THE ARTS & CULTURAL EVENTS

Celebration 2020 to Feature Musicians of The Philadelphia Orchestra and Musicopia

February 9 Concert to Benefit Episcopal Community Services and Musicopia

On Sunday, February 9 at 5 p.m., Philadelphia’s Episcopal Community Services (ECS) will not only kick off its 150th anniversary year, but will also celebrate its 35 years of Community Outreach Partnership and Beethoven’s 250th birthday. All of these milestones will be marked by a concert featuring members of The Philadelphia Orchestra and members of Musicopia’s Drumline Program. The concert will also benefit ECS and Musicopia, which ECS has chosen as its charitable beneficiary. ECS and Musicopia both partner with Philadelphia schools to serve as many students as possible – ECS to break the intergenerational cycle of poverty in Philadelphia, and Musicopia to provide opportunities for children to learn, perform, and appreciate music, regardless of circumstance. “Musicopia is honored that Episcopal Community Services has chosen us as a joint beneficiary of their annual fundraiser,” said Nathan Rifenbush, Musicopia’s Program Manager. “ECS’s Out of School Time program shares some of the same values that Musicopia holds dear, including the idea that every child deserves the opportunity to excel. For Musicopia, we believe music provides that avenue. We’re thrilled that some of our drumline students will be performing in celebration of Episcopal Community Services’s 150th year anniversary.”

Six Philadelphia Orchestra musicians (Paul Arnold and Christine Lim on violin, Philip Kate on viola, Kathryn Plicht Read on cello, and Jennifer Montgeron and Ernesto Tovar Torres on horn) will perform classical scores of Beethoven during this celebratory tribute concert, and 18 students from Musicopia’s drumline program at Bartram High School will also perform. Musicopia Drumlines is an after-school percussion program with the goal of inspiring participants to develop world-class music fundamentals, reading, and listening skills; inspire a love of music and cultural pride that will last a lifetime; and learn crucial life skills such as discipline, self-confidence, teamwork, and a desire to graduate. Since its founding in 1974, Musicopia has helped more than 25,000 young children experience the benefits of first-hand exposure to the arts, and is a recognized leader in rebuilding and revitalizing school music programs. Musicopia reaches thousands of children each year in the Delaware Valley through in-school music education, a string orchestra program, a drumlines program, and its Gift of Music Instrument Donation Program. Musicopia places a priority on reaching students who are underserved and cut off from the region’s rich cultural life. ECS was founded in 1870 by Bishop William Bacon Stevens (and originally called the Philadelphia Episcopal Protestant City Mission), and since then, has provided programs to help participants move out of their crisis situations; promote alternative thinking strategies to increase participants’ well-being; and enable participants to identify and achieve their goals toward upward economic mobility.

The celebratory benefit concert takes place on Sunday, February 9 from 5 to 7 p.m. at 225 South 3rd Street, Philadelphia, PA 19106. For information and tickets, visit www.ecsphiladelphia.org.

Immaculata Symphony Presents Its Annual Youth Concert

The Immaculata Symphony will hold its annual Youth Concert, “The Color of Sound,” on Sunday, February 9, at 3 p.m. in Alumnae Hall on the campus of Immaculata University. The Immaculata Symphony is a university-community organization, with a long and outstanding tradition that goes back to the university’s founding in 1920. Conducted by Joseph Gehring, audiences young and old will be taken on a musical tour, accompanied by familiar classical themes. The concert opens with the timeless piece that is the “William Tell Overture” by Gioachino Rossini. Next, listeners are met by the sounds of “Ophelia in the Underworld Overture” by Jacques Offenbach. Last, but certainly not least, Highlights from Disney’s “Phantasia” by Alan Menken conclude the concert. After the performance, children are invited to meet the musicians and to see and hear the instruments up close. This interactive concert is fun for the whole family. Cost for the concert is $10 for all adults and free for children under the age of 12 and are available online or at the door. More information and tickets are available at www.immaculatasymphony.org.

New Horizons Senior Center Daily Lunch

New Horizons Senior Center serves a full course lunch every Monday through Friday, at Noon, for adults 60 and over. The menus are planned by a local nutritionist and are catered by Betty the Caterer. Meals are available for a suggested donation of $2 per meal. Montgomery County Aging and Adult Services and several foundations subsidize this essential program. Call or check the website (www.newhorizonsseniorcenter.org) to see what’s on the menu! Call 610-664-2366, or stop by 100 Conway Ave., 2nd Floor, Narberth, to make your reservations!