Christmas in July
Friday, July 24, 2020
7:00–9:00 PM EDT on WQED-FM
It seems to me that we could all use a little Christmas right about now. Considering the beautiful trappings of decorated trees, special foods, lights, and of course music, the thing that I often take for granted (but never will again!) is the fact that the holidays are mostly about gathering with those we love. I long to be together with my family and friends at this special time of the year, and somehow this longing has deeply influenced how I designed the PSO Holiday Pops concerts I have led at Heinz Hall.

I think when it comes down to it, my desire to feel ‘at home’ at our Holiday Pops concerts informs what ultimately goes onto the menu. I want to hear something I already know and treasure, I’d like a little variety, perhaps a surprise or two, and I certainly want to hear the best artists possible bring it all to life on stage. The major players are without question the musicians of the Pittsburgh Symphony. As stunning and powerful as their performances of Tchaikovsky and Mahler are, they also have a knack for a warm, generous sound that perfectly suits the music of December. The other consistent star of the show is the Mendelssohn Choir of Pittsburgh. A faithful partner to the PSO for many years now on these concerts, their voices lend that special glow and verve to the concert. Their expertise, enthusiasm, and smiles always inspire me to give my all on the podium. We also draw on a rich dance tradition here in Pittsburgh, capitalizing on the dancers of the Pittsburgh Ballet or modern dancers like Attack Theatre to lend a sparkling visual element to the concert.

And we shouldn’t forget Santa! It always impresses me how he’s willing to take time out of what must be a crushing last-minute schedule to stop at Heinz Hall, listen to children tick-off their wish lists one last time, and maybe even offer a song in his booming baritone voice. I have fond memories of how quickly he thinks on his feet, his corny jokes, and the joy he brings each year.

I intend to hold on to the promise that Holiday Pops brings each and every year. My wish for us all is that somehow, very soon, we will be reunited, welcomed home to enjoy the traditions we treasure—and that the Pittsburgh Symphony will provide the soundtrack. In the meantime, I hope that you will enjoy some of the magic of the holiday season through the music of this special concert.
PROGRAM

CHRISTMAS IN JULY
JULY 24, 2020 AT 7:00P.M

SELECTIONS RECORDED LIVE AT HEINZ HALL FROM FROM HIGHMARK HOLIDAY POPS CONCERTS IN DECEMBER 2015, 2016 AND 2017, AND THE PSO360 HOLIDAY BRASS SPECTACULAR IN DECEMBER 2018

Daniel Meyer, conductor
Francesco Lecce-Chong, conductor
Andrés Franco, conductor
Three Rivers Ringers
Mendelssohn Choir of Pittsburgh
Capathia Jenkins, vocalist
Ryan Silverman, vocalist
Vanessa Campagna, vocalist
Christopher Sanders, special guest
Members of the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra Brass Section

Leroy Anderson
Mykola Leontovych
(arr. Bradford)
Glen Ballard &
Alan Silvestri (arr. Brubaker)
Eddie Pola &
George Wyle (arr. Hayes)
George Frideric Handel
(orch. Mozart)
John Williams
Jule Styne &
Sammy Cahn
(arr. Hayes)

Soloists listed in order of appearance

Marvin Hamlisch
(vocal arr. Page, orch. Bisbano)
Various
(arr. Bass)
Franz Gruber
(arr. Harris)
Traditional
(arr. Harris)
Claude Gervaise
Glen Ballard &
Alan Silvestri (arr. Brubaker)
Eddie Pola &
George Wyle (arr. Hayes)
George Frideric Handel
(orch. Mozart)
John Williams
Jule Styne &
Sammy Cahn
(arr. Hayes)

Marvin Hamlisch
Chanukah Lights
Ms. Jenkins
Mendelssohn Choir of Pittsburgh
Various
Seasonal Sounds
Santa Claus Is Comin’ to Town
Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer
Frosty the Snowman
Jingle Bells
Mendelssohn Choir of Pittsburgh

Franz Gruber
Silent Night
Mr. Silverman
Ms. Campagna
Mr. Sanders

Traditional
We Wish You a Merry Christmas
Mr. Silverman
Ms. Campagna
Mr. Sanders
Mendelssohn Choir of Pittsburgh

Claude Gervaise
Old French Dances
I. Allemande
II. Gaillarde
III. Pavane D’Angleterre
IV. Basse Dance ‘La Volonté’
Brass Ensemble

Traditional
Coventry Carol
Brass Ensemble
Riu, Riu, Chiu
Brass Ensemble

Johannes Brahms
Geistliches Wiegenlied / Religious Lullaby,
Op. 91 No. 2
Brass Sextet

Infant Holy, Infant Lowly
Brass Sextet

Giovanni Gabrieli
Canzon duodecimi toni
Brass Ensemble
PROGRAM

Johann Sebastian Bach

Prelude in B Flat Minor, BWV 867
Low Brass Quartet

Traditional
(arr. Grainger)

Sussex Mummer's Christmas Carol
Brass Ensemble

Various
(arr. Harvey)

Festive Cheer Medley
I. Sleighride
II. Have yourself a merry little Christmas
III. Jingle Bells
IV. We wish you a merry Christmas
Brass Ensemble

The Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra thanks WQED and the Musicians of the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra for making possible the broadcast of this evening’s performance. Radio station WQED-FM 89.3 and WQEJ-FM 89.7 is the official voice of the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra. Tune in Wednesdays and Sundays at 7 p.m. for “Pittsburgh Symphony Radio” concert broadcasts hosted by Jim Cunningham.

The Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra would like to recognize and thank Highmark Blue Cross Blue Shield for its title sponsorship of Highmark Holiday Pops.
Santa Claus asks families holiday-inspired questions and more at the annual Highmark Holiday Pops program, December 2018.

Members of the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra Brass Section: Back row, from left to right: Peter Sullivan, Principal Trombone, Rebecca Cherian, Co-Principal Trombone, James Nova, Trombone, Jeffrey Dee, Principal Bass Trombone, and Craig Knox, Principal Tuba. Front row, from left to right: Andrew Reamer, Principal Percussion, Charles Lirette, Co-Principal Trumpet, Micah Wilkinson, Principal Trumpet, Neal Berntsen, Trumpet, Chad Winkler, Trumpet, and William Caballero, Principal Horn.

Ashley Brown, soprano, performing at the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra’s annual Highmark Holiday Pops program, December 2019.

Students from the Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre’s pre-professional division performing selections from The Nutcracker as part of the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra’s annual Highmark Holiday Pops program, December 2018.
Meyer’s eclectic and groundbreaking symphonic programs this season include works by American composers Norman Dello Joio, Howard Hanson, Alan Hovhaness, and Duke Ellington in combination with masterworks of Ravel, Shostakovich, and Stravinsky. Featured works include Shostakovich’s epic Symphony No. 5, Sibelius’ Symphony No. 2, and great vocal works including Fauré’s Requiem with BlueWater and the Cleveland Chamber Choir.

As part of his highly-acclaimed tenure as Music Director of the Asheville Symphony, Meyer created the Asheville Amadeus Festival, featuring sold-out weeks of film, lectures, community events, and concerts centered around the music of Mozart and pianist Emmanuel Ax in 2015 and violinist Midori in 2017. In recent seasons Meyer has frequently conducted the Rochester Philharmonic and the Pittsburgh Symphony, as well as guest engagements with the Indianapolis, Columbus, Phoenix, Eugene, Alabama, and Knoxville Symphonies. His critically acclaimed European debut took place with the Staatsoper Berlin and violinist Thomas Zehetmaier, and he returned to Germany soon after for concerts with the Neue Philharmonie Westfalen, and to Austria with the Tonkünstler Orchestra in Vienna and the Wiener Jeunesse Orchestra. Meyer’s summer festival appearances have included the Cleveland Orchestra at Blossom, the Aspen and Grand Teton Music Festivals, the Chautauqua Festival, Brevard Music Center, and Lakeside Chautauqua.

Upon the invitation of Mariiss Jansons, Meyer was named Resident Conductor of the Pittsburgh Symphony and Music Director of the Pittsburgh Youth Symphony, where he served until 2009. A native of Cleveland, Mr. Meyer Studied conducting at the Hochschule für Musik in Vienna as a Rotary Ambassadorial Scholar, and is a graduate of Denison University and the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music. He composed and conducted works for ensembles at both schools, including a Stabat Mater for soprano, chorus and orchestra. At Boston University, Mr. Meyer received the Orchestral Conducting Honors Award and was awarded the prestigious Aspen Conducting Prize from David Zinman. He received an honorary doctorate from Edinboro University in 2016.

American conductor Francesco Lecce-Chong is the Music Director of two orchestras, the Eugene Symphony in Oregon and the Santa Rosa Symphony, performing at the Green Music Center in Northern California. The press has described him as a “fast rising talent in the music world” with “the real gift and recognized his dynamic performances, fresh programming, deep commitment to commissioning and performing new music as well as to community outreach. Mr. Lecce-Chong has already appeared with orchestras around the world including the San Francisco Symphony, National Symphony, Atlanta Symphony, Pittsburgh Symphony, Toronto Symphony, St. Louis Symphony, and Hong Kong Philharmonic and collaborated with top soloists including Renée Fleming and Itzhak Perlman. In spring 2019, Mr. Lecce-Chong debuted in subscription concerts with the San Francisco Symphony. The San Francisco Chronicle described it as “first rate” praising the “vitality and brilliance of the music-making he drew from members of the San Francisco Symphony.” Other subscription debuts included the Colorado Symphony, Louisville Orchestra, Louisiana Philharmonic and Xi’An Symphony Orchestra. Mr. Lecce-Chong also returned to conduct the Civic Orchestra of Chicago, Milwaukee and San Diego Symphony. The 19/20 season marks his debut with the New York Philharmonic as part of the legendary Young People’s Concert Series.

Following the paths of renowned Music Directors of the Eugene and the Santa Rosa Symphonies including Marin Alsop, Giancarlo Guerrero and Jeffrey Kahane, Mr. Lecce-Chong has made his mark with the two orchestras introducing a series of new music and community initiatives. In 2019, the orchestras announced Mr. Lecce-Chong’s “First Symphony Project” commissioning four major orchestral works by young composers – Matt Brown, Gabriella Smith, Angelica Negrón and Michael Djupstrom – to be performed over the next four seasons accompanied by multiple composer residencies and community events. In Eugene, he has reinitiated family concerts and presented a number of innovative
projects such as an original multimedia performance of Scriabin’s compositions engaging light and color. With the Santa Rosa Symphony, he has launched the first opera-in-concert series at the Green Music Center, beginning with the 20/21 season.

During his successful tenures as Associate Conductor with the Milwaukee Symphony under Edo de Waart and the Pittsburgh Symphony under Manfred Honeck, Mr. Lecce-Chong also dedicated his time to opera, building his credentials as staff conductor with the Santa Fe Opera and conducted Madama Butterfly at the Florentine Opera with the Milwaukee Symphony. Mr. Lecce-Chong is the recipient of several distinctions, including the prestigious Solti Foundation Award. Trained also as a pianist and composer, he completed his studies at the Curtis Institute of Music with Otto-Werner Mueller after attending the Mannes College of Music and Accademia Musicale Chigiana in Italy. He has had the privilege of being mentored and supported by celebrated conductors including Bernard Haitink, David Zinman, Edo de Waart, Manfred Honeck, Donald Runnicles and Michael Tilson Thomas.

Andrés Franco, Resident Conductor of the Pittsburgh Symphony, continues to delight audiences with his imaginative programming and energetic style.

Franco served as music director of Tulsa’s Signature Symphony (2015-2020), associate and resident conductor of the Fort Worth Symphony Orchestra (2009-2014) and as music director of the Philharmonia of Kansas City (2004-2010).

Born into a musical family, Franco began piano studies with his father, Jorge Franco. An accomplished pianist, he studied with Van Cliburn Gold Medalist Jose Feghali, and attended piano workshops with Rudolph Buchbinder in Switzerland, and Lev Naumov in France. He studied conducting with Marin Alsop, Miguel Harth-Bedoya, Kurt Masur, Gustav Meier, Helmut Rilling, Gerard Schwarz and Leonard Slatkin.

Franco holds a bachelor’s degree in Piano Performance from the Pontificia Universidad Javeriana in Bogotá, Colombia, as well as master of music degrees in piano performance and conducting from Texas Christian University.

He is married to Victoria Luperi, associate principal clarinetist of the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra.

The vision of Three Rivers Ringers (TRR) is to be at the forefront of the handbell art form through distinctive musical performance and educational experiences. TRR is a significant contributor to the arts culture in Western Pennsylvania, performing both private and public concerts 10-15 times per year in winter and spring.

As part of its educational mission, Three Rivers Ringers organizes and runs the Western Pennsylvania Handbell Festival (WPA), a biannual educational event for beginning and intermediate level handbell ensembles with massed ringing, classes, and workshops with nationally recognized clinicians. Three Rivers Ringers also gives on-site workshops and mentoring for handbell ensembles and directors on request.

Franco has also appeared at the Cabrillo, Grant Park, OK Mozart, Oregon Bach, Round Top and Texas Music festivals.

Three Rivers Ringers performs with a full 7-octave set of Schulmerich handbells, 5-octave set of Schulmerich handchimes, 1-octave set of Malmark bass chimes, and 2-octave set of Schulmerich Silver Melody Bells. For more information on Three Rivers Ringers and upcoming performances, visit threeriversringers.org.

Founded in 1908, the Mendelssohn Choir of Pittsburgh (MCP) has more than a century’s worth of experience uniting singers with audience members in riveting musical experiences. For more than 90 years, MCP has partnered with the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra (PSO) to bring the joys of symphonic choral music to tens of thousands of people each year. As the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra’s “chorus of choice,” MCP
has performed with some of the world's foremost conductors including Lorin Maazel, Mariss Jansons, Rafael Frühbeck de Burgos, Michael Tilson Thomas, Claudio Abbado, Mstislav Rostropovich, Leonard Slatkin, Charles Dutoit, André Previn, Sir Neville Marriner, Yan Pascal Tortelier, Helmuth Rilling, Ingo Metzmacher, Richard Hickox, Zdenek Mácal, and Manfred Honeck.

When not performing with the PSO, MCP seeks to break new artistic ground by re-imagining choral concert events for the 21st century. Through dramatic programming, intriguing partnerships and venues, and the creation of new works, MCP bridges classical and contemporary music to engage current audiences and entice new ones to experience the joy of live performance. MCP’s most recent commission was last season’s Satan’s Fall by Stewart Copeland, former rock drummer and founder of The Police, turned award-winning composer of some of the film world’s most innovative scores.

MCP fosters the next generation of choral singing and audience members through the Junior Mendelssohn Choir of Pittsburgh (JMCP). The JMCP was founded in 1988 to fill a community need for professional-level choral training for talented high school youth. JMCP provides youth with a challenging musical environment in which to develop their musical skills and gives them the tools and experiences to be life-long participants in the arts.

MCP’s most recent recording is Beethoven’s Ninth Symphony with the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra, with Manfred Honeck conducting. MCP performances are heard locally over WQED-FM (89.3) and PSOMCP performances are distributed nationally by Public Radio International (PRI).

For upcoming performances and more information, visit www.themendelssohn.org.

The Brooklyn-born and raised singer/actor, Capathia Jenkins, most recently released the critically acclaimed CD Phenomenal Woman the Maya Angelou Songs with her collaborator Louis Rosen and they Sold Out the world-famous Birdland Theatre in NYC for 3 nights. She starred as ‘Medda’ in the hit Disney production of Newsies on Broadway. She made her Broadway debut in The Civil War, where she created the role of Harriet Jackson. She then starred in the Off-Broadway 2000 revival of Godspell, where she wowed audiences with her stirring rendition of “Turn Back, O Man’ which can still be heard on the original cast recording. She returned to Broadway in The Look of Love and was critically acclaimed for her performances of the Bacharach/David hits.

Ms. Jenkins then created the roles of ‘The Washing Machine’ in Caroline, Or Change and ‘Frieda May’ in Martin Short-Fame Becomes Me where she sang ‘Stop the Show’ and brought the house down every night. In 2007 she went back to Off-Broadway and starred in (mis) Understanding Mammy-The Hattie McDaniel Story for which she was nominated for a Drama Desk Award. She was also seen in Nora Ephron’s Love, Loss, and What I Wore.

An active concert artist, Ms. Jenkins has appeared with numerous orchestras around the world including the Cleveland Orchestra, Houston Symphony, Pittsburgh Symphony (with Marvin Hamlisch), National Symphony, Cincinnati Pops (with John Morris Russell), Philly Pops, Atlanta Symphony, Seattle Symphony, Utah Symphony, Minnesota Orchestra, Toronto Symphony, San Diego Symphony, the Hong Kong Philharmonic and many others. She was a soloist with the Festival Cesky Krumlov in the Czech Republic multiple times. Capathia had the great honor of performing in the Broadway Ambassadors to Cuba concert as part of the Festival De Teatro De La Habana. She has appeared several times at Carnegie Hall with the New York Pops and also sang in a Tribute to Marvin Hamlisch at the Library of Congress.

Her upcoming 2019/2020 engagements include a return to the Cleveland Orchestra, Houston Symphony, Seattle Symphony, National Symphony at The Kennedy Center and The New York Pops at Carnegie Hall with Steven Reineke.

Her Television credits include 30 Rock, the Practice, Law & Order SVU, the Sopranos, Law & Order. She can be seen in the film ‘Musical Chairs’ directed by Susan Seidelman. Ms. Jenkins was also seen in The Wiz in a live performance on NBC. She can be heard on the following film soundtracks: Nine, Chicago, Legally Blonde 2.

Noted for his performances which “stand in memory” (The New York Times), multiple Drama Desk nominee RYAN SILVERMAN has been praised as the “smoothest, most assured bari-tenor, leading-man theatre voice at the moment” (Playbill.com). Silverman received a Drama Desk nomination for Best Actor for the role of Terry Connor in Side Show on Broadway, and has starred as Raoul in The Phantom of the Opera and as Billy Flynn in CHICAGO.

Silverman has also received Drama Desk and Drama League nominations for his performance as Giorgio in CSC’s 2013 production of Passion, which the New York Times praised for its “risk-taking, unconditional emotional commitment.” Additionally, he has appeared as Sir Lancelot in Camelot at the Kennedy Center, in the Théâtre du Châtelet’s acclaimed production of Passion opposite Natalie Dessay, as Tony in the Olivier-nominated 2008 West End production of West Side Story, and in the premiere of Delaware Theater Company’s new musical, A Sign of The Times. Silverman recently starred in concert with West Side Story with the Philadelphia Orchestra and in The Golden Apple at City Center Encores! He has made soloist appearances with the New York Pops, Seattle Symphony, Philly Pops, Cincinnati Pops, Houston Symphony, the NHK Symphony in Tokyo, the Cleveland Orchestra, Detroit Symphony, Vancouver Symphony, the Kaohsiung Symphony in Taiwan, and Edmonton Symphony, among others.
Other credits include *Cry-Baby* on Broadway, *Finian's Rainbow* (Irish Repertory Theater), and New York City Opera’s *The Most Happy Fella*. He recently made his debut at Papermill, starring in Ken Ludwig’s *A Comedy of Tenors*.

Regional credits include *Thoroughly Modern Millie* (Jimmy), *Cinderella* (the Prince), *Grease!* (Danny), *Hello Dolly!* (Cornelius), *Assassins* (John Wilkes Booth), *Sweeney Todd* (Anthony), *Forever Plaid* (Smudge), and *Blood Brothers* (Eddie Lyons). Silverman has performed his club act the Café Carlyle (month long residency) and Feinstein’s at the Regency, as well as 54Below with Melissa Errico. His television and film credits include *Suits, Good Fight, Gossip Girl, The 5 Minarets Of New York, Sex and the City 2, and True Blood.*

It is her commanding presence and explosive stage personality along with her dynamic and versatile voice that makes Vanessa (VĒ) a fan favorite. These traits along with her passion to perform have earned her the opportunity to work with some of the best music entertainment people in the business as well as perform at some of the biggest music venues across the country. It is her diversity, yet vocal purity that earned her the respect of world-renowned multi-award winning director/composer, Marvin Hamlisch. Marvin took Vanessa under his wing and developed her, taking her along with him to the National, Buffalo Philharmonic, and Pittsburgh Symphonies for a variety of shows. To this day, The Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra still features Vanessa as a headliner in their Holiday Pops series.

Throughout the years, Vanessa has shared the stage with some of the greatest artists in music such as Reba McEntire, Blake Shelton, Keith Urban, Idina Menzel, Gloria Estefan and more. You can also hear Vanessa vocally accompany multi platinum Christian/Pop recording artist, Michael W. Smith on his new pop album, “A Million Lights,” as well as his latest album, “Awaken.” You can also hear her alongside Smith, featuring on the globally known, BILLBOARD top 10 hit song, “Waymaker,” streamed over a billion times.

Christopher Sanders is an award winning actor and singer who has performed in venues around the world. Throughout his career, he has had the pleasure of working with George Hearn, Roddy McDowell, Carol Lawrence, John Raitt, Debbie Boone, and Rosemary Clooney. Most recently he received critical acclaim for his portrayals of Georges in *La Cage Aux Folles* and Fred/Pretruchio in *Kiss Me Kate*. Additional theatrical credits include Sweeney (Sweeney Todd), Claude Frollo (*Disney's Hunchback of Notre Dame*), Javert (*Les Miserables*), Emile (South Pacific), Dr. Jekyll/Mr. Hyde (*Jekyll and Hyde*), The Beast (*Disney's Beauty and the Beast*), Don Quixote (Man of La Mancha), Sky Masterson (*Guys & Dolls*), Chauvelin (*The Scarlet Pimpernel*), Juan Peron (*Evita*), and The Phantom (Kopit and Yeston’s *Phantom*).

His concert work includes engagements with the Pittsburgh Symphony, Knoxville Symphony, Bangor Symphony, Pasadena Pops, and The Music of Andrew Lloyd Webber at the National Theatre and Concert Hall Taiwan. Christopher tours the country as the baritone for the legendary 1940s singing group – The Pied Pipers. In 2001, they were inducted into the Vocal Group Hall of Fame along with the Bee Gees and The Eagles.

Micah Wilkinson has enjoyed a varied career as an orchestral musician, soloist, chamber artist, and teacher. He was appointed Principal Trumpet of the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra by Manfred Honeck in September 2017, following the PSO's highly successful European Festivals Tour.

Wilkinson comes to the Pittsburgh Symphony from the San Diego Symphony, where he served as Principal Trumpet for three years. He previously held positions with the Houston Symphony, the San Francisco Symphony, the Oregon Symphony, and the Tucson Symphony. Professional summer festival appearances have included the Cabrillo Festival; the Astoria Music Festival, where he was a soloist in Bach’s Brandenburg Concerto No. 2; the Sunriver Festival, and the Brevard Music Center.

Wilkinson is an accomplished teacher, clinician, and chamber music coach. In the summers, he serves as a teaching artist at the Round Top Festival Hill Institute in Round Top, TX. He also has served on the faculties of the University of Houston and Portland State University.

Wilkinson grew up in Norcross, Georgia. A proud graduate of St. Olaf College in Northfield, MN, he pursued additional studies at Arizona State University and the Staatliche Hochschule für Musik in Freiburg, Germany. His primary teachers include Martin Hodel, David Hickman, Larry Black, and Anthony Plog.
Neal Berntsen joined the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra trumpet section in March 1997, having been appointed at the invitation of Music Director Lorin Maazel in 1996. He is a native of Tacoma, Wash. He began his musical studies at age five playing the violin under the tutelage of his mother. By age eight, he advanced to the trumpet and ultimately received a B.M. from the University of Puget Sound and a M.M. from Northwestern University. A former member of the Chicago Lyric Opera Orchestra and the Grant Park Symphony Orchestra, Berntsen also has performed as principal trumpet for the Ravinia Festival Orchestra, Chicago Chamber Orchestra and the Bamberg Sinfoniker in Germany. Other orchestral performances have included the Chicago Symphony Orchestra and the Boston Symphony Orchestra.

As a soloist, Berntsen has performed the Concerto in E flat by Haydn, Anmutian Concerto for Trumpet and Orchestra, Carmen Fantasy by Proto and Antonio Vivaldi Concerto for two trumpets in C Major with the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra. Other solo engagements have included the Brevard Music Center, Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra and Bach's Brandenburg Concerto No. 2 at the Sedona Chamber Music Festival in Sedona, Ariz.

As an educator, Berntsen is chair of the Brass Division in the School of Music at Carnegie Mellon University. He previously served on the faculties of Duquesne University and Valparaiso University in Indiana. He has been published in The Instrumentalist magazine and the International Trumpet Guild Journal.

Chad Winkler joined the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra as fourth/utility trumpet in November 2008, and has been featured as soloist with the Pittsburgh Symphony. Prior to winning the Pittsburgh Symphony position, Winkler held positions with the Wheeling (WV) Symphony, the West Virginia Symphony and the Erie Philharmonic. He also performed with the orchestras of Honolulu, Louisville and Jacksonville, as well as acting principal trumpet with the orchestras of the Pittsburgh Ballet and Pittsburgh Opera.

Since August 2014, Winkler has been professor of trumpet at Slippery Rock University. Winkler also is professor of trumpet at California University of Pennsylvania.

Originally from Morgantown, West Virginia, Winkler earned his Bachelor of Music degree from West Virginia University, where he studied with his father, Dr. John Winkler. Winkler earned his Master of Music degree from Duquesne University, where he studied with Pittsburgh Symphony Principal Trumpet George Vosburgh.

Winkler won the National Trumpet Competition in 1995, 1998 and 2000. In 2013, he was invited to perform as guest soloist at the National Trumpet Competition. Chad and his wife, Elissa, live in Bethel Park with their son, Hudson, and daughter, Selah.

Conrad Jones is the newly appointed principal trumpet of the Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra. Prior to this position, he served as principal trumpet of the Tucson Symphony Orchestra. During the summer season, he is principal trumpet of the Britt Festival Orchestra in Jacksonville, OR, under Music Director Teddy Abrams. A native of Long Island, NY, he received his Bachelor’s of Music in trumpet performance at the Cleveland Institute of Music before continuing onto the Professional Studies program at the Colburn School Conservatory of Music in Los Angeles, California.

Outside of Indianapolis, Jones has performed as guest principal trumpet with the Detroit Symphony, Mainly Mozart Festival Orchestra, Phoenix Symphony, Malaysian Philharmonic and CityMusic Cleveland. He was acting 2nd trumpet with the San Francisco Ballet Orchestra during the 15–16 season. Former teachers include Michael Miller, Michael Sachs, and Jim Wilt.

The 2019-2020 Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra season represents William Caballero’s 30th year as its principal horn under its Maestros Manfred Honeck, Mariss Jansons and Lorin Maazel. Before joining the symphony in May 1989, Caballero previously held Principal Horn positions with the Houston Symphony, Houston Grand Opera and Hartford...
Sullivan has performed as a soloist on many occasions with several orchestras including the Pittsburgh and Montreal Symphonies. In 2006, he performed the world premiere performance of Jennifer Higdon’s Trombone Concerto with Sir Andrew Davis and the PSO.

Aside from countless orchestral performances in the great concert halls of Europe, Sullivan has performed at the Ascoli Piceno Brass Festival in Italy, and was featured in Christian Lindberg’s Trombone Concerto in Bunol, Spain with the composer on the podium. Sullivan was also the first prize winner in the 1990 Umea International Solo Competition in Sweden.

Here at home, Peter Sullivan has given concerts and clinics from coast to coast, including master classes at the Juilliard and Manhattan schools in New York City, The Curtis Institute of Music in Philadelphia, and the Glenn Gould Academy in Toronto. Presently, Sullivan serves on the faculties of Duquesne and Carnegie Mellon universities in Pittsburgh, following 15 years as adjunct professor at McGill University in Montreal.

James Nova joined the Grammy award winning Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra in 2009 as its Second/Utility Trombone. In 2012, Nova made his solo debut with the PSO, performing the Tomasi Trombone concerto.

Since 2012, Nova has found a new passion using recording technology to explore multitrack recording, also known as “overdubbing” and created numerous stunning recordings of his own challenging new arrangements of a variety of exciting repertoire for trombone choir. These employ a number of trombones: contra bass, bass, tenor, small tenor, alto and even soprano trombones!

In the fall of 1999, Peter Sullivan was appointed Principal Trombone of the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra by Mariiss Jansons. Canadian-born Sullivan came to Pittsburgh following a long and fruitful tenure as Solo Trombone with the Montreal Symphony under Charles Dutoit.
as both principal and second trombone. In 2001, Nova joined the Utah Symphony Orchestra where he served eight seasons as Assistant Principal/Second Trombone before joining the Pittsburgh Symphony.

When not on stage at Heinz Hall with the Pittsburgh Symphony, Nova can be found at Duquesne University where he’s Brass Coordinator and Adjunct Trombone Faculty and also the Brass Coach of the Three Rivers Young Peoples Orchestras. Visit Nova’s newly revamped website, jimnova.com, soundcloud.com/jimnova, for more info. Nova is an S.E. Shires Artist and performs on Greg Black Mouthpieces.

Jeffrey Dee joined the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra as principal bass trombone in fall 2016. Prior to this appointment, he held similar positions with the Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra, Jacksonville Symphony Orchestra and Shanghai Broadcasting Symphony Orchestra. Dee has been in demand as a guest artist with the major orchestras in Cincinnati, Cleveland, Chicago, Detroit, Minneapolis, and Seattle, and with the Orchestre de la Suisse Romande of Geneva, Switzerland. Since 1995, he has spent part of each summer as co-principal tuba of the Grand Teton Music Festival in Jackson, Wyoming.

Outside of the orchestra, Dee has enjoyed numerous solo, chamber, and teaching engagements. He has been fortunate to solo in front of the Buffalo Philharmonic, Amherst Symphony, U.S. Army Orchestra, World Youth Symphony, Brooklyn Wind Symphony and various college ensembles. A lover of chamber music, Dee has participated as a member of the Buffalo Chamber Players, Buffalo Philharmonic Brass Quintet and the fantastic Great Lakes Trombone Ensemble. As a teacher, he has served on faculty for the University of North Florida and SUNY Fredonia, and led master classes throughout the United States. For several summers, Dee has been guest artist and faculty for the Third Coast Trombone Retreat, an enriching program for trombonists of all ages.

A native of Plano, Texas, Dee attributes his love of music to his public school music education and his inspiring teachers. He received a bachelor’s degree in performance from Southern Methodist University and a master’s degree in performance from The Juilliard School. His principal teachers include Bob Burnham, John Kitzman, Donald Harwood and Joseph Alessi.

Craig Knox has been Principal Tuba of the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra since 2005, having previously held positions of Acting Principal Tuba of the San Francisco Symphony and Principal Tuba of the Sacramento Symphony and the New World Symphony (Miami). He has also performed as a guest artist with many other major American orchestras, including those of Philadelphia, Cleveland, Chicago, Detroit, Minneapolis, and Seattle, and with the Orchestre de la Suisse Romande of Geneva, Switzerland. Since 1995, he has spent part of each summer as co-principal tuba of the Grand Teton Music Festival in Jackson, Wyoming.

In March 2018, he played the world-premiere of the Jennifer Higdon Tuba Concerto (a PSO co-commission), with the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra and Robert Spano conducting, performances in which the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette said “Mr. Knox played with assurance and complete command of his instrument, providing a convincing case for the solo potential of the tuba.” In March 2012 he performed the world-premiere performances of Andre Previn’s Triple Concerto for Trumpet, Horn and Tuba with the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra, and the composer on the podium; he performed a reprise of that work in 2016 as part of the PSO’s 120th Anniversary concert, with Manfred Honeck conducting.

Knox is Artist Lecturer of Tuba at Carnegie Mellon University, and a faculty member at the Curtis Institute of Music in Philadelphia. His first teachers included Gary Ofenloch, Samuel Pilafian and Chester Schmitz, and he attended the Curtis Institute of Music, where he studied with Paul Krzywicki of the Philadelphia Orchestra, and earned a Bachelor of Music degree.

Knox holds the Dr. Mary Ann Craig Principal Tuba Chair. For more information about Craig Knox and his activities, visit www.CraigKnoxTuba.com, or Craig Knox Tubist on Facebook.

Andrew Reamer joined the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra percussion section in 1989. He was appointed associate principal percussion in 2003 and principal percussion in 2008. He earned Bachelor of Music and Master of Music degrees from Temple University. Reamer has taught at Duquesne University for 25 years and plays jazz with Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra colleagues in The White Tie Group.

He has composed a popular collection of etudes for marimba entitled “Reamer’s Elixirs Two-Mallet Fixers” and is an endorser for Zildjian Cymbals, Evans Drumheads and Innovative Mallets.

He carries on a drum- and stick-making tradition that can be traced to the mid-19th century, and his work and innovations can be viewed at drummersservice.com. His custom drums and sticks are used by the most prestigious orchestras and universities throughout the world.

Reamer gets around Pittsburgh on a bike, a motorcycle or in a kayak regardless of the weather.
![Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra](https://www.pittsburghsymphony.org)

### ORCHESTRA ROSTER

**Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra 2020 Christmas in July Broadcast**

#### MUSIC DIRECTOR
Manfred Honeck

**ENDORDED BY THE VIRIL HEINZ ENDOWMENT**

#### THE FOLLOWING CONDUCTORS AND MUSICIANS PERFORMED ON ONE OR MORE OF THE HIGHMARK HOLIDAY POPS CONCERTS IN DECEMBER 2015, 2016 AND 2017, AND, AS INDICATED (©), THE PSO360 HOLIDAY BRASS SPECTACULAR IN DECEMBER 2018:

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- Francesco Lecce-Chong
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### PITTSBURGH SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA 2020 Christmas in July Broadcast

_All endowed chair titles are contemporaneous with the 2019-2020 season._
### ORCHESTRA ROSTER

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- Nancy Goeres
- David Sogg
- Philip A. Pandolfi

**CONTRABASSOON**
- James Rodgers

**HORN**
- William Caballero
- Stephen Kostyniak
- Zachary Smith
- Robert Lauver
- Mark Houghton
- Joseph Rounds

**TROMBONE**
- Peter Sullivan
- James Rodgers
- James Nova
- James Albrecht
- Jeffrey Dee
- Hakeem Bilal

**TUBA**
- Craig Knox
- Joshua Jones

**TIMPANI**
- Edward Stephan
- Christopher Allen

**PERCUSSION**
- Andrew Reamer
- Jeremy Branson
- Shawn Galvin
- Nicholas Huneycutt
- Brian Kushmaul
- John Soroka

**PRINCIPAL**
- Scott Elliott

**CO-PRINCIPAL**
- Joann Ferrell Vosburgh

**ASSOCIATE PRINCIPAL**
- Lisa Gedris

**ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL**
- Carrie McCormack

**EXTRA MUSICIAN**
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**SEASON MUSICIAN**
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**RECORDING CHAIRS**
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- James Rodgers
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- Zachary Smith

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- James Rodgers

### RECORDED LIVE AT HIGHMARK HOLIDAY POPS AND PSO360 CONCERTS IN DECEMBER OF THE YEAR LISTED:

- **Anderson, Sleigh Ride** (2015)
- **Ballard and Silvestri (arr. Brubaker), Suite from The Polar Express** (2015)
- **Pola & Wyle (arr. Hayes), It’s the Most Wonderful Time of the Year** (2015)
- **Williams, Somewhere in My Memory** (2016)
- **Styne & Cahn (arr. Hayes), Let it Snow** (2016)
- **Hamlisch (arr. Page and Bisbano), Chanukah Lights** (2016)
- **Various (arr. Bass), Seasonal Sounds** (2017)
- **Gruber (arr. Harris), Silent Night** (2017)
- **Traditional (arr. Harris), We Wish You a Merry Christmas** (2017)
- **Gervaise, Old French Dances** (2018)
- **Traditional (arr. Harvey), Coventry Carol** (2018)
- **Traditional (arr. Harvey), Riu, Riu, Chiu** (2018)
- **Brahms (arr. Berntsen), Geistliches Wiegenlied** (2018)
- **Gabrieli, Canzon duodecimi toni** (2018)
- **Bach, Prelude in B Flat Minor, BWV 868** (2018)
- **Traditional (arr. Grainger), Sussex Mummer’s Christmas Carol** (2018)
- **Various (arr. Harvey), Festive Cheer Medley** (2018)
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Super Bon Bons

Ryan Clark
Manager of Patron Services

INGREDIENTS

1, 14oz bag of Ginger Snaps
1.5, Packages of Cinnamon Sugar Graham Crackers (aka ½ of a 14.4 oz box)
1, brick of cream cheese (softened)
1, Stick of butter (melted)
3, 10oz bags of white chocolate chips.
Wax paper
Double boiler
Chopsticks
Food Processor

DIRECTIONS

1. In the food processor, pulverize the graham crackers and ginger snaps. Trust me, use the food processor. Ginger snaps are surprisingly resilient. Just bashing them in a Ziploc will only tire you out. I promise.

2. Reserve some of the larger bits for decoration. Then add the cream cheese and butter. Pulse until combined and refrigerate for 20 min or so to keep it firm.

3. Form the… let’s call it a paste? Sure. Form the paste into balls about the diameter of a quarter. Refrigerate the balls for 20 min to keep them firm.

4. In a double boiler, melt the white chocolate. Then, add a ball one at a time and coat in white chocolate. I find chopsticks work best for this, as a spoon will have the chocolate stick to it instead of the confection. Repeat until they are all coated.

5. Set them to cool on the wax paper. Sprinkle a little brown stripe of the reserved larger bits so it isn’t just a colorless ball. Be sure to do this before the chocolate sets.

Coconut Pineapple No-Bake Snowballs

Andy Coleman
Marketing Manager

INGREDIENTS

1 pkg (8 ounces) cream cheese, softened.
1 can (8 ounces) crushed pineapple, well drained.
1 cup chopped pecans
3 cups flaked coconut

DIRECTIONS

1. In a small bowl, beat cream cheese and pineapple until combined, then fold in the chopped pecans. Cover and refrigerate mixture for 1 hour.

2. Take mixture out of the refrigerator and roll into 1-inch balls; then roll the balls in the flaked coconut. Refrigerate for 4 hours or overnight. Aaaand that’s it!
Root Beer Cookie

Allison Lambacher
Manager of Marketing, Subscriptions

INGREDIENTS

Cookie:
1 cup packed brown sugar
½ cup butter or margarine
1 egg
¼ cup buttermilk
1 teaspoon root beer extract
1 ¾ cups all-purpose flour
½ teaspoon baking soda
½ teaspoon salt

Glaze:
2 cups confectioners’ sugar
1/3 cup butter or margarine
1 ½ teaspoons root beer extract
2 tablespoons hot water

DIRECTIONS

Preheat oven to 350 degrees.

Mix together brown sugar, ½ cup butter or margarine, egg, buttermilk, and 1 teaspoon of root beer extract.

Add flour, baking soda, and salt and mix well.

Drop teaspoon sized pieces of dough 2 inches apart on greased cookie sheets. Bake for 6 to 8 minutes.

To make Root Beer Glaze: Sift confectioner sugar. Mix together confectioner’s sugar, 1/3 cup butter or margarine, 1 ½ teaspoons of root beer extract, and hot water. Brush on top of hot cookies.

When storing, put wax paper between rows.

This recipe has been in my family for almost as long as I’ve been alive! While they may sound kind of weird (how do you turn a drink into a cookie?), these soft, old-timey cookies have been winning the hearts of many for decades.
Italian Bread Salad Bites with Garlic, Oil, and Balsamic Reduction

Jessica Wolfe
Manager of Development Operations

INGREDIENTS

Loaf of Italian Bread – homemade or store bought
Olive Oil – or Oil to your liking (my favorite is coconut)
Minced Garlic – as desired
Fresh Roma Tomatoes – as desired
Spring Mix Salad – bagged or freshly grown/purchased and chopped
Balsamic Vinegar Reduction – homemade or purchased sweet balsamic vinegar
(DeLallo brand is great)
Fresh/Blocked Parmesan Cheese – can shred or purchase already cut
(Feta also works)

DIRECTIONS

1. Cut bread to 1” to 2” Slices and arrange on lightly greased pan for oven
2. Drizzle *Olive oil on bread
3. Toss Minced garlic on top of bread
4. Toast bread at 250-300 degrees for a few minutes – until desired toasting/crunch is achieved – 7-10 minutes
5. Take Spring Mix Salad and Sprinkle on bread
6. Chopped Fresh Tomatoes arrange on top of Spring Mix
7. Drizzle Balsamic Reduction on the top of all ingredients on top of the bread
8. Scatter Feta or fresh Parmesan over the top
Czernowitz Challah

Jodi Weisfield
Sr. Vice President & Chief Development Officer

INGREDIENTS

1 envelope instant yeast
3 3/4 cups bread flour
3/4 cup warm water (about 110 degrees F)
2 large eggs, plus 1 egg for glazing
1/2 cup vegetable oil
1 1/2 teaspoons table salt
1/4 cup sugar
Poppy seeds or sesame seeds, for sprinkling

DIRECTIONS

In a large bowl, whisk together the yeast and 3/4 cup of the flour, then whisk in the warm water until smooth. Let stand uncovered for 10 to 20 minutes, or until it begins to ferment and puff up slightly.

Whisk the 2 eggs, oil, salt, and sugar into the puffed yeast slurry until the eggs are well incorporated and the salt and sugar have dissolved. With your hands or a wooden spoon, stir in the remaining 3 cups flour all at once. When the mixture is a shaggy ball, scrape it out onto your work surface and knead it until smooth and soft, no more than 10 minutes. (Soak your mixing bowl in hot water now to clean it and warm it if you would like to use if for fermenting the dough).

Place the dough in the warm cleaned bowl and cover it with plastic wrap. Let the dough ferment until it has at least doubled in bulk, about 2 hours, depending on the temperature in your kitchen.

Line 1 or 2 large baking sheets, depending on how many breads you are making, with parchment paper or oil them. Divide the dough into 2 (1-pound) portions for loaves, 1 (1 1/2-pound) portion for a large loaf (you will have enough dough left to make 3 rolls also), or 16 (2-ounce) portions for rolls. Braid or shape them as desired, position them on the prepared sheets, and cover well with plastic wrap. Let proof until tripled in size, about 1 to 1 1/2 hours.

Meanwhile, 30 minutes before baking, arrange the oven racks in the upper and lower third positions if using 2 baking sheets, or arrange 1 rack in the upper third position if using 1 baking sheet, and remove any racks above them. Preheat the oven to 350 degrees F.

Beat the remaining egg with a pinch of salt for glazing the breads.

When the loaves have tripled in size and they do not push back when gently pressed with your finger but remain indented, brush them with the egg glaze. If desired, sprinkle with poppy or sesame seeds. Bake rolls for 15 to 20 minutes, the 1-pound loaves for 25 to 35 minutes, or the 1 1/2-pound loaf for 35 to 45 minutes, until very well browned. After the first 20 minutes of baking, switch the loaves from front to back so that they brown evenly. If the large loaf is browning too quickly, tent it with foil.

When the loaves are done, remove them from the oven and let them cool on a rack.
Irene’s Swedish Cookies

Erin Lynn
Director of Sales

INGREDIENTS

½ c shortening
¼ c brown sugar
1 egg yolk
½ tsp vanilla
1 c flour
¾ tsp salt
1 egg white
¾ c pecans or walnuts

DIRECTIONS

1. Preheat oven to 375.
2. Mix shortening with first 3 ingredients.
3. Sift flour with salt and stir in with mixture.
4. Roll dough into balls.
5. Dip into egg white and roll in nuts.
6. Bake 5 minutes.
7. Remove from oven—press thumb in cookie.
8. Return to oven and bake 10 minutes longer.
Devil’s Food Cake

Rachael Lane
Development Assistant

INGREDIENTS

Cake:
2 cups all-purpose flour
1 teaspoon salt
1 teaspoon baking powder
2 teaspoons baking soda
3/4 cup unsweetened cocoa powder
2 cups sugar
1 cup vegetable oil
1 cup hot coffee
1 cup milk
2 large eggs
1 teaspoon vanilla

Frosting:
1 cup milk
5 tablespoons all-purpose flour
1/2 cup butter, softened
1/2 cup shortening
1 cup sugar
1 teaspoon vanilla

DIRECTIONS

Preheat oven to 325°F.

In a large mixing bowl, sift together dry ingredients. Add oil, coffee and milk and mix at medium speed for 2 minutes. Add eggs and vanilla and beat 2 more minutes. Expect batter to be thin.

Pour into a 9” x 13” greased and floured pan or 2- 9” round pans. Bake 9 x 13 pan for about 45 minutes or 9” pans for about 30 minutes. Cool in pans for about 15 minutes and then cool completely on racks.

While cake is cooling make the icing: Combine the milk and flour in a saucepan and cook over low heat until thick, whisking constantly. Cover and refrigerate until chilled.

In a medium bowl, beat butter, shortening, sugar and vanilla until creamy. Add chilled milk and flour mixture and beat for 10 minutes.

Frost cooled cake and enjoy! The frosting sounds intimidating, but it is worth it! By the way, for some reason, we prefer this cake chilled, right out of the refrigerator. The rich chocolate and cool frosting just seem to taste best this way.
Buckeyes

Jessica Wolfe
Manager of Development Operations

INGREDIENTS

1 lb. confectioners’ sugar
1 ½ cups peanut butter
½ cup (1 stick) butter or margarine
1 tsp vanilla extract
1 (12 oz) bag semi-sweet chocolate chips
¼ bar paraffin (or Crisco or Ghee)

DIRECTIONS

1. In a large bowl, mix together the first 4 ingredients with an electric mixer at medium speed for 4-5 minutes, or by hand. Dough should be slightly crumbly.

2. Shape into 1” balls.

3. Press a toothpick into top of each ball (to be used later for dipping).

4. Place balls on a large, wax paper-lined cookie sheet and chill in the freezer until set, about 1 hour.

5. In double boiler, melt together chocolate chips and paraffin, stirring frequently until smooth.

6. Dip balls in warm chocolate, leaving a small portion of peanut butter showing at the top to make them look like buckeye nuts.

7. Refrigerate until set, at least 1 hour.

8. Remove toothpicks and smooth the hole.
Traditional Egg Nog Recipe as passed down from his teacher Paul Krzywicki, (former) tubist of the Philadelphia Orchestra (from 1972-2005)

INGREDIENTS

- 1 dozen eggs (separated)
- 1 lb. sugar (2 heaping cups)
- 1 qt. heavy cream
- 16 oz. Applejack brandy
- 12 oz. Bacardi dark rum
- 1 pt. whole milk
- 2 oz. Stroh’s rum (160 proof)
- fresh ground nutmeg
- optional: grated lemon or orange rind

DIRECTIONS

Place egg whites in large bowl with the sugar, and beat until they thicken and foam, making sure all the sugar is dissolved.

In another large bowl, beat egg yolks until they lighten in color. Pour whites into the yolks very gradually until thoroughly combined.

Place heavy cream in the first bowl, and beat until cream about doubles in volume. (If you want a frothy egg nog, continue beating until you achieve a whipped consistency.)

Now slowly mix heavy cream and egg mixture until combined. Slowly add both rums, brandy, and milk.

Using a funnel, grate approximately ¼ of a nutmeg seed into the large jug. Then pour the egg nog mixture into the jug, and shake gently. If you have a frothy egg nog, it will separate easily and have to be shaken each time it is poured. Refrigerate immediately.

Serve in a glass with a stirrer, and grate fresh nutmeg (and citrus rind, if desired) on top. Makes maximum of 1 gallon egg nog.

DEVIATIONS FROM THIS RECIPE CANNOT BE GUARANTEED!
This recipe was passed down to me by my teacher, Paul Krzywicki, who was the tubist of the Philadelphia Orchestra from 1972-2005. I have fond memories of being served this egg nog at his house during the Christmas season when I was a student. It requires Stroh’s Rum, which is an Austrian Rum of extremely high alcohol content. It is 160 Proof (80 percent alcohol), and the bottle is labeled “Caution: Flammable.”
Dad’s Pizza Dough

Jim Nova
Trombone

DIRECTIONS

Mix together

1/2 cup warm water 1 package of yeast 1 egg
2.5 tsp sugar
1 tbs crisco Splash of olive oil

Wait a few minutes then mix in
1 tsp salt

Then mix in
2.5 cups bread flour

My dad owned and operated a pizza shop when I was a kid and retired about when I was entering graduate school.
Anise Cookies

Eva Burmeister
Second Violin

INGREDIENTS

150g powdered sugar
2 eggs
1 pinch of salt
1 packet of vanilla sugar (9g)*
150g flour
1 tablespoon ground anise**

*You can try to substitute 9g sugar plus the seeds of a vanilla bean for the vanilla sugar packet.
**Ground star anise has a stronger flavor for baking and is available at Penzeys.

DIRECTIONS

Grease two cookie sheets with butter and lightly cover with flour.

In a double boiler, combine the powdered sugar, eggs, salt and vanilla sugar.

Apply medium heat (indirect via the double boiler) and blend with a hand beater until the mixture is foamy.

Remove the mixture from heat and let cool a bit. Then, fold the anise and flour into the mixture.

Spoon the batter in quarter-sized drops onto the cookie sheets.

Let dry for 12 hours at room temperature.

Heat oven at 280 degrees F. Bake on the middle rack for 20-30 minutes. The cookies are finished when the undersides are just starting to turn golden but the tops are still white.

Let the anise cookies cool. When they are stored for 2-3 weeks, they will become softer.

I learned about this holiday cookie recipe while living in Germany where the desserts tend to be less sweet than in the US. I had never tried an anise cookie before, and it has since become a family favorite!
Mom’s Easy Microwave Peanut Butter Fudge

Lisa Gedris  
Principal Librarian

INGREDIENTS

3 cups sugar  
¾ cup butter or margarine  
1 can (5 oz.) evaporated milk  
1 package peanut butter chips  
1 jar (7 oz.) marshmallow creme  
1 tsp. vanilla

DIRECTIONS

In a large microwavable bowl, combine sugar, butter, and milk.
Cook at high for 9 – 11 minutes or until sugar is dissolved. Stir about halfway through cooking time.
Add remaining ingredients and stir until chips are melted.
Turn into well-greased 8x12 or 9x11 dish.
Cool, cut into squares.
I love to make this at Christmastime to share with my family and colleagues!
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SYMPHONY NO. 4

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