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July 31, 2017

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ORATORIO SOCIETY BEGINS REHEARSALS FOR 20th ANNIVERSARY SEASON

Westchester Oratorio Society begins rehearsals for its 20th Anniversary Season, the eleventh under Artistic Director Benjamin Niemczyk, on Tuesday evenings in September at the Katonah (NY) Village Library.

The season begins with a special performance of Handel's *Messiah* on December 2, 2017, at the South Salem Presbyterian Church, where the group was founded, accompanied by Sonnambula, the acclaimed NYC early music ensemble. The celebration continues with Handel and a *Messiah* "sing-along" at St. Luke's Church in Somers (NY) on December 9.

WOS's Chamber Chorus offers additional singing opportunities throughout the year, including the Holiday Celebrations at historic Muscoot Farm on December 10.

The highlight of the spring is a concert on May 6 at Bedford Presbyterian Church featuring renowned composer and organist Anthony Newman performing Bach's Cantata No.29 and his own, original choral works on the Church's magnificent organ. The concert will also feature Mr. Niemczyk conducting the iconic Mozart Requiem.

Rehearsals are led by Mr. Niemczyk, an accomplished conductor, singer and composer who is a cofounder of both the New Westchester Symphony Orchestra and C4 (The Choral Composer---Conductor Collective), accompanied by Mun-Tzung Wong on the Library's exceptional Steinway piano. Ms. Wong's other accompanist and vocal coaching positions include with the St. Petersburg Opera (FL) and the Manhattan School of Music.

Competent singers in all voice parts with an ability to read music are welcome to join. Rehearsals are Tuesday evenings from 7:00 to 9:15 PM beginning September 5 at the beautifully renovated, well-lit, and climate-controlled Garden Room at the Katonah Village Library, 26 Bedford Road—a short walk from the Metro North station.

Prospective members are invited to attend anytime and can join the group for an Open House Rehearsal on Tuesday, September 19 at 7 PM, to try out the venue, meet the membership and learn more about singing with the Society.

Founded in 1997, Westchester Oratorio Society is dedicated to providing a community and educational experience for amateur singers of all levels while bringing exceptional performances with professional orchestras and soloists to local audiences. For more information about singing and the Open Rehearsal email westchesteroratorio@gmail.com or call 347-223-9303. Learn more about WOS by visiting the group's website, www.westchesteroratorio.org, find WOS on Facebook at www.facebook.com/westchesteroratorio and follow on Twitter @westchesterora.