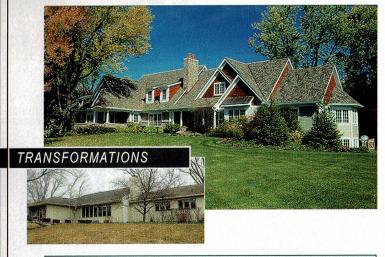
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COURTESY OF WWW.LAKEGENEVAHAPPENINGS.COM VIOLINIST RACHEL BARTON PINE PERFORMED WITH LGSO IN 2010.

performance at Appleton's Lawrence University Conservatory of Music, found his experiences playing with LGSO invaluable; he started playing with LGSO at the age of 13. "I was looking for something more challenging than my middle school orchestra," he explains. "It was the first orchestra I ever played in. I owe it a lot of gratitude for giving me early training."

He credits the diversity of pieces chosen by LGSO in helping prepare him for his rigorous college program: "Playing in the LGSO has given me an extremely wide repertoire of pieces that I'd already played before I even got into college. Most of the things I end up playing in college I've at least seen before because I've played them in the orchestra."

FOR THE SAKE OF MUSIC

Kreuder was particularly impressed when LGSO brought world-renowned violinist Rachel Barton Pine to solo for the opening of its 2010-'11 season. Pine, who is based in Chicago but performs with top symphonies around the world, taught a master class prior to the performance which Kreuder was invited to attend. "She's really intelligent and friendly and such an amazing player," Kreuder gushes. "And master classes are so good for improving your technique."

The concert featuring Pine drew LGSO's largest audience to date.

"She's extremely popular. It's a big accomplishment to have her come to the area and perform with us," explains Frazier. "She was a lot of fun to accompany." And because of Pine's notoriety in the world of classical music, "we were able to do some advertising farther out," adds Anderson.