

A Symphony of Cultures



3:00pm Sunday, September 17, 2017 beavertonsymphony.org

Beaverton Symphony Orchestra

Travis Hatton, Music Director

The Symphony of Cultures concert was inspired by a "solidarity" concert conducted in Berlin, Germany by three professional symphony orchestras who united to welcome refugees to Germany from Syria and other war-torn regions of the world. Moved by news of that concert, the Beaverton Symphony Orchestra and Village Baptist Church have created this event to welcome and appreciate the wonderful contributions of refugees and immigrants in our community. The event was enabled in part by a Beaverton Arts Program Community Grant from the City of Beaverton as part of Beaverton Welcoming Week.

The BSO String Ensemble

The String Ensemble is a small group consisting of players from the Orchestra's string sections. It performs at special events outside the Orchestra's normal concert schedule.

The String Ensemble will play

W. A. Mozart	Divertimento, K. 136
1756-1791	Allegro, Andante, Presto
Edvard Grieg	Zwei elegische Melodier (Two Elegiac Melodies), op. 34
1843-1907	Letzter Frühling (Last Spring)
Scott Joplin	The Entertainer
1868-1917	arranged for strings by Franz Beyer

Hillsboro School District Mariachi Una Voz started in 2010 through the support of the Hillsboro School District Office of Equity. The band is open to all Hillsboro School District Middle School and High School students at no charge and is comprised of students from nine different schools who rehearse after school twice a week at Lincoln Street Elementary School. The band seeks to promote cultural understanding, community unity, and music education. It gives students a culturally responsive opportunity to explore Mexican culture through music and the Spanish language. The band has been enhancing school and community events with their music in over seventy events.

The band will play a Mexican Folk Song (Canción Popular Mexicana):

• La Bamba. BSO musicians will join the fun onstage

The **Mubeneshayi Group** is a Congolese rhumba band from the Democratic Republic of Congo. They started performing in the United States three years ago after fleeing war in the Congo. The band members had lost everything—house, job, friends, family, territory— everything except their culture, which they keep alive by sharing their Congolese food and music. "For us is a blessing to be in the U.S., our second home," says the band's founder, Gueny Mukengeshayi. "We are happy to share our traditional and modern Congolese rhumba music."

The Mubeneshayi Group is playing:

- Yahweh sala lolenge na yo sala
- Yahweh kumama ,Milele na milele, jesus est bon, basola lola kumama, aniataka Nkolo Yesu

The **Northwest Chinese Alliance** formed in 2011 to broaden public awareness and understanding of Chinese arts and culture. Their **Performance Team** of 36 dancers has delighted audiences in the Rose Festival Grand Floral Parade since 2011 and holds many colorful performances in Portland's Chinatown.

They will perform two pieces:

• Lotuses in June 六月清荷

This beautiful silk fan dance was choreographed based on the well-known Chinese folk dance originated from Northern China more than 300 years ago. The dance incorporated with modern dance elements as well. The costumes are colorful and characteristic of the region which where the folk dance is set. The green color of the silk fans reflects the floating of the lotus leaves and the interior pink color silk reveals the blossoming lotus flowers that symbolize beauty and purity.

• Raindrops Pattering on Banana Leaves 雨打芭蕉

This dance shows that on a rainy day, at a place in Southern China, the raindrops are rhythmically pitter-pattering on banana leaves, a group of ladies are holding umbrellas, walking lithely and gracefully, dancing lightly and ripplingly, playing happily and joyfully in the rain. Their shoes are beating briskly on the beats of the music, and the silky umbrellas are dancing and flying over their heads. It is such a graceful and lovely dance, perfectly suited for the rainy City of Portland.

Travis Hatton, Music Director

Travis Hatton's versatile conducting career spans a broad range of musical organizations around the world. He has led opera and ballet companies throughout Europe and America, and has appeared as a guest conductor with orchestras in Poland, Slovakia, the Czech Republic and in Boston, Tennessee, Indiana, California, Alaska, Colorado, Washington, Oregon and Texas. He holds a Bachelors of Music degree (awarded Magna Cum Laude) in Music Theory and Composition from the University of the Pacific and a Masters of Music degree in Orchestral Conducting from the New England Conservatory of Music.



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The Board gratefully acknowledges the contributions of Insil Kang and Theresa Baird to the organizing of this event.

Upcoming Events

November 3 and 5, Beaverton Symphony presents *Fall in Love* with David Dzubay's Symphonic Dance, Mozart's Sinfonia Concertante and Brahms's Symphony No. 2 in D Major. For complete information about the Symphony's 2017-2018 season, please go to our website at <u>http://beavertonsymphony.org</u>, and follow us on facebook and twitter.