

RAPIDAN MUSICIANS

First Violin

Karl Durland, Concertmaster
Jane Getchel
Michael Hanz
Heather Schoenborn
Charles Winkler

Second Violin

Brian Bertolino
Carol Carr
Pam Whitaker

Viola

Darlene Dawson
Kelly Harding
Angela Thorne

Cello

Ethan Wagner (*guest performer*)
Joe Bailey
Roger Carr
Elizabeth Price

String Bass

Karen Poehailos

Timpani & Percussion

Don Whitaker

Piano (*Rehearsal Pianist*)

David Sullivan, Jr.

Flute

Don Aittama
Makayla Smith

Oboe

Charles Torian
Sara Smith

Clarinet

Heather Welch
Don Davies

Bassoon

Summer Davis-Brockman

Trumpet

John Harding
Mikey Price

French Horn

Jen Clark
Nancy Rosen
Don Brubaker (*Flugelhorn*)
Lyle Sanford

Trombone

Scott Colley
Steve Sanford
Jacob Meadows (*Bass Trombone*)

BRAVO MUSICIANS

First Violin

Abigail Bentrem
Ava Bentrem
Yahir Carter
Wekin Gibson
Tanner Griffin
Amalya Lorenzo
Luke Lorenzo
Scarlett Oliff
Lucas Smith

Second Violin

Lucy Gerhard
Audra Hines
Beatrice Kerlin

Viola

Charlotte Kerlin
Hannah Lorenzo
Gretchen Traud

Cello

Jasmine Carpenter
Lilarose Gerhard

String Bass

Piper Pendleton

The Rapidan Orchestra

Dr. Benjamin Bergey, Conductor



with BRAVO Youth Orchestra

Barber of Seville Overture - Gioacchino Rossini

* * *

and Jun Kanno

Piano Concerto in A Minor - Robert Schumann

* * *

Rodeo Suite - Aaron Copland

Friday April 14, 2023 @ 7:30 p.m.

Sunday April 16, 2023 @ 7:30 p.m.

THE RAPIDAN ORCHESTRA

The Rapidan Orchestra is a non-profit volunteer ensemble that draws members from all walks of life through our doors from surrounding counties to as far away as Rockingham County.

We welcome all ages and abilities of performers, as our personnel currently includes talented young musicians to seasoned professionals, ages 14-84.

The orchestra is a wonderful gathering of musicians who enjoy the opportunity to rehearse and perform for the community, with an emphasis on ensuring a welcoming atmosphere for all.

Memberships and performances are free of charge, operating solely on generous donations.

With only 20 musicians meeting in Fall 2014, we have grown to over 30 members by Spring 2023. Before moving into our permanent home, the Music Room in downtown Orange, the orchestra performed in local venues including: churches, wineries, and even a fire station! The orchestra has collaborated with and featured our own solo musicians, JMU students, local chorales, and international recording artists, offering concerts twice a year. The local community has been enthusiastically supportive of The Rapidan Orchestra since the beginning, and we are grateful.

The Rapidan Orchestra is a non-profit 501(c)(3) public charity incorporated in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

Donations are tax deductible.

rapidanorch@gmail.com

The Rapidan Orchestra
PO Box 160
Rapidan, VA 22733

His harmonies are also a fresh departure from the European tradition. They aren't atonal, but they're not lushly Romantic either. By leaving out some of the usual chord tones and adding in a few others, his sound can evoke olden days and open spaces.

In *Saturday Night Waltz* and *Hoe-down*, Copland quotes old time cowboy and square dance tunes, something he often did to ground his music in Americana.

Piano Concerto in A Minor Robert Schumann (1810 – 1856)

I. *Allegro affettuoso*

II. *Intermezzo: Andantino grazioso*

III. *Allegro vivace*

Robert Schumann, friend of Brahms and Mendelssohn, contemporary of Chopin, and married to Clara Schumann, one of the most successful pianists of the time, was "a composer of surpassing imaginative power whose music expressed the deepest spirit of the Romantic era." - *Nicolas Slonimsky*

Schumann saw human nature as a struggle between boisterous extroversion and dreamy introversion. The concerto's first movement is a kaleidoscope the shifting moods that interaction can produce. There are conversations between the piano and the whole orchestra, and also smaller ones with just the clarinet or oboe. Numerous *ritardando* markings (which gradually slow the tempo) signal the end of one episode, with a new tempo introducing the next.

The second movement is in ABA form, with the opening section repeated after the new material of the B section, which features a gorgeous conversation between the piano and the cellos.

The third movement flows directly from the second without pause. Its triumphant main theme bounces back and forth between the piano and orchestra. The tempo never really eases from the first statement of the subject all the way through to the exuberant finale.

AN AFTER CONCERT CONVERSATION

Once we give our musicians about ten minutes to pack up instruments and music, Dr. Bergey has agreed to field comments and questions from interested audience members. So if you'd like to join in, stretch your legs a bit and then come down front.

BENJAMIN BERGEY

Dr. Bergey is an assistant professor and conductor of the Eastern Mennonite University Orchestra and Choirs, as well as the Rapidan Orchestra in Orange, VA. He is also active as a guest conductor and clinician. He completed his Doctor of Musical Arts in Orchestral Conducting at James Madison University in 2018, where he was assistant conductor with the Symphony Orchestra, Chamber Orchestra, and Opera Orchestra.

He served as the Music Editor on the new Mennonite Worship and Song Committee putting together a new hymnal for the Mennonite Church, and served six years as the Director of Music at Harrisonburg Mennonite Church. His wife Kate is an account manager at EAB in the Adult Learner Recruitment division. Hobbies they enjoy together include biking, hiking, gardening, and tennis. They are also adjusting to a new phase of life as proud parents of their daughter and son, Lydia (4) and Ezra (2).

JUN KANNO

Jun Kanno is one of the most internationally acclaimed and respected Japanese pianists performing today. A graduate of University of Toho in Tokyo, Jun Kanno was invited to France by Olivier Messiaen and Yvonne Loriod, wife of the famous composer, who became his teacher at the Conservatoire National Supérieur de Musique de Paris.

He settled in Paris and has given many recitals at the Théâtre des Champs-Élysées and the Salle Gaveau; and has performed as soloist and chamber musician in London, Rome, Geneva, Tokyo, Brussels, Salzburg, Barcelona. He performs regularly with the Vienna String Quartet, composed of top players from the Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra.

A chance meeting with a couple from Culpeper - at a restaurant in Italy over twenty years ago - led to his performing for the Culpeper Music Society several times. He first performed with the Rapidan Orchestra in April of 2019.

BRAVO ~ Blue Ridge Area Virginia Youth Orchestra

The Music Room is home to BRAVO. We offer the space and Darlene Dawson does all the work pro bono. Here is her description of the program:

Three group classes meet each Thursday: Intermediate at 4:00, Beginning at 4:50, and Advanced at 5:40. The mission of the program is to provide an opportunity that is not offered in the local public schools for students ages 8 and up to learn the orchestral strings: violin, viola, cello, and bass. Classes are taught by retired Virginia music educator and Rapidan Orchestra violist Darlene Dawson. The program is free of charge; you only need to provide an instrument (but please reach out if that is a concern). For more information, please email: bravoyouthorchestra@gmail.com

Barber of Seville *Overture* Gioacchino Rossini (1792-1868)

Rossini was born into a musical family and learned to play various instruments as a child. He wrote his first opera at age 18 and wrote the *Barber of Seville* at age 23. Besides his ease of invention – he wrote “The Barber” in three weeks – the clarity and lightness of touch of his music won him the popular title, “The Italian Mozart”.

He met Beethoven in Vienna when he was 30, and as he told the story to Wagner in Paris many years later, he was appalled by Beethoven’s shabby living conditions and reported he was told:

“Never write anything but comedies! To do anything serious would compromise your talent. Write more Barbers!”

Rodeo Suite Aaron Copland (1900-1990)

- I - *Corral Nocturne*
- II - *Saturday Night Waltz*
- III - *Hoe-Down*

Copland was a populist who used modernist techniques to compose music for the “common man”. His music for the ballets *Billy the Kid* (1938), *Rodeo* (1942), and *Appalachian Spring* (1944), created an orchestral language for the American spirit.

Copland’s innovative use of rhythm is evident in the *Corral Nocturne*, which opens in a slow five (conducted by combining a two beat pattern with a three beat pattern). Then for the rest of the piece he mixes in measures of two, three, four, five and six beats.

COMING EVENTS @ THE MUSIC ROOM

Chamber Music Recital

Sunday, April 30 @ 3:00 P.M.

Long time friends of Rapidan, Ray and Bev Van Ausdal, have organized this recital featuring a string quartet by Antonin Dvorak and a string trio by Gideon Klein.

Rapidan Pops

Music Of The Renaissance

Sunday, May 21 @ 7:00 P.M.

Our consort (violins, viola, cellos, recorder, trumpet, French horn, guitar, & percussion) will present music of Praetorius, Palestrina, Monteverdi, Orlando di Lassus, and Josquin des Prez; led by Summer Davis-Brockman, bassoonist and assistant conductor of the Rapidan Orchestra, who specialized in early music at James Madison University.

The BRAVO Youth Orchestra

Thursday, May 25 @ 7:00 p.m.

The concert will feature all three ensembles and some solos and small ensembles. Concerts last about an hour and are always free and open to the public. Everyone is invited to attend!

For best info on Music Room activities, opt in to our email list:

TheMusicRoomOnMain@gmail.com

If you like what we’re doing, please tell your friends.

Word of mouth is our best PR.