

Symphony Notes

FAYETTEVILLE SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

Upcoming Events

It's hard to believe that we are already halfway through our 2015-2016 season! So much has happened over these past few months, it's no surprise that the holidays are over and we're looking at our spring events. In September our Fall Concert Series at the Garden featured select musicians performing music from New Orleans, Detroit, NYC, and our Nation's Capital. We introduced our inaugural Jazz and Wine Fest on October 2nd (see pictures below). Our first season concert on October 17th, Beethoven and Blue Jeans, featured solo performances by our own Fabian Lopez (Concertmaster), Nate Leyland (Principal Cello), and Scott Marosek (Principal Piano). We had numerous educational programs as well as our Holiday Pops Concert on December 12th featuring International Vocalist and Ft. Bragg Military Spouse, Kaitlyn Lusk. The fun isn't over yet! Over the next few months, we have the remainder of our season concerts and Finale, our spring garden party, so be sure to mark your calendars:

THURSDAY, JANUARY 14 | 7:30pm
Bach: Brandenburg Concertos
 St. John's Episcopal Church

THURSDAY, JANUARY 28 | 7:30pm
Vivaldi: Four Seasons
 St. John's Episcopal Church

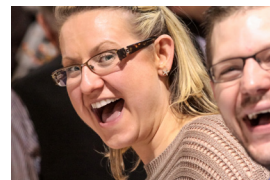
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 12 | 7:30pm
Love Stories: A Date with the Symphony
 Huff Concert Hall, Methodist University

SATURDAY, MARCH 12 | 7:30pm
Lights, Camera, Symphony!
 Huff Concert Hall, Methodist University

SATURDAY, APRIL 9 | 6:00pm
"Finale"
Spring Garden Party
 The Lake Home of Will Gillis

SATURDAY, APRIL 16 | 7:30pm
Carmina Burana with Cumberland Oratorio Singers
 Seabrook Auditorium
 Fayetteville State University

SUNDAY, MAY 29 | 7:30pm
A Salute to the U.S. Armed Forces
with the Army Ground Forces Band of Ft. Bragg
 Festival Park, Fayetteville, NC



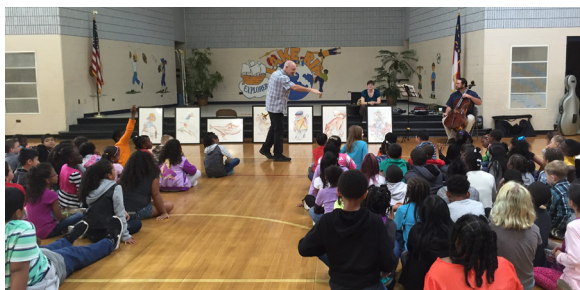
EDUCATIONAL OUTREACH

Last fall we were able to reach so many children with all of our educational programs! In the month of October alone, a few of our musicians visited **28 elementary schools** in the span of **4 weeks** to give their third grade classes an up close view of musical instruments, and a program on Peter and the Wolf. This program helps prep the students for coming to see the symphony perform for them in November. This includes teaching the story of Peter and the Wolf to the students, explaining and demonstrating how each instrument family works and sounds, as well as having them learn how to keep and create a rhythm. On November 6th, **all 4,000+ third graders** of Cumberland County came to see a concert performed by the full orchestra.



ABOVE: A “selfie” of our musicians (from left to right): Dr. Larry Wells (Trumpet), Ms. Julia Atkins (Clarinet), Mrs. Sarah Busman (Flute), with Peter after they finished their last school visit of the month.

Support and funding of these third grade programs were provided by: Communities in Schools, the Arts Council of Fayetteville and Cumberland County, and the Yanoff Music Initiative Grant. Special thanks to our musicians who took the time out of their busy schedules to teach the students at the 28 schools: Dr. Larry Wells (Trumpet), Mrs. Sarah Busman (Flute), Mr. Nate Leyland (Cellos), Ms. Julia Atkins (Clarinet), and Mr. Huadong Lu (Violin).



TOP RIGHT: Pictures students from one of the elementary schools drew as thank-you notes for our musicians that came.

LEFT: Musician Dr. Larry Wells asking students what a musical “theme” is.

The Fayetteville Symphony Youth Orchestra (FSYO) started its second season in September, and had its winter concert on Sunday, December 13th in Huff Concert Hall at Methodist University. FSYO has **46 students registered** of all ages, and is continuing to grow thanks to its Music Director, Mr. Huadong Lu! Their spring semester will include a side-by-side concert opportunity with the Fayetteville Symphony Orchestra on March 12th, as well as their final concert on May 15th. Students are still eligible to register, and can visit the FSYO page for more information at: www.fayettevillesymphony.org/youth-orchestra



This year, we have also been awarded a grant that allows us to go into the Head Start programs of Fayetteville to teach young children from low-income families the fundamentals of music. This program helps give children that may not have access to music at home the chance to experience the power and effects of music first-hand. Former musicians Susan Grzesnikowski and Amalia Hutchison have graciously gone in to the programs to teach and inspire these youngsters!

LETTER FROM THE TRANSITION COMMITTEE CHAIR

The Transition Committee to select a new conductor for the Fayetteville Symphony Orchestra met for the first time on August 20. We received some guidance from outgoing board chair, Jim Konneker and incoming board chair, Joe Vonnegut. We also met on September 15, October 20 and November 17. This will be a two year process. Our Music Director Fouad Fakhouri's final concert with FSO will be in April, 2016.

The nine voting members on the transition team are: Ellenor Barker, James Wilson, Larry Wells, Les Griffin, Nate Leyland, Rollin Shaw, Sarah Busman, Wilhelmina Sapp, and Will Gillis. President/CEO Chris Kastner and I will not have a vote. Ashley Ware is the recording secretary for the team.

We have met four times and I would like to bring you up to date on the Committee's progress:

- A job description for the new musical director was drafted with much discussion going into this process.
- Advertisements have been posted with the League of American Orchestras and the Conductor's Guild on October 1 and will end on December 1.
- **We received 273 applications.**
- A process has been developed for the committee to review the applications.
- The highest rated candidates will be asked to submit conducting videos for the committee to review.

We hope to make an announcement of the finalists by late Spring, 2016. The finalists will each spend a week in Fayetteville, starting in the fall of 2016 conducting the FSO and getting to know the community and the FSO supporters.

Thank you for your support and understanding of our mission.

Frank R. Till

Transition Committee Search Chair

PLANNED GIVING

You may have heard the term, but what is a planned gift? Planned gifts are simply any gift that requires planning either now or in the future. In Canada, they use the term gift planning which may actually be more descriptive of the process.

The most common planned gift is the simple charitable bequest or a gift in a donor's will. Life insurance policies are also common planned gifts. The benefit from these types of gifts comes later for the charity, but these are frequently some of the larger gifts charities receive.

While a gift in a will is the most common type of planned gift, not all planned gifts are deferred. Here are some examples of planned gifts that result in current, rather than deferred, giving:

- Gifts of appreciated stock or property: A gift of this type can help to avoid capital gains tax and result in a charitable gift deduction. Consult your tax preparer for advice.
- Gifts from a Donor Advised Fund: If you have a donor advised fund, please consider designating the Fayetteville Symphony Orchestra for a grant.
- Gifts from an IRA Rollover: Provided the federal government renews the provision, older individuals will be able to donate money from their IRA accounts.

Year-end is a good time to consider certain types of planned giving. For example, many people who own stocks rebalance their portfolios toward the end of the year. Also, the IRA Charitable Rollover will not even become an option until later in the year, if at all. While people tend to draft or update a will based on life events (i.e.: marriage, birth of child [or] grandchild, illness), some will choose to write or update a will toward the end of the year. As you make these long term financial decisions please consider giving to the charities that you support regularly.

If you'd like more information or to discuss your options for giving to the Fayetteville Symphony Orchestra, please call Christine Kastner (910)433-4690. If you'd prefer to give to the Fayetteville Symphony Orchestra Endowment at Cumberland Community Foundation, you may call Mary Holmes for more information (910)483-4449.

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SAVE THE DATE

Finale

Spring Garden Party

SATURDAY, APRIL 9TH AT 6:00PM

AT THE LAKE HOME OF MR. WILL GILLIS

DETAILS TO FOLLOW....TELL YOUR FRIENDS!