



## ANNOUNCING THE NEW SYMPHONY SEASON



The 2023-2024 classical concert season will feature music from America, a performance by rising operatic star Ashely Dixon, an exquisite symphony by a French composer, works from Brahms, Beethoven, Tchaikovsky and more. Once again, Music Director Michelle Merrill has curated a season not to be missed! *New this year* – round trip bus transportation from St. Simons Island to Brunswick High School (see the Ticket Order Form on page 7.)

## OPENING NIGHT!

Opening Night – **Monday, October 9, 2023** at Brunswick High School Auditorium - begins with a *Fanfare for the Uncommon Woman #1* by American composer, Joan Tower. The Fanfare, which she says is a tribute to “women who take risks and are adventurous,” is bold music featuring clashing cymbals, huge percussion strokes, and powerful rhythms.

Aaron Copland’s *Billy the Kid Suite* follows. Music written for a “cowboy ballet” incorporates cowboy tunes and American Folk songs as it tells the story of infamous outlaw Billy the Kid. The rich music opens with a pastoral setting on the open prairie before moving on to the merry tunes of a busy town, the percussive hurried pace of a gun battle, the celebration of Billy’s capture and finally his demise at the hands of sheriff, Pat Garrett, set to strings, winds, and brass.

Following intermission, we will hear Czech composer Antonin Dvorak’s *Symphony No. 9*, popularly known as the New World Symphony. It was composed by Dvorak when he was director of the National Conservatory of Music of America and became greatly influenced by American Spirituals and Native American music. He advised American composers to turn to “Negro melodies” as a foundation of a serious and original school of composition, adding that “they are the folk songs of America.”

# SEASON CONCERT NOTES

## *Fall Concert*

**Monday, November 27, 2023**

**Brunswick High School**

The highlight of our fall concert will be a performance by Mezzo Soprano **Ashley Dixon**, a rising star on the national operatic stage. She will sing Edward Elgar's *Sea Pictures Song Cycle* with the orchestra. The music is taken from



19<sup>th</sup> Century poetry and will showcase her voice which has been described as a "robust instrument," both "melodious" and "precise."

The concert will open with *Moldau*, a symphonic poem written by Bohemian composer Bedrich Smetana, and it will close with Brahms Symphony No. 1 which took 14 years to complete and was hailed by conductor Hans von Bulow as "Beethoven's Tenth" in 1877.

## *Winter Concert*

**Monday, February 5, 2024**

**Wesley Church at Frederica**



The concert opens with Beethoven's moving *Coriolan Overture* written for Heinrich Joseph von Collin's tragedy, *Coriolan*. An old CSG friend, **Christopher Bassett**, returns to perform Concerto for Bass Trombone by 19<sup>th</sup>

Century German composer Ernst Sachse. And an exquisite symphony from little known French Composer, **Louise Farrenc** closes the program.

Farrenc was a well-respected 19<sup>th</sup> Century composer, virtuoso pianist, and teacher whose music reflected a striking blend of Romanticism and Classicism. Her pieces were forgotten for awhile but are being rediscovered in the repertoire. Farrenc's First Symphony shows an individual voice of considerable originality along with influences of Beethoven and Schuman.



## *Spring Concert*

**Monday April 29, 2024**

**Wesley Church at Frederica**

The season finale opens with a lively and elegant, and well-crafted example of a classical symphony in 18<sup>th</sup> Century composer Joseph Boulogne, Chevalier de Saint George's Symphony No. 1 in G major. Maurice Ravel's *Le Tombeau de Couperin* follows. Written in the early 20<sup>th</sup> Century, the tombeau (or memorial) has been described as light-hearted, sometimes reflective, but never somber.

The evening closes with **Tchaikovsky's** graceful, poised *Serenade for Strings in C major* which he called "heartfelt." The *Serenade* has many familiar passages which we may have heard at the ballet, the movies, or on television, and is considered one of the late Romantic era's definitive compositions.



# Sponsor Spotlight

## Golden Isles Moving and Storage



We are very proud to call Golden Isles Moving and Storage a valued Platinum Sponsor of the Coastal Symphony of Georgia. Their longtime support has helped us achieve our goal of excellence in music for the community. Located in Brunswick, Golden Isles Moving and Storage is a professional moving company for local or long-distance moves, commercial moving and installation, or storage and warehousing services. Owner Tom Wolfe, former vice president of the Georgia Movers Association, has been in the moving business for 36 years. He says his company is a customer service company first and foremost, which means

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Whatever your moving services might be, Golden Isles Moving and Storage has the experience and capability to handle them all both in and beyond Coastal Georgia. They service Brunswick, St. Simons Island, Sea Island, and Jekyll Island locally, as well as any long-distance location. We value their partnership with the Coastal Symphony.

### MUSIC DEDICATION

#### Make a Performance Personal: Dedicate Music!

Honor a loved one or friend, commemorate a special occasion, or offer a memorial by dedicating a musical selection from this Season's Concert Series. The musical arrangements below may be selected for dedication. Add your selection(s) to the Ticket Order Form – Page 7.

<b>\$150</b>	October 9	<i>Symphony No. 9 (New World Symphony)</i>	Antonin Dvorak
	November 27	<i>Sea Pictures Song Cycle</i>	Edward Elgar
	February 5	<i>Coriolan Overture</i>	Ludwig van Beethoven
	April 29	<i>Serenade for Strings</i>	Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky
<b>\$100</b>	October 9	<i>Billy the Kid Suite</i>	Aaron Copland
	November 27	<i>Symphony No. 1</i>	Johannes Brahms
	February 5	<i>Concerto for Bass Trombone</i>	Ernst Sachese
	April 29	<i>Le Tombeau de Couperin</i>	Maurice Ravel
<b>\$50</b>	October 9	<i>Fanfare for the Uncommon Woman #1</i>	Joan Tower
	November 27	<i>Moldau</i>	Bedrich Smetana
	February 5	<i>Symphony No. 1 in C Minor</i>	Louise Farrenc
	April 29	<i>Symphony in G Minor No. 1</i>	Joseph Boulogne, Chevalier de Saint-George

*Your dedication will be listed in the concert program in which the music selection is presented.*



# Coastal Symphony Salutes Donors

In recognition of their generous contributions, the Coastal Symphony of Georgia hosted an appreciation reception on May 25<sup>th</sup> celebrating the **Named Chairs** and **Crescendo Circle** members. These benefactors have played pivotal roles in supporting the Symphony's mission to enrich the cultural landscape. The event, at the home of Dee Wright and Tom Milburn, was a symphony of gratitude and acknowledgment with special guest, Music Director and Conductor Michelle Merrill.



Deborah & David Wright  
Host, Dee Wright



John Starr, Al Garrett, Jim Harrell



Tom Heagy, Susan Garrett



Chris Bone, Michelle Merrill



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# Serenade by the Sea: A Flute and Cello Salon Recital

The revival of 19th-century salon culture emerged radiantly in a recital held on May 28<sup>th</sup> in the comforting ambiance of the Ocean Forest home of Thomas and Linda Heagy. Coastal Symphony musicians Les Roettges and Lorraine Roettges on flute, and Brian Magnus on cello rekindled the charm of the salon performance, reminiscent of Chopin and Liszt's intimate soirees. We are grateful to our salon patrons who enjoy continuing the historically vital role salons have made in the support of musicians and composers.



Tom Heagy (l) and Linda Heagy (r) welcome guests to Salon



Nancy Steele, Sage Campione, Nathan & Shonda Kohlhoff



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Contact Deborah Wright for information about Crescendo Circle and Named Chairs – [dowright@comcast.net](mailto:dowright@comcast.net)



*These loyal partners are dedicated to supporting the Symphony's mission to engage, enrich, and inspire our community through artistically vibrant musical performances.*



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# 2023-2024 Concert Order Form

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- Maestro            \$1,000            (4 reserved season tickets)
- Concertmaster    \$ 650            (2 reserved season tickets)
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Includes Season Tickets with Assigned Seating, Program recognition at Principal level, Newsletter Subscription, Lost Ticket Insurance.

- Principal            \$350            (2 season tickets) Program Recognition
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**MUSIC DEDICATION: Selection \_\_\_\_\_**  
Dedication \_\_\_\_\_

**Reserved Round-Trip Bus Transportation from St. Simons Island to Brunswick High School**

- October 9, 2023        \$20**
- November 27, 2023    \$20**

Total Purchase \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
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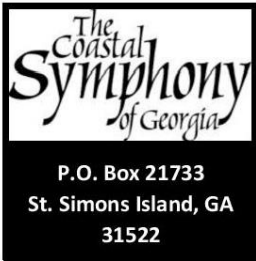
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**➔ Note:** Tickets will be mailed in September 2023. Please supply summer mailing address if different from above.  
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*Please complete this order form and return with payment to:  
 Coastal Symphony of Georgia ★ P.O. Box 21733 ★ St. Simons Island, GA 31522*

**NOTE:** Based on our May Audience Survey results, some respondents were interested in bus transportation to and from the concerts in Brunswick. If you wish to reserve a seat for one or both of the Brunswick concerts, please include payment with your ticket order.



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