



Laurel Bennett is one of the founding musicians of the Tampa Bay Symphony and plays second clarinet. Over the years, she has also served on the Board, the Young Artist Competition committee, the Personnel committee, as an assistant music librarian, and for many years handled the orchestra's print advertising, design and typesetting of their concert programs.

Laurel has a B.A. in clarinet performance and business administration from the University of St. Thomas in St. Paul, Minnesota and a Master's degree in Performing Arts Administration from Roosevelt University in

Chicago. She has worked locally in arts management for The Florida Orchestra and the St. Petersburg Opera Company where she implemented and managed new ticketing systems for both organizations. Laurel currently works in the development department at Ruth Eckerd Hall as their Donor Services and Database Manager.

Laurel also maintains a private teaching studio, and her middle school and high school clarinet students are consistently selected as All-County and All-State Band members. Many of her students have gone on to successfully audition and become accepted in music programs at the collegiate level. In addition to performing with the Tampa Bay Symphony, Laurel is an active musician at her church where she is a member of the choir, hand bell ensemble and Madrigal singers as well as performing for various church services or events on clarinet or recorders.

Whenever she has spare time, Laurel is an avid supporter of many of the outstanding arts organizations in the Tampa Bay area and enjoys attending performances at American Stage, freeFall Theatre, St. Petersburg Opera Company, The Florida Orchestra, and Opera Tampa.