

The Symphony of Southeast Texas  
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June 2019  
Volume 32, Issue 7



## Shhh...It's Summer!

Summer at SOST is a quiet-yet-busy time. As Chelsea mentions summer means planning. There's but one concert to prepare and play, which gives us more time to think about the next few seasons. As an organization dedicated to enhancing the cultural offerings of our community, summer is the time to plan and focus on the work of our teams to make the greatest contributions to you, our audience. Here's a little "behind the scenes" perspective.

First, the orchestra: contracts go out and dates for rehearsals and concerts are set to make sure everyone can plan their schedules. Related to that is the ordering of parts, scheduling of guest artists and securing special needs like different instruments. We also make sure that guest artists' needs are secured making sure last-minute surprises are at a minimum.

Next would be our staff. To save dollars and give the best customer service, SOST does their own ticketing, rather than using services that are impersonal to knowing our audience adding a costly service charge. Our audience deserves as much personal attention as we can provide. And while there might seem like there's lots of deadlines and rules, please know that experience tells us a few rules help us accommodate a growing audience. Others on the staff are ordering music, writing programs and creating clever advertisements to attract new members of the audience. (We're even planning a costume contest for our spring pops concert-details later!)

Our board is also busy planning their activities for the coming year. Beyond meeting schedules, there are projects and events for the "care and feeding of a great orchestra and their appreciative audience." As you may know several board members, most lead very active lives, so a little advanced planning enables us to do more with the limited free time!

So, yes, it's quiet, shy of the fireworks we'll watch at the Event Centre on July 4<sup>th</sup>. Please know we're getting ready for a great season and looking forward to having you with us! Have a relaxing summer!



**Chelsea Tipton II**

**Music Director**

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# MUSICAL SPIRITS

## CZARS, THE WIZARD AND THE COMMON MAN

## 2019/20 SEASON

### Classic Series I

September 14, 2019 7:30PM

The Titans of the Classics: Beethoven and Shostakovich

Beethoven Concerto No. 5

Shostakovich Symphony No. 5

Guest Artist Phillipé Bianconi, Piano

### Classic Series II

November 16, 2019 7:30PM

A Celebration of Mozart, Rossini and SOST!

Rossini Barber of Seville

Vaughan Williams Suite for Viola and Orchestra

Mozart Symphony No. 39

Featured Artist Whitney Bullock, SOST Principal  
Violist

### Classic Series III

February 15, 2020 7:30PM

The Romantic Spirit of Music

Brahms Academic Festival Overture

Fauré Requiem

Hanson Symphony No. 2

Featuring the SOST Chorus

### Classic Series IV

April 4, 2020 7:30PM

A Renewal of Spirit: Elgar and the Common Man

Glinka Overture to Ruslan und Ludmilla

Elgar Cello Concerto, op. 85

Copland Symphony No. 3

Guest Artist Julian Schwarz, cello

### POPS I

October 5, 2019 7:30PM

The Piano Man meets the Rocket Man

Jeans 'n Classics presents

Back to Back: Elton John meets Billy Joel

Jean Meilleur (Lead Vocals), John Regan (Piano)

### POPS II

March 7, 2020 7:30PM

We're Off to See the Wizard

A multimedia presentation of the movie The Wizard of Oz, accompanied by your SOST!



**Please join us for a magical day in the beautiful gardens of Shangri-La!**

**At the peak of the Scarecrow Festival, SOST will once again indulge patrons with a festive evening of seasonal nature and magnificent music!**

**Grab your chair or picnic blanket and enjoy a family evening you won't forget!**

**Call SOST for tickets soon!**

**Save the Date: Sunday, October 20, 2019 5:00pm  
Symphony at Shangri La Gardens**



**Join SOST as we celebrate the holiday season with a program of your favorites of the Season.**

**Carmen Bradford will be returning to get us all in the holiday spirit!**

**Bring the whole family out for an amazing day at the Julie!**

**Save the Date: Sunday, December 8, 2019 3:00pm  
Home for the Holidays**



# Maestro's Notes

People often ask me what *does* the SOST do during the summer months. There's really two perspectives: Our musicians, in addition to the upcoming July 4<sup>th</sup> concert, will perform with other orchestras in Houston and Southeast TX, which keeps them pretty busy. As for me and the staff, this is planning time- we review all of our feedback on concerts, then begin to set programs for future seasons.

Programming is fun yet tricky as there really isn't any fixed guide beyond Classics and Pops concerts. We aim to appeal to diverse constituencies: audience, sponsors, donors, and then music that challenges and satisfies the orchestra members, themselves. Add to this, a review of most recent seasons, and that repertoire and artists which I feel displays our best qualities, and those we can afford!

Our staff is quite busy designing program books, ordering music, and selling season subscriptions to a growing audience-which makes us quite happy!

So while it seems like we're on vacation, everyone is running at full speed so that we're ready for your return! Our best wishes to you for a relaxing summer, and know we anxiously await the chance to thrill and entertain you in September.



## The Symphony of Southeast Texas is so grateful for a wonderful life-saving gift from Baptist Hospital!



On behalf of Baptist Physician Network Heart & Vascular Clinic, Wayne Margolis MD, graciously donated an AED (defibrillator) Unit to the Symphony of Southeast Texas.

As a board certified cardiologist in Southeast Texas, Dr. Margolis is passionate about ensuring that the Symphony Orchestra members and all those in attendance have access to this vital piece of equipment.

The Symphony of Southeast Texas is so thankful for this heartfelt gift from Dr. Margolis to ensure we have the proper lifesaving equipment on hand.



## 2018/19 Classic Series

A wonderful variety of  
your favorite composers!



## 2018/19 POPS Concerts! Ella & Louis and The Texas Tenors

What a great season we had!



## Symphony Chamber Concerts at Local Schools



CURTIS ELEMENTARY

The Woodwinds quintet visited Beaumont ISD for a wonderful concert in the auditorium.



ONE-ON-ONE

Maestro Tipton did a little private lesson with a little girl who was spotted moving her arms passionately like a conductor!

## Youth Concerto Competition

The Concerto Competition was held on Sunday, January 6, 2019 at Lamar University.

~First Place (\$750, play with SOST)  
Nicholas Pfister, Bridge City, clarinet

~Second Place (\$500) Tristen Bal-sano, Port Neches, flute

~Third Place (\$250) Ethan William-son, Nederland, trumpet



## Remembering Yu Gu



Yu Zhou Gu, 60, of Houston, was born July 4, 1958 to Zhen De Huang Gu and Rui Hua Gu, in Shanghai, China.

Mr. Gu grew up in a musically talented home with his parents being accomplished pianists. At the age of eleven, Yu began practicing the violin, being taught by a family friend. He was a graduate of Shanghai Music School with a degree in violin performance. After graduation, Yu went on to play in the Shanghai Symphony and Shanghai Philharmonic Orchestra.

Mr. Gu met his wife, Ying Liang Zhao Gu, in 1992 at the Shanghai Symphony. In 1995, the couple moved to the United States to study at the University of Houston. An accomplished violinist who played for various symphonies throughout the State of Texas, including Galveston, Victoria, Lake Charles, Clear Lake, and Beaumont, Mr. Gu is survived by his wife of 25 years, Ying Liang Zhao Gu, and son Steven Gu

He will be missed by the musicians, staff and concertgoers of SOST.

The Symphony of Southeast Texas joins The City of Beaumont  
The 33rd Annual Fourth of July Celebration  
Downtown Event Centre and Lake  
700 Crockett Street

5:00pm Entertainment  
8:00pm The Symphony of Southeast Texas  
9:00pm Fireworks

This annual activity offers a sensational salute to our nation's past and will take place at the Downtown Event Centre Lake. Fourth of July festivities which include live entertainment, food trucks, a Budweiser beer garden and an unforgettable fireworks display. Gates open at 5:00 p.m. for food, live music and fun! Fireworks begin at 9:00 p.m. Admission to all events and performances is free, and local food trucks will offer a selection of food, beverages and sweet treats. Families can enjoy the Rotary Centennial Playground and other kids activities. Lawn chairs, blankets and coolers are permitted but are subject to search. No outside alcohol may be brought in to the event. Admission to all events and performances is free.



## Find us on:

### Mission Statement

The mission of The Symphony of Southeast Texas is to develop, maintain, and nurture a symphony orchestra of the highest achievable artistic quality that will, within a viable economic framework, play a major role in the education, entertainment, and cultural enrichment of all residents of Southeast Texas.



[www.facebook.com/TheSOST](http://www.facebook.com/TheSOST)

@TheSOST



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

## Upcoming Events

Date, time	Event	Location
July 4, 8:00 p.m.	July 4th Celebration	Events Centre 700 Crockett St.
September 14, 7:30 p.m.	Classic Series I “The Titans of the Classics: Beethoven and Shostakovich”	Julie Rogers Theatre 765 Pearl Street
October 5, 7:30 p.m.	POPS I “The Piano Man meets the Rocket Man”	Julie Rogers Theatre 765 Pearl Street
October 20, 5:00 p.m. Sunday	Symphony at Shangri-La	2111 W. Park Ave. Orange, TX 77630
November 16, 7:30 p.m.	Classic Series II “A Celebration of Mozart, Rossini and SOST!”	Julie Rogers Theatre 765 Pearl Street
December 8, 3:00 p.m. Sunday	Home for the Holidays	Julie Rogers Theatre 765 Pearl Street
February 15, 7:30 p.m.	Classic Series III “The Romantic Spirit of Music”	Julie Rogers Theatre 765 Pearl Street
March 7, 7:30 p.m.	POPS II “We’re off to see the Wizard”	Julie Rogers Theatre 765 Pearl Street

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