

# *Mechanics Hall*

*Where Community and Culture Meet*

## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **For Immediate Release**

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### **Mechanics Hall presents Pakachoag Music School faculty in fall celebration concert**

*Program includes world premiere of new work by Leonardo Ciampa for flute, trumpet, and organ*

Worcester, MA — September 28, 2023 — Mechanics Hall teams up with the faculty of [Pakachoag Music School of Greater Worcester](#) to present "When the Leaves are Drifting," a concert celebrating the fall season on **Sunday, October 8 at 4:00 p.m.** The program includes music from three centuries, ranging from Tchaikovsky and Johannes Brahms to the Great American Songbook. Among the works performed will be several by female composers and a new piece composed by Mr. Ciampa, titled "Wenn die Blätter treiben" ("When the Leaves are Drifting"), Mr. Ciampa's world-premiere composition for flute, trumpet, and organ, was inspired by "Herbsttag" ("Autumn Day"), a poem by Austrian writer Rainer Maria Rilke. Tickets are \$20 for adults, \$15 for seniors, and free for children age 12 and under. Tickets can be purchased at [mechanicshall.org](http://mechanicshall.org). Mechanics Hall is located at 321 Main Street in Worcester.

Performers from the Pakachoag Music School faculty include flutist [Jung-Yi Alice Hsieh Daugherty](#), trumpeter [Scott Daugherty](#), vocalist [Brenda Lau](#), and [Kristjon Imperio](#). Mr. Imperio and Leonardo Ciampa will each play both piano and organ. "When the Leaves are Drifting" is the first in a series, [Music for a Great Hall](#), which will include four concerts throughout the year. The series is a celebration of the wide variety of great music from the past and present, performed by accomplished performers from Worcester and beyond. Mr. Ciampa, who was Composer-in-Residence at Mechanics Hall from 2021 to 2023, is artistic director for the series.

Future concerts include "Third Annual Christmas at Mechanics," December 17, 2023 at 4:00pm; "Italian Opera," February 13, 2024 at 7:30 p.m.; and "Concert in Celebration of Juneteenth," June 15, 2024 at 7:30pm.



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A season pass for all four shows can be purchased at a discount until October 8. Visit [mechanicshall.org](http://mechanicshall.org) for tickets.

The accessible entrance to Mechanics Hall is located on Waldo Street. Elevators are available in the ground-floor Waldo lobby and provide access to the second and third floors. There is no elevator access to the balcony. The concert will take place in the Great Hall on the third level. Those who need assistance can contact the Mechanics Hall Ticket Office, Monday through Friday from 9:30am to 4:30pm, by calling 508-752-5608.

## **About Leonardo Ciampa**

Composer, organist, and pianist Leonardo Ciampa is a virtuoso musician of international renown. A native of Boston, he served as Mechanics Hall Composer-in-Residence from 2021 to 2023 and is the Artistic Director for the 2023/24 concert series *Music for a Great Hall*. In addition, he has served as Director of Music at Emanuel Lutheran Church in Worcester, Massachusetts, since 2019 and as Maestro di Cappella Onorario of the Basilica in Gubbio, Italy, since 2015. He was artistic director of organ concerts at MIT from 2009 to 2016 and founding director of Arts MetroWest from 2012 to 2019. As an organ recitalist, Ciampa has made over a dozen European tours encompassing Italy, Austria, Germany, and Switzerland. He is particularly admired in Italy, where he has played in numerous international festivals, including Festival Perosiano, Festival Biellese, Organi Storici della Valsesia, Le Voci della Città, Festival Organistico Lauretano, Organi Vespera, and Reate Festival. He has given organ recitals at cathedrals in Vienna, New York City, Boston, Lucca, Altenberg, Brandenburg, Tortona and Biella; at basilicas in Rome, Turin, Loreto, Tortona, Gubbio, Assisi, and Rieti; and at abbeys in Dürnstein and Camaiore. [Learn more about Leonardo Ciampa.](#)

## **About Jung-Yi Alice Hsieh Daugherty**

Born in Taipei, Taiwan, [Jung-Yi Alice Hsieh Daugherty](#) is an award-winning flutist. Ms. Daugherty won first prize in several international competitions including the Taipei Music Competition, the Jui-Shin Music Competition, and the Sun Yat-Sen University Concerto competition. Additionally, she was a finalist in the



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2009 Koussevitzky Young Artist Award and a Prize Winner of the 2011 Alexander & Buono International Flute Competition. Ms. Daugherty's musical abilities allowed her to earn a scholarship to attend the National Sun Yat-Sen University where she received a Bachelor of Arts Degree and was Principal Flute of the orchestra for four consecutive years. Ms. Daugherty later earned a Master of Music Degree and Professional Studies Diploma from Mannes College the New School for Music in New York City where she received a scholarship and studied with Judith Mendenhall, Principal Flute of the American Ballet Theater.

## **About Scott Daugherty**

[Scott Daugherty](#) is a passionate performing musician and educator, who has played on Broadway and with the Albany Symphony Orchestra. In 2008, Mr. Daugherty was awarded the honor of the James E. Hughes, Sr. Memorial Award for Performance from Mannes College of Music. He has performed several engagements at Carnegie Hall and Avery Fisher Hall in New York City and has performed in Symphony Hall in Boston. Mr. Daugherty has focused on classical music in recent years, though he grew up primarily playing jazz and keeps it an active part of his playing. Mr. Daugherty is currently a Doctor of Musical Arts candidate at Stony Brook University, studying with American Brass Quintet Member Kevin Cobb. His former teachers include Mr. Vincent Penzarella of the New York Philharmonic and Mr. Eric Berlin of the Boston Philharmonic and Albany Symphony. He has also studied with Thomas Smith of the New York Philharmonic and Raymond Riccomini of the Metropolitan Opera Orchestra. Mr. Daugherty joined the Pakachoag Music School faculty in September 2013.

## **About Brenda Lau**

[Brenda Lau](#) is a Chinese-Panamanian singer/songwriter based in Worcester, Massachusetts. She won the latest Panamanian version of American Idol, *Vive la Musica 2010* (Batalla de las Estrellas). In 2020 she graduated from Berklee College of Music majoring Songwriting and Composition. Ms. Lau performed the National Anthem for the Boston Bruins during the 2018-2019 season, following the retirement of local legend Rene Rancourt, who sang the anthem for the Bruins for 42 years. Now, she works on the voice faculty for Pakachoag Music School of Greater Worcester and for Apple Tree Arts in Grafton, as well as a music teacher for K-8 in Webster.



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## **About Kristjon Imperio**

[Kristjon Imperio](#) serves as the Pakachoag Music School's Director of Programs and Community Engagement. An experienced pianist, organist, teacher, chamber musician, and music administrator, he performs extensively as a collaborative pianist and organ recitalist throughout New England. A highly sought-after coach and instructor, he has served as a piano, choral, and chamber ensemble clinician for numerous institutions, including Fitchburg State University, Thayer Performing Arts Center, the QX Chamber Music Institute, and Atlantic Union Conference of Seventh-day Adventists. Mr. Imperio founded the Bolton Philharmonic Society, Inc. in 2008 and served as artistic director of the organization's four community choral and instrumental ensembles until his retirement in 2016. During his eight years with the Philharmonic, he managed and conducted over 30 performances of major works by Vivaldi, Haydn, Mozart, Chopin, Dvorak, Vierne, Durufle, Vaughan Williams, Hindemith, Barber, and Rutter. He is also co-founder of Imperio in Stereo, a piano duo formed alongside his father, Roy Imperio, and which premiered at Mechanics Hall in 2018.

## **About the Pakachoag Music School**

Pakachoag Music School of Greater Worcester was founded in 1982 by Pakachoag Church in Auburn as the Pakachoag Community Music School. The School was created in response to cutbacks in funding for public school music programs as an outreach mission. Programming included music lessons, early childhood music classes, and musical theater programming, as it does today. In 1989, the school became independently incorporated and convened its own Board of Directors. In 2018, the School moved to All Saints Church in Worcester. Partner based programming offered off-site through [the Music Matters program](#) allows the School to reach families without the resources to participate in our traditional tuition-based programs. In addition, [Financial Aid](#) offers families of low-income the opportunity to sign on for tuition programs with financial support provided by the School. Learn more at [pakmusic.org](http://pakmusic.org).

## **About Mechanics Hall**

Built in 1857 by WCMA, Mechanics Hall is internationally regarded as one of the world's great concert halls for its superb acoustics and 19<sup>th</sup>-century elegance. Regionally, it is widely considered to be Worcester's finest meeting place. The world's most renowned orchestras and performers—from the London Philharmonic to Yo-Yo Ma and Ella Fitzgerald to Linda Rondstat—have taken the Hall's stage. Among the many luminaries who



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have spoken at Mechanics Hall are Charles Dickens, Susan B. Anthony, Frederick Douglass, and Mark Twain. In addition to serving as a premiere venue and recording site, Mechanics Hall offers inspiring cultural experiences for diverse audiences through a variety of creative initiatives—including free concerts, community events, a youth chorus, and collaborative programs with local colleges and non-profit organizations.

A non-profit organization, Mechanics Hall is owned and operated by the Worcester County Mechanics Association (est. 1842). It is listed in the National Register of Historic Places. Learn more at [mechanicshall.org](http://mechanicshall.org).

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