Feature Series 2019-20 Season

presented by

Wintrust Community Banks

presents

Classical Kids Live!

Tchaikovsky Discovers America

FEATURING

cyso chicago youth symphony orchestras

Sunday, March 22, 2020 | 3pm

Classical Kids Music Education would like to thank The Illinois Arts Council, The Pauls Foundation and Berit Helser for their generous support.

Symphony Sundays at the Center sponsored by

Evanston Subaru In Skokie
ABOUT CLASSICAL KIDS LIVE!

Classical Kids LIVE! is produced by Classical Kids Music Education, a Chicago-based non-profit organization that works to enrich communities through direct access to culturally significant venues, professional artists and organizations, and high-quality theatrical concert productions, while fostering new appreciation for classical music and music history. Classical Kids has collaborated with hundreds of professional orchestras presenting over a thousand performances to over two million children (and adults) throughout North America and around the world. These highly acclaimed concerts, designed to bring to life the extraordinary lives and musical masterpieces of the great composers, are hailed as one of the best ways to introduce children to symphonic music.

ABOUT CHICAGO YOUTH SYMPHONY ORCHESTRAS

CYSO is investing in the future of music and the next generation of leaders. They provide music education to more than 650 young musicians ages 6-18 through full and string orchestras, jazz, steel, chamber music, masterclasses, and music composition. Students learn from Chicago’s most respected professional musicians, perform in the world’s great concert halls, and gain skills necessary for a successful future. CYSO Community Partnership Programs support music training and access for more than 8,500 young people each year. They work with youth in diverse Chicago neighborhoods through after-school ensembles and their Ambassadors Program, which brings student musicians into CPS elementary schools to perform interactive concerts. CYSO orchestras also present free community and education concerts throughout the season.
MUSICAL EXCERPTS

1. **Trumpet Fanfare** from *Swan Lake*, Op. 20 (1876)
2. **Piano Concerto No. 1 in B-flat Major**, Op. 23, 1st mvt. (1875)
3. **Danse napolitaine** from *Swan Lake*, Op. 20 (1876)
4. **Trépak** (Russian Dance) from *The Nutcracker*, Op. 71 (1892)
5. **Waltz** from Act I of *Swan Lake*, Op. 20 (1876)
7. **Tea** (Chinese Dance) from *The Nutcracker*, Op. 71 (1892)
8. **Overture** to *The Nutcracker*, Op. 71 (1892)
9. **Coffee** (Arabian Dance) from *The Nutcracker*, Op. 71 (1892)
10. **Chocolate** (Spanish Dance) from *The Nutcracker*, Op. 71 (1892)
11. **Waltz** from *Sleeping Beauty*, Op. 66 (1889)
12. **Introduction** to Act II of *Swan Lake*, Op. 20 (1876)
13. Ragtime on “Silver” from *Sleeping Beauty*, Op. 66 (1889)
14. **Traditional Swing Low, Sweet Chariot**
15. **Old Russia** from *1812 Overture*, Op. 49 (1880)
16. **Violente** from *Sleeping Beauty*, Op. 66 (1889)
17. **Piano Concerto No. 1 in B-flat Major**, Op. 23, 2nd mvt. (1875)
18. **Marche Slav** (“Slavic March”) in B-flat Major for Orchestra, Op. 31 (1876)
19. **Coda** from Act II of *The Nutcracker*, Op. 71 (1889)
20. **Dance of the Sugar Plum Fairy** from *The Nutcracker*, Op. 71 (1892)
22. **Symphony No. 5 in E Minor**, Op. 64, 2nd mvt. (1888)
23. **Le Cygne Noir** (“The Black Swan”) from *Swan Lake*, Op. 20 (1876)
24. **Traditional Amazing Grace**
27. **Finale** from *1812 Overture*, Op. 49 (1880)

PLOT SYNOPSIS

“I saw his ship sail into New York Harbor that day in 1891 - past the Statue of Liberty, past the hundreds of people cheering on the shore. All America seemed to be waiting for him and his music...”

Based on the actual event, this story tells of the great composer’s arrival in New York for the grand opening of Carnegie Hall in 1891 and his famous trip to Niagara Falls. A surprise encounter with a young American girl, Jennie, reveals much about Tchaikovsky - his life in Russia, his love of music and his fears of conducting. This is a poignant story of the meeting of old world influences and new world experiences; a tale of contrast, courage and classical music.

“There’s an electric energy in this country... all these people, so generous and open-hearted... their ideas, their dreams, their music... all flowin together like a mighty river - everything tumbling toward the future.”

PRODUCTION NOTES

Based on the highly acclaimed and award-winning Classical Kids recording *Tchaikovsky Discovers America*, this theatrical symphony concert is an imaginative way to introduce young audiences and their families to the life and music of Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky in a live performance venue. Audiences will enjoy much of the composer’s best-loved music - including *The 1812 Overture*, *First Piano Concerto* and *String Serenade* featured with dramatic choreography recreating theatrical story passages from his three famous ballets - *The Nutcracker, Sleeping Beauty* and *Swan Lake*.
Classical Kids LIVE! is produced by Classical Kids Music Education, a not-for-profit organization dedicated to furthering classical music education. In combination with the Classical Kids Teaching Edition, Classical Kids LIVE! serves as one of the worlds best educational outreach and community engagement programs contributing to the long-term health of classical music. Having received more awards and honors than any other entity of its kind, Classical Kids is proud to say, “We’re making a difference!” (www.ckme.org)

**ARTISTS BIOGRAPHIES**

**Paul Pement – Director & Producer**
Paul I serves as Executive & Artistic Director of Classical Kids Music Education, a non-profit arts organization focused on introducing children (and their parents) to the lives and musical masterpieces of the great classical composers. A BFA in theatre from the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign and professional experience as an actor, singer, dancer, director, choreo-grapher and stage manager have enabled Paul to achieve success with Classical Kids LIVE! programming - the “gold-star” leader in the field for creating theatrical family concerts presented by professional symphony orchestras throughout North America and abroad. Production titles include *Beethoven Lives Upstairs*, *Mozart's Magnificent Voyage*, *Vivaldi's Ring of Mystery*, *Tchaikovsky Discovers America* and the newest in the series, *Gershwin's Magic Key* - the first-ever symphony concert production that introduces new generations to the extraordinary legacy of the great American composer, George Gershwin.

**Susan Hammond – Series Creator**
Susan has created a whole new generation of classical music fans through her innovative and award-winning Classical Kids recordings. She is the executive producer of a 16 title series of children's classical music recordings known collectively as Classical Kids, selling to date nearly 5 million CDs, DVDs and books worldwide, and earning over 100 prestigious awards and honors. Each story entails its own adventure featuring a unique combination of music, history, and theatricality to engage the imaginations of children. Susan holds the philosophy that, “Where the heart goes, the mind will follow.” An accomplished concert pianist and music teacher, Hammond searched for recordings about classical music to share with her young daughters. One day, she sat reading to her girls with a classical music radio station on in the background and noticed how they responded to the literature in a different way when enhanced by music. The rest, as they say, is history. Susan is the recipient of Billboard Magazine's International Achievement Award and resides with her husband in Toronto where she is a member of the Order of Canada for her contribution to the arts.

**Douglas Cowling - Playwright / Music Editor**
Douglas is a writer, musician and educator with a lifelong interest in bringing classical music to wider audiences. He is the writer of five Classical Kids audio productions: *Mozart's Magic Fantasy, Tchaikovsky Discovers America, Vivaldi's Ring of Mystery, Hallelujah Handel! and Mozart's Magnificent Voyage*. He was also associate producer on Daydreams and Lullabies and serves as the principle writer/music editor for the Classical Kids Live! theatrical symphony concert series. Barbara is an award-winning author and filmmaker. Her book Dippers was a finalist for the Governor General’s Literary Award, and Biscuits in the Cupboard won the Mr. Christie's Book Award. She is also well known as the author and director of the Juno award-winning original recording of Beethoven Lives Upstairs and author of the book by the same title. She was awarded a Genie for Best Short Film for Home for Blind Women and was nominated for an Emmy for her work with Sesame Street. Barbara Nichol has published four books with Tundra, including Safe and Sound, Trunks All Aboard: An Elephant ABC, and Dippers.

**Roger Anderson – Peter Ilyich Tchaikovsky**
Roger is a nationally acclaimed actor and musical theatre artist based in Chicago and is proud to be a part of the acclaimed Classical Kids concert series. He has been featured in films and commercials for United Airlines, Sony, Microsoft, IBM, Volvo, Ford Motor Company, Fidelity Investments, S.C. Johnson, Colgate, and the New York Stock Exchange. He has had the privilege to work on musical theatre stages across the country with Patti LuPone, Audra MacDonald, David Hyde Pierce, Michael Cerveris, and Sean Hayes as well as under the baton of Zubin Mehta and Andre Previn. His performances have included appearances at The White House, The Kennedy Center, Walt Disney World and the Ravinia Festival. Regional musical theatre credits include: Juan Peron in Evita, Jacob/Potiphar in Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat, Harold Hill in Music Man, Barnum in Barnum, KoKo in The Mikado, Petrucchio in Kiss Me Kate, Georges in La Cage Aux Folles, Sergeant of Police in Pirates of Penzance and Roger DeBris in The Producers.
He currently sings with the Chicago based vocal group Table For Five and, along with his career as an actor, is a practicing Speech/Language Pathologist.

**Nicole Hren – Jennie Petroff**
Nicole enjoys touring with Classical Kids in both Tchaikovsky Discovers America and Vivaldi’s Ring of Mystery. Other credits include Guys and Dolls, The Music Man, A Chorus Line, Beauty and the Beast, Swing! at the Marriot Theatre, The Radio City Christmas Spectacular in Atlanta, Orlando, and Nashville, Seven Bridges for Seven Brothers, Meet Me in St. Louis, Hairspray, at the MUNY Theater in St. Louis. Funny Girl, Thoroughly Modern Millie, A Christmas Carol, Curtains, Sweet Charity, Fiddler on the Roof, Kiss Me Kate, Camelot, Superman, and Meet Me in St. Louis at Drury Lane Theatre, Joseph, A Chorus Line at the Paramount Theatre in Aurora. Chicago at Pheasant Run Dinner Theater, Singin’ in the Rain at the Chicago Center for the Performing Arts, and Association, The Musical at the Arie Crown Theater in Chicago's McCormick Place. Nicole performed for many years with Moraine Valley Theater for Young Audiences as an artist in residence in the following productions: The Little Mermaid, The Velveteen Rabbit, Babes in Toyland, Cinderella, The Odyssey, and The Diary of Anne Frank. Nicole is the choreographer of A Christmas Carol at Drury Lane Theater, and a proud member of Actors’ Equity.

**Steve Hiltebrand – Production Stage Manager**
Steve has served as production stage manager/tour manager in cities across North America for the Classical Kids productions of Tchaikovsky Discovers America, Vivaldi’s Ring of Mystery, Mozart’s Magnificent Voyage, Beethoven Lives Upstairs and Gershwin’s Magic Key. In addition, Steve has worked for CKME as an executive having played the role of Uncle in Beethoven Lives Upstairs and as Associate Director for the world premiere of Gershwin’s Magic Key with the National Symphony Orchestra at the Kennedy Center. Career highlights include: As a performer, an impressive list of regional, stock, Chicago area, and Broadway National Tour credits; As an Executive Producer, Producer, and Director, a number of hit commercial Chicago Musical Theatre Production credits; And, as a Special Event Producer/Director/Supervisor, a distinguished list of credits for collaborations with VIP guests and performers, including U.S. Presidents, Vice Presidents and other political figures, and mega-stars the likes of: John Mayer, Jennifer Hudson, Sting, Prince, and George Lucas. Currently, Steve has the privilege of being a full-time staff member for The John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation in the position of Meeting and Special Event Planner. Major thanks to Paul, the entire CKME team, friends, family, and, especially… to Scott Alan Jones, Steve’s Partner of 23 years, for his unending support, and for accompanying him on this incredible journey every step of the way!

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**CLASSICAL KIDS MUSIC EDUCATION, NFP**

Classical Kids Music Education, NFP was formed for charitable and educational purposes to build pathways for progression in music so that all young people, whatever their background or abilities, have access to the rich and diverse range of influence classical music offers. Reduced funding to the arts has diminished the ability of many symphony orchestras to provide high-quality educational and family programs like the one you are seeing today. It is imperative that more organizations are able to reach students and families through excellent music education programs in a time when affordable and worthy programming is lacking. Classical Kids Music Education, NFP was created to “bridge the gap” by securing funding for high-caliber projects and, together with individual donor support, help to bring music education into the 21st century by creating more opportunities for young people to be exposed to their interest and develop their talents to the fullest. Please visit www.ckme.org to learn more about how you can help.

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**ACTORS’ EQUITY ASSOCIATION**

Actors and Stage Managers are members of Actors’ Equity Association. Actors’ Equity Association, founded in 1913, is the labor union that represents more than 45,000 Actors and Stage Managers in the United States. Equity seeks to advance, promote and foster the art of live theatre as an essential component of our society. Equity negotiates wages and working conditions and provides a wide range of benefits, including health and pension plans, for its members. Actors’ Equity is a member of the AFL-CIO, and is affiliated with FIA, an international organization of performing arts unions.

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North Shore Center for the Performing Arts Foundation was established to support the ongoing programming and capital needs of the North Shore Center for the Performing Arts in Skokie. The mission of the Foundation is to create and sustain the North Shore Center as a preeminent venue for the arts and as a major asset to the communities it serves.

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For more information about the North Shore Center for the Performing Arts Foundation, please call (847) 679-9501 ext 3308.
The North Shore Center for the Performing Arts gratefully acknowledges the support of the following Businesses, Individuals, Foundations and Government entities.

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The above reflects support received Jan. 1, - Dec. 31, 2019

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Reception.......................................................................................Marc Harshbarger, Kauryne Lev
Ushers..............................Saints, Volunteers for the Performing Arts. For information, call (773) 529-5510

THE NORTH SHORE CENTER FOR THE Performing Arts IN SKOKIE opened in 1996 and operates as part of
the Village of Skokie’s plan to provide cultural, and educational programs, benefiting the citizens of
Skokie and the surrounding communities.

IN CONSIDERATION OF OTHER PATRONS
• Latecomers will be seated at the discretion of management.
• Please turn off your cell phones and refrain from using them during the show. They are distracting to the performers and your fellow audience members.
• The North Shore Center features a ListenTech RF assistive listening system available for all shows on a first come / first served basis. We ask that patrons using these devices please leave a driver’s license, state ID card or credit card with the House Manager until the device is returned at the end of the performance.
• Lost and Found: please call (847) 679-9501 ext. 3202 for lost items.