



For Immediate Release: October 30, 2017

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Arapahoe Philharmonic Sinfonietta Features Two Principal Musicians in Fall Concerts

Littleton, CO – The Arapahoe Philharmonic (AP), under the direction of Devin Patrick Hughes, will showcase two of its own principal musicians in performances by the AP Sinfonietta, a smaller chamber orchestra of the full ensemble. Principal Clarinetist Jason Richard Olney will perform Aaron Copland’s Clarinet Concerto and Principal Bassoonist Daniel Nester will perform Mozart’s Bassoon Concerto. Beethoven’s Symphony No. 2 rounds out the program to be performed on Friday, November 10, 2017 (7:30 p.m.) at Bethany Lutheran Church, 4500 E. Hampden Avenue, Cherry Hills Village, CO 80113, as well as Sunday, November 12, 2017 (2:30 p.m.) at Arapahoe Community College’s Waring Theatre, 5900 S. Santa Fe Drive, Littleton, CO 80120.

Both concerts will be preceded by pre-concert talks with the conductor, Devin Patrick Hughes, and soloists at 6:45 p.m. on Friday night and 1:45 p.m. on Sunday afternoon.

AP Music Director Devin Patrick Hughes shares, “We are thrilled to feature two of our inspiring musical leaders in the Arapahoe Phil, Jason Olney and Daniel Nester, performing two very different solo works on this program. The Mozart and Copland concerti are polar opposites in their style, layout and function, but both share a great joy of music-making.”

Jazz clarinetist Benny Goodman commissioned Copland to compose the concerto in 1947, which – as one would suspect – includes many jazz elements. The work is two movements, not the typical three, connected by a clarinet cadenza, and is scored for only strings, harp and piano as accompaniment. With no percussion, Copland places the needed percussive sounds in the hands of the basses and harp by slapping strings. The concerto highlights both the lyrical and virtuosic talents of the soloist.

Mozart wrote his bassoon concerto, his first for a wind instrument, at the youthful age of 18. It has become the most frequently performed work for the bassoon, with nearly every bassoon player studying it at some point in their career. It is thought that Mozart wrote other concertos for the bassoon, but this is the only one that survived. The composer borrowed from himself, utilizing a lyric melody from the concerto’s second movement in his opera *The Marriage of Figaro*.

Beethoven's Second Symphony is one of his final compositions from what is considered his early period – a time when his deafness was worsening and its permanence was becoming more certain. Still, this symphony is one of his more cheerful works. While traditional in format and instrumentation, this work begins to dabble in the power, drama and complexity that is now synonymous with Beethoven's music.

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 Jason Richard Olney

Jason Olney is in his third season as principal clarinetist with the Arapahoe Philharmonic. He has performed with many ensembles in Denver, Boulder and Longmont, and has served as principal clarinetist with the Mahlerfest Festival Orchestra, Longmont Symphony, Colorado New Music Ensemble, Emerald City Opera, Boulder Opera and Denver Philharmonic. As a passionate lover of chamber music, Jason has worked with many chamber groups and has played in master classes for Imani Winds and members of the acclaimed Takas Quartet. Jason also enjoys performing other kinds of music, working with Princess Music, a Denver-based rock group, a Thai Gamelan ensemble, a touring Mariachi Band and the experimental bass clarinet art rock band, Toast.

Jason studied clarinet with Drs. Shandra Helman and John Masserini at Idaho State University before transplanting to Colorado. Working with Dan Silver at the University of Colorado in Boulder, he received his Master's Degree in Music in 2011. Jason developed a love for teaching since arriving in Colorado and has a robust studio with students ranging from beginners to advanced performance. As an active clinician, he has worked with many middle and high school music programs, as well as the Arapahoe Philharmonic's partner, the Civic Youth Orchestra, in Highlands Ranch. Jason is also starting his second year as a beginning band teacher with the Big As Life Music program, discovering the joy of working with young students in a full band setting.

About Daniel Nester

Born in England, **Daniel Nester** grew up in Israel, where he started bassoon training and completed his Bachelor's degree in the Buchman-Mehta School of Music at Tel Aviv University. Upon finishing his degree, he began studying for a Master's at the University of Southern California in Los Angeles. He won the position of principal bassoon at the Israel Chamber Orchestra, where he played for the next two and a half years. Daniel is currently a doctoral student at the University of Colorado, Boulder, and serves as principal bassoonist of the Arapahoe Philharmonic.

Daniel has won various awards and competitions, including 1st place at the USC concerto competition and 2nd place in both the USC and TAU chamber music competitions. He has also played as soloist with various orchestras, including the Israel Chamber Orchestra and the USC Chamber Orchestra.

Since returning to the United States, he has spent his summers as the bassoon and chamber music teacher at the CU Summer Music Academy, as well as participating in the prestigious Aspen and Kent/Blossom summer festivals. He was recently hired by the Rocky Ridge music center as their bassoon teacher.

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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