

San Bernardino Symphony's 'Home for the Holidays' concert to bring joy to audiences

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By Michel Nolan , The Sun



Maestro Frank Paul Fetta will conduct the San Bernardino Symphony in its performance of “Home for the Holiday” Saturday, a concert of favorite holiday music. COURTESY PHOTO

As they say in the song, “There’s no place like home for the holidays,” and on Saturday evening all that holiday cheer will resonate as favorite songs of the season performed by the San Bernardino Symphony Orchestra.

As a part of its 88th consecutive season, the Symphony will reprise its popular “Home for the Holidays” concert, a selection of holiday favorites, at 7:30 p.m. Saturday at the California Theatre of the Performing Arts.

The concert will feature beloved holiday music including Ludwig van Beethoven’s Symphony No. 9 in D minor “Ode to Joy;” selections from Peter Ilyich Tchaikovsky’s “The Nutcracker Suite;” Irving Berlin’s “White Christmas;” Jeffrey Biegel’s “Hanukah Fantasy” and more. Four soloists and a 125-voice choir will join the orchestra.

Special pre-concert activities, including strolling carolers and holiday cookie decorating will lend some festive sparkle to the evening’s magic.

As with all concerts this season, attendees may also attend the Symphony’s “Meet the Composers” pre-concert talk courtesy of the Inland Valley Repertory Theatre Company.

Concerts begin at 7:30 p.m., however, the pre-concert “Meet the Composers” lecture is at 6:30 p.m., upstairs in the theater, where delicious cookie samples will be shared at no cost, compliments of the San Bernardino High School Baking Careers students.

“We encourage everyone to come out and share this marvelous concert with us,” said Symphony Maestro Frank Paul Fetta. “There is no need to drive an hour to experience world class entertainment. In fact, we created ‘Home for the Holidays’ to provide a complete holiday experience for the whole family right here in the Inland Empire.”

Tickets can be purchased online at www.sanbernardinosymphony.org or by calling the box office at 909-381-5388, with limited availability at the theatre on the day of the event. Single tickets are \$25, \$40, \$50 and \$60; students and military with ID are always \$10.

Concerts are performed at the California Theatre of the Performing Arts, 562 W. Fourth St., San Bernardino.

•Inland Master Chorale is performing Handel’s Messiah with an orchestra led by first violin and concertmaster Mischa Lakirovich at 8 p.m. Saturday and 3 p.m. Sunday at the First Methodist Church, 1 East Olive Ave., Redlands.

Composed by George F. Handel, the piece has awed listeners for more than 250 years.

The complete “Messiah” has 53 movements in three sections, encompassing the life of Jesus Christ. The Chorale performance will present 40 of the movements, including two instrumentals and 18 choruses. It is a tradition for the audience to stand during the singing of the most well known “Hallelujah!” chorus.

Tickets are \$18 in advance, \$20 at the door and \$10 for students and children. Children younger than 5 are not admitted.

Advance tickets are sold online at www.inlandmasterchorale or call 909-798-4462.