

Allentown Symphony Orchestra
Symphony On Ice - Holiday Spectacular

by

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As we approach the month of December, the mood around the country begins to change. We are entering the "Holidays," a time when we look forward to spending time with family and friends, shopping for gifts, and perhaps relaxing and taking a little time off work.

Sometimes during this month, we get trapped in the bustle of errands, shopping, cleaning, and cooking, and we forget that really the most important thing we can do during this time of year is to spend time with the people we care about.

The annual "Symphony on Ice - Holiday Spectacular" at the PPL arena in downtown Allentown, is the perfect event to attend with your family and friends to really get you in that "holiday" mood.

Featuring the Award winning musicians of the Allentown Symphony Orchestra on a platform built right on the ice, this holiday spectacular showcases about 70 skaters from the Penguins Figure Skating Club, which practices regularly at the Steel Ice Center in Bethlehem.

The Penguin Figure Skating Club has been part of the Lehigh Valley for over 60 years and is the second oldest figure skating club in Pennsylvania. They have established a national reputation as a training program for national competition winners and exceptional skaters. Many of these award winning skaters will participate in the "Symphony on Ice" show on Thursday December 14th at the PPL arena.

Some of the skaters participating include, Grace Moyer, the 2016 Collegiate Championships Senior ladies pewter medalist, and USFS Double gold medalist in Freestyle and Moves in the Field. Laura Wetzel, USFS Triple Gold Medalist in Ice Dancing, Freestyle and Moves in the Field, Mary Elizabeth Rossignuolo, USFS Double Gold Medalist in Freestyle and Moves in the Field, and Maxwell Demsky, a USFS Gold medalist in Moves and the Field, who is also a participant for the 2018 South Atlantic Competition. Other USFS Gold Medal winners include Renae Hallowell and Eva Greene.

Penguin Skate Club Director, Angela Davis, prepares and trains the skaters for these national competitions and is coordinating and designing most of the choreography and costumes for the Symphony on Ice Skaters.

Also featured in the holiday performance will be skaters from The Lehigh Valley Charter High School with directors Thom Mullins and Suzannah Nolt; and the Charter Arts Academy Middle School, with directors, Val Nauroth, Lindsay Mazzeo and Julie Kowal.

To add even more excitement to the concert, joining the Allentown Symphony Orchestra on stage will be 150 vocalists from three area high schools. Performing this year will be: Easton Area High School Camerata with director Peter Dreshler, Emmaus High School Chorale with director Rita Cortez, and William Allen High School Chorale with director Brandon Remp.

The Symphony on Ice program will include festive music ranging from selections from Tchaikovsky's Swan Lake and Rimsky-Korsakov's Flight of the Bumble-Bee, to popular Christmas melodies like "I Need a Little Christmas," "Jingle Bell Rock," "Frosty the Snowman," and "Let there be Peace on Earth." Different skaters will be showcased with each musical selection.

Phantoms Charities presented by Air Products is the presenting sponsor of Symphony On Ice and all ticket proceeds will be donated to Phantoms Charities. The Phantom Charities strives to strengthen the community by developing, instituting and operating charitable and educational programs and services aimed at improving the lives of children and adults in the Lehigh Valley and the surrounding communities. We are so fortunate to have an organization like this that really gives back to all the families in the Lehigh Valley and brings us all together in this unique way.

Phantoms Charities will also be selling a limited number of rink side tables that include a full dinner, so if you want to be up-close and personal to the skaters, and also have your dinner brought right to you, next to the rink is the place to be.

Tickets for the "Symphony on Ice - Holiday Spectacular" featuring the Allentown Symphony Orchestra and the Penguins Skate Club start at \$28 and are available online, by phone at 610-347-TIXX, or in person at the PPL Arena Box Office. It will be just the right event to get you and your family into the holiday spirit.