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Arapahoe Philharmonic Presents Tchaikovsky's *Nutcracker* in Concert

Littleton, CO – The Arapahoe Philharmonic (AP), under the direction of Devin Patrick Hughes, will perform Tchaikovsky's beloved holiday classic, *The Nutcracker*, in concert on Saturday, December 16, 2017, beginning at 7:30 p.m. Held at Fisher Auditorium on The Englewood High School Campus, 3800 S. Logan Street, Englewood, CO 80113, the concert is preceded by a talk with the conductor at 6:45 p.m. Additionally, our Classic Children's Corner at 7:10 p.m. will feature two young dancers from the Colorado Ballet showcasing traditional *Nutcracker* ballet costumes.

Holiday performances of *The Nutcracker* are certainly not uncommon, but performing the complete work in concert without dance is a special chance to focus solely on Tchaikovsky's brilliant musical writing. "I think of the piece as more of a symphonic opera," states AP Music Director Devin Patrick Hughes. "The story is entertaining and the dancers are wonderful, but to me the music is the heart and soul of the work." We invite everyone to experience the piece in a new way this holiday season!

The program will also include a selection of holiday audience sing-along favorites.

Maestro Hughes speaks about the concert in this video: https://youtu.be/ioGKK_GI3dg

Tickets are available online at www.arapahoe-phil.org or by calling 303-781-1892.

A new ticket package is available for young adults age 18 to 35 this season. This "**Pay Your Age**" package includes four tickets to be used at any of our concerts for the cost of the purchaser's age. It's priced to entice and give maximum flexibility to young professional classical music lovers in the region. Some restrictions, which are outlined on our website, do apply.

The Arapahoe Philharmonic is grateful for its season sponsors: Citizens of the Scientific and Cultural Facilities District (SCFD) and Colorado Creative Industries.

Download the 2017–2018 Season Brochure: <https://www.arapahoe-phil.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/08/17-18-Season-Brochure.pdf>

About the Arapahoe Philharmonic

Founded in 1953, the Arapahoe Philharmonic is among the longest established, continuously operating musical resources in Colorado. The organization is dedicated to providing the highest degree of musical excellence and cultural enrichment to the region and engaging area youth in educational opportunities promoting an interest in classical music. The orchestra's musicians are primarily volunteers playing for the love of music, with a core of compensated section principals who provide technical leadership and support the excellence of performance.

Concerts feature repertoire spanning the centuries, from the great masters to composers of the current day. The Philharmonic is invested in future generations, presenting an annual children's concert, sponsoring outreach to schools, working with area student honor orchestras, sponsoring a Play-In for high school students to work side-by-side with experienced Arapahoe Philharmonic players, coaching the Civic Youth Orchestra in partnership with Avanti Music Academy in Highlands Ranch, and presenting three collegiate-level competitions, the T. Gordon Parks Concerto Competition and the Vincent C. LaGuardia, Jr. Conducting and Composition Competitions.

About the Music Director

Devin Patrick Hughes is highly regarded for his exhilarating score interpretations, advocacy for music accessibility and promotion of music of our time. He is concurrently serving as Music Director and Conductor of the Arapahoe Philharmonic and Boulder Symphony, and has established himself as a musical leader in the region through previous positions with the Santa Fe Youth Symphony Association, Denver Young Artists Orchestra, Denver Philharmonic Orchestra and Denver Contemporary Chamber Players. In 2010, Hughes was the only American selected with eleven other finalists in the Arturo Toscanini International Conducting Competition in Parma, Italy. He was recently selected from hundreds of his peers across the globe to compete in the 2017 Solti International Conducting Competition in Hungary. Hughes was a conducting fellow at the American Academy of Conducting at Aspen and has conducted ensembles across North America and Europe, including the Winnipeg Symphony, Colorado Symphony, Rochester Philharmonic, Green Bay Symphony and Filarmonica Arturo Toscanini. More information may be found at www.devinpatrickhughes.com.

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