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Dear Friends,

Live music! Dare I say that those two words are, yes, music to my ears. There is nothing like a live performance to create real energy and excitement in an audience and bring out the best in a musician. During the last season, we were unable to present live performances, but our orchestra is resilient. We sought out creative ways to bring music to our community through a variety of virtual performances. I am happy to say that many of you hung in there and continued to support us through those trying times. We are so grateful!

Now some good news – Live Music Returns! We began our 2021-2022 season (our 55th!!) a bit earlier than usual to bring live performances to you as soon as possible. We presented our “Summer Pops” concert at the Evangelical Presbyterian Church in Newark in August. It was free, our way of saying “thank you” to everyone who continued to support us. We followed this with our Halloween-themed Spooktacular in October outdoors at St. Barnabas Episcopal Church in Wilmington, featuring our Concerto Competition winner and some classic seasonal favorites, such as “Night on Bald Mountain,” Danse Macabre,” and “The Sorcerer’s Apprentice.” Visit our website for details on our Nov 20th and Dec 11th concerts!

While we have not been able to return to our regular venue, The Independence School, due to COVID-19 protocols, we have reached out to the community, and the response has been remarkable. Several local churches and businesses have opened their doors (and lawns) to us for rehearsals and performances. The return of live music has been a collaborative effort and we are ever grateful to be part of such a supportive community!

Many arts organizations suffered financially due to the loss of ticket revenue during the past year. However, once again the support from our patrons and donors, and various granting organizations was invaluable to the NSO. A sincere “Thank You” to all who have contributed to our annual appeal in the past and those of you who were so generous during our “virtual season”, allowing NSO to remain financially stable, and to enable us to explore new ventures like live concert streaming and outdoor performances. Please consider making a donation now to our 2021-2022 Annual Appeal. We hope you will be an integral part of this exciting and richly rewarding musical community.

The Newark Symphony Orchestra is a 501 (c) (3) non-profit, volunteer organization, financially sound, and led by a strong, committed Board of Directors. We balance our budget each year with revenue from ticket sales, public and private grants, endowment fund dividends, and donations from individuals like you. As with many performing arts groups, ticket sales cover only about a third of our costs. We succeed only through the dedication of our volunteer members and the generosity of our supporters. We look forward to having you join us at a live concert soon!

Musically yours,



Karen Rosenberg, President, Newark Symphony Orchestra Board of Directors