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## The SBU Orchestra Presents Family Orchestra Concert

*This year's theme is "Musical Surprises" and it is free!*

**Stony Brook, NY:** On February 28, 2023, the University Orchestra will be performing the annual Family Orchestra Concert at the Staller Center Main Stage at 7:30 PM. This concert is a great opportunity for families in the community to spend one hour of their Tuesday night. It will be conducted by Susan Deaver and led by the concertmistress, Elvina Liu. This year's theme is "Musical Surprises," which showcases the diversity of classical music. The audience will hear a variety of orchestral sounds of strings, woodwinds, brass, and percussion, with surprises in dynamics, tempos, moods, and styles. Here is a little sneak peek: Elvina will be performing the opening movement of Mozart's 4th Violin Concerto. Very exciting, right? Do you know what is more thrilling? The concert is completely FREE of charge! So come and join us on Tuesday night.

"Everybody likes surprises, right?" joked Deaver, who has conducted the orchestra for more than 20 years. Because this year's theme is full of surprises and unpredictable tunes, the audience will not hear common melodies like "Cannon in D," etc. You are expected to hear some uncommon pieces of classical music that reflect a different side of classical music. In addition to these musical surprises, there will be a surprise from the audience, too. Every year, the neighborhood elementary school will join us that day, and a piece composed by an elementary school student will be performed by the orchestra. The intention is to intrigue the next generation with how classical music can be exciting and fun. Perhaps this is why Susan Deaver ends the program with a piece from Mozart. As Elvina said, "I do make a great effort to

respect Mozart's writing and stylistic ideas, though I admit that I enjoy testing the limits and boundaries when I play. Sometimes I surprise myself in the moment as well!"

**About [The University Orchestra](#):** The University Orchestra at Stony Brook University is a student ensemble consisting of undergraduate and graduate music majors, as well as non-music majors. The orchestra performs a variety of orchestral works, including major pieces such as Brahms Symphony No. 5, Tchaikovsky Symphony No. 4 & No. 5, and Vaughan Williams' "London Symphony," along with other standard overtures and concertos. They hold a series of concerts each season at Staller Center and also sponsor the annual Undergraduate Concerto Competition, with the winner featured as a soloist with the orchestra. The orchestra rehearses weekly on Tuesday evenings and offers orchestral reading and master classes with Stony Brook Music Faculty.