

President's Letter -- Welcome to our 44th Season!

Welcome to the Prince George's Philharmonic's 2010-2011 season. Once again, we will be presenting five programs of symphonic masterworks for your listening pleasure. We will begin in October by renewing our affiliation with the renowned Johansen International String Competition, as we present the first-prize winning violinist from the 2009 Johansen Competition, Nancy Zhou, as our soloist in Prokofiev's Violin Concerto No. 2. Our November program is devoted to the music of Brahms, and will feature his Serenade No. 2 (because it has no violin parts, this is the least frequently performed of Brahms' orchestral works). In February, we will present nationally-known Violist Amadi Azikiwe as our soloist in works by Bruch and Paganini – this will also be the evening of our annual Side-by-Side performance, for which we will invite a number of Prince George's County's outstanding high-school age musicians to sit in with the Philharmonic as we play Tchaikovsky's delightful Capriccio Italien. Our March concert will, as usual, spotlight Music in Our Schools month - this year, the Philharmonic will donate a portion of the ticket revenue from this concert to support the Prince George's County Public Schools Instrumental Music program. The evening's program, which will be led by the Philharmonic's Assistant Conductor, Shawn Burke-Storer, will include the world premiere of A Walk through the Vampire's Garden, by American composer, P.K. Waddle. Finally, in May, we will once again join forces with the Heritage Signature Chorale and the Chesapeake Chorale for a performance of Giuseppe Verdi's inimitable Requiem Mass. I look forward to seeing you there.

Charles Ellis, *Music Director*