

Wisconsin Youth Symphony Orchestras to present the Ballweg Winterfest Concerts

MADISON, WI—Wisconsin Youth Symphony Orchestras (WYSO) will present the Diane Ballweg Winterfest Concerts series on Saturday, February 16 and Saturday, March 2 in Mills Concert Hall, 455 N. Park Street, Madison.

WYSO orchestras will perform pieces from Weber, Dvořák, Bizet, Prokofiev, and more.

“These are wonderful works and the orchestras are progressing beautifully in rehearsal,” WYSO Music Director Kyle Knox said. “It looks to be a memorable concert series.”

Guest clarinetist Amitai Vardi will perform Weber's *Concertino for Clarinet and Orchestra* with Youth Orchestra during their February 16 concert. Vardi is a WYSO alumnus who grew up in Madison. He performs regularly with the Cleveland Orchestra and is currently a professor at Kent State University in Ohio.

“WYSO was the first orchestra I ever played in,” Vardi said. “The experience developed my listening skills, knowledge about ensemble playing, love for orchestral music, and taught me how to be a well-rounded musician.”

Concert tickets are available 45 minutes prior to each concert, and are \$10 for adults and \$5 for youth 18 and under.

Visit www.wysomusic.org to view Winterfest concert repertoire for each orchestra and learn more about the WYSO program.

WYSO students travel from communities throughout southern Wisconsin and northern Illinois each weekend throughout the concert season to rehearse on the UW-Madison campus. Each orchestra performs three concerts per season, with additional performance opportunities available to students, including ensembles and chamber groups.

Diane Ballweg Winterfest Concerts

Saturday, February 16, 2019, Mills Hall

4:00 pm Youth Orchestra
With Guest Artist Amitai Vardi, Clarinet

Saturday, March 2, 2019, Mills Hall

11:30 am Opus One & Sinfonietta
1:30 pm Concert Orchestra
4:00 pm Philharmonia Orchestra & Harp Ensemble