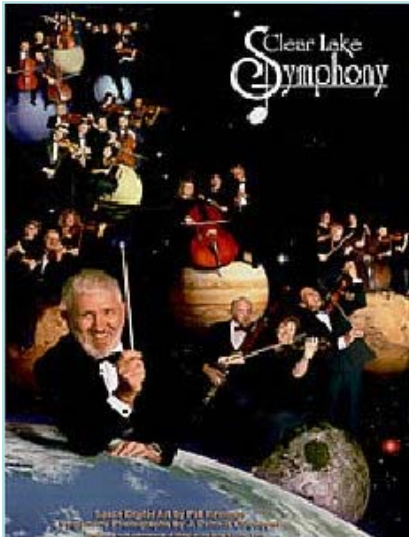


## 2015 - 2016 Fourth Season Concert – February 19, 2016

The Clear Lake Symphony, with Music Director, Dr. Charles Johnson, starts its 40<sup>th</sup> season in the Fall of 2015. The Symphony, recognized as a premiere community orchestra, is a member of ASCAP and BMI. Its goals are to present classical music for the residents of the Bay Area and to provide opportunities for the Bay Area musicians to create a variety of musical experiences for the enjoyment of the community. Six regular season performances including the Christmas “Pops” will be held featuring various classical selections and guest soloists. Join the Symphony as it celebrates its 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary with a “Season of Music” showcasing Shakespeare’s 400<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in musical selections from Shakespeare’s literary works.

All concerts will be held at Gloria Dei Lutheran Church Auditorium, 18220 Upper Bay Road in Nassau Bay across from NASA Johnson Space Center at 7:30 PM (see concert dates on last page of newsletter).



The Clear Lake Symphony will be performing the fourth concert of their 2015-2016 season on Friday, February 19, 2016 at the Gloria Dei Lutheran Church Auditorium located at 18220 Upper Bay Road across from NASA Johnson Space Center. Celebrating their 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary, the Orchestra will perform a season of music showcasing Shakespeare's 400<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Selections will include: Berlioz - *Beatrice et Benedict Overture*; Liszt- *Hamlet Overture*; MacDowell - *Hamlet-Ophelia Overture*; Tchaikovsky - *Romeo et Juliette Overture*; and Tartini - *Trumpet Concerto in D* with guest artist Jim Vassallo. The Orchestra will be led by Dr. Charles Johnson, in his 35<sup>th</sup> year as Conductor & Musical Director of the Clear Lake Symphony.



**Dr. Charles Johnson**  
Conductor  
& Musical Director

Reminder: All concerts will be on **Friday** evenings at 7:30 p.m. For a list of all the season concerts, please click on the following link:


[www.ClearLakeSymphony.org](http://www.ClearLakeSymphony.org)

**Clear Lake Symphony**  
Program February 19, 2016

<i>Romeo et Juliette Overture-Fantaisie</i>	Tchaikowsky
<i>Trumpet Concerto in D Major</i> Grandioso Andante Allegro grazioso	Tartini/Johnson
Jim Vassallo, trumpet	
<b>INTERMISSION</b>	
<i>Overture to "Beatrice et Benedict"</i>	Berlioz
<i>Hamlet und Ophelia</i> Hamlet Ophelia	MacDowell
<i>Hamlet</i>	Liszt

**Dr. Charles A. Johnson**  
Conductor and Musical Director

Schimmel is the official piano of the Clear Lake Symphony



*Next Concert - March 18, 2016 7:30 PM*  
— at Gloria Dei Lutheran Church —

Join the Clear Lake Symphony for a delightful evening of beautiful music featuring the winners of the Youth Concerto Competition in concert.

Concert Tickets are available from Eye Trends, 515 Bay Area Blvd., Suite 300 (next door to Starbucks). Phone number: 281-488-0066. Individual are: \$13 adults, \$10 senior citizens (age 55 & up) & \$8 students. Tickets are also available at the concert ticket table the night of the concert.

## February 19, 2016 Program Notes

**Overture to "William Shakespeare"** by Friedrich Daniel Rudolph Kuhlau (1786 - 1832). Kuhlau was **Peter Ilyich Tschaikowslcy (1840 - 1893)**. **Romeo et Juliette** is an orchestral work based on Shakespeare's play of the same name. Although styled by the composer as an "Overture-Fantasy," the original design is a symphonic poem in sonata form with an introduction and an epilogue. Certain themes represent various characters and episodes in the drama. The *andante* introduction, with its church-like harmonies, depicts Frair Lawrence. The ensuing *allegro*, with its fast scales and rhythms, represents the feuding of the Capulets and the Montagues. The love theme, which is one of Tschaikowsky's most inspired romantic melodies, refers to the doomed love of Romeo and Juliet. The work ends with the deaths of the protagonists. The piece was composed in the latter months of 1869. Tschaikowsky continued to revise it until the final version was completed in 1880, but was not premiered until 1886. This third and final version is the one in the repertoire. The earlier versions are performed occasionally as historical curiosities.

\_\_\_\_\_ excerpts from program notes by Jonathan Kramer

**Giuseppe Tartini (1692-1770)**. Born in Italy, Tartini led a rather chequered life as a composer, violinist, theorist, and even a master swordsman! He wrote over 200 violin concerti, as well as a similar number of chamber works for the instrument, influenced predominantly by Corelli and Vivaldi, yet with a simpler tonal language. Aside from the famous *Devil's Trill Sonata*, Tartini's music is rarely encountered in the concert hall today, save for a few notable transcriptions for wind instruments. The **Concerto in D Major** for trumpet is one such example. Originating a tone higher as the *Violin Concerto in E Major*. The outer movements alternate nimble, fanfare-like motifs with intervening orchestral episodes, while the central *andante* is reminiscent of an operatic aria with discreet accompaniment. Dr. Charles Johnson has orchestrated the trumpet concerto for Clear Lake Symphony and guest artist Jim Vassallo.

\_\_\_\_\_ excerpts from Wikipedia

**Hector Berlioz (1803 - 1869)**. Berlioz completed his opera **Beatrice et Benedict** in 1862. Casino manager, Edouard Benazet built a theater at the resort of Baden-Baden and commissioned Berlioz to write an opera that would open it. It was to be his very last complete work, and the only opera that he had no trouble bringing to performance. Berlioz's lifetime devotion to Shakespeare expressed itself in a comedy adapted from *Much Ado About Nothing*, with its wonderfully fresh and oblique view of love in a story of merry sparing partners in a battle of endless wit. The *Overture* to this lighthearted comedy, perfectly captures its mood of quicksilver brilliance. The composer's own description is perhaps the best: "It is a caprice written with the point of a needle."

\_\_\_\_\_ excerpts from program notes by Steven Ledbetter

**Edward MacDowell (1860 - 1908)**. MacDowell composed his first symphonic poem **Hamlet und Ophelia** in 1884 while living in Germany. Apparently it received its premiere there the next year, accompanied by publications. Hamlet and Ophelia were originally written as two separate works and was later reassembled by MacDowell as one work. In July 1884, the 23 year old MacDowell and his new wife had visited London where they saw productions of several Shakespeare plays including *Hamlet*, *Ophelia*, and *Much Ado About Nothing*. Maybe because of this, MacDowell's *Hamlet* tone poem chooses not to depict the action of the play (unlike Tschaikowsky's *Romeo et Juliette*) but rather gives character sketches of two of its principal characters. The maelstrom of forces at work on Hamlet's character may be detected in the unsettling chromatic passages surrounding MacDowell's slightly brash theme. MacDowell's portrait of Ophelia is less complex-an impressionistic movement based on the Ophelia theme from *Hamlet*, with a contrasting middle section which echoes elements of Wagner's *Tristan and Isolde*.

\_\_\_\_\_ excerpts from program notes by Hill Lloyd

**Franz Liszt (1811 - 1886)** was the inventor of the symphonic poem. **Hamlet** was completed in 1858 and is the tenth of the twelve symphonic poems he wrote during his tenure as Grand Ducal Director of Music Extraordinary at Weimar. *Hamlet* is regarded as one of Liszt's finest and most tightly executed compositions. He intended this brief work as a prelude to Shakespeare's play. Instead of illustrating the play's dramatic flow, however, Liszt renders a character study of the protagonist.

\_\_\_\_\_ excerpts from program notes by Margaret Godfrey

February Guest Artist

## Jim Vassallo, trumpet



Jim Vassallo, trumpet, is a graduate of the Moores School of Music at the University of Houston and a student of James Austin. He is currently principal trumpet with the Houston Ballet Orchestra and the Houston Grand Opera Orchestra. A teacher and frequent performer with the Texas Music Festival each summer, he has also performed with the Grand Tetons Festival Orchestra, the Colorado Music Festival Orchestra, and the AIM Festival Orchestra in Graz, Austria.

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## Special Features

### In-School Performances

The Symphony is dedicated to the musical education of our children and brings classical music to the public schools, at no cost to the students or taxpayers, through classroom demonstrations and discussions. The Symphony annually donates numerous tickets to the students to provide them with the opportunity to enjoy a free symphony concert. For information, call Sherrie Matula (281) 486-0224.

### Clear Lake Area Symphony Society

CLASS is a group of volunteers who assists with concert production on a regular basis, assuming the responsibilities for box office, receptions, promotion, and Ad sales. For more information, call Sherrie Matula (281) 486-0224. For more information or to become a CLASS member go to:

<http://clearlakesymphony.org/class.htm> .

### Special Contribution Recognition

The Clear Lake Symphony recognizes those patrons who donate \$100 or more by including their names in the Hall of Honor section of our subscription concert programs and on the Symphony web site. The six categories as listed below are:

- Underwriter -- \$2500 or more
- Sponsor -- \$1000 to \$2499
- Benefactor -- \$500 to \$999
- Patron -- \$300 to \$499
- Donor -- \$200 to \$299
- Friend -- \$100 to \$199

The Clear Lake Symphony is a non-profit organization with a 501 ©(3) status with the IRS. All contributions are tax deductible.

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## Additional Ways to Support the Clear Lake Symphony

When you shop at AmazonSmile, Amazon donates 0.5% of the purchase price to Clear Lake Symphony at UH-CLC. Bookmark the link <http://smile.amazon.com/ch/76-0035368> and support the Symphony every time you shop. AmazonSmile is the same Amazon you know. Same products, same prices, same service.

## 2015 - 2016 Season Youth Concerto Competition

The annual Clear Lake Symphony Youth Concerto Competition was started 29 years ago at the suggestion of area piano teacher, Lorraine Merrill. The competition is limited to contestants in the Houston/Galveston Metro area and designed to enhance student performance before a live audience accompanied by a symphony orchestra. Students are judged in junior and senior divisions to provide maximum opportunity for students of various ages and advancements.

Past winners of the Competition have been accepted at Juilliard, The Eastman School of Music, Curtis Institute, and other high quality music conservatories.

In addition to providing an opportunity to perform with the Clear Lake Symphony, the orchestra assists these young musicians with scholarship awards.

This season's Youth Concerto Competition was held on January 23, 2016 with a total of 46 contestants. The winners are provided with a scholarship and the opportunity to perform with the Symphony. The winners will perform on the March 18, 2016 concert.

Winners of this season's competition are:

### Wind Division

Junior Wind Division - Sunny Tang, oboe

Senior Wind Division - Priya Fink, flute

### Piano Division

Junior Piano Division - Bryant Li

Senior Piano Division - Steven Dong

### String Division

Junior String Division - Jonathan Liu, violin

Senior String Division - Nicholas Perkyms, cello

Pictures & Bios of the Winners of this season's competition along with Honorable Mentions will be posted on the Clear Lake Symphony website, <http://clearlakesymphony.org/>, later in the month of February 2016.

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Clear Lake Symphony Webmaster

Email: [webmaster@clearlakesymphony.org](mailto:webmaster@clearlakesymphony.org)



## 2015 - 2016 Season Performances

Join us in celebrating the 40<sup>th</sup> season with the Clear Lake Symphony! Concert Tickets are available from Eye Trends, 515 Bay Area Blvd., Suite 300 (next door to Starbucks). Phone number: 281-488-0066. Individual are: \$13 adults, \$10 senior citizens (age 55 & up) & \$8 students. Tickets are also available at the concert ticket table the night of the concert.



### Clear Lake Symphony

#### 2015-2016 Season of Music

September 18, 2015 Fall "Pops" - Gloria Dei  
Popular Light Classical & Jazz Selections

October 23, 2015 - Gloria Dei  
Kuhlau - *Overture to William Shakespeare*  
Ravel - *Piano Concerto in G*  
Janice Fehlauer, piano  
Verdi - *Prelude to Act I of Macbeth*  
Schmitt - *Antoine et Cleopatra Suite*

Dec. 4 and 5, 2015 - Christmas "Pops" -  
Gloria Dei

Christmas seasonal favorites  
Guests - Gloria Dei Festival Choir

February 19, 2016 - Gloria Dei  
Berlioz - *Beatrice et Benedict Overture*  
Liszt - *Hamlet*  
MacDowell - *Hamlet-Ophelia*  
Tartini - *Trumpet Concerto in D*  
Jim Vassallo, trumpet  
Tschaikowsky - *Romeo et Juliette Overture*

March 18, 2016 - Gloria Dei  
Winners - Youth Concerto Competition  
Balakirev - *King Lear Overture*

April 29, 2016 - Gloria Dei  
Mendelssohn - *Midsummer Night's Dream Ov.*  
Korngold - *Much Ado About Nothing*  
Nicolai - *Merry Wives of Windsor Overture*  
Prokofiev - *Romeo and Juliet Suite*