

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 25, 2021

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**The Bardavon Announces the 48th Annual
HUDSON VALLEY PHILHARMONIC STRING COMPETITION**

In Loving Memory of Randall Craig Fleischer 1958-2020

Finals on Sunday March 14 at 3pm

Available free and virtually at Bardavon Presents @You Tube!

(Poughkeepsie, NY) We are excited to announce that we will be holding the **48th Annual Hudson Valley Philharmonic String Competition virtually on March 14, 2021 at 3pm**. Although we had to cancel this event in 2020 we are back and we will be streaming direct to you through the “Bardavon Presents” YouTube Channel. We will also be streaming all our 9 semi-finalists who have been selected in advance from last year’s remarkable group of entrants. This will be available on the Bardavon Present You Tube channel beginning March 1. We will be updating information on the Bardavon’s web page (www.bardavon.org) on all the details and how to join us. As always the HVP String Competition is free to all.

This international competition attracts a wealth of young musical talent from the finest conservatories in the U.S. and abroad. The contest began in 1966 under the direction of Maestro Claude Monteux, who was at that time the HVP’s artistic director/conductor. It was originally started as a way to find string players for the orchestra.

The HVP String Competition is often credited for launching the careers of world-renowned orchestral and solo string musicians. Many previous winners have gone on to illustrious classical music careers. Previous notables include: violist Marcus Thompson '67 (Boston Chamber Players), violinist Ani Kavafian '73 (Lincoln Center Chamber Players soloist), violinist Adela Pena '85 (Eroica Trio), and violinist Judith Ingolfsson '96 (1998 Indianapolis International Violin Competition winner).

The 2021 first-prize winner will receive \$4000, a solo performance with the HVP during its 2021-22 Season, and a solo performance at the “Musical Landscapes of Italy” festival in August in San Quirico d’Orcia, Tuscany!

The judges of this year’s competition are:

Daniel Phillips, Violin. A veteran chamber musician, soloist, violist, and teacher, Phillips graduated from Juilliard with teachers Eugene Phillips, Ivan Galamian, Sally Thomas, Sándor Végh and George Neikrug. He is founding member of the 31-year-old Orion Quartet, in residence at the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center in New York City. Phillips has performed as soloist with the Pittsburgh, Houston, Boston and Yakima Symphonies and has been a regular at Spoleto, Santa Fe Chamber Music Festival and the International Musicians Seminar in the UK for the last four decades. He teaches at the Aaron Copland School of Music at Queens College, Mannes College of Music, Bard College Conservatory, and Juilliard.

Lucie Robert, Violin. A native of Montreal, Robert has received enthusiastic praise from audiences and critics alike for the expressive lyricism and tonal beauty of her playing. Lauded in the The New

York Times for her “melting tone” and “wonderfully supple approach to phrasing,” Ms. Robert carries on the great violin tradition of her teacher, the legendary Josef Gingold. She has served as violin professor for thirty years at the Manhattan School of Music and the Mannes College of Music in New York City, and has served as an adjudicator for several international competitions including the Montreal, Fritz Kreisler, Jozsef Szigeti, Seoul and Joseph Joachim international violin competitions. Robert is the artistic director of “Mannes in Unison,” a concert series in New York City.

Susan Seligman, Cello. As principal cellist with the Hudson Valley Philharmonic since 1984, Seligman has been a soloist on a number of occasions, including a duo appearance with singer Bobby McFerrin in Vivaldi's Double Cello Concerto; and Haydn's Concerto in D Major and the Sinfonia Concertante. As a chamber musician, she is a member of Innisfree Piano Trio, the Pone Ensemble for New Music, and the Newburgh Chamber Music Ensemble; and performs as basso continuo cellist with Kairos, a chamber choir. She taught in the String Quartet program at Ithaca College for five summers, and serves as adjunct lecturer and cello faculty in the Music Department at SUNY New Paltz in addition to a private cello studio.

Interviews:

HVP String Competition Chair

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The Bardavon 1869 Opera House, Inc. (the Bardavon) is a New York State nonprofit corporation that owns and operates two historic theaters—the 944-seat namesake theater in Poughkeepsie and 1510-seat Ulster Performing Arts Center (UPAC) in Kingston—and the region's premiere orchestra, the Hudson Valley Philharmonic. It presents top-notch music, dance, theater, and classic films for diverse audiences in both its venues; stages free annual outdoor events in local communities; and partners with regional schools to offer unique arts-based learning experiences. The Bardavon also continues to restore and preserve its historic theaters for today's audiences and future generations to enjoy.

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