

## "Women in Music"



NVSO recognizes the 100th anniversary of women's suffrage by performing music composed by women.

Saturday, March 12, 7 p.m.

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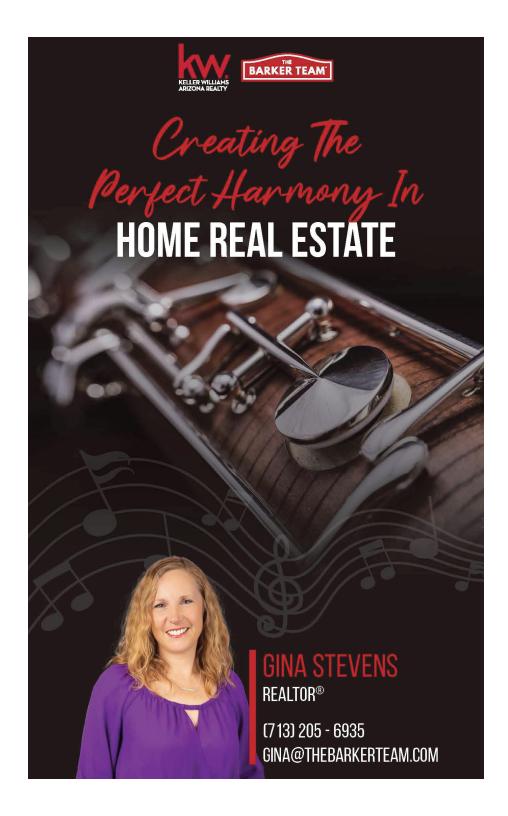
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## Thank you for coming to our concert!

NVSO has taken numerous precautions to keep our musicians and audience safe, but there is a certain level of risk that you assume when attending any public event. NVSO has designated our Board member and Lobby Manager, Irene Kufner, as a primary point of contact for reporting COVID exposures. If you exhibit symptoms or test positive for COVID-19 within 2 days of attending an NVSO concert, please contact Irene, or let your local health department know that you attended the concert so contact tracing can be implemented if necessary. - Trene Kulner - irenek@northvalleysymphony.org

### A Letter from the President



Welcome to North Valley Symphony Orchestra's "Women in Music" concert, celebrating the IO0th anniversary of the ratification of the I9th amendment, giving women the right to vote. We are so glad we are finally able to perform this concert which we were originally scheduled to perform in 2020. I guess we are celebrating the IO2nd anniversary of the I9th amendment!

Throughout the centuries, women have composed music, but societal constraints on the role of women prevented their music from being performed regularly. In June 2019, I attended a discussion panel with two contemporary female composers: Joan Tower and Tania León. It was a fascinating discussion about the challenges faced by living composers, female composers, and composers of diverse ethnic backgrounds trying to get their music performed. When Joan Tower was starting out as a composer, the only way she could get her music programmed was to create her own ensemble, the Da Capo Chamber Players. The group continues to give performance opportunities to new composers today. Joan Tower is now widely regarded as one of the most important living American composers.

In addition to Joan Tower, we will be performing music by two women who were composing when the women's suffrage movement was growing in the US and overseas. Cécile Chaminade was the first female composer to be awarded the Legion d'Honneur, the highest civilian honor in France. Amy Beach was an American musician, who switched her main focus from performance to composition because it was deemed unacceptable for a doctor's wife to be on stage. She was the first American woman to compose a symphony, the "Gaelic Symphony" which you will hear tonight.

We are proud to be performing this challenging and complex music for you this evening and know that it is likely to be unfamiliar to you. I hope that you enjoy the concert, and that it inspires you to seek out other music composed by women or other underrepresented composers.

Thank you for your continued support!

#### Liz Galpin

## Biographies



#### Kevin Kozacek, Music Director

Originally from Colorado, Kevin Kozacek graduated from the University of Northern Colorado, where he earned a Bachelor's degree in Music Education with an emphasis in choral conducting, under the tutelage of Dr. Howard Skinner. Mr. Kozacek received both his Master of Arts and Master of Music degrees from Northern Arizona University, studying orchestral conducting under Dr. Nicholas Ross and Dr. Daniel O'Bryant. He has additionally studied conducting under Maestros Lawrence Golan, Don Thulean, Apo Hsu, Harold Farberman, Raymond

Harvey, and Zvonimir Hacko. Mr. Kozacek has guest-conducted orchestras in Kiev, Ukraine, and Krasnoyarsk, Russia, and been invited to conduct workshops and high school honor orchestras in local Arizona school districts. Mr. Kozacek has taught public school music in grades K-I2, and directed theater, instrumental ensembles, and choral groups in churches and communities in England, Nebraska, Colorado, Texas, and Arizona. He was the founding Artistic Director for ProMusica Arizona Chorale & Orchestra where he served for 9 years. In 2012, Mr. Kozacek was invited to serve as the founding Music Director for North Valley Symphony Orchestra, and was appointed as the Music Director and Conductor for Verde Valley Sinfonietta in Sedona, AZ in 2017.



#### Ellen Hansbury, Concertmaster

Ellen began studying the violin at the age of four. At the University of Cincinnati's College Conservatory of Music, she went on to major in violin performance under the direction of Kurt Sassmannshaus. Ellen later earned her MBA from UC and decided to pursue a career in marketing. With a strong passion for music and performing, she continued to play in community orchestras. Ellen joined NVSO in 2015 and thoroughly enjoys the musicianship and sense of community this organization brings. When she's not playing the violin, Ellen explores

the outdoors with her husband and their pups Stella and Samson.

## Program Notes

Joan Tower (b. 1938) is recognized as one of America's most important composers. She was born in New Rochelle, NY, and moved to Bolivia when she was nine. She credits that experience with making complex rhythms an integral part of her compositions. Her career has spanned over fifty years, serving as composer, educator, performer and conductor. In 2001, the Ford Foundation began a 65-orchestra consortium-commissioning project, which they titled, "Ford Made in America." Tower was chosen as the composer for the inaugural annual project, and her very popular orchestral composition Made in America was the first result. Tower has won numerous awards, including Grammys, the Grawemeyer Award, and she was awarded the prestigious Gold Baton Award in June of 2019. The League of American Orchestras has conferred that annual award since 1948 in recognition of distinguished service to America's orchestras. Previous recipients have included Leonard Bernstein, Aaron Copland, Yo-Yo Ma and John Williams. Our concert opens with the Sixth Fanfare for the Uncommon Woman, currently the last of Tower's popular series. Over 600 different ensembles have performed at least one piece from the series. Tower presently serves as Professor of Music at Bard College, NY, where she has taught since 1972.

Cécile Chaminade (1857-1944) was born in Paris, and quickly proved to be a musical prodigy. She first studied piano with her mother, and composition with Benjamin Godard. Her early studies were unofficial - her father disapproved of a musical education. At age eight, she impressed composer George Bizet with a performance of her music, and by age eighteen she performed her first solo concert. Her compositions consist mainly of character pieces for piano, but in 1888 she wrote the ballet Callirhoe. The extracted Callirhoe Suite, and the "Scarf Dance" arranged for piano are the only popular remnants of that work. Chaminade toured France, England, and the United States with great success, mostly performing her own piano salon compositions. In 1913 she was awarded the French Legion of Honor, the first for a female composer. Before and after World War I, Chaminade recorded many player-piano rolls, but after the war she slipped into obscurity. Her Flute Concertino in D major remains her most popular piece today.

## Program Notes cont...

Amy Beach (1867-1944) was born in the small town of Henniker, New Hampshire. Much like Cécile Chaminade, she proved to be a prodigy, and at the age of four began playing piano and composing. Due to her obvious early talent and interest, the family relocated to Boston. It was here that she made her piano debut at sixteen, playing Moscheles' Piano Concerto in G minor. Two years later in 1885, at her debut with the Boston Symphony Orchestra, she earned glowing reviews for her performance of Chopin's Piano Concerto in F minor. Beach was equally gifted in composition, and Boston's Handel and Haydn Society premiered her Mass in E flat major with resounding success. The Boston Symphony Orchestra premiered her Gaelic Symphony in 1896, making her the first American female symphonist.

During the late 19th century, there was a surge of nationalism throughout Europe and America. After the divisive Civil War, America struggled to achieve a strong sense of national identity and pride. This was achieved through the rapidly growing industrial and military complex leading to WWI and WWII. But developing an inclusive, representational American cultural character is arguably still in progress today. Antonín Dvořák resided in America from 1892 to 1895, and during that time, he advocated for American composers to look for inspiration in the Afro-American culture in creating an American musical tradition. Most composers, including Amy Beach, disagreed. They advocated that the vast melting pot of America could not be narrowed to only one culture's musical heritage. Beach's Gaelic Symphony was in large part her effort to convey the impact that the English, Scottish, and Irish heritage had in especially the Northeastern United States.

## You can't predict the future, so plan for it.



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## Women in Music

### Joan Tower (b. 1938)

#### Sixth Fanfare for the Uncommon Woman (This piece is sponsored by Nora Welsh In celebration of women composers past, present and future.)

#### Cécile Chaminade (1857-1944)

#### Callirhoë Suite, Op. 37

- I. Prélude
- II. Pas des Écharpes
- III. Scherzettino
- IV. Pas des Cymbales
- Intermission -

## Amy Beach (1867–1944)

## Symphony in E minor, Op. 32, Gaelic Symphony

- I. Allegro con fuoco
- II. Alla siciliana allegro vivace
- III. Lento con molto espressione
- IV. Allegro di molto

#### North Valley Symphony Orchestra Kevin Kozacek, Conductor





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## Adult Orchestra

# First Violin Ellen Hansbury + Gabrielle Getty ^ Pearl N.M. Bailey Kaitlyn Golden Haley McKeown Breana Mock Keen

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Melinda Wang

Lisa Tufts

#### Second Violin Tracy N. Petersen \* Asusena Aparicio-Valles

Gabrielle Beam Michaela Braun Sylvia Depta Eileen Friedman Heidi Kosiorek Orlando Moss Carol Routh

#### Viola

Emma Mazur \*
Elizabeth Birch
Kathy Mattern
Parikhit Sinha
Harriett Walker

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MacDonald
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Bryan Held Suzanne Johnsen

#### **English Horn** Suzanne Johnsen

#### Clarinet Mandy Gifford \* Annemarie Strzelecki

Bass Clarinet Mandy Gifford

#### Bassoon

Gina L. Stevens \* Michelle Horowitz

#### Horn Philip

Philip Johnson \* Chris Clark Anita Murray Steven Thomasson Dawson Wallace Trumpet

Trint Castle \*
Teddi English
Bobby Pirtle

Trombone

Dylan Suehiro \* Blake Castle Lee Cook

Tuba

Michael Burt \*

**Percussion** 

Eric Sundberg \* Jonathan Barnea Cindy Kozacek Melissa Krout Alyssa Tappendorf

Piano

Nora Johnston \*

Harp Pam Hahn #

Personnel listed alphabetically after principal or concertmaster

- + Concertmaster
- ^ Assistant
  - Concertmaster
- \* Principa
  - # Guest



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Help NVSO commission a new work titled "River Run" composed by James DeMars for our l0th anniversary (\$1,500)

\* denotes rental cost of the music



## 2022 Summerford Concerto Competition

On January 29th, 2022, NVSO held our annual Summerford Concerto Competition. Since we were unable to hold the competition last year, Dr. Judy Summerford generously awarded 2 hand-crafted instruments! The participating student musicians had to complete several essay questions and perform one of two concerto selections for adjudicators. We were very proud of all of the students, but are pleased to announce that Rebecca Sandhu and Eric Wong were selected to win the instruments! They selected their new instruments, with the help of Dr. Summerford, on February 7th, 2022.



Eric Wong, Dr. Summerford, and Rebecca Sandhu.



And thanks to all the competitors in this year's competition!

## Purchase Your NVSO Print

To help us celebrate our IOth concert season, NVSO commissioned an oil painting in the impressionist style by Kamron Coleman, an artist from Oregon who started creating paintings for orchestras as a fundraiser after marrying a harpist. The artist used photos from our October concert as inspiration. The original oil painting was sold in the



silent auction at our "Black & White Ball." However, Kamron Coleman has created a limited edition 24" x 16" print of the painting. There will be a maximum of 50 prints created, and each print is numbered and signed by the artist. Prints will be available for purchase in the lobby while supplies last. Price per print is \$95.



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