



MAGICAL MUSICAL MENTOR



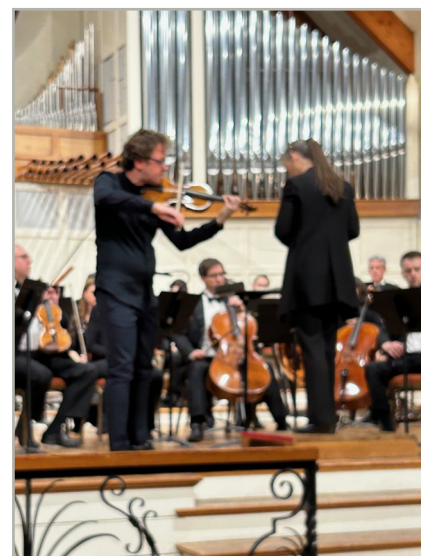
Early on the morning of February 3rd, Glynn Academy string orchestra students filed eagerly into their classroom. Today was the day they would meet world renowned violinist Alexander Sitkovetsky who would quickly become known to them as Sasha. They would hear him conduct a Master Class with fellow students Gyorgi Knight and Caleb Paradis and be introduced to the distinct sound of Sitkovetsky’s 1679 “Parera” Antonio Stradivari violin. “That is a gorgeous instrument,” noted class instructor Nathaniel Roper, “and Sasha was super nice and approachable.”



Later that evening, class students along with members of the Golden Isles Youth Orchestra and area elementary schools arrived at Wesley Church at Frederica to hear Sasha play with the Coastal Symphony of Georgia orchestra. “They asked to be here tonight, and so we decided to fill the balcony with them,” said Leslie Graitcer, CSG Board Chair.



This was definitely a very special day and evening for young and old alike. Sasha’s performance of the challenging Tchaikovsky Violin Concerto, which brought the audience to its feet more than once, was quite simply breathtaking. “Having a master class with someone of your caliber is not an opportunity that presents itself to these students often, if ever!” wrote Lucie Akkermans, GIYO Philharmonia Manager in a thank you letter to Sitkovetsky. Indeed, hearing this brilliant violinist was an opportunity seldom enjoyed by anyone in the concert hall that night.



The CSG Musical Mentors Program in collaboration with GIYO’s *Strings On* initiative currently impacts almost 1,000 students during the Glynn County School Year. The special Master Class with Alexander Sitkovetsky was truly a magical day for these young students and their inspiring mentor!

CONCERT NOTES

IMPRESSIONS

March 24, 2025 - 7:30 p.m.

Brunswick High School

Our Spring Concert will tease our imagination and challenge our ability to see things in a different way.

Beginning with current American composer Jesse Montgomery's orchestral suite, *Transfigure to Grace*, the audience will hear essential themes of water and transformation meant to evoke an unfinished chapter in our journey toward equality and the grace of humankind. The French horn plays a primary role as it leads the major transitions between sections of the episodic suite.



Claude Debussy's *La Mer (The Sea)* will captivate us with an orchestral masterpiece that suggests the ever-changing moods of the sea. The French composer called it a set of "symphonic sketches." It is considered an impressionist milestone and has become one of his most admired works.

Following intermission, we will meet two very different birds as the Impressionistic theme continues. Charles T. Griffes' *The White Peacock* awakens a sense of beauty, mysticism, and elegance as it captures the grace and allure of this magnificent bird. The American composer's music is characterized by lush harmonies, impressionistic textures, and evocative melodies.



Igor Stravinsky's *Firebird* is a very mysterious bird. The orchestral suite comes from a ballet written by the Russian composer which was premiered at Ballets-Russes in Paris and vaulted him to international prominence at age 28. The suite is scored for a large orchestra with a full complement of winds, brass, strings, and virtually every percussion instrument called on to play. It is considered a masterpiece of musical narration.

CONCERT NOTES

HOMELANDS

June 2, 2025 - 7:30 p.m.

Brunswick High School

Our Finale for the season is a concert that had to be rescheduled from September 2024 due to Hurricane Helene. It is music inspired by stories and art from the Homelands. September Concert tickets will be honored at this performance.

The concert opens with a rollicking overture from Russian composer, Mikhail Glinka's opera *Ruslan and Ludmila*. The opera is based on a narrative poem by Alexnader Pushkin, considered Russia's greatest poet. The music is enhanced by an Eastern flavor borrowing from Russian folk material, with an allusion to European dance music. It is considered a workout for violinists and a nightmare for bassoonists.



A celebration of the African spirit follows with current American composer Brian Raphael Nabors' *Of Earth and Sky: Tales from the Motherland*. Nabors music draws from a combination of classical, Jazz Funk, R&B, and Gospel with the modern flair of contemporary classical music. *Tales* draws on his special interest in creating a symphonic tapestry of music based on stories from Africa and the Caribbean.

The Season Finale closes with Russian composer Modest Mussorgsky's *Pictures at an Exhibition*. The music takes the listener through an exhibition of paintings by artist Victor Hartman who was a close friend of the composer. Originally written as a piano suite, its symphonic possibilities soon became evident. Over 20 adaptations have been created, with French composer Maurice Ravel's version becoming the most recorded and performed. With faithful scoring, Ravel uses the entire orchestra to create musical characters from the paintings. The music is at times lyrical, sprightly, folksy, eerie, and majestic.





GOLD SPONSOR SPOTLIGHT

We are pleased to celebrate two longstanding Gold Sponsors of the Coastal Symphony of Georgia.

SOUTHEAST GEORGIA HEALTH SYSTEM

Since 1888, Southeast Georgia Health System has grown and evolved bringing new resources, services, technologies and opportunities to the region.

Headquartered in historic Brunswick, the Health System is a not-for-profit organization serving the residents of Brantley, Camden, Charlton, Glynn, McIntosh, and Wayne counties. The Health System is comprised of two acute care hospitals in Brunswick and Camden offering a full spectrum of health care services. It also encompasses the Southeast Georgia Physician Associates physician practices, two long term care facilities, two comprehensive Cancer Care Centers and multiple specialty care centers.

To learn more about the health system's healthcare providers, services and locations, please visit sghs.org or call 855-ASK-SGHS (855) 275-7447.



SOUTHEAST GEORGIA
HEALTH SYSTEM

FAIRFIELD BY MARRIOTT, HOLIDAY INN AND SUITES, HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS




Fairfield[®]
BY MARRIOTT



H
Holiday Inn
& Suites



H
Holiday Inn
Express

Rated as three of the top hotels in the Golden Isles, this group of inns provide excellent lodging and customer service with true southern hospitality. They are the only locally owned and operated hotels in our area.

All hotels are located at Exit 38/I-95, midway between Savannah and Jacksonville and near coastal communities on St. Simons Island and Jekyll Island, GA. Nearby restaurants in all those coastal communities make dining easy.

Whether in town on business or for pleasure, or looking for comfortable lodging for overflow guests, you will find any of these hotels provide a variety of services—the perfect answer to your needs.

THANK YOU, CABARET DISCO FUN LOVERS!

We want to thank our patrons, sponsors, and party goers for your enthusiastic support of our signature fundraiser Cabaret Disco Night. Your participation helps the Coastal Symphony ensure the future of excellence in symphonic music in the Golden Isles. We truly appreciate you and enjoyed your moves on the dance floor!



Phil and Leslie Graitcer



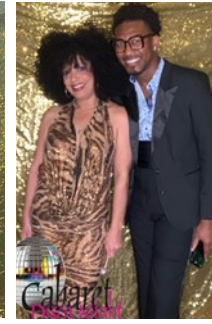
Jamie Bessette & Greer Brown



Michelle Merrill



Michelle & Larry Lasser



Stacey White/Kyle Fox



Chris Triplett & David Wright



Silent Auction -
Beautiful flowers



Kern & Jane Baker



Chad & Tara Goehring



Fran & Jim Kielt



Dialo & Cherise Cartwright



Anne & Peter Portley



Happy Greeters!



Stacey White and David Lowe



Dennie and Frances McCrary

Sea Island SoundBite a Symphony Success!

In partnership with Sea Island, CSG presented its outstanding Lawson Ensemble to a sold-out crowd at the Cloister in January! This was the first of a planned series of SoundBites on Sea Island.



Violinist/Violist Clinton Dewing,
Violinist Aurica Duca & Cellist Nick Curry



Deborah Wright and Susan Myers



Creta Carter Nichols, Faith Willis,
and Millie Wilcox



NAMED CHAIRS

The Michelle Merrill Music Director and Conductor's Chair Endowed by Anonymous Patron	The Leo E. Ruckle Principal Bassoon Chair	The James A. Heagy Principal Cello Chair
The Harrison Design Principal Harp Chair	The Anne and Peter Portley Second Violin Chair	The Chuck Cansler Memorial Principal Trumpet Chair
The Jane Günter-McCoy Memorial Principal Viola Chair	The Clarence Heagy Principal Oboe Chair	The Sharon Flores Principal Percussion Chair
The Ruth Heagy Principal Flute Chair	The Morton P. Sherzer Memorial Piccolo Chair	The Ciot Atlanta Principal Timpani Chair
The Thomas C. Heagy Second Flute Chair	The Janice Lamattina and Bill Parker Principal Trombone Chair	The Principal Clarinet Chair Anonymous



CRESCENDO CIRCLE CELEBRATES

MEMBERS

- Jane and Kern Baker
 - Amy and Chris Bone
 - Dale and Paul Cronin*
 - Leslie and Philip Graitcer
 - Kay and Jim Harrell*
 - Annette Wheeler and Dan Kelly*
 - Anne and Tom Kitchin
 - Janice Lamattina
 - Deb and Dan Luginbuhl
 - Jeanne Pescitelli and Robert F. McCammon, Jr.
 - Susan and Don Myers*
 - Victoria Myers
 - Creta Carter Nichols
 - Sara Sheffield*
 - Jaquelin Turbidy
 - Forrest and Ron Wilson
 - Deborah and David Wright*
 - Linda Wright* *Deceased*
- *Founding Members*

The Crescendo Circle celebrated its membership with a party at the lovely home of Michelle and Larry Lasser. Members were thanked by Circle Chair Deborah Wright for their commitment to giving today to ensure the Coastal Symphony of Georgia can sustain its viability into tomorrow. CSG Board Member and Coastal College of Georgia Director of Development Jamie Bessette gave a presentation on the progress of the Center for the Arts at the College.



Above: Left, Michelle Lasser
Middle, Jamie Bessette
Right, Deborah Wright



Left: Michelle Merrill, CSG
Music Director and Conductor



Right: David Wright and
Bill Parker

COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Gold



SOUTHEAST GEORGIA
HEALTH SYSTEM



Holiday Inn

Fairfield®



Silver



Al Brown Company
Ameris Bank
Coastal Greenery
Cynthia Brown, Signature Properties Group
East Beach Wealth Solutions
Eugenia Price/Joyce Blackburn Foundation
First Horizon Banking Center
Lannan Solar

Brown-Rose Wealth Management at Morgan Stanley
Schroeder's Market
Southeastern Bank
Strategic Partners, Tim Wilson
Synovus
The Torras Foundation
Vitality Living Frederica

Bronze



Debbie Britt Law
Jeffrey J. Buerstatte, P.C. Attorney
Delaney's Bistro
Dorothy's Cocktail and Oyster Bar
Epworth by the Sea
Gilbert Harrell Sumerford & Martin, PC

Iguanas Seafood Restaurant
K-9 Corner
M. Jeffrey Martin, CPA
Refresh & Refine
Saunders Landscaping Supply Co.
John A. Tuten & Associates, Architects

Friends



The Frederica House
The Live Oak Financial Agency, LLC
Live Oak Fitness
Millican Eye Center
PrimeSouth Bank

OKAY Accounting
Righton Books
Roberts Civil Engineering
Seaside Eyes
Wommack Dentistry, Dr. Michal Wommack

Supporting



Advanced Hearing & Balance Center
Lisa Wray Anderson, CPA
Kate Buchanan, Realtor
Cannon's Coastal Cleaners
Creative Frameworks
Doug Phelps, State Farm Insurance
Eckerd Seafood, Inc.

Feelin Great Wellness Center
Georgia Sea Grill
Kirby's Paint and Body Shop
Christopher C. Nichols, P.C. Attorney at Law
Scott Nichols Real Estate, Inc.
Third Stitch Embroidery
Two Friends



PO Box 21733
St. Simons Island, GA
31522

Non Profit Org.
US Postage Paid
Brunswick, GA
Permit #652

Return Service Requested

Special appreciation to these Foundations for their support of The Coastal Symphony of Georgia



Built up By the Community For the Community



BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2024-2025

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Leslie Graitcer	President
Janice Lamattina	Vice President
Zachary Harris	Secretary
Charlie Martin	Treasurer
Kay Harrell	Assistant Treasurer
Kem Baker	Immediate Past President
Brenda Haughney	Director of Operations

DIRECTORS

Myrna Scott Amos	Nathan Kohlhoff
Ryan Babcock	Shonda Kohlhoff
Jamie Bessette	Creta Nichols
Rebecca Farrow	Orah Reed
Chad Goehring	Dave Snyder
Drew Holland	Chris Triplett
Dr. Colette Lee-Lewis	Tim Wilson
	Deborah Wright