

The *Hawthorne Symphony* was organized by John Minkoff in Summer 2000. It is a fully professional group, composed of top-level musicians from the tri-state area, that routinely performs with soloists from Juilliard, The Metropolitan Opera, and The Manhattan School of Music.



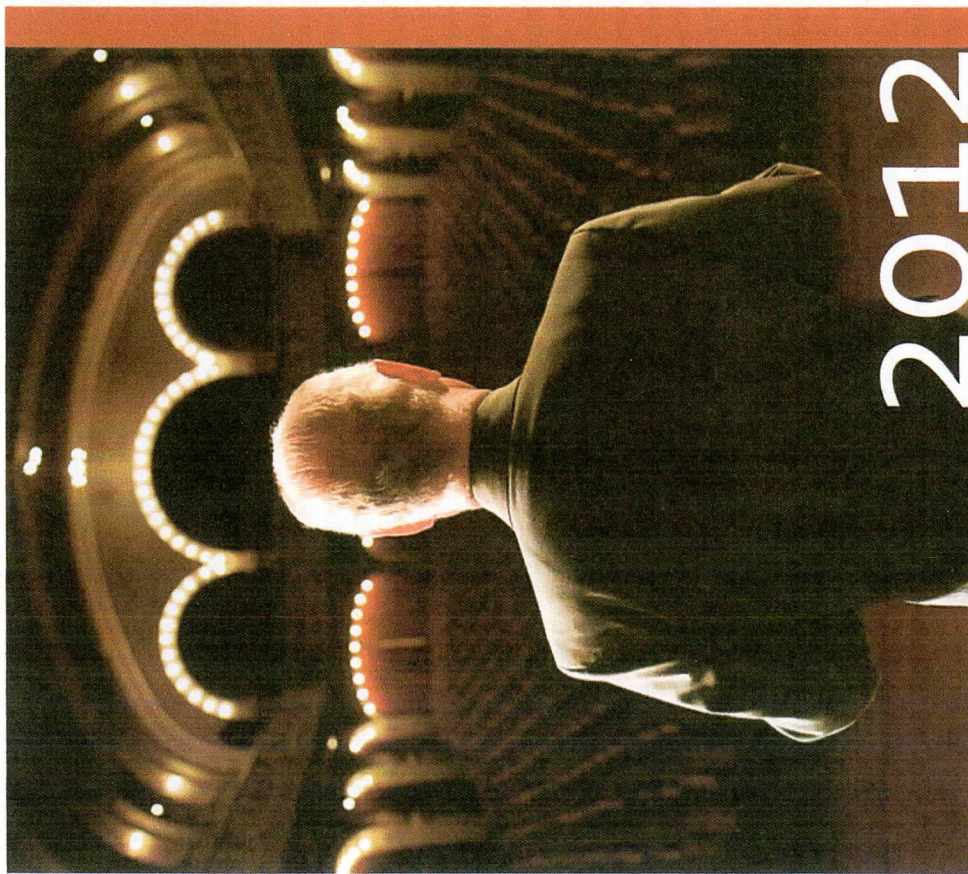
The orchestra has 501 C3 status as a non-profit, and all donations are tax deductible and most welcome!

John Minkoff (Conductor) As Conductor and Director of The Hawthorne Symphony Orchestra, **John Minkoff** of Englewood, NJ, has studied composition and conducting at the Hochschule fur Musik in Berlin Germany and at Columbia University, while getting a Ph.D. in Electrical Engineering. A research associate at Columbia University, member of the technical staff at the ATT Bell Telephone Labs, and Adjunct Professor of Applied Mathematics at New York University, Maestro Minkoff also holds a BS in music from The Juilliard School. He has conducted *The Magic Flute*, *Un Ballo in Maschera*, *Der Freischutz*, *Die Walküre*, *Götterdämmerung*, and *Fidelio*, among others. As Guest Conductor with the New Jersey Association of Verismo Opera, he conducted opera performances with Metropolitan Opera singers Lucine Amara and Russell Christopher. Most recently he worked with Alison Bolshoi, a favorite in Prague, Czech Republic, and Metropolitan Opera and Seattle Opera star Adam Klein, who sang the lead roles in a concert version of *Fidelio* with The Hawthorne Symphony in their February 2011 concert.

Join us
For Our Spring Concert:

June 10, 3:00 pm
The Louis Bay 2nd Library
Hawthorne, New Jersey

For more information check out our website at
www.hawthornesymphony.org



The Hawthorne Symphony Orchestra
Winter Concert

Sunday, February 19 • 3:00pm
The Berrie Auditorium
Ramapo College

Bios

Ashley Bell (Violetta) has performed as a soloist in the USA and Europe. Recent performances include Adina in Divaria Productions' L'Elisir D'Amore, Molpe in Choro Teatro Company's the *Odyssey* at the 92nd Street Y, soloist at Trinity College Chapel under the direction of organist John Rose and Annina and Violetta (cover) in Long Island Opera's *La Traviata*. Ms. Bell has worked with Opera du Périgord, Teatro Sociale in Brescia, Italy, and the International Institute of Vocal Arts in Chiari. Ms. Bell is a Phi Beta Kappa graduate of Yale University with distinction in Italian and International Studies.

Edwin Santayana (Alfredo) is the Music Director of both the church choir of the Ramakrishna-Vivekananda Center, and the New York Madrigal Ensemble. A graduate of the University of the Philippines Conservatory of Music, he was a member of the prestigious Philippine Madrigal Singers. Edwin is a member of the National Chorale, and has been a tenor soloist for Mozart's Requiem, Bach's Mass in B-minor, Haydn's St. Cecilia Mass, Dvorak's Mass in D, Saint-Saens' Christmas Oratorio, Verdi's *Un Ballo in Maschera*, and many Hawthorne Symphony concerts.

Donald Boos (Germont) has appeared as a featured artist with many NY/NJ groups including: Coro Lirico, Central Jersey Symphony Orchestra, the Choral Arts Society of New Jersey, NJ State Opera, Bel Canto Opera, and Dell'Arte Opera Ensemble. He has sung Schaudard in *La Bohème*, Scarpia in *Tosca*, and Masetto in *Don Giovanni*, with NJ State Opera. Last year he sang the role of Sharpless in *Madama Butterfly*. In May he sang Mozart's *Requiem* and Haydn's *Theresienmesse* with Summit Chorale, and in December in Handel's *Messiah* with the Civic Chorale of Greater Miami. This spring, Mr. Boos will sing Don Carlo in *La Forza del Destino* with the NJ State Opera.

Tamara Cashour (Flora/Annina) is delighted to return to the Hawthorne Symphony as Flora and Annina in *La Traviata*, having made her debut here in 2002 in a concert of Verdi and von Weber arias. Tamara primarily works as a Collaborative Pianist-Music Director-Organist-Composer, and is on the Instrumental Accompanying Faculty at William Paterson University. She is also music director for The Footlight Players of Long Island, currently producing Verdi's *Rigoletto*, and has conducted Adam Guettel's *The Light in the Piazza* at South Orange Performing Arts Center.

Greg Voinier (Barone) is a graduate of Montclair State University with a degree in Music Education. This concert marks his first professional role. He performed in numerous operas at the university such as Reverend Baines in *Elmer Gantry*, Il Collonello in *Il Govedi Grasso*, Nardo in *La Finta Sgarbina*, and Germano in *La Scala di Seta*. He was a guest soloist for the Ensemble Salmoni Rossi from Milan, Italy, as well as singing "Libera Me" from Fauré's *Requiem*.

La Traviata synopsis

La Traviata is an opera in three acts by Giuseppe Verdi, set to an Italian libretto by Francesco Maria Piave. It is based on *La Dame aux Camélias* by Alexandre Dumas. We know it today as the tragic story of *Camille*. This afternoon we hear Acts I and II.

Act I

Violetta Valéry throws a lavish party to celebrate her recovery from an illness. Gastone introduces her to Alfredo Germont, and tells her of Alfredo's love for her. (Her current lover is the Barone.) She and Alfredo sing the drinking song, *Libiamo*, and then in a private moment, Alfredo tells her of his love for her and his concern for her health. Alone, she wonders if this is her Mr. Right, *Ah forsé lui*, but decides she needs freedom to live her life (*Sempre libera*). Alfredo can be heard singing about love as he walks down the street. (*Intermission*)

Act II

Violetta and Alfredo are living in a lavish country estate, but when the maid Annina tells him that Violetta has sold all her possessions to afford it, Alfredo goes to Paris to settle matters himself. Violetta enters and reads an invitation she has received to her friend Flora's party in Paris that night. Alfredo's father, Giorgio Germont, is announced and enters, immediately asking Violetta to end the scandalous affair with his son before their family is ruined, and his innocent daughter's engagement is canceled. Violetta finally agrees and writes a letter to Alfredo that they cannot see each other again. But before she can leave he arrives, and she professes her love for him. She then leaves for Paris. Alfredo finds her letter, believing the Baron is behind her ending their affair. His father enters and tries to stop him, but Alfredo rushes to the party to confront Violetta, where at the end of the night he disgraces her by throwing his gambling winnings at her feet and denouncing her. She falls to the floor and turns to Alfredo: *Alfredo, Alfredo, di questo core non puoi comprendere tutto l'amore* – "Alfredo, Alfredo, you cannot imagine the love in my heart for you."

