



DR. NANCIA DALIMONTE, MUSIC DIRECTOR & CONDUCTOR

Dear Friends of NIH Philharmonia,

It's hard to believe NIH Philharmonia is starting its 22nd season, where has the time gone?! Every summer, I take time to prepare the next season's repertoire, and I also reflect on all the countless hours of preparation from every member of this organization to accomplish all aspects of our concerts, which have resulted in memorable evenings for our adoring fans, both seasoned and new. Many concertgoers offer their impressions from their experience with NIH Philharmonia, and these have been collected over the years and can be found on the home page of our website, www.nihPHIL.org. I hope you will take a moment to go and enjoy reading about our past triumphs.

As always, we are honored to be one of the many cultural gems in Montgomery County to present our innovative, professional-quality performances, and programs. Our first concert in October is called "From the Dark Into the Light" which refers to either the story, or the sentiment or the music itself, with ominous dark beginnings, then moving into the light.

All our concerts will be varied, as usual, to accommodate the musical tastes of our ever-expanding audience. Our season is filled with other notable performances, including "Tempting Fate" with music by Bizet, *Carmen Suites* and Tchaikovsky's powerful *Symphony No.4*. In February, the concert will be an all-German concert, with music by Beethoven (*German Dances*), Brahms (*Symphony No.4*), and featuring our favorite pianist, Matthew Van Hoose, performing Schumann's *Piano Concerto in A minor*. Our April concert is fittingly called, "Spring has Spring" showcasing Offenbach's *Intermezzo and Bachannale from the Tales of Hoffman*, Debussy's *L'apres midi d'une faune* (Afternoon of a Faun), and Dvorak's joyous *Symphony No.8*. Please join us!

Last year, we were delighted to once again perform before large crowds and share the wide variety of music we had prepared. We continue this season with that same spirit of providing innovative concerts in our unique and intimate setting at St. Elizabeth, to which we are forever grateful for their support, to enthrall our audiences. This orchestra, like any other organization, isn't possible without the tireless work by many, and I am grateful to everyone for the role they play in helping to make NIH Philharmonia the incredible orchestra it is.

In a time when life is fast and tumultuous, music is an essential salve to all, whether we are performing or listening to it. My favorite quote by Plato, "Music gives a soul to the universe, wings to the mind, flight to the imagination, and life to everything." I hope you will come see and hear for yourself what makes NIH Philharmonia so extraordinary.

Nancia DALimonte
Music Director