

NEWS

## An ensemble is assembled

**Maggie Walton**

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WINCHENDON A local conductor has assembled a highly professional symphony band of 40 musicians looking to bring bold, classical music to town.

“This town will be a different town in 10 years,” said Jon Nicholson, the creator and leader of the planned concert series that will run on consecutive Sundays until July 5. Mr. Nicholson explained his goal is to encourage the changing culture of the town and surrounding areas.

Beginning on Sunday, June 7, behind the Clark Memorial YMCA, the ensemble will play everything from folk tunes to Rossini overtures and will feature professional guest soloists of all varieties.

This includes Mark Stanaford, a saxophonist and former member of the United States Air Force Band of Liberty.

Mr. Nicholson will bring his experience in teaching music to the performances, including two residencies at the University of Michigan and serving as music department chairman at Gonzaga University, where his band was declared the “Finest Catholic College Band in the U.S.” by the National Catholic Band Directors Association.

In addition, Mr. Nicholson was one of the founding members of the Massachusetts Instrumental and Choral Conductors Association and was a trombonist for the Syracuse, Vermont State and Spokane symphonies.

Mr. Nicholson received his bachelor’s degree in music education from Syracuse University and his master’s and doctor of music education degrees from the University of Michigan.

The concert series is supported by a grant from the Robinson Broadhurst Foundation.



