

# Rhode Island Philharmonic Orchestra & Music School

EAST PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND

Veterans Memorial Auditorium (The VETS) in Providence, Rhode Island, was the site of an uncommon, two-night event in February of 2024. World-renowned pianist Garrick Ohlsson performed Sergei Rachmaninoff's Piano Concerto No. 3. "Rach 3," as it has come to be known, is one of the most difficult piano concertos ever composed. All three movements feature chords up to 10-keys wide, and the final movement has finger-tangling, overlapping notes that require both hands crowded onto just a few keys. Ohlsson was accompanied by the Rhode Island Philharmonic Orchestra. If the 40-minute concerto caused him anxiety, he channeled it well.

"I can answer yes to both," said an auditorium staff member who worked The VETS both nights and was asked if Ohlsson and the orchestra played Rach 3 as advertised and without mistakes.

## Then they teach kids

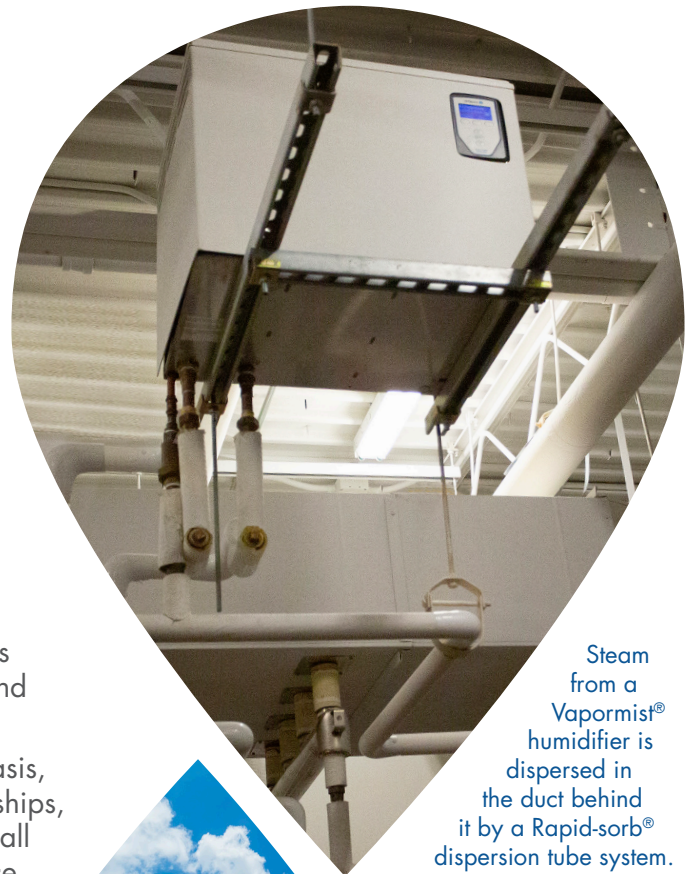
While Rhode Island Philharmonic Orchestra musicians are paid professionals, many give back not only as performers, but also as teachers at the music school. In fact, Rhode Island Philharmonic is the only professional orchestra in the country for which music education and performance are equal priorities.

## Space is limited

The school knows the importance of humidification for the students' respiratory health, and dry air can cause woodwinds, violins, pianos, and anything else with reeds or wood to crack. The rehearsal rooms, piano studios, and instrument storage area are humidified.

The school teaches about 1,500 students on a weekly basis, with another 13,000 yearly interactions through partnerships, residencies, concerts, and in-school performances. With all that is going on in the areas of teaching and performance, there is no floor space left for humidifiers.

"This one humidifies Sage Hall," says Bob Taylor, the school's Maintenance Specialist. Taylor is on a step ladder and pointing to a DriSteem Vaporstream® humidifier somewhere above the ceiling tiles. From the floor, a run of insulated steam tubing can be seen disappearing into the darkness above tiles. "They're all installed overhead, and the tech from Lincoln Energy, the contractor who installed the



Steam from a Vapormist® humidifier is dispersed in the duct behind it by a Rapid-sorb® dispersion tube system.



The Carter Center for Music Education & Performance, the school's main building, offers 31,000 square feet of learning space, making it the largest music education building in the state.





Performance venues choose DriSteem to preserve instruments and protect the respiratory health of their musicians and guests.



DriSteem tests their humidification, evaporative cooling, and water treatment systems for top performance.

## RESOURCES

Find your local DriSteem representative:

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Steam-generating humidifiers:

<https://www.dristeem.com/products/steam-generation>

Dehumidifiers:

<https://www.dristeem.com/products/all-products/dehumidification-systems/>

DriCalc®, DriSteem's free sizing and selection software:

<http://www.dristeem.com/register-for-dricalc>

Outdoor enclosures and weather covers:

<https://www.dristeem.com/products/all-products/other-products-accessories/outdoor-enclosures-and-weather-covers/>

Rhode Island Philharmonic Orchestra & Music School:

<https://www.riphil.org/>

humidifiers, comes out every season to service them. He sets up his ladder and lights and keeps all four units running for us."

## Always space somewhere

The DriSteem rep that sized and selected humidifiers for the school is Emerson Swan in Boston, about an hour from East Providence. Boston has some of the oldest buildings in the country, many with tiny mechanical rooms that have been full for a hundred years. Where do they install equipment if there is no room on the floor or above the ceiling? They use their grounds and rooftops. DriSteem's outdoor enclosures can be installed on roofs or concrete pads. Their built-in cooling fans and heaters maintain recommended operating conditions year round.

DriSteem is proud to be the leader in humidification control for all applications from comfort to critical, even in buildings where the floor space is used up.

DRI-STEEM Corporation

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