

The Village Voices Chorus

Dr. John T. Lowe, Jr., Conductor

Paul Hoffmann, Accompanist

presents

I Hear America Singing



Featured Classical Guitarist
Daniel Sarkela

Songs from:
Beautiful – The Carole King Musical
The Sound of Music
and
much more!

North Lake Presbyterian Church

Tuesday, October 17, 2023

6:00 pm

Dr. JOHN T. LOWE, Jr. is a native of Lynchburg, Virginia. He received the Bachelor of Science degree in Organ Performance from Liberty University in 1993, the double Master of Music degree in Organ Performance and Choral Conducting from the University of Alabama in 1996, and the Doctor of Music degree in Organ Performance and Church Music from Indiana University, Bloomington, in 2005. His teachers include David Charles Campbell, George B. Clark, the late J. Warren Hutton, Larry Smith, and Christopher Young in organ, and Sandra Willetts in conducting. In September 2007, he assumed the duties of Director of Music and Organist at Gainesville, Florida's Holy Trinity Episcopal Church, where he oversees the parish music programs and plays the three-manual, forty-nine rank Visser-Rowland organ in liturgies and concerts. Since 2014 he has served as Conductor of The Village Voices Chorus, having accompanied the group from 2010-2014. He has also served as Dean and Sub-Dean of the Gainesville Chapter of the American Guild of Organists.

Previously, Dr. Lowe was Music Director and Organist at Ocala's First United Methodist Church from 2003-2007, the Artistic Director and Conductor of the Central Florida Master Choir, and Dean of the Ocala Chapter of the American Guild of Organists.

Dr. Lowe has been a prizewinner in local, regional, and national competitions. In 1991 he was first place winner of the American Guild of Organists Regional Competition for Young Organists in Annapolis, Maryland, and in 1996 the second place winner of the San Marino, California Organ Competition. In 1998 and 1999, he was one of 25 young artists invited to compete in both the opening rounds of the Calgary International Organ Competition and the American Guild of Organists' National Young Artists Competition in Organ Performance, respectively. He has performed recitals in Alabama, California, the District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Indiana, Maryland, Massachusetts, New York, Ohio, Tennessee, and Virginia. His accompanying engagements have taken him to the Czech Republic, Germany, Austria, New Zealand, and Australia.

Paul Hoffmann, pianist, arranger, composer and conductor, studied at the Eastman School and Peabody Conservatory, was a Fulbright Scholar studying in Austria in Salzburg at the "Mozarteum," and at the Vienna Musikhochschule. Famous pianist, Rudolf Serkin, said of Hoffmann's playing, "He is a true artist." As a professor of classical piano, he taught piano performance at The Mason Gross School of the Arts at Rutgers University from 1980 to 2016. While there he served as piano department chair and conducted the Helix New Music Ensemble which he founded in 1990.

Hoffmann's main piano teachers were Leon Fleisher, famous Swiss pedagogue Cecile Genhart, Brooks Smith who was the accompanist of Yasha Heifitz, and many more. During his career, Mr. Hoffmann has performed hundreds of solo and chamber music concerts in North America, Europe and Asia. He has made over 30 recordings, has recorded live for U.S. radio stations in New York City (WNYC), and for foreign radio stations such as Radio Cologne, Radio Frankfurt, Radio France, and Voice of America.

PROGRAM

The Village Voices Fall Concert 2023

I HEAR AMERICA SINGING

America

I Hear America Singing
The Star-Spangled Banner
For Spacious Skies

arr. André J. Thomas
arr. Eleanor Daley
arr. David L. Brunner

Classical

Jesus, Sun of Life, My Splendor
Zadok The Priest

George Frideric Handel
George Frideric Handel

Pop

Beautiful – The Carole King Musical
I Feel the Earth Move
On Broadway

arr. Roger Emerson

1650 Broadway Medley

Splish Splash
Love Potion Number 9
Poison Ivy
Yakety Yak
There Goes My Baby
Stupid Cupid

The Ballads

So Far Away *Soloist - Vicki Yates*
It's Too Late
Will You Still Love Me Tomorrow *Soloists - Lyle and Denise Johnson*

Beautiful *Soloist - Kristin Miller*

Poetry

The Lake Isle (W.B. Yeats)

Ola Gjeilo

Sacred

Come Sunday *Soloist - Rhonda Heller*
Simple Gifts
How Great Thou Art

arr. Dave Flanigan
arr. Mack Wilberg
arr. Dan Forrest

Film

The Sound of Music
The Sound of Music
My Favorite Things
Do – Re – Mi
Climb Ev'ry Mountain

arr. Clay Warnick

Lisa Sullivan – Narrator

The Village Voices Chorus

Soprano

| | | | |
|-----------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Ann Barber | R. Marcia Gould # | Angela May | Kathy Scott |
| Susan Bartlett | Carol Guglielm ** | Roxy Meloy | Pat Smith * |
| Beth Beard | Marilyn Hanson | Mary Lou Merkner | Evangeline Taylor |
| Sue Biondi | Rhonda Heller | Kristin Miller | Cindy Van Lom |
| Carol Broos # | Val Hirsch *# | Carolyn Moores * | Sunny Watson |
| HC Burich | Julia Johansson | Patricia Murphy | Teri Weed # |
| Joy Campbell * | Sheila Jones | Jeanne Phillips | Pat Witzeman * |
| Barbara Carroll | Donna Kagan # | Sheila Phillips * | Diana Wygand ** |
| Chris Colegrove | Janet Kobar * | Cindy Poet ** | |
| Amy Cornwall-Robinson | Carole Makus ** | Linda Rosalsky | |
| Marie Erline * | Cak Marshall | Sally Schmidt * | |

Alto

| | | | |
|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Robin Ablett | Artie Ferrell | Martha Krichbaum | Cheryl Raynor |
| Peg Burnett * | Rose Marie Heenan | Janet Landry | Carolyn Reichert |
| Debbie Carter * | Anne Hollinger * | Dee Logé-Wacker # | Kristine Smoker |
| Donna Cipollone * | Bobbie Huddle | Margo McGinnis | Posie Stock * |
| Geryle Conway # | Roxie Jacobson | Carol McNeill | Lisa Sullivan |
| Peg Cunningham * | Denise Johnson | Peggy Mills | Crystal Urosovich |
| Ann Curton | Mary Jo Johnson | Mary Nadeau | Reina Wang |
| Emily Dorman | Diane Jones | Joan O'Donnell | Mary Williams |
| Sarah Dudak | Lynn Kelley | Shirley Palazzo * | Anne Wolpert |
| Martha Ecker | Jackie Knight | Linda Quinn | Vicki Yates # |

Tenor

| | | | |
|------------------|----------------|-------------------|----------------|
| Karen Brown | Lyle Johnson | Ben Osborne * | Bob Taylor * |
| Jerry Denor | David Kirk | Andy Phillips # | Jeffrey Taylor |
| David Flanigan * | David Lance | Tim Plenk | |
| Robert Hilkemann | Tom Meloy # | Jeremy Reynolds * | |
| Beverly Jeczalik | Laurie Morrill | Jack Strite # | |

Bass

| | | | |
|--------------------|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Jack Adams ** | Dick Gainer | Gary Pratt | Ed Stromski |
| Dan Barnes | Ralph Gingery *# | Virgil Reyes | Eldon Taylor |
| Brent Bierma * | Clayton Heath | Richard Ripp | Gordon Temple * |
| Wayne Cunkelman ** | Al Hellwege * | Rocco Russomano | Lamar Young *# |
| Jim Cunningham * | Hank Hovemeyer | Dennis Smoker | |
| Scott Downing * | Jim McQuinnif | Dick Stock * | |
| Dave Fuller * | David Paiga * | John Stranges | |

** Members for 20 or more years * Members for 10 or more years # Board Members

Featured Poet - William Butler Yeats

W. B. Yeats was born on June 13, 1865 in Sandymount, Dublin, Ireland. He was educated in London and Dublin. His early summers were spent at the family's summer house which was located in the west of Ireland at Connaught. Yeats wrote in English and is viewed by many as one of the outstanding and most influential 20th century poets. He was awarded the 1923 Nobel Prize in Literature. His poem, *The Lake Isle at Innisfree*, was written in 1888, and provides a magical, serene expression of the feeling of nostalgia. Yeats passed away on January 28, 1939. We hope that you enjoy our presentation this evening of *The Lake Isle*. If you are interested in learning more about William Butler Yeats and his prolific writings, access his biography on the website www.nobelprize.org.



Daniel Sarkela is a rising star in the classical guitar world based in Gainesville, Florida. Originally from South Carolina, Daniel is pursuing a master's degree in Classical guitar performance and ethnomusicology from the University of Florida under the tutelage of Dr. Silviu Ciulei. Throughout the years, Daniel has performed internationally as both a soloist and ensemble member at Carnegie Hall in New York, the Paris Conservatory in France, and the Universidad central de Quito of Ecuador. He has received

numerous awards in prestigious competitions such as the Florida State Guitar Festival, Appalachian State Guitar Festival, and the University of Florida Guitar Extravaganza. Daniel is passionate about Latin American music and includes his ethnomusicological studies in his repertoire to craft a unique concert experience.

Instrumentalists

Violin

Brett Bechakas
Maluh de Felice

Piccolo /Flute

Brian Logan
Linda Stromski

Trombone

Ed Stromski

Viola

Virginia Lamboley

Clarinet/Tenor Sax

Jim Cassara

Drums/Timpani

Rod Jacob

Bass

Dan Peterson

Trumpet

Lew Buckley
Doug Purcell

Percussion

Linda Quinn

Cello

Lyle Lamboley

Guitar

Daniel Sarkela

Organ/Keyboard

Chris Goddard

Upcoming Concerts for The Village Voices Chorus

December 14, 2023

March 12, 2024

Please know that your attendance at our concerts combined with the very generous donations received from our Patrons, Sponsors, and Benefactors, enable the Chorus to lend support and aide to a number of area groups, individuals, and charitable organizations. We filter all that we do through our motto of Harmony • Charity • Education and sincerely appreciate all that you do to help us accomplish our mission. As a result of the proceeds from last season's Silver Anniversary celebrations combined with the very generous donations received from our many friends, we were able to contribute \$48,000 to area groups, individuals, and charitable organizations. Thank you.

Patrons, Sponsors, Benefactors

Diamond (\$1,000 and up)

Anonymous
Carol Guglielm
Dee Logé-Wacker
Tom & Roxy Meloy
Diana Wygand

In memory of Douglas F. Wacker, MD

Platinum (\$500 – \$999)

Pat Witzeman

In memory of husband, Jim and grandson, Liam

Gold (\$250 – \$499)

Carol Broos
Joy Campbell
Marcia Gould
Reina Wang & Henry Mendenhall
Vicki Yates

*In memory of Lindsay Margaret Wanish
(daughter, forever 20)*

Silver (\$100 – \$249)

Debbie & John Carter
Amy Cornwall-Robinson
David Flanigan
Dick Gainer
Jackie Knight
Janet & Mike Landry
Carole Makus
Carol Mc Neill
Jim McQuinniff
Mary Lou Merkner
Andy & Jeanne Phillips
Dick & Posie Stock
Narda Vega

In memory of Judy Joray and Donna Davidson

In memory of Roger McNeill

In honor of all young singers

In memory of our parents

Bronze (\$10 – \$99)

Jack Adams
Karen Brown
Peg Burnett
Geryle Conway
Wayne Cunkelman
Jim & Peg Cunningham
Marie Erline
Clayton Heath
Rose Marie Heenan
Al & Ellen Hellwege
Julia Johansson
Donna Kagan
Cak Marshall
Margo McGinnis
Carolyn Moores
Laurie Morrill
Joan O'Donnell
Ben Osborne
Sheila Phillips
Bob Taylor
Evangeline Taylor
Mary Williams

Celebrating my 25th year as a member

In honor of my wife, Donna

In honor of my daughter's music career

In honor of Village Voices board members

In honor of our Village Voices Maestro, John Lowe

In memory of Jennifer Cira, Daughter

In memory of Oscar Dahle

In memory of loved ones

In memory of Pat Taylor

For Jeff who made this possible for me

In Appreciation

North Lake Presbyterian Church

- Rev. Dr. Jeff Hosmer, Sr. Pastor
- Shawn Smith, Associate Pastor
- Liz Smith, Congregational Care Pastor
- Lynn Miller, Visitation Pastor
- Kathy Yoakum, Office Manager
- David Paul, Buildings and Grounds
- Ben Rogers, AV Technician
- Jared Hestor, AV Technician
- Sallie Matteson, Traditional Music Assistant

Lake County Sheriff Office

For Special Services

- Dr. Sandra Willetts – Conductor Emeritus
- Robert T. Heagy, III – Ocala Copy Center
- Diana Wygand, Carole Makus – Music Librarians
- Ralph Gingery – Artistic Liaison and Special Orchestrations
- Teri Weed, Dee Logé-Wacker, Tom Meloy, Pamela Ripp – Publicity
- Carol Broos – Information Technologies
- Jack Strite – Program
- Teri Weed – Stage Manager
- Board of Directors - Village Voices Chorus

The Village Voices Chorus thanks you for your support in our quest to preserve and perform the great music of the ages. Your attendance at our concerts and the many generous donations we receive from our loyal patrons enable us to support the professional efforts of local musicians, to contribute to local charities such as Operation Homebound of the North Lake Presbyterian Church, and through our cooperative efforts with the Howard Schwartz Music Scholarship we assist talented young musicians accomplish their dreams of a baccalaureate degree in the fine arts. Thank you for helping us to achieve our vision of
Harmony • Charity • Education

If you would like to become a donor and participate in our Annual Fund Raising Project for the 2023– 2024 season, please indicate your preference and complete the brief form below, and then send this sheet along with your donation to:

Village Voices Chorus, Inc
P.O. Box 485
Lady Lake, FL 32158

The Village Voices Chorus is an IRS 501(c)(3) organization. Your donation is tax deductible.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Please list the name of the person you are remembering or honoring through your donation.

Make checks payable to The Village Voices Chorus.

THE VILLAGE VOICES CHORUS



THE VILLAGES, FL

Harmony • Charity • Education



To our families, friends, and loyal supporters, the Village Voices Chorus extends a warm and heartfelt welcome to this opening concert of our 26th performance season. Knowing that you have a wide variety of entertainment choices, we are honored that you have chosen to be with us this evening. From our opening song of "*I Hear America Singing*" to the familiar tunes of Rogers and Hammerstein's "*The Sound of Music*", we think you will agree that tonight's concert was Beautiful ... and much more! Enjoy.

Text of The Lake Isle of Innisfree by William Butler Yeats

*I will arise and go now, and go to Innisfree,
And a small cabin build there, of clay and wattles made:
Nine bean-rows will I have there, a hive for the honey-bee,
And live alone in the bee-loud glade.*

*And I shall have some peace there, for peace comes dropping slow,
Dropping from the veils of the morning to where the cricket sings;
There midnight's all a glimmer, and noon a purple glow,
And evening full of the linnet's wings.*

*I will arise and go now, for always night and day
I hear lake water lapping with low sounds by the shore;
While I stand on the roadway, or on the pavements grey,
I hear it in the deep heart's core.*

Auditions

The Chorus actively recruits and welcomes new members. Auditions are held in August and January of each performance season. As a result of the auditions held on August 16, 2023, we had 13 new singers join the Chorus. If you would like to try out for the Chorus, Dr. Lowe will conduct the second auditions for this season on January 10, 2024. Visit our website, complete and submit the on-line audition request form, and our Membership Chairperson, Val Hirsch, will contact you.

Visit our website for ticket and for audition information:

www.TheVillageVoicesChorus.org