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PRESIDENT'S LETTER 2020-2021 CONCERT SEASON

To our Dedicated Fans and Supporters,

"Ad Astra per Aspera"

The Latin phrase "Ad Astra per Aspera" is translated as "To the Stars through Difficulty." It has been used in various forms for everything from the state motto of Kansas to various scientific and space exploits.

It is a universal consensus that we have all been through difficulties in this COVID year and a half. Lives upended, businesses favored or negatively impacted by the odd fortunes of a pandemic. The Baytown Symphony Orchestra has experienced it firsthand with cancelled performances, lost opportunities, and the odd and discomforting feeling of time passing without benefit of public performance.

The BSO has worked hard to preserve its core group of players and maintain our mission of presenting fine music to its community. This effort involved taking our concerts online, a "virtual" concert that our community could enjoy at home via the internet. Our first concert last December was entitled "BSO at Home" and was well received.

Our latest presentation is "Broadway in Baytown." Our full orchestra was recorded at Rundell Hall on the Lee College campus. We followed health and safety protocols in place at the time. This also marks the final performance of Katie Cash and Jason Richards with the BSO as they embark on their next journey into college. All of us at the BSO thank both Katie and Jason for their dedication and wish them well on their future musical endeavors.

Clarence Frank, our new Music Director, leads the BSO through a selection of hit musical songs from Broadway's star performers, favorite songwriters, and composers. A medley of Broadway hits leads us into the concert, followed by select pieces from *Les Misérables, Fiddler on the Roof, Over the Rainbow*, and a resounding finish of *West Side Story*.

The BSO is now planning its 54th season, one that will bring us back to live concerts at the Performing Arts Center in the fall. On behalf of the BSO Board of Directors, I want to express our gratitude for the community's continuing support. During this difficult past year, the donors and patrons, along with our viewers and advertisers, have helped preserve the BSO. We look forward to seeing you back at our concerts. Now, get set to start on a wonderful musical journey.

Sincerely,

Jeff Hawkins, President

The Baytown Symphony Orchestra Board of Directors

Mary F. Hewitt, M.D., P.A.

Ivy McKinney, PhD, FNP-C, ENP-C, R.N.

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PROGRAM

Broadway Tonight?

arr. Bruce Chase

Over The Rainbow from The Wizard of Oz

Symphonic Dances from Fiddler on the Roof

Harold Arlen (1905-1986) arr. Charles Sayer

> Jerry Bock (1928-2010) arr. Ira Hearshen

Selections from Les Misérables

West Side Story Selections for Orchestra

Claude-Michel Schoneberg (b. 1944) arr. Bob Lowden

> Leonard Bernstein (1918-1990) arr. Jack Mason

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Conductor and Music Director: Clarence Frank Orchestra Representative to the Board of Directors: James Marioneux Conductor Emeritus: David Corder, EdD

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The Board of Directors would like to express its appreciation to the following: Donors – for your continued support; Advertisers – whose support makes our program booklets possible; Music Departments of Lee College; Local 65-699 American Federation of Musicians; Community volunteer orchestra members; and **YOU**, the audience, for your attendance at the concerts.

November 2020

Dear Patron:

The Baytown Symphony Orchestra appreciates your support. The past year has been a difficult one for everyone. With everything that has happened, the Musical Director, Board of Directors, and musicians have worked tirelessly to bring the community great classical music on a redesigned BSO website that offers streaming along with several enhanced services, such as an easier way to show your support through donations.

BSO BAYTOWN SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

Our 53rd season will be the first time we offer a completely digital experience for our patrons. In addition to our new donation system, digital advertisement form, streaming of classical pieces through our website, we are also offering our concert program online and available for downloading in PDF. We hope you enjoy everything that has taken place behind the scenes to make this happen.

As a patron of the BSO, there are many opportunities to support the orchestra. Annual giving is acknowledged on a page in our concert program. Donating is as simple as choosing one of these methods and selecting your sponsorship level:

1. Go to our website - https://baytownsymphony.com/donate.html

We now accept all major credit cards, PayPal, Apple Pay, Google Pay, and ACH (bank draft).

2. Request a donation form and mail back to us

Also, many companies offer matching funds for your donation. We have made it simpler this year where the hard work is done for you. The donation checkout allows you to choose your company and will automatically check if they participate in the match program. There are opportunities to underwrite specific concerts; please contact a board member to discuss these options.

The BSO also encourages individuals to volunteer by becoming an active member of the orchestra board. We hope to see you soon and enjoy together some of Baytown's most beautiful moments with the Baytown Symphony Orchestra!

Sincerely,

, Jeff Hawkins

Jeff Hawkins President, Baytown Symphony Orchestra

PROGRAM NOTES

By Clarence Frank

Broadway Tonight!

The Golden Age of Broadway is alive and well in this fantastic collection of some of the most award-winning musicals in the history of Broadway. Such shows as *Gypsy*, *The Fantasticks*, and *The Sound of Music* are all represented along with great writers such as Harvey Schmidt, Arthur Schwartz, and Jule Styne. These tunes were made popular by some of the greatest actors/actresses to grace the stage. Barbara Streisand, Ethel Murman, and Tom Jones are just to name a few.

Over The Rainbow from *The Wizard of Oz*

This beautiful ballad was written in 1939 for the film *The Wizard of Oz.* It was sung by Judy Garland and won the Academy Award for "Best Original Song." It became Judy Garland's signature song. Harold Arlen and lyricist Yip Harburg worked together to compose music for the film. Harburg claimed his inspiration was a ballad for a little girl who wanted to get away from Kansas, a very dry and colorless place. He said the girl had never seen anything colorful except for the rainbow. Arlen would often carry pieces of blank paper in his pocket to jot down musical ideas. One day as he and his wife were driving to see Grauman's Chinese Theater, he asked her to pull over as he was suddenly inspired to write the melody to what we now know as "Over the Rainbow."

Symphonic Dances from Fiddler on the Roof

Fiddler on the Roof is based on *Tevye and His Daughters*, a series of stories written by Scholem Aleichem. It was based on life in a Jewish village in the Pale Settlement of Imperial Russia. Aleichem wrote a dramatic adaptation of the stories that was left unfinished due to his death. It was later picked up in the 1950s and was made into a musical which was produced Off-Broadway by Rodgers and Hammerstein. Mike Todd briefly considered bringing it to Broadway but dropped the idea. Investors and some media worried that it may be "too Jewish" to attract mainstream audiences. The show found the right balance for its time to become one of the most popular post-Holocaust depictions of the Eastern Europe Jewish world.

The Dances heard in this arrangement are a replica of the celebration of dance that the Jewish culture celebrates at different occasions. Most are performed at weddings. The most popular ones are the bottle dance and the wedding dance. Also heard in this arrangement are popular tunes from the musical such as "Tradition," and "To Life."



MUSICIAN PROFILE KATHERINE CASH

atie began playing the bass in 6th grade at Gentry Junior School under the direction of Mrs. Christina Marioneaux. After playing all three years in junior high, she joined the Goose Creek Memorial High School Orchestra under the leadership of Jarrod Kennedy. She received the honor of making the Region 19 Orchestra 6 times in junior high and high school. Katie began playing in the bass section of the Baytown Symphony during her freshman year. In the fall, Katie will begin her college career at University of Texas in Arlington studying music education. Her hard work and perseverance has earned her an academic scholarship and a music scholarship. She is currently ranked no. 7 in her graduating class at Goose Creek Memorial High School.



JASON RICHARDS



ason began playing the viola in 6th grade at Highlands Junior School under the leadership of Mrs. Cindy McMurrey. He excelled on the viola so quickly that he was encouraged to audition for the Baytown Symphony while in the 8th grade. He has been performing with the group ever since. Upon entering 9th grade, he joined the Goose Creek Memorial High School Orchestra under the leadership of Jarrod Kennedy. He quickly became a leader in the viola section. That same year, he was selected to be a member of the prestigious Houston Youth Symphony. Jason was also a 6 time member of the Region 19 Orchestra and 3 of those years earned him a place in the Area Orchestra through the Texas All State Orchestra Auditions. In the fall, Jason plans to attend the University of Rochester.



BAYTOWN SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA BROADWAY IN BAYTOWN

BSO HISTORY

ore than five decades ago in 1968, Dr. David Corder, the esteemed founder and longtime conductor of the Baytown Symphony Orchestra (BSO), had a vision. His goal was to introduce classical music to the greater Baytown area, and he succeeded wonderfully. Dennis Eichler and then Pierre-Alain Chevalier, who both followed, continued the tradition of leading an excellent orchestra and providing the local community with classical and modern music. Now, Clarence Frank, Music Director, leads the BSO on musical extravaganzas.

It is worth noting that education played a major role in Dr. Corder's planning. Encouraging young students to study music was a key part of the program. Evidence today confirms that young people, who participate in orchestras, bands, and the fine arts, perform better as students. Moreover, orchestra programs in the schools are receiving greater support after years of decline.

The BSO is made up of musically talented local citizens. Additional professional musicians are utilized to provide a balanced ensemble for each concert. The Baytown Symphony Orchestra's operating income is derived from concert program advertising, patron donations, corporate direct and matching gifts, ticket sales, grants, and the annual fundraising gala.

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HOW YOU CAN SUPPORT THE BSO

The BSO Board of Directors is a group of dedicated volunteers whose mission is to continue to preserve this community gem for generations to come. But we cannot do it without the community's help! There are many ways to support your BSO, such as...

- □ Attend our concerts. Better yet, become a season ticket holder or bring a friend!
- Join us for an evening out for one of our special events such as our annual fund raiser drive. Enjoy food, great company and beautiful music!
- **D** Place an ad in the concert program.
- □ **Make a donation** and apply for any matching grants that may be available to you.
- □ Sponsor a concert performance.
- **Become an active volunteer member** of the orchestra board.
- Email info@baytownsymphony.com.
 for other ways to get involved.

The Baytown Symphony Orchestra is a 501(c)3 charitable organization. All contributions are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.

SUPPORT THE BSO WHEN YOU SHOP!

In addition to your generous responses to our regular fundraising efforts, there are additional ways you can donate a little extra by participating in the community support programs of the vendors listed below. Here are some of the ways you can enhance your normal giving:

- □ To link your Amazon account to Amazon Smile, go to **smile.amazon.com**.
- Enter your Amazon username and password.
- Select Baytown Symphony Orchestra as your charity.
- □ Shop Amazon to donate 0.5% your eligible purchases to the BSO.
- Remember to always go to smile.amazon.com when shopping at Amazon!

All you have to do is shop at Kroger and use your Kroger Plus Card.



- Go to **www.kroger.com/account** to sign in or register a new account.
- Enroll or update your "Community Rewards" recipient to the BSO number 10201 under "My Account".
- Don't forget to re-link your Kroger card beginning each August 1st!

CREDIT CARD DONATIONS & SUBSCRIPTIONS

Go to **www.baytownsymphony. com/donate** or use the QR code to make a one-time donation, or better yet, become a subscribing donor with an automatic monthly donation.



MAIL-IN DONATIONS

You can mail a donation check to: Baytown Symphony Orchestra PO Box 2217 Baytown, TX 77522

Please include information on Matching Funds and dedication information, if applicable.

ATTEND OUR CONCERTS AND FUNCTIONS

Check out **www.baytownsymphony.com** for information about the orchestra including concert schedules and programs for all the performances.

Need tickets? They can be purchased through our web site or at the Lee College Performing Arts Center box office between 8:00 am and 5:00 pm Monday through Thursday, Friday between 8:00 am and noon, or after 5:30 pm on the day of a concert.

Keep track of everything BSO with our online calendar by using the QR code! It is automatically updated with information on all our events with the convenience of being accessible from the calendar on your phone.



PROGRAM NOTES (CONTINUED)

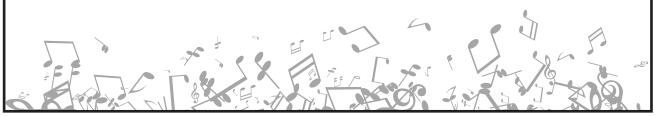
Selections from Les Misérables

Sometimes known as *Les Mis* or *Les Miz*, this musical is an adaptation of Victor Hugo's novel of the same name. The musical is referred to as a sung-through musical in which all speaking parts and songs are sung. The original musical premiered in Paris in 1980. Set in the late 19th Century France, *Les Misérables* is the story of Jean Valjean, a peasant, who is released from prison after serving 19 years for stealing a loaf of bread for his sister's starving child. After he experiences an act of mercy from a bishop, Valjean decides to start his life anew. While doing so, he is being tracked down by a police officer named Javert. They are then swept into the 1832 rebellion in France where some younger idealists attempt to overthrow the government.

Claude-Michel Schoneberg and Allain Boublil collaborated to create the incredible musical score for *Les Mis*. The Broadway production was nominated for 12 Tony Awards in 1987 and received 8 including Best Musical and Best Original Score.

West Side Story Selections for Orchestra

Inspired by William Shakespeare's play *Romeo and Juliet, West Side Story* is set in the mid-1950s in the Upper West Side of New York City, a multiracial, blue collar neighborhood. It tells the stories of rival gangs the Jets and the Sharks, two teenage gangs of different ethnic backgrounds. The Sharks are mostly immigrants from Puerto Rico who are taunted by the Jets, an all-white gang. The main characters are Tony, a former member of the Jets, and Maria, sister of the leader of the Sharks. These two characters fall in love which causes great conflicts with the rival gangs. The extended dance scenes focus on social problems, and sophisticated music marked a turning point in musical theatre. The first production premiered in 1957 on Broadway and ran for 732 performances. It was nominated for 6 Tony Awards including Best Musical. Leonard Bernstein and Stephen Sondheim collaborated to create the music and lyrics to some of the best well known ballads and dance numbers in the history of Broadway. This arrangement joins together "I Feel Pretty", "Maria", "Something's Coming", "Tonight", "One Hand, One Heart", "Cool", and "America."





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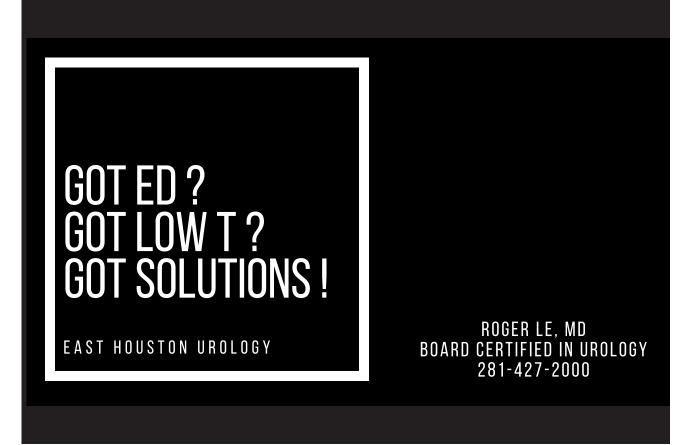
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MUSIC DIRECTOR CLARENCE FRANK

larence Frank was born and raised in Baytown, Texas, and started his musical journey in the 6th grade at Cedar Bayou Junior School playing cello in the orchestra. He continued playing all through high school, graduating from Sterling High School, and then receiving his Bachelor of Music Education from Northwestern State University in Natchitoches, LA. While at NSU, he studied cello with Richard Rose and conducting with Dr. George Adams. After graduating with honors, he began teaching orchestra in the Goose Creek public schools. He taught for 16 years and then desired to transition to higher education. He received a Master of Music Degree in Conducting from Sam Houston State University studying with Dr. Jacob Sustaita and Dr. Daniel Saenz.

Clarence continues to teach eager students through private cello studies and as the Director of Performing Arts for Baytown Christian Academy serving as the orchestra and choir director for the school. In his young conducting career, he had the privilege of leading the Woodlands Symphony Orchestra, Sam Houston State Symphony Orchestra, the Natchitoches-Northwestern Symphony Orchestra, and the Shreveport Symphony Orchestra.

When not on the podium, Clarence enjoys outdoor sports and is a major Dallas Cowboys fan. He also enjoys playing in the orchestra at Houston's First Baptist Church and the band



at Old River Baptist Church. He also continues to freelance around the Houston area for various events.



BAYTOWN SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

Music Director, Clarence Frank

First Violin

Alan Johnson, *concertmaster* Alisa Pederson Richard Baum Jarrod Kennedy Jason Ashley Vlad Evstafiev John Pinckney

Second Violin

Christine Elston, *principal* Dr. Danny Wong Zelda Faith Jones Elizabeth Protteau Richard Rose Steven Avalos Ruel Cabading

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Cello Maya Dimitroff, *principal* Dawson Gonzales Nancy Francis Linda McGregor Steven Wiggs **Bass** Tim Sloane, *principal* Katherine Cash Grace Lewis Coby Carlson

Piccolo Heather Charron

Flute Amy Wiggs, *principal* Heather Charron

Oboe Bethany Aitken

Clarinet James Marioneaux, *principal* Nancy Angerstein

Bassoon Jesse McClelland, *principal* Robin Alston Corinna Levy

Saxophone Daniel Plaza **Horn** Donna Dvorak, *principal* Tim Smith, *asst. principal* Christina Marioneaux Jeanne Bryant Megan Taylor

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Trumbone Dwight Watson, *principal* Tim Timpani Joe Variant

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BAYTOWN SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA BROADWAY IN BAYTOWN

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- · taking applied music lessons from a seasoned performer
- pursuing an Associate of Creative Arts degree with a Music emphasis

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MUSIC ENSEMBLES AT LEE COLLEGE are open to all Lee College students by audition.

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- Baytown Symphony Orchestra

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For more information about the Music Program at Lee College, please contact one of our music faculty:

DR. KEN BOOKER Instrumental Music kbooker@lee.edu 281.425.6350 DR. CHARLOTTE MUELLER Piano/General Music Courses cmueller@lee.edu 281.425.6858

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