



UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION AT SHELTER ROCK

48 SHELTER ROCK ROAD, MANHASSET, NY 11030

TELEPHONE: 516 627-6560, FAX: 516 627-6596 E-Mail uucsr@uucsr.org <http://www.uucsr.org>

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

For further information contact:

Kathy Betner, 516 627-6560, ext 144

NEW LONG ISLAND COMMUNITY ORCHESTRA SEEKS MEMBERS

Long Island will be the home of a new orchestra this summer. Organized in response to the lack of summer orchestral programs on Long Island, the Summer Orchestra at Shelter Rock is hoping to fill that void. Conductor Stephen Michael Smith will lead the new ensemble, which will also have professional principals in the violin I, violin II, viola and cello sections. Repertoire will be set once the makeup of the ensemble has been established.

Rehearsals will take place on Wednesday evenings July 9, 16, 23 and 30 from 7:00 - 9:00pm at the Unitarian Universalist Congregation at Shelter Rock, 48 Shelter Rock Road, in Manhasset. A performance is scheduled for Sunday, August 3 at 12:30pm at the same location.

Stephen Michael Smith has recently completed his fourth season as Music Director/Conductor of the Danbury Community Orchestra in Danbury, Connecticut to critical acclaim. The 85 member orchestra has distinguished itself through its principle of mentoring high school students by professional musicians, both of whom make up the membership of the orchestra. Last year, the Danbury Community Orchestra performed the world premiere of Paula Kimper's Orchestral Suite on the Bridge of San Luis Rey, and earlier this month presented the Connecticut premiere of Robert Edward Smith's Concerto for English Horn and Orchestra.

Mr Smith is also Music Director of Stephen Smith Singers of New York City and the Unitarian Universalist Congregation at Shelter Rock. His guest conducting credits include the Wroclaw Philharmonic Orchestra (Poland), St. Petersburg Camerata (Russia), Karlovy Vary Philharmonic (Czech Republic), Danbury Symphony Orchestra, New Britain Symphony, St. Luke's Orchestra (San Francisco), Riverside Choral Society, Schola Cantorum of Harvard University, and Coro di Camera (Boston). He has also performed in France, Italy, Portugal, Greece, and the former Yugoslavia.

In both 1997 and 2000, Mr. Smith was chosen to participate in the International Northern Baltic Festival at the historic Catherine the Great Theater of the State Hermitage Museum, St. Petersburg, Russia. During his tenures as Music Director/Conductor of the Shrewsbury Chorale and the Dalton Alumni Chorale he prepared both institutions for their Carnegie Hall debuts (Verdi's Requiem and Beethoven's Symphony No. 9/Missa Solemnis) with New York Grand Opera. He has taught music at the University of Hawaii, Hartwick College, and the American Academy of Music. He previously served as Executive Director of the San Francisco Opera Guild, Interim Director of the Merola Opera Program and consultant with the University of California at San Francisco, the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center, Wolf Trap Institute for the Arts and Opera Southwest.

There is no participation fee for members in the orchestra. However, all potential players must pre-register by calling Kathy Betner at 516 627-6560, ext 144, or Fran Hettinger at 516 365-8944.

SENIOR MINISTER: The Reverend Dr. Paul S. Johnson

MINISTER OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION: The Reverend Dr. Barry M. Andrews

MINISTER FOR PASTORAL CARE: The Reverend Jennifer L. Brower

CHURCH BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR: Marilyn Q. Anderson

VEATCH EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR: Ned D. Wight

MINISTER EMERITA: The Reverend Dr. Christine M. Wetzel



Stephen Michael Smith