



Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra
At Newark High School
December 2, 2016

The Newark School District, in conjunction with the Greater Newark Chamber of Commerce, have teamed up once again to bring the Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra here to perform at Newark High School December 2 at 7:30 p.m.

“We are both proud and privileged to host the Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra for the 16th consecutive year. These holiday concerts here in our community are now a wonderful annual holiday tradition that so many look forward to,” said Cynthia Briggs, NCSD Music Department Leader and Kelley School instrumental music teacher.

“The Newark Central School District would also again like to thank the many sponsors who have enabled us to present this performance at a very affordable price,” Briggs said. “We are especially grateful to our biggest donors, Wegmans and Lyons National Bank for their generous support of this event.”

Paul Shewan, who has conducted the RPO holiday concerts four times previously in Newark, will be conducting the RPO here again this year.

Shewan has been a member of the RPO trumpet section since 1998. He also is a frequent guest conductor with the RPO, including the RPO’s inaugural side-by-side concert with community members in February 2014. He earned his bachelor’s degree in music education from Roberts Wesleyan and a master’s degree in trumpet performance and literature from the Eastman School of Music. He completed the doctoral degree in conducting from the Eastman School in 2004 where he has returned as a visiting associate professor of conducting and ensembles.

As professor of instrumental music at Roberts Wesleyan College, he conducts the orchestra and wind ensemble, and teaches trumpet and instrumental conducting. At the Eastman School, Shewan studied conducting with Mendi Rodan, Neil Varon, Donald Hunsberger, and Mark Scatterday. He has conducted the Varna Philharmonic Orchestra (Bulgaria), Concordia Santa Fe (New Mexico), the Syracuse Symphony Youth Orchestra, and the Rochester Philharmonic Youth Orchestra.

Shewan has performed frequently with the Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra. Solo appearances include performances of Haydn’s Trumpet Concerto with the Equinox Symphony, J. S. Bach’s Brandenburg Concerto No. 2 with members of the RPO and live broadcasts on WXXI Classical 91.5 FM radio’s Noontime at Hochstein (trumpet and conducting). Read more about Shewan here: <https://www.roberts.edu/facultystaff/paul-shewan.aspx>



Briggs said this year's concert will feature baritone soloist John Brandon.

Brandon has sung principal roles with opera companies across the United States including Nashville Opera, Columbus Opera, North Carolina Opera, Opera Birmingham, Naples Opera, Louisiana Opera, Fresno Grand Opera, and his hometown Chattanooga Symphony and Opera.

A frequent recitalist and oratorio singer, Brandon has appeared with numerous orchestras and chamber groups performing such works as Mendelssohn's *Elijah* and Handel's *Messiah*. Brandon earned his degree in vocal performance from Westminster Choir College in Princeton, NJ where he sang with the critically acclaimed Westminster Choir under Joseph Flummerfelt. He went on to perform with two of Europe's leading vocal ensembles, the English Voices and Kammerchor Stuttgart.

He is also the founder and CEO of MyManny, a company that connect kids with big brothers throughout the country. He resides in Chattanooga, Tennessee with his wife, Elise.



Before the concert, the Newark Music Boosters will sponsor a pasta dinner from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. in the cafeteria. Tickets for the dinner are \$8 for adults and children ages 5-10, \$5. Tickets for the dinner can be purchased before the event at the NHS Career Center and will also be available at the door.

Pre-concert seating will be available beginning at 6:40 p.m. in the NHS gymnasium where the NHS Jazz Band will provide music.

Ticket prices for the RPO concert will be \$12 for adults, \$10 for senior citizens and \$5 for students and are available at NHS Career Center, Newark Wegmans customer service desk, Lyons National Bank, Community Bank, the Newark Chamber office and Doeblner Realty office.

As in other years, the school district will provide shuttle bus service, beginning at 6:30 p.m. from the Woodlane Community Church parking lot so people won't have to walk great distances to their cars.

Anyone with questions can call Briggs at 332-3200 ext. 3140.

