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-Holiday Pops-



"HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS"

DR. KEVIN P. BARTRAM, MUSIC DIRECTOR

With Special Guests:
The Virginia Children's Chorus - Dr. Matthew N. Russell, Director

Friday, December 15, 2023
Lifepoint Auditorium 7:30 p.m.

Sponsored by The Essig Family in memory of Ann Crowe Essig
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"One of God's loveliest musicians."

Message from the Music Director



We're so excited to welcome you to tonight's holiday program "Home for the Holidays." As your hometown symphony, the FSO strives to connect audiences of all ages to live music. Through our Education and Outreach programs we have funded free blocks of tickets for students, held Instrument Petting Zoos, performed world premieres with high school students, hosted clinics for middle and high school students, and brought FSO musicians into the schools to work directly with students.

In the concert hall, we have featured many soloists from the Fredericksburg region. Tonight is no different, but we are thrilled to also welcome the Virginia Children's Chorus from Norfolk. They are a superb group of young musicians, and I know we will be impressed by their talent. Resident FSO guitarist Bruce Middle will astonish us with Matt Riley's incredible rendition of *O Come, O Come Emmanuel* and FSO pianist James Pitts will solo on our finale *Do You Hear What I Hear?* We'll also hear FSO harpist Anastasia Pike play the beautiful "Waltz of the Flowers" from *The Nutcracker Suite*.

In early January, tickets go on sale for our Valentine's Day concert "Romantic Fantasies." We will feature Rimsky-Korsakov's great *Scheherazade,* Rossini's William *Tell Overture*, Stravinsky's *Firebird Suite* and Gershwin's *American in Paris!* And yes, we will present another musical tribute to the Valentines in our audience and we have even more surprises planned. The demand for tickets will be high, so I encourage you to keep your eyes open for our on-sale dates.

On behalf of the staff, Board of Directors, and musicians of the FSO, we want to thank you, our audience, and our Symphony Supporters, and the superb staff of Lifepoint Auditorium for their continued support. Also thanks to Pat Neidich and the Liberty High School drumline, and to Kathryn Buchanan and the Spotsylvania High School orchestra for their great pre-concert performance in the lobby. We hope you have a joyous holiday season and Happy New Year.

Kevin P. Bartram

Dr. Kevin P. Bartram, Music Director
Fredericksburg Symphony Orchestra

Pre-Concert Performance by the Spotsylvania High School Chamber Orchestra Kathryn Buchanan, Director

SAVE THE DATE!

- Friday, February 9-Valentine's Special "Romantic Fantasies"
- Friday, May 24- FSO Guest Artist Series- "Broadway Legends"

PROGRAM

A Christmas Scherzo ..... arr. Don Sebesky

Home for the Holidays ..... Allen/Stillman, arr. Zack Smith

Ukrainian Bell Carol ..... Wilhousky, arr. Hayman

Parade of the Wooden Soldiers ..... Jessel, arr. Hermann

A Swingin' Christmas ..... arr. Althouse
Somewhere in My Memory ..... Williams, arr. Snyder/Smith
The Virginia Children's Chorus

Belle of the Ball ..... Leroy Anderson

O Come, O Come Emmanuel ..... arr. Matt Riley
Bruce Middle, guitar

INTERMISSION

Bahn Frei Polka, op. 45 ..... Eduard Strauss

Pacem Noel ..... arr. Clark

Festive Sounds of Hanukkah ..... arr. Holcombe

The Nutcracker Suite ..... Tchaikovsky
I. Overture
II. Waltz of the Flowers

Jingle all the Way Medley ..... arr. Clydesdale
The Virginia Children's Chorus

Christmas Sing-A-Long ..... arr. Cerulli

Do You Hear What I Hear? ..... arr. Riley
James Pitts, piano

Block of complimentary student tickets sponsored by LifeCare Medical Transports.

Use of recording devices is prohibited.

FSO PERSONNEL

VIOLIN I
Robyn Bauer
Concertmaster
-The Sheldon Lampert Concertmaster Chair-
Kelsey Payne
Assoc. Concertmaster
Rachel Pitts
Dina Felts
Marissa Resmini
Charles Stout
Peter Wong

VIOLIN II
Nathan Wisniewski *-Principal*
John-Rine Zabanal *- Ass't Principal*
Anna Sammel
Carly Steenstra
Michael Sienkowski
Michele Kucic
Tia Hederer Iverson
Kathy Buchanan

VIOLA
Sandy Goldie *-Principal*
Laura O'Konski *-Ass't Principal*
Rob Leong
Kaylee Payne
Eleanor Plunkett
Jilleen Giroux Read
Cynthia Dement

CELLO
Katherine Colburn *-Principal*
Christine Abeel *-Ass't Principal*
Anna Miller
Debra Anker
Christine Hartigan
Jacob Dean
Lucas Miller
Hannah Gould

BASS
Raymond Irving *-Principal*
Zachary Smith
Alex Rodriguez
Bryan Haderlie
Joey Lane

FLUTE
Marla Snyder *-Principal*
Deb Clare

PICCOLO
Katie Highfill

OBOE
Mary McClain *-Principal*
Brendan Shirk

ENGLISH HORN
Brendan Shirk

CLARINET
Nicholas Belby *-Principal*
-The Mary Wynn Richmond McDaniel Principal Clarinet Chair-
Tony Moran

BASS CLARINET
Jay Niepoetter

BASSOON
Walter Wynn *-Principal*
Jarrett Rodriguez*-Assoc. Principal*
Karen O'Donoghue

TRUMPET
Pat Neidich *-Principal*
-The Tessa and William Pou Principal Trumpet Chair-
Zachary Smith
Mike Huffman

HORN
Damien Bollino *-Co-Principal*
-The Mary Jane and Ron Branscome Principal Horn Chair-
Ryan Scott *-Ass't Principal*
Christopher Short
Liz Deavers

TROMBONE
Eddie Steenstra *-Principal*
Douglas Haas
Earl Sam

BASS TROMBONE
James Breakiron

TUBA
Gary Carper
-The Susan and Alfred Roth Principal Tuba Chair-

PERCUSSION
Nora McIntire *-Principal*
Kaitlin Gimm
David Vita
Andrew Sheloski
Annamarie Eure*-FSO Student Intern*
Wright Stokes*-FSO Student Intern*
Tenor Drum -Amarius Tibbs-Hoeffer
Snare Drum -Jaedon Riehl
Bass Drums -Jason Brod, Jaina Witt
Cymbals -Nathaly Reyes

HARP
Anastasia Pike

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Did you know? Approximately 55% of this season's operating budget comes from ticket sales. The remaining 45% comes from the generosity of Symphony Supporters. Truly, YOU make performances like tonight possible. If you are not yet a Symphony Supporter, please consider joining like-minded community members to ensure the future of this great orchestra. All donations are tax-deductible. Thank you for your ongoing support, and we look forward to welcoming you back to Lifepoint Auditorium in 2024 for Valentine's Special - "Romantic Fantasies" -

Scan the QR code to make your gift today, or for text-to-give.
Thank you!

Maestro Kevin Bartram



Dr. Bartram has done it all in the field of music: celebrated conductor of both orchestras and bands, author, researcher, and guest speaker. With over 30 years' experience directing groups from the high school to college and professional ranks, he has a track record of producing extraordinary results. His high school groups were among the finest in the nation, earning a Grammy Signature Award in 2001 for Top 100 Program in the United States and an Exemplary Music Program Award from the Maryland Music Educators Association.

At the University of Mary Washington (2002-2020), he conducted the UMW Philharmonic Orchestra and taught courses in music education. In 2004, he created the Philharmonic Celebrity Series, which annually brought in world-class artists to perform with the college-community orchestra here in Fredericksburg. Artists included Itzhak Perlman, Renee Fleming, Sir James Galway, Joshua Bell, Kenny Rogers, Michael Feinstein, Tony Bennett, the Canadian Brass, Judy Collins, Nadya Salerno-Sonnenberg, Jose Carreras, Marvin Hamlisch, Kristin Chenoweth, and Paul Anka. He also added guest narrators including LeVar Burton and Henry Winkler.

Maestro Bartram became President of the College Orchestra Directors Association in 2017, after having served as the organization's first National Development Director, Vice-President, and President-elect. He has also served the Fredericksburg community in several capacities. In 2010, he joined the Arts Commission, eventually becoming Chairman, where he founded the Via Colori arts festival and led the effort to establish an Arts and Cultural District in Fredericksburg. He also served on the EDA Advisory Committee and as a member of the Rappahannock Rotary.

As a writer, Bartram has published several national articles on teaching and conducting and published a book in 2022 entitled "Great Teachers: Exploring Excellence in Education." Based on 15 years of observation and research, the book profiles and analyzes the technique of America's most iconic teachers across a wide spectrum of disciplines.

In 2021, Bartram returned to his roots as a K-12 teacher in the Fredericksburg City Schools. Seeking to give back to the community, he joined the staff at James Monroe High School and Walker-Grant Middle School as orchestra director. Under his direction, the JMHS orchestra has earned first place and Superior Ratings at competitions all three years. The JMHS orchestra also performed the World Premiere of Brian Balmages' "Ode to a Joyride" with the FSO this past October. His new Chamber Orchestras at Walker-Grant and JMHS have also performed several times for community functions.

He has a Bachelor of Music Education from Northwestern University, a Masters of Music in Orchestral Conducting from the University of Missouri-Columbia, and a Doctor of Music Education from Shenandoah Conservatory.

Virginia Children's Chorus
Dr. Matthew Russell, Chamber Singers Director

Since 1992, the Virginia Children's Chorus has been teaching children of all backgrounds to sing with joy! Recognized as "Hampton Roads' premiere children's chorus," the VCC is a choir school committed to training the voice as well as offering extraordinary concert opportunities. The VCC believes that singing is every child's birthright, awakening the heart and mind to its fullest potential. Five choir levels meet the needs of each developing singer. Our mission is to develop: the child – cultivating each singer's vocal talents and musicianship skills; the ensemble- performing beautiful choral music with feeling and artistry; and the community - commissioning new works for children's choirs and sharing the life-affirming gifts of music with our region and the world. VCC's singers, ages 5-18, come from every corner of southeastern Virginia. Now celebrating its 32nd season, VCC sings in concerts throughout the community and on tour. Performing in Home for the Holidays today is our Chamber Singers, which is our advanced choir for girls in 11th & 12th grade and boys with changed or changing voices. Boys and girls, from K through 12th grade, are invited to our auditions in January, June and August. Beginners and advanced older singers are welcome! Visit the VCC website: www.vachildrenschorus.org.



Dr. Matthew N. Russell is the Virginia Children's Chorus Chamber Singers director. He is an Associate Professor of Music and Music Education and Co-coordinator of Graduate Music Studies at Norfolk State University. His research interests include generative music learning and teaching, choral repertoire, and conducting pedagogy. Dr. Russell earned his DMA in conducting at The Ohio State University and the BS and MM (choral/vocal music education and conducting) from The Pennsylvania State University. An active festival conductor, adjudicator, and collaborator, he also serves as the Minister of Music and the Arts at New Horizons Presbyterian Church in Norfolk, VA, and is President-elect of the Virginia Chapter of the American Choral Directors Association.



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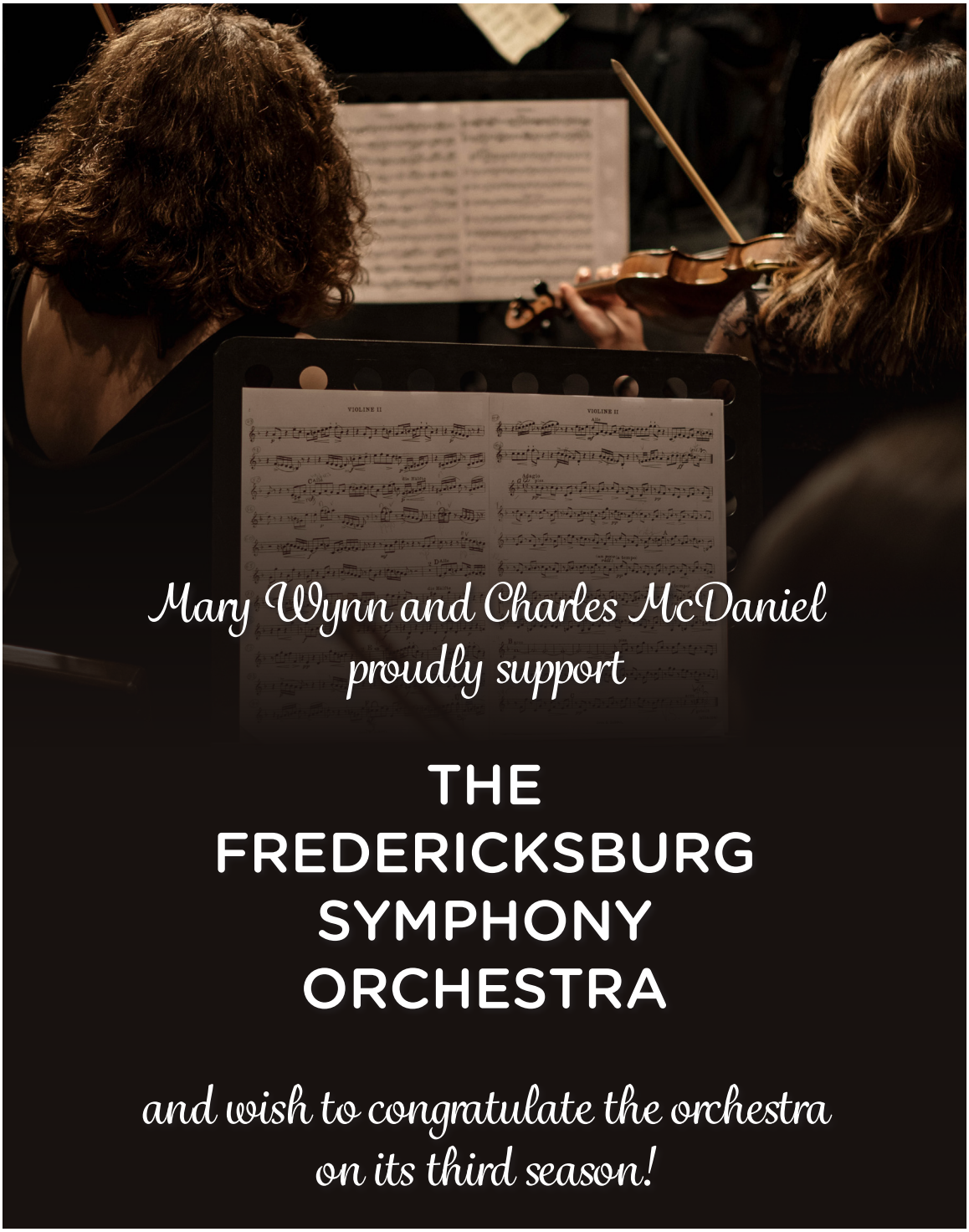


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Scheherazade and the Persian King

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