



Civic Orchestra of Tucson

PO Box 42764, Tucson, AZ 85733 | www.cotmusic.org
Contact: Dorothy Fitch | manager@cotmusic.org | 520-730-3371

Civic Orchestra of Tucson presents “THE EMPEROR!”

TUCSON, AZ (February 25, 2019) — The Civic Orchestra of Tucson (COT) gets a head-start on the 250th anniversary of the birth of Ludwig van Beethoven in its pair of free concerts this spring.

♪ **Saturday, March 16, at 3:00 pm**
Journey Church, 4700 N Swan Rd. Tucson

♪ **Sunday, March 17, at 4:30 pm**
Crowder Hall, UA Fred Fox School of Music, 1017 N Olive Rd, Tucson

The featured work on the program is Piano Concerto No. 5, “Emperor,” by Ludwig van Beethoven (1770–1827). The composer did not give the work the name “Emperor”—that was done by his publisher. The piece was Beethoven’s last completed piano concerto and dedicated to his patron and pupil, Archduke Rudolph.



The piano soloist at these concerts will be Dr. Rex Woods, Professor of Music at the UA Fred Fox School of Music. Since presenting his first public solo recital over 50 years ago, Dr. Woods has performed as a soloist, accompanist, and chamber musician throughout the United States and in Canada, Mexico, France, China, and Australia.

In recent years Dr. Woods has performed as concerto soloist with the chamber orchestra of the University of Michoacán, Tucson Symphony, Mesa Symphony, Sierra Vista Symphony, and Arizona Symphony. Recent chamber music appearances include recitals at the National Flute Association Conventions, University of Utah, Humboldt State University, Brigham Young University, and local performances with the Arizona Wind Quintet and UA colleagues. Since 1988, he has taught at the University of Arizona, including 14 years as an administrator in the Fred Fox School of Music.

Also on the program are the **Overture to Ruslan and Lyudmila** by Mikhail Glinka (1804–1857) and the **Le Coq d’Or (Golden Cockerel) Suite** by Nicolai Rimsky-Korsakov (1844–1908).

Charles Bontrager comments on his first season as Music Director of the orchestra: “These March performances represent a culmination of my first official year with the Civic Orchestra of Tucson, and a fine year it has been. The musicians who populate the ranks of the orchestra are terrific, and supremely committed to achieving their very best. The result is that they provide me a wonderful group to work with and for the audience, an excellent listening experience.”

All area residents are invited to attend these free concerts. No tickets are required.

The Civic Orchestra of Tucson is a 75-member community orchestra dedicated to performing free concerts throughout the greater Tucson area since 1975.

For more information about these free concerts, visit www.COTmusic.org or call 520-730-3371.

###

The Civic Orchestra of Tucson’s 2018–2019 season is supported in part by the Arizona Commission on the Arts, which receives support from the State of Arizona and the National Endowment for the Arts.