

Sunday, **January 21, 2018** at 3:30 Temple Emanu-El 756 East Broad St., Westfield, NJ Brahms, Trio for Horn, Viola and Piano Bartók, Contrasts for Violin, Clarinet and Piano Hindesmith, Duo for Viola and Cello Dohnányi, Sextet for Horn, Clarinet, Strings and Piano \$35 at the door; free under 21 <u>www.mostlymusic.org</u> 973-762-0108

> Other concert dates: February 18, 2018 March 4, 2018 April 22, 2018



## Artistic Director of Mostly Music, Continues Impressive Season

By SUSAN MYRILL DOUGHERTY
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader and The Time

WESTFIELD – Bringing world class instrumentalists to Westfield is nothing new to the organization Mostly Music. The artistic director, violist Paul Neubauer, spoke on the phone from Sarasota, Fla. with *The Westfield Leader* and *Scotch Plains/Fanwood Times* about the upcoming January concert. The second in the five-concert series, the January 21 concert, to be held at Temple Emanu-El at 756 East Broad Street in Westfield at 3:30 p.m., will feature clarinet, horn, violin, viola, cello and piano.

Mr. Neubauer explained that this season builds on the history of the Mostly Music program. "Our audience has come to expect superior quality and that's what we try to deliver on a consistent basis," he said. In this, his second year as the artistic director, he explained that the programs are dictated by a "fluid course of action." He sets the season by spreading out the afternoon concerts over the season and likes to offer variety. "Because our audiences are open to new music, we like to bring in some contemporary pieces at times," he said.

Mr. Neubauer, whose musical history includes being the youngest principal string player in the history of the New York Philharmonic, utilizes, primarily, the talents of instrumentalists he has worked with in the past. His background includes

being featured on "Live from Lincoln Center," CBS's "Sunday Morning" and "A Prairie Home Companion." Although he was called by the New York Times, "a master musician," Mr. Neubauer said the program should not be based on his viola performance. "The work that we do here is collaborative in nature," he explained. "There needs to be a chemistry within the groups we assemble and not feature just one person."

"Variety is an important component of what we present," he continued. "With small ensembles, we are limited only by the constraints of the instruments."

Mr. Neubauer played in the programs of Mostly Music for years before he became the artistic director last year. The January concert's program will include Brahms', "Trio for Horn, Viola and Piano," Bartók's, "Contrasts for Violin, Clarinet and Piano," Hindemith's, "Duo for Viola and Cello" and Dohnányi's, "Sextet for Horn, Clarinet, Strings and Piano in C Major."

Before performing each work, the musicians offer musical and historical insights about the composer and his or her intentions and inspirations in creating the work. They also discuss the joys and challenges of learning and performing the pieces. Mostly Music began in the late 1970s with informal chamber music performances in the homes of a small group of Westfield residents. As it grew in popularity, it

needed to be housed in a permanent locale. Since 2016, Mostly Music, which has been acclaimed by both *The New York Times* and *The Star-Ledger*, has been performing at Temple Emanu-El in Westfield that seats 500.

Tickets for the upcoming concert will be sold at the door for \$35 for adults and free for anyone under age 21.

## **CDC Plans Auditions**

## For Once Upon A Mattress

CRANFORD – CDC Theater, New Jersey's oldest continuously producing community theatre, announces auditions for its May production of *Once Upon A Mattress*. This rollicking musical retelling of the *Princess and the Pea* will make sure audiences never look at fairy tales the same way again.

Auditions will take place at the theatre's 78 Winans Avenue, Cranford home on Tuesday, January 30 and Thursday, February 1 at 7 p.m. Callbacks will be by invitation only Sunday, February 4 at 10 a.m.

Auditionees are asked to prepare a 32-bar cut of a comedic song and to bring sheet music in the appropriate key. An accompanist will be provided. Headshots and resumes are not required but will be gladly received. Additional information can be found by visiting cdctheatre.org.