

## Hudson Valley Saxophone Orchestra

BIO (short – 172 words)

Founded in 2012 by Charles W. Gray, the *Hudson Valley Saxophone Orchestra* began as an ensemble of music professionals and educators who teach in middle schools, high schools, and colleges in the Hudson Valley region of New York and New Jersey. With thirteen members performing on soprano through contrabass saxophone, the group strives to capture the rich and sonorous sound established by the Raschèr Ensemble. Under the baton of William Stevens, they perform an annual Christmas concert of music first done by David Bilger's *Saxophone Sinfonia* as well as new works commissioned from area composers. Proceeds from these concerts have been donated to help fund local music scholarships. Their recording "It's That Time Again" features this holiday music and is available on iTunes and CDBaby. The HVSO, with guest conductor Dr. Paul Cohen, was invited to perform a program entitled *A Tribute to the Raschèr Saxophone Ensemble, and Beyond* at Shenandoah Conservatory in Winchester, Virginia for the U.S. Navy Band's International Saxophone Symposium in 2016.

For more information visit:

<http://www.hudsonvalleysaxophoneorchestra.com> and  
<https://www.facebook.com/HudsonValleySaxophoneOrchestra>

(February 2016)