

15 and 16, sponsored by 13 Maryland-based breweries. The organizers promise traditional oompah bands, a Miss Oktoberfest contest, Baltimore's Best Beer Belly contest, beer gardens, Bavarian costumes, and authentic German cuisine. Check out the website—www.mdoktoberfest.com—for more details or call 410-769-8223 x1000.

In Baltimore the 36th Annual Oktoberfest features traditional German harvest celebrations, oompah music, dancing, biers, wine garden, and German crafts at the 5th Regiment Armory from noon on Saturday, October 8, 1:00 p.m.-11 p.m. and Sunday, noon to 7 p.m. For more information visit their website at www.md-germans.org or call 410-276-4949.

In Edgewater, at 1143 Central Avenue (Rt. 214), the Old Stein Inn, operated by Michael and Beth Selinger, serves "traditional German food with a Maryland flair" year-round. For three weekends, beginning in late September, it recreates the mood of the Munich Oktoberfest with special events, accordion, and Bavarian band music, and its beautiful Biergarten. The inn's Biergarten schedule begins in late July and continues through October. For more information or reservations, call 410-798-6807 or visit the website www.oldstein-inn.com.

In West Annapolis you can celebrate Oktoberfest with art, crafts, live music, German food, and refreshments on Sunday, October 2, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. throughout the shopping area. Call 410-268-2662 for more information.

The West Street First Sunday Arts Festival and West Street Market will also be celebrating Oktoberfest on October 2, from noon to 5:00 p.m. on the block of West Street located between Church Circle and Calvert Street in Annapolis. Call 410-295-6663 for more information. ■

Orchestras Abound



Annapolis has long been a city of music. Festivals bring thousands to the city to enjoy great jazz and blues. Downtown bars are packed solid Fridays and Saturdays as crowds sing along with their favorite songs. But search beyond these venues for another side of the city's passion for music. For there are nights when school auditoriums and other halls fill with concertgoers and Beethoven and Brahms fill the night air.

Shine your shoes and put on a tie; the following orchestras present live concerts in and around Annapolis in the coming months.

Annapolis Symphony Orchestra

www.annapolissymphony.org
410.269.1132

Annapolis's fully professional orchestra is 45 years in the making. Anywhere from forty to seventy musicians will be led this season by Spaniard José-Luis Novo, a professional violinist and experienced conductor who is new to the orchestra this year.

The orchestra mainly plays classical symphony pieces, as they will November 18 and 19 when they team up with pianist Orion Weiss to play selections from Tchaikovsky and Verdi. The group is capable of nontraditional concerts as well, such as the October 30 performance of "The Arabian Nights," when two stories from far-off lands will be performed

by "Tales n' Scales."

Annapolis Wind Symphony

www.annapoliswindsymphony.org
410.533.8058

Established in 1999, the Annapolis Wind Symphony Orchestra is "a consortium of professional musicians dedicated to the preservation, promotion, and performance of the finest in classical symphonic band music." Marc Boensel, conductor, has worked on both coasts for nearly 20 years, conducting bands, choirs, and orchestras.

The season begins with a concert on November 13 in Shady Side, with Mozart Serenade. All proceeds from shows are donated to charities in Maryland.

Anne Arundel Community College Orchestra

www.aacc.edu
410.777.2457

More than fifty musicians participate in the 25-year-old orchestra program at one of the country's top community colleges. An integral part of the college's music program, the AACC orchestra is made up of students, faculty, staff, and members of the community. Douglas Byerly, an associate professor and chair of music at the college, conducts the orchestra, which performs anything from classical to modern orchestral pieces.

PIRATES! their next show, takes place October 21 and 22 at the Pascal Perform-

ing Arts Center on the AACC campus. It will feature music from Bellini's *Il Pirata* and the *Pirates of Penzance*.

Chesapeake Youth Symphony Orchestra

www.cysorchestra.org

410.263.2664

Native Frenchman Julien Benichou is currently the music director and conductor for this volunteer group. Students come from all over the state to study or to compete in many of the organization's competitions. Concerts are also held to showcase the cultivated talent of these young music pupils.

As of press time this local children's orchestra is auditioning for the 270 or so seats in its various wind, flute, and string ensembles. On October 29 they will perform *The Planets* by Holst at the annual Kinderconcert, a free event geared to elementary school age children. December 10th they will be performing a Mozart Requiem with the Queen Anne's Chorale at the Heritage Baptist Church. The Annual Holiday Concert will be held on December 19, with the String Orchestra, Wind Ensemble, and Concert Orchestra performing at Maryland Hall. For more details and listings of upcoming performances, refer to their website.

The Londontowne Symphony Orchestra

www.londontownesympphony.org

301.367.4018

The newest group on the Annapolis scene, this orchestra is entering its third season. Founded in 2003 by Kathy Solano and Gabriel Di Marco, the independent group comprises forty musicians. Professional freelancers, music teachers, retired military players, and gifted students are all part of this eclectic mix of performers. "We're just happy that we're playing, having people come to the concerts, and that we're growing," says Di Marco, the group's treasurer.

January 13 at Southern High School

www.whatsupmag.com

is their next performance. They will play selections from Brahms, Schumann, and Respighi with guest conductor Shawn Eugene Burke-Storer.

United States Navy Band

www.navyband.navy.mil

202.433.2525

No list of Annapolis orchestras is complete without a mention of the Navy's own. Four officers and 172 enlisted musicians belong to more than seven ensembles that present anything from country to choral concerts. Annapolitan Captain Ralph M. Gambone leads the Navy Band, the group's largest ensemble. Officially designated in 1925 by an act of Congress, this is an act not to miss.

The Navy Band plays October 1 at the College of Southern Maryland. Two ensemble groups from the band will play October 2 and 9 in Rockville and Temple Hills, Maryland, respectively. The "Sea Chanters," a seventeen-voice chorus, sings October 23 in Springfield, Virginia.

Washington Symphonic Brass

www.wsbrass.com

301.858.1499

We finish our list with a group of musicians who travel the area performing great brass ensembles from all periods. Milton Stevens, principal trombonist of the National Symphony Orchestra, conducts this group of professional musicians. Supported by Maryland State Arts Council and the Cultural Arts Foundation of Anne Arundel County, this group has strong ties to the area and regularly plays in Annapolis as well as in Washington and Virginia.

The 2005-2006 season began in September and picks up again February 22 at St. Anne's Episcopal Church, where the orchestra will play the best of its 13-year-run and selections from its newly pressed CD. ■

—Conal Darcy



UPCOMING EVENTS

Shangri-La Chinese Acrobats

[OCT. 28]



Kathy Mattea Country Music Star

[NOV. 6]



Annapolis Film Festival

[NOV. 11-13]



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