

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**



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### **The Darien Arts Center Welcomes Orchestra Lumos for The First Time to Present: *A Tale of Two Prodigies***

Darien, CT (October 1, 2025) — As the curtain rises on a new season of classical music this October, [Orchestra Lumos](#) is thrilled to announce its debut performance at the Darien Arts Center. The concert titled, *A Tale of Two Prodigies*, will take place on Sunday, October 19, 2025. This performance is part of the Orchestra's acclaimed *Small Space* series, an initiative that is designed to reach audiences through intimate and immersive musical experiences.

This debut performance at The Darien Arts Center is an inspiring milestone for both Orchestra Lumos and the Darien, CT community. Bringing live classical music to a dynamic and community-focused venue not only enriches the local arts scene, but also opens the door to future collaborations aimed at expanding access to classical music throughout the region.

"We are so excited to be partnering with Orchestra Lumos for this intimate concert," said **Wendy Mitchell, Executive Director of the Darien Arts Center**. "Thanks to a generous grant from the Darien Foundation, the Weatherstone Studio recently underwent a transformation, which now includes state-of-the-art upgrades to our lighting and sound. These improvements create an immersive experience for audiences, making it the perfect setting for this exciting partnership. Our newly updated studio will offer audiences a magical and unforgettable live music experience."

Four talented Orchestra Lumos musicians will be joined by award-winning global concert pianist, Tanya Bannister, to perform to a new audience in Darien, CT. This carefully curated program features pieces by two of classical music's prodigies, W.A. Mozart and Amy Beach. Beach was one of the first female composers to be recognized nationally in the United States in the nineteenth century. Her groundbreaking *Symphony in E minor* was premiered by the Boston Symphony Orchestra in 1896. "We were delighted to be approached by one of our devoted audience members to suggest the Mozart Piano Concerto No.14, played by a quintet, for a *Small Space* concert in the 2025-2026 season. It took one phone call to secure the services of the actual pianist performing on the CD that accompanied the

request, our neighbor Tanya Bannister from New York. With our musicians and this *America 250* program we are pleased to be bringing a *Small Space* concert to Darien for the very first time and so delighted to be partnering with the Darien Arts Center." **Said Russell Jones, the Susanah and Naeem Fayyaz President and CEO of Orchestra Lumos.**

Celebrated by *The Washington Post* for performances that exhibit intelligence, poetic expression, and refined balance, Tanya Bannister is a distinguished arts leader, uniquely blending artistic mastery with entrepreneurial insight in her role as President of Concert Artists Guild (CAG), the prominent organization that sponsors young musicians, and has helped launch dozens of global stars. "I'm really excited to perform with Orchestra Lumos. The musicians are always phenomenal, and I'm looking forward to sharing this special program with the community," **says Tanya Bannister, President, Concert Artists Guild.**

"I just love the idea of playing Mozart's Piano Concerto No. 14, which he himself transcribed for string quartet. Originally written for piano and orchestra, this chamber version makes the piece feel even more intimate. It becomes a true musical conversation between the piano and strings, showcasing the beauty and clarity of each part. It's truly a magical piece of music. The Amy Beach Piano Quintet is lush, romantic, and gives each musician a chance to shine. It's going to be a joy to share this powerful piece with the audience."

For additional concert details, please see below.

[A Tale of Two Prodigies](#)

Sunday, October 19, 2025 at 3:00PM

The Darien Arts Center, Darien

Robert Zubrycki, *violin*

Laura Bald, *violin*

Zoë Martin-Doike, *viola*

Eliot Bailen, *cello*

Tanya Bannister, *piano*

Season subscriptions are available from Orchestra Lumos Patron Services at 203-325-1407 x1.

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About Orchestra Lumos

Formerly known as Stamford Symphony, Orchestra Lumos is the preeminent orchestra serving all of Fairfield County CT. We are expanding in multiple dimensions, bringing more of the music you love throughout Fairfield County. Our mission is to present exceptional musical experiences, from awe-inspiring concerts with world-renowned soloists to family-friendly programs that captivate all ages. We're also expanding our reach with intimate performances in smaller spaces, hands-on education programs, and community presentations across the county. While our home base is The Palace Theatre in Stamford, you can also experience our music in venues from Rye NY to Bridgeport CT, including local libraries, schools, museums, breweries, places of worship, and community centers. For more information, please visit: [www.orchestralumos.org](http://www.orchestralumos.org).

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