

The Coastal Symphony of Georgia



Sounds of the Symphony

September 2019

A LETTER FROM OUR MUSICAL DIRECTOR & CONDUCTOR



Dear Coastal Symphony Family,
I hope you have had a relaxing and enjoyable summer. After spending the first half on the West Coast, I have spent much of the remainder of these hot months spending time with numerous family and friends and reconnecting with the music that I love.

Some of this music I haven't done for many years and bringing it back out elicits memories of the time I last performed the piece, along with the emotions that go along with that experience. It also involves the process of new discovery; as in my study process, I almost always find something new or interpret a phrase in a way that I had never realized before. This is what makes music ALIVE. The notes are living and breathing life in a new way every time they are played. The experience you or I have while listening or performing will not necessarily be the same as our neighbor, and what an incredible gift that is.

This coming season has an array of music written throughout the years, and I hope you will join us in experiencing this ever changing and evolving art form. You may even discover a new favorite piece along the way!

Yours in
musical harmony and
appreciation.

Michelle Merrill

Upcoming Events

Wed., September 18, 4:00 p.m.

Symphony Society Fall Meeting, St. William Parish Hall

Mon., September 23, 5:30 and 8:00 p.m.

Pre-Concert Dinner, Brunswick Country Club

Opening Night Concert, Brunswick High School

Sun., November 10, 7:00 p.m., SoundBites-Halyards

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CONCERT NOTES

Storytellers

The 2019–2020 concert season is one of vivid orchestral colors, styles, stories, and ideas. Each concert gives us a kaleidoscopic display as our musicians invite us to visualize what the music is saying as we listen. Opening Night on Monday, September 23, 8:00 p.m., makes the perfect beginning with its diversity of story and sound coalescing into a lovely whole.

Jared Miller's *Luster* treats us to what he calls the "shiny, bejeweled colors and timbres" of 90s disco music written for an orchestra. Listening to the repeating, soaring sounds, you might think of birds in flight, or feel that you can pluck the shimmering notes from the air.

The softer, sweeter sound of George Gershwin's *Lullaby* invites us into the nursery where we sense a mother rocking her baby's cradle as the strings give us a quietly repeating theme. Gershwin's iconic *An American in Paris* follows with the impressions of an American as he strolls through the streets and absorbs the atmosphere of the city. This jazz influenced symphonic tone poem

places us on the streets of the city, evoking the sights and sounds of 1920s Paris.

Turning to the music of Maurice Ravel, the orchestra begins with *La Valse*, a choreographic poem for orchestra. In a tribute to the waltz of the 19th Century, the music takes us into a castle ballroom where dancers whirl in a frenzy, as though to keep the outside horrors of the 20th Century away. There is a recognition that the world they capture inside the castle walls is no longer alive. English composer, George Benjamin, describes the music as representing the "birth, decay, and destruction of the waltz."

The concert closes with a whimsical suite of fairy tales. Ravel's *Mother Goose Suite* is an orchestral ballet that opens with a slow, precise dance evocative of a princess sleeping in a wood, moves on to the adventures of a very tiny boy, statues coming to life, a waltz with a beautiful princess and a terrifying beast, and finally the magical ending of a fairy garden.

Opening Night Pre-Concert Dinner

Brunswick Country Club
Monday, September 23
Cash Bar 5:30 p.m. – Dinner at 6:00 p.m.

Served Tableside

Mixed Spring Greens, Green Apple, Cranberries, Pecans
Warm French Bread and Whipped Butter
Roasted Butternut Squash Soup, Stilton Cream

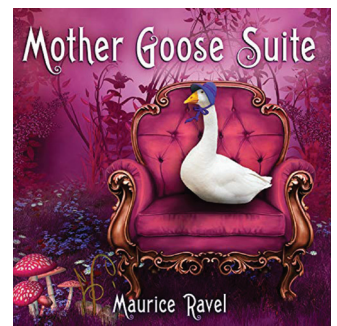
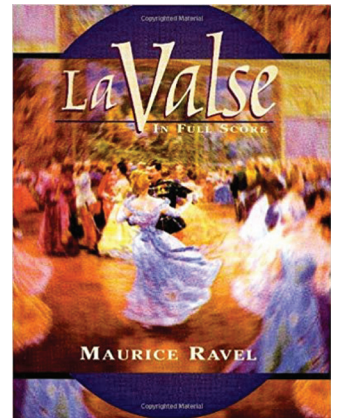
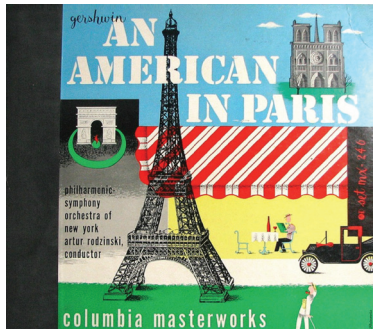
On the Buffet

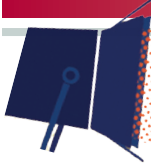
New York Strip Loin
Blackened Fresh Atlantic Salmon, Lemon Dill
Roasted Fingerling Potatoes
Fire Roasted Vegetable Medley
Warm Apple Crisp – Bourbon Cream
Fresh Baked Assorted Cookies

\$24.95 Per Person

Join your friends on Opening Night for good food and conversation before the concert!

Reservations by Friday, September 20, 6:00 p.m.
Call (912) 264-4377, ext. 9





SPONSOR SPOTLIGHT HALL BOOTH SMITH

Winston Churchill once observed, “We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give.” If you are seeking a shining exemplar of this kind of generosity in our local community, you need look no further than **Hall Booth Smith, P.C. Attorneys at Law**.

Four years ago, this law firm stepped forward to become the inaugural sponsor of the Music Director and Conductor’s Chair for The Coastal Symphony of Georgia. This \$30,000 signature commitment — \$10,000 a year for three years — made it possible for the Symphony to bring the highest quality of classical music performances to the Golden Isles. And now, commencing with the 2019-20 concert season, this generous sponsorship from HBS has been renewed for another three years.

HBS is known as a strong community supporter and a longtime sponsor of The Coastal Symphony of Georgia, among other local nonprofits. Retired HBS Partner Michael Frick, our Symphony Board President, says community support is at the core of the HBS business philosophy. “When we support worthy causes, not only do we enable our communities to thrive and prosper, but in the process, we create enriching life experiences for our employees,” he says. “The Coastal Symphony of Georgia adds great value to our area by presenting world-class artists and outstanding musical performances not often available outside of large cities.”



A full-service law firm serving the Southeast since 1989, HBS has 14 offices in six states, including a new office in Jacksonville and a regional office of 15 attorneys right here in Brunswick on U.S. Highway 17. With over 30 practice areas, ranging from wills and trusts to government affairs and business litigation, HBS offers expertise across legal disciplines with a focus on the unique needs of its clients. The firm has been named one of the Best Law Firms by *U.S. News & World Report* and is regularly cited as one of the Best Places to Work by journalists and business organizations. HBS attorneys are consistently listed among the top lawyers in America.

The firm’s motto, “Serving to Achieve Excellence,” certainly describes its community spirit. In taking the lead in the Symphony’s Named Chairs Campaign, HBS exemplifies the very best in Golden Isles corporate citizenship. We are grateful for their continuing generosity and commitment.

Name a Chair Sponsorships Continue to Grow!

Membership in the Named Chair Program gives you an opportunity to celebrate your favorite instrument and make a significant contribution to our symphonic endeavor. To date, we have received funding for **The Hall Booth Smith Music Director/Conductor Chair**, **The Southeast Georgia Health System Concertmaster Chair**, and eight Principal Chairs (listed below). Our goal this year is to attract sponsorships for the remaining 7 Principal Chairs. The cost of each Principal Sponsorship is \$9000, which may be paid over a period of three years, with one third paid each year.

2019-20 Current Named Chairs

The Joe Durant Principal Second Violin Chair
The Jane Günter-McCoy Viola Chair
The Elizabeth and John H. Starr Principal Cello Chair
The Planters Exchange Principal Flute Chair
The Ann Leggett Perse Principal Clarinet Chair
The Chuck and Sue Cansler Principal Trumpet Chair
The Harrison Design Principal Harp Chair
The H. William Emde Principal Percussion Chair

Sponsors will receive:

- ♪ Four Season Tickets each year with priority reserved seating selection by the donor.
- ♪ Recognition for three seasons in all newsletters, programs, and website.
- ♪ Signage displayed outside the auditorium.
- ♪ Priority seating and sales for special concerts and events and
- ♪ An opportunity to dedicate a concert in honor of or in memory of someone special.



Remaining Chairs available for sponsorship: Bass, Oboe, Bassoon, Horn, Trombone, Tuba, and Timpani.

For information on naming a Chair, contact Sharon Flores at sharon.flores@comcast.net.



COOL STRINGS
&
CREATIVE CUISINE
November 10, 2019-7p.m.
Sinisa Ciric & Micah Gangwer
play Classical, Jazz, Bluegrass
and traditional Eastern
European!

Reception following
Performance.

\$50 per person

Reservations:
cemde7714@gmail.com OR
coastalsymphonyofgeorgia.ORG



Cool Strings ... Creative Cuisine

Classical, jazz, bluegrass, traditional Eastern European melodies ... you just might hear it all from two entertaining violinists while enjoying delicious appetizers and drinks as only Halyard's can create them. Dr. Sinisa Ciric is Concertmaster of the Savannah Philharmonic and Micah Gangwer is Assistant Concertmaster of the Charleston Symphony Orchestra. They have played individually in both the United States and Europe, thrilling audiences with their command of the classical repertoire. However, they have other interests as well when it comes to playing the violin. Micah has been showcased on public radio and

television as a jazz, bluegrass, and classical violinist. Sinisa is a founding member of the Balkan Quartet.

Sunday, November 10, 2019, 7:00 p.m.
Halyard's Restaurant, St Simons Island
\$50 per person

Reservations: Contact cemde7714@gmail.com OR
coastalsymphonyofgeorgia.ORG
Remember – these events sell out quickly!

Coming in January 2020, Out from Behind – a low brass quartet, and in March 2020, Improvisation in a Secret Study. Watch for details.



Save the Date



Christ Church Frederica Parish Hall
St. Simons Island

Sunday, December 8, 2019, 4:00 p.m.

Adults \$35.00; Children under 12: \$10.00

For tickets, contact lamattina2@comcast.net

OR coastalsymphonyofgeorgia.ORG



The program will include familiar pieces ranging from "Joy to the World" to "Jingle Bells" with updated, creative arrangements and seldom heard piano selections from the *Nutcracker*!

Bring the whole family to enjoy the music of the Christmas season!

The Symphony Society

An affiliate of the
Coastal Symphony of Georgia, Inc.



John Harper,
Society President

On behalf of The Symphony Society, I welcome you to another exciting season. This fall marks the beginning of our 13th year as an organization of volunteers working in support of the purpose and mission of The Coastal Symphony of Georgia, primarily in conducting fundraising events to assure the future health of our valuable community asset. This newsletter reaches hundreds of households of music lovers. If you are not already a member, this new season is a perfect time for you to join us, not only as an affirmation of your interest in symphonic music but also as a small financial commitment to helping underwrite the significant contribution the Society makes each year to the continuing programs of CSG. Whether you choose to actively volunteer or simply make your support visible via annual membership, we need you.

We invite you to attend our fall membership meeting on September 18 (see invitation on this page) to learn of our projects and to hear our conductor, Michelle Merrill, preview the upcoming season. You don't have to be a member to attend. However, this

Come One, Come All to the Fall Meeting!

event will also be an opportunity to join the Society and to sign up to assist or perhaps lead events. For additional membership information visit our website www.coastalsymphonyofgeorgia.org or call our chairperson, Jan Carriker, at 770-412-2694.

This is a great time to be involved with the Symphony Society. I will see you at the concerts and at our upcoming events.

Join Us and Bring a Friend!

Fall Meeting of
The Symphony Society

Wednesday, September 18, 2019

4:00 pm

Saint William Parish Hall
2300 Frederica Road
St. Simons Island

Speaker and Entertainment

Michelle Merrill, Music Director and Conductor
The Coastal Symphony of Georgia

The Glynn Academy Concert Choir
Directed by Nathaniel Roper

R.S.V.P.

Nancy Pandolfi
nancypandolfi@att.net
912-230-8943

SHARE YOUR TICKET

If you cannot use your ticket(s), please contact the Symphony office at 912.634.2006 to let us offer your ticket(s) to others.

WE HAVE A WAITING LIST FOR CONCERT TICKETS.



Corporate Sponsors ★ Named Chairs

*The Hall Booth Smith
Music Director and Conductor's Chair*

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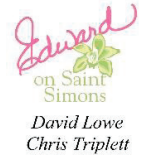
The Southeast Georgia Health System Concertmaster's Chair



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**The Joe Durant
Principal
Second Violin Chair**

**The Jane Günter-McCoy
Principal
Viola Chair**

**The Elizabeth and
John H. Starr
Principal Cello Chair**

**The Chuck and Sue
Cansler
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**The Ann Leggett Perse
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**The Planters Exchange
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**The Harrison Design
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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Michael Frick
President, Coastal Symphony of Georgia

Welcome to the 37th Concert Season of the Coastal Symphony of Georgia. The 2019–2020 season gives us a kaleidoscopic combination of pieces from venerable old masters and new, exciting composers. We will enjoy a diversity of sounds and styles that will transform into a vibrant whole, giving us a much-needed respite from the stresses and pressures of our daily lives.

Opening Night, September 23rd, new composer Jared Miller's shimmering *Luster*, along with an iconic work from George Gershwin and a whimsical one from Maurice Ravel, reminds us of the excellence that comprises our symphony orchestra. That talent, along with our strong subscriber support, truly excites us as we move toward a planned 2022 move into the new Coastal Community Center for the Arts at the Coastal College of Georgia. This transition will virtually double our current concert hall space, allowing us to reach new audiences of all ages and interests in the community.

Please be sure to take in one or all of our three Soundbites events throughout the Season for a more intimate experience with our musicians in a casual atmosphere. These events, along with our four concerts, our Musical Mentors in-school program, Conductor Michelle Merrill's music lectures, and our by-invitation salons offer the community a multi-faceted, year-round symphony experience. We have a great story to tell, and I hope you

will join me in making the community aware of that story.

Thank you so much for your continued support of the Coastal Symphony of Georgia. You make all of this possible. We could not do it without you.

Thank You for Replying to The Coastal Symphony of Georgia's Spring Survey!

We tabulated over 200 replies generated collectively from the online, newsletter, and evening of the concert distribution opportunities. The majority of responses came from the 60+ age group and were from Season Subscribers attending 3-4 concerts per season. Your musical genre preference was Classical, with a strong interest in Pops. You preferred receiving the newsletter by U.S. mail, but liked receiving special event information by email, and appreciated the option of purchasing tickets online. As we anticipated, and confirmed with continuing gratitude, you told us you strongly support our program advertisers. More intimate events with musician conversation were also welcome.

This information has been tremendously helpful as we continue to plan for concert seasons and for Symphony-sponsored special events.

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