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Arapahoe Philharmonic Presents “Miracle of the Season”

Littleton, CO – The Arapahoe Philharmonic (AP) presents its holiday-themed program, “Miracle of the Season,” on **Friday, December 9, 2016, at South Suburban Christian Church, 7275 S. Broadway, Littleton, CO 80122.** The concert begins at 7:30 p.m. and will be preceded by a talk with Maestro Devin Patrick Hughes at 6:45 p.m. Tickets may be purchased online at www.arapahoe-phil.org or by calling the Arapahoe Philharmonic office at 303-781-1892.

Program:

Samuel Barber: *Die Natali* (Chorale Preludes for Christmas), Op. 77

Joseph Haydn: Symphony No. 96 in D major (*Miracle*)

Giovanni Gabrieli: Sonata pian’ e forte

Johann Strauss II: An der schönen blauen Donau (*Blue Danube Waltz*), Op. 314

Leroy Anderson: *Sleigh Ride*

Leroy Anderson: *Christmas Festival*

Holiday Sing-Alongs

Haydn’s “Miracle” Symphony is one of the twelve London Symphonies, considered some of his finest. Its nickname is attributed to a chandelier falling from the ceiling following the premiere yet missing the audience entirely. (However, more recent examination has led researchers to believe that the event occurred at the premiere of a different symphony.) No. 96 features exquisite writing for winds, featuring all principal wind players in solo passages.

Barber’s *Die Natali*, or “Christmastide” in Latin, is an arrangement of traditional Christmas carols that breathes renewed life into the familiar. Slight melodic and harmonic shifts, rhythmic variations and contrasting textures throughout showcase Barber’s cleverness and admiration for the tunes in these adaptations. Carols featured include *O Come, O Come Emmanuel*, *Lo, How a Rose e’er Blooming*, *We Three Kings of Orient Are*, *God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen*, *Good King Wenceslas* and *Silent Night*.

The program is rounded out with festive selections from Giovanni Gabrieli, Johann Strauss, Jr., Leroy Anderson and a Christmas sing-along.

[About the Arapahoe Philharmonic](#)

Founded in 1953, the Arapahoe Philharmonic is among the longest established, continuously operating musical resources in Colorado. After thriving under just two conductors between 1953 and 2012, T. Gordon Parks and Vincent C. LaGuardia, Jr., we welcomed the exciting new conductor Devin Patrick Hughes to the podium in the 2013–2014 season. 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, coaching the new Civic Youth Orchestra in partnership with Avanti Music Academy in Highlands Ranch, and presenting three collegiate-level competitions, the T. Gordon Parks Memorial Collegiate Concerto Competition and the Vincent C. LaGuardia, Jr. Collegiate 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. Hughes was the only American selected with eleven other finalists in the 2010 Arturo Toscanini International Conducting Competition in Parma, Italy, 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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