



**COLLEGE OF
PERFORMING & VISUAL ARTS**
SOUTHERN UTAH UNIVERSITY

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From Brahms to Rachmaninoff with SUU's Symphony Orchestra

Written by Tracy Solimeno

Southern Utah University, Cedar City, Utah: The Southern Utah University Symphony Orchestra will perform their Masterworks Concert on Wednesday, April 25, 2018, at 7:30 p.m. in Thorley Recital Hall located inside the SUU Music Building. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for students and children. Southern Utah University faculty, staff, and students are free with a valid ID card. Faculty and staff IDs are allowed one guest. Tickets can be purchased at the door the night of the concert or online at www.suu.edu/pva.

The program includes "Academic Festival Overture, Op. 80" by Johannes Brahms, "Youth Symphony in D Minor" by Rachmaninoff, "Viola Concerto" by Karl Phillip Stamitz with guest soloist Larissa Brown-Sah, and "Finale" from the *Firebird Suite* by Igor Stravinsky.

"I am very excited about this particular concert because the music is very different from what we've been playing this year," said Tori Calamity, violin player. "The wide range of pieces gives us a chance to expand on our abilities."

"The Academic Festival Overture, Op. 80" is one of Brahms' most lighthearted and playful compositions. In fact, Brahms described it as a "rollicking potpourri." The composition is akin to today's DJ mixes, an eclectic and light-hearted compilation of well-known German drinking songs and original compositions.

This year's concert also includes one of the most iconic works from the 20th century, Stravinsky's *Firebird Suite*. Treven Lowry, cello player, said, "I absolutely adore this piece, and I am very excited to perform the 'Finale' with SUU's Symphony Orchestra."

"We're playing some exciting pieces with a lot of variety," said Aria Williams, a tuba player in the SUU Symphony Orchestra. "The woodwinds, brass, and strings will all be featured, which makes for an exciting concert."

Not only has Dr. Xun Sun directed the Orchestral Activities at Southern Utah University, he has recently conducted the Henan Symphony Orchestra, Anhui Symphony, Hunan Symphony and Hubei Symphony Orchestra in China.

The SUU Symphony Orchestra is open by audition to instrumentalists from the entire campus and rehearses four days a week. This group of dedicated musicians performs orchestral masterpieces from the standard symphonic repertoire.

Enjoy an evening of classic compositions and talented musical performances. For more information on SUU's Music Department, please visit www.suu.edu/pva/music.

About the College of Performing and Visual Arts

The College of Performing and Visual Arts (CPVA) at Southern Utah University comprises 26 academic programs including liberal arts (BA/BS) and professional (BFA, BM) degrees in art, design, dance, music and theatre. It offers graduate programs in the fields of arts administration, music education, and music technology. More than 60 full- and part-time faculty and staff are engaged in teaching and mentoring over 600 majors in the College. CPVA presents over 100 performances, lectures, presentations, and exhibitions each year and is affiliated with the Southern Utah Museum of Art (SUMA), Utah Shakespeare Festival, and the Center for Shakespeare Studies. Southern Utah University is an accredited member of the National Association of Schools of Art & Design (NASAD), National Association of Schools of Dance (NASD), and the National Association of Schools of Music (NASM). For more information about the College of Performing and Visual Arts, visit www.suu.edu/pva.

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- Who:** SUU Symphony Orchestra
- When:** Wednesday, April 25, 2018
- Time:** 7:30 p.m.
- Where:** Thorley Recital Hall, SUU Music Building, Cedar City, Utah
- Tickets:** Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for students and children. Southern Utah University faculty, staff, and students are free with a valid ID card. Faculty and staff IDs are allowed one guest.
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