

Meet Our Maestro

Kenneth Bowermeister is the former Music Director and Conductor of the Venice Symphony and the former Conductor of the Sarasota Pops Orchestra. He also served as conductor of the State College of Florida Chamber Orchestra and the Sarasota Orchestra's Youth Symphony and Symphonic Strings Orchestras.

Mr. Bowermeister has appeared several times as a guest conductor with the Sarasota Orchestra and with the International Festival Orchestra of Oxford, England. For 30 years, Mr. Bowermeister was director of orchestras at Pine View School for the Gifted in Sarasota County. He developed the award-winning string program that included 350 students in five orchestras.



The recipient of many honors, Mr. Bowermeister was selected Teacher of the Year at Pine View School on three occasions, was twice voted Sarasota County Music Educator of the Year and in 1998, was chosen Sarasota County Middle School Teacher of the Year. In 1999, he received the Sarasota Arts Council award for Outstanding Educational Leadership in the Arts.

Mr. Bowermeister performed as a violinist and a violist with the Sarasota Orchestra, where he served as Assistant Concertmaster for 21 years. He is a pupil of the internationally renowned Hungarian violinist Kato Havas and is a well-known teacher of Ms. Havas' exciting and revolutionary new approach to string playing.

A graduate of New College, the Honors College of the State of Florida, Mr. Bowermeister has been a member of the Florida Music Education Association (FMEA), Florida Orchestra Association (FOA), and the National Association for Music Education (NAfME).