

PRESENTS

"Across America"

A musical celebration of America's people and places.

7 p.m., May 21, 2022 North Canyon High School Auditorium

orth Canyon High School Auditorium
1700 E. Union Hills Dr., Phoenix

Concert Features:

The World Premiere performance of River Run by James DeMars

Additional Repertoire includes:

Michael Daugherty's Route 66 Ferde Grofé's Mississippi Suite Dvořák's beloved Symphony # 9 "From the New World"











The "Across America" concert is sponsored by

Floyde "Bill" Kozacek, (father of NVSO Music Director Kevin Kozacek), in memory of Bill's wife of 73 years, Josephine "Jo" Kozacek. The concert is also in memory of Josephine's long-time friend Millie DeYoung Barnes, who often played piano duets with Jo' throughout their musically rich friendship.





Jo', Kevin, and Bill Kozacek



Bill and Jo' Kozacek Across America!



Jo' Kozacek and Millie DeYoung Barnes playing duet.



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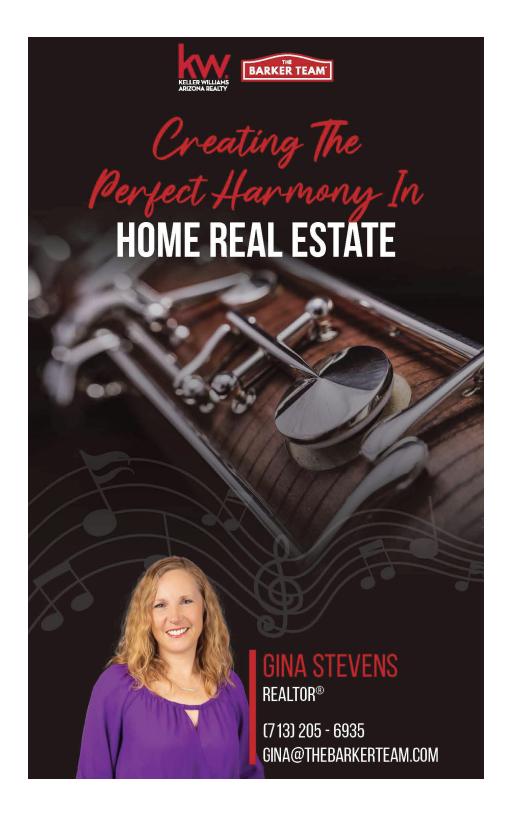
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Thank you for coming to our concert!

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-I9 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 Kufner - irenek@northvalleysymphony.org

A Letter from the President



Welcome to North Valley Symphony Orchestra's "Across America" concert, the last concert of the 202l-22 concert season! We are glad you decided to join us as we take a journey across the country on Route 66, visit the Mississippi River, travel through the lakes of Minnesota, and see the New World through the music of Dvořák.

We are especially excited that you will be the first people to hear a performance of "River

Run" by James DeMars! When we were thinking about ways to celebrate our lOth concert season, the idea of commissioning a new piece of music from a local composer seemed a perfect way to recognize the occasion! Our repertoire committee solicited samples from several composers and were thrilled when James DeMars agreed to accept the commission. We gave him the "Across America" theme and he wrote "River Run" to depict the trip down the river to his grandfather's cabin in Minnesota. As you listen to the piece tonight imagine the motion of the river, the flitting birds at the water's edge, and the areas where the river broadens out into a lake. Just don't think about the famously giant mosquitos of Minnesota! It is not often that you get to be part of a world premiere performance, either as a musician or an audience. We hope you enjoy the piece!

We can't close out the season without saying a huge thank you to the many people who help to make NVSO a success...our musicians, their families, our artistic staff, the Board of Directors, all of our volunteers, our community partners, our sponsors and donors, and of course, you... our audience!

Thank you for your continued support! We hope you will join us for the 2022-23 season!

Liz Galpin



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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

Michael Daugherty (b. 1954) is a well-known American composer whose music is rich with cultural references. His work bears the stamp of classic modernism, with complex tonalities and blocks of sound. At the same time, his melodies can be eloquent and stirring. After teaching from 1986 to 1991 at the Oberlin Conservatory of Music, Daugherty secured his current position as Professor of Composition at the University of Michigan. According to the League of American Orchestras, he is one of the ten most performed living American composers. His music has received six GRAMMY Awards, including Best Contemporary Classical Composition in 2010 for Deus ex Machina and in 2016 for Tales of Hemingway.

Born in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, Daugherty is the oldest of five brothers, all professional musicians. They grew up in a musical household, with a father who played the drums in dance bands and a mother who sang in musical theater productions. As a young man, Daugherty studied composition with many of the preeminent composers of the 20th and was also an assistant to jazz arranger Gil Evans.

Ferde Grofé (1892-1972) was an American composer, arranger, pianist and instrumentalist. He is best known for his 1931 five-movement tone poem, *Grand Canyon Suite*, and for having orchestrated George Gershwin's *Rhapsody in Blue* prior to its 1924 premiere.

Grofé's family moved from New York City to Los Angeles when he was a child. His father was an actor and baritone singer, while his mother was a cellist and music instructor. Growing up in Los Angeles, Grofé attended public schools and studied with several music instructors. He attended St. Vincent's College to study law in 1908, under pressure from his family. But he found work as a violinist at convention halls and as a pianist and arranger for various dance bands.

Grofé's first major suite, *Mississippi Suite*, premiered in 1926 in New York City, performed by the Paul Whiteman Orchestra. The suite was the first of many works Grofé dedicated to the American landscape and culture

Program Notes cont...

James DeMars (b. 1952) is a composer and conductor who belongs to a generation that is revealing a new integration of world music with the depth and stylistic variety of the classical tradition. DeMars is frequently involved in performances of his work as a conductor or pianist. These include the national premiere of his work, An American Requiem, at the Kennedy Center in Washington and nationally televised performances at Cathedral of St. John the Divine in New York.

DeMars collaborated with Native American flutist R. Carlos Nakai in creating four CDs for Canyon Records. Two World Concerto received two Native American Music Awards and led to the 2008 release of DeMars' inter-cultural oratorio, GUADALUPE. In 2010 he received the Governor's Arizona Artist of the Year Award, and in 2016 two Arizona Theater awards for best opera libretto and music. DeMars is Professor Emeritus at Arizona State University.

NVSO is honored to have James compose the commissioned piece *River Run* to commemorate our l0th concert season.

Antonín Dvořák (1841-1904) was the first Czech or Slavic composer to achieve worldwide recognition. He was born in a small village north of Prague, and was the eldest of 14 children. His father was a professional zither player, an innkeeper and a butcher. Folk music accompanied every family occasion, and young Antonín soon joined his father in the local band - and served as an apprentice butcher.

The youthful Dvořák studied organ, violin, and piano. He later played viola in the Bohemian Provisional Theatre Orchestra, performing in restaurants and at balls. In 1871, he resigned from the orchestra to concentrate on composing, while scraping together a living by teaching the piano. Dvořák's first composing efforts received no critical reception or public performance. The self-critical composer even burned some of his early works. The interest of the critic Eduard Hanslick and the composer Johannes Brahms gave Dvořák's career a boost

In 1891 Dvořák was appointed as a professor at the Prague Conservatory. But one year later, he was lured to New York by the unimaginable salary of \$15,000 - 25 times what he was paid at the Prague Conservatory! During his time in America, Dvořák produced three of his most famous works - the String Quartet No.12, known as the 'American', the Cello Concerto in B minor, and the 'New World' Symphony.

Across America

Michael Daugherty

(b. 1954)

Route 66

(This piece is sponsored by Marcia Tague)

Ferde Grofé

(1892 - 1972)

Mississippi Suite

- I. Father of the Waters
- II. Huckleberry Finn
- III. Old Creole Days
- IV. Mardi Gras

(This piece is sponsored anonymously)

James DeMars

(b. 1952)

River Run

(This commissioned piece is in celebration of NVSO's I0th Concert Season)

Intermission -

Antonín Dvořák

(1841-1904)

Symphony No. 9 "From the New World"

- I. Adagio Allegro molto
- II. Largo
- III. Molto vivace
- IV. Allegro con fuoco

(This piece is sponsored by Marcia Tague)

North Valley Symphony Orchestra Kevin Kozacek, Conductor



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Adult Orchestra

First Violin
Ellen Hansbury +
Gabrielle Getty ^
Pearl N.M. Bailey
Beth Chiarenza
Jenny Choi
Kaitlyn Golden
Haley McKeown
Breana Mock Keen
Lisa Tufts

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Dr. Melinda Wang

Second Violin

Tracy N. Petersen *
Asusena AparicioValles
Gabrielle Beam
Michaela Braun
Sylvia Depta
Eileen Friedman
Jenna Friedman
Heidi Kosiorek
Carina Montoya
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Viola

Emma Mazur * Cathy Alonzo Elizabeth Birch Kathy Mattern

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Cello

Liz Galpin *
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Piccolo Nora Welsh

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English Horn Suzanne Johnsen

Clarinet Mandy Gifford *

Nancy Smith Annemarie Strzelecki

Bass Clarinet Mandy Gifford

Bassoon Gina L. Stevens * Michelle Horowitz Horn

Philip Johnson * Chris Clark Anita Murray Steven Thomasson Dawson Wallace

Trumpet

Bobby Pirtle * Teddi English Leah Hodge

Trombone

Dylan Suehiro * Lee Cook Nathaniel Michael

Tuba

Michael Burt *

Percussion

Eric Sundberg *
John Bailey
Jonathan Barnea
Cindy Kozacek
Melissa Krout
Alyssa Tappendorf

Piano Lillian Coulter

Harp Pam Hahn #

Personnel listed alphabetically after principal or concertmaster

- + Concertmaster
- ^ Assistant Concertmaster
- * Principal # Guest

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to our hardworking staff and board members

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More details to come pending venue confirmation. Check our website, join our mailing list, or follow us on Facebook to stay up-to-date!

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To help us celebrate our l0th concert season, NVSO commissioned an oil painting in the impressionist style by Kamron Coleman. The artist used photos from our October concert as inspiration. Limited edition 24" x 16" print of the painting are available for purchase in the lobby while supplies last. Price per print is \$95.



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