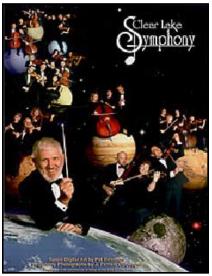
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2024-2025 Season - Youth Concerto Winners Concert - March 14, 2025

The Clear Lake Symphony, with Conductor, Robert F. Wall, starts its 49th season in the Fall of 2024. 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.

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.





Robert F. Wall Conductor

Reminder: All concerts will be on <u>Friday</u> evenings at 7:30 p.m. with the exception of the Christmas "Pops" Concert which will be on a <u>Saturday</u> afternoon & evening. For a list of all the season concerts, please click on the following link:

www.ClearLakeSymphony.org

The Clear Lake Symphony will be performing the 4th concert of their 2024-2025 season on Friday, March 14, 2025 at 7:30 PM in the Gloria Dei Lutheran Church Worship Center located at 18220 Upper Bay Road across from NASA Johnson Space Center. Celebrating their 49th season, the Orchestra will present the Annual Youth Concerto Competition Winners in concert.

The Orchestra will be led by Robert Wall, in his 31st year as Conductor of the Clear Lake Symphony.



Concert Tickets are available from Eye Trends, 515 Bay Area Blvd., Suite 300 (next door to Starbucks).. Individual are: \$20 adults, \$15 senior citizens (age 55 & up) & \$10 students. Tickets are also available at the concert ticket table the night of the concert.



Robert F. Wall

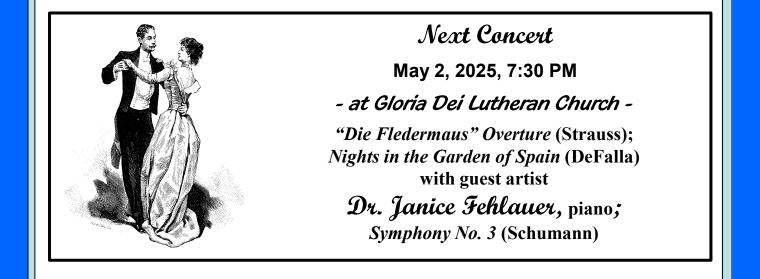
Conductor

Clarinetist and Conductor Robert F. Wall is a native Texan. His early music training was received in the public schools of Beaumont, Texas where he was inspired by the legend of Harry James, another Beaumont native to play beautiful music.

Mr. Wall received his Bachelor Degree in Music Performance from Lamar University in Beaumont, then attended the University of Idaho in Moscow, Idaho and was awarded his Master of Music in Performance. After serving three years in the fourth Army Band, he did post graduate work in Music at the University of Houston.

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Mr. Wall held the post of Principal Clarinet with the Clear Lake Symphony for 35 years and in 1993 was named Associate Conductor, where he conducted the group in their annual Fall "Pops" and Christmas "Pops" concerts. Mr. Wall was chosen as Conductor of Clear Lake Symphony in the spring of 2024 upon the retirement of maestro, Dr. Charles Johnson.



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Clear Lake Symphony Robert F. Wall, Conductor

<u>Violin</u>

Fernando Medina. Concertmaster Bryan Buffaloe Roxy Cheatham Tom Dinardis, **Principal Second** Kristen Franciotti Emily Gladstone Travis Hall Dylan Huss Melanie King Lori Laird Robin Lawler Joseph Mills April Montgomery John Pinckney Edgar Ramos Liam Ramsey-White Carla Sugar **Emmanuel Torres** Jennifer Young

<u>Viola</u>

Travis Baylor Baylor Hoang Theresa Kelly Maggie Lytle Jose Martinez Carol Mullenax Tim Rowland, Principal Jennifer Wicks

Cello

David Berlin Christian Ibanez Jaime Koran Ivan Martinez Alan Noblitt Sara Neuman Mark Varian, Principle

<u>Bass</u>

Jonathan Ghattas, Principal Donovan Goins

<u>Flute</u> Donna Jerz Melodie Shelton, Principal

<u>Oboe</u> Kate Newmyer, Assoc. Prin. Jennifer Sanford, Assoc. Prin.

<u>Clarinet</u> Katie McMullen Jill Bartee, Principal

Bass Clarinet Kim Everett

<u>Bassoon</u> Laura Anderson, Principal Jordan Moreno

<u>Horn</u>

Heather Hare, Principal Edward Salinas Mike Smith Stephanie Wiens

Trumpet Kevin Henderson, Assoc. Principal Terry Houvouras Roman Jakubas, Assoc. Principal

<u>Trombone</u> Lonnie Cox David Neal, Principal Steven Remko

<u>Tuba</u> Ramin Nosrat, Principal

Percussion

Ryan Johnson Brandy Knust Craig Schweitzer Jim Shelton, Drum Set Sheila Torrance, piano Betty Wall, Principal

Clear Lake Symphony

wishes to express our special appreciation to

The George and Mary Josephine

Hamman Foundation

for underwriting the 2025 CLS Youth Concerto Competition Concert featuring the Competition winners

www.ClearLakeSymphony.org

2025 Youth Concerto Competition Winners

The Clear Lake Symphony held a competition on Saturday, January 18, 2025 for young artists from Houston Metro area high schools, junior highs, and elementary schools. The Youth Concerto Competition winners will be provided with a scholarship and perform as a featured soloist with the Clear Lake Symphony at the Friday, March 14, 2025 concert at Gloria Dei Lutheran Church at 18220 Upper Bay Road, in Nassau Bay. A total of fifty-eight (58) participants participated in this year's competition.

Junior Wind Division

Joshua Ayala (Tuba) Winner, Junior Wind Division *"Tuba Concerto,* mvt. I" by Gregson

Joshua is the son of Dorian and Kari Ayala. He is currently in 9th grade (age 15) at Clear Brook High School in Clear Creek ISD. He has studied tuba for 4 years and his music teachers are Jason Schloesser, Robert Beavers and Kyle Norman.

Joshua's interests are playing soccer, reading & playing with friends. He is interested in majoring in music.

Musical Achievements:

- 1st chair Region 8th grade
- All-Area 9th grade
- Solo/ensemble Superior rating

No Honorable Mention



Junior String Division – Honorable Mention

Alvin Zhou (Cello), Honorable Mention, Junior String Division *"Variations on a Rococo Theme"* by Tchaikovsky

Alvin Zhou is the son of Lei Wu. He is attending 8th grade (age 13) at Fort Settlement Middle School in Fort Bend ISD. Alvin studied cello 6 years and his music teacher is Xiao Wong.

Alvin has played basketball since age 4 and has played for many top AAU teams in Houston. He also played basketball and football on 7th & 8th grade A-Team. Alvin enjoys teaching cello to little sister.

Note: Alvin will be performing with the competition winners at the March 14, 2025 concert.

Musical Achievements:

• 1st place & Judges Distinction Award American Protege International Concerto Competition 2022

• 1st place Fanny Mendelssohn International Competition

• Elite International Music Competition & Gustav Mahler Cello Competition 2023

Winner Houston Civic Concerto Competition and held solo concert 2024



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Junior String Division

Gabrielle J. Shin (Violin), Winner, Junior String Division "Concerto No. 1 in G Minor, mvt. I" by Brunch

Gabrielle is the daughter of Eun Joo & James Shin. She is attending 4th grade (age 10) at Second Baptist School University-Model. She has been studying violin for 2 years and is the student of Kathleen Winkler.

Gabrielle loves reading books, writing stories, drawing, playing chamber music & tennis.

Musical Achievements:

• Multiple performances in Duncan Recital Hall

• Other musical venues as former student Shepherd School of Music Preparatory Program



Honorable Mention: Jinlin Li (Cello), "Concerto in D Minor, mvt. III" by Davidoff

Senior String Division

Arturo Gonzalez (Cello), Winner, Senior String Division "Double Concerto in A Minor, mvt III" by Brahms

Arturo Gonzalez is the son of Beatriz Jaimes & Aroom Gonzalez. He is attending 12th grade (age 18) at Woodlands College Park High School. Arturo studied cello 7 years with Wendy Smith-Butler and piano 3 yrs.

Arturo is passionate about using cello to teach and inspire others. He is a Mentor at El Sistema Texas and a volunteer performer at retirement homes. He has over 2,500 Instagram followers. Arturo hopes to attend UT Austin studying chemical engineering and continue music.

Musical Achievements:

- Principal cellist Youth Orchestra Los Angeles 2024
- Principal cellist TMEA all-state philharmonic 2024

 $\bullet~1^{st}$ place Energy Corridor of Houston Concerto Competition 2024



Honorable Mention - Harry Barnett (Bass), "Carmen Fantasy for Double Bass" by Proto

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Senior String Division

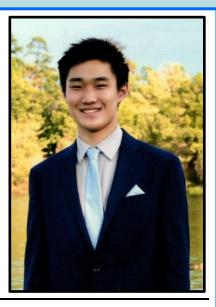
Justin Huang (Violin), Winner, Senior String Division "Double Concerto in A Minor, mvt. III"," by Brahms

Justin Huang is the son of Hao Huang & Huaijin Zhou. He is attending 12th grade (age 18) at Woodlands College Park High School. Justin studied violin 14 years with Henry Rubin.

Justin loves the environment outdoors, hiking and other excursions. He plans to continue studying and playing music with friends in college.

Musical Achievements:

- 3x TMEA All-State
- 3x Houston Civic Concerto Competition Finalist
- Region IX Concertmaster



Honorable Mention - Maureen Min (Violin), "Concerto in D Minor, mvt. I " by Sibelius

Junior Piano Division

Wendy Zhou (Piano), Winner, Junior Piano Division "Concerto No. 2 in G Minor, mvt. III" by Saint-Saens

Wendy is the daughter of Peilin Yang & Jun Zhou. She is in the 6th grade (age 11) at Tays Junior High School in Katy ISD. She has studied piano for 7 years and is a student of Dr. Matthew Loudermilk.

Wendy, other than playing the piano, also enjoys swimming, reading, drawing, & tennis.

Musical Achievements:

- 1st place Texoma Piano Competition 2024
- 1st place Houston Forum Competition 2024
- Winner Clear Lake Symphony Concerto Competition 2023



No Honorable Mention



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Senior Piano Division

Luke Speller (Piano), Winner, Senior Piano Division "Rhapsody in Blue" by Gershwin

Luke is the son of Stacy & Kevin Speller. At age 17, he is attending 11th grade at Clear Falls High School in Clear Creek ISD. He has been studying piano for 9 years and his music teacher is Dr. Ying Zhang.

Luke is a member of his high school orchestra which is ranked 4th in the state. He has ranked 7th in state UIL speech competition and also a 4X qualifier in National Speech & Debate.

Musical Achievements:

- Multi-time winner South Texas Piano Competition
- 2nd prize Houston Rachmaninoff competition
- Member Clear Falls Chamber Orchestra



Honorable Mention - Gauri Shah (Piano), "Concerto in D Minor, mvt. III" by Mozart

Thank You Melodie Shelton!

Many thanks go to Competition Coordinator, **Melodie Shelton** for her tireless work to put this competition and concert together. A big thank you also goes to the committee who helped during the competition and the judges on January 18, 2025.

A fine job was done by the competition Judges. This year's judges were the following:

WIND & PRECUSSION DIVISION	 Robert Wall Clear Lake Symphony Conductor Orchestra Director - University Baptist Church Michael Kasinger Composer in Residence Clear Lake Symphony. Woodwind specialist Lance Laster Music Professor, Lone Star College Brass specialist
PIANO DIVISION	 Dr. Charles Johnson Clear Lake Symphony Artistic Director, retired Dr. Andrew Staupe Professor of Piano, University of Houston Dr. Bart Morrison Pianist/Organist Pastor of Worship Ministries, University Baptist Church
STRING DIVISION	 Fernando Medina Concertmaster - Clear Lake Symphony Clear Brook High School Orchestra Director Brady Meyer Professional Cellist High School Orchestra Director Dr. Trond Saeverud Music Director/Conductor Galveston Symphony Orchestra

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Special Features

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

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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:

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

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Clear Lake Symphony

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> We thank our donors! Your support helps the Clear Lake Symphony present classical music for the residents of the Bay Area!





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2024 - 2025 Season Schedule & Tickets

Join us to celebrate the 49th season with the Clear Lake Symphony! Individual concert tickets for the 2024 -2025 Season are currently available from EYE TRENDS, 515 Bay Area Blvd., Suite 300 *(next door to Starbucks)*, (cash or checks only). Tickets are also available at the concert ticket table the night of the concert.





Fall "Pops" September 20, 2024

Wizard of Oz - arr. Sayre Lyric Metal - Balmages More from "Mondo Cane" - arr. Hayman Nessun Dorma from "Turandot" - Puccini —Soloist - Nigel Zamora, electric guitar Music From "Frozen" - arr. Krogstad Night and Day - arr. Lewis Begin the Beguine - Porter/Wall —-Soloist - Robert Wall, clarinet Granada - arr. Sayre



October 25, 2024

Russlan and Ludmilla - Glinka Adagio for Strings - Barber Concertino for Horn - Von Weber —-Soloist - Dr. Lindsay Smith, horn Symphony No. 9 (New World) - Dvorak



Christmas "Pops" Saturday, December 7, 2024 At 1:00 PM and 7:30 PM with Gloria Dei Chorale



Youth Concerto Competition Winners March 14, 2025

"An Italian in Algiers" Overture Rossini

May 2, 2025



"Die Fledermaus" Overture - Strauss De Falla - Nights in the Gardens of Spain - (Dr. Janice Fehlauer, piano) Symphony No. 3 - Schumann

June 13, 2025

Russian Sailor's Dance - Gliere Piano Concerto #2 - Rachmaninoff (Dr. Stephanie Chen, piano) Symphony No. 3 (Organ Symphony) Saint-Saens (Guest - Dr. Bart Morrison, organ)

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