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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Genesee Valley Orchestra & Chorus announces its 42nd season, under direction of Christopher Petit.

2017-2018 Season is the Genesee Valley Orchestra and Chorus' (GVOC) 42nd season here in Rochester, and it has something for everyone as we celebrate 42 years of music making here in the Greater Rochester area.

Rochester, N.Y., October 25, 2017 – The Board of Directors of the Genesee Valley Orchestra and Chorus is excited to announce their 42nd season, under the direction of Dr. Christopher Petit. We continue to celebrate our roots and past and look to our future as a thriving musical organization.

The Rochester community is in for something special this season with Dr. Petit's innovative season line-up, starting with a celebration of the Holidays on December 1st. This concert begins the holiday season celebration with a program of music journeys through the years and explores the influence that the Reformation and Counter Reformation had on classical music.

As some of the greatest music for the Lutheran church was written by Heinrich Schütz, Michael Praetorius, and Bach, their writing style happened to be heavily influenced by Catholic composers such as Giovanni Gabrieli and Claudio Monteverdi. The program will conclude light-heartedly with Craig Courtney's "A Musicological Journey through the 12 Days of Christmas." Every verse of this holiday tune is whimsically set in the style of a famous classical composer. There is a Mozart-like verse, a Viennese Waltz verse, a Nutcracker verse, and even a John Philip Sousa verse!

The remaining season follows in March with GVOC'S annual fundraising concert, "*Never Forget: Songs from the Lost Generation*". GVOC collaborates with Michael Lasser (WXXI) to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the end of WW1. Our special guest, Michael Lasser, host of the national radio program *Fascinatin' Rhythm*, winner of a Peabody award, and our greatest expert on American popular music, will lead us through a historical journey of songs from the time of WW1. The songs of the First World War reveal the attitudes and beliefs of their time, especially since what we believed changed so quickly and dramatically.

Finally, in May, GVOC caps its 42nd season with a concert titled "*Elements and Seasons*". GVOC undertakes a program inspired by the four elements and the four seasons that is not your ordinary nature-themed concert. Yes there will be a bit of Vivaldi's "Four Seasons," but the rest of the repertoire will dive more deeply into our shared connection to nature. The music is about the cycle of our lives and will be a tribute to the world that is bigger than ourselves.

The power of nature and the movements of our cosmos connect us as humans - they even sustain our lives. This theme is celebrated in choral works by living, classical composers such as Ola Gjeilo, Jonathan Dove, Patrick Hawes, and Cecilia McDowall. Our orchestra will treat Rochester to Piazzola's tango-inspired versions of the four seasons, as well as to a unique work from Baroque France. Jean-Féry Rebel's "Les Elements" celebrates nature with a daring depiction of Chaos before the Creation; it is an old work that is rarely performed and sounds like it could have been composed in our current century.

The music of GVOC's 42nd season is sure to impress and make this one of our best seasons ever. Tickets for the 2017/2018 season can be purchased as a package (saving you money!) or as individual events, starting at \$12. They are available online at gvoc.org or by calling (585) 223-9006.

GENESSEE VALLEY ORCHESTRA AND CHORUS: Founded in 1975, Genesee Valley Orchestra and Chorus is a not-for-profit, community orchestra and chorus dedicated to sharing their musical talents and versatility. GVOC has developed a repertoire ranging from spirituals to show tunes and folk songs to oratorios. The Genesee Valley Orchestra and Chorus is dedicated to providing opportunities for musical growth for its members and enriching the lives of area residents by presenting high quality musical performances throughout the Genesee Valley. The Genesee Valley Orchestra and Chorus aspires to be (1) a thriving, diverse organization that reaches out to audiences of all ages, races, religions, cultures, and geographic regions within the Genesee Valley and (2) a model community performing group, committed to the highest standards of performance, collaboration with community partners, and sound organizational management.