

While Santa is busy making his list and checking it twice, your Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra has put together a holiday season filled with sugar and spice and everything nice, with seasonal offerings for every musical taste! Kleinhans Music Hall is the place to be for memory-making with the entire family this holiday season.

Come Home to Your BPO for the Holidays

Nobody spreads Christmas cheer quite like Buddy the Elf! **Dec. 3** at 7:30 p.m., CineConcerts and Warner Bros. Themed Entertainment bring the timeless holiday classic, *Elf*, to Kleinhans Music Hall, part of the BPO Film series sponsored by Keybank. This world-premiere performance will feature your BPO performing every note from John Debney's (The Passion of the Christ, Iron Man 2, The Jungle Book, Hocus Pocus) heartwarming score, which he conducts while the entire film is projected on a 40-foot HD screen. Directed by Jon Favreau (The Lion King, The Mandalorian, Rudy, Iron Man, Iron Man 2) and starring Will Ferrell, the film is considered by many to be one of the best holiday movies of all time. In *Elf*, Buddy is accidentally transported to the North Pole as a toddler and raised to adulthood among Santa's elves. Unable to shake the feeling that he doesn't fit in, the adult Buddy travels to New York, in full elf uniform, in search of his real father. Student tickets start at just \$20.

On Tue. **Dec. 7** at 7:30 pm, the one-and-only **Vanessa Williams** joins your BPO for an unforgettable holiday spectacular. The television, film, and Broadway icon will lend her incredible voice to holiday favorites, including

"Mary's Little Boy Child/O Holy Night," "Angels We Have Heard on High," and the title track from her Christmas album *Starbright*, and popular songs from her distinguished career, including "Dreamin'," "Save the Best for Last," and "Colors of the Wind" from Disney's *Pocahontas*, which won the Oscar, Grammy, and Golden Globe for Best Original Song.

On **Fri. Dec. 10** at 10:30 a.m. and **Sat. Dec. 11** at 7:30 p.m., Maestro JoAnn Falletta's handpicked selections in **JoAnn's Classical Christmas**, part of the M&T Bank Classics series, will transcend audiences. Relive Christmastime in the late 19th century through such works as Rimsky-Korsakov's "Polonaise" from *Christmas Eve*, and selections from Tchaikovsky's *The Nutcracker* and Glazunov's *The Seasons*. The program also includes other endearing treasures, such as "I Know That My Redeemer Liveth" from Handel's *Messiah* and Arthur Luck's "O Holy Night," featuring Buffalo soprano Sourgourney Cook.

The holiday season would not be complete without **John Morris Russell's Jazzy Holiday Pops** led by "Mr. Christmas" himself, Principal Pops Conductor John Morris Russell. There



are four chances to join in the musical merriment – two wildly popular Coffee Concerts presented by Elderwood on **Thu. Dec. 16** and **Fri. Dec. 17** at 10:30 a.m., an evening performance on **Sat. Dec. 18** at 7:30 p.m., and a matinee performance, perfect for families, on **Sun. Dec. 19** at 2:30 p.m. Experience holiday magic at Kleinhans as your BPO performs swinging and soulful renditions of popular favorites, including "I've Got My Love to Keep Me Warm," "Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas," and Donny Hathaway's classic, "This Christmas," with vocals by Buffalo natives Curtis Lovell and George Brown. Selections from Duke Ellington's jazzy take on *The Nutcracker* to Leroy Anderson's "Sleigh Ride" will feature the dazzling Darlene Ceglia Dance Project. Buffalo's sensational Celtic band, Normal Street Entrance with BPO violinist Amy Licata and associate principal bass Brett Shurtliffe, and our

traditional carol sing-along round out a program that is as eclectic as it is fun and festive.

For our littlest listeners, this year's **Jingle Bell Jam**, sponsored by Wegmans as part of the BPO Kids series, will be held virtually, available as a free broadcast with advance e-mail registration. The performance may be streamed on-demand anytime, anywhere for 30 days following its premiere on Sun. Dec. 12. The whimsical and light-hearted concert features vocalist Karen Saxon and the Royal Academy of Dance, with selections from Tchaikovsky's *The Nutcracker*, the mystical "Carol of the Bells," a new spin on the "12 Days of Christmas," and a cheerful assortment of carols for an at-home sing-along. Patrons can register for their virtual ticket link at bpo.org/jingle-bell-jam.

Continued on Page 3

Come Home to Your BPO for the Holidays

Continued from Page 2

Experience more Music for Everyone in the New Year!

2022 kicks off the second half of the BPO season, bringing with it something for every taste, from classics masters to legends of country, rock, and rhythm and blues, and more special performances. On **Jan. 14 and 15**, the BPO performs “**From the Diary of Anne Frank**,” a work by former BPO music director **Michael Tilson-Thomas**. The evocative musical narration of the story of Anne’s hopes and visions for the future to her sobering final moments is conducted by Tilson-Thomas protégé, **Teddy Abrams**, on a program featuring Dvorák’s gorgeous symphonic masterpiece, “**From the New World**.”

Rebels can rejoice when BPO Rocks revisits the **Music of David Bowie** on **Jan. 28**, featuring **Jeans ‘n Classics**, and closes out the rock series on **June 4** with an outstanding recreation of one of the most successful British heavy metal bands of the 80s, the **Music of Def Leppard**.

The BP celebrates Mozart’s birthday with a semi-staged performance of his great comedic opera, **The Magic Flute**, **Jan. 22 and 23**, welcoming a new collaboration with the **SUNY Fredonia Hillman Opera Program**, and on **Feb. 10**, a special multimedia event presents the haunting short film **Winter Journey**, based on **Martin Goldsmith’s** book of his parents’ experiences as Jewish musicians in Nazi Germany, accompanied by a performance of **Nielsen’s Inextinguishable Symphony No. 4**.

Jim Curry returns with his acclaimed tribute to **The Music of John Denver** **Mar. 11 and 12**; and we celebrate the diverse heritage of contemporary composers and performers with **Jessie Montgomery’s Coincident Dances** **Feb. 4 and 5**, paying homage to the hustle and bustle of New York City; Canadian pianist **Stewart Goodyear’s** performance of Rochester, New York native **Adolphus Hailstork’s Piano Concerto** **Feb. 18 and 19**; **Carlos Simon’s The Block** **Apr. 1 and 2**, painting a portrait of African



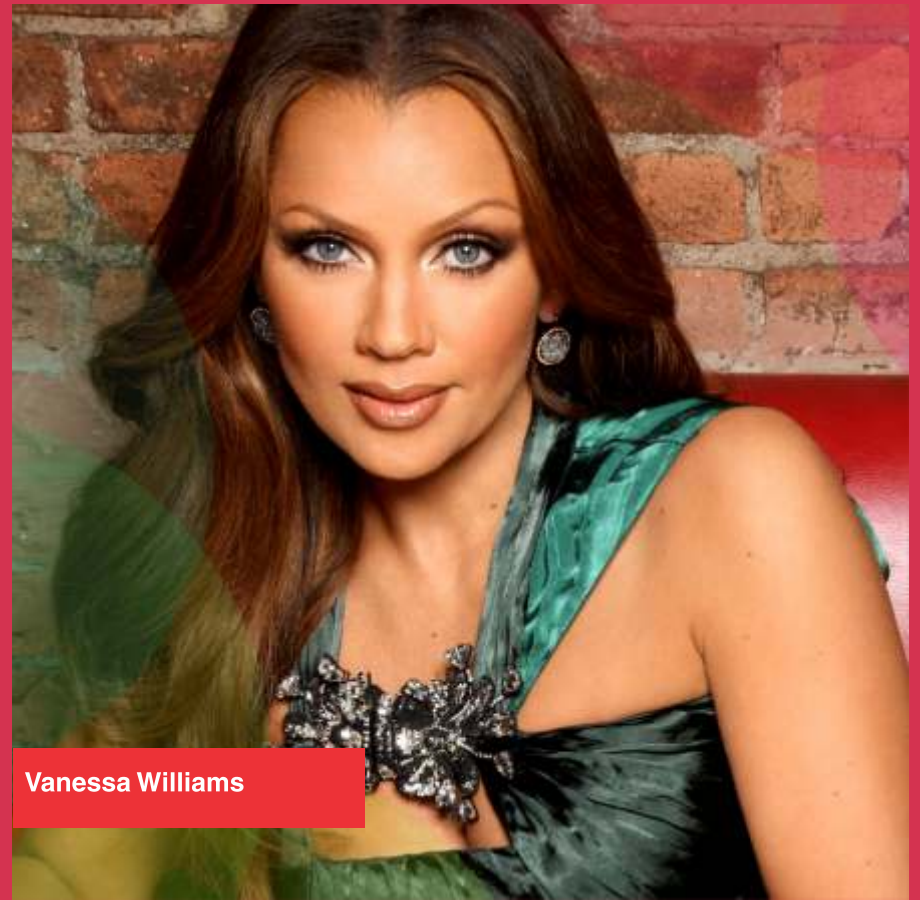
American culture in urban cities and the rural south; and **Jonathan Bailey Holland’s Motor City Remix** **Apr. 8 and 9**, a vibrant ode to his home city of Detroit.

Your BPO is proud to present several world premieres this season, including **Kenneth Fuch’s Point of Tranquility** **Mar. 19 and 20**, inspired by abstract expressionism; **Russell Platt’s Symphony: Clyfford Still** **Apr. 23 and 24**, a musical interpretation of abstract impressionist works by Still that hang in Buffalo’s own Albright-Knox Art Gallery; and composer **Wang Jie’s The Winter that United Us** **Sat. June 11**, written specifically for the BPO and Kleinhans Music Hall.

Rescheduled following last year’s postponement, America’s leading soprano, **Renée Fleming**, sparkles as the Classics series finale **June 11**. The annual BPO gala moved from the top of the season to this grand conclusion in conjunction with Ms. Fleming’s can’t-miss performance. And the return of too-cool-for-words trumpeter **Chris Botti** highlights the Pops series on Valentine’s Day weekend

Special performances by **Leslie Odom, Jr.** on **Mar. 25**, who received an Oscar nod for his portrayal of Sam Cooke in the film *One Night in Hollywood* and a Tony Award® for his turn as Aaron Burr in the original Broadway cast of *Hamilton*, the multi-GRAMMY Award-winning king of smooth jazz, iconic saxman **Kenny G** on **June 1**, and a force to be reckoned with, another KeyBank BPO Film series Music and Movie Magic event, the film *Star Wars: A New Hope* on **June 3**, round out specials that truly include something for every musical taste.

To purchase individual tickets for any performance, or take advantage of subscriber benefits and savings, call **(716) 885-5000**, visit **bpo.org**, or stop by the Box Office at Kleinhans Music Hall Mon.-Fri. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. and Sat. 9 a.m.-1 p.m., and come home to your BPO!



Vanessa Williams



John Morris Russell
Principal Pops Conductor



Chris Botti



Kenny G



Renee Fleming