



LEIF BJALAND, MUSIC DIRECTOR AND CONDUCTOR
THE JANE HARRNESS SENDZIMIR MUSIC DIRECTOR'S CHAIR

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 9, 2017

The Waterbury Symphony Presents *A Connecticut Christmas*

For more information, contact:

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Music Director and Conductor Leif Bjaland leads the Waterbury Symphony Orchestra in a whimsical, magical adventure that brings storybook characters to life! On Sunday, December 3 at 3pm, the Waterbury Symphony continues an annual tradition with “A Connecticut Christmas”, at Naugatuck Valley Community College Fine Arts Center. Come hear Cinderella meet her Prince, Goldilocks outsmart the Three Bears, and Peter do battle with the Big Bad Wolf. Audience members can enjoy a Christmas carol sing-along complete with cocoa and cookies for all, making this event a reoccurring and treasured experience for the entire family.

Waterbury Mayor Neil O’Leary commented on the importance of programs such as this one, and the role that the Symphony plays in the community-at-large: “We look to the arts to enrich our lives and communities, giving us a better understanding of our world. The City of Waterbury and its citizens are fortunate to have the Waterbury Symphony, and must never take this offering for granted.

Orchestral selections to include *Joy to the World*, *Copenhagen Steam Railway Gallop*, *The Three Bears Phantasy* and delightful arrangements of Leroy Anderson’s famous *Sleigh Ride*, the exhilarating romp that concludes with the well-known horse-whinnying trumpet. At the center of the concert is Sergei Prokofiev’s 1936 setting of *Peter & The Wolf*, one of the most beloved children’s classics ever told through music, and one of the best ways to introduce young people to hearing a live symphony and its instruments. The story’s text will be narrated by WSO Board Member Don Fital, a resident of Woodbury. A retired educator of nearly five decades, Fital served as Superintendent of Schools in Darien from 2005 to 2010.

Concert Details

A Connecticut Christmas

Leif Bjaland, *Conductor*

Sunday, December 3—3pm*

NVCC Fine Arts Center, 750 Chase Parkway, Waterbury, CT 06708

* *Pre-Concert Insights, 2-2:30pm Calida Jones, Artistic Director of Bravo Waterbury!*

Tickets & Subscriptions

Single tickets start at \$20, with special discounts available to seniors, students, groups, and children. Subscribers enjoy exclusive benefits all season long, with flexible packages beginning at just \$54. For more information, or to purchase, visit www.waterburysymphony.org, or call 203-574-4283.

About Waterbury Symphony Orchestra

Founded in May 1938 under the direction of Maestro Mario DiCecco, the Waterbury Symphony Orchestra (WSO) has spent the past several decades promoting the understanding, appreciation and enjoyment of symphonic and orchestral music. Originally incorporated as the Waterbury Civic Orchestra (1940), the Symphony and its mission have grown in both vision and artistic merit, expanding from a community orchestra to the Waterbury Symphony Orchestra (1956). The WSO has been led by Music Director and Conductor Leif Bjaland since 1994.

The WSO builds connections across our region with exploratory concerts, events, and educational programs. The WSO maintains a firm commitment to produce programs that are of value to its patrons, participants and community partners. This commitment is rooted in the Symphony’s core belief that the study of musical instruments and participation in musical performance is essential to creating community.

The WSO has been Orchestra-in-Residence at Naugatuck Valley Community College since 1992.

Season Sponsor: MacDermid Performance Solutions

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