



## NEWS RELEASE

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **LONGMONT SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA'S FAMILY CONCERT ON JANUARY 19 FEATURES TWO WORLD PREMIERES**

**LONGMONT, CO, JANUARY 2, 2019** — On **Saturday, January 19**, the Longmont Symphony Orchestra (LSO) will present a one-hour matinee family concert, featuring two world premieres, bass-baritone Erik Kroncke, the LSO's Young Artist Competition winner, and the Longmont Youth Symphony.

#### **Family Matinee Concert**

**Saturday, January 19, 2019—4 p.m.-5 p.m.**

Vance Brand Civic Auditorium

Elliot Moore, conductor

Erik Kroncke, bass-baritone

Bethany Parker, piano – Young Artist Competition Winner

Longmont Youth Symphony

WILLIAM LIMÓN *Elegy (World Premiere)*

MOZART Piano Concerto in A Major (Movement I)

**Bethany Parker, piano**

MICHAEL CLOSE *A Child's Book of Animals (World Premiere)*

*Frog*

*Seagull*

*Octopus*

*Sloth*

*Swan*

**Erik Kroncke, bass-baritone**

TCHAIKOVSKY Symphony No. 5 (Finale)

with the Longmont Youth Symphony

A silent auction benefiting the Longmont Youth Symphony will be held in the commons area before the concert. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for children under 18, and are on sale via phone (303-772-5796) and online at [www.longmontsymphony.org](http://www.longmontsymphony.org). A family pass (2 adults/2 children) can be purchased for \$25; call 303-772-5796 to order. Office hours are 10 a.m.-4 p.m. on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays; the office is closed on Wednesdays.

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**About Erik Kroncke, bass-baritone**

Erik Kroncke has been in demand as Fiesco in *Simon Boccanegra*, Philip II in *Don Carlo*, Enrico VIII in *Anna Bolena*, Leporello in *Don Giovanni*, Ramphis in *Aida*, and Mephistopheles in *Faust*. He has appeared with Sarasota Opera, Opera San José, Chautauqua Opera, Opera Colorado, New Jersey Verismo Opera, Green Mountain Opera, and Austin Lyric Opera, among others. He was an award winner of the Gerda Lissner vocal competition in 2010, the American Wagner and St. Bonaventura award winner from the Liederkrantz competition in 2008, and a winner of the 2002 and 2003 Friedrich Schorr Vocal Competition. His symphonic and oratorio performances have included engagements with the National Chorale, Sarasota Opera Orchestra, Chautauqua Symphony, New York Philharmonic, Korean Philharmonic, and the American Classical Orchestra, as well as appearances in "The Three Bases" concerts. In the last year, Erik sang the bass solo in Beethoven's Ninth Symphony with the National Chorale at Lincoln Center, and the role of Tackleton in the North American premiere of Zandonai's *Il Grillo del Focolare* with Teatro Grattacielo.

**About Bethany Parker, piano**

Bethany Parker, 15, is a freshman at Frederick High School. She has been playing the piano since she was seven years old and is currently studying with Ken Siders. In the last year, Bethany has started teaching beginning piano students and has gained a lot of insights from them. For the past seven years, she has participated in the Multiple Piano Festival sponsored by the Boulder Area Music Teachers' Association. Bethany also plays the violin and is concertmaster in Frederick High School's concert orchestra. As an 8<sup>th</sup> grader, she was concertmaster for the SVVSD Middle School Honors Orchestra. She is also a member of her school's concert choir and participated in the Colorado Middle All-State Choir. Bethany comes from a musical family and is the youngest of 10 children. In her spare time, she enjoys reading and spending time with her family.

**About William Limón, composer**

William Limón has studied with Carter Pann and Egemen Kesikli. He is a pianist and avid French hornist. Mr. Limón and his violinist wife, Catherine, play duets in their home in the Rocky Mountains.

**About Michael Close, composer**

Michael Close is a cellist, bagpiper, composer and music teacher who lives with his family and two cats in rural Worcester, Vermont. His works for orchestra and ensemble include *Three Scottish Folk Songs*, *Songs About Cheese*, *Tombstone*, *Noble Dog* and many others.

*Funding for the LSO's 2018-19 season comes from the Scientific & Cultural Facilities District, the Longmont Community Foundation, the Community Foundation of Boulder County and the City of Longmont.*



*The Longmont Symphony Orchestra's mission is to foster and promote the appreciation and understanding of symphonic music through performances and educational programs. The LSO presents multiple performances each year for 15,000+ people -- including a six-concert subscription series, a pair of children's concerts for all St. Vrain Valley School District 5<sup>th</sup> graders, a Family Matinee Concert, three performances of the Nutcracker Ballet, a Candlelight Concert, a July 4<sup>th</sup> concert and two chamber orchestra concerts at the Longmont Museum -- and has an active education and outreach program. For more information, visit [www.longmontsymphony.org](http://www.longmontsymphony.org).*