## CLASSICAL FOR A CAUSE HANDEL'S MESSIAH IN CONTEXT



**Classical for a Cause:** Handel's Messiah in Context Friday, December 4<sup>th</sup>, 2015 at 7:30 pm St. John of Rochester Church, Fairport

Handel's "Messiah" is one of the most famous compositions ever, but if it were not for a charity event, the masterpiece could very well have disappeared into obscurity. Thomas Coram founded London's Foundling Hospital in 1741 to rescue, sustain, and educate abandoned children. In 1750, Coram collaborated with visual artist William Hogarth to bring London's elite into the hospital to hear and see Handel conduct "Messiah", along with the "Anthem for the Foundling Hospital". The event was so successful that Handel conducted "Messiah" in the Foundling Hospital annually until his death, raising the modern-day equivalent of over a million dollars for the orphanage. GVOC honors the oratorio's connection to charity by performing the first part of "Messiah" along with "Anthem for the Foundling Hospital", a lovely work for soloists and chorus that concludes with the renowned chorus borrowed from "Messiah:" "Hallelujah!" As this work was once new music, the program also features Handel-inspired works composed in 2009 by Sir John Tavener and Michael Nyman.

## ROCK WITH FORWARD GVOC TONIGHT

ROCK N' ROLL FAVORITES FROM THE

S TO NOW

**Rock with GVOC Tonight:** Rock n' Roll Favorites from the 50's to Now

**GVOC's Annual Dinner concert** Sunday, March 13<sup>th</sup>, 2016 Harro East Ballroom, Rochester

Cash bar 4:30 pm Dinner 5:30 pm Concert 7:30 pm

It's daylight savings time again, so come "Rock around the Clock Tonight" with GVOC and our celebration of rock n' roll hits! Dinner is served in the Harro East Ballroom, followed by rock n' roll favorites arranged for choir and orchestra. We'll share our "Heart of Rock and Roll" (Huey Lewis) by doing the "Jailhouse Rock" (Elvis Presley) and by shouting "Goodness, Gracious, Great Balls of Fire!" (Jerry Lee Lewis) Come also to support GVOC at our most important fundraiser of the year by donating to and bidding in our silent auction. Only with the support of our friends can we perform for you more hits on this program by the Beatles, the Rolling Stones, Queen, Led Zeppelin, Michael Jackson, and Bruce Springsteen.



Forty and Foward: **Program of Timeless Classical and Contemporary Music** Friday, June 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2015 at 7:30 pm First Baptist Church of Fairport, Fairport Saturday, June 4th, 2016 at 7:30 pm Christ Church, Rochester

With its concert "Forty and Forward," GVOC cele brates forty years of bringing people together through grea art, while also looking forward to a bright future for mus in our community. Music creates human bonds, and all se lections on the program celebrate an interconnectedness o ancient and modern -- perhaps eternal -- music-making

FORTY AND

The program opens with a celebration of "40" in The as Tallis' motet for 40 voices, "Spem in alium." Then, Arvo Pärt's "In Principio" (2003) explores the mystery of Creation in the composer's distinctive style of "spiritual minimalism." In "Recomposed by Max Richter: Vivaldi - the Four sea-sons," Richter, one of the most in-demand composers today.

borrows from Vivaldi's original score and dwells on rhy mic motives. The music becomes simultaneously old and new Jennifer Bellor composes GVOC's first-ever commission

"898 Hildegard." Named after a planetoid in our solar system, the work will honor GVOC's founder, Sister Virginia Ho gan by quoting verse and melody of Hildegard von Bing

The Romantic music of Mahler and Elgar appear on the program, but in new forms for voices instead of instru texts celebrate light, and Tavener's "The Eternal Sun" sings of our cosmic sun as a mere reflection of a greater, divine sun. Ola Gjeilo's "Luminous Night of the Soul" closes out the program as an ode to our divine souls that eternally inspire great art

## Ticket Order Form Season

Donation

Campaign

(Includes "Rock with GVOC Tonight dinner concert) \$70 × Adults I would like to support the GVOC at the sponsorship level of: □ Benefactor (\$1,000+)

□ Trustee (\$750+)

Conductor's Circle (\$500+) 

Chorus Angel (\$250+) П

□ Orchestra Ring (\$150+)

□ Other \$

 $\square$  Yes! Include me under "campaign donors" in the concert Please note: donations do not include season tickets

program and print my name as:

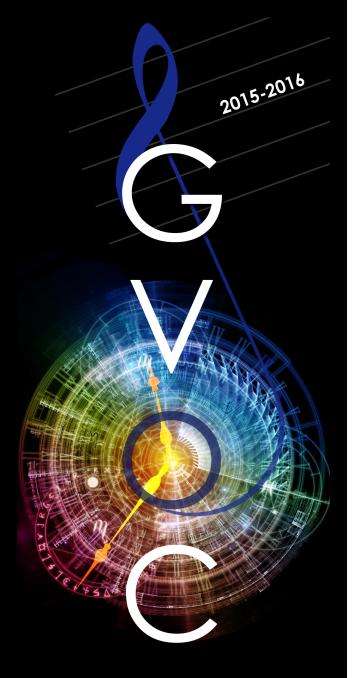
Names of season ticket holders are not printed in the

**Total Purchase:** 

\$65

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Seniors



## **40 AND FORWARD**

GENESEE VALLEY ORCHESTRA + CHORUS A Message from Our President



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a & chorus

Fairport, NY 14450

P.O. Box

I am thrilled to welcome you to GVOC's 40th anniversary season – "Forty and Forward." This season is about celebrating the past 40 years, but also looking forward to the future and how we make classical music relevant again to a new generation. I am confident that our diverse programs have

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something to offer everyone and promise to be some of the most innovative for Rochester audiences in the coming year.

We start in December with "Classical for a Cause: Handel's Messiah in Context". You may be asking yourself what context is needed for this landmark piece, and may be surprised to learn a little about its history. As a trivia buff, I was excited to hear about the little known origins of this piece. It was originally met with mixed reviews, and only found success when performed at a charity event to benefit orphans. With Dr. Petit's selection of works, GVOC honors the oratorio's connection to charity by performing the first part of "Messiah" along with "Anthem for the Foundling Hospital", a work that concludes with a famous chorus borrowed from "Messiah:" "Hallelujah!"

Moving on to our annual Pops dinner concert/silent auction, we invite you to "Rock around the Clock Tonight" with GVOC's performance of rock n' roll hits from the 50s to now! A cocktail hour begins the evening, followed by dinner and then some great music. Also, leading up to the concert, come take part in our annual Silent Auction.

Finally, we conclude the season with "Forty and Forward", which celebrates the past and the future. We celebrate forty years of bringing the Greater Rochester community together to listen to great music. We cap our season with traditional favorites, contemporary compositions, and a new work commissioned for GVOC's 40th year. Inspirational works from Tallis, Pärt, Tavener, Gjeilo, Mahler, Elgar and a 1st ever GVOC commission from Eastman graduate, Jennifor Bellor will be unveiled during this concert. The commission will honor our founder, Sister Virginia Hogan, through the verse and melody of Hildegard Von Bingen.

I am certain that this music will move you and am hopeful that you will join us for this incredible 40th anniversary season.

I hope to see you there. Lynn Duffy President, GVOC Board of Directors

Summary of totals from back page: Campaign Donation \$	Tickets Ordered \$	Total \$	Card No.: Card No.:	Expiration Date:	Signature:
Name:	City: State: Zip:	□ Yes! Please add me to the GVOC email list.	For up-to-date concert information or to purchase tickets, visit:	www.gvoc.org Please return this form to:	GVOC P.O. Box 177 Fairport, NY 14450