



SEUSS FOR ALL AGES...Middle School students at The Wardlaw+Hartridge School in Edison entertained two large audiences with a wonderful production of *Seussical Jr.* on February 15 in the Berry Performing Arts Center. Talented and energetic actors, singers and dancers performed in colorful costumes and put on two shows that delighted students of all ages, parents, faculty, staff and friends. Leading players included David Ezra Flatau-Jones of Scotch Plains, Tre Peart of Morganville, Charlie Silver of Rahway, Julia Machado of Edison, Giselle Lee of Edison, Sydney Racine of Piscataway, Matthew Piccoli of Somerset and Nelagh Matthews of Metuchen.

NJIO 25th Anniversary Concert and Gala, March 3

RAHWAY - New Jersey Intergenerational Orchestra (NJIO) will celebrate its 25th Anniversary with a concert on Sunday, March 3, at 3 p.m. at Union County Performing Arts Center (UCPAC). The music will be followed by a celebratory gala that includes more music, food, drinks, a silent auction, and tricky tray raffle.

NJIO's Intermezzo Ensemble (conducted by Brian McGowan) will perform Haydn's Symphony No. 104, third movement and Percy Grainger's Country Gardens. NJIO's Symphony Orchestra (conducted by Warren Cohen) will perform Aleksandr Borodin's Polovtsian Dances (Prince Igor) Jean Sibelius' Karelia Overture, and Sergei Rachmaninoff's Piano Concerto #2 performed by soloist Allison Brewster Franzetti, piano.

Ms. Franzetti is a multiple Grammy Nominee and 2008 Grammy Nominee for Best Instrumental Soloist without Orchestra, and has received international acclaim from critics and audiences alike for her stunning virtuosity and musicality, both as a soloist and chamber musician. She was most recently invited to perform at the Grammy Awards Classical Music Tribute to Earl

Wild and Lang Lang at the Walt Disney Concert Hall in Los Angeles. An accomplished accompanist and chamber musician, Ms. Franzetti has collaborated with some of the finest performers and composers in the world, including Sir James Galway, John Corigliano, Stephen Paulus, Lowell Liebermann, Robert Aldridge, Ransom Wilson, Eugenia Zukerman, Julius Baker, Robert White, and members of major U.S. and international symphony orchestras. She has performed at Carnegie Hall, Lincoln Center, festivals in the United States, Mexico, and Europe, and on radio and television.

The concert will be preceded by NJIO's Prelude Ensemble conducted by Robert Anderson and the flute choir conducted by Alyssa Delgado will play during intermission. Additional ensembles pulled from the orchestra members will also play during the gala event.

UCPAC is located at 1601 Irving Avenue, Rahway. Concert tickets are \$15. The concert and gala is \$55 and includes food, one drink, auction, tricky tray, and five free raffle tickets. For tickets, call the UCPAC box office at (732) 499-8226 or visit the UCPAC website at ucpac.org/events.

Organist Trent Johnson to Accompany Silent Film

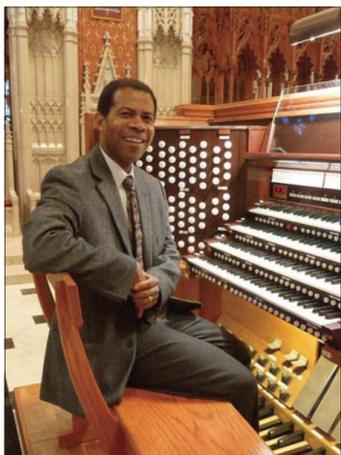
WESTFIELD — Converting the sound of a church organ into that of a theater organ is no easy task. But for organist Trent Johnson, the art seems to come easily. Mr. Johnson, well known organist and music director of the Oratorio Singers of Westfield, has thrilled Westfield area residents on several occasions when he has provided the "sound track" for various silent films such as *Safety Last* with Harold Lloyd and *The Phantom of The Opera*.

At 7:30 p.m., on Friday, March 1, at the First United Methodist Church, One East Broad Street in Westfield, Mr.

surely enjoy this one!

Trent Johnson is an award-winning composer and active organist who frequently performs in the major churches of New York City, Washington, D.C., Boston, Northern New Jersey and in Europe and Asia. He is also an organist at the Radio City Music Hall in New York City where he plays for the Christmas Show Spectacular. As a composer, recent premieres include his opera "Kenyatta" at NJPAC; "Wittenberg-The story of Martin Luther" (2018) for chorus, soloists and orchestra; "The Wisdom of Solomon" (2015) -- a work for chorus, brass ensemble, organ, timpani and percussion; Saint Augustine" (2014) -- a cantata for soloists, chorus and orchestra; and his "Concertante for Organ and String Quartet" (2011) commissioned by the American Guild of Organists.

This event is a benefit concert for the Oratorio Singers of Westfield. A \$10 donation for adults and \$5 for children will



Trent Johnson

again approach the keys of the historic Aeolian-Skinner pipe organ with his own version of organ music to bring alive the 1927 film *Sunrise, a Song of Two Humans*. Directed by the legendary F.W. Murnau, this romantic comedy drama is a masterpiece from the latter days of the silent cinema. It won three Academy Awards: Best Actress for Janet Gaynor, Best Cinematography and for the Best Unique and Artistic Picture.

This film is a milestone in the German Expressionistic artistic movement by Director Murnau who is also widely known for his highly regarded films *Nosferatu*, *Faust* and *The Last Laugh*. *Sunrise* is full of cinematic innovations, double exposures, cross fades, wide angle spectacular scenery and an emotional context not often associated by modern audiences with silent films. Some consider *Sunrise* to be one of the best films ever made. Movie buffs will

be taken at the door.

The Oratorio Singers next concert will be "A Sonic Spectacular" -- music for chorus, brass ensemble, percussion and organ -- to be performed at 3 p.m. on Sunday, March 31, in the sanctuary of the First United Methodist Church. Included in this program will be the music of Mendelssohn, Mozart, Elgar, Stephen Adams, John Ireland, Charles Wood and John Rutter. These concerts are made possible by funds from the Union County Office of Cultural and Heritage Affairs, a partner of the New Jersey State Council on the Arts.

Ghost the Musical Opens March 1 at Hamilton Stage

RAHWAY — This March, *Ghost the Musical* will be opening at Union County Performing Arts Center's Hamilton Stage. *Ghost the Musical* is a timeless fantasy about the power of love. Longtime couple Sam and Molly are happily in love and living together in Brooklyn. One night, while walking back to their apartment, they are mugged at gunpoint, leaving Sam murdered on a dark street. Sam is trapped between worlds as a ghost and unable to leave Molly -- who he quickly learns is in grave danger. With the help of a storefront psychic named Oda Mae Brown, Sam tries to communicate with Molly in the hope of protecting her. The show features popular songs including "With You" and the Righteous Brothers' clas-

sic, "Unchained Melody."

Performances of the musical will take place Friday, March 1, at 8 p.m., Saturday, March 2, at 8 p.m., Sunday, March 3, at 2 p.m., Friday, March 8, at 8 p.m., Saturday, March 9, at 8 p.m., Sunday, March 10, at 2 p.m.

General admission tickets are available for purchase for \$25 at www.ucpac.org/events. Tickets may also be purchased by visiting the Main Stage Box Office located at 1601 Irving Street in Rahway. The Box Office can be reached via email at boxoffice@ucpac.org or by calling (732) 499-8226. The Hamilton Stage is located at 360 Hamilton Street in Rahway and both locations are easily accessible.

NJWA Announces Upcoming Events in Westfield Locale

WESTFIELD — New Jersey Workshop for the Arts (NJWA) Executive Director Theodore K. Schlosberg has announced events at the NJWA Westfield location. The Music Connection program, the Workshop's master donor list and their summer programs are all current and upcoming events.

Founded by Executive Director Schlosberg in 1972, the NJWA helps children, adults and senior citizens explore and participate in the arts throughout the year with private and group instruction, performing ensembles, summer camps and more. The faculty is composed of professional artists, musicians and educators.

Mr. Schlosberg holds a BA and a MM from Trenton State College and an Ed.D. in Creative Arts from Rutgers University. He began his career teaching music in the Plainfield Public School District in 1960. In 1967, Mr. Schlosberg joined the Westfield Public Schools, where he remained until 1996, when he retired to devote his time to the NJWA.

The Music Connection, an instrumental music program for special needs families, is currently interviewing and placing students in their program. A recent addition to the program is the foundation in Music Therapy. Prior to regular lessons, a

certified music therapist guides students in developing the skills necessary to succeed in a private instrumental and vocal session. Upon completion of this phase, students will be assisted in choosing vocal lessons or an instrument to study privately, or in a small group setting, with a NJWA faculty member.

The NJWA is in the process of creating a master donor list with contact information for past and present students and their families, organizations, and alumni to seek monetary donations. The money raised will support all the programs the music studio has to offer, including its Music FunTime Preschool program, music production with Malcolm Joseph, music theory classes, local school programs, fencing clubs, Alexander Technique lessons, aliphorn workshops, various musical ensembles, private vocal and instrumental lessons, summer camps and classes and summer symphony orchestra for children. Donations will also go toward office supplies and building maintenance. The music studio is already anticipating its 50th anniversary in 2022.

Anyone interested in the NJWA's programs should log on to <https://www.njworkshopforthearts.com>, call (908) 789-9696, and follow on Facebook and Instagram, @njwa152.

WHS Alum William Cort Publishes *Finding Ridley*

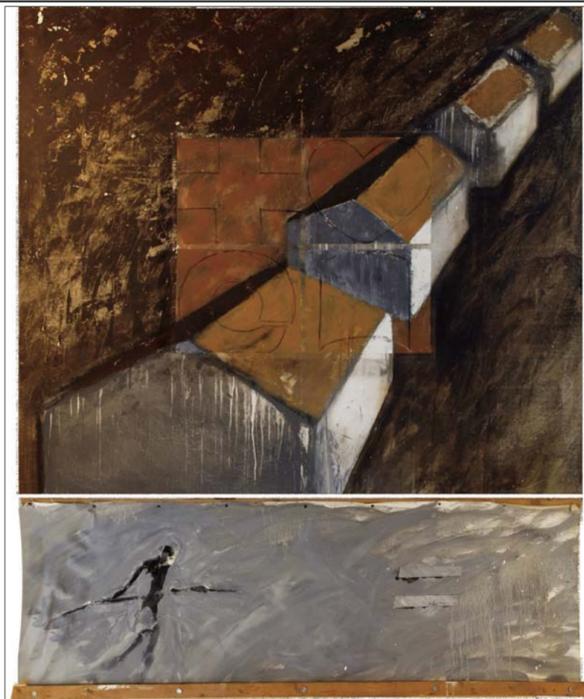
WESTFIELD — Author and Westfield High School alum William Cort has published a novel *Finding Ridley*.

Millionaires, a mini dachshund, and dreams of old Manhattan inspire a writer to leave monotony behind and follow a 1930s murder mystery that leads him to love instead in Mr. Cort's book. Rick Gordon is accustomed to losing. He decides it is time for a change after finding himself single and out of work again with no one for moral support but his two meddling friends and a precocious dachshund. A box of old family photos reveals an odd mystery his deceased uncle had tucked away for him. When Rick makes the unsolved Ridley murders the focus

of his first novel, he has no idea how close it will take him to the edge before bringing him back to the love and happiness he's always been seeking.

Mr. Cort is a long-time newspaper, magazine, and digital copywriter who has covered everything from concrete to colon health. A 1987 graduate of Westfield High School, he lived in Fanwood for many years. He splits his time between New York City and Lebanon Township with his wife, Debbie, and their dachshunds, Lucy, Ricky and Ethel.

The Town Book Store, located at 270 East Broad Street in Westfield, will be hosting a meet and greet with the author on Saturday, March 2, from 2 to 4 p.m.



CROSSING LINES...The Watchung Arts Center will host Paul Edward Pinkman: "Crossing Lines." This is the first solo exhibition of the artist's paintings, drawings and monotypes from 1984 until today. The works on exhibit feature Pinkman at his best, at times provocative, confrontational, vulnerable and whimsical. The exhibit will be on view at the Center, located at 18 Stirling Road, Watchung, from March 2 to 31. An opening reception will be held on March 3 from 1 to 4 p.m. The reception and exhibition are free and open to the public. Above: "Where are we going? Where have we been?," 1992, by Paul Edward Pinkman.

NJFO's Tosca Thrills Audiences

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subject's eyes to her own.

The chief of police, Scarpia, (the amazing Todd Thomas) is sin incarnate. He and his henchmen, who are led by a man named Spoletta (John Easlerlin), pursue Attavanti. At Act I's end, Scarpia powerfully sings of his lustful attraction to Tosca as a colorful, red-robed children's choir, the Kent Place Hummingbirds, directed by Dr. Lori Brown Mirabal, and eight professional vocalists sing the "Te Deum."

Act II sees Scarpia trying to seduce Tosca in exchange for her captured lover's life. Ms. Schuler sings one of the evening's highlights -- "Vissi d'arte" -- with precision and poignancy. Tosca, by agreeing to submit to Scarpia, can get a letter of safe passage out of Rome for herself and Cavaradossi. She is a religious woman and the plan, even though it will save both lives, horrifies her. But submit she does and in a flash stabs Scarpia repeatedly, killing him. In a gesture befitting her religious beliefs, she places a lit candle next to the body and tears a crucifix from her neck to place on the corrupt police chief's chest.

The following morning, Cavaradossi writes his last letter to Tosca, the famous aria, "E lucevan le stelle" (And the stars were shining). Mr. Dougherty handled the piece with

command mingled with finesse. Later, with safe-conduct letter in hand, Tosca sees her jailed lover and tells him to feign death when the firing squad shoots him with blanks. Of course, things go wrong and Cavaradossi dies. Tosca is restrained from killing Scarpia, but has the final say by pulling out a gun to kill herself. It's melodrama at its height and musicality at its best.

The audience on Saturday night leapt to its feet in appreciation during the curtain calls that included the full production team.

Bravo to team *Tosca* for bringing the lights, costumes and professional musical talent to the Westfield audience through a performance that will be long remembered.

Met Orchestra of NJ Winter Concert Mar. 3

CHATHAM — The Metropolitan Orchestra of New Jersey will present a winter concert featuring Ludwig van Beethoven's Symphony No. 7, George Frideric Handel's "Harp Concerto in Bb," and Franz Schubert's Symphony No. 8 "Unfinished Symphony" on Sunday, March 3, at Chatham High School located at 255 Lafayette Avenue. There is a suggested \$20 donation. Visit www.MetropolitanOrchestraNJ.org or call (862) 571-5270 for more information.

Westfield Students Accepted To Regional Band, Orchestra

WESTFIELD — Twelve student musicians from Edison and Roosevelt Intermediate Schools auditioned and gained acceptance to the highly selective Central Jersey Music Educators Association (CJMEA) Intermediate Region II Band and Orchestra.

Selected to perform on Sunday, March 3, with the CJMEA Region II Band are Edison eighth graders Eric Buecklers (Bass Clarinet), Will Crall (Tuba), Yusuf Lee (Trumpet) and

seventh graders Nolan Daily (Trumpet) and Charlie Hu (Oboe).

Selected for the CJMEA Region II Orchestra are Edison eighth graders Kevin Chen (Viola), Youhao Steve Wang (Violin), Felix Yu (Violin) and sixth grader Claire Qin (Violin) and Roosevelt eighth graders Julian Hamilton (Viola) and Tristan Wroe (Cello).

Roosevelt eighth grader Liam Maurillo was accepted to the CJMEA Wind Ensemble on Percussion.

Office Space Available in Westfield & Mountainside

Are you loving NJ Transit lately?

Solution can be an office or satellite in Westfield right at the train & bus station!

Westfield offices for lease:

- Located at 241 North Ave just steps from the train & bus.
- Handicap accessible including elevator and bathrooms.
- Newly renovated, well maintained with owner on-site.
- Several configurations available from a single room to 2,150 square ft.
- Parking available in lot 8, along the train tracks, through the town.

Mountainside office also available:

- Situated right next to the post office and close to shops at 608 Sherwood Pkwy.
- One oversized office with shared waiting room and kitchen.
- Great parking! Wonderful quiet location.
- Rent is \$1,200 per month.

Contact owner at 908-233-7900

Ask for Susannah or Bob or email Bob@fintax.com

WESTFIELD MEMORIAL LIBRARY EVENTS			
MARCH 2019			
550 East Broad Street, Westfield 908.789.4090 www.wmlnj.org			
Hours: Mon-Thurs 9:30 am-9:00 pm Fri & Sat 9:30 am-5:00 pm Sun 1-5:00 pm			
PROGRAMS FOR ADULTS		SEE WEBSITE FOR SIGN UP INFO	
3/1	1:30 pm	TGIF! The Post	starring Meryl Streep and Tom Hanks
3/2	2:00 pm	Electric violinist	Deni Bonet and guitarist Chris Flynn
3/4	7:00 pm	Why do young people	run for office? By John Celock
3/7	7:00 pm	Indian Cooking with	the Instapot by Charu Gupta
3/8	1:30 pm	TGIF! Travel England	through to Wales
3/9	2:00 pm	Hit the Roof	Band
3/13	7:00 pm	Mark Kilianski & Deb	Shebish-Irish music
3/15	1:30 pm	TGIF! From Mao to	Mozart-Isaac Stern in China
3/16	2:00 pm	Ken Lelen presents	Kingston Trio music
3/22	12:30-3:30 pm	Makers Day: Drop in	to experiment with fun crafts
3/27	7:00 pm	Virginia Apgar: Newborn	Babies & the March of Dimes
3/28	1:00 pm	Hedy Lamarr-Bombshell-	A Documentary
3/29	1:30 pm	TGIF! Classic Movie	Week: Brooklyn
3/30	2:00 pm	Waging War in	Westfield-Redcoats and Rebels
PROGRAMS FOR KIDS AND TEENS: SEE WEBSITE FOR SIGN UP INFO & ELIGIBILITY			
3/1, 8, 15, 22, 19	10:00 am	Playgroup for	Babies 0-23 months
3/4, 18, 25	10:00 am	Yoga Storytime	2-5 years
3/12	6:30 pm	Evening LEGO	Club 5+years
3/12, 19, 26	10:30 am	2's on Tuesday	Storytime
3/12, 19, 26	1:00 pm	Crafternoon	Storytime 3½-5 yrs
3/14, 21, 28	10:30 am	3's on Thursday	Storytime
3/14, 21, 28	7:30 pm	Tween & Teen	Yoga 11-16 years
3/18	6:30 pm	Explore Coding	7-9 years
3/23	10:00 am - 1 pm	Makers Day 2019-	Drop in! 4+ yrs
3/30	10:00 am	Paws to Read-for	new readers

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