



A CONDUCTOR'S TOOLBOX:
PRACTICAL SOLUTIONS TO
MODERN ISSUES

JANUARY 11-13, 2018
FORT WORTH, TX

The logo for the Fort Worth Symphony Orchestra (FWSO) is a red square containing the letters "FW" stacked above "SO" in white, sans-serif font.The background of the poster features a large, glowing full moon in a dark blue night sky. In the foreground, there are branches with autumn-colored leaves (red, orange, and yellow) framing the top and right sides. In the bottom right corner, a man in a dark suit is shown in profile, facing left, with his arms extended as if conducting. The overall scene is romantic and evocative of a night in a garden.

FW
SO

FORT WORTH SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA
MIGUEL HARTH-BEDOYA | MUSIC DIRECTOR

Nights in the Gardens of Spain

January 12-14

Miguel Harth-Bedoya, conductor
Joaquín Achúcarro, piano

FWSO Music Director Miguel Harth-Bedoya leads the orchestra in a program celebrating the music of Spain. Beginning with Falla's *Nights in the Gardens of Spain* with pianist Joaquin Achucarro, the concert will whisk you on a journey that includes Albéniz's *Rhapsodia Española* as arranged by Halfter, Granados's Intermezzo from *Goyescas*, and Debussy's *Ibéria* from *Images*.

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PRESIDENT'S WELCOME



Dear Friends,

It is my distinct pleasure to welcome you to the Conductors Guild National Conference in Fort Worth, Texas. This year's conference focuses on the practical side of conducting, providing delegates with tools, information, and research designed to enhance every conductor's work. We're delighted to have Michelle Merrill, Assistant Conductor of the Detroit Symphony Orchestra, as our Keynote speaker this year, and a special treat as we will hear both the Fort Worth Symphony Orchestra, and Dallas Symphony Orchestra, during our conference. Also, we welcome Jesse Rosen, President & CEO of the League of American Orchestras who will speak on the state of American orchestras.

An event like this requires dedication and work from a strong planning committee. I want to thank our tireless conference committee members, Marc-André Bougie, Mark Crim, and Dominique Røym, for their creative and collaborative work! Also, thanks to John Koshak, chair of our Mentoring Program, and Jan Wilson, executive director.

Take time to talk, listen, and sit for a meal or a drink with your colleagues this week. We learn so much from each other as we share stories of performances and auditions. This is your conference! Make the most of it and enjoy all that the Fort Worth/Dallas area has to offer. Great music, food, museums, and local activities abound!

On behalf of the Board of Directors and staff of the Conductors Guild, it is our pleasure to serve you, our members. Let us know what you enjoy most and want to see for future conferences. Become an active member – join the board – serve on a committee – help plan events – donate regularly to keep our workshop costs low. Continue to help the Conductors Guild provide the best training, information, and exposure for all conductors!

Thank you,

Dr. John Farrer
President, Conductors Guild

SCHEDULE

Thursday, January 11, 2018

Bass Performance Hall, 525 Commerce Street, Fort Worth, TX 76102

9:00am - 10:00am	Registration - Bass Performance Hall, Main Lobby
10:00am - 12:30pm	Open Rehearsal - Fort Worth Symphony Orchestra Miguel Harth-Bedoya, Conductor "Nights in the Garden of Spain" de Falla - Nights in the Gardens of Spain Albéniz - Rhapsody Española Granados - Intermezzo from Goyescas Debussy - Ibéria from Image <i>Please gather toward front of stage for a photo with Maestro Harth-Bedoya.</i>
1:00pm - 2:00pm	Lunch on your own. - See list of nearby restaurants.
Conference Activities move to Sheraton Fort Worth, Magnolia Rooms, 1701 Commerce St, Fort Worth, TX 76102	
2:15pm - 3:15pm	The Next Step: Building New Communities with Music Barbara Yahr, Greenwich Village Orchestra
3:25pm - 4:15pm	"Everything but the Kitchen Sink" - Percussion for Conductors Anthony Robinson, Shreveport Symphony Orchestra
4:20pm - 4:30pm	Welcome - Dr. John Farrer, President Conductors Guild & Conference Committee
4:30pm - 5:15pm	"Really Inventive Stuff" Michael Boudewyns
6:00pm	Bus departs for Dallas from the Sheraton Lobby
6:45pm - 7:15pm	Dinner on your own (restaurants near Meyerson Center will be provided)
7:30pm - 10:00pm	Dallas Symphony Orchestra Concert Meyerson Symphony Center - 2301 Flora Street, Dallas, TX <i>Delegates: contact guild@conductorsguild.org for Box Office discount code for tickets.</i> Cristian Macelaru, Conductor Behzod Abduraimov, Piano Bradley Hunter Welch, Organ Barber - Toccata Festiva Rachmaninoff - Piano Concerto No. 2 Rachmaninoff - Symphonic Dance <i>Following the DSO performance, make your way to the backstage Green Room to meet Cristian Macelaru, and Peter Czorny, VP of Artistic Operations</i>
10:15pm - 10:30pm	Bus returns to Sheraton - Fort Worth

SCHEDULE

Friday, January 12, 2018

Sheraton Fort Worth, Magnolia Rooms, 1701 Commerce St, Fort Worth, TX 76102

8:00am - 9:00am	Mentoring Sessions
8:00am - 9:10am	Visit Exhibitor Area - Breakfast on your own
8:30am - 9:15am	Registration - Magnolia Floor
9:15am - 10:15am	Putting it Together: Conducting Festival and Honor Ensembles <i>Jeffrey Grogan, Oklahoma City University</i>
10:15am - 10:30am	Visit Exhibitor Area - Magnolia Room
10:30am - 11:30am	Retrospective: Eduardo Mata <i>Wilfred Roberts, Dallas Symphony Orchestra (Bassoon, retired)</i>
11:30am - 12:00pm	Breaking Out of the Box <i>John Gingrich, John Gingrich Management, Inc.</i>
12:00pm - 1:30pm	Conference Luncheon <i>Keynote Speaker - Michelle Merrill, Assistant Conductor, Detroit Symphony Orchestra</i>
1:45pm - 2:30pm	Conducting Concerti <i>David Itkin, University of North Texas</i>
2:35pm - 3:15pm	Perfect Landings: Ballet for Conductors <i>Kermit Poling, Shreveport Ballet</i>
3:20pm - 4:10pm	Choral Rehearsal Techniques of Robert Shaw <i>Pamela Elrod-Huffman, Southern Methodist University</i>
4:10pm - 4:45pm	Jesse Rosen <i>President & CEO, League of American Orchestras</i>
5:00pm - 6:00pm	Delegate Reception - Dr. John Farrer, residence
7:30pm	Fort Worth Symphony Orchestra Concert Bass Performance Hall - 525 Commerce Street, Fort Worth, TX 76102 <i>Contact guild@conductorsguild.org for a Box Office discount code for tickets.</i> Miguel Harth-Bedoya, Conductor Joaquín Achúcarro, Piano "Nights in the Garden of Spain" de Falla - Nights in the Gardens of Spain Albéniz - Rhapsody Española Granados - Intermezzo from Goyescas Debussy - Ibéria from <i>Images</i>
10:00pm -	Time on your own!

SCHEDULE

Saturday, January 13, 2018

Sheraton Fort Worth, Magnolia Rooms, 1701 Commerce St, Fort Worth, TX 76102

8:00am- 9:00am	Mentoring Sessions
8:00am - 9:15am	Breakfast on your own & Visit Exhibitor Area <i>Magnolia Room</i>
9:30am - 10:30am	The Life and Work of Elizabeth A.H. Green: The Modern Conductor <i>John Whitwell, Michigan State University, Professor Emeritus</i>
10:30am - 11:30am	Conductors Guild Board of Directors Meeting <i>(Board Members Only, please)</i>
10:30am - 11:30am	Free Time on Your Own
12:00pm - 1:15pm	Lunch on your own
1:15pm - 2:00pm	Composition Tools For Discriminating Conductors: Programming New Music <i>Steven Lebetkin</i>
2:00pm - 2:45pm	Kaleidoscope Listening: Uncovering Timbral Qualifiers <i>Eugene Corporon, University of North Texas</i>
3:00pm - 4:00pm	Annual Meeting of the Conductors Guild <i>(Members Only, please)</i>
4:00pm - 5:00pm	Reception <i>Special Performance by Candace Taylor with Three of a Kind</i>

Mentoring and Consulting

One-on-one mentoring/consulting sessions are available by appointment throughout the duration of the conference. Visit the registration desk for more information, or contact Mentor/Consulting committee chair, John Koshak, to make arrangements to meet with one of our consultants. Conductors Guild Mentors and Consultants provide a unique benefit to our members and we would like to take this opportunity to thank them:

John Koshak, chair
Chris Blair
Leonard Atherton
Emily Freeman Brown
Michael Charry
Joann Falletta

Harold Farberman
Grant Gershon
Lawrence Golan
Philip Morehead
Harlan Parker

Jonathan Sternberg
Kate Tamarkin
Paul Vermel
Hal Weller
Diane Wittry
Victor Yampolsky

PRESENTERS

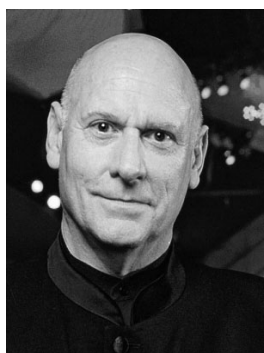
MICHAEL BOUDEWYNS



Michael is co-founder of Really Inventive Stuff. Based in Maine, and founded in 2004, Really Inventive Stuff, noted for “using simplicity as a form of genius” by The Philadelphia Inquirer, regularly performs vaudeville-inspired family and education concerts with orchestras

internationally (Singapore Symphony Orchestra), in Canada (Regina, Victoria, Winnipeg), as well as around the United States; including the National Symphony Orchestra, and the orchestras of Philadelphia, Detroit, Indianapolis, Milwaukee, Saint Louis, Seattle, Utah, Charlotte, Kansas City, Rochester, Allentown, Hartford, Portland (ME), Richmond, Des Moines, Harrisburg, New Haven, Quad City, Annapolis, Delaware, Princeton, Missoula, Texarkana, Illinois, Richardson Symphony Orchestra, Symphony in C, the Symphony of Southeast Texas, the New Orchestra of Washington, and the Westchester Philharmonic. This season, Really Inventive Stuff debuts with the Columbus Symphony Orchestra, Santa Rosa Symphony, Temple Symphony Orchestra, and in England, the Airedale Symphony Orchestra. You can learn even more at ReallyInventiveStuff.com.

EUGENE CORPORON



Eugene Migliaro Corporon is the conductor of the Wind Symphony and Regents Professor of Music at the University of North Texas. As Director of Wind Studies he guides all aspects of the program, including the masters and doctoral degrees in Wind Conducting. Mr. Corporon is a graduate of California State

University, Long Beach and Claremont Graduate University. His performances have drawn praise from colleagues, composers and music critics alike. Professor Corporon’s career, which spans six decades, began in 1969 as Director of Instrumental Music at Mt. Miguel High School in Spring Valley, California. He has held collegiate positions since 1971 which include California State University, Fullerton, the University of Wisconsin,

the University of Northern Colorado, Michigan State University, the Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music, and the University of North Texas. His ensembles have performed at the Midwest Clinic International Band and Orchestra Conference, Southwestern Music Educators National Conference, Texas Music Educators Association Clinic/Convention, Texas Bandmasters Association Convention/Clinic, International Trumpet Guild Conference, International Clarinet Society Convention, North American Saxophone Alliance Conference, Percussive Arts Society International Convention, International Horn Society Conference, National Wind Ensemble Conference, College Band Directors National Association Conference, Japan Band Clinic, and the Conference for the World Association of Symphonic Bands and Ensembles. Having recorded over 1000 works, including many premieres and commissions, his groups have released 150 plus recordings on the GIA, Toshiba/EMI, Klavier, Mark, CAFUA, Donemus, Soundmark, Albany, Naxos, and Centaur labels. These recordings, two of which have appeared on the Grammy nomination long ballot, are aired regularly on radio broadcasts throughout Asia, Europe, and the Americas.

Mr. Corporon maintains an active guest-conducting schedule and is in demand as a conductor and teacher throughout the world. He is Past President of the College Band Directors National Association and a past member of the World Association for Symphonic Bands and Ensembles International Board. He has been honored by the American Bandmasters Association and by Phi Beta Mu with invitations to membership. Mr. Corporon, a frequent guest conductor at the Showa University of Music in Kawasaki City, Japan, has also served as a visiting conductor at the Juilliard School, the Interlochen World Center for Arts Education and the Aspen Music Festival and School. He is the Music Director and conductor of the Lone Star Wind Orchestra, a professional group made up of passionate and committed musicians from the Dallas/Denton/Fort Worth metroplex.

He is co-host with Barry Green on The Inner Game of Music video, which focuses on overcoming mental obstacles and achieving one’s full potential as a performer. He also appears with James Jordan on the DVD, The Anatomy of Conducting. He is co-author of the book Teaching Music Through Performance in Band that is published in ten volumes by GIA Publications. This series includes twenty-three sets of Resource

PRESENTERS

Recordings by the North Texas Wind Symphony. The Teaching Music Project emphasizes the importance of comprehensive conceptual learning in the music-making process as well as the value of performing music of artistic significance. His most recent addition to this series is entitled *Explorations, Discoveries, Inventions, and Designs in the Know Where*. Professor Corporon, who was inducted into the Bands of America Hall of Fame in 2014, is a recipient of the International Grainger Society Distinctive Contribution Medallion, the Kappa Kappa Psi Distinguished Service to Music Award, the Phi Beta Mu International Band Conductor of the Year Award as well as an Honorary Life Membership granted by the Texas Bandmasters Association. He has also received the Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia National Citation for advancing the cause of music in America, the University of North Texas Student Government Association Honor Professor Award for Teaching Excellence, Student Rapport, and Scholarly Publications, the American School Band Directors Association A. A. Harding Award for making significant and lasting contributions to the school band movement, and the California State University, Long Beach, College of Fine Arts and Department of Music Distinguished Alumni Awards. He was awarded the Midwest Clinic Medal of Honor in 2015 to recognize his unique service to music education and continuing influence on the development and improvement of bands and orchestras worldwide. He is grateful to many people for their guidance and inspiration in his life. Among them are Charles Yates, Robert Reynolds, Benton Minor, Don Wilcox, Larry Maxey, Jack Hopkins, Frederick Fennell, Barry Green, James Jordan, and Carolyn Corporon.

orchestra throughout England and northern France. His eight recordings with the London Philharmonic, Royal Philharmonic, Bournemouth Symphony, and English Sinfonia have received high praise from critics around the world. His recording of music by Aaron Copland and George Gershwin was re-released by Sanctuary Classics March 2005, and his compact disc of English string music was re-issued in the spring of 2006. Dr. Farrer's new CD of the Brahms Symphony No. 2 with the New Queen's Hall Orchestra has been enthusiastically received. Critics have compared it favorably with definitive recordings of this work made by William Mengelberg, Pierre Monteux, and Felix Weingartner.

Dr. Farrer was associated with the San Francisco Symphony as a cover conductor for the Orchestra's subscription concerts. He was a speaker in the San Francisco Symphony's series of Inside Music talks, led the Orchestra in Concerts for Kids, and conducted a program at Stern Grove which attracted 20,000 listeners.

John Farrer is director of the California Conducting Institute, a national training program held in Bakersfield. Conductors from around the world participated in the fifth workshop in May 2006. Dr. Farrer was also an instructor at the London Conducting Workshop at the Royal College of Music the summers of 2005 and 2006.

Dr. Farrer is a member of the music advisory committee of the Young Musicians Foundation of Los Angeles, a board member of the Chamber Orchestra of New York, and a national trustee of the National Symphony Orchestra at the John F. Kennedy Center in Washington D.C.

JOHN FARRER



John Farrer enjoyed a thirty-two year career as the music director of the Bakersfield Symphony. He is also music director of the Roswell Symphony Orchestra, and the Santa Maria Philharmonic. Dr. Farrer is a frequent guest conductor with orchestras in England. As senior guest conductor of the English Sinfonia, he has toured with the

JOHN GINGRICH



John Gingrich has been active in the not-for-profit and for-profit performing arts world for almost 45 years and was honored by the Association of Performing Arts Presenters with the Fan Taylor Award for service to the field in 1992. He founded John Gingrich Management in 1983 after many years of experience in management, booking and public relations with S.

PRESENTERS

Hurok, Sheldon Soffer and Harold Shaw.

Beginning as the first graduate assistant with Penn State's Artists Series, John moved to New York where he's served as president of Concert Artists Guild (CAG), Opera Managers Association, the National Association of Performing Arts Managers and Agents (NAPAMA), and the Association of American Dance Companies (AADC) – predecessor of Dance USA. He was the first commercial agent to serve on a National Endowment for the Arts review panel (1983 with four more to follow). He also was board secretary for Chamber Music America (CMA) and Dance Perspectives Foundation, while remaining active in a wide range of civic, church and cultural activities. A career highlight was the production of the AIDS Quilt Songbook at Lincoln Center in June 1992.

JEFFREY GROGAN

Jeffrey Grogan is an internationally-known conductor and teacher dedicated to the pursuit of his craft and



nurturing musical excellence among young musicians. Mr. Grogan has served as adjudicator, conductor, and clinician for many prestigious national and international festivals including the Honor Orchestra of America sponsored by Music for All; the Association for Music in International Schools Orchestra (Singapore);

the National Orchestra Cup at Lincoln Center; and the Honors Performance Series Orchestra and Band at Carnegie Hall. Other recent international appearances include Harpa Concert Hall in Iceland; at the Opera House in Sydney, Australia; and in Bangkok, Thailand.

Mr. Grogan has also conducted numerous all-state orchestras and bands throughout the U.S. Grogan serves as Director of Orchestral Activities and Professor of Music at Oklahoma City University and Artistic Director of the Oklahoma Youth Orchestras. Previously, Grogan served for eleven seasons as Education and Community Engagement Conductor of the New Jersey Symphony Orchestra, and as Conductor and Artistic Director of the NJSO Youth Orchestras, the InterSchool Orchestras of New York and the New

Jersey Youth Symphony. His youth orchestras have performed to capacity crowds at some of the greatest concert halls in the world, including Carnegie Hall, the Kennedy Center, Lincoln Center and the Musikverein in Vienna. He has appeared as a guest conductor at the University of Georgia, Indiana University, the Manhattan School of Music, and the Mannes School of Music Pre-College Division. He has also conducted performances with the Little Orchestra Society of New York, the Reno Philharmonic, Adelphi Chamber Orchestra and the New York Concerti Sinfonietta. In addition, Mr. Grogan was founding Artistic Director of two El Sistema inspired music programs, the Paterson Music Project (PMP) in Paterson, New Jersey and the NJSO CHAMPS in Newark, NJ. Prior to this, Grogan taught conducting and trained future music educators for over a decade at the University of Michigan, Ithaca College and Baylor University. He is also the former Associate Director of Bands and Marching Band Director at the University of Michigan and Baylor University.

DAVID ITKIN



The 2017-2018 season marks Maestro David Itkin's 13th season as Music Director and Conductor of the Abilene Philharmonic, and his 10th year serving as Professor of Music and Director of Orchestral Studies at the University of North Texas College of Music, and his 4th season as Artistic Director and Conductor of the McCall Summerfest

in McCall, Idaho. Following a distinguished 17-year tenure, Maestro Itkin was named Conductor Laureate of the Arkansas Symphony Orchestra in July 2010. Previously Mr. Itkin served as Music Director & Conductor of the Las Vegas Philharmonic, the Lake Forest Symphony (Chicago), the Kingsport Symphony, the Birmingham Opera Theatre, and the Lucius Woods Music Festival (Wisconsin).

During past seasons Maestro Itkin's career has taken him to 45 U.S. states and 15 countries in Europe, the Middle East, and Asia, including concerts and recordings with the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra, the Slovenska Filhamonija, the San Diego Symphony,

PRESENTERS

and the Seoul Philharmonic. Other guest conducting appearances include concerts with the Colorado Philharmonic, the Annapolis Symphony, the National Repertory Orchestra, the Fort Worth Symphony, the Illinois Symphony, the Delaware Symphony, the New Hampshire Symphony, the Cheyenne Symphony, and the Indianapolis, Baltimore, and Reno Chamber Orchestras. During the Summer of 2006 Maestro Itkin appeared once again with the Slovenska Filharmonija in Ljubljana, Slovenia, conducting the opening concert of the 14th World Saxophone Congress.

His book, *Conducting Concerti*, was released in August 2014 to considerable critical acclaim. Leonard Slatkin called *Conducting Concerti* “a valuable textbook for the aspiring Maestro” and “highly recommended”, and Samuel Adler wrote that it is “an invaluable addition to the world of conducting textbooks.” Mr. Itkin is now the principal faculty member for the Conductors Guild/UNT International Conducting Workshop, and serves on the national board of directors of the Conductors Guild.

Mr. Itkin’s first film score (“Sugar Creek”) was recorded in 2006 by the Arkansas Symphony for the film’s 2007 release. His most recent major work, “Exodus”, an oratorio, was premiered in April 2005 in Little Rock, with William Shatner narrating. “Exodus” was released worldwide on CD in 2007.

In May 2009 Maestro Itkin was awarded both an Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters by Lyon College and the Above the Barre award by Ballet Arkansas.

In addition to his professional schedule, Maestro Itkin regularly serves as a guest conductor/clinician, including concerts with the Arkansas All-State Orchestra, the Southern California High School Honors Orchestra, the Maine All-State Orchestra, the Las Vegas Senior Honors Orchestra, and several Texas all-region Honors Orchestras.

Also in demand as a speaker and lecturer, Mr. Itkin has been asked to lecture for a wide variety of organizations, including SilverSea cruise lines, two consecutive years as a featured lecturer for the Arkansas Governor’s School, the Texas Association of Symphony Orchestras, and a keynote address at the National Federation of Music Clubs national conference.

STEVEN LEBETKIN



Steven Lebetkin is a musical descendant of the late Jewish composer Karol Rathaus, a leading early 20th century film and classical composer that emigrated to America during the Third Reich. Rathaus, a student of Franz Schreker, was a major influence on the three major American composers with whom Lebetkin studied – Gabriel

Fontrier, Sol Berkowitz, and Leo Kraft. He also studied composition with Hugo Weisgal. Lebetkin carries the torch of a great European musical composition tradition whose roots go back to Haydn. He is a leading advocate in his works and public presentations to distinguish between harmonic languages and compositional technique, regardless of style, venue, or era. Lebetkin’s lecture series “What Makes Great Music Great” takes a fresh approach towards understanding musical composition for the general public, musicians, and media professionals.

Among his recently completed works are *Variations For Orchestra*, *Cycle of the Earth* (ballet for symphony orchestra on the earth’s environmental life cycle), *Symphonic Songs – Six Songs On Poems By Walt Whitman*, *Piano Concerto (The “Classical”)*, *Concerto for Soprano Saxophone, Vibraphone and String Orchestra*, *Elegy For Double (or divided) String Orchestra*, *Piano Sonata*, *Libera Me - Fanfare for Freedom for Symphony Orchestra*, and *Concerto for Violin and Orchestra*. The *Violin Concerto* had its world premiere on October 7, 2017 at Carnegie Hall, Momo Wong as soloist. Amy Andersson conducted *Orchestra Moderne - NYC*. Works in progress include *Spoon River*, *Requiem for the American Dream*, an *Opera/Oratorio* for vocal soloists, chorus, and symphony orchestra, *Domina Deus for Choir, Orchestra and Electronic Sample Instruments*. Lebetkin is also composing and producing his first solo album for piano and electronic sample instruments designed to attract a wide commercial audience. Upcoming performances include the world premiere of *Piano Concerto* with the *Falcon Symphony* (Coro, Venezuela) under the baton of Ruben Capriles, followed by a European premiere in Bucharest by pianist Lea Adam in 2019.

PRESENTERS

Michelle Merrill will be giving the **Keynote Address** at the Conference Luncheon.
Friday, January 12, 12:00 pm

MICHELLE MERRILL



Rapidly rising conductor Michelle Merrill has just been appointed Music Director of the Coastal Symphony of Georgia, and is set to begin her tenure there with the 2018/19 concert season. Merrill currently serves as the Associate Conductor of the Detroit Symphony Orchestra where she also carries the title of Phillip and Lauren Fisher

Community Ambassador. A passionate and dynamic artist, Ms. Merrill was named as one of Hour Detroit Magazine's 3 Cultural Organization Leaders to Watch in 2015, and was profiled by the Ford Motor Co. for their website fordbetterworld.org.

Recent and upcoming engagements include the Toronto Symphony Orchestra, Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra, Jacksonville Symphony, Toledo Symphony Orchestra, Oklahoma City Philharmonic, West Virginia Symphony, Louisiana Philharmonic, Orlando Philharmonic, Symphoria (Syracuse), Sacramento Philharmonic & Opera, Boise Philharmonic, New Music Detroit, and the Northeastern Pennsylvania Philharmonic, where she formerly served as Assistant Conductor before coming to Detroit. As the Associate Conductor of the Detroit Symphony Orchestra, she helps plan and conduct over 30 concerts per season, including the renowned educational webcasts, which have reached over 100,000 students to date in classrooms throughout the nation. Ms. Merrill also gives pre-concert lectures, leads adult music education seminars, engages with students in and around Metro Detroit, speaks on behalf of the DSO throughout the community, and participates in hosting Live from Orchestra Hall, the DSO's free concert webcast that launched in 2011 and is now watched in more than 100 countries. She made her classical subscription debut with the DSO in April 2016.

In March of 2014, Ms. Merrill stepped in on short notice with the Meadows Symphony Orchestra for their performance of Shostakovich's Symphony

No. 4, which music critic Scott Cantrell of the Dallas Morning News described as "stunning" and later named to his list of Top Ten Classical Performances of 2014. She was awarded in 2013 the prestigious Ansbacher Conducting Fellowship by members of the Vienna Philharmonic and the American Austrian Foundation, which enabled her to be in residence at the world-renowned Salzburg Festival. Recent praise came from her classical debut with the DSO conducting Beethoven's Symphony No. 6: "from the off this was a heavenly 'Pastoral'...Merrill (conducting from memory) certainly has an ear for focused inner parts, and her meaningful flexibility was welcome... There was something reassuringly old-world about this performance (reminding of but not emulating such views of the music as Böhm, Boult and Klemperer) yet with a New World bloom that trod freshly-mown grass and also looked skywards..."

A strong advocate of new music, Ms. Merrill conducted the world-premiere performance of Gabriela Lena Frank's "Walkabout: Concerto for Orchestra" with the Detroit Symphony Orchestra. She also worked with composer Gabriela Lena Frank and soprano Jessica Rivera in 2015 on Frank's work "La Centinela y la Paloma" (The Keeper and the Dove), as a part of numerous community programs related to the Diego Rivera and Frida Kahlo exhibition at the Detroit Institute of Arts. In 2016, Ms. Merrill collaborated with New Music Detroit for their annual marathon Strange Beautiful Music 9, which featured David Lang's "are you experienced?" and the world-premiere of Andrew Harrison's "Hum" based on the poetry of Detroit native Jamal May. In June 2015, she made her debut at the St. Augustine Music Festival conducting the world-premiere performance of Piotr Szewczyk's "St. Augustine Suite" which was written in honor of that city's 450th anniversary. The highly praised performance was later featured nationwide on NPR's "Performance Today". Additionally, her work in the 2011/12 season with Voices of Change, Dallas's professional contemporary music ensemble, was part of a program later named as one of Dallas Morning News critic Scott Cantrell's Top Ten Classical Performances of 2011.

Born in Dallas, TX, Ms. Merrill studied conducting with Dr. Paul C. Phillips at Southern Methodist University's Meadows School of the Arts, where she holds a Master of Music Degree in conducting and a Bachelor of Music in performance. She is also a recipient of a 2016 Solti

PRESENTERS

Foundation U.S. Career Assistance Award. Apart from music, she loves cooking, running, hiking, and spending time with her husband, Steve Merrill, who serves as the principal percussionist of the Jacksonville Symphony, and their newborn son, Davis.

KERMIT POLING



The international classical music magazine *Fanfare* recently wrote, "the Romantic spirit lives, breathes and flourishes in Kermit Poling", remarking on his "quite natural musicianship." Indeed, Kermit Poling is an inspiring and passionate voice in American music - a musician whose talents encompass conducting and composition

along with years of virtuoso violin performances. For 32 seasons he has been the Shreveport Symphony's Associate Conductor, (27 years also as Concertmaster), also serving as music director of the South Arkansas Symphony, the Marshall Symphony Orchestra and the Shreveport Metropolitan Ballet.

In January, 2017 he made his debut recording with the London Symphony Orchestra, for the Centaur label. He has been featured with orchestras such as the Orchestra Filarmonia Veneta in Italy, the Symphony Orchestra of the State of Mexico, the Moscow Ballet and the Shenzhen Symphony of China among others. His *Symphony #1* was premiered by the SSO and Michael Buttermann in 2016 and his *Guitar Concerto "Concierto de Chiaro"* received a rave premiere later that season by the Shreveport Summer Music Festival and guitarist Giovanni De Chiaro. His quartet, *Within the Orb of Glories Wearing*, received its international television debut in February 2017 on the EWTN cable network. His ballet, "Snow White", premiered in a new 2017 production by the Pennsylvania Ballet in Philadelphia. The Pennsylvania Ballet will perform his new ballet, *Prince Charming* in the spring of 2018, as well as his ballet *Peter Pan* in May, 2018, and the Des Moines Ballet has commissioned *The Little Mermaid* for a premiere in 2019.

Poling studied at the Boston Conservatory of Music, the Cleveland Institute of Music and the Tanglewood Music Center, where he worked with Leonard

Bernstein, Kurt Masur, Gustav Meier and Seiji Ozawa. He has been a featured conductor on NPR's *Performance Today*, the Arkansas Educational Television Network, the Red River Radio Network, WGBH Boston and has appeared as violinist on Louisiana Public Television and PBS in addition to numerous television and radio stations throughout the country. He's been featured in *Symphony Magazine*, *Fanfare Magazine*, *Louisiana Life* and others. He has served on the faculty of Centenary College, Texarkana Community College, the Boston Conservatory and the Puerto Rico Conservatory of Music. He has also served as artist in residence and taught master classes at the University of Delaware, Kilgore College, Stephen F. Austin State University and others.

WILFRED ROBERTS



Wilfred Roberts is one of today's premier bassoonists. Internationally recognized for his consummate artistry, Roberts became principal bassoon of the Dallas Symphony Orchestra in 1965, and retired from this position in October 2015. His 50-year tenure as principal bassoon is the longest on record for any

major orchestra. He graduated with highest honors from Oberlin Conservatory and also studied at the Mozarteum Academy in Salzburg, Austria. Before beginning his career in the United States, he served as principal bassoon of the Camerata Academica Orchestra of Salzburg, touring throughout Europe and recording on the Deutsche Grammophone label. Examples of his extremely lyrical yet strong style and exceptional control of the instrument can be heard on extensive recordings with the Dallas Symphony on the RCA, Telarc, Angel, Pro Arte, Dorian and Delos labels. Throughout his career, in national and international tours, his playing has been described as that which represents the top of his profession. "Will Roberts is one of the orchestra members that has been with us the longest, yet he still plays like a young man," says Jaap van Zweden, music director of the Dallas Symphony Orchestra. "He is as a father for the orchestra and his musicianship is an inspiration to us all."

PRESENTERS

Roberts is on the faculty of Southern Methodist University and has served on the faculties of University of North Texas, University of Indiana and University of Michigan. He has performed in various leading summer festivals of music throughout his career. In addition to his long tenure as principal bassoon, he also served for over 40 years as personnel manager and contractor of musicians of the Dallas Symphony.

ANTHONY ROBINSON



Anthony Robinson currently serves as percussion instructor/woodwind methods instructor at East Texas Baptist University. An active professional, he performs with the following symphony orchestras: Shreveport Symphony (38 years), Marshall Symphony (36 years), Longview Symphony (34 years), South Arkansas Symphony (20

years), & Texarkana Symphony (10 years). Mr. Robinson is a Yamaha Performing Artist, SABIAN Performing Artist and member of the Vic Firth Educational Team. He serves as a percussion consultant in east Texas and Louisiana and has been the percussion organizer/clinician for the Texas Music Educators All State Ensembles for 27 consecutive years and will serve in this capacity for the 2018 TMEA Convention.

JESSE ROSEN



Since becoming President and CEO of the League of American Orchestras in 2008, Jesse Rosen has been a leading voice for the League's more than 2,000 member organizations and individuals, empowering them with knowledge and perspective to navigate a rapidly changing environment.

Under Rosen's leadership, the League has advocated for orchestras' deeper engagement with community, renewed efforts to address diversity, greater discipline in relation to fiscal health, increased use of data to inform decision-

making, and widespread engagement with composers. He has increased the League's impact by building partnerships with organizations such as New Music USA, BoardSource, the Thornton School of Music at USC, and the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service, and has given voice to America's orchestras through his public statements, Huffington Post blog, Symphony magazine column, national media interviews, and international appearances.

During his nineteen-year tenure at the League, Rosen has been instrumental in overseeing the League's renewed focus on developing longitudinal research benefitting the entire orchestra field, and has created new programs and initiatives in the areas of diversity, artistry, leadership development, governance, capitalization, and community engagement, including Ford Made in America, the largest-ever orchestra commissioning consortium; the Ford Musician Awards for Excellence in Community Service; Music Alive, supporting composer residencies; and the American Orchestras' Futures Fund, promoting experimentation and innovation.

There has been an exponential increase in the number of members benefitting from League programs and initiatives, as well as an upturn in the profile of orchestras among the nation's cultural, policy, and opinion leaders. Under his direction, the League has been a catalyst for the orchestra field's collective action around diversity and inclusion, including the drive to increase participation of musicians from underrepresented communities through a number of endeavors – an annual Forum, national task forces, an online resource center, and more.

Rosen serves on the boards of the American Composers Orchestra and the Performing Arts Alliance, and is a member of the National Center for Arts Research Board of Advisors. He speaks regularly at major arts convenings, and is a frequent guest of conservatories and schools of music. Rosen is a lifelong musician and experienced orchestra executive who has served as general manager of the Seattle Symphony, executive director of the American Composers Orchestra in New York City, and orchestra manager of the New York Philharmonic. A trombonist, Rosen received his bachelor's degree from the Manhattan School of Music and pursued graduate studies at The Juilliard School.

PRESENTERS

CANDACE TAYLOR



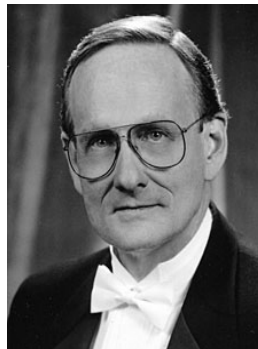
Much-admired for her musical versatility, vocalist Candace Taylor embodies an eclectic style and vocal range throughout various music genres, with a concentration in classical and jazz literature. She studied jazz repertoire/performance at the Performing Arts Studio in Louisiana under the mentorship of the late

Freddie Pierson. Candace enjoyed a seven year stint of live performances of traditional and contemporary jazz standards with the band Intimate Moments being featured in a host of popular venues and with many Ark-La-Tex jazz festivals. In 2007, she made her international debut at the House of Jazz in Montreal and was a featured vocalist in the Southern University Foundation's The Cotton Club presents: A Tribute to Ella Fitzgerald. In 2014, Candace returned to Italy to present a concert of American jazz classics with pianist Mary Scott Goode. Since 2014, she has also been the featured performer for Harvest Texarkana's annual Wine and Jazz Gala, a fundraising event.

As a classically trained soprano, Candace has performed throughout the U.S. and abroad. She is currently active as a concert soloist of the many great masterworks of oratorio/sacred music, a recitalist, and a recording artist. Candace has been a soloist with the Orquesta Sinfonica de Falcon (Venezuela), Sherman Symphony, Texarkana Symphony, Orchestra Cantelli (Italy, 2010), Shreveport Chorale, Texarkana Regional Chorale, Texarkana Chamber Singers, Shreveport Opera Chorus, Gilbert & Sullivan Society, and Texarkana College Concert Series. Candace is a featured performer for the CD release Sweethearts (Gilbert and Sullivan) and Ave Maria: The Wedding Album (La Musique des Sources).

Candace holds a Master of Education degree and practices as an Occupational Therapist/Certified Hand Therapist at Christus Health System. At a young age, Candace began music studies on the cello and continued through college. A native of Shreveport, LA and the youngest of seven siblings, she enjoys travel, exercise, great literature, and spending time with her husband, conductor Marc-André Bougie and daughter, Miriam Taylor Bougie.

JOHN WHITWELL



Professor John Whitwell, who retired as professor of music and director of MSU Bands, has distinguished himself in the field of music as an educator, clinician, conductor, adjudicator, and author. He earned an associate degree from Rochester College (formerly known as Michigan Christian College),

a bachelor's degree in music education from Abilene Christian University, and a master of music degree from the University of Michigan. Professor Whitwell began his teaching career in 1965 and held positions as a music teacher, director of bands, and music department chairperson at public schools in Jackson and Ann Arbor. Before joining MSU in 1993, he taught at Stephen F. Austin State University and Abilene Christian University. During his time as director of bands at Michigan State, Professor Whitwell served as chairperson of the conducting area. As a lecturer, guest conductor, clinician, and adjudicator, he participated in hundreds of music conferences, state and national music association meetings, workshops, festivals, and music competitions throughout the United States and elsewhere, including England, France, Germany, Holland, Switzerland, and Mexico. He joined the board of the Midwest Clinic, one of the world's largest instrumental music conferences, in 1997. His writings have appeared in several music journals and other publications. He is a tireless supporter of the MSU Alumni Band Association and has worked with that organization to commission new works for band. He received MSU's Distinguished Faculty Award in 2003 and the Paul Varg Alumni Award for Faculty from the College of Arts and Letters in 2004.



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PRESENTERS

BARBARA YAHR



Now in her sixteenth season with the GVO, Music Director Barbara Yahr continues to lead the orchestra to new levels of distinction. With blockbuster programming and internationally renowned guest artists, the GVO under Barbara's baton has grown into an innovative, collaborative institution offering a full season

of classical music to our local community.

A native of New York, Ms. Yahr's career has spanned from the United States to Europe, the Middle East, and Asia. Her previous posts include Principal Guest Conductor of the Munich Radio Orchestra, Resident Staff Conductor of the Pittsburgh Symphony under Maestro Lorin Maazel and conductor of the Pittsburgh Youth Orchestra. She has appeared as a guest conductor with such orchestras as the Bayerische Rundfunk, Dusseldorf Symphoniker, Deutsche Kammerphilharmonie, Frankfurt Radio, Orchestra Sinfonica Siciliana, Janacek Philharmonic, New Japan Philharmonic, NHK Symphony Orchestra, Singapore Symphony, and the National Symphony in Washington D.C. She has also conducted orchestras in Anchorage, Calgary, Chattanooga, Columbus, Detroit, Flint, Louisiana, New Mexico, Lubbock, and Richmond, as well as the Ohio Chamber Orchestra, St. Paul Chamber, Rochester Philharmonic, Cincinnati Chamber Orchestra, New World Symphony, and the Chautauqua Festival Symphony Orchestra. She has also appeared in Israel conducting in both Jerusalem and Elat. As an opera conductor, she has led new productions in Frankfurt, Giessen, Tulsa, Cincinnati, Minnesota and at The Mannes School of Music in NYC. She has coached the actors on the set of the Amazon Series, *Mozart in the Jungle*, and last season conducted the Ridgefield Symphony Orchestra and musicians from the Pittsburgh Symphony.

Ms. Yahr is a Phi Beta Kappa graduate of Middlebury College where she studied piano and philosophy. She holds a Bachelor's degree in Conducting from the Curtis Institute of Music where she studied with Max Rudolf and an MM in Music Theory from the Manhattan School of Music. She was a student of Charles Bruck at the Pierre Monteux School in Hancock, Maine.

Ms. Yahr's commitment to finding new ways to reach a broader population with music ultimately led her into the field of music therapy. She is a Board Certified Music Therapist, with an MA in Music Therapy from NYU and post-graduate certification from the world-renowned Nordoff-Robbins Center for Music Therapy in New York City. Her pioneering, community music therapy project, *Together in Music*, brings orchestral music to the special needs community with uniquely interactive programs.

THREE OF A KIND



Three of a Kind is a classic Jazz trio made up of Allen Batts (piano), George Buckner (drums) and Jeff Madlock (bass). The group has performed traditional jazz, swing, bebop and contemporary jazz from

small intimate settings to large banquet halls. The group's repertoire is extensive and can be programmed to entertain any venue or setting. Backing a vocalist is one of the groups favorite opportunities and they quickly meld with the singer to ensure an exciting performance. Three of a Kind provides the jazz soundtrack for any occasion.

Special Thanks

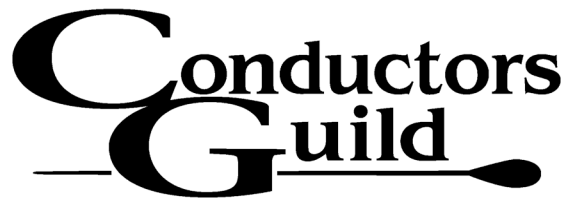
The Conductors Guild Board of Directors and Staff would like to thank the Sheraton-Fort Worth General Manager, Mr. John Yeung, and his wonderful staff for their assistance in hosting this year's conference.

We are also grateful to the Fort Worth Symphony Orchestra for their gracious assistance.



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...Advancing the Art and Profession

Conductors Guild General Membership Meeting
Fort Worth, TX
Saturday, January 13, 2018

AGENDA

I. Minutes of the January 2017 Annual Meeting (*included*)

II. Reports

A. President's Report

B. Treasurer's Report

C. Programs and Events:

Conference
Workshop/Meetings
Awards

D. External Relations:

Advocacy
Membership
Nominating

III. Old Business

IV. New Business



... Advancing the Art and Profession

Conductors Guild Annual Meeting
Mandell Theater, Drexel University
Washington, DC
Saturday, January 14, 2017 10:30am

MINUTES

I. Minutes of the June 2015 Annual Meeting

MSP to accept.

II. Reports

Gordon Johnson reported that the Board and Exec committee meets monthly by phone and will continue. Membership encouraged to give feedback.

No written report.

A. Treasurer's Report

Chris Blair submitted a written report. Grant and funding opportunities were mentioned. Deficit discussed: membership. Conference has been attendance down over past several years. Membership down in the same proportion. Build on membership. Similar other organizations: CODA, etc.

Find ways to find new conductors to join. Tell colleagues about benefits of membership, like acoustic consulting. "Be fruitful and multiply." – Chris Blair

Ask friends/colleagues – be advocates for CD (Johnson). President Johnson encouraged members to make donations.

MSP to accept this report.

B. Steering Committee

Executive (Gordon Johnson)

No written report.

Finance (Christopher Blair)

No written report.

C. Programs and Events:

Conference (Gordon Johnson)

Gordon: recognized Erin and John (applause); conference 2015 will be in Boston in June (third of three meetings); membership should share opinion re June/January. Email Gordon or office. Fill out evaluation forms.

No written report.

Workshop/Meetings (Gordon J. Johnson)

Gordon Johnson submitted written report. Discussed the prevalence of workshops, competition, etc. Evaluations are studied. Reviews are always excellent.

MSP to accept this report.

Awards (Emily Threinen)

Emily Threinen submitted a written report.

Acknowledgement of Guild founders will take place at Boston conference.

MSP to accept this report.

D. External Relations:

Public Awareness/Advocacy (Claire Hilliard)

Written report submitted by Claire Hilliard. Encouraged members to join committee. Crafting a statement of philosophy regarding discrimination in the field. Letters have gone out to US orchestras to look to CG for resources for conductor searches, etc.

MSP to accept this report.

Membership (Gordon Johnson)

Written report submitted by Gordon Johnson. Retreat will examine the needs of the membership, who we serve, what we want to accomplish. What is the value of the CG to its members.

MSP to accept this report.

Nominating (John Gordon Ross)

John Ross submitted a written report.

The following Board members have reached the end of their terms in office and we thank them for their service:

- Anthony LaGruth
- Brenda Lynn Leach
- Reginald Houze

The following Board members have been approved by the Nominating Committee and the Board of Directors for presentation to the general membership for an additional two year term:

- Brooke Creswell
- Andrew George
- Emily Threinen
- Julius Williams

MSP to elect these current Board members to additional two year terms:

The following have applied for Board membership, have been approved by the Nominations Committee and the current Board, and are submitted as a slate for new Board membership:

- Reuben Capriles
- Mark Crim
- Silas Nathaniel Huff
- Theodore Kuchar
- Jeffrey Schindler

MSP to elect these new Board Members:

MSP to accept this report.

E. Member Services:

Publications (Lyn Schenbeck)

Scott Winger/Lyn Schenbeck submitted a written report. Lyn Schenbeck asked for submissions to Journal. (a peer reviewed publication)

MSP to accept this report.

Mentoring/Consulting (John Koshak)

Gordon Johnson asked the membership to recognize John Koshak and the mentors.
No written report.

III. Old Business
No old business

IV. New Business
No new business.

MSP to adjourn at 6:05pm.

Respectfully submitted,
David Leibowitz
Secretary

In Memoriam

“The key to the mystery of a great artist is that for reasons unknown, he will give away his energies and his life just to make sure that one note follows another... and leaves us with the feeling that something is right in the world.”

The Conductors Guild mourns the passing of two great colleagues and artists this past year:

Maurice Peress

March 18, 1930 – December 31, 2017

Assistant conductor of the New York Philharmonic under Leonard Bernstein, Corpus Christi Symphony Orchestra, Austin Symphony Orchestra, Kansas City Philharmonic. Former professor at the Aaron Copland School of Music, and author of “Dvorak to Duke Ellington: A Conductor Explores America’s Music and It’s African American Roots”, published in 2004. We were proud to host Maurice and his wife at last year’s national conference in Philadelphia and salute his work as one of the Guild’s co-founders.



Daniel Lewis

May 10, 1925 – July 7, 2017

Emeritus Professor of the USC Thornton School of Music, longtime conductor of the USC Thornton Symphony and former director of Conducting Studies, former music director and conductor of the Pasadena Symphony Orchestra. ““I think the most important thing I relayed [to the students] is the attitude of professionalism, of the responsibility to the music and to making music.”





Advancing the Art and the Profession

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*Ex-Officio

**In Memoriam



Advancing the Art and the Profession

Theodore Thomas Award

The Theodore Thomas Award is presented biennially to a conductor in recognition of outstanding achievement as a conductor and extraordinary service to one's colleagues in advancing the art and science of conducting, reflecting honor upon our profession.

Claudio Abbado**
Maurice Abravanel**
Marin Alsop
Leon Barzin**
Leonard Bernstein**
Pierre Boulez**
Sir Colin Davis**

Frederick Fennell**
Bernard Haitink
Margaret Hillis**
James Levine
Kurt Masur**
Sir Simon Rattle
Max Rudolf**

Robert Shaw**
Leonard Slatkin
Esa-Pekka Salonen
Sir Georg Solti**
Michael Tilson Thomas
David Zinman

Max Rudolph Award

The Max Rudolph Award is presented biennially in recognition of outstanding achievement as a conductor and pedagogue, and significant service to the profession in the realms of scholarship, advocacy and/or ensemble building. This award was established by the Conductors Guild in 1997 in memory of Max Rudolph – a longtime supporter of the Guild, conducting pedagogue and scholar.

Herbert Blomstedt
David M. Epstein
Donald Hunsberger
Daniel Lewis**
Gustav Meier**

Otto-Werner Mueller**
Helmuth Rilling
Gunther Schuller**
Jonathan Sternberg
Paul Vermel

Thelma A. Robinson Award

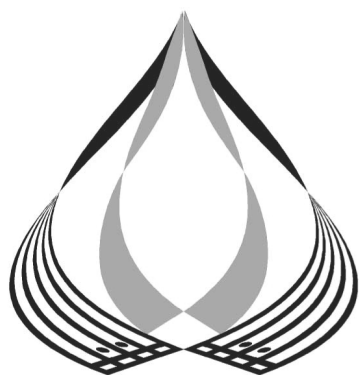
The Thelma A. Robinson Award is a scholarship/award sponsored by the National Federation of Music Clubs and presented biennially to an outstanding participant from the preceding two seasons of Conductors Guild conductor training workshops for career-related expenses or advanced conducting study.

Beatrice Jona Affron
Eric Bell
Miriam Burns
Kevin Gerald

Carolyn Kuan
Katherine Kilburn
Matilda Hofman
Octavio Más-Arocas
Jamie Reeves

Laura Rexroth
Annunziata Tomaro
Robert Whalen
Steven Martyn Zike

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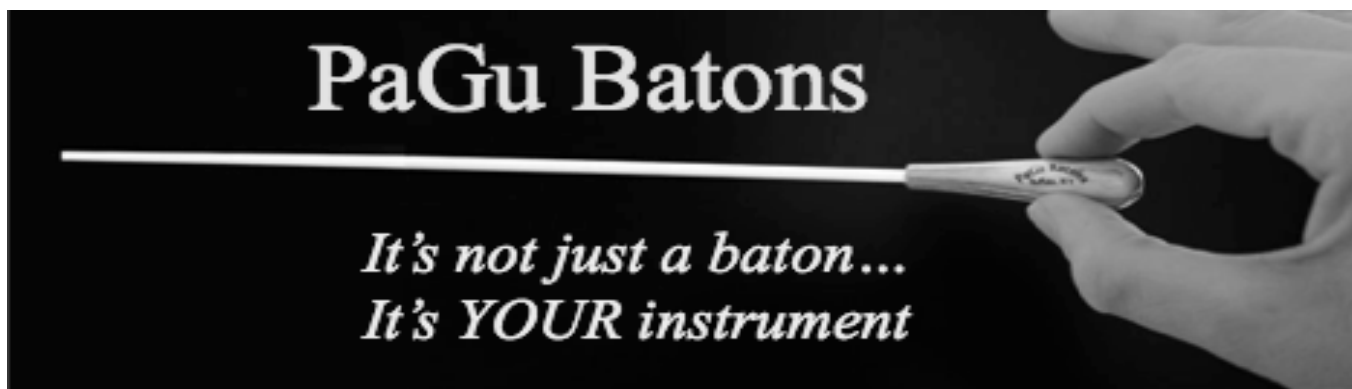
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Candace Taylor – Vocalist

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Marc-André Bougie

Marc-André Bougie
Conducting

Mary Scott Goode
Piano

Laura Bennett
Flute / Woodwinds

Steve Bennett
Trombone / Brass

T. Jon Kelly
Percussion

Larry Dymott
Organ

Janice Aiken
Voice



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