



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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**ECSO seeking frontline workers to sing “You Raise Me Up”  
Heroic Celebrations – Saturday, November 20, 2021, 7:30pm  
Garde Arts Center, 325 State St., New London, CT 06320**

Front-line workers who are interested in singing and joining the ECSO on stage are being sought out for the upcoming Heroic Celebrations concert on Saturday, November 20, 7:30pm. The orchestra along with volunteer singers will perform *You Raise Me Up*, popularized by Josh Groban’s 2003 cover version. Music will be distributed in advance, along with an audio example that demonstrates the version that we will perform. Any front-line workers who wish to join will be invited to rehearse with the orchestra on the day of the concert, from 2:30pm – 3pm. Both rehearsal and the concert will occur at the Garde Arts Center in New London.

Volunteer singers who join the ECSO will also be allowed a limited number of comp tickets to invite family or friends to experience the entire concert. Additionally, we will offer a special discount to any other front-line or essential workers who would like to attend the concert.

To indicate your interest in participating, please email [caleb@ectsymphony.com](mailto:caleb@ectsymphony.com), or call the ECSO office 860-443-2876. Although past performance experience is not necessary, we do ask that you have interest in learning and rehearsing along with the ECSO and taking necessary guidance from our Music Director & Conductor, Toshiyuki Shimada.

**Covid Policy for performers:**

1. We will be requiring proof of a full course of vaccination of all musicians and front-line workers joining us IN ADDITION to a negative COVID test, either PCR or rapid (antigen). This test should be taken no earlier than 72 hours before you rehearse with the ECSO. Negative results required in addition to your vaccination record to get into the venue to rehearse.
2. Masks required for all, except woodwinds and brass ONLY when performing can remove them. Masks used must be surgical masks, or N95 type. The ECSO will provide disposable surgical masks at the door that can be used. Cloth masks or other materials will not be allowed.
3. For self-screening, we encourage musicians and performers to stay home from rehearsals or concerts if they have two or more of the following symptoms: coughing, shortness of breath, difficulty breathing, chills, fatigue, muscle or body aches, headache, new loss of taste or smell, sore throat, congestion or runny nose, nausea, vomiting, or diarrhea.
4. We will not be taking or recording temperatures at any service location.

These guidelines are subject to change as the circumstances require and if government and venue recommendations evolve.

**About the ECSO:**

Founded in 1946 by Norwegian immigrant, Victor Norman, the ECSO embarks on its 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary season beginning in October 2021.

Music Director & Conductor Toshiyuki Shimada has programmed an exciting season showcasing the ECSO's critically acclaimed virtuosity and scope of repertoire ranging from Classical and Romantic-era favorites to newly composed, cutting-edge international works. Visit [www.ectsymphony.com](http://www.ectsymphony.com) to stay tuned for more information about the 21-22 season and follow on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/ectsymphony](https://www.facebook.com/ectsymphony).

The ECSO offers a range of affordable seating options from \$62 to as low as \$12 for attendance to one concert. The ECSO will offer those under 40 years of age \$12 tickets in premium sections. Additionally, \$12 tickets will be available to any active or retired military members.

*Founded in 1946, the mission of the Eastern Connecticut Symphony Orchestra is to inspire, educate, and connect our communities through live orchestral music.*