



## ***CENTRAL JERSEY SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA***

**Roger Briscoe, *Music Director***  
**THE 34<sup>TH</sup> SEASON 2003—2004**

**WEBSITE: [www.cjsso.org](http://www.cjsso.org)**

**Resident Ensemble of**  
**SOMERSET COUNTY VOCATIONAL & TECHNICAL SCHOOLS**

---

[mailing address]

[phone, fax J

[date]

Ms. Hillary Kelly and Mr. Michael Rondholz  
National Starch and Chemical Company  
10 FINDERNE AVENUE  
BRIDGEWATER, NJ 08807

Dear Ms. Kelly and Mr. Rondholz:

I am writing to request National Starch and Chemical Company's continued support of the Central Jersey Symphony Orchestra (CJSO) by granting us \$2,500. This would enable the orchestra to undertake another season of symphonic music in central New Jersey. CJSO's first concert of the 2003-2004 season will be held in November and will consist of Beethoven's 1h Symphony and two masterpieces by Mozart, the Overture to The Marriage of Figaro and the Clarinet Concerto.

The Central Jersey Symphony Orchestra, starting its 34th year, is the resident orchestra of Somerset County Vocational- Technical Schools. In its 19th season under music director Roger Briscoe, its 75 professional and amateur members come from seven counties in central New Jersey. The CJSO plays the standard orchestral repertoire and accompanies its sister assemble, the Master Chorale, in a series of theme concerts of interest to all ages.

The Central Jersey Symphony Orchestra's mission is to present concerts of quality music, enhancing the lives of both audiences and musicians. We do this by providing the population of central New Jersey with symphonic music performed at a professional level while striving to keep our community orchestra roots. Over its history our orchestra members have included students from local high schools and colleges, as well as community members who still retain their amateur status but perform at a professional level. To insure proper balance and enhance quality, some members are local professional musicians.

Our audiences are drawn from many places. Orchestra members bring their families-their young children and their young mends. Parents and grandparents come to watch and listen. Music lovers with no personal connection to the orchestra keep coming back. Students from Raritan Valley Community College and Somerset County Vo-Tech drop in to take a welcome break from classes and exams. Many students of the arts augment their course work by attending the live performances of music. Dr. Roger Briscoe takes great pleasure in presenting pre-concert discussions, preparing the audience for what they will see and hear. A lively question and answer session follows. After the concert the audience has the opportunity to meet the orchestra members and soloists. In this way, CJSO has enlisted new players, young and old, and has encouraged many aspiring musicians to pursue training in classical music. And, it brings the music and the musicians closer to the audience.

A typical concert is budgeted at about \$6,000. CJSO tries to keep ticket costs down to an affordable level for students, seniors, and the general public. We rely on the generosity of our patrons to enable us to keep playing. National Starch and Chemical Company's support over the years has been greatly appreciated and has helped us to "keep the music alive."

The Central Jersey Symphony Orchestra's 2002-2003 season included Brahms' *Concerto for Violin & Orchestra in D Major*; Beethoven's *Symphony No.6 in F Major*; Dvořák's *Carnival Overture*; Rodrigo's *Concierto de Aranjuez*, featuring John Kizzie on guitar; and Rimsky-Korsakov's *Scheherazade*. Highlights from other recent seasons include: At a Gala Anniversary Concert, in May 1995, the orchestra completed its fJI"st cycle of Beethoven symphonies with a sold-out performance of the Ninth Symphony. (A second journey through the Beethoven symphonies will bring us to No.7 next season.) The 1995-1996 season included four programs on the theme, A Romantic Journey, and an acclaimed special program of "Music of the Holocaust at Tereziín." 1998-1999 included a world premier by Mario Lombardo, a New Jersey composer, with Algirdas Budrys, a Lithuanian guest artist. A three-year artist exchange program with Lithuania was supported by the diplomatic community and received an accolade from President Clinton. The CJSO strives to bring variety and quality to all its concerts.

A donation of \$2,500 from the National Starch and Chemical Company would go a long way in helping us undertake our 2003-2004 season. It would ensure that the people of central New Jersey have access to wonderful music, both to listen to and to play. Again, we want to thank you for your past generous support and hope that you will continue doing so.

Sincerely,

Lou Davelman, President  
Board of Directors  
Central Jersey Symphony Orchestra

Enc:  
CJSO Mission Statement  
2003-2004 Budget  
2002-2003 Season Programs