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The Great White Way

Manhattan has been home to theaters and theater groups for centuries, at least since a troupe of actors first arrived from London in 1732 and began performing plays (mostly Shakespeare) in empty building spaces. In 1750, Thomas Kean and Walter Murray established a homegrown theater company on Nassau Street, choosing *Richard III* as its first production with musicals soon to follow.

The Revolutionary War halted performances, but actors and theaters regrouped in the late 1700s and began growing what has become a permanent fixture in the New York landscape.

Theaters were established downtown, but throughout the 1800s, the district migrated toward Midtown, following more affordable real estate. And they found welcome space on Broadway, eventually being concentrated between 42nd Street and 53rd Street.

When electricity became readily accessible, theater owners were hardly shy about using lights to call attention to their signs and buildings. That part of town became so bright with illuminated marquees that the New York Evening Telegram coined the phrase "The Great White Way" to describe it.

The lights became so iconic that when they were dimmed during World War I, public

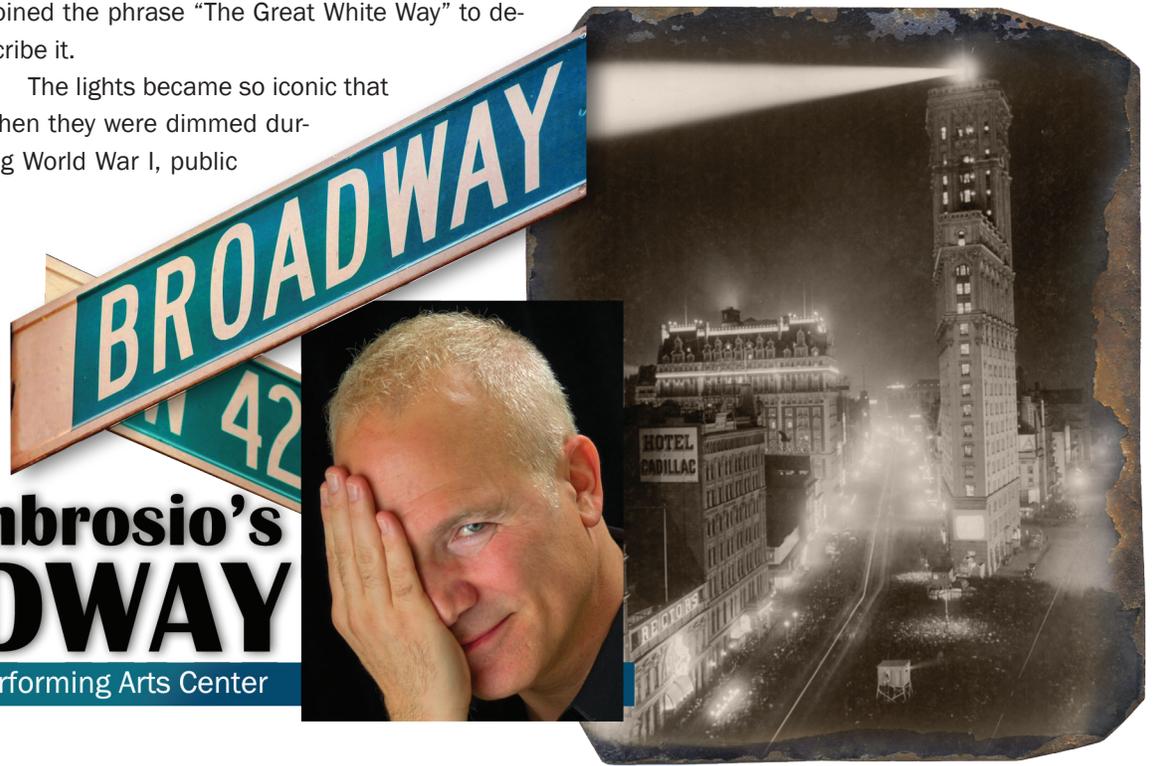
ouctry spurred the federal government to increase the city's coal ration to keep them burning.

"Mildly insane by day, the square goes divinely mad by night. For then on every wall, above every cornice, in every nook and cranny, blossom and dance the electric advertising signs," wrote journalist Will Irwin.

Since its early years, Broadway and all it represents has ridden the waves of cultural changes, surviving the threat of the motion picture industry and television, laying low as theater houses turned into movie houses or fell into disrepair as their surroundings went to seed. And it has provided a platform for social expression, creative energy and entertainment throughout its revival as a destination.

And now, more theater tickets are sold in New York than all sports tickets combined, averaging 12 million each year.

We'll celebrate Broadway, The Great White Way—its music and its resilience—with one of its acclaimed leading men, Franc D'Ambrosio, on June 6.



Franc D'Ambrosio's BROADWAY

JUNE 6 || 7:30 PM || Performing Arts Center

WHAT'S AN ORCHESTRA FOR?

Eric Benjamin announces the celebration of our 80th season with a remarkable concert series that answers the question—what's an orchestra for?

There is something really magical about live performance that we often miss with our ability to hear music on command and in personal settings isolated from a communal experience. The Tuscarawas Philharmonic gives us the opportunity to play, to hear and to experience live symphony music right here in the Tuscarawas Valley—it serves as a living culture.

One of the things I love about the Philharmonic is the freedom we have in this unique ensemble to bring a wide variety of live music to the stage, surprising our audience with innovative and beloved music within a broad range of genres—classical, pop, country and more—it serves the community as an ambassador of music culture.

The Philharmonic provides a unique educational experience for young musicians in the Valley, with our children's chorus, involvement with school choruses, our honors band for high school students and our performing arts camp. Throughout our season, we serve to foster a life-long appreciation of music.

Next season, our 80th, we'll highlight the most essential roles an orchestra plays within its community with a series of concerts designed to engage and inspire audience members and musicians alike.

OCTOBER 24—OPENING NIGHT!

Sawyer Thomson of Dover is a remarkable native talent, and he'll return to perform Elgar's *Cello Concerto*, an astonishing, passionate masterpiece.

Beethoven's *Symphony No. 5*, as familiar as it is, is still a riveting experience—for player and audience alike—and we'll relish it live in all of its fury and exhilaration.



TUSCARAWAS
PHILHARMONIC
ORCHESTRA AND CHORUSES

DECEMBER 12— YULETIDE CELEBRATION

We'll feature our children's chorus and women's honors chorus in an annual celebration of the season with surprises and traditions. Our special guest this year will be local gem, Ron Barkett, baritone.

FEBRUARY 13— THE MAGICAL MUSIC OF DISNEY

Leave winter's chill behind with beloved music from Disney films, performed live with projected animation—selections from *The Little Mermaid*, *Beauty and the Beast*, *The Lion King* and other favorites.

MARCH 12—CELTIC CAVALCADE

Now a Tuscarawas Philharmonic classic feature, we'll perform stirring music drawn from Celtic traditions with all the power and color of a symphony orchestra. Special guests include Robert Frankenberry, the Celtic Eagle Pipe Band, and Tina Bergman and Bryan Thomas.

APRIL 23—A COMMUNITY CONCERT

Firmly establishing our role as *this* community's orchestra, we'll bring back the honors band of the best band students around to perform challenging music, including a piece by John Mackey, composer originally from New Philadelphia.

Then the adult chorus will take the stage, along with pianist Jerry Wong, to perform two works that celebrate the power of music—Vaughan Williams' *Serenade to Music* and Beethoven's *Choral Fantasy*.

JUNE 4—CLASSIC COUNTRY

More local talent in what has become a Philharmonic tradition—country music all dressed up for a Saturday night, but not forgetting its roots.

- Elizabeth and Jon Estes • Reb Robinson
- Jacob Stockdale • One Night Stand Band

Save the dates for our 2015-16 season.
You won't want to miss a single performance.

FRANC D'AMBROSIO AUDITION!

An incredible opportunity

The Philharmonic, in collaboration with the Performing Arts Center, is offering an unprecedented audition opportunity for aspiring area performers to receive coaching from and perform with an international star.

The Philharmonic's June 6 concert features Franc D'Ambrosio – the academy-award nominated singer and actor best known as “World's Longest Running Phantom.” He will be conducting a masterclass prior to his own performance on Thursday, June 4; and will choose one male and one female winner from a group of finalists, to be coached by him and to perform the duet “All I Ask of You” from *Phantom of the Opera* on the Philharmonic concert.

Preliminary auditions will be open to high school students now completing their sophomore year through age 26. Performers should be prepared to sing from a Broadway show (not from *Phantom of the Opera*). D'Ambrosio is as at home working with opera singers as he is musical theatre singers, so performers more comfortable in that medium may sing from an opera or operetta. Participants will not need to bring an accompanist.

From these auditions, a panel of judges will select 3 male and 3 female finalists who will sing again at the masterclass for Franc D'Ambrosio. At the end of the masterclass, he will announce the duet pair that will perform on the concert.

There is no fee to register, and all those who audition will be eligible to attend the masterclass with Franc D'Ambrosio, whether or not chosen as a finalist.

Tentative plans are for an afternoon audition time on Tuesday, May 26 and an evening audition Thursday, May 28. Applicants must also be available Thursday evening, June 4; Friday evening, June 5; and Saturday afternoon and evening, June 6, in the event they are chosen. Watch our website and Facebook for finalized details.



1

Pre-register by sending an email to: mwinn@roadrunner.com. The email must have “Audition” as the subject line; and the body should include your name, age, gender, school if applicable, mailing address, and phone. Please, check your email regularly for updates and information.

2

Register officially online—follow the links on our website.
www.TuscarawasPhilharmonic.org



SOLD!

The 2015 Online Auction Sets A Record

Our 2015 online auction held in April set a record, earning the Tuscarawas Philharmonic approximately \$5,700! Thank you all for taking the time to point, click and bid in order to support the orchestra and choruses in our annual fund-raising event.

We sold everything from antiques to furniture to jewelry to weekend get-aways. Some of the top items won include a set of vintage rings, stays at Salt Fork Lodge and Spread Eagle Tavern, Cleveland Indians tickets and high-end kitchen items.

Congratulations to all the winners. We hope you'll enjoy your items and hope to see you at our next fund-raising event.



Performing Arts Camp A Full House

The Tuscarawas Philharmonic Performing Arts Camp registrations have been collected, and we're expecting more than 80 young musicians to take the Kent State Tuscarawas Performing Arts Center by storm the week of June 15-18.

Students will rehearse under the direction of Eric Benjamin each day, and they'll break out into sectionals throughout the facility. Select faculty providing instrument instruction will include Dr. Elaine Anderson, Mary Bontrager, Mary Cooper, Lindsey Nicholson, Bohdan Subchak and Cornel Zotta during the morning string section. Juli Arnett, Lindsey Nicholson, Chris Redd, Steven Stroup and Joan Wenzel will provide instruction during the afternoon band session.

One mother of a string player wrote, "When I asked our son if he was interested in the camp, there was no hesitation—only an exuberant YES!!" We're sure that enthusiasm reflects the excitement of everyone involved.

All groups will combine on Thursday evening June 18 for a free performance on stage.

Become Part of the Philharmonic Family

LET'S BE FRANK: Our performance season is wrapping up, but our expenses and fiscal year extend through the summer. Consider contributing to the Philharmonic, helping us to remain one of those rare gems—an orchestra that operates in the black.

Contribute online in just a few easy and secure steps, or make your donation by mail (address below). Please consider being a part of the Philharmonic family. It is truly a community treasure—www.TuscarawasPhilharmonic.org.

Contribution Levels

Premier Circle	\$5,000 & up
Guarantor.....	\$2,000-\$4,999
Benefactor	\$1,000-\$1,999
Sustaining	\$800-\$999
President's Circle	\$500-\$799
Conductor's Circle	\$300-\$499
Maintaining	\$150-\$299
Sponsoring.....	\$100-\$199
Contributing.....	\$50-\$99
Donor	\$25-\$49

Sponsorship Levels

Co-Sponsor	\$500-\$999
Sponsor.....	\$1,000-\$1,999
Guarantor.....	\$2,000 or more

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