Westchester Philharmonic

Jaime Laredo, Principal Conductor • Ted Sperling, Principal Conductor

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**
October 27, 2015

**Contact:** Lenore Eggleston 914-682-3707 ext. 15
leggleston@westchesterphil.org

westchesterphil.org

*Photos available upon request.*

---

# Westchester Philharmonic's Annual *Winter Pops!* to Feature Broadway's *Mary Poppins* star Ashley Brown

*Conductor Ted Sperling leads concert of Broadway hits plus*
Bernstein's *Times Square* and George Gershwin's *Rhapsody in Blue*

(Purchase, New York) — On **December 20, 2015 at 3 pm** the Westchester Philharmonic and one of Broadways brightest stars will light up the Concert Hall at the Purchase Performing Arts Center with its annual ***Winter Pops!*** A sold-out seasonal favorite since its introduction nine years ago *Winter Pops!*, led by **Principal Conductor Ted Sperling,** this year features the orchestra joined by **singer Ashley Brown**, who originated the title role in *Mary Poppins* on Broadway receiving Outer Critics, Drama League, and Drama Desk nominations for Best Actress. Ms. Brown has performed with virtually all of the top orchestras in North America including the Boston Pops and the New York Philharmonic and her other Broadway credits include Belle in *Beauty and The Beast*. Her performances have been described by critics as "golden throated" (*Time Our Chicago*) and having "perfect pitch" (*Chicago Tribune*) and *Showbiz Chicago* called her "the most versatile and noteworthy young talent on the Broadway stages."

Ashley Brown's memorable stylings of American songbook standards and holiday favorites will be interspersed with Ted Sperling's favorite classical highlights, including Bernstein's *Times Square* and George Gershwin's jazz-age masterpiece *Rhapsody in Blue*, performed by dazzling Juilliard prodigy **pianist Joseph Mohan**.

Ted Sperling, who is beginning his second season as Principal Conductor of the Westchester Philharmonic recently led a New York Philharmonic production of *Show Boat* for PBS featuring an all-star cast led by Vanessa Williams. He is also Artistic Director of MasterVoices (formerly The Collegiate Chorale) and Music Director & Conductor for *The King and I* on Broadway at Lincoln Center.

Audiences can keep the holiday fun going at our popular *Pops After-Party!* Mingle with Ted Sperling, Ashley Brown and orchestra musicians while enjoying more live music, scrumptious hors d'oeuvres and a wine tasting with Aries Fine Wines & Spirits. Early reservations are a must! Only $25 with a Pops ticket purchase.

## General Information and Tickets

The performance will take place in The Concert Hall at The Performing Arts Center, Purchase College, 735 Anderson Hill Road, Purchase, New York. 4-concert subscriptions are available from $394-$98. Single tickets range from $30-$97. After-Party tickets are $25. Student/child/group discounts are also available. Call the Westchester Philharmonic Box Office at (914) 682-3707 ext. 10 or visit westchesterphil.org. Visa, MasterCard, American Express, Discover Card accepted.

## About the Westchester Philharmonic

Now in its 33rd 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.

In November 2013 the Philharmonic proudly announced the concurrent appointments of Jaime Laredo and Ted Sperling as the orchestra's Principal Conductors, commencing with the current 2014-15 season.

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 re-named 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.

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 Christopher Theofanidis is scheduled for debut during the 2015 – 2016 season.

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.

*This season is made possible with public funds from the **New York State Council on the Arts** with the support of Governor Andrew Cuomo and the New York State Legislature.*
*This season is also made possible, in part, by **ArtsWestchester** with funds from Westchester County Government.*

###

Westchester Philharmonic

## The 2015-16 Season Continues

**December 20, 2015**

**Ted Sperling, conducting**
**Ashley Brown, vocals**
**Joe Mohan, piano**

***Winter Pops!***

*Post-concert After-Party with the stars.*

**February 7, 2016**

**Ted Sperling, conducting**
**Dawn Upshaw, soprano**

***The Phil's Friends & Family Concert***

Mozart: Overture to *The Marriage of Figaro*
Golijov: Three Songs
Mendelssohn: Octet for orchestra

*Pre-concert instrument "petting zoo". Kids 17 and under attend concert free.*

**April 17, 2016**

**Jaime Laredo, conductor and violin**

***Eternal Spring***

Vivaldi: Concerto Grosso in D Minor (Op. 3, No. 11, RV 565)
Mozart: Violin Concerto No. 3
Corigliano: *Voyage*
Stravinsky: Pulcinella Suite

**June 19, 2016**

**Kazem Abdullah, conducting**
**Alon Goldstein, piano**

***Burgers, Beers, and Brahms***

Falla: *El amor brujo*: Ritual Fire Dance
Mozart: Symphony No. 41 ("Jupiter")
Brahms: Piano Concerto No. 1

*Post-concert Father's Day Barbeque: Burgers, Beers & Brahms*

**4 and 5-Concert subscriptions:** $394-$98
**Single tickets:** $97-$30

**Tickets:** (914) 682-3707 or westchesterphil.org

**Concerts are presented at:**
The Concert Hall
The Performing Arts Center Purchase College
735 Anderson Hill Road, Purchase, NY