

#040848

submitted  
Meeting

1/10/05



GAINESVILLE  
CHAMBER  
ORCHESTRA



## The Gainesville Chamber Orchestra

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Evans Haile  
*Music Director*

January 2005

Board of Directors  
Lisbeth Gets  
*President*

Gainesville City Commissioners  
200 East University Avenue  
Gainesville, FL 32601

Rebecca Micha  
*Vice President*

Dear Commissioners:

Kathryn Seagle  
*Vice President*

The Gainesville Chamber Orchestra is pleased to appear before you in support of our request for funding of a cultural project designed to serve all the citizens of Gainesville. Last Spring the City Commission agreed to contribute \$5000 toward the expenses of a performance by the Orchestra on the Gainesville Community Plaza in April 2004

Lynda Bucciarelli  
*Treasurer*

Elizabeth Sugalski  
*Secretary*

Doris Bardon

Lisa Elliott

Ira Gessner

Ronnie Lovler

Lynn Noffsinger

Jonathan Reiskind

Steve Skorski

The Orchestra plans to continue this gift to the community with a second *Pops on the Plaza* at 7 PM on Saturday, April 2, 2005, during the Spring Arts Festival. The production costs approximately \$16,000, with over 75% of the expense incurred to pay the professional local musicians. The Gainesville Chamber Orchestra is committed not only to providing quality music to the area, but also to supporting Gainesville's own professional orchestra. This concert will be free and is part of the Orchestra's outreach to underserved populations.

Please act favorably on our request for a \$5000 contribution toward *Pops on the Plaza* in 2005.

Sincerely yours,

Lisbeth E. Gets  
President, Board of Directors



## The Gainesville Chamber Orchestra

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### **About the Orchestra**

#### **MISSION**

The Gainesville Chamber Orchestra provides Alachua County and the surrounding areas quality programs through traditional and contemporary repertoire that entertain, enrich and educate a diverse and broad-based audience.

#### **HISTORY**

In 1983, a group of local musicians met to form the Gainesville Chamber Orchestra. Their first concert that fall presented a 34-member ensemble consisting of professionals, amateurs and gifted students. From this beginning, the GCO has been dedicated to performing live classical music in professionally produced, entertaining, and educational programs of great variety.

For over twenty years the Orchestra has been part of the cultural vitality of Alachua County.

Our commitment to education led to the creation of the Youth Concert Series. Since 1989, GCO has performed annual concerts for the schoolchildren of North Florida, who come from thirteen different counties. In 2002, GCO was honored with the New York Times Foundation Award for Excellence for our innovative educational programming.

During the 2001-2002 season, the Orchestra spearheaded the "T-Rex Named Sue" project, that brought the most complete *Tyrannosaurus rex* skeleton in the country to Gainesville, along with the *Cretaceous Concerto* by composer Bruce Adolphe, inspired by the fossil nicknamed "Sue." The "Sue" project had an estimated \$2.8 million dollar impact on Alachua County.

Today GCO has a committed core of 40 professional musicians whose services are in demand throughout the Southeast, and perform with orchestras in Atlanta, Savannah, Jacksonville, Tampa, Orlando, Naples and Miami. The Orchestra maintains a three-person part-time staff and operates with a budget of over \$145,000.

#### **CONDUCTOR EVANS HAILE**

Conductor Evans Haile joined the Orchestra as Music Director in 2001, continuing the GCO tradition of fine music in good company. Maestro Haile is a Gainesville native with an international reputation as a conductor, theater director, and radio personality. He has performed with major orchestras in Europe and the U.S., including appearances with the Boston Pops. He also acts as Artistic Director of America's oldest existing playhouse, the Cape Cod Playhouse.

## **GCO At A Glance**

### **2004-2005 Concert Season**

- Our 22<sup>nd</sup> year serving the community.

### **A Tradition of Excellence**

- A professional musical ensemble of 50 artists, all based in Florida.
- Conductor Evans Haile is an internationally recognized conductor and a significant figure in American arts.
- Awarded 2002 New York Times Foundation Award for Excellence for innovation and quality in educational programming.
- Awarded a highly competitive State of Florida Cultural Support Grant based on quality and relevance of programming.

### **Community Partnerships**

- The history and success of the Orchestra is largely a story of great partnerships. GCO is proud to have worked with the following groups and looks forward to many continuing fruitful relationships: Santa Fe Community College, the City of Gainesville's Department of Cultural Affairs, Alachua County's Tourist Development Council, the School Board of Alachua County, Very Special Arts Florida, First Presbyterian Church, Habitat for Humanity, University of Florida Performing Arts, University of Florida School of Music, Willis Bodine Chorale, and the Thomas Center Associates.

### **Education**

- A long standing commitment to educational programs.
- Youth Concerts bring children from a 13-county area. Many children attend at little or no charge thanks to sponsor underwriting.
- New mentoring programs are scheduled to begin this year in collaboration with the School Board of Alachua County.
- In-school performances of the Orchestra will be inaugurated at Lincoln Middle School in East Gainesville in April.

### **Community Outreach**

- A strong belief that everyone should have the opportunity to experience a live classical concert.
- Annual Family Concert featuring the theme *Composers & Film* and featuring a Walk Through the Orchestra.
- Free *Pops on the Plaza* concert on the Downtown Plaza featuring a program of popular classics and part of the SFCC Spring Arts Festival.
- Targeted discounts for seniors, children, music students, and community groups representing underserved or economically depressed areas.



## The Gainesville Chamber Orchestra

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### *2004-2005 Season Schedule*

#### Celebration Series (Orchestra Concerts)

November 7, 2004 – *Got Beethoven II*

The sequel to GCO's 2002 all-Beethoven concert. The centerpiece of the program is Beethoven's triumphant struggle with Fate, the Fifth Symphony.

January 30, 2005 – *Composers & Film*

GCO's Annual Family Concert, one of Gainesville's favorite musical traditions. This year's concert features beloved film music by Aaron Copland, Erich Korngold, John Williams, and more. The evening ends with a Walk Through the Orchestra.

March 13, 2005 – *Music & Song*

The timeless beauty of the human voice meets the sonic power of the orchestra. Watch for a special guest to join the Orchestra for an evening of arias and favorites.

*\* All Celebration Series concerts take place Sunday afternoons at 4 p.m.*

#### Special Events

*Pops on the Plaza* – Saturday, April 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2005

Our annual gift to the community – a free-to-all concert at the Gainesville Community Plaza in the heart of downtown. The *Pops on the Plaza* concert is a major component of GCO's outreach programs and is presented in conjunction with the Santa Fe Community College Spring Arts Festival.