

## **Youth Orchestra concert season closes with ‘Sonic Bloom’, Sunday May 16**

The eleventh annual “Sonic Bloom”, on May 16, includes a rare treat for local audiences, as LJYO presents the complete Mendelssohn “Violin Concerto in E minor.”

The special guest for the concerto is Nathaniel Anderson-Frank, a master’s student at the Royal Academy in London, England.

LJYO’s symphonic welcome to spring also includes a wide variety of other compositions, including Ferde Grofé’s “On The Trail,” Gabriel Fauré’s “Pavane,” and Klaus Badel’s theme for “Pirates of the Caribbean”. The sound of LJYO’s brand-new set of four timpani, purchased through a grant from Ontario Trillium Foundation, will add to the evening’s excitement.

Port Hope-based LJYO now has 38 members, who come to rehearsals each week from as far as Oshawa, Oakwood and Castleton. The Orchestra is directed by Classical 96.3/103.1 FM music director and announcer Michael Lyons, with Bowmanville-based instructor Laurie Mitchell leading the string section. Several other other adult coaches volunteer their time each week to assist in specific Orchestra sections.

Still in his mid-twenties, guest violinist Nathaniel-Anderson-Frank has earned a long list of awards, including the Sylva Gerber Music Foundation Award which is funding his current studies in England. He plays a Testore-Milanese School violin, c. 1740, on loan from the Royal Academy of Music.

Last summer he performed at the Festival Pablo Casals in France, and he recently made his U.K. recital debut with the Edinburgh Society of Musicians.

He began playing violin at age three and entered the Royal Conservatory of Music in Toronto at age ten. His studies have taken him to the Université de Paris--Sorbonne and Salzburg’s Mozarteum.

Mendelssohn’s Violin Concerto in E Minor is one of the most widely loved concertos in the violin repertoire. Mendelssohn worked on the Concerto for six years, and it is a very challenging composition for performers, but a carefree, lyrical mood permeates the work.

‘Sonic Bloom’ is scheduled for Sunday, May 16 at 7 pm, at the Port Hope United Church. Tickets are \$20 (\$15 students), available at 1-866-460-LJYO, and at the Capitol Theatre in Port Hope and Victoria Hall in Cobourg.

To set up an interview, please phone the Orchestra Manager at 1-866-460-5596.