

>>> LISTEN

Free performances will be
streamed April 18

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Oregon East Symphony offers online concert

Due to the ongoing closures due to the coronavirus crisis, the Oregon East Symphony will cancel the remainder of its 2019-2020 season after the online presentation of its annual Spring Chamber Music Concert on Saturday, April 18.

The cancellation affects the previously postponed Winter Moons concert, scheduled for March 14 in Pendleton and March 15 in Hermiston, and the season finale, "Blow It Up, Start Again," which was scheduled for a June 13 Pendleton performance.

Symphony staff and board of directors volunteers have been reaching out to season ticket holders and individual concert ticket holders to inform them of the changes to the schedule.

To close out the season this year, the symphony's annual Spring Chamber Music Festival will be held online, being streamed at 6:30 p.m. Saturday, April 18, from the front page of their website — www.OregonEastSymphony.org. The online concert will be free to view for anyone with internet connection.

For this year's concert, musicians will produce HD video recordings of themselves performing chamber works from their homes or private studios. These prerecorded performances will be edited together into the video that will be streamed on OES's website.

Performances this year include OES violist Aurora Torres on Two Rhapsodies for Oboe, Viola and Piano by Charles Martin Tornov Loeffler with Ryan Klein (oboe) and Chad Spears (piano); OES conductor and artistic director Dr. Beau Benson presenting a selection of classical guitar repertoire from 16th and 19th century Spain; and OES assistant concertmaster Viet Block and OES principal cellist Zach Banks performing Duo for Violin and Cello, Op. 7 by



Photo by Ric Walters

Hermiston based mezzo-soprano singer Alexis McCarthy will perform Saint-Saens's aria *Mon cœur s'ouvre à ta voix* as part of the online Spring Chamber Music Festival Concert on April 18.

Zoltán Kodály.

Hermiston-based mezzo-soprano Alexis McCarthy will perform Saint-Saens's aria *Mon cœur s'ouvre à ta voix* with piano accompaniment by Rachel Pariseau, and Pendleton-born, Hollywood composer Chris Thomas will provide a film scoring performance.

Even regular OES concert MCs Bill Mayclin and Murray Dunlap will prerecord their concert announcements in their trademark tuxedos.

A feature of the Chamber Music Festival that can't be replicated in a virtual environment is the spread of hearty hors d'oeuvres and wine and beer provided by OES's volunteer board of directors. Instead, the board of directors will be compiling a recipe book of hors d'oeuvres that will be electronically submitted to those on the Symphony mailing list prior to the concert. Viewers can prepare these

the recipes.

This free concert is generously sponsored by Collins Law Office, Dr. George and Sue Nelson, and Sylvia Clawson.

Meanwhile, Zach Banks, who also serves as the OES education director, has been adapting as much of the Symphony's educational activities and weekly

classes as possible to an online environment. The Oregon East Symphony Youth Orchestra, the Symphony's intermediate level youth orchestra, recently kicked off its first "OESYO Virtual Jam Session." The goal of the weekly online classes is to sustain student engagement through playing assignments.

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GO
WEEKEND OUTLOOK



FRIDAY
High 66 Low 40
Partly sunny



SATURDAY
High 59 Low 37
Cloudy and cooler



SUNDAY
High 55 Low 31
Partly sunny