



Engage the Season

September 2021

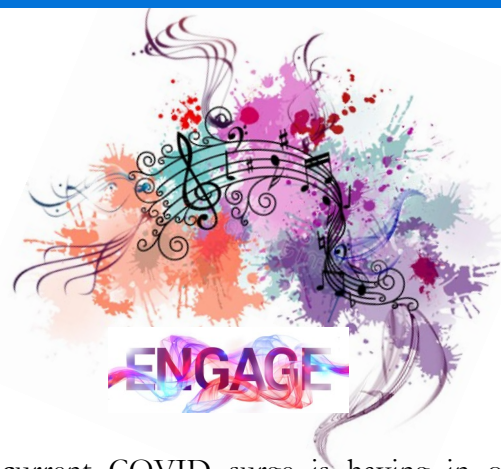
OPENING NIGHT!

Monday, November 22, 2021

8:00 p.m.

Wesley United Methodist Church

September Concert Moves to January



The Coastal Symphony of Georgia is sensitive to the impact the current COVID surge is having in our community. It is our desire to offer a safe concert environment for our musicians and audiences to engage with each other and the music. Consequently, Opening Night of the 2021-2022 concert season will occur on November 22nd at Wesley United Methodist Church. Our September concert will move to January, giving us something to boost our winter spirits with sunny, melodic, and harmonically rich music.

We will continue to closely monitor local, state, and federal policies regarding indoor activities and the impact of COVID on our community. The CSG revised concert schedule is designed in the hope we will be safely able to move forward in November:

- Monday, November 22, 2021 *Inspiration*
- Monday, January 24, 2022 *Melody, Harmony and Grace*
- Monday, February 14, 2022 *Love and Loss*
- Monday, April 11, 2022 *Light and Dark*

Our Opening Night Concert in November showcases two of our highly gifted and well-respected musicians: Aurica Duca, concertmaster and Piot Szewczyk, principal second violin. Aurica will play a Mozart concerto, and the orchestra will present Piotr’s original composition, *Journey Within*. We will also hear musical compositions from Rossini, and Mendelssohn.

Season Tickets will be mailed in early November. If you have questions, please leave a message on the Symphony voicemail at (912) 634-2006 or email coastalsymphonyofgeorgia@gmail.com. A representative will respond quickly.

We look forward to seeing you in November!

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Upcoming Events

Opening Night!	1	November 22	8:00 p.m.	Opening Night Concert, Wesley United Methodist Church
Sponsor Spotlight	2	December 5	4:00 p.m.	Family Christmas Concert, Wesley United Methodist Church
Conductor’s Corner	3	January 24	8:00 pm	Second Season Concert, Wesley United Methodist Church
Community Outreach	4-5	February 14	8:00 p.m.	Third Season Concert, Brunswick High School
Corporate Sponsors/Named Chairs	6	April 11	8:00 p.m.	Fourth Season Concert, Brunswick High School
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SPONSOR SPOTLIGHT



Southeast Georgia Health System is a longtime supporter of the Coastal Symphony of Georgia and was our first sponsor to participate in the Named Chair Program. We are pleased to announce that the Health System renewed its three-year commitment to the Concertmaster's Chair through the 2024 concert seasons.

Since 1888, Southeast Georgia Health System has grown and evolved, just like the communities they serve. The Health System continues to expand, bringing new resources, services, technologies and opportunities to the region. Headquartered in historic Brunswick, Southeast Georgia Health System, a not-for-profit health system, serves the residents of Brantley, Camden, Charlton, Glynn, McIntosh and Wayne counties with two acute care hospitals (Brunswick & Camden), two long term care facilities, two comprehensive Cancer Care Centers and multiple specialty care centers, including orthopedic and spine care, joint replacement, breast care, maternity, outpatient rehabilitation, sleep management and wound care.

The Brunswick Campus Cancer Care Center is accredited by the American College of Surgeons Commission on Cancer and offers the only CyberKnife® M6 with MLC technology in Georgia for the treatment of cancerous and benign tumors.

The Southeast Georgia Physician Associates medical group includes more than 160 providers working in 20 different medical specialties at 48 locations. The addition of Wolfson Children's at Southeast Georgia Health System in 2013 increased the availability of pediatric medical specialty services in Coastal Georgia. Thanks to a generous gift from philanthropist Hugh Nunnally, the Health System opened Nunnally House in 2014 to provide convenient, home-like lodging for cancer patients and family members of critical care patients from outside Glynn County, plus rooms for medical students and on-call team members.

The Master Renovation and Expansion Project, launched in 2018, includes 70,000 square feet of new space and renovations to 100,000 square feet of the Health System's current footprint. Along with an Emergency Care Center expansion which increases treatment rooms to 50, the project includes 16 new operating rooms for the Surgical Services department, a new 32-bed inpatient floor, and renovation of patient rooms on the St. Simons Tower.

As our communities grow, Southeast Georgia Health System will continue to grow to provide the best care possible, reinvesting in its facilities and adding new physicians and services to meet our community's growing health care needs, without tax dollars. For an updated list of physicians, services and locations, please visit sghs.org or call 855-ASK-SGHS (855-275-7447).

CONDUCTOR'S CORNER



The opportunity to explore the world through music is the greatest gift I have ever received, and we have the best way imaginable to give that gift right here in the Golden Isles. That's why, as Music Director of the Coastal Symphony of Georgia, I feel blessed to be able to help spread the power of music.

Growing up in a small town east of Dallas, TX, I found my passion for music one Halloween night when a business card promoting piano lessons came attached to a candy bar. From the moment my parents scheduled my first lesson and got my first piano, the whole world came alive for me in a new way.

Now beginning my fourth year working with the CSG, I'm still personally moved whenever I meet members of our audiences and hear firsthand how music changes lives. Live orchestral music has the power to express emotions without ever saying a word. It has the power to heal the mind, touch the soul, and reach people at their core.

One of the most visible impacts of the power of music is on children and first-time listeners. For that reason, I am so proud of our recent efforts and accomplishments with our *Musical Mentors* Program and Community Engagement Initiative. These programs and events may be the first time many students and community members have ever heard live classical music, and I can see how deeply it moves them. I have seen children become so still and quiet hearing a violin soloist play that, were it not for the music, you could hear a pin drop. I can almost feel them wondering, "Could I play an instrument like that one day?"

This year sees the start of coming back together - to listen and experience the great art form of live music. I am excited to see all of you again for our classical series concerts, and also to bring our musicians in front of new faces, both young and old. Come, join, and engage in this journey with us!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michelle Merrill".

Michelle Merrill, Music Director and Conductor



COMMUNITY

Inspiring Young Minds Through Musical Mentors



Elizabeth Kelly

When the Coastal Symphony of Georgia recently received two significant grants for its *Musical Mentors* Program, CSG Board Member Leslie Graitcer was elated. “Grantors and special friends of the program provide the resources we need to bring professional musicians and area students together,” says Graitcer, *Musical Mentors* chair. A \$6,000 grant from The Communities of Coastal Georgia Foundation and another for \$5,000 from the Georgia Council for the Arts, will go a long way toward helping Graitcer and her team achieve their goals. “We want to bring music into children’s lives by having them work with real life musicians,” says Graitcer.

A program held virtually in Spring 2021 at Glyndale and Golden Isles elementary schools brought composer Elizabeth Kelly, CSG principal tuba James Jenkins, and violinist Barbara Careaga-Mitchell together to devise a plan to teach the children about theme and variation, experience the tuba and violin, and play some music themselves on instruments designed for children.

Kelly created the program’s curriculum and composed variations for the musicians and children to play. Working with the schools’ teachers, the musicians tied the students’ lesson plan on the story of the Apollo 11 moon landing to a musical theme, *Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star*. “It was an amazing collaboration, and we are going to present it ‘live’ in the schools in the fall,” notes Graitcer.

To enjoy video clips of the program, go to our website, www.coastalsymphonyofgeorgia.org and click on the Community Outreach button. For more information on *Musical Mentors*, you can contact Leslie at lesliegraitcer@me.com.



THANK YOU to Our Grantors For Musical Mentors

For Spring 2021 Program

Harrison Design in Tribute to Chad Goehring
\$2,500

Hello, Goodbuy Thrift Store, Brunswick, GA
\$2,400

Anonymous Gift
\$1,000

For Fall 2021/Spring 2022 Programs

Communities of Coastal Georgia Foundation
\$6,000

Georgia Council for the Arts
\$5,000

Walmart Stores, Brunswick, GA
\$1,500

OUTREACH

Engaging with the Community

For the Coastal Symphony of Georgia, engaging with the community means bringing classical music to people who might not otherwise have an opportunity to hear our musicians play. We do this by partnering with other community organizations on events in which a small ensemble from the CSG performs. These events are planned by our Community Engagement Initiative team and are typically free to the public and easily accessible.



2021 activities included a special virtual presentation with two string quartets and our conductor, Michelle Merrill celebrating black composers James Weldon Johnson, J. Rosamund Johnson, and George Walker in February. An April performance in Downtown Brunswick's Jekyll Square followed with a string quartet playing Mendelssohn and Tchaikovsky as part of the city's 250th Birthday Celebration. We closed out our spring events with a performance by the Jacoby Brass Quintet at a Memorial Day Observance in Downtown Brunswick's Veterans Park; Tristan Clarke, trumpet principal, and Michael Harper, trumpet also performed the very moving *Echo Taps*.

"So many of us are blessed to be able to attend the Symphony's wonderful concerts, but there are so many others in the community who either do not have that ability, or are unaware of our presence," says Zena Martin, CEI chair. "We want everyone to be able to connect with our musicians, and experience the lovely music they offer in performance."

For more information, or if you know of a community organization that might want to add some symphonic music to its event, please contact Zena at americanbritgirl@gmail.com.



SAVE THE DATE

Sunday, December 5 at 4:00 p.m.

Wesley United Methodist Church
at Frederica

Christmas Concert
with Pianist Terry Readdick

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

Adults \$35

Children \$10

For Tickets, go to www.coastalsymphonyofgeorgia.org
or call (912) 634-2006.

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President's Message

Our 39th season of the Coastal Symphony of Georgia is now scheduled to begin on Monday, November 22nd launching our exciting new programs of diverse and vibrant music. I know it will be amazing as always, thanks to our Conductor and Music Director, Michelle Merrill, and our excellent musicians.

While we were so hoping to open the season in September, we will move that concert to January. This is being done out of an abundance of caution in light of the COVID surge in our area.

We have been fortunate to receive several grants to continue our mission in the community. Many thanks to the Coastal Community Foundation and the Georgia Council for the Arts for their significant grants for our Musical Mentors program.

I look forward to seeing you on Opening Night in November, at the Terry Readdick Christmas concert in December, and three concerts in the New Year as we all return to engage with each other and the music.



Marjorie Mathieu
President
Coastal Symphony of Georgia

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