

'Porgy and Bess'

Symphony hosts concert, fund-raiser

Inflation has taken its toll with the West Bloomfield Symphony Orchestra.

In order to help avoid a deficit by June, four members of the Detroit Symphony Orchestra will present a May Musicale benefit concert Tuesday, May 19.

The evening kicks off at 6:30 p.m. at the Oakland Hills Country Club on Maple Road in Bloomfield Township with the musicians, who are also members of the WBSO, playing a variety of arrangements.

The musicians are Gordon Peterson, concertmaster and first violin; Alvin Score, principal second violin; Hart Hoffman, viola; and David Levine, cello.

The program includes Quartet No. 2 by Alexander Borodin, selections from

Scott Joplin arranged by WBSO conductor and Detroit Symphony violinist Felix Resnick and a mixture of popular ballads.

Following the performance, hors d'oeuvres will be served and a cash bar will be opened. Tickets are \$25 per person and available through the symphony office by calling 628-1560.

THE FINAL WBSO concert of the season will transport concert-goers back to Catfish Row and a world of violence, love, despair and hope as it presents George Gershwin's "Porgy and Bess" at 7:30 p.m. Sunday, May 17.

The concert at West Bloomfield High School Auditorium is billed as the most ambitious production in the symphony

orchestra's six-year history.

The "Porgy and Bess" classic is featured along with two smaller Gershwin works, "Cuban Overture" and "Girl Crazy," a scenario for orchestra.

WJR's Mike Whorf, known for his "Kaleidoscope" programs, will speak the words of Gershwin's collaborator DuBose Heyward, who wrote vividly of the south in which Gershwin set his stage.

Soprano Marion Wright will star in the role of Bess with bass-baritone Conwell Carrington as Porgy. Backing the soloists will be the Brazeal Denard Choral.

MS. WRIGHT attended the Cleveland Institute of Music, the University of Toledo and Wayne State University, and

has studied in Frankfurt, Germany. She has appeared many times with the Detroit Symphony Orchestra and has performed leading roles in several operatic productions.

Carrington has also appeared with the DSO and in major roles at the Michigan Opera Theater.

Tickets are available at the West Bloomfield Symphony Office, 5640 W. Maple Road, Suite 201. Telephone orders are accepted at 628-1560.

Ticket prices are \$8 for adults and \$3 for students under 18 and senior citizens over 65. Master Card, Visa and American Express are accepted.

The West Bloomfield Symphony Orchestra is a non-profit organization that receives support through a grant from the Michigan Council for the Arts.

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