



# *Susquehanna Symphony Orchestra*

Sheldon Bair, Founder & Music Director

October 24, 2020



## **SALUTE TO EUROPE**



## Biographical Information of Conductors, Guest Soloists, and Speaker

**Sheldon Bair** is the Founder and Music Director of the Susquehanna Symphony Orchestra. For more information please see [www.ssorchestra.org](http://www.ssorchestra.org) and [www.sheldonbair.com](http://www.sheldonbair.com).



**Christopher Dillon** debuted with the San Luis Obispo County Symphony at the age of 17. He pursued his education at the Eastman School of Music, the Oberlin Conservatory, and the Peabody Institute. While at Peabody, he studied with Julian Martin, Ellen Mack, and Robert McDonald. Dillon obtained his Doctorate in Music at Peabody Conservatory in 2002.

In addition to teaching at the Peabody Conservatory from 1999 to 2003, he has been teaching theory, piano and ear training at Towson University since 2003. Dr. Dillon is currently Lecturer in Piano and Theory at Towson University.

Dr. Dillon has served as an adjudicator for several competitions, including the International Young Artist Piano Competition held in Towson, and for the Young Artist Piano Competition held at Texas State University San Marcos.

Dr. Dillon's research interests include works of J. S. Bach (including a complete performance of J.S. Bach's *Well-Tempered Clavier*, Volume 2, performed from memory) and Alexander Scriabin. His efforts in that area have included a recital of five Scriabin sonatas, and a lecture-recital on synaesthesia in Scriabin's late works.



**Brian Folus**, Principal Bass, is Music Director of the Harford Youth Orchestra ([www.harfordyouthorchestra.org](http://www.harfordyouthorchestra.org)). He also maintains a private lesson studio and a string instrument sales and restoration business [www.folusmusic.com](http://www.folusmusic.com).



**Emmanuel and Frances Borowsky** are siblings in a professional musical family from Baltimore and have performed in over 35 countries.

([www.EmmanuelBorowsky.com](http://www.EmmanuelBorowsky.com) and [www.FrancesBorowsky.com](http://www.FrancesBorowsky.com)). They both received their performance doctorates from UMD College Park, and are co-owners of Grace Albert

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# THE *Susquehanna* SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

*SHELDON BAIR, FOUNDER AND MUSIC DIRECTOR*

**Our 44th Season**

The Susquehanna Symphony Orchestra was founded in 1978 by Sheldon Bair and is a community orchestra of professional and amateur volunteer musicians. In a normal season the Orchestra, which numbers nearly 80 musicians, performs a subscription series of four concerts, plus an outdoor concert in June, generally in Bel Air. The Orchestra has performed opera and ballet, as well as standard orchestral repertoire, and is known for its premieres of new works and performances of unusual repertoire.

## **Our Mission**

Through the diverse programming of standard orchestral literature as well as newer and lesser-known works, The Susquehanna Symphony Orchestra strives to enliven the spirit, inspire the imagination, cultivate musical appreciation, and serve the educational and entertainment needs of Harford County, Maryland and surrounding areas.

## **Thank You!**

The SSO would like to thank our musicians for their flexibility and willingness to play during these uncertain times, and to our musicians that we are not able to have playing with us right now, we appreciate your patience and dedication and look forward to being with all of you again. We also thank our donors who make sharing excellent orchestral music with our community possible and our advertisers who support the printing of this program. Please visit them and tell them the SSO sent you.

*Cover Photo of SSO: Donald McClure*

### **Please Note:**

- Silence pagers, cell phones, and signal watches during the performance.
- The use of cameras and recording devices is prohibited.
- Latecomers will be seated only between movements/selections.
- All children should be carefully supervised so that they are not disruptive to the musicians or the audience.
- Social distancing and masks are required at all times while in the venue.

**Thank you for your cooperation.  
Please enjoy this evening's performance.**



October 24, 2020  
at St. Matthew's Lutheran Church  
1200 E Churchville Rd, Bel Air, MD 21014

**Jean Sibelius**  
(1865–1957)

**Andante Festivo**

**Felix Mendelssohn**  
(1809–1847)

**Sinfonia No. 3 in E Minor for String Orchestra**  
Allegro di molto  
Andante  
Allegro

**Ludwig van Beethoven**  
(1770–1827)

**Cavatina from String Quartet, Op. 130**  
250th Anniversary of Beethoven's birth!

**Johann Sebastian Bach**  
(1685–1750)

**Piano Concerto in D Minor**  
Allegro  
Adagio  
Allegro

**Piano:** Christopher Dillon

**Piotr I. Tchaikovsky**  
(1840–1893)

**“Hamlet” Entr’acte to Act 3**

**Franz Schubert, arr. Folus Erlkönig**  
(1797–1828)

**Conductor:** Brian Folus

**Antonio Vivaldi**  
(1678–1741)

**Piano Concerto in D Minor**  
Allegro  
Andante  
Allegro

**Violin:** Emmanuel Borowsky

**Cello:** Frances Borowsky



This performance is supported in part by grants from the Maryland State Arts Council through Harford County Cultural Arts Board and Harford County Economic Development.

## Music Director

**Sheldon Bair** is the Founder and Music Director of the Susquehanna Symphony Orchestra (Harford County, Maryland), a community orchestra of over 80 members currently in its 43rd season. He holds a bachelor's degree from Elizabethtown College (Pennsylvania) where he studied conducting with Otis Kitchen and composition with James McVoy and Darrell Douglas, and a master's degree from Towson University (Maryland). In addition, his postgraduate studies included classes at Westminster Choir College in Princeton, New Jersey. Sheldon Bair has studied conducting with Witold Rowicki in Vienna, and Marc Mostovoy, William Hudson, and Leonid Grin.



Bair is adjunct faculty at Harford Community College, is on the conducting staff for the Elizabethtown College Music Camp, and is often invited to conduct and adjudicate youth orchestras and soloists. In November 2000, Bair was bestowed the Paderewski Award for Contributions to Society and Culture at the Polish Embassy in Washington, D.C. He has conducted orchestras in Texas, Oklahoma, and Toronto, Canada. Bair participated in the Sixth Malcolm Arnold Festival in Northampton, UK, in the fall of 2011 by introducing Arnold's 9th Symphony at the final Gala Concert. Bair is the substitute conductor of the University of Delaware Orchestra for the fall 2019 semester filling in for their music director who is on sabbatical.

In June 2016, Maestro Bair retired from Harford County Public Schools after 40 years of music making with young musicians. Bair was inducted into the Harford County Public Schools Educator Hall of Fame in September 2018. In retirement, Bair continues to lead the Susquehanna Symphony Orchestra and volunteers on the air at the local (Harford Community College) public radio station (WHFC 91.1 FM) where he has the Wednesday morning, 9-noon, classical show.



Bair, a member of ASCAP, has written numerous works for student string orchestra, symphony orchestra, and church choir.

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## Musicians of the Susquehanna Symphony Orchestra

### First Violins ‡

Wendy Bohdel,  
Concertmaster  
Morgan Bair  
Allison Redman  
Logan Santiago  
Lily Wang

### Second Violins ‡

Manfred Reek  
Terez Badger  
Rachael Kanagie  
Rebecca Leadmon  
Faith Wang

### Violas ‡

Enid McClure  
Keiko Myers  
Joyce Pekarek

### Violoncellos ‡

Julia Dather  
Danielle Noe  
Tracy Wettig

### Basses ‡

Brian Folus  
Beth Weed

### Keyboard

Barbara Bair

*‡ In Alphabetical Order*

### Librarian

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Anne Pape (Students)

### Concert Managers

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Paul Koerner



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## Program Notes

### Andante Festivo

Jean Sibelius (1865–1957)

- The Finnish composer originally scored this work for string quartet in 1922.
- In 1938, he rescored the piece for string orchestra and tympani.
- As Sibelius was a violinist he knew how to compose for strings.
- The version for strings and tympani was first performed in a live radio broadcast on January 1, 1939, with the composer conducting the Finnish Radio Orchestra.
- As it was very popular, the piece was played at his funeral.

### Sinfonia No. 3 in E Minor for String Orchestra

Felix Mendelssohn (1809–1847)

- Mendelssohn wrote 30 string symphonies between 1821–1823 when he was between 12 and 14 years old.
- *Symphony No.3* was written in 1821 when he was only 14 years old.
- The piece was the first of his early string symphonies to be in a minor key.
- Most of the string symphonies were in three movements.
- In this work the 1st movement has continuous counterpoint that shows musical maturity that lesser composers would not have risked.

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the band  
back together

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## Program Notes (Cont'd)

- The second movement is in the warmer key of G major and is a little three-minute song which will lead into the 3rd movement without pause.
- In the third movement he includes some of the contrapuntal techniques of the first movement and ends quietly.

## Cavatina from String Quartet, Op. 130

**Ludwig von Beethoven (1770–1827)**

- The *Cavatina*, in B flat major was completed in its final form in Vienna in 1826.
- He originally wrote the quartet in six movements, lasting 42–50 minutes.
- *Cavatina*, the fifth of six movements, is in E flat major. The term cavatina is generally described as “a short and simple song”.
- The *Cavatina* appears in the sixth season of M\*A\*S\*H in the episode “Love and War”, in the background as Hawkeye has dinner with an aristocratic Korean woman for whom he has developed very romantic feelings.



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## Program Notes (Cont'd)

### Piano Concerto in D minor

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685–1750)

- This work was originally written as a concerto for harpsichord between 1738 and 1739.
- Many scholars suggest the original solo instrument was a violin because many of the music figures are more typical of violin technique rather than that for the keyboard.
- There have been several reconstructions of the piece, as a violin concerto, between 1873 and 1976.
- In 2006, two leading Bach scholars independently published of the work, leading each to conclude that the original form was an organ concerto.
- As the piano, as we know it, had not developed, so that was not a consideration as the soloist.



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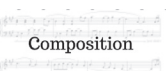
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## **Program Notes (Cont'd)**

### **“Hamlet” Entr’acte to Act 3**

**Peter Tchaikovsky (1840–1893)**

- The composer wrote incidental music for a production of “Hamlet.”
- This short work, for strings seems have been lifted from Tchaikovsky’s opera “The Snow Maiden”
- Act 3 is filled with much intrigue and an accidental murder.
- This act is famous for Hamlet’s line: “To Be or Not To Be, That is the Question.”

### **Der Erlkonig (The Erlking) arranged by Brian Folus**

**Franz Schubert (1797–1828)**

- At the age of 18, Schubert set Goethe’s poem to an art song written for a singer and a pianist.
- The singer has to represent 4 different characters: a father; his ill son; the Erlking; and a narrator. The piano is the galloping horse who is chasing the father and son.
- In Mr. Folus’ arrangement the 1st violin is the narrator and son; the viola is the father and the cello is the Erlking. The piano is the galloping horses. Every one takes a turn portraying the horses.

### **Concerto for Violin and Cello in A Major**

**Antonio Vivaldi (1678–1741)**

- The concerto dates from about 1720 and the lower voice could have been written for the viola da gamba (sometimes identified as a bass viol).
- The viol family of instruments are characterized by sloping “shoulders” and often held on the knee or floor, depending on size.
- This family later evolved into the fuller sounding violin family.
- The double bass, used today, remains the viol shape, although there are some larger ones with the “broad shoulder” shape.
- Today the work is played on the more modern violoncello.
- Vivaldi composed over 800 works and is generally credited for using the three fast-slow-fast movement as the “model” for concertos.

## **Planned Upcoming Performances**

at St. Matthew Lutheran Church in Bel Air. Seating may be limited.

Please check our website regularly for updates. [www.ssorchestra.org](http://www.ssorchestra.org)

### **Holiday Concert | Sunday, December 6 | 4:00 pm & 7:00 pm**

A Heartfelt “Thank You” to Pastor Blaise Sedney and Tricia Weir at St. Matthew Lutheran Church for welcoming us into their church home during this pandemic!

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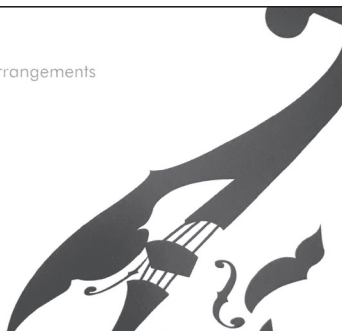
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## INCOME

Ticket Sales .....	\$24,000
Grants .....	\$39,000
Donations .....	\$10,000
Fundraisers.....	\$4,000
Advertising.....	\$2,000
Other .....	\$1,000
<b>TOTAL INCOME .....</b>	<b>\$80,000</b>

## EXPENSES

Music Rental/Purchase .....	\$5,000
Instrument Rental/Purchase.....	\$3,000
Advertising/Marketing .....	\$26,000
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Dues/Licenses/Fees .....	\$1,400
Office/Admin.....	\$4,000
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES .....</b>	<b>\$80,000</b>

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**Programs:** Jerry Potter and Sharon Wielechowski

(The SSO is currently accepting applications for Board Membership)

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With the assistance of SR&B Advertising, the SSO is making great strides to further its mission to enliven the spirit, inspire the imagination, cultivate musical appreciation, and serve the educational and entertainment needs of Harford County, Maryland and surrounding areas.

The SSO thanks them again for their continued partnership.

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\* The deadline for single concert ads is four weeks prior to the concert date.

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Harford Youth Orchestra (grades 9-12) and Harford String Orchestra (grades 6-8) are offered as non-credit classes through Harford Community College.