

## State of the Art | September 2020

## About our Sponsors

Tuscarawas Philharmonic appreciates the ongoing support of our patrons and sponsors.

This concert is made possible through generous contributions from:

- ProVia
- The Shirley Wagner Family
- Chevron
- The Culpepper Family
- Progressive
- Dover Chemical
- Steve and Becky Mastin
- Tuscarawas Community Foundation
- Ohio Arts Council
- Reeves Foundation

Thank you for enabling us to provide the highest quality music and music education to the citizens of Tuscarawas County and beyond!

## Coming in October

Mark your calendars and join Tuscarawas Philharmonic on Saturday, October 3rd at 7:30 p.m. for our online performance of Camille Saint-Saëns whimsical 1886 suite, "Carnival of the Animals." Maestro Eric will lead the ten-piece orchestra (plus narrator) on a delightful romp through multiple short movements, each representing a different animal or animals. More fun than a trip to the zoo, this performance has the benefit of being socially-distanced too! You can view this mini-concert on our website

([www.tuscarawasphilharmonic.org](http://www.tuscarawasphilharmonic.org)) or Facebook page ([facebook.com/TuscarawasPhilharmonic](https://facebook.com/TuscarawasPhilharmonic)). See you in October!



## Lemons to Lemonade...

So here we are, devotees of an art form that is so much about traditions, rich treasures of the past and performance protocols, and we find ourselves in a cultural moment that undermines those traditional foundations and renders the protocols superfluous. What do we do?

We do what we can – striving for creative solutions as we head for the rims of the box in order to spring out of it and do some thinking there.

Okay, so smaller orchestras...actually, there is a lot of music for ensembles of twelve players or fewer that are intriguing works that might have been neglected in favor of the bells and whistles produced by large ensembles. So, we now have an opportunity to explore some of these. (With apologies to those who won't get to play in the reduced-sized groups. I will be thinking of you, rest assured.)

I am still pulling together ideas for later in the season, but for Labor Day, the Tuscarawas Philharmonic will present an online production of two rags by Scott Joplin ("The Easy Winners" and "Maple Leaf Rag") in the historic editions by my mentor Gunther Schuller. The program will also include an adaptation of the gorgeous "Intermezzo Sinfonico" by

## Education Corner



Tuscarawas Philharmonic is pleased to partner with Tuscarawas County music teachers to provide this season's performances as an online venue for classroom learning. For our Labor Day performance, Maestro Eric will introduce students to orchestral instruments, the concepts of form and rhythm, and the role of the conductor.

These video performances are designed for teachers to use whole, in part, or in conjunction with the orchestra's grant-funded "LinkUp" education program. We are proud to play this important role in music education for Tuscarawas County!

Pietro Mascagni. Our somewhat truncated 85th season is going to be entitled "Intermezzo" so it seemed fitting that we include this wistful lyrical work on this brief program – a gift to all Tuscaffiliates and a signal that we're still alive and kicking.

More information on my repertoire selections is coming soon, but until then, best wishes for everyone's health and happiness.

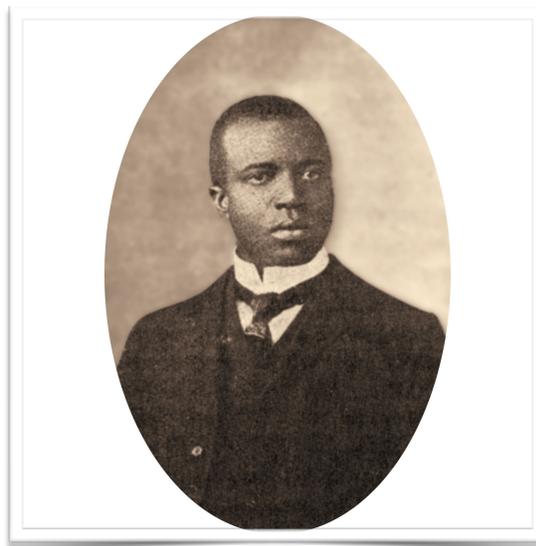
Eric

### The Power of Perseverance...

Imagine a warm late summer evening at Tuscora Park. The kiddie rides are operating. The concession stand is selling hot dogs, ice cream, and sodas. Musicians are arriving at the band shell and tuning their instruments in glorious cacophony. Patrons are finding their seats on benches that line the hillside. Cicadas add their own song. Maestro Benjamin steps onto the podium and the concert begins with the cherished sounds of our National Anthem. Not only is this annual event a long-standing tradition, it's the beginning of a new concert season for Tuscarawas Philharmonic.

But, this season is different from any other. Amidst concern for public health and safety, Tuscarawas Philharmonic has chosen to label this our "Intermezzo" season, a light, pleasant interlude bridging our rich history to our landmark 85th season originally slated for this year. Music is a powerful force in trying times and never has everyone

needed the solace of music more than now. As such, our season opener pays tribute to the connection between music and the American worker...



The concept of a national holiday saluting the contribution of workers dates back over a century. The first Labor Day recognition occurred on September 5, 1882 in New York City. While there are conflicting theories regarding the holiday's origin, several authorities speculate Labor Day arose at the suggestion of Peter J. McGuire, Vice-President of the American Federation of Labor. The first celebration consisted of a New York street parade to recognize organized labor's solidarity and strength, followed by a picnic and a well-earned day off from work. Several other states quickly followed suit, but Labor Day was not declared a national holiday until 1894, under the pen of President Grover Cleveland. Music, marching bands, and orchestra concerts have been important contributions to Labor Day festivities since the holiday's inception.

For the opening performance of our "Intermezzo" season, Tuscarawas Philharmonic presents music from the iconic American composer, Scott Joplin. As a working musician, teacher, and composer present at the birth of this national holiday, Joplin's music speaks to and for the American people – the men and women who persevere to keep our country running.

We hope you will join the Tuscarawas Philharmonic on the weekend of September 5th and 6th for a virtual performance celebrating our nation and its workers. Our "mini-concert" can be viewed on the orchestra's website ([www.tuscarawasphilharmonic.org](http://www.tuscarawasphilharmonic.org)) or Facebook page ([facebook.com/TuscarawasPhilharmonic](https://facebook.com/TuscarawasPhilharmonic)). We too believe in the power of perseverance and the necessity of music – now more than ever...

