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***For immediate release: Rockville Concert Band to present a free concert of seasonal music with special surprises—3:00 PM on December 18that Rockville’s F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre***

**Rockville, Md— December 9, 2022:** Celebrate the holidays with seasonal music and special surprises when the Rockville Concert Band presents its “Holiday Themes” concert, **Sunday, December 18th at 3:00 PM at the F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre in Rockville.**

**Under the direction of Dr. Juan Gallastegui (gah-yah-STAY-gee), the Band will perform a variety of symphonic band arrangements of music associated with Christmas, Hanukkah, and New Year’s Day. Adding to the fun will be an appearance by Santa Claus for the kids, plus a special auction for the opportunity to conduct the Band in its traditional Sleigh Ride encore.**

**Featured music will include the world premiere of the wind ensemble version of On Christmas Day by John Thomas Dodson, Disney Fantasy, a medley of familiar traditional tunes arranged by Naohiro Iwai, and Erik Leidzén’s arrangement of Johann Strauss’ Blue Danube Waltz that traditionally highlights the world famous New Year’s Day concert by the Vienna Philharmonic.** The concert is free (suggested donation of $5) with no tickets required. The F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre at Rockville Civic Center Park is located at 603 Edmonston Drive in Rockville, Md.

***John Thomas Dodson:*** Principal Guest Conductor and Music Advisor of the Atlanta Community Symphony Orchestra, [John Thomas Dodson](https://www.johnthomasdodson.com/) received his M.M. in Orchestral Conducting from the Peabody Conservatory and studied composition at Tennessee Technological University. He is Music Director of the Lexington Bach Festival (Michigan) and Artistic Director of Conciertos de la Villa de Santo Domingo (Dominican Republic). Dodson presents lectures and workshops on various music topics, including mindfulness for performers.

***Rockville Concert Band:*** Founded in 1957 and supported by the City of Rockville, Md, the [Rockville Concert Band](https://rockvilleconcertband.org/) is a symphonic community band comprised of approximately 70 musicians. Directed by Dr. Juan Gallastegui, the ensemble performs diverse repertoire at about ten concerts per year, including a fall through spring season at Rockville Civic Center’s F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre, the Rockville Memorial Day ceremonies and other performances throughout Maryland and the greater Washington DC area.

***Dr. Juan Gallastegui***: Music Director and conductor of the Rockville Concert Band since September 2020, [Juan Gallastegui](http://www.juangallastegui.com/) is also Music Director of The Accord Symphony Orchestra of the DC Strings Workshop, a music educator, and an ASCAP arranger of music for concert band and chamber ensembles. As an accomplished euphonium player, Gallastegui performed in several wind ensembles in his native Spain. He earned his Ph.D. in Music History from the University of La Rioja (Spain), and M.M. in Orchestral Conducting from Bard College in New York.

**For more information, media only:**

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