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Be prepared for a season of spectacular music-making when the Elmhurst Symphony Orchestra, under the baton of Music Director and Conductor Stephen Alltop, begins its 57th year of exhilarating musical adventures on October 14 at 7:00 p.m. at Elmhurst Christian Reformed Church with a concert of music that will make your heart sing. “Mozart and Beethoven Gems” begins with Mozart’s Overture to La finta giardiniera, followed by featured guest artist Elizandro Garcia-Montoya in a brilliant performance of Mozart’s Clarinet Concerto in A Major. Rounding out the program is Beethoven’s well-loved Symphony No. 6 in F Major (Pastoral). From poetic to lively, bubbling brook to torrential cloudburst, this will be Mozart and Beethoven at their most sublime.

This concert, in memory of ESO board member Edgar Swarthout, is sponsored by a generous gift from Ray and Sally Allen. Jane and Richard Kiep are generous underwriters of the Mozart Overture.

A pre-concert Oktoberfest fundraising dinner celebrates the opening of the ESO’s season. From 5:15 to 6:30 concertgoers can enjoy grilled bratwurst and roast pork loin accompanied by traditional German side dishes. The cost is \$30 per person. Reservations can be made on the ESO web site www.elmhurstsymphony.org or by calling the ESO Box Office at [630-941-0202](tel:630-941-0202), and are due no later than Friday, October 6.

Concert tickets, which can be purchased on the ESO web site or by calling the ESO Box Office, are \$35 for adults, \$32 for seniors, and \$12 for students. Group and family rates are also available. Save on ticket costs by purchasing a three, four or five-concert 2017-18 season subscription on the web site, by calling the Box Office, or at the October 14 concert. Subscriber benefits include purchase of additional single tickets for \$25, free exchange of tickets (conditions apply), and subscriber-only special gatherings. For more information call the Box Office.

Elmhurst Christian Reformed Church is located at [149 W. Brush Hill Rd.](#) in Elmhurst. The church has accessible parking and facilities; parking is free. The concert experience at ECRC is enhanced by the informative and lively discussion, Behind the Music Stand, led by audience favorite Dr. Ted Hatmaker, which takes place at 5:45 p.m. prior to the concert.

The 57th season of the Elmhurst Symphony Orchestra is made possible in part by grants from the City of Elmhurst, the Illinois Arts Council (a state agency), the Gaylord and Dorothy Donnelley Foundation, and 90.9FM WDCB, Chicago’s Home for Jazz.