Concordia Conservatory will present its 16th annual holiday community musical, PAGEANT! with shows on December 11, 12 & 13 with a cast & crew from ages 8–18 from throughout Westchester County.

“Pageant!,” with book and lyrics by Greg Suss, is a musical about how a traditional Christmas pageant changes and brings the community together. The story centers around the parish of St. Genesius. They are falling on hard times and are trying to get more parishioners attending services. The answer is to produce a new and exciting Christmas Pageant! Everyone takes sides between holding onto tradition and taking a more modern approach—but does new and modern necessarily mean good? See how the adults, kids and the whole community come together in this one-act musical comedy.

The production team consists of Greg Suss (stage director) Jon Klibonoff (music director), Audry Hamilton (choreographer) and Sharon Shearon (producer). The band for PAGEANT! comprises of Bob Gingery, Lee Metcalf, Yousif Sheronick and Matt Van Brink.

The cast includes Gabrielle Adams, Renee Ai, Sarah Angervine, Joanne Arana, Renee Arana, Audrey Bader, Lily Bonnem, Amelia Bornmann, Ally Bruno, Catie Burnell, Elizabeth Burnell, Elizabeth Caminiti, Julia Caminiti, George Cooney, Kaden Cummings, Caryn Cummings, Elina Cummings, Olivia Damasco, Colleen DeGennaro, Maya Engenheiro, Anthony Evangelista, Paul Evangelista, Jenna Ginsburg, Anthony Gjelaj, Joshua Gleason, Rose Hanish, Linnea Hentschel, Paul Hodulik, Samantha Ingram, Ingrid Krawiec, Ally Lavalie, Maya Madhavan, Caleigh McCrink, Tara McIntosh, Emily Murray, Julia Ognibene, Kaitlyn O'Shea, Alexis Pinto, Nora Podoll, Natalia Potenza, Maria Potenza, Jessica Rampersaud, Caroline Richardson, Arielle Rothman, Emma Sanchez, Lyndsie Schultz, Max Shearon, Zac Shearon, Hailey Sidari, Trevor Smith, Kyle Smith, Maddy Smith, Katie Suss, Jack Szczepanski, Carina Tarazi, Anabelle Thurston, Renz Toledo, Justine Watkins, and Zarine Yaghoobi.

The backstage crew includes Sofia Adams, Melissa Donaghy, Michelle Donaghy, Emily Fioriello, James Gjelaj, Timothy Gjelaj, Zachary Gleason, Jazmyn Gyapong, Kyle O’Keeffe, Michael McMahon and Henry Podoll.

Since 1999, Concordia Conservatory has produced an annual holiday musical as a tuition-free community outreach program funded by private contributions from donors. The production receives 100% volunteer participation from the parents of the cast.

Concert Tickets:
$22 adults
$11 children under 12 & seniors

To Purchase Tickets:
Call: 914-395-4507
Online: www.concordiaconservatory.org
We are pleased to announce our first-ever Junior Committee of the 2016 Concordia Conservatory Benefit Gala on Saturday, January 23, Gershwin & Friends, featuring Broadway actress and vocalist Montego Glover with Elizabeth-Lim-Dutton & John Patitucci and friends. This elegant evening will include a concert at the Sommer Center followed by a dinner/dance at the Bronxville Field Club.

Our first-ever junior committee will provide leadership and support alongside our benefit committee for this event. It is also an opportunity to provide community service hours plus enjoy a great Conservatory celebration of music and friendship.

**Concert Tickets:**
- $35 adults
- $18 children under 12 & seniors

**Gala Tickets:**
- $190 per person

**To Purchase Tickets:**
- 914-395-4507
- www.concordiaconservatory.org

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**What’s The Ideal Age to Take Up An Instrument? 18, 40 or 80?**

What inspires adult students to return to an instrument, or take up a new one?

For years, you vowed that you would learn but never felt that you had the time. When you retired at age 68, you found a teacher you loved, and all the pieces fell into place. Like many musicians at Concordia Conservatory, you played an instrument as a child and gave it up in your 20s, but never lost your passion for music.

Conservatory adult students are a very diverse group. Ranging in age from 18 to 90+, they include musicians and singers at all skill levels, from absolute beginners to adults who studied an instrument seriously as children or teens, took a break, and then returned to music. Other great options for beginners include group classes, which add a fun social element to starting an instrument.

The demands of careers and families can push music and the performing arts onto the back burner, but many Conservatory students return to music as adults because it’s so valuable to them as an outlet for creative expression and a way of connecting with others. In many cases, parents take lessons along with their children or grandchildren.

Call Executive Director Kathleen Suss to discuss your possibilities.

“Don’t wait for the perfect moment, take the moment and make it perfect.” — Zoey Sayward
Conservatory Students Graduate from Suzuki Books 1 & 2

From the studio of the Conservatory faculty Emily Kalish, half a dozen students graduated after successfully completing Suzuki Books 1 & 2 lessons. The graduates included Ava Toolan and Rihanna Samson, Nicolo Tortorella, Clara Stevanovic and Tara McIntosh. The students had their graduation recital on Sunday, November 1 for an audience of over 40 family and friends at the Conservator’s Stein Hall.

Concordia Conservatory offers Suzuki instruction in guitar, violin, and cello for children as young as age three. As in the traditional method of instruction, students are given weekly private lessons with a faculty, and attend weekly group classes to further develop their musical skills.

The Suzuki method of music education is now a well-established pedagogical technique. Dr. Shinichi Suzuki, a western-trained professional violinist, developed the system to give musical instruction to the children of postwar Japan.

The Music Development Royal Conservatory Awards of Excellence

Five Conservatory students receive the Awards of Excellence from The Royal Conservatory program.

Students of Sun Young Chang, voice
Aryas Safaie
Alexandra Bruno
Sofia Ricciarini

Student of Clare Hoffman, flute
Sophie Cummings

Student of Thomas Flippin, guitar
Nicholas Lombardi

Each year, The Royal Conservatory Music Development Program awards Certificates of Excellence and National Gold Medals to recognize the outstanding achievements of top-scoring students. Every student who participates in the Music Development Program examinations is eligible to win these awards. Excellence in both practical and theory examinations is recognized at the Center, State, and National levels.

Conservatory Eagles 2015

On Monday, November 9, two Concordia Conservatory students of Bronxville’s Boy Scout Troop 5 advanced to Eagle Scout, the highest rank possible in Boy Scouts, Jason Cushman and Nick Politi. An Eagle Court of Honor ceremony was held at the Reformed Church of Bronxville to recognize the recipients.

Our Conservatory Scouts’ Eagle Projects focused on facility and ground improvement projects at organizations that benefit children, the general public, seniors, and at-risk youth. Jason Cushman’s project benefitted the Untermyer Park and Gardens in Yonkers; and Nick Politi’s project benefitted Concordia Conservatory’s Project Music Achievement at the Rosedale Center in the Bronx. Congrats to OUR Eagle Scouts!

Dates to Remember

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<th>DECEMBER</th>
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<tr>
<td>5 Conservatory Carolers at Santa’s Workshop on Pondfield Road with Brooke Collins &amp; Greg Suss Bronxville Chamber of Commerce 12:00–2:00pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>5 Holiday Music Outreach with Lee Metcalf and Bob Gingery 1:00–3:00pm Nieman Marcus, Westchester Mall</td>
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<td>11 PAGEANT Holiday Community Musical 7:00pm Schoenfeld Campus Center</td>
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<tr>
<td>12 PAGEANT Holiday Community Musical 11:30am &amp; 1:30pm Schoenfeld Campus Center</td>
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<tr>
<td>13 PAGEANT Holiday Community Musical 1:00pm &amp; 3:30pm Schoenfeld Campus Center</td>
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<tr>
<td>19 Conservatory Carolers with Sun Young Chang 1:00–3:00pm Nieman Marcus, Westchester Mall</td>
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<td>23 Conservatory Closed Jan 3 Christmas Break</td>
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<th>JANUARY</th>
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<td>4 High School Senior Meeting 6:30pm Yeager Room Library 2nd Floor</td>
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<td>18 Conservatory Closed Martin Luther King Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>23 Gershwin &amp; Friends Hoch Chamber Music Series Gala Concert 6:30pm Sommer Center</td>
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<td>24 Adult Performance Class 7:00pm Sommer Center</td>
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<td>30-31 Youth Program Honors Recitals Sommer Center</td>
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NEW! Junior & Senior Awards of Distinction Now Displayed in Stein Hall

The Junior & Senior Awards of Distinction sign is now on permanent display in the lobby of Stein Hall. Students selected have embodied Concordia Conservatory’s mission to inspire, instruct, and enrich lives through music and excel in their musical pursuits.

The Awards of Distinction is an honors program created for Conservatory music students who stand out in their musical pursuits. The awards recognize students who have demonstrated an exemplary level of dedication, persistence, and community spirit.
Pianist Vivian Choi was invited to judge the Louisiana International Piano Competition. 20 pre-selected competitors aged 18-35 from 8 different countries competed for over $10,000 in cash awards, performance at Carnegie Hall and CD recording. Vivian Choi was one of 5 judges invited to serve on the jury.

In early November, soprano Brooke Collins performed in Gilbert & Sullivan’s “Iolanthe” at the Skirball Center for the Performing Arts in NYC. She has recently taken on a couple of new positions working with musical kids as Program Director for the New York Gilbert and Sullivan Players Youth Productions, and she will be mounting three performances in February of “The Pirates of Penzance” with singers ages 11-18. Additionally, she is a youth choir director at Plymouth Church in Brooklyn.

On November 13, Yousif Sheronick premiered his new Concerto for World Percussion Ensemble with students from Queens College. The performance was part of PASIC (Percussive Arts Society’s International Convention) in San Antonio, Texas. The Percussive Arts Society’s International Convention session was sponsored by Cooperman Drums, Pearl/Adams, Sabian and Innovative Percussion.

Flute faculty member Clare Hoffman celebrated her 32nd season as co-founder and artistic director of the Grand Canyon Music Festival with concerts including the Catalyst and Sweet Plantain String Quartets, Brook and David Speltz, and Joe Deninzon, and award-winning education programming including the Native American Composer Apprentice Project and Grand Canyon School of Rock.

On September 25, American Public Media’s “Performance Today” featured the Grand Canyon Music Festival and the Native American Composer Apprentice Project, an award-winning immersion program in composition for Navajo, Hopi and Salt River students. Visit the APM website to view and listen to the program. www.yourclassical.org/programs/performance-today

Conservatory piano student, Rory Christian, was chosen to participate in the 2015 Stony Brook International Piano Festival, culminating in a performance at the Steinway Hall in NYC. She studies with Vivian Choi.

Conservatory students of Matt Van Brink, Nick Politi and J.P. Redmond, have been named 2016 National YoungArts Foundation (YoungArts) Merit Winners in Composition. Selected out of more than 12,000 applications—the largest number to date—Politi and Redmond have been recognized for their outstanding work and accomplishments and joins 819 young artists from 42 states across the literary, visual, design and performing arts who are being presented with this year’s honor. Winners receive cash awards of up to $10,000, validation by renowned mentors, opportunities to participate in YoungArts programs, a strong professional network, and guidance in taking important steps toward achieving their goals.

On October 14, Concordia Conservatory guitar students joined their teacher, John Chang, and his colleagues on stage for a very special concert that included a world premiere of Pulitzer Prize winning composer David Lang’s ‘Questionnaire’ for 120 guitars. The concert was part of WNYC’s New Sounds Live hosted by John Schaefer at the Winter Garden, Brookfield Place/World Financial Center.

Participating Concordia Conservatory students were Sofia Amador-Mora, Kyelah Chang, Henry Haggenmiller, Aaliyah Hartenstein, Dylan Kelly, Emely Martinez, Jack Szczepanski, Branden Vazquez, and Jessica Waterloo.