



BILLINGS SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA & CHORALE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

January 22, 2018

The Billings Symphony Orchestra & Chorale Presents
Tchaikovsky's Pathétique, Featuring MASO Youth Competition Winner, Tanner Jordan

The Billings Symphony Orchestra & Chorale (BSO&C) presents **Tchaikovsky's Pathétique**, Symphony No. 6, featuring MASO Youth Competition winner, Tanner Jordan. Showtime is 7:30 p.m. at the Alberta Bair Theater (ABT.) Concert Cues with Tom Singer begins at 6:45 p.m. Doors open at 6:30 p.m.

Tanner Jordan, piano, is a 15 year old Billings native. He began playing the piano at the age of 7. In no time at all he was reading and writing music. Jordan has entered many piano competitions and has even taken home some prize money. He has been taking classes at MSU-Billings through their Connection Program, studying with Dorothea Cromley. In 2017, Jordan won the MASO Youth Competition, \$450, and the opportunity to play with Montana Orchestras. He won playing Grieg's piano concerto, which he will play the first movement of during the concert.

Pathétique, Symphony No. 6 is the last symphony composed by Tchaikovsky, who died of cholera exposure just 9 days after it premiered in St. Petersburg, Russia. Many scholars at the time believed Pathétique was a suicide note, because of his well-known battle with depression. More recent scholars however do not believe this is the case. Words from his own brother stated how excited he was about this symphony, and did not display the typical actions of a suicidal man. In fact, Pathétique (meaning "envoking pity",) was actually misinterpreted from the Russian Peteticheskaya (meaning passionate.) Even though Pathétique is about death, it is also about life, which is another reason many scholars do not believe the suicide theory. Tchaikovsky was very excited about his new symphony. For more information visit:

<https://www.theguardian.com/music/tomserviceblog/2014/aug/26/symphony-guide-tchaikovsky-sixth-pathetique-tom-service>

This year's recipient of the Excellence in Music Education Award is John Baber. He accredits his love of music to his grandfather and mother, who both played the violin. He also learned to play the piano at a young age. Baber received an undergraduate degree in Music and Art Education before earning a Masters in Special Education, both from EMC (MSU-Billings.) He has also studied at Oxford, UCLA, New York and Australia. In his 46 years of education, Baber earned the Billings Education Association Award for Outstanding Teacher in the Community, and the Outstanding Music Teacher Award from the Montana Music Educators Association.



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Barber continues to keep busy. He is involved with over 20 organizations in the community including: the Grand Organist for the Montana Masonic Grand Lodge, several Masonic Rites, Shriners, Scottish and York Rites of Montana. He is an avid collector of classic cars. He owns and operates a Piper-Cherokee light aircraft and has earned all eight proficiency National Pilot Awards.

Tchaikovsky's Pathétique is proudly sponsored by John W. and Carol L.H. Green. The 2017-2018 Host Hotel is the Northern Hotel. The 2017-2018 season is sponsored by The Oakland Companies.

Tickets are available by calling 252-3610 or online at billingsymphony.org.

For more information about **Tchaikovsky's Pathétique**, please visit:
billingsymphony.org/tchaikovskys-pathetique/

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