March 28, 2020

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The Westchester Philharmonic presents its 50th season capstone, Earth Day and Beethoven, on April 19 at 3 p.m. at the Purchase Performing Arts Center, 735 Anderson Hill Road, Purchase, New York.

This program takes a multidimensional look at the world as home to the human species and the challenges we face as we try to balance our responsibilities to our planet and its inhabitants. The concert opens with a performance of Beethoven’s Piano Concerto No. 4, a work that was completed just weeks before the composer’s death and is considered to be one of his finest achievements.

The Westchester Philharmonic (West Phil), one of the nation’s leading community orchestras, is the heart and soul of the performing arts in Westchester County. Founded in 1966 by the late William J. Mundy, West Phil performs at least six subscription concerts per season, including an opening night gala, a pops concert, an April Earth Day and Beethoven gala, and three in-concert chamber music series. The orchestra is comprised of the finest professional free-lance musicians from around the greater metropolitan area, who also perform regularly with the New York City Ballet, Orchestra St. Luke’s, Metropolitan Opera, and the New York Philharmonic. The orchestra takes great pride in its role as a mentor to young musicians and students each year and culminates in a full orchestra concert. The Phil also partners with local arts organizations and schools to bring music to our community in a variety of settings. The orchestra is committed to programming new and innovative music, working with emerging composers and commissioning new works. Many of the world premieres of new works presented by the Philharmonic come from diverse backgrounds and/or are women. Over the past 15 years, the Phil has premiered over 75 new works, featuring the music of such composers as Anna Polonsky, Rachel Sale, Shulamit Ran, Jocelyn Morlock, Lisa Bielawa, Angela Hare, Ethel Asian, and Lilya Chetverina.

Beethoven: Piano Concerto No. 4

Ran Dank, piano

Christopher Oldfather, piano

Robert Cooper, cello

Beethoven: Trio in B flat major, op. 11

Paquito D’Rivera: Three Pieces for clarinet and piano

Mendelssohn: Octet in E flat major, op. 20

Beethoven: String Symphony in B flat major, op. 80

This season is made possible with public funds from the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Andrew Cuomo and the New York State Legislature. The Phil also gratefully acknowledges the support of the New York State Arts Council, the Westchester County Government, artsWestchester with funding from the New York State Council on the Arts and the New York State Office of Cultural Development, the National Endowment for the Arts, The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, the John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation, and Chamber Music America. Other contributing organizations and individuals include The Friends of the Westchester Philharmonic, Dietz & Watson, The Saul A. Cohen Foundation, and a host of private donors.

Pre-concert discussion with the artists at 2pm.

Beethoven: Piano Concerto No. 4

Ran Dank, piano

Christopher Oldfather, piano

Robert Cooper, cello

Paquito D’Rivera: Three Pieces for clarinet and piano

Mendelssohn: Octet in E flat major, op. 20

Beethoven: String Symphony in B flat major, op. 80

This season is also made possible, in part, by ArtsWestchester with funds from Westchester County Government.