



NEW HAVEN SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

# Program Notes

for

# KIDS

September 29, 2016  
Woolsey Hall

SPECIAL EDITION  
SCHOOL NIGHT AT  
THE SYMPHONY



# Opening Night!

William Boughton, conductor  
Ilya Yakhusev, piano  
Rich Clymer, trumpet

[NewHavenSymphony.org](http://NewHavenSymphony.org)

# Opening Night!

## “Biological” from the Lash/Voynich Project

Hannah Lash

## Piano Concerto No. 1

Dmitri Shostakovich

## Piano Concerto No. 2

Dmitri Shostakovich

## Symphony No. 4 “Italian”

Felix Mendelssohn

# Welcome to the NHSO!

### Before the concert begins:

- Turn off any device that makes noise.
- Read the *Program Notes for Kids*.
- Locate the restrooms and exits.
- Look around at the architecture of the theater.
- Listen to musicians warm-up their instruments.



### During the concert:

- Clap as people enter the stage.
- Listen quietly as the orchestra plays.
- Wait for every section (called *movements*) of a piece to be played, then clap.  
(Hint: the conductor will turn to face you when it's time.)
- During intermission, you are free to get up.
- At the end of the concert, people may stand up to show their appreciation. This is called a *standing ovation*.



**ENJOY!**

Words & Music Literacy Project

supported by:



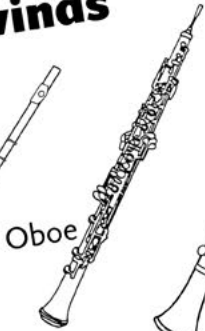
**NewAlliance Bank**

# Instruments of the Orchestra

## Woodwinds



Flute



Oboe



Clarinet



Bassoon

## Strings



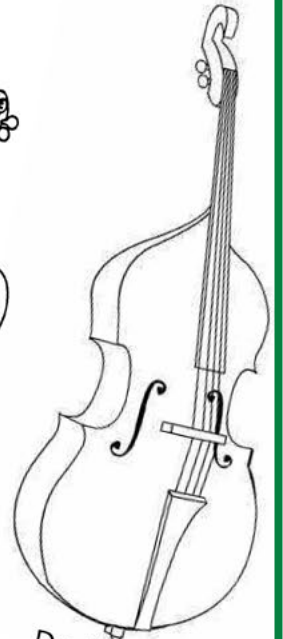
Violin



Viola



Cello

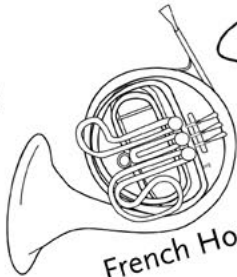


Double Bass

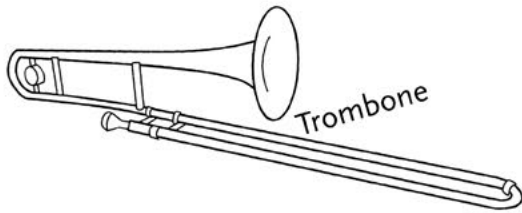
## Brass



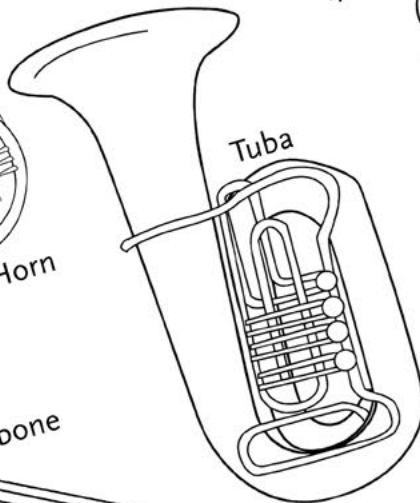
Trumpet



French Horn



Trombone



Tuba

## Percussion



Bass Drum



Timpani



Gong



Snare Drum



Triangle



Tambourine

and more!



The orchestra is led by a conductor, sometimes called "maestro"

# “Biological” from the *Lash/Voynich Project*

Famous composer Hannah Lash has been **commissioned** (hired) to write a new piece of music by the New Haven Symphony Orchestra. She will write a symphony over the course of two years, and we will premiere each movement separately.

The symphony is based on the “Voynich Manuscript,” which is a book written a very long time ago - nobody knows what it means! It’s kept at Yale University’s Beinecke Library, and you can see it on display there.



When you hear “Biological” tonight, you will be the first audience to EVER hear it!



## Piano Concerto No. 1 and No. 2

### **Piano Concerto No. 1**

This first concerto is written for trumpet, piano, and full orchestra. When Shostakovich first started writing this piece, he thought it would be a trumpet concerto, but changed it to a piano concerto by the time he was done with it.

### **Piano Concerto No. 2**

Shostakovich wrote this piece of music for his son, Maxim, on his 19th birthday. Maxim was a VERY good piano player and actually was the first pianist to play the concerto in public after his graduation from the Moscow Conservatory.



Dmitri Shostakovich  
(1906 - 1975)

### **Help!: What’s a concerto?!**

A **concerto** is a piece of music, usually in three movements, written to have one musician (or a small group of them) play in front of an orchestra and show the audience all the cool things that their instrument(s) can do. At the end of the first movement, the entire orchestra will stop playing and the soloist will get to show off in front of the orchestra and audience! This is called a **cadenza**, and from time to time soloists even write their own. Sometimes, there’s an extra cadenza in the third movement to give the soloist another chance to show off.

Normally, audiences aren’t supposed to clap in between movements, but during some performances, people get so excited about how well the soloist played that they burst into applause at the end of the first movement!



Spotlight on:

**Ilya Yakhusev**



Our piano soloist tonight is named Ilya Yakhusev, and he will be playing not one, but TWO piano concerti!

He was born in St. Petersburg, Russia, and began his college training at Rimsky-Korsakov College at age 15. In 2005, he won a very important international piano competition held in Cincinnati, meaning he was the best piano player out of the hundreds of people from around the world who tried out.

Now he tours around the world with different symphony orchestras and lives in both New York City and St. Petersburg.



“Mr. Yakhusev can do just about anything he wants.”

- *The New York Times*

## Symphony No. 4 “Italian”

### **I. Allegro Vivace**

(fast that turns VERY fast)

### **II. Andante con moto**

(Slowly, with motion)

### **III. Con moto moderato**

(with motion, moderately)

### **IV. Saltarello: Presto**

(Dance-like, FAST!)

Felix Mendelssohn (pronounced Men-dol-son) was a **child prodigy**, meaning that he was VERY good at playing an instrument when he was very young. His older sister, Fanny, was also very good at the piano and both were playing in public by the time they were 9 years old. By the time he was 14, he had already written 12 symphonies!

He has written lots of famous pieces that you probably already know. Have you ever been to a wedding? Many brides and grooms use Mendelssohn’s “Wedding March” to walk out of their ceremonies.

Mendelssohn wrote this piece while traveling around Italy between 1829 and 1831, and tried to capture the sounds of Italy in the music. In this piece, listen for **melodies** (the main tunes) that sound Italian.



Felix Mendelssohn  
(1809 - 1847)

# Scavenger Hunt

How many questions can you answer?

1. How many columns are there around Woolsey Hall? \_\_\_\_\_
2. How many organ pipes are there behind the stage? \_\_\_\_\_
3. How many violins are on stage? \_\_\_\_\_
4. How many brass instruments are on stage? \_\_\_\_\_
5. How many lights are hanging from the ceiling? \_\_\_\_\_

If you were writing a review of Ilya Yakusev's performances tonight, which words would you use to describe them? Check all that apply!

- |                                       |                                  |                                      |                                  |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Captivating  | <input type="checkbox"/> Boring  | <input type="checkbox"/> Effortless  | <input type="checkbox"/> Quick   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Exhilarating | <input type="checkbox"/> Amazing | <input type="checkbox"/> Fascinating | <input type="checkbox"/> Vibrant |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Quiet        | <input type="checkbox"/> Fast    | <input type="checkbox"/> Strong      | <input type="checkbox"/> Slow    |

Out of the two Shostakovich pieces that you heard tonight, which one is your favorite? Why?

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Are the beginning and ending of the movements in Mendelssohn's Symphony performed **piano** (softly) or **forte** (loudly)?

	<u>Beginning of Movement:</u>	<u>End of Movement:</u>
I. Allegro Vivace	_____	_____
II. Andante con moto	_____	_____
III. Con moto moderato	_____	_____
IV. Saltarello: Presto	_____	_____

# Concert Review

Write about your experience at the concert tonight.

Who did you see? What did you hear?

What did you think about the music and the experience?

What would you like to tell the Maestro and the musicians?

We would love to know what you think!  
Scan or copy this page and send it to us:

Education Department  
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545 Long Wharf Drive, Sixth Floor  
New Haven, CT 06511  
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# Family Concert Series: “AROUND THE WORLD”

Travel around the world with the NHSO! The NHSO Family Concerts provide fun, interactive concerts for students ages 3-9 to meet the instruments of the orchestra.

Starting at 1:30pm before the concert, the NHSO offers an Instrument Discovery Zone where children can tap, tickle, and toot real orchestral instruments before the 2:00 pm performance. Following the concert, families are invited to stay for a healthy snack. New Haven Reads provides free children’s books for everyone who attends the concert. Attendance is **FREE** but donations are welcome!

TIKKI TIKKI TEMBO  
January 7 & 8

ANANSI THE SPIDER  
February 18 & 19

THREE LITTLE PIGS  
March 25 & 26

Featuring the NHSO  
Woodwind Quintet

Featuring the NHSO  
Brass and Piano Trio

Featuring the NHSO  
String Quartet

All Saturday performances are at Davis Street School in New Haven  
All Sunday performances are at Shelton Intermediate School



## Did you know?

Kids go **FREE** to **ALL**  
NHSO concerts!

The NHSO offers free KidTix for children ages 7-17 with the purchase of an adult ticket. Additional child tickets are available for \$10 each. KidTix must be purchased by phone by calling the NHSO box office at 203.865.0831 ext. 20.

**Frontier**  
COMMUNICATIONS

[www.NewHavenSymphony.org](http://www.NewHavenSymphony.org)

