

Arise!

2025
2026
SEASON
FALL/WINTER

WhartonARTS

Helen H. Cha-Pyo, Artistic Director



WhartonARTS

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Dear **Wharton Arts** Community,

Welcome to the 2025–2026 season at Wharton Arts! I'm thrilled to invite you into a year that dares us to dream boldly, listen deeply, and arise together with purpose.

Our theme, **Arise!**, calls us to create with courage and connect across generations and cultures through **Artistry**, **Representation**, **Inspiration**, **Self-Expression**, and **Empathy**.

This season, **Arise!** is more than a theme—it's an invitation to action. In a world yearning for light, we turn to the arts to uplift voices, spark imagination, and celebrate the brilliance of our students, faculty, and teaching artists. Through meaningful learning, inspired teaching, dynamic performances, and inclusive programming, we'll build a vibrant community rooted in creativity, collaboration, and hope.

Let us arise together!

With gratitude,

Helen H. Cha-Pyo

Artistic Director & Principal Conductor

Dear **Wharton Arts** Community,

As we step into a new season, we're excited to present a vibrant array of performances and programs from the **New Jersey Youth Chorus**, **New Jersey Youth Symphony**, **Paterson Music Project**, and our **Performing Arts School**.

In keeping with this year's theme, **Arise!**, we're delighted to offer a variety of community-oriented events for families, alumni, and donors. These gatherings not only bring us together but also help sustain our programs, as tuition alone does not cover all our expenses. We're not just fundraising—we're friend-raising and spirit-raising, building lifelong connections that strengthen our entire community.

This season's highlights include the Paterson Music Project **Building Harmony Breakfast**, our annual **Fall Festival** and **Holiday Cabaret** at PAS, a special happy hour for parents who drop off their children at NJYS and NJYC rehearsals, our beloved annual **Playathon** fundraiser to support NJYS, our **Senior Gift** and other events in celebration for NJYC, and more festive gatherings throughout the year.

Our dedicated staff and faculty truly rise to the occasion, bringing creativity, fun, and community engagement to every event—for students, families, and alumni alike. We look forward to connecting with you and continuing to build the thriving Wharton Arts community we all cherish.

With gratitude,

Gina Caruso

Executive Director





Arise to the Occasion

WhartonARTS Annual Gala

Helen H. Cha-Pyo, Artistic Director

Friday, April 17, 2026

Cocktail Reception at 6 PM

Dinner and Performances at 7:30 PM



HYATT REGENCY* MORRISTOWN

located on the Green

3 Speedwell Avenue
Morristown, New Jersey 07960

WhartonArtsGala.org

New Jersey Youth Chorus

WhartonARTS

The Light We Give

December 5, 2025 at 7:30 p.m.

Morristown United Methodist Church,
Morristown

\$20/Adults, \$15/Students & Seniors

NJYC Coriste: Trish Joyce, Director

NJYC Camerata: Dan Malloy, Director

Accompanists: Phillip Steffani and
Andrew Macirowski

The Light We Give celebrates the warmth of the season—through candlelight, starlight, festive lights, and the inner light of kindness and community. With song, story, and diverse traditions, our Readings and Carols invite reflection and a renewed sense of peace and warmth.





Join the New Jersey Youth Chorus!

January 2026

Mid-year auditions are held in January.

Registration is open from December 1, 2025-January 1, 2026. Audition requirements and application are available at NJYC.org.

Winter Concert

February 1, 2026 at 4:00 p.m.

\$20/Adults, \$15/Students & Seniors

NJYC Primo Coro, Coriste: Trish Joyce, Director

NJYC Cor Amici, Camerata: Dan Malloy

NJYC Sola Voce: Joanna Scarangelo, Director

Accompanists: Phillip Steffani, Andrew Macirowski, and Leah Frank

Our young artists offer a wide-ranging program that celebrates the beauty, emotion, and connection unique to choral music. Featuring a rich blend of classical works, contemporary pieces, and seasonal favorites, they share their gift of singing and the spirit of community. Let the music uplift you with moments of warmth and joy.

Community Collaborations

October 18 "Sing On, UConn" Young Men's Choral Festival
University of Connecticut
Camerata

November 15 Children's Peace Festival
Chatham Summit Quaker Meeting
Primo Coro

November 16 *Carmina Burana*
with Masterwork Chorale
Drew University
Sola Voce

December 20 Imperial Brass
Holiday Concert
The Presbyterian Church in Morristown
Cor Amici & Camerata

December 20 Christmas Spectacular
Radio City Music Hall
Primo Coro

ACDA Eastern Division

February 2026

Providence, RI

Coriste has been selected to perform at the American Choral Directors Association's (ACDA) Eastern Division Conference.



Arise!

**To
Artistry**



New Jersey Youth Symphony

WhartonARTS

Lunar Rising: A Symphony in Light and Sound

October 18, 2025 at 7:00 p.m.

UCPAC's Main Stage, Rahway

\$24/Adults, \$19/Students & Seniors

NJYS Youth Symphony:

Helen H. Cha-Pyo, Conductor

Soprano Soloist: Timothy Maureen Cole

Experience the power of symphonic music under the glow of Museum of the Moon. The NJYS Youth Symphony, led by Helen Cha-Pyo, presents **Lunar Rising: A Symphony in Light and Sound**, a breathtaking concert featuring works by Beethoven, Debussy, Holst, Nishimura, Whitacre, and more. Let music and moonlight carry you on a soaring journey of wonder and imagination.

Signature Concert



Helen Cha-Pyo, Conductor



Timothy Maureen Cole, Soprano



Signature Concert

Galaxies of Joy: The Planets in Concert

December 13, 2025 at 7:00 p.m.

UCPAC's Main Stage, Rahway

\$24/Adults, \$19/Students & Seniors

NJYS Youth Symphony:

Helen H. Cha-Pyo, Conductor

John P. Stevens High School Treble Choir

Regina McElroy and Matthew Lee, Directors



John P. Stevens High School Treble Choir



Helen Cha-Pyo, Conductor

Take a musical journey through the cosmos this holiday season with Holst's *The Planets*, performed by the New Jersey Youth Symphony. Accompanied by stunning NASA imagery, this family-friendly concert blends the wonder of space with the spirit of the season for an unforgettable celebration of music and stars.

Join the NJYS Youth Symphony, under the baton of Helen Cha-Pyo, for an unforgettable one-hour interactive concert designed especially for elementary and middle school students!

Presented beneath the stunning Museum of the Moon installation, this concert explores the magic, mystery, and music of the moon through a dynamic blend of classical and contemporary works all performed by a full symphony orchestra. Students will be introduced to the instrument families of the orchestra, hear live demonstrations, and engage with music that sparks the imagination from the peaceful glow of Debussy's *Clair de Lune* to the dramatic sweep of Holst's *Mars* and *Jupiter*. Along the way, they'll journey through stories and sounds inspired by moonlight, mythology, and dreams, including Dvořák's *Song to the Moon*, Yukon Nishimura's *Sweet New Moon*, and John Williams's *Star Wars Medley*. This is more than a concert: it's an invitation for students to arise to imagine, explore, and connect through the power of music and the wonder of the moon.

This is a free concert presented in partnership with the Union County Performing Arts Center (UCPAC).

Education Concert

Moon Festival Education Concert

October 15, 2025 at 10:00 a.m.

UCPAC's Main Stage, Rahway

FREE, Pre-reservation required at NJYS.org.

NJYS Youth Symphony:

Helen H. Cha-Pyo, Conductor

Soprano Soloist: Timothy Maureen Cole





2025 New Jersey Flute Fair

Partnering with New Jersey Flute Society

October 11, 2025

New Jersey Youth Symphony,

New Providence

An exciting day filled with all things flute, including competitions, master classes, exhibitors, and performances by the NJYS Flute Ensembles led by conductor Natasha Loomis. For more information, visit njflutesociety.org.

December 6, 2025 at 1:00 p.m.

Dorothy Young Performing Arts Center

at Drew University, Madison

\$20/Adults, \$15/Students & Seniors

Concertino Strings:

Cooper Ford, Conductor

Primo Strings:

Etlea Vatoci, Conductor

Flute Forum, Flute Choir:

Natasha Loomis, Conductor





December 6, 2025 at 5:00 p.m.
Dorothy Young Performing Arts Center
at Drew University, Madison
\$20/Adults, \$15/Students & Seniors

Sinfonia: Nevena Bojovic, Conductor

Fortissimo Flutes:

Natasha Loomis, Conductor

Concertino Winds:

Aly Berkowitz, Conductor

CL4tet: Bryan Rudderow, Coach

December 13, 2025 at 2:00 p.m.

UCPAC's Main Stage, Rahway
\$20/Adults, \$15/Students & Seniors

Youth Orchestra:

Dr. Oliver Hagen, Conductor

Philharmonia:

Mark Gunderman, Conductor

Tickets and more information
at WhartonArts.org





December 14, 2025 at 5:00 p.m.

**Ukrainian American Cultural Center
of New Jersey,** Whippany

\$20/Adults, \$15/Students & Seniors

Jazz Orchestra: Shamie Royston, Director

Big Band: Gregory O. Williams, Director

Jazz Workshop:

Dave Schumacher, Director

January 24, 2026 at 1:00 p.m.

Burgdorff Hall at NJYS, New Providence
FREE Event

Percussion Ensembles I, II, & III:

Joe Bergen, Conductor





Alumni Night

January 6, 2026 at 6:00 p.m.

Burgdorff Hall at NJYS, New Providence
FREE, Register online at [NJYS.org](https://www.njys.org).

Gather with fellow NJYS alumni for an evening of joy and music: reminisce, celebrate friendships, and enjoy the NJYS community!

Open Rehearsals Week

March 1-5, 2026

FREE, Register online at [NJYS.org](https://www.njys.org).

Join us for a behind-the-scenes look at any of our 15 ensembles. Meet our passionate artistic team and immerse yourself in a live rehearsal. Young musicians in grades 2-11 are warmly welcomed! Discover the joy of making music at NJYS.



Arise!

**To
Representation**



WhartonARTS

Wharton Arts Workshops

Parent Circle

**Preparing College Applications:
Using Music as a Supplement**
October 9, 2025 at 7:00 p.m.

**Cultivating a Safe Place for
Conversations About Mental Health**
February 5, 2026 at 7:00 p.m.

Wharton Black Box Theater, Berkeley Heights
FREE Event, Register online at WhartonArts.org.

Join Helen Cha-Pyo and Deb Joyal, moms and musicians, in a series of informal conversations exploring the ins and outs of supporting student musicians.



WhartonARTS

Wharton Arts Chamber Music Concerts

November 23, 2025 at 4:00 p.m.

Wharton Black Box Theater, Berkeley Heights
FREE Event

Enjoy a showcase of talented young chamber musicians from Wharton Arts.



WhartonARTS

Wharton Arts in the Community

November 24, 2025 at 7:00 p.m.

Lantern Hill, New Providence

FREE Event

Enjoy an evening connecting with neighbors and celebrating the spirit of our community at this special gathering.

More information at WhartonArts.org



WhartonARTS

Wharton Arts in the Community

Love Notes

Valentine's Day Chamber Music Concert

February 11, 2026 at 7:30 p.m.

Sieminski Theater at Fellowship Village,
Basking Ridge
FREE Event

Fortissimo Flutes:

Natasha Loomis, Conductor

CL4tet: Bryan Rudderow, Coach

Charles Mingus Jazz Combo:

Shamie Royston, Director

Enjoy an evening of jazz and woodwind
chamber ensembles from the New Jersey
Youth Symphony featuring an array of
classical and modern works.



WhartonARTS

Wharton Arts in the Community

Sound Beyond Sight

**Matthew Whitaker with the
New Jersey Youth Symphony**

February 15, 2026 at 3:00 p.m.

Sieminski Theater at Fellowship Village,
Basking Ridge

\$20/Adults, \$15/Students & Seniors

NJYS Youth Symphony

Helen H. Cha-Pyo, Conductor

Matthew Whitaker, Piano



Matthew Whitaker



Quinn Mason

Join the New Jersey Youth Symphony, led by Helen H. Cha-Pyo, for an inspiring **Black History Month** concert celebrating resilience, artistry, and inclusion. Internationally acclaimed blind pianist Matthew Whitaker will perform Gershwin's *Rhapsody in Blue* alongside the New Jersey premiere of Quinn Mason's *Electric Beauty*, while also highlighting the vital work of The Seeing Eye and the Bella Music Foundation for the Blind and the Low Vision Support Program at Fellowship Village.

Co-presented by Wharton Arts and the Sieminski Theater at Fellowship Village.

Arise!

**To
Inspiration**



Paterson Music Project

WhartonARTS

Play for Paterson

December 13, 2025 at 2:00 p.m.

Center City Mall, Paterson

FREE Event

Join PMP as we bring holiday cheer to the Center City Mall! Donations received at this event will support Paterson Task Force, the official designated community action agency for the City of Paterson.





Winter Concert

January 31, 2026 at 4:00 p.m.

John F. Kennedy High School, Paterson
FREE Event

Suggested Donation of canned or dry food.

Enjoy a showcase of all Saturday ensembles from our youngest Prelude 1 students to the Silk City Symphony. Featuring traditional and contemporary ensembles, this concert will be sure to delight all musical palates!

Building Harmony

Breakfast

September 25, 2025 • 10 AM - 12 PM

The Paterson Museum • 2 Market Street, Paterson, NJ

Join us for a delectable event featuring live music from PMP student performers, breakfast, and good company.



Paterson Music Project

WhartonARTS

Helen H. Cha-Pyo, Artistic Director

Arise!

**To
Self-
Expression**



A group of diverse children, mostly of elementary school age, are posed in a group. They are wearing period-style costumes, including long dresses, aprons, and hats. Many of the children have their hands raised in the air, suggesting a performance or a celebratory gesture. The background is a solid olive green color.

40th Anniversary

Performing Arts School

WhartonARTS

**Building
Community
Through
Performing Arts
Education
for 40 Years.**

Fall Festival & Suzuki Halloween Playdown

October 24, 2025 at 4:30-8:00 p.m.

Wharton Performing Arts School,

Berkeley Heights

FREE Event

Calling all goblins and ghouls! Wear your Halloween costume and join us for student performances, treats, 50/50 raffle, and spooky festivities.

4:30-6:30 p.m. Festival

7:00 p.m. Suzuki Violin Playdown





CAFÉ Choir

Make a joyful noise! Join the Wharton CAFÉ Choir and make music with a vibrant community! FREE and no audition required—just bring your voice and enthusiasm! Visit WhartonArts.org.

CAFÉ Choir Concert

November 19, 2025 at 12:30 p.m.

Wharton Black Box Theater,

Berkeley Heights

FREE Event

Susan Kirkland, Director

Peter Hill, Piano

Our ***Creative Aging For Everyone*** Choir presents a program of old hits, classic choral works, and showtunes. Come be inspired by this fun and lively program.

This arts program is made possible in part by a 2025 **HEART** History, Education, Arts Reaching Thousands) Grant from the Union County Board of County Commissioners.

Made possible by funds from the New Jersey State Council on the Arts, a partner agency of the National Endowment for the Arts.



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Wharton Players in *Beetlejuice JR.*

Tickets and more information
at WhartonArts.org

December 5, 2025 at 7:00 p.m.

December 6 & 7, 2025 at 3:00 p.m.

December 6, 2025 at 7:00 p.m.

Wharton Black Box Theater,

Berkeley Heights

\$15/Adults, \$10/Students & Seniors

Wharton Players brings the ghost-with-the-most to the stage in ***Beetlejuice JR.***, the frightfully funny musical based on the beloved motion picture turned Broadway phenomenon.

Directed by Timothy Maureen Cole

Written by Scott Brown and Anthony King

Beetlejuice, JR. is presented through special arrangement with Musical Theatre International (MTI).

All authorized performance materials are provided by MTI.

www.mtishows.com



Celebrating 40 Years of Community Through the Arts

Join us for a heartwarming evening of music, celebration, and community as PAS presents its annual **Holiday Cabaret**—and this year, a festive fundraiser honoring four decades of inspiring lives through the performing arts. Featuring dazzling performances by students and faculty, this joyful event brings together friends, families, and supporters to celebrate the power of music and the vibrant community that makes it all possible.

Let's raise our voices—and the curtain—for 40 more years of creativity, connection, and impact.

Light fare, beer, wine, and soft drinks are included in the ticket price.

Sponsorships available including premium seating.

**Tickets and Sponsorship Opportunities
at holidaycabaret.givesmart.com**

Holiday Cabaret Benefit

**December 12, 2025 at 7:00 p.m.
Pre-Concert Reception at 6:00 p.m.**

**Wharton Black Box Theater,
Berkeley Heights**

\$65 • Family Four-Pack for \$234



Arise!

**To
Empathy**



60 Locust Avenue
Berkeley Heights, NJ 07922
(908) 790-0700
info@whartonarts.org

Visit

WhartonArts.org

for tickets and
more information.

2025
2026
SEASON

WhartonARTS

Helen H. Cha-Pyo, Artistic Director



Wharton Arts is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization and is committed to being accessible to all patrons, students, parents, and visitors. All programs, classes, events, and concerts are accessible ensuring that everyone can participate in a diverse range of arts programming and classes.



Made possible by funds from the New Jersey State Council on the Arts, a partner agency of the National Endowment for the Arts.

