



The Symphony of Southeast Texas  
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[www.sost.org](http://www.sost.org)

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October/November 2017

## *A Marriage of Bach & Beethoven*

November 11, 2017. Julie Rogers Theatre. 7:30 p.m.

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The Symphony of Southeast Texas requests the honor of your presence for “*A Marriage of Bach & Beethoven.*”

This second classic concert in the series brings us the classical era’s beloved composers

Mozart, Bach, and Beethoven, as well as SOST’s very own Mauricio Oliveros, Brian Shook, Jennifer Isadore, and Stanley Chyi.

In tonight’s overture, *The Marriage of Figaro* is a comic opera by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, with an Italian libretto by Lorenzo Da Ponte, based on Pierre Beaumarchais’ 1778 stage comedy, *Le Mariage de Figaro*. Beaumarchais’ play was at first banned in Mozart’s home city of Vienna because its anti-aristocratic overtones were considered dangerous in the decade before the French revolution. Da Ponte’s libretto omitted the original’s political references and the opera became one of Mozart’s most successful works and the overture is especially famous



We will then hear Beethoven’s fiery Seventh Symphony. Some lovers of classical music consider the second movement of Beethoven’s Seventh Symphony to be one of the most beautiful pieces of music ever written, and was considered by

and is often played as a concert piece.

We begin with the *Brandenburg Concertos*, by Johann Sebastian Bach, which are a collection of six instrumental works presented by Bach to Christian Ludwig, Margrave of Brandenburg-Schwedt, in 1721. They are widely regarded as some of the best orchestral compositions of the Baroque era.

Tonight’s Second Concerto is considered one of the most demanding works for clarinet, trumpet, written for a court trumpeter with exceptional high note virtuosity. Our soloists tonight demonstrate the exceptional talents of our orchestra as soloists and ensemble players.

Beethoven himself to be his finest work. At its premiere in 1813, the second movement, Allegretto, was the most popular movement and had to be encored. The instant popularity of the Allegretto resulted in its frequent performance separate from the complete symphony.



This concert is co-sponsored by **Entergy and the Beaumont Music Commission**. The artists are sponsored by **Christus Hospital -St. Elizabeth**.

# Home for the Holidays

December 3 | 3:00 P.M.



Conner O'Brien



Start the holidays off right with a festive tradition that is sure to get you in the holiday spirit! This Christmas, we present a great way to celebrate the yuletide season with family and friends at “Home for the Holidays” on Sunday, Dec. 3 at 3:00 p.m. at the Julie Rogers Theatre in Beaumont. “Home for the Holidays” will be a joyful celebration featuring popular seasonal songs performed in grand style by the orchestra, and the SOST welcomes back fan favorite Conner O'Brien for this Christmas concert fanfare!

O'Brien, who returns to the Symphony, was the guest artist in last season's pops concert “Oh What a Night.” Conner has a special program of holiday favorites from Winter Wonderland, The Christmas Song, and many more holiday greats. The evening will even include a holiday carol sing-a-long, which is always an audience favorite.

“This is my favorite time of the year and my favorite concert as it embodies the spirit of the season, and will bring back memories of yesteryear Christmas with family and heartwarming times,” said SOST Music Director Chelsea Tipton, II.

Immediately following the concert, guests are invited to a reception in the Julie Rogers Theatre Lobby featuring hot chocolate and cookies, that even Santa Clause himself would be proud of!

The holiday concert is not part of the SOST season subscription package. **Tickets are \$25 for adults and \$15 for seniors/students.** To purchase tickets or get more information, go to [www.sost.org](http://www.sost.org) or contact the Symphony office at (409) 892-2257.

“Home for the Holidays” is co-sponsored by **American Valve & Hydrant** and **MidSouth Bank.**

# 6:30 p.m. Pre-Concert Talk

Arrive early to the concert on November 11 for a pre-concert talk with Maestro Tipton.



## *Maestro's Notes*

I can't believe our second Classic concert of the series is upon us! For this concert, we will feature four of SOST's orchestra members. In the first half of the concert, they will be playing the Bach Brandenburg Concerto No. 2, which is a concerto grosso, meaning a composition for a

group of solo instruments accompanied by an orchestra.

After intermission, we will feature the orchestra in the Beethoven Symphony No. 7. This magnificent work puts the precision and musicality of the SOST on full display. It is always a pleasure and joy to work with my colleagues from the orchestra in a solo capacity.

As the holiday season nears, I'm looking forward to spending time with friends and family in Southeast Texas and North Carolina. The biggest fun for me, though, is our Home for the Holidays concert on December 3. This year we will be featuring Conner O'Brien as our vocal soloist for the concert. He is absolutely amazing to listen to and work with. When he was here for our Pops concert last season, he just wowed everyone, and we had to have him back. This is a great concert to bring the whole family and celebrate the sounds of the season!

As the year draws to a close, it is fun to reflect on everything that

has been going on. It has been exciting to see the enthusiasm

from the community for the first two concerts of the season. The city and community went through a difficult event with the hurricane and we all needed music more than ever for our soul. To see the community coming out to support our 65th season of the SOST shows why the orchestra has been able to thrive in the community so long.

We have a number of exciting concerts to look forward to in the upcoming year. Some future musical delights that we have coming for our community include a phenomenal pianist Tomoko Kanamaru joining us in February, the beautiful, lush Faure Requiem with our SOST chorus, and we are going to be grooving with the Men of Motown with our second Pops concert. So stay tuned and you can hear more about these concerts in the coming months.

This is our biggest and best season yet!

# Classics Series

## “A Marriage of Bach & Beethoven”

Featuring SOST members

**Mauricio Oliveros, Brian Shook, Jennifer Isadore, and Stanley Chyi**

### Mauricio Oliveros, violin

Associate Concertmaster  
Mauricio Oliveros, a native of Colombia, has appeared as soloist with the Orquesta Sinfónica del Valle and the Moores Concerto Orchestra, and has given numerous recitals in Mexico, Colombia, and USA. He attained his Doctor of Musical Arts in Violin Performance from the University of Houston. He also holds a Graduate Artist Certificate in Violin Performance from the University of North Texas, and Masters in both Violin Performance and Music Theory from Texas Christian University.

An avid lover of chamber music, he is co-founder of the Houston-based Terra Nostra Ensemble, which performs and promotes music written by composers from Latin America and the Iberian Peninsula. He also co-founded the Fuzion String Quartet, which was featured in the 2010 Hot Springs Music Festival, and was quartet in residence at the “Cali de Camara 2012” International Chamber Music Festival in Colombia, performing concerts with internationally acclaimed guitarist Ricardo Cobo.

He has been a member of the Orquesta Sinfónica del Valle, San Angelo Symphony Orchestra, Irving



Philharmonic. He has attended important music festivals, including the Youth Orchestra of the Americas (YOA), the Texas Music Festival, and the Mimir Chamber Music Festival. As a member of the YOA string quartet, he performed concerts alongside famous Jazz musician Paquito D’Rivera.

He has given violin masterclasses in Colombia, Peru, Mexico, and Uruguay. In 2014, he was also invited by the Mozarteum Salzburg and the YOA Global Leaders program to teach undergraduate students from the Lyceum Mozartiano and the Instituto Superior de Arte (ISA) in Habana, Cuba. Dr. Oliveros currently holds an adjunct faculty position at Houston Baptist University, as well as violin faculty positions at Tallowood Academy of Fine Arts and The Kinkaid School.

### Brian Shook, clarion trumpet

Brian Shook is Department Chair and Associate Professor of

Symphony Orchestra, Midland-Odessa Symphony Orchestra, Opera Vista, and Houston Latin

Trumpet in the Mary Morgan Moore Department of Music at Lamar University. Prior to his appointment at Lamar, Mr. Shook served as an adjunct brass instructor at Towson University and American University. From 2004 to 2009, Shook toured the United States with The King’s Brass and since 2009, he has been principal trumpet of The Symphony of Southeast Texas, where has been featured with the orchestra on multiple occasions.

In addition to performing, Shook is involved in numerous aspects of the International Trumpet Guild. He currently serves as the Recording Reviews Editor of the quarterly ITG (International Trumpet Guild) Journal and is a regular reviewer of recordings, sheet music, and books. Most recently, he was appointed to serve on the Conference Artist Committee for the 2018 ITG Conference that will be held in



(Continued on page 5)

# A Marriage (continued)

San Antonio this coming summer.

Shook received a Bachelor of Art degree in Music from Cedarville University where he studied with Charles Pagnard. He continued his studies as a Trumpet Teaching Assistant for David Hickman at Arizona State University, completing both a Master of Music and Doctor of Musical Arts degrees.

Shook's doctoral research led him to write a biography of New York Philharmonic trumpet legend William Vacchiano. Furthering his research after graduation, Shook went on to publish his book *Last Stop, Carnegie Hall: New York Philharmonic Trumpeter William Vacchiano* in May of 2011. He has presented his lecture on Mr. Vacchiano's life and career at The Juilliard School, Manhattan School of Music, University of North Texas, and the International Trumpet Guild Conference.

Brian Shook is a Vincent Bach Performing Artist and Clinician.

## Jennifer Isadore, flute

Jennifer Isadore received a Bachelor of Music in flute performance from DePaul University and a Master of Music in flute performance from the University of Missouri -Kansas City Conservatory of Music. She has been the principal flute for the Houston Civic Symphony since 2002 and the principal flute of The Symphony of Southeast Texas since 2004. Ms. Isadore has



soloed with the Houston Civic Symphony on two occasions. In 2004, she performed J.S. Bach's *Orchestral Suite No. 2 in B Minor, BWV 1067*. In January 2011, she performed as winner of the First Annual Houston Civic Symphony Members Concerto Competition, playing Lowell Liebermann's *Concerto for Flute and Orchestra*. Ms. Isadore was privileged enough to be able to perform this same concerto again with The Symphony of Southeast Texas in October 2011.

Isadore has performed twice at conventions for The National Flute Association, and both times she has been privileged to perform alongside her husband, Michael Isadore, who plays the clarinet. In Albuquerque in 2007, they premiered *Portraits of Langston* by Valerie Coleman, and in 2017, in Minneapolis, they played portions of *Barn Dances* by Libby Larsen. Outside of orchestral playing, Ms. Isadore maintains a small flute studio in her home. From 2008-2016, she served as an adjunct faculty member in flute at Lamar University.

## Stanley Chyi, oboe

Stanley Chyi is a cum laude graduate of Northwestern University where he obtained a Bachelor of Art degree in Economics and a Bachelor of Art degree of Music in Oboe Performance. He then went on to graduate from Rice University's Shepherd School of Music, where he completed his master's degree in oboe performance. In past summers he has attended the Music Academy of the West, as well as the AIMS, Artosphere, Aspen, Spoleto, and Texas Music Festivals. His primary teachers have been Robert Atherholt and Scott Hostetler.

Mr. Chyi is a member of the Austin Symphony Orchestra, Corpus Christi Symphony Orchestra, and The Symphony of Southeast Texas. He has also performed with the Houston Symphony Orchestra, San Antonio Symphony, River Oaks Chamber Orchestra, Houston Grand Opera, Houston Ballet, New World Symphony, and the Civic Orchestra of Chicago. He has previously held positions with the Baton Rouge Symphony Orchestra, Sarasota Opera, and Central City Opera.





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# Concerto Competition



**Compete for a chance to perform with the SOST!  
Sunday, January 7, 2018  
Rothwell Recital Hall, Lamar University**

Region 5 middle and high school students ages 13-18 encouraged to apply.

Application deadline: December 15, 2017 at 5:00 p.m.

Rules and application can be downloaded at [sost.org](http://sost.org).

**First, Second, and Third Place Cash Prizes.**

The first place winner will perform solo at an SOST Youth Education Concert at the Jefferson Theatre.

**For application and rules:  
[www.sost.org](http://www.sost.org) · 409-892-2257**

# Pops Series

## “Spectrum: A Tribute to Motown and R&B Music”

Saturday, March 10 · 7:30 p.m. · Julie Rogers Theatre

Concert Sponsored by Rob Clark, Jerry Thacker and the Garth Family. Artist Sponsored by Capital One Bank.

Webster defines Spectrum as a "series of radiations arranged in regular order" or a "continuous sequence or wide range". This could not be a more appropriate description of the award-winning group Spectrum, which draws upon the talent of four radiant voices and diverse personalities to form a first class vocal quartet. After spending six stellar years recreating the sound and style of the Four Tops in Las

Vegas' multi-million dollar production shows American Superstars and Legends In Concert, the group has developed the versatility to credibly cover the music of groups from the Platters to the Temptations to Boyz 2 Men. It is this versatility that has propelled them to the status of headlining their own shows in which they perform stirring renditions of the all the best cover tunes.

In addition to regular corporate and private parties, Spectrum's credits include European and Australian tours, 100's of headlining performances aboard Royal Caribbean, Princess & Norwegian Cruise Line ships, a Doo-Wop to Soul Review at the Hollywood Palladium, as well as more than 100 performances with symphony orchestras throughout North America. Voted Best of Las Vegas in 2005 and again in 2006, their award winning show ran for 4 years in



succession on the Las Vegas Strip, ending only when the Mirage-MGM owned property that housed it closed its' doors . In 2009 they were selected to receive the Vegas Entertainment Consumer's Living Legends Award for Excellence in Entertainment. On April 28, 2012 Spectrum joined the ranks of Las Vegas Legends Wayne Newton, Frank Sinatra, Sammy Davis Jr., Liberace, Rich Little, Siegfried and Roy, Elvis and many more when they were awarded the 68th Star on Las Vegas' Walk of Fame. Spectrum performs in Las Vegas, throughout the nation and around the globe. Check their website for scheduled performances.

Spectrum's credentials, collectively and/or individually include starring in no less than six major production shows, on the Las Vegas Strip and internationally; appearances on numerous television shows as special

guests including the Today Show; featured appearances in motion pictures; starring roles in equity theater; special appearances at professional sporting events, (National Anthem); performing/recording with or opening for artists as varied as Tony Bennett, the Temptations, Blue Magic, Little Richard, the late Marty Robbins, the Platters, Frankie Lymon's Teenagers, Doc Severenson and Fat Larry's Band, to name a few.

The group boasts four incredible singers, each with the voice of a solo artist, who combine their voices and dexterity to create the angelic harmonies and deft choreography that have become trademarks of Spectrum. The members of Spectrum consist of master recording artist Darryl Grant of Oakland, California, Chicago-born musician and versatile entertainer Pierre Jovan, David Prescott the silky-smooth, soaring-voiced first tenor from Rochester, New York and lastly, singer, actor and group founder Cushney Roberts, from East Orange, New Jersey, who left the life of a Princeton-educated corporate engineer and cut his teeth in the casino lounges in route to becoming a well-respected Las Vegas showroom entertainer. Let's just say this is a group of well-mannered, college-educated, world-traveled veterans of the entertainment business, who will entertain you!

# Looking Back: Festive Beginnings and The Magical, Mystical World of John Williams



# Meet the Board Member

## James Black, President Elect



**Q)** How long have you been a board member?

**A)** I have been a board member for 6 years.

**Q)** How did you become a board member?

**A)** I was asked to join the board after we moved to Beaumont from Port Arthur. I had long been the legal advisor for the Port Arthur Community Concert Association prior to our move, and had become familiar with SOST through an education grant to the Symphony from the Hebert Foundation.

**Q)** What do you enjoy about serving on the board?

**A)** I'm impressed by the organization of the board and the staff. The meetings are organized and business is conducted

in a timely and professional manner.

**Q)** As President Elect, what are you excited about in your role as Board President for next season?

**A)** In my upcoming role next season as Board President, I am looking forward to working with an outstanding group of people, including the staff and executive director, the music director and the Board. It is a pleasure to work with such a knowledgeable group in an organization with such talent and enthusiasm, and the sound financial backing which make the excellent performances possible.

**Q)** What has been your favorite SOST concert?

**A)** There have been too many favorite concerts to single one out. I remember one from several years ago – the Bach “Brandenburg Concerto” when the symphony began the piece all standing. Rachmaninoff is also a favorite. Another was the recent “Pops” concert with the music of John Williams.

**Q)** Do you or did you ever play a musical instrument?

**A)** I played the oboe for a short time in junior high school. I have great respect for oboists. I know from experience that it's a difficult instrument to play!

**Q)** What is your profession?

**A)** Lawyer.

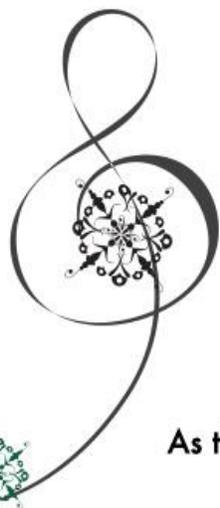
**Q)** Other community involvement?

**A)** Past President of the Jefferson County Bar Association; Member and former Senior Warden of St. Mark's Episcopal Church; currently serve as a Lay Reader and Eucharistic Minister; President of the Wilton and Effie Hebert Foundation, a charitable foundation which makes grants to charitable institutions in Southeast Texas.

**Q)** Hobbies?

**A)** I don't know if it's considered a hobby, but I enjoy exercising regularly at the Wellness Center.

# Debs on the Town!



## *Walking in a Winter Wonderland*

*Symphony Ball 2017  
December 16*

*6:30 - 11:30pm  
Beaumont Civic Center*

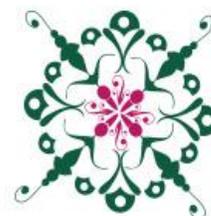
As the Symphony of Southeast Texas rings in their 65th season we are excited to announce that the Symphony Belle Ball is now back in December!

Help us celebrate the Symphony League Belles, Junior Escorts, and their families at the Sympony Ball.

Proceeds from the event go directly to support the SOST musicians.

**Reservations: Meredith Bernsen at (713) 542-2745  
meredithbernsen@gmail.com**

Table sponsorships range from \$2,500 to \$15,000 for 10-20 tickets, plus marketing benefits and priority seating. Individual tables and seating options are also available.





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[www.youtube.com/SOSETX](http://www.youtube.com/SOSETX)

## Upcoming Events

Date, Time	Event	Location
Nov. 11, 6:30 p.m.	Pre-Concert Talk	Julie Rogers Theatre 765 Pearl Street
Nov. 11, 7:30 p.m.	Classic Series II "A Marriage of Bach & Beethoven"	Julie Rogers 765 Pearl Street
Dec. 3, 3:00 p.m.	Holiday Concert "Home for the Holidays"	Julie Rogers Theatre 765 Pearl Street
Feb. 10, 7:30 p.m.	Classic Series III "The Elegance of Elgar"	Julie Rogers Theatre 765 Pearl Street
March 10, 7:30 p.m.	Pops 2 "Spectrum: A Tribute to Motown and R&B Music"	Julie Rogers Theatre 765 Pearl Street

If your schedule prevents you from attending a concert, PLEASE consider releasing your tickets prior to the day of the concert by calling the Symphony office at (409) 892-2257.

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