

HOCHSTEIN

Alumni Orchestra
Evan Meccarello, director

WINTER CONCERT

featuring Katrina King Nicholson, flute

Nielsen Flute Concerto

Dvořák's Symphony No. 8

U.S. Premiere of Aftab Darvishi's *Toranj*

Friday, January 6, 2023 at 8:00 pm

Hochstein Performance Hall

50 N. Plymouth Ave. • 585.454.4596 • www.hochstein.org

About Hochstein's Alumni Orchestra

Founded in 2010 by Evan Meccarello, the Hochstein Alumni Orchestra (HAO) is a reunion orchestra composed of musicians who received musical training at The Hochstein School.

During its history, the orchestra has performed summer concerts in Canandaigua and Perinton, and since January 2011 has performed an annual winter concert in Hochstein's Performance Hall in downtown Rochester.

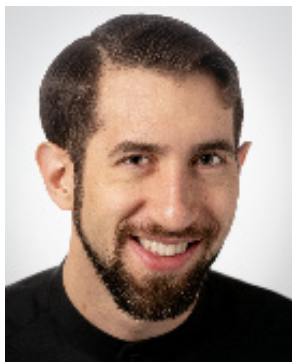
In addition to works of standard repertory, the Hochstein Alumni Orchestra has presented world premiere compositions by alumni and noted composers, as well as featured alumni soloists from around Western New York. Over the years, HAO has forged connections between members of the Rochester community and beyond, with many of its founding members graduating from noted colleges and universities to become music educators around the region.

The return of these experienced players year after year not only fosters connections between them and the younger musicians, but presents unique energy and camaraderie in performance.

To get involved, contact conductor Evan Meccarello at: meccariello@gmail.com



Director, Hochstein Alumni Orchestra



Evan Meccarello, Conductor

Evan Meccarello is founder and director of the Hochstein Alumni Orchestra. Since 2010, he has led the group in world-premiere performances of Rochester composers and showcased talented musicians in a concert tour of the region. He was a member of the Hochstein Youth Symphony Orchestra in high school, serving as Co-Concertmaster and Apprentice Conductor.

Meccarello is currently Music Director of the Binghamton Community Orchestra and Artistic Director of Cordancia Chamber Orchestra. When many musicians could not play together during the pandemic, he developed and led Music Outside the Box, an all-online festival for high school musicians that featured live virtual ensemble rehearsal and performance. The program was a National Finalist for The American Prize in virtual performance. Meccarello's conducting experience spans professional, collegiate, youth, and community ensembles. This season includes work as cover conductor for the Wheeling Symphony Orchestra (Wheeling, WV) and teaching conducting at Nazareth College. Uptown Tango is his ongoing project playing violin in an Argentine tango duo for dancers and listeners.

Katrina King Nicholson, Guest

Katrina King Nicholson is a native of Marion, New York with bachelor's and master's degrees from the Cleveland Institute of Music and a doctorate from the Shenandoah Conservatory. She is the winner of numerous competitions in the Rochester and Cleveland areas and has performed as soloist with groups including the Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra, Finger Lakes Symphony Orchestra, Case Baroque Orchestra, and Cleveland Institute of Music Symphony Orchestra. She has a special interest in music theory and historical performance, holding a music theory minor from CIM and Early Music Performers' Certificates from Case Western Reserve University.



Dr. Nicholson is an active flute teacher and freelancer in the greater D.C. area and currently serves on the faculties of the International School of Music and the Sharyn Byer Institute of Fine Arts. In her spare time, she enjoys trail runs, classic literature, and experiments in the kitchen.

2023 Hochstein Alumni Orchestra

Violin 1

Kiran Rajamani,
Concertmaster
Epongue Ekille
Kevin Hoenig
Liz Knapp
Stephanie Marsh
Henry Smith

Violin 2

Chelsea Wahl, *Principal*
Eliana Alweis
Nikhil Damani
Hannah Garfield
Colleen Hunter
Andrea Ryan

Viola

Kristi Lin, *Principal*
Lindsey Schaeffer
Sarah Turbett
Jesse Ward
Hannah Watrobski
Lora Xu

Cello

Allen Maracle, *Principal*
Katrya Cichanowicz
Amy Feng
Elizabeth Kinney

Bass

David Kluge, *Principal*
Emma Glaess

Flute

Alexandra Hine
Meaghan McTammany
Stambaugh

Oboe

Blair Germain
Riesa Cassano

Clarinet

Ryan Reiss
Peggy Quackenbush

Bassoon

Jacob Auchman
Cate Palanski

Saxophone

Stephanie Venturino
Amelia Snyder

Horn

Molly Sacheli-Weissman
Jamie Zirkle
Megan Soja
Lizzy Bernold

Trumpet

Tierney McLean
Jake Kinney

Trombone

Emily Herrmann
Colin Stubbs
Michael Thomas

Tuba/Bass Trombone

Sam Regan

Timpani

Cole Cassano

Percussion

Torrey Cobb



This concert has been livestreamed on the
Hochstein YouTube channel:
youtube.com/user/hochsteinschool
and is archived and available to view at any time.



Are you a Hochstein Alum? Let
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the QR Code to fill out our form!

Hochstein Alumni Orchestra

Evan Meccarello, Director

Program

Toranj

U.S. Premiere

Aftab Darvishi

(b. 1987)

Flute Concerto

Carl Nielsen

(1865-1931)

I. Allegro moderato

II. Allegretto un poco – Adagio ma non troppo – Tempo di marcia

Katrina King Nicholson, flute

Symphony No. 8 in G Major

Antonín Dvořák

(1841-1904)

I. Allegro con brio

III. Allegretto grazioso

IV. Allegro ma non troppo

Program Note *Toranj* - Aftab Darvishi

Aftab Darvishi was born and raised in Tehran. She now lives in Amsterdam. This is the first performance of *Toranj* in the United States.

Toranj means *Bergamot* in Persian. Apart from its direct meaning, it also refers to an ancient female name in Iran, which has a symbolic meaning in Persian literature. In addition, *Toranj* is also one of ancient Persian motifs that is used widely in Persian carpets and rugs. This motif is a mathematical pattern that is typically placed in the middle of the carpet and it may be of any shape (circle, oval, diamond, etc.) but maintaining the mathematical pattern.

I had the pattern as a guide to compose this piece. I used grace notes in combination with long sustained texture by strings to illustrate my interpretation of the pattern in a musical form. Since my inspiration derived from Persian Heritage, I included fragments of Persian Folk music to enhance the musical output and to give an Iranian flavor to the piece. - Aftab Darvishi

To learn and hear more, visit: aftabdarvishi.com

Hochstein Alumni Orchestra – bios

Eliana Alweis is a first year student at Brown University where she plans to study biochemistry and music. She is excited to be back at Hochstein to perform with the Alumni Orchestra.

Jacob Auchman has his Bachelor of Music in Music Education and Bassoon Performance from Nazareth College. He is currently attending Indiana University Bloomington's Jacobs School of Music for his Master's degree in Bassoon Performance.

Lizzy Bernold is a junior at Brown University studying public policy and data science. She hopes to work writing policy for states in the Northeast. Lizzy is excited to be back playing on the Hochstein stage!

Cole Cassano is currently a senior at Hobart and William Smith Colleges, where he double-majors in English and music while being highly involved on campus. He plans to pursue a Master's degree in Library and Information Science and become an academic librarian.

Riesa Cassano is a PhD student at the University of Rochester in the department of Brain and Cognitive Sciences. She plays with the Brighton Symphony Orchestra.

Katrya Cichanowicz is in her ninth year as an orchestra director in the West Irondequoit School district and serves as President-Elect for the Monroe County School Music Association. She last performed with the Hochstein Alumni Orchestra in 2012.

Torrey Cobb received a Bachelor's degree in Music Education from Nazareth College and currently works at New York Trailways as a bus driver. He plans on one day having his own music school.

Nikhil Damani has been playing violin for 13 years and learned from Dr. Pia Liptak at Hochstein. He is currently a Master's degree student in Electrical and Computer Engineering at Georgia Tech, but has continued playing violin in the Georgia Tech Symphony Orchestra through the last 4 years. In addition, he plays classical guitar as well as produces and writes hip-hop music in his free time.

Epongue Ekille is a baroque and modern violinist who has performed internationally and domestically with groups such as Juilliard415, the Harlem Symphony and Chamber Players, and the National Youth Orchestra of the United States of America. She lives in New York City and works in food justice while maintaining a busy performance schedule.

Amy Feng was a member of HYSO for 7 years in high school and also played in several chamber ensembles at Hochstein. She is currently a freshman at Harvard studying math and computer science.

Hannah Garfield has been an instrumental music teacher in Rochester for eight years and is currently the co-leader of Strings for Success at RCSD School No. 19. She is very proud to have received her own music education here in Rochester at the School of the Arts, Eastman, and of course, Hochstein.

Blair Germain is an optometrist at the Flaum Eye Institute and enjoys spending time with family and cats, baking, getting outside, and playing in local music groups as much as possible.

Emma Glaess is a graduate from Victor High School and SUNY Fredonia. Growing up in Rochester, Emma started playing bass at 10 years old and has loved being in an orchestra ever since.

Emily (Stuart) Herrmann attended Houghton College for a Bachelor's degree in Music Education and the University of Texas at El Paso for a Master's degree in Music. She currently teaches 4th and 5th grade band at Palmyra-Macedon School District.

Alexandra Hine is an active performer and teacher in Rochester. She is president of the Rochester Flute Association and is co-director of the Hochstein/RFA Flute Camp.

Kevin Hoenig just completed his first semester at Albany Law School.

Colleen Hunter grew up in the Rochester music community enjoying HYSO, RPYO, community musicals, and now remains active playing with community chamber groups and ensembles including Center Stage Pops and Cordancia. Colleen currently works as a hospice and palliative care nurse sharing her love of music with her patients and community whenever opportunity arises.

Elizabeth Kinney is a freelance cellist who runs the Kinney Music Studio of Pittsford. She gained her own love of orchestral playing as a Boston-based teen, performing Mahler Symphonies with GBYSO. She was thrilled to have her own sons end up in HYSO - now alumni - where each developed their own lifelong passion and and prowess for orchestral playing in such a positive, nurturing environment.

bios cont'd

Jake Kinney (HYSO '16) is a Boston-based linguist, musician, and board game enthusiast. He is thrilled to be thru-hiking the Appalachian Trail later this year.

David Kluge is the orchestra director at Rush-Henrietta Senior High School. He is active as a freelance bassist and composer/arranger in the Rochester area.

Elizabeth Knapp teaches orchestra in the Victor Central School District. She is an HYSO alum, former Hochstein faculty member, and parent of two sons who study cello at Hochstein.

Kristi Lin was a member of HYSO 2012-2015 and continued to play viola through college. She currently works remotely as a UX/webpage designer.

Allen Maracle is a cellist and music educator based in New York City. He studied cello at Hochstein with Kathleen Murphy Kemp. He has a Bachelor of Music in Music Education and Performer's Certificate from SUNY Fredonia, a Master of Music in Historical Performance from Boston University, and is currently studying for a graduate diploma in Historical Performance at The Juilliard School.

Stephanie Marsh is living and working in the greater Rochester area as a home renovator, remodeler, and designer. Surprisingly, contracting and music have a lot in common!

Tierney McLean played with HYSO from 2009-2011, including their trip to Ireland in 2011. She pursued a Bachelor's degree in Trumpet Performance from the University of Cincinnati's College-Conservatory of Music, and a Master's degree in Trumpet Performance and Literature from the Eastman School of Music. Tierney currently works full-time at ESL Federal Credit Union and plays trumpet whenever she can.

Cate Palanski is currently a freshman studying Music Education and Bassoon Performance at Fredonia. She is excited to be back on the Hochstein stage after playing in HYSO for three years.

Peggy Quackenbush retired as Hochstein's President & Executive Director in June 2022, after 30 years in that role and a total of 43 years on the faculty/staff. Since retiring six months ago, she has continued to perform with Antara Winds and other groups, and enjoys spending time with her family and friends, attending many concerts, and various domestic pursuits. She is delighted to join this wonderful group of alumni tonight!

Kiran Rajamani lives in Cincinnati and is completing a Master's degree in Violin Performance at the College-Conservatory of Music. His teacher is Dr. Won-Bin Yim.

Sam Regan attends the Crane School of Music for Tuba Performance .

Ryan Reiss is the principal clarinetist with the Penfield Symphony, and has performed regularly with the University of Rochester Symphony Orchestra, Cordancia, and Ad Hoc. When not performing, rehearsing, or practicing, he works as a baker and pastry chef for the Baker Street Bread Company.

Andrea Ryan got her Bachelor's degree in Music Education from Baldwin Wallace University. She currently teaches middle school orchestra in the Churchville-Chili Central School District and has a small private studio.

Molly Sacheli-Weissman is an adolescent psychotherapist in Rochester. Molly plays horn with various groups across Western New York.

Lindsey Schaeffer recently graduated from Concordia University in Montreal. She is currently working in Rochester as a paralegal at Legal Assistance of Western New York!

Henry Scott Smith completed a Bachelor's degree in Performance and a Master's degree in Business Administration at Ithaca College. Henry has previously performed for the Binghamton Philharmonic Orchestra, Catskills Symphony Orchestra, Tri-Cities Opera Company, and the Orchestra of the Southern Finger Lakes. He is now on faculty at the Kanack School of Musical Artistry.

Amelia Snyder is about to complete her coursework for a BM in Music Therapy and begin her internship! Hochstein was her second home for many years during which she took ballet classes, individual saxophone lessons, jazz combo, and participated in large ensembles. She is now the saxophonist for Fallopien Grooves, Rochester's one and only all-woman jazz quintet.

bios cont'd

Since her HYSO years (2000-2004), **Megan Soja** spent time as a scientist and a high school teacher, but now has her favorite job of all: stay-at-home mom to two young daughters. She is also pursuing her dream of publishing novels and has won several awards for her writing.

Meaghan McTammany Stambaugh is a Band Director at Avon Central School District and is an Assistant Conductor of the Perinton Concert Band. She is an active flutist in the area and maintains a private flute studio, serves on the faculty of the Hochstein/Rochester Flute Association Flute Camp, and is the NYSBDA Zone 2 region representative. Meaghan will be the MCSMA Elementary All-County Band Conductor in March 2023.

Colin Stubbs is currently in his third year of undergraduate studies at the Peabody Institute of The Johns Hopkins University. In the spring semester, he will start work as a Teaching Artist Intern with the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra's non-profit education program OrchKids.

Michael Thomas is currently a senior at Penn State University majoring in Materials Science and Engineering and minoring in Music Performance. While the school is not yet finalized, starting next year he will be pursuing a PhD in the same major focusing on semiconductor research.

Sarah Turbett graduated from HYSO in 2007 playing both violin and viola. She currently lives in Nashville, TN, and plays electric violin for local recording artists.

A native Rochesterian, **Stephanie Venturino** is an assistant professor of analysis and musicianship at the Yale School of Music in New Haven, CT. She received a BM in classical saxophone performance and a PhD in music theory at the Eastman School of Music.

Chelsea Wahl provides 1:1 string lessons, in addition to her duties as a school orchestra teacher. She graduated from The Hartt School ('09). She is now a Hochstein parent. Many of her students are enrolled in the programs at Hochstein. Since 2014, she and her colleagues have built up the nine-year-old orchestra program in Churchville-Chili to over 200 students (4th-12th grades).

Jesse Ward is a freshman at Cornell University. He was a member of HYSO during his senior year of high school and had lots of fun on the Germany and Czech Republic trip last year.

Violist **Hannah Watrobski** participated in Hochstein's ensembles from elementary school through early high school, leaving HYSO after her sophomore year due to her family moving. She now lives in Binghamton, NY, where she works as a registered nurse at a local hospital and also as a travel nurse throughout the US.

Lora Xu has been playing the viola since she was 14. She will be graduating from Loyola University Chicago this spring and will be attending medical school in the fall!

Jamie Zirkle has an extensive background in music education and performance, however, she also has three children 5 years and under and can only play her horn for a few minutes at a time. She is excited to play a full concert again!



This program is made possible by the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Kathy Hochul and the New York State Legislature.

Thank you to our sponsor: *Wegmans*