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# TAMPA BAY Symphony

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Spring 2009

Newsletter

Volume XIII Number 3

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## Notes from the Director...

By Jack Heller

All four pieces on this program are in my top all-time musical greats. Melodies abound and the craftsmanship in each work is absolutely stunning. So, what can I say using mere words to describe Schubert's *Symphony No. 3*, Wagner's *Rienzi Overture*, Grieg's *Piano Concerto*, and Tchaikovsky's *Capriccio Italien*? I'll leave that to our devoted "Program Notes" contributor, violinist Mozelle Bell, who does considerable research on each composer and their compositions.

Each work has its challenges for everyone. The openness and clarity in the Schubert makes every slight deviation in pitch or rhythm very apparent. The Wagner's lush sounds give way to very difficult (and very fast) strings passages and brilliant but difficult wind and brass phrases. The Grieg is just a pleasure to play. Tchaikovsky is just as beautiful, but has its challenges in intonation especially in his inimitable modulations with unusual accidentals (hopefully not accidents).

I'm pretty sure our audiences will thoroughly enjoy the auditory feast of this program. Each piece is a gem.

All each of you have to do is practice, practice, practice. You always come through at our concerts



and I'm confident that you will once again (or should I say "thrice again").

## From the President's Desk

By Jim Parady

With two thirds of our 23<sup>rd</sup> season behind us, we will complete the year with our Young Artist Competition Concert in April and participate in a "Fund Raiser" Concert at the Maria Center (our rehearsal hall) on May 23<sup>rd</sup>. The fundraiser will benefit both the Symphony and the Holy Name of Jesus Catholic Church (our rehearsal hall owners). There will be a maximum of 500 adults and 100 children (under 10 years of age) permitted to attend the "Best of Broadway" Concert since the hall capacity is limited to those numbers.

The Winter Concert Series, featuring our principal bassoonist, Corinne Puchalla, was enjoyed by audiences of 562 in Tampa, 529 in St. Petersburg and 643 in Clearwater for a total of 1739. Of the total audience, 234(13.45%) were students.



During the break, on March 3<sup>rd</sup>, the Board of Directors sponsored a Musician Appreciation Party and everyone in attendance seemed to enjoy the festivities which were hosted by our Treasurer Victoria Patterson and her husband Larry who just happens to be



our Bass Clarinetist and Board member. This was the first time in two years that we were allowed to celebrate by serving food and drinks in the rehearsal hall...Thanks to Bill Naylor!



Ticket sales by our musicians and their friends were very good this season. Thanks very, very much to the following ticket sellers: Erna Scherffius Frances Pisacane, Stephan Harwood, Karen Mamel, Jean Lagor, Mozelle Bell, Catherine Hines, Kathy Guindon, Lauren Ander, Carolyn Waidly, Kurt Klotz, Jennifer Dietrich, Laurel Bennett, Sandra Milner, Charles Sollinger, Joyce Barnett, Carol Skey, Robert Summers, Sylvia Shor, Corinne Puchalla, Paul Kurtz, David Heifrich, Christine Hartley, Cathy Terry, Jean Lagor, Marie Milne, Ronald Bowers, Maribeth Radtke, Don Ekberg, Ben Katzara, John Tombs, Geraldine Clover-Hooton, Jean Rau, Avona Carroll and Rose Mary Plante.

With other sources of revenue on the decline, please continue your excellent work to keep us playing our concerts and meeting our goals.

## 2008-2009 Young Artist Competition

Phyllis Willis

Just a short bio of our 2008/2009 Young Artist Competition winner... Robert Fleitz is 16 years old



and is a sophomore at the Harrison Center for the Visual and Performing Arts in Lakeland, FL. Robert began his piano studies with his father at the age of 4, and is currently a student of Southeastern University professor Ching-Wen Hsiao, a concert artist who is finishing her doctoral degree at the Juilliard School in New York. He has also studied with Naomi Niskala and Marie Hasse.

We look forward to Robert's performances!

## Personnel Matters...

**Personnel Manager,  
Violist Lauren Ander  
813-294-5801**

**Email: lpa2g@aol.com**



The other day when I was on my way to rehearsal-- and stuck in slow-moving highway traffic --- I was thinking about all the players who commute from far away cities to play in our group. I used to live on the far border of Tampa and Brandon; my commute could easily be 75 minutes in rush-hour traffic, and driving home at night was a solid 50 minutes. Thankfully, now I live in St Petersburg and the drive has been cut in half. Can you guess how many people drive from more than 45 miles away? 18 people live in Lutz, Land O Lakes, Hudson, Riverview, Wesley Chapel and Zephyrhills. The farthest distance is from Hudson, over 60 miles, which members Dale Hutchinson, Barbara VanPatten and David Helfrich faithfully drive each week. Many more people drive over 30 miles, including those who live in Bradenton, Tampa and Temple Terrace. It just goes to show what an amazing group of dedicated volunteers we have. Thanks for all your commitment and hard work... and wear and tear on your vehicles!

Also, please welcome Karisa Steagall to the second violin section. She played in the Tampa Youth Orchestra and the University of Tampa Orchestra. Since so many of us are Florida transplants (including myself - 7 years now), it's nice to see some home-grown talent! The Tampa Bay Symphony really is a wonderful resource for our community, giving local players a venue to keep practicing and improving their skills.

Just a reminder: please tell me about any change of address, phone number or especially email, so I can keep the roster up-to-date and ensure you get rehearsal information for next year's season.

Thanks again. Cheers,  
Lauren Ander



## *The Bell Report:*

by **TBS Board Member**  
**Mozelle Sawyer Bell**



### **Board Considers Suggestion Box Entries**

Some orchestra members have put suggestions--constructive ones--in Carol Skey's attractively decorated Suggestion (formerly shoe) Box. At the March meeting, the Board members considered the various possibilities. Keep those suggestions coming!

- 1) Knowing how expensive it is to rent three halls, several people suggested dropping our Ruth Eckerd concert from each series. The Board is thinking about looking for an alternative venue in north Pinellas, perhaps a church with a large enough auditorium. It's good to have three locations to serve our faithful audiences in all three areas.
- 2) Several people suggested collecting dues from the players, as they do in some other community orchestras. One person suggested \$1 a rehearsal, for a profit of about \$100 each time. Someone else suggested annual dues of \$25. The Board thought that was a good idea, but an even better idea would be to encourage players to become annual Contributors at the new \$35 level and receive one extra free ticket for each series. Several players are now doing that. Over thirty players are already listed in our programs as Contributors at the \$65, \$100 and \$500 level, and they receive two extra tickets for each series. (Not a bad deal, with tickets going for \$20 each.) Someone else suggested having a raffle to raise money. We have a big roll of raffle tickets.
- 3) Someone suggested grooming a young conductor. Of course, we already have an assistant conductor, Mark Heller, who conducted the difficult ballet concerts when his father was having back surgery. A young conducting student would appreciate the opportunity to get experience, but we don't have plans to train an intern at this time.
- 4) One of our several school music teachers suggested that parents would gladly pay \$\$ to put their middle or senior high kids in a summer clinic for a day or a week to play with Tampa Bay Symphony musicians. The Board thought that would be great if she could run it at her school.

- 5) Hiring a well-known ensemble like Boston Brass to play with us. Board reaction: Maybe, if Jack Heller finds someone and our budget allows. We hired Ani Kavafian, the Lincoln Center violinist, in 2005. That's a way to get John Fleming to write a feature. He also wrote about John Parris, the guitarist, and Benny Yangco when he was our soloist.
- 6) Changing to Wednesday nights for rehearsals: Some players have other obligations, such as the Suncoast Symphony, on Wednesday nights.

### **Notes from The Horn Man...**

By **TBS Vice President**  
**Kurt Klotz**



#### ...New on our website...

Visit our website and submit your ideas/suggestion via our on-line suggestion form. You don't need to leave your name and we will read your ideas and comments. Look for the "Comments Box" link under the "Contact Us" menu option. While you're there, check out a short music/video presentation that was created as a tribute to our recent President's Day Holiday. Various photographs are put to the Orchestras performance of Copland's "Lincoln Portrait", the one where Fox News John Wilson narrated. Our website also features a number of additional audio/video recordings of past performances.

#### Graphic Artist interests?

Anyone interested in contributing their graphic artist skills towards helping with advertising or website creation should contact me, Kurt Klotz. There are a number of items that we are looking for assistance with including website creation/maintenance, advertisement flyers, possible video creation for commercial usage, etc. Show us what you've got!



#### Help keep the rehearsal hall clean!

Please help keep our rehearsal hall clean and organized. Remember to properly dispose of all trash after rehearsal and also, not including the

chairs that musicians use when playing, put them back under the tables before you leave (or on top of the tables if that is where they were when you arrived.) Our volunteer staff is responsible for making sure that the facility is the same when we leave as when we arrived and we need to be considerate that we don't leave our lock-up crew with extra work, and/or long delays, after a full night of rehearsal.

**Please Join Us for  
"The Best of Broadway"  
an Evening of  
Entertainment & Refreshments!  
May 23, 2009 7PM**

Holy Name of Jesus Catholic Church  
Maria Center

5800 15th Avenue S.  
Gulfport FL. 33707

(SW corner of  
58th St. and 15th Ave.S  
in St. Petersburg)

**Admission:  
\$15. Adults  
\$5. Children  
(Under 10yrs)  
Cash or check**



**Orchestra /  
Church  
fundraising  
event includes:**

**Tampa Bay  
Symphony  
Dops Concert  
with  
Guest Vocalists  
Michelle Rego  
& Rim Karnavicius  
plus finger foods  
and soft drinks.**

For tickets please check the desk on rehearsal nights or call (727)796-5632

**TBS Concert Schedule**



**Spring 2009**

**"Young Artist Competition No. 3**



Tchaikovsky Capriccio Italien

**Thursday, Apr. 16<sup>th</sup>, 8:00P, Ruth Eckerd Hall,  
Clearwater Winner"**

**Featuring Competition Winner Robert Feitz, Pianist**  
Grieg - Piano Concerto in A minor  
Wagner Rienzi Overture  
Schubert Symphony



**Friday, Apr. 17<sup>th</sup>, 8:00P, Mahaffey Theater at  
Progress Energy Center, St. Pete**

**Sunday, Apr. 19<sup>nd</sup>, 4:00P, Louise Lykes Ferguson  
Hall, Performing Arts Center, Tampa**

**Memorial Day Weekend 2009**

**"The Best of Broadway"**

**Featuring Vocalists  
Michelle Rego &  
Rim Karnavicius**

**Saturday May 23<sup>rd</sup>, 7:00P**

**Maria Center  
Holy Name of Jesus Catholic Church**

**Tampa Bay Symphony Mission**

***"The mission of the Tampa Bay Symphony is to promote interest in classical music in the Tampa Bay area, to encourage and educate youth throughout Florida with a "Young Artist Competition" and by other means, to provide a venue for qualified volunteer musicians of all ages to perform challenging symphonic music and to enhance and enrich the artistic and cultural life of our community."***

This program funded in part with the support of the Pinellas County Cultural Affairs Department, the Cultural Council, the Pinellas County board of County Commissioners, the Florida Department of State through the Division of Cultural Affairs, the Florida Arts Council, the City of St. Petersburg and the estate of Clara K. Dalzell.

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