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NISO NOTES

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Anthony Arnone Likes Tchaik!

Cellist Anthony Arnone to join NISO for Spring Concert “I Like Tchaik!”

by Natalie Dailey

Northwest Iowa Symphony Orchestra’s Spring Concert, “I Like Tchaik!,” will feature three compositions by 19th century Russian composer Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky as well as cellist Anthony Arnone as guest artist. The orchestra will perform Tchaikovsky’s “Waltz” from the ballet *The Sleeping Beauty* and *Symphony No. 5 in E Minor* and will be joined by Arnone for *Variations on a Rococo Theme*.

Christopher Stanichar, NISO’s Principal Conductor, also acknowledges the challenge as well as the beauty of the

**“... great group [whose] general attitude is humble and hardworking.”
-Christopher Stanichar**



Anthony Arnone

This concert will be Arnone’s first experience playing with NISO. Currently associate professor of cello at the University of Iowa School of Music, Arnone has travelled all over the United States and held many prominent positions as a cellist. Arnone states that though he began to play piano in second grade, he didn’t start playing the cello until five years later. This decision was made after Arnone arrived late to a music class (due to a family

selected Tchaikovsky compositions. Stanichar praised the NISO members, calling them a “great group [whose] general attitude is humble and hardworking. They come in and work really hard” even when the music is “intimidating, Tchaikovsky even more so because everyone is familiar with him.” Stanichar also says, “We have great sections across the board,” and they will be showcased by the selected pieces.

The concert will be held Tuesday, April 7 at 7:30pm in the Dordt College B. J. Haan Auditorium. Tickets may be purchased by phone at 712-722-6230 or by email at niso@dordt.edu at the rate of \$15 for adults and \$5 for students; purchasers of student tickets get one free student ticket for every ticket purchased.

**Season tickets for
2015-2016 available
April 7**

vacation), and the cello was one of only two instruments left to choose. “My friend was playing one too,” Arnone admits.

When asked if he did in fact “Like Tchaik!” as the Spring Concert title enthusiastically announces, Arnone agreed, calling Tchaikovsky a “passionate composer” who produced “great melodies.” Arnone also looks forward to the challenge and talent required to play as quickly and precisely as Tchaikovsky’s *Variations* demands.

THANK YOU
to EVERYONE who contributed to this year’s
NISO Celebrity Conductor Contest!

And the winner is... MATT NICE!

A special thanks to all of the
2015 Celebrity Conductor Candidates
Jason Alons, King Hickman, and Greg Westra
These celebrities raised over \$7,000 for NISO!

Guest Concert: Rhythm & Brass

by Natalie Dailey

For the last concert of the *Symphonic Colors* season, NISO welcomes the internationally known ensemble, Rhythm & Brass. Since their debut season in 1993, Rhythm & Brass has travelled and performed from one end of the United States to the other, as well as to Canada, Saudi Arabia, Japan, and many other countries. The group's six members—Charles Villarrubia (tuba), David Gluck (percussion), Alex Shuhan (horn), Rex Richardson (trumpet), Tom Brantley (trombone), and Wiff Rudd (trumpet)—became popular for their ability to mix influences from such diverse artists as Bach and Pink Floyd together in their music to create an entirely new and completely unique experience for listeners.

After years of such experimentation and successful performances, the members of Rhythm & Brass are now actively involved in various aspects of music education at universities and colleges across the country. They also participate in summer music camps and music festivals.

Rhythm & Brass has performed with NISO in the past, both as a group and as individual guest artists. NISO Music Director, Bradley Miedema, calls Rhythm & Brass a “dynamic group” and says, “It will be great to have them here again!” Principal Conductor, Christopher Stanichar, also is “very excited to have [Rhythm & Brass] join us.” Stanichar believes this Guest Concert will be “a little

cross-over for the audience,” as indeed the group's performers have always been considered talented and entertaining.

More information about Rhythm & Brass may be found at <http://rhythmandbrass.com/>. The concert will be held in Dordt's B. J. Haan Auditorium on Saturday, April 18 at 7:30pm. Tickets may be purchased by phone at 712-722-6230 or by email at niso@dordt.edu at the rate of \$15 for adults and \$5 for students; purchasers of student tickets get one free student ticket for every ticket purchased.



Rhythm & Brass

Guest Concert
April 18
7:30 pm

**The Guest Concert is sponsored
in part by a generous grant from:**



NISO Scholarship Recipients 2014-2015

Abby Vander Werf – Hawarden
Maria Koenen – Rock Valley
David Mortenson – Orange City
Heather Shih - Hull
Katie Fictorie – Sioux Center



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