

## Partnering Locally to Promote the Power of Music

M&T Bank has a long history of supporting the arts in Buffalo, and the Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra has been a part of that history for many years.

The [Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra \(BPO\)](#) is an internationally recognized symphony orchestra that delights listeners with over a hundred classic, pop and youth concerts each year. For more than 20 years, the bank has helped underwrite the M&T Bank Classics Series, which brings renowned classical musicians to Buffalo and provides an economic boost for the community.

The Classics Series will tie directly into the [75th Anniversary Celebration](#) of Kleinhans Music Hall, home of the BPO since it opened in 1940. Designed by the accomplished Finnish father and son architects Eliel and Eero Saarinen, the building is renowned for its acoustics and its classical modernist elegance.

The 2015-16 M&T Bank Classics Series starts with a two-week exploration of Finnish music to coincide with FinnFest USA, taking place October 9 – 12. Other classics highlights include Beethoven's Eroica Symphony, ukulele sensation Jake Shimabukuro and Elgar's Enigma Variations.

This summer, the bank supported the Buffalo landmark with a \$150,000 commitment as it underwent a \$1 million renovation project to replace the well-worn seats—the latest phase of a series of renovations. The renovations will help improve the patron experience, while upholding the quality of this historic venue, which is so closely tied to the greatness of the BPO.

As a supporter of the arts throughout New York State, M&T also sponsored a landmark performance by the BPO on New York City's greatest stage, Carnegie Hall. To further share this experience with the community, the bank partnered with the BPO and the United Way of New York City to give under-served students a chance to see the orchestra's Carnegie Hall performance.

The bank's long-standing partnership with the BPO is based on a shared commitment to making arts and culture accessible for everyone. Under the direction of multi-Grammy Award-winning Music Director JoAnn Falletta, the BPO is continuing its trajectory as one of the most recorded orchestras in America.

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