

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## SYMPHONY CANCELLATION DUE TO COVID-19

With concern for the health of our patrons, musicians, volunteers, and staff, the North Bay Symphony (NBSO) has **cancelled our April 18 Brilliant Beethoven concert** sponsored by Caisse Alliance. NBSO is currently notifying all ticket holders.

Ticket holders to Brilliant Beethoven at the Capitol Centre on April 18, have the following options:

- 1. Donate your tickets to the NBSO for a charitable tax receipt for the full value of the tickets.** For the next several weeks, thousands of small and large concerts, theatre events, tours, readings, and other cultural events will be cancelled due to COVID-19. While this is disappointing to audiences, these actions can be financially devastating to many arts organizations and independent artists who rely on these events for their income. Please consider donating your tickets to any cancelled local cultural event.
- 2. Apply the value of your tickets to next season's subscription.** Reduce your 2020/21 subscription by the value of your April 18 tickets.

To donate or apply the credit from Brilliant Beethoven concert tickets, please contact the Capitol Centre Box Office at 705.474.4747. Charitable tax receipts will be issued by the North Bay Symphony Society. Please note that due to the higher than normal volume it may take several weeks to process all requests.

At this time "Joyful and Bright" Chamber Music Matinee at St. Andrew's United Church on Sunday, May 24 @ 2:30pm is scheduled to go ahead as planned. NBSO is closely monitoring the situation as it evolves and will provide updates directly to ticket holders as well as on the Symphony website ([www.northbaysymphony.org](http://www.northbaysymphony.org)) and through NBSO social media channels of Facebook and Twitter.

Members of the **North Bay Symphony Youth Orchestra** will be contacted by email to inform them of the changes for the near future. The **North Bay Symphony String School** will continue to offer private lessons. Cleaning protocols have been enhanced and students are asked to stay home if they are feeling ill. The String School will not charge for lessons missed due to illness. As the situation could change quickly, please be assured teachers will contact students directly to give them new information.

"This is a challenging time for the NBSO," stated Board President Rosalind Zimbalatti, "but we are a strong community orchestra and with your support we will get through it. We look forward

to welcoming you back to the concert hall in the future. In the mean time, thank you for your continued patience, understanding, and support.”

**On behalf of the musicians, volunteers, and staff of the NBSO, we hope you remain healthy and well.**

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*The **North Bay Symphony**, directed by Thomas Jones, entertains, enriches, and educates the community through musical performances and music education programs. Now in its 43rd season, the NBSO presents a five-concert series at North Bay's Capitol Centre, a two-concert chamber music matinee series at St. Andrew's United Church, and several outreach performances throughout the community. In-school music education programs annually reach over 1,200 students across the region, the Symphony String School provides violin, viola, cello, and guitar lessons to students of all ages and all abilities, and the Youth Orchestra offers ensemble learning and performing opportunities to young musicians. NBSO is a mature, vibrant, and growing not-for-profit charitable organization managed and operated by a committed and skilled volunteer Board of Directors and three part-time staff members. The orchestra itself is comprised of 2/3 volunteer musicians and 1/3 semi-professional or professional musicians. NBSO is the recipient of the 2013 Vida Peene Orchestra Award, a biennial award recognizing artistic and organizational excellence of an Ontario orchestra. In 2015 NBSO was inducted into the North Bay Musicians and Entertainers Hall of Recognition.*