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Youth Orchestra of Central Jersey

WINTER SMALL ENSEMBLE CONCERT



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# NOTEWORTHY SUPPORT

YOCJ is a 501(c)(3) non profit organization. Donations are gratefully accepted. All financial contributions are tax-deductible, and can be made by check, via Zelle, or PayPal on our website:

<http://yocj.org/how-to-donate/>

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**YOCJ 19 Ginnie Lane, West Windsor NJ 08550**

## GIVING PLATFORMS

Virtuoso Level \$2500+	Symphonic Level \$200-499
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Caroline Sia  
Meenakshi Viswanathan

## Mission Statement

The mission of the Youth Orchestra of Central Jersey is to provide opportunities for talented young musicians in Central New Jersey to participate in musical performances at a level beyond that which is traditionally offered by school bands and orchestras.

## Conductors

**Phillip Pugh** • Sinfonietta String Orchestra & Pro Arte Orchestra

**Dr. Jordan Smith** • Saxophone Ensemble & Saxophone Choir

**Scott Collins** • Wind Symphony & Woodwind Choir

**Sandy Olson** • Flute Choir

**Chris Colaneri** • Percussion Ensemble

**Barbara Witmer** • Symphonic Woodwinds

**Shannon Ferrara** • Brass Choir

**Kenneth T. Bean** • Symphonic Orchestra

**Michael Anzuini** • Brass Ensemble



## Board of Trustees & Staff

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**Caroline Sia** • Hospitality Committee & Vimeo Videos

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John Enz • Melanie Clarke • Dr. Richard Hodges • Michael Meduski



## YOCJ Conductors

**Phillip Pugh**, YOCJ Artistic Director and Conductor of the Pro Arte and Sinfonietta String Orchestras, holds a Master's degree in music theory and a Bachelor's degree in music education from Temple University. In addition to extensive study in violin performance, Mr. Pugh is a registered Suzuki teacher and has also studied string instrument repair and set up under the tutelage of leading luthiers. As a violinist and violist, he performs with the Boheme Opera Company and the New Jersey Capital Philharmonic Orchestra. Additionally, he teaches strings at the West Windsor-Plainsboro's Millstone River School, has served on the faculty of the Csehy Summer School of Music, and maintains an active private studio, teaching violin and viola. Mr. Pugh has been with the Youth Orchestra of Central Jersey since 1988.

**Dr. Jordan Smith**, Conductor of the Saxophone Choir and Saxophone Ensemble, holds a Doctor of Musical Arts degree from Rutgers University, a Master of Music in saxophone performance from the Manhattan School of Music and a Bachelor of Music in music education degree from The College of New Jersey. He has concertized throughout the U.S., Austria, Czech Republic, Germany, and Greece as a soloist, conductor, chamber and orchestral musician, and has recently performed with the New World Symphony, Chamber Orchestra of Philadelphia, and the Sifodec Orchestra in such venues as Carnegie Hall, Lincoln Center, the Metropolitan Museum of Art, and more. As a Chamber musician in NYC and a strong advocate for new music, he has premiered over 35 works for saxophone. His article on Jules Massenet appeared in a 2015 edition of The Saxophone Symposium and a recent article on Prokofiev's *Lieutenant Kijé Suite* was published in a 2011 issue of Saxophone Journal. In addition to YOCJ, Dr. Smith has taught at Rowan University, William Paterson University, Saint Peter's University and Georgian Court University. He maintains a large private studio in Princeton, NJ. Dr. Smith joined YOCJ in 2010. [Jordanpsmith.com](http://Jordanpsmith.com)

**Scott Collins**, Conductor of the Wind Symphony and Woodwind Choir, holds a Master's Degree in Clarinet Performance, a Bachelor's Degree in Music Education, both from Temple University, as well as an Associate's Degree in Liberal Arts from Valley Forge Military College. Mr. Collins has been teaching in the West Windsor-Plainsboro Regional School District since 2004, where he has directed a variety of ensembles including concert band, jazz band, marching band, and string orchestra. Currently, he teaches concert band at the Community Middle School. In July 2011, he was named a "Conducting Fellow" for the Conducting Workshop for Music Educators at the Juilliard School. Mr. Collins has performed as a clarinetist with the Haddonfield Symphony, the Opera Festival of New Jersey, the Princeton Festival, the Chamber Orchestra of Philadelphia, and the Arts at St. John's, with whom he performed Mozart's Clarinet Concerto in A Major back in 2014. Mr. Scott Collins joined the Youth Orchestra of Central Jersey in 2015.

**Sandy Olson**, Conductor of the Flute Choir holds a Master of Music in flute performance from Western Illinois University, a Bachelors degree in music education from Arkansas State University, and completed her DMA coursework in flute performance at the University of Illinois. Ms. Olson has been a flute teacher and director of the summer flute camp at Westminster Conservatory as well as a middle school music teacher in South Brunswick, New Jersey for the past twenty years. For the National Flute Association, Ms. Olson is the past chairman of both the High School Soloist Competition and the High School Flute Choir Competition. Her love of nurturing young students started with her Suzuki Flute Teacher Training with Tatsumi Shiojima. Ms. Olson has also performed at both the National Flute Association as well as the British Flute Association flute conventions. Ms. Sandy Olson is happy to have joined the YOCJ staff in 2016.

**Chris Colaneri**, Conductor of the Percussion Ensemble, holds a Master's in music education from New Jersey City University and a Bachelor's degree in classical performance from Rowan University. Mr. Colaneri has been teaching in the New York and New Jersey Public schools since 1996. His current position is with the Berkeley Heights Public School System. He recently co-founded and is currently the President of the Percussion Educator's Association of New Jersey. Mr. Colaneri's orchestral endeavors have taken him to Spain, France, Israel and Jordan. He performs yearly with Josh Groban as his Radio City Music Hall timpanist and has also shared the stage with Cindi Lauper, Itzhak Perlman, Breland, Warren Haynes, Hanson, Rita Wilson and Il Volo. Locally, he has performed with the Plainfield Symphony, South Orange Symphony, Haddonfield Symphony, and Metropolitan Orchestra of New Jersey. As a vibist, marimba and Latin percussion performer, Mr. Colaneri has led his own jazz quartet CCQ for the past eighteen years. This ensemble has given featured performances at NJPAC, various jazz clubs, private corporate and political functions and jazz festivals throughout NJ. Mr. Colaneri has given lectures at Rowan University, Temple, Mason Gross, the New Jersey Music Educator's State Convention and All Eastern. As an author for Oxford University Press, his recent method book *The Total*



The Youth Orchestra of Central Jersey is part of the **McCaffrey's Receipt Program** that supports local nonprofit organizations by generously donating 1% of every receipt collected. Being part of this fundraiser is very simple! Here is how:

1. Shop at McCaffrey's Food Markets.
2. Save your receipts!
3. Send them in with your child to any YOCJ rehearsal in an envelope marked "McCaffrey's Receipts"
4. YOCJ earns 1% of the total of each receipt (minus sales tax, cigarettes, alcohol, milk and sushi items).

Please share with your neighbors, friends, family and coworkers – anyone can submit their receipts to the Youth Orchestra of Central Jersey. This is an ongoing fundraiser, so there are no deadlines. However, we request that receipts are submitted **monthly** to rehearsals, since receipts expire.



**Merchandise will be on sale in the lobby!**

# CRANE

School of Music at SUNY Potsdam

Percussionists, can be found in classrooms throughout the USA and abroad. In addition to his musical endeavors, Mr. Colaneri can be found on the small screen as a background actor for such shows as The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel (Amazon Prime), The Time Traveler's Wife (HBO Max) and Just Like That... (HBO Max). Mr. Chris Colaneri joined the Youth Orchestra of Central Jersey in 2017.

**Barbara Witmer**, Coach of the Symphonic Orchestra woodwind section, holds a Master's Degree in Music Education from Ithaca College and a Bachelor's from Lebanon Valley College, also in Music Education. Ms. Witmer was a member of the music faculty at Millstone River School in the West Windsor-Plainsboro Regional School District where she taught elementary band for many years. She has recently retired from public school teaching. Barbara Witmer plays oboe in the New Jersey Capital Philharmonic Orchestra and performs as a free lance musician in the local area. In addition, she maintains a studio of private oboe students. Ms. Witmer served on the Alumni Committee of the YOCJ Board of Trustees for two years. Ms. Barbara Witmer joined the staff of the Youth Orchestra of Central Jersey in 2018.

**Shannon Ferrara**, the conductor of the Brass Choir and Symphonic Orchestra Brass Coach, holds a Bachelor's Degree in Music Education from The College of New Jersey. Mrs. Ferrara has been teaching band in the West Windsor-Plainsboro Regional School District for 21 years, first at Millstone River School (formerly Upper Elementary School), then moving to Village School for many years, and then finally "graduating" to middle school where she is now in her 8th year. In addition to public school teaching, she also maintains a private horn studio and continues to perform with such groups as The Eastern Wind Symphony, Garden State Symphonic Band, Plainfield Symphony, Nassau Brass, Quintessential Brass, and other orchestras, bands, and pit orchestras around New Jersey and Pennsylvania. Mrs. Ferrara has also been involved in community theater for twenty years, mostly with musical direction, but has performed other roles both on and off the stage. At home, she spends her free time with her three cats, her two kids, and her husband. Mrs. Ferrara joined the staff of The Youth Orchestra of Central Jersey in 2021.

**Kenneth T. Bean** is the conductor of the Symphonic Orchestra. He is an instructor and conductor in the Philadelphia area, as well as an active freelance trumpeter. He earned a Bachelor of Music from the Oberlin Conservatory of Music and a Master of Music Education from Jackson State University. He has taught at many festivals and schools, including The School District of Philadelphia, Settlement Music School, The Premier Orchestral Institute of the Mississippi Symphony, and Play On Philly. Although he enjoys teaching and performing, Kenneth's passion is on the podium. He has appeared as a guest conductor for the Marywood String Festival, Berks County Orchestra Festival and the Oberlin Conservatory of Music. His past Music Director/Conductor appointments include the Junior String Philharmonic of the Lehigh Valley, the Young People's Philharmonic of the Lehigh Valley and Luzerne Music Center. Kenneth currently serves as Assistant Conductor of Symphony in C, Conductor of the Symphony in C Youth Orchestra in Collingswood, NJ, and Director/Conductor of the Young Musicians Debut Orchestra, the newest full orchestra within the Philadelphia Youth Orchestra Music Institute. In the summers, he serves as Co-Director of the Symphony in C Summer Camp and Conductor at Kinhaven Music School Junior Session in Weston, VT. Maestro Bean has served as the Assistant Conductor of the Princeton Symphony Orchestra and the Symphonic Conductor of the YOCJ since 2021.

**Michael Anzuini**, the coach and conductor of the Brass Ensemble, holds a Master's Degree in Music Performance (Instrumental Wind Conducting) from Rowan University and a Bachelor's Degree in Music Education from James Madison University. Mr. Anzuini is an instrumental music teacher in the Hamilton Township School District. He began his teaching career in 2001 and is currently the Band Director at Emily C. Reynolds Middle School. Prior to teaching at RMS, Mr. Anzuini spent 16 years as a High School Band Director in the Willingboro and Hamilton School Districts. Ensembles under his direction have received Local, State and Regional recognition. He has also been a guest lecturer at The College of New Jersey and Rowan College at Burlington County. Mr. Anzuini has been a Trumpet/Cornet performer with the Princeton Brass Band, Wind Symphony of Southern New Jersey, Atlantic Brass Band, and many local theaters and churches. More recently, Mr. Anzuini served as the Director of the Princeton Youth Brass Band. Mr. Anzuini has conducted the All South Jersey Junior High Jazz Band (2007), the CJMEA High School Symphonic Band (2018), the SJBODA Intermediate Band (2019) and the CJMEA Middle School Honors Band (2023). In 2009, Mr. Anzuini was selected as a national finalist for a Band Officer/Conductor position with the USAF Band Program, a Symphony level audition. Mr. Anzuini is proud to have served on the Boards of Directors for both the New Jersey Association for Jazz Education (President, 2015-2019) and the New Jersey Music Educators Association. Mr. Anzuini joined the staff of The Youth Orchestra of Central Jersey in 2024.



[potsdam.edu/crane](https://potsdam.edu/crane)

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Music Education, Performance,  
Composition, Music Theory,  
and Music History (B.M.)  
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Music (B.A.)  
Music Education (M.M.)



## Upcoming Events

**Sunday January 18 • 3pm & 8pm**

Winter Large Ensemble Concerts  
Kendall Hall, TCNJ

**3:00pm:**

Wind Symphony  
Sinfonietta String Orchestra  
Pro Arte Orchestra  
Wind Symphony & Pro Arte Orchestra

**8:00pm:**

Saxophone Choir  
Symphonic Orchestra, featuring  
Yumi Kendall, Cello  
The Philadelphia Orchestra Assistant Principal Cellist  
performing the Dvořák Cello Concerto



**Tuesday January 27**

New Student Auditions: Register at [yocj.org/auditions](http://yocj.org/auditions)

**Tuesday February 3**

Spring Semester Begins

**Tuesday March 10th**

Brass, Percussion, & Woodwind Masterclasses with PSO Clinicians  
String Masterclass with Yumi Kendall

**Saturday April 25, 7pm**

Spring Small Ensemble Concert  
Community Middle School

**Saturday May 17 • 3pm & 7:30pm**

Spring Large Ensemble Concerts  
WWP High School South

**3:00pm:**

Wind Symphony,  
Sinfonietta String Orchestra  
Pro Arte Orchestra  
Wind Symphony & Pro Arte Orchestra

**7:30pm:**

Saxophone Choir  
Symphonic Orchestra,  
featuring Alexander Fiszer,  
Senior Solo Competition Winner  
performing the Haydn Cello Concerto in C Major



## YOCJ MEMBERSHIP RECOGNITION

YOCJ would like to recognize the students who have been members for 3 or more years. With a multitude of activities clamoring for the attention of all of our talented students, longevity speaks volumes about the loyalty, dedication, and sense of commitment of the following members.

### Since 2017

Kyson Zhou

### Since 2018

Prisha Bagchi

### Since 2019

Lucas Horowitz  
Anya Patel  
Sloka Vendra  
Eshan Yalla

### Since 2020

Roshan Nankani  
Aidan Ni

### Since 2021

Natalie Cheng  
Advait Ghantasala  
Riya Gupta  
Abigail Knowles  
Arsh Mehan  
Somya Mittal  
Mihika Srivastava  
Mahika Thakur

### Since 2022

Dylan Dell Beni  
Konnor Lee  
Ceilidh Manigrasso  
Hannah Shue  
Kaushal Chikka  
Caden Co  
Caris Co  
Preeta Cyrus  
Audree Oh  
Wallace Snow  
Akshita Vashisht  
Sanjana Bellur  
Gian Michael Diaz  
Joshua Fermo  
Yafei Lei  
Sia Satish  
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2025-2026

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Dates, times, artists, and programs subject to change.

Today's performance is being videotaped by  
**Brianne Dixon Videography, LLC**  
<https://www.bcdixon.com/>

Footage will be available to YOCJ families for  
viewing as well as for free download soon.  
Watch for an email with instructions and links.

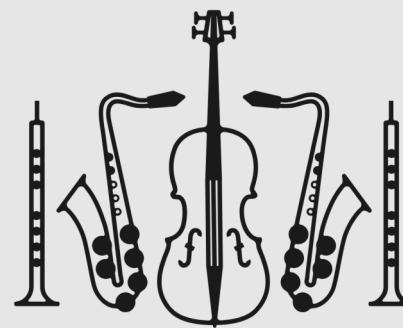
Please consider making a donation to YOCJ to help us continue  
to give our musicians exceptional learning experiences.

[www.yocj.org/how-to-donate](https://www.yocj.org/how-to-donate)

More information can be found at the end of this booklet.

Please turn off all electronic devices, and be mindful of those  
seated around you. Photography & videography are not  
permitted during the performance. Thank you understanding!

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## Flute Choir

*Sandy Olson, Conductor*

**Badinerie from Suite in B Minor**

**Johann S. Bach (1685-1750)**  
arr. Susie Wilkins

**The Arrival of the Queen of Sheba**

**George F. Handel (1685-1759)**  
arr. Sondra Tucker

**My Favorite Things**

**Rodgers and Hammerstein**  
arr. Ralph Raymond Hays

Aidan Chen  
Amy Chua  
Sophia Kim  
Svamin Pandya  
Akshay Ramesh

Shaswat Senthilkumar  
Mahd Shabab  
Hannah Shue  
Pradyumn Yeturi

---

## Saxophone Ensemble

*Dr. Jordan Smith, Conductor*

**Prelude II**

**George Gershwin (1898-1937)**  
arr. Crockford

**Quintette**

III. Allegretto  
IV. Allegro

**Jérôme Savari (1819-1870)**

**Soprano**

Liam Wynn

**Soprano & Alto**

Kiran Patibanda

**Tenor**

Abir Pal

Atharv Kumar

**Alto**

Shi Alan Chen

Vihaan Khare

Benjamin Kim

Saish Nagnur

Brian Qu

**Baritone**

Sebastian Grassi

---

## Brass Choir

*Shannon Ferrara, Conductor*

**Intrada No. 7**

**Melchoir Franck (1579-1639)**

**Parade of the Wooden Soldiers**

**Léon Jessel (1871-1942)**  
arr. Paul Chauvin

**Trumpet**

Joseph Cridge  
James Yin

**French Horn**

Ethan De La Garza  
Neel Kamath  
Audree Oh

**Euphonium**

Gyan Chande

**Trombone**

Sharvil Srinivasan

---

## Percussion Ensemble

*Chris Colaneri, Conductor*

**Sonatina in G**

**Ludwig van Beethoven (1770-1827)**  
arr. David Eickbusch

**Aftershock**

**Nathan Daughtrey (b. 1975)**

**Rondo alla Latina**

**Wolfgang A. Mozart (1756-1791)**  
arr. Florian Kirchner

Anbini Adhimoolam  
Christian Epps  
Somya Mittal  
Shrika Roy  
Jason Shi  
Kiaan Vaishnav  
Sudarshan Venkatesh

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## Thank you for attending our performance!

To learn more about YOCJ, go to [www.yocj.org](http://www.yocj.org)



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[instagram.com/  
yocjnewjersey](https://www.instagram.com/yocjnewjersey)

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# Symphonic Woodwinds

*Barbara Witmer, Conductor*

**Suite Francaise**  
*Pastorale*

**Guy Woolfenden (1937-2016)**

**Serenade**  
*Entrata*

**Henri Marteau (1874-1934)**

**Flute**  
Amogh Basker  
Hamsini Mettu  
Anya Patel  
Mahd Shabab

**Oboe**  
Diya Chowdhury  
Lipi Kothavade  
Mihika Srivastava

**Clarinet**  
Walker Pella-Woo  
Leon Sato  
Maya Shue

**Bassoon**  
Moinak Pal

---

## Brass Ensemble

*Michael Anzuini, Conductor*

**In the Bleak Midwinter**

**Gustav Holst (1874-1934)**

arr. Paul Bara

**English Madrigal Suite**

arr. Richard Decker

*I. Though Philomela Lost Her Love*  
*III. Late In My Rash Accounting*

**Trumpet**  
Rayan Das  
Rachel Zoda

**Trombone**  
Samuel Adigun  
Ava Esser

**French Horn**  
Eshaan Pathak  
Norah Watson

**Tuba**  
Evan Mancino

---

# Woodwind Choir

*Scott Collins, Conductor*

**Funeral March of a Marionette**

**Charles Gounod (1818-1893)**

arr. Bill Holcombe

**The Fairest of The Fair**

**John Phillip Sousa (1854-1932)**

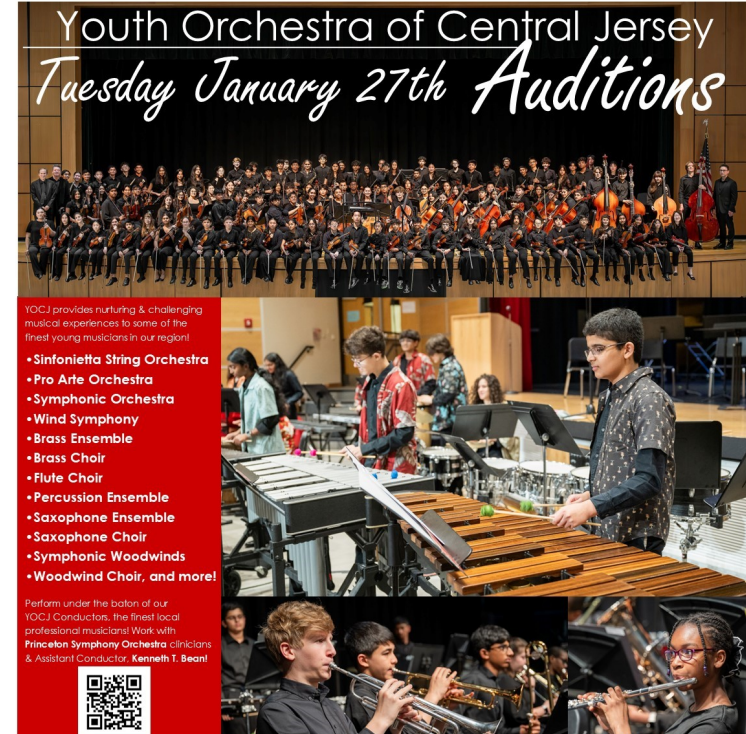
arr. Bill Holcombe  
& Bill Holcombe Jr.

**Flute**  
Esther Adigun  
Ahana Ashokan  
Sophia Kim  
Svamin Pandya  
Pradyumn Yeturi

**Clarinet**  
Lakshya Sadwal  
Ayush Srivastava  
Aakanksha Talapaneni  
Shaarav Vardhan

**Oboe**  
Sritan Gottipati  
Emma Song  
Claire Wang

**Bassoon**  
Christopher Assiamua




The poster for the Youth Orchestra of Central Jersey auditions features a large group photo of the orchestra at the top. Below this, a red vertical banner on the left contains the following text: "YOCJ provides nurturing & challenging musical experiences to some of the finest young musicians in our region!" followed by a bulleted list of ensembles: Sinfonietta String Orchestra, Pro Arte Orchestra, Symphonic Orchestra, Wind Symphony, Brass Ensemble, Brass Choir, Flute Choir, Percussion Ensemble, Saxophone Ensemble, Saxophone Choir, Symphonic Woodwinds, and Woodwind Choir, and more! At the bottom of the banner, it says "Perform under the baton of our YOCJ Conductors, the finest local professional musicians! Work with Princeton Symphony Orchestra clinicians & Assistant Conductor, Kenneth T. Beant". A QR code is located at the bottom left of the banner. To the right of the banner are two smaller photos: one of students playing xylophones and another of students playing brass instruments.

Youth Orchestra of Central Jersey  
*Tuesday January 27th Auditions*

YOCJ provides nurturing & challenging musical experiences to some of the finest young musicians in our region!

- Sinfonietta String Orchestra
- Pro Arte Orchestra
- Symphonic Orchestra
- Wind Symphony
- Brass Ensemble
- Brass Choir
- Flute Choir
- Percussion Ensemble
- Saxophone Ensemble
- Saxophone Choir
- Symphonic Woodwinds
- Woodwind Choir, and more!

Perform under the baton of our YOCJ Conductors, the finest local professional musicians! Work with Princeton Symphony Orchestra clinicians & Assistant Conductor, Kenneth T. Beant





The Youth Orchestra of Central Jersey is thrilled to be a recipient of a grant from the New Jersey State Council on the Arts since 2016.

This program is made possible in part by funds from the New Jersey State Council on the Arts.



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