



**Newcomers Concert Notes**  
**Gateway to Romance**  
**March 21 at 7:30 pm**

**Young Artists Auditions Winner**

The DSO strives to encourage serious study and musical excellence among young musicians through its annual Young Artists Auditions. This experience has been designed to be both rewarding and educational. One of our early winners, violinist Jennifer Koh, is now a renowned concert and recording artist.

The Young Artists Auditions competition is Feb. 1, 2020. Winner will be announced mid-Feb.

**Peter Ilyich Tchaikovsky - *Romeo and Juliet Fantasy Overture***

Born in 1840 in present-day Udmurtia, Russia, he enrolled at the St. Petersburg Technological Institute, where his father was the director. His only music instruction as a child was piano lessons taught by a piano manufacturer who occasionally visited the school. In 1855, his father enrolled him with a well-known German piano teacher. However, when this teacher wrote his father that Peter would never be a fine composer, his father insisted that he study law at the Institute and then take a post in the Ministry of Justice. Peter complied, although his interest in music never left him.

***Romeo and Juliet***

Tchaikovsky's colleague, composer Mily Balakirev, suggested the idea of using the story of Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet*. The original version was composed in 1869 in only six weeks, but the final version performed today wasn't completed until 1880. Its central love theme is frequently heard in romantic scenes for film and television.

**Howard Hanson - *Symphony No. 2 in D-flat Major***

Born in 1896 in Wahoo, Nebraska, this American composer, conductor, and teacher was an unabashed romantic who cited Grieg and Sibelius as the most powerful influences on his style. His colorful orchestrations resulted from studies with Respighi during a three-year stay in Rome, as a result of winning the prestigious *Prix de Rome*. He used his long-time position as the first director of the Eastman School of Music and conductor of its orchestra (1924-64) to further the cause of American music.