop, May 2 –11

BEDFORD – The Craftworkers' Guild announces its Spring Craft Shop from Thursday, May 2 through Saturday, May 11, 2013 at the historic Kendall House, Bedford. Just in time for Mothers Day and graduation gifts, the seasonal shop will be open daily from 10am to 4pm.

The shop will be filled with arts and crafts from more than 60 artisans and craftspeople. "The Guild greatly expands each year with exciting new members and art sources. "We are thrilled to offer our customers an even wider variety of high quality crafts," says Carol Davis, president of the Craftworkers' Guild.

Arts and crafts range from paper, fiber and fabric, pottery, gourmet treats, photography and fine art paintings, stained and fused glass, woodworking and Shaker boxes, jewelry in several medias, sewn and knitted specialties, doll clothes, and more. Craftwork presented in the shop is juried by the Guild to maintain a high standard of unique, best quality offerings.

The Craftworkers' Guild special Spring Fling Night will be Thursday, May 9th, from 4 to 8 pm at the Kendall House with treats and surprises for shoppers that evening.

The Spring Craft Shop takes place in the Kendall House at 5 Meetinghouse Road, Bedford. The Kendall House is located behind the Bedford Public Library. Parking is free and plentiful. Visit our website www.craftworkersguild.org or Facebook and Twitter at craftworkersguild for updates.

The Music of Count Basie Swings Into The Capitol Center

CONCORD - As part of the "A Moment in Time" Series, The Capitol Center Orchestra, under the direction of Clayton J. Poole, will pay tribute to Count Basie on Sunday, May 19th at 4:00pm. The tribute features drummer and Basie alumnus Butch Miles. The performance will be held at the Capitol Center for the Arts with tickets starting at $20.

Butch Miles was the drummer for the world-famous Count Basie Orchestra (1975-1979 and 1997-2007), and he quickly became renowned for his swinging big band style and techniques. Miles has performed with countless luminaries, including Count Basie, Frank Sinatra, Sammy Davis, Jr., Ella Fitzgerald, Benny Goodman, Tony Bennett, Rosemary Clooney, and many others. Miles has performed at every major jazz festival in the world including Newport Jazz Festival, the Grande Parade Du Jazz in Nice, France, Montreal Jazz Festival, and Bern Jazz Festivals in Switzerland. Butch Miles has been a featured performer of the West Coast Jazz Party every year since it originated in 1995.

Miles and the Capitol Center Jazz Orchestra will pay tribute to Count Basie. Basie was one of the most influential band leaders of the swing era. With the exception of a brief period in the early 1950s, he led a big band from 1935 until his death almost fifty years later, and the band continues to perform today. Basie's orchestra was characterized by a light, swinging rhythm section that he led from the piano, lively ensemble work, and generous soloing. Unlike other band leaders of his time, Basie was neither a composer nor an important soloist—his instrument was his band, which was considered the epitome of swing and became broadly influential on jazz.

Ticket prices: $45 Gold Circle, $35 Orchestra/Mezzanine, $20 Balcony. Tickets are available now by calling 225-1111, online at www.ccanh.com, and at the box office, located at 44 South Main Street, Concord.

Thorne-Sagendorph Art Gallery Exhibit Schedule

April 19-May 11, 2013

Annual KSC Art Student Exhibition. The Keene State College Art Department presents works by graduating art majors and other students taking art courses.

Gallery Hours

Fall & Spring: Sunday-Wednesday, 12-5 p.m.; Thursday & Friday, 12-7 p.m.; Saturday, 12-8 p.m.

Summer Hours: Saturday, Sunday, Wednesday, Thursday, 12-5 p.m.; Friday, 3-8 p.m.; closed Monday & Tuesday.

The Thorne-Sagendorph Art Gallery at Keene State College
Wyman Way, Keene, NH 03435-3501
Phone: 603-358-2720 Website: www.keene.edu/tsag

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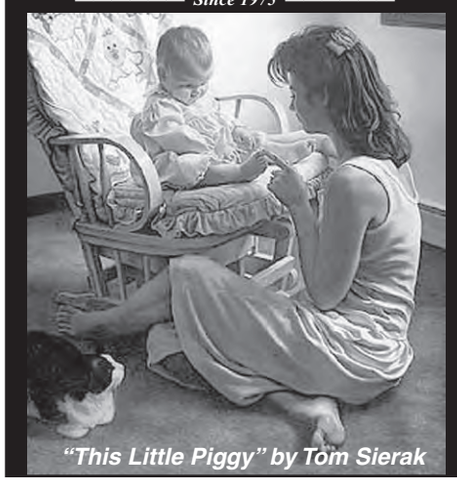

"This Little Piggy" by Tom Sierak

Mother's Day!
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