

North Coast Symphonic Band leads holiday concert at the Liberty Theater

North Coast Chorale, Cannon Beach Chorus, guests to perform

ASTORIA— Building on its successful holiday concert in 2014, North Coast Symphonic Band is again partnering with Liberty Presents for a homegrown celebration of the season at 4 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 19 at the Liberty Theater. Conductor Dave Becker serves as musical director and has amassed regional choirs and soloists with Astoria ties for a fast-paced afternoon of seasonal music in the Liberty Theater.

The North Coast Chorale, directed by Denise Reed, and the Cannon Beach Chorus, directed by John Buehler,



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Baroque specialist and percussionist Mark Goodenberger will be a featured soloist.

will each present short sets of holiday music before coming

together with the North Coast Symphonic Band for carols and songs.

Featured soloists for the afternoon are Mark Goodenberger and his wife, Denise Dillenbeck.

Goodenberger is director of percussion studies at Cen-



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North Coast Symphonic Band conductor Dave Becker, right, poses for a photo with Santa, who will appear at the band's concert.

tral Washington University in Ellensburg, Washington. He is active as a baroque specialist and performs on kettledrums with the Portland Baroque Orchestra. As a concert recitalist, he performs many of his own compositions, joining elements of theater, dance and vaudeville into the diverse world of percussion. Goodenberger graduated from Astoria

High School and was a student of Lee Stromquist, NCSB associate conductor and former AHS band director. The Goodenberger name is well known in the region. Parents John and Peggy Goodenberger lived in Astoria for many years and siblings John and Jennifer are active community residents.

Dillenbeck is a concert violinist who has performed



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Concert violinist Denise Dillenbeck is a featured soloist at the concert.

with the Philadelphia Orchestra, Seattle Symphony, Baltimore Symphony and Oregon Symphony. She currently is a member of Central Washington University's Kairos String Quartet and performs chamber music for violin and percussion with her husband.

Goodenberger and Dillenbeck will perform together as soloists accompanied by the North Coast Symphonic Band. Goodenberger will solo on xylophone with "Xylophonia," a classic piece from the 1920s by Joseph Green of the Sousa Band. Dillenbeck will perform Cécile Chaminade's "Concertino," a late romantic French composition with lyric melodies.

The remaining selections for the afternoon will focus on the holiday season. Becker will conduct joint numbers with the choirs and band, and Bob Walters will be present in his red suit and Santa beard to lead sing-a-longs. By popular request, the finale will be Handel's "Hallelujah Chorus" from "The Messiah" with both choirs and Goodenberger on baroque kettledrum. This program is suited to audience members of all ages and is a way to experience the joy and ambiance of the season with a community musical celebration.

The Liberty Theater is located at 1203 Commercial St. Tickets for the concert are available at the box office, or by calling 503-325-5922. Regular admission is \$20. Student tickets for ages 12 to 21 are \$10 and children under 12 years old are \$5. For more information, visit www.liberty-theater.org. For information on the North Coast Symphonic Band, visit www.northcoast-symphonicband.org or call 503-325-2431.

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