

Arts & Entertainment



New Jersey Workshop for the Arts Concert Band

NJWA Concert Band to Play at Temple Emanu-El

WESTFIELD — On Sunday, April 22, at 3 p.m., the New Jersey Workshop for the Arts (NJWA) Concert Band under the direction of conductor Howard Toplansky will perform a spring concert at Temple Emanu-El, 756 East Broad Street in Westfield. This is the fourth of a five concert series for the 2011-2012 concert season. The event is open to the public and admission is \$10 per person.

"We are delighted to be invited back to play at Temple Emanu-El. Our musical selections are geared to please a variety of musical tastes and range from Renaissance to Ragtime favorites," stated Toplansky. "Lustspiel" Overture by Keler-Bela, Highlights from "My Fair Lady" by Frederick Loewe, and "Prelude and Fugue in g minor" by Bach will be featured on this program.

The concert will also offer "Palm Leaf Rag" by Scott Joplin and "Say it with Music" by Irving Berlin. Several fine marches will also be performed on this program, which include "Royal Welch Fusiliers" by John Philip Sousa, "On the Road to Victories" by Boris Kozhevnikov and "Vintage March" by Russian composer I. Chernetsky.

Rounding out this concert will be "American Rose Waltz" by Victor Herbert, "Shadow of Your Smile" by Johnny Mandel and "Presiden-

tial Polonaise" by John Philip Sousa. Sousa wrote this piece at the request of President Chester Arthur as a replacement for "Hail to the Chief" which President Arthur did not like.

For further information about the concert or to learn how to become a member of the NJWA Concert Band, call (908) 789-9696 or e-mail at njwaband@att.net.



FLOWER POWER...The Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders will present an exhibit of paintings and textile designs by Cranford artist Dianna Strom. A selection of her work entitled "Floral Impressions" is on display at the Pearl Street Gallery until June 1. Gallery hours are 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. weekdays.

Paintings and Textiles by Strom on Exhibit at Gallery

ELIZABETH — The Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders is pleased to present an exhibit of paintings and textile designs by Cranford artist Dianna Strom in the gallery space at the Union County Office of Cultural and Heritage Affairs, located at 633 Pearl Street in Elizabeth. A selection of her work entitled "Floral Impressions" is on display at the Pearl Street Gallery until June 1. Gallery hours are 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. weekdays.

Ms. Strom earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Textiles and Clothing from the University of Delaware. She has 13 years of experience in the fashion industry as assistant director of color and print design for a major textile company, Allied Chemical, and as a fabric stylist at Dan River, both in New York City. Ms. Strom has studied art with Rosemary Gatto in Cranford, Lito David and Fernando Catague at the Visual Arts Center in Summit, and with Carolyn Herbert at Union County College.

For the past 15 years, Ms. Strom has run a home decorating business creating custom pillow designs and floral watercolor paintings. She also creates and sells custom fabric



IRISES...Cranford artist Dianna Strom will display "Irises," above, as part of her collection entitled "Floral Impressions" on display at the Pearl Street Gallery until June 1. Gallery hours are 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. weekdays.

artwear at juried craft shows including the Pierro Gallery in South Orange, and the 2003 Millburn Art Association Fall Craft Show. Dianna also sold her artwear at the 2001 Trunk Show at Henri Bendels in New York City, and has shown at the Cranford Artist Open Studio Tour and the Visual Arts Center of New Jersey Member Show.

In 2009, she won first place (textile design) and in 2011 a third place prize (watercolor painting) in the National Arts Program Exhibit and Contest for Union County Employees and Their Families. Her husband, Dr. B. Ivan Strom, is a Professor of Astronomy at Union County College in Cranford.

Union County artists (whose works can be hung on a wall) interested in exhibiting in the gallery space are welcome to apply. For more information about the Pearl Street Gallery or other programs, please contact the Union County Office of Cultural and Heritage Affairs, 633 Pearl Street, Elizabeth NJ 07202. Free on-site parking is available. Telephone (908) 558-2550. NJ Relay users can dial 711 or e-mail culturalinfo@ucnj.org.

WSO Announces 29th Anniversary Gala Sponsors

WESTFIELD — The Board of Westfield Symphony Orchestra and its Friends' group will be celebrating the role the arts play in the daily life of the community with its annual gala under the theme, "Simple Gifts!" on the evening of Saturday, April 28, at Echo Lake Country Club.

In making the announcement earlier this week, Mark Fleder, President of the WSO Board of Trustees, also shared the news that Mercedes Benz dealer Ray Catena of Union will be the Gala sponsor for this year's activities which will include a cocktail reception, gourmet dinner and dancing to a 10 piece band as well as live and silent auctions.

"We are thrilled and honored to be associated with such a crucial fundraising event," remarked Sue Hengstler, Financial Controller for Ray Catena of Union. "There are very few suburban towns across America with an orchestra of this caliber. We have been constantly dazzled over the years by its performances and we are delighted to help ensure that Westfield and the surrounding community will have access to this fine music for many years to come," added John Weber, Ray Catena Sales and Leasing Representative.

In addition to a 50/50 cash raffle, there will be an array of unique items and experiences for auction. Some of the items to be auctioned during the evening by Assemblyman Jon Bramnick include get-away packages to exotic locations, a day cruise aboard

a private yacht, premium ticket packages for Giants football and Rangers hockey games, eclectic New York dining, and, of course, the traditional opportunity to take Maestro David Wroe's baton and conduct the Westfield Symphony.

A silent auction of items donated by over 70 local retailers, restaurants and businesses has also been put together. The Silent Auction will run throughout the evening, which will culminate in the drawing of the winners for the 50-50 cash raffle. Raffle tickets may be purchased at the Symphony office and winners need not be present to claim a prize.

In his statement, Mr. Fleder also acknowledged the outstanding generosity of corporate sponsors PNC Wealth Management and Fragomen, Del Rey, Bersen and Loewy, LLP commenting, "The arts are again taking a fiscal hit this year and it is essential that we rally to fill the gap in public funding in order to continue the WSO tradition of live music within our community."

Invitations and raffle tickets have been mailed to WSO subscribers and supporters, but attendance, which is capped at 200 due to space constraints, is open to the public.

To learn more about Westfield Symphony Orchestra or to purchase tickets for the gala, which may be obtained on a first-come first-served basis, the public is invited to go to www.westfieldsymphony.org or to call the WSO office at (908) 232-9400 on weekdays 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.



GALA SPONSORS...Ray Catena of Union will sponsor the Westfield Symphony Orchestra (WSO) annual fundraising gala on Saturday, April 28, at Echo Lake Country Club. Pictured, left to right, are: George Wilkening, Ray Catena General Manager; Maestro David Wroe, WSO Music Director; Sue Hengstler, Ray Catena Controller and John Weber, Ray Catena Sales and Leasing Agent.

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Sunday, April 8, 2012
12:00 PM - 3:00 PM

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- Freshly Baked Muffins, Croissants, Rolls and Pastries
- Farm Fresh Eggs & French Toast Station
- Smoked Fish Station
- Charcuterie Table
- Shackamaxon Salad Station
- Carving Station Including: Smoked Virginia Ham, Rosemary Roasted Leg of Lamb & Oven Roasted Turkey Breast
- The Shackamaxon Chocolate Fountain and Dessert Display

Adults \$42
Children 4 - 12 \$20
Children 3 & under are Free

Reservations Required

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