

July 20, 2017 Contact: Lenore Eggleston, (914) 682-3707 ext. 15 leggleston@westchesterphil.org

Philharmonic Brass Quintet Performs August 18 at Music in the Park Series at Lasdon Park

Summer concert originally scheduled for July 14 was postponed due to weather

(Katonah, New York) — On **Friday, August 18** members of the **Westchester Philharmonic Brass Quintet** brings classical favorites, jazz standards, popular hits and more to the picturesque park as park of the Music in the Park Series supported by the Friends of Lasdon Park, Arboretum and Veterans Memorial. Led by Phil **Trumpeter Wayne DuMaine**, the event is the perfect musical experience for all ages; concert-goers should plan on lawn seating and bring their own blankets or lawn chairs.

Food and beverages, including beer, wine, pretzels and hot dogs will be available for purchase. **Gates open at 5 pm. Music is 7 pm.**

Admission is \$10 per person for all ages. \$25 VIP tables are available for sale 48 hours in advance. General admission sales will be at the door only; no pre-sales. Payment can be made by cash or credit card. For more information go to LasdonPark.org

The event will be cancelled in case of inclement weather. Go visit <u>LasdonPark.org</u> or call (914) 864-7268 for updates and information. Lasdon Park, Arboretum, and Veterans Memorial, a Westchester County Park, is located on Route 35 in Somers. (GPS 2610 Amawalk Rd., Katonah.)

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About the Westchester Philharmonic

Beginning its 35th season, the Westchester Philharmonic is the oldest, continuously running professional symphony orchestra and largest performing arts organization of any kind in Westchester County. The Philharmonic's main stage concert series makes its home at the 1,300 seat Concert Hall at the Purchase Performing Arts Center, with outdoor concerts, chamber concerts, children's programs, and special events throughout the area, attracting savvy music-lovers from Rockland, Bergen, Fairfield, and Putnam counties, New York City, and beyond.

Founded in 1983 as the New Orchestra of Westchester under the leadership of Music Director Paul Lustig Dunkel (who became Music Director Emeritus in 2008), the orchestra was later renamed the Westchester Philharmonic. Renowned artists who have performed with the Phil include Joshua Bell, Jeremy Denk, Branford Marsalis, Midori, Garrick Ohlsson, Itzhak Perlman, Nadja Salerno-Sonnenberg, Gil Shaham, Isaac Stern, and André Watts. The Philharmonic is proudly led by two principal conductors: renowned violinist Jaime Laredo and Tony-award winning music director, Ted Sperling.

Among the many new works commissioned and premiered by the Westchester Philharmonic is Melinda Wagner's Concerto for Flute, Strings and Percussion, which won the Pulitzer Prize in 1999. A new commission by David Ludwig debuted during the 2016-17 season.

The Westchester Philharmonic has a rich history of supporting artists of diverse backgrounds and is setting a new standard for how mid-size regional symphony orchestras can have an impact on the face of classical music. Many of the composers whose works have been commissioned or premiered with the Philharmonic come from diverse backgrounds and/or are women. In fact, in just the past eight seasons the Phil has engaged 27 conductors or guest soloists of African-American, Hispanic, and Asian backgrounds. Women conductors and composers have appeared in seven of the last ten seasons.

The orchestra's award-winning education program reaches thousands of elementary school students each year and culminates in a full orchestra concert. The Phil also partners with local organizations to present free and low-cost chamber concerts, as well as to provide subsidized seating at main stage concerts, welcoming hundreds of area residents each year who might not otherwise have an opportunity to attend.

The orchestra is comprised of the finest professional free-lance musicians from around the greater metropolitan area, who also perform regularly with the New York City Ballet, Orchestra St. Luke's, Orpheus, Mostly Mozart, and for many Broadway shows. Members of the Phil hold faculty positions at Juilliard, Mannes, Manhattan School of Music, Purchase Conservatory, Vassar and Bard Colleges, and at local public schools.

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