

Sacred Music Florida

Speaker Bios

Alexander Pattavina

Alexander Pattavina is Associate Organist and Choirmaster at St. Bartholomew's Church, where he directs the St. Bartholomew's Choristers. A native of Stoughton, Massachusetts, he was first drawn to his vocation as a chorister at St. Paul's Choir School at Harvard Square, the only Catholic choir school for boys in the United States. After graduating, Pattavina became their first ever Organ Scholar. While studying at Juilliard, he served as organ scholar at St. Michael's Episcopal Church in Manhattan and later at Christ Church in Bronxville, New York. For three years, he served as Director of Music at the Church of St. Agnes in mid-town Manhattan. Pattavina, who won first prize in the 2019 Albert Schweitzer Organ Festival, has performed with the Juilliard Orchestra and is a frequent organ recitalist throughout the United States. Pattavina earned Bachelor's and Master's degrees from the Juilliard School, where he studied with Paul Jacobs.

Dr. Sinclair is the John M. Tiedtke Professor of Music at Rollins College. He teaches conducting, a variety of other classes as needed and serves as the primary conductor for the Department of Music. He is also celebrating his 25th season 2014-15] as Artistic Director and Conductor of the renowned Bach Festival Society of Winter Park. He also currently conducts the International Moravian Music Festivals, the Messiah Choral Society (Winter Park), and has conducted for the Berkshire Choral Festival and numerous others.

During the past twenty years, he has made over one thousand appearances as conductor, clinician, or lecturer throughout the United States and in many foreign countries. Dr. Sinclair is also a conductor of the Candlelight Processional at EPCOT and has conducted recordings for Warner Brothers, Walt Disney Corporation, the Moravian Music Foundation, and the Bach Festival Society.

A master teacher, Dr. Sinclair has received many awards while at Rollins College, including the Hugh F. McKean Award, Lifetime Achievement Award, Distinguished Service Award, and the Arthur Vining Davis Fellowship. For two consecutive years he was named "Outstanding Music Educator of the Year" by United Arts of Central Florida, and Florida International Magazine selected him as one of its "Power Players in the Arts." Last year his Alma Mater, William Jewell College, honored him with their prestigious Citation for Achievement.

Andrew Pudewa

Andrew Pudewa is the founder and director of the Institute for Excellence in Writing and a father of seven. Traveling and speaking around the world, he addresses issues related to teaching, writing, thinking, spelling, and music with clarity, insight, practical experience, and humor. His seminars for parents, students, and teachers have helped transform many a reluctant writer and have equipped educators with powerful tools to dramatically improve students' skills.

Although he is a graduate of the Talent Education Institute in Japan and holds a [Certificate of Child Brain Development](#) from the Institutes for the Achievement of Human Potential in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, his best endorsement is from

young Alaskan boy who called him "the funny man with the wonderful words." He and his heroic wife, Robin, have homeschooled their seven children and are now proud grandparents of fifteen, making their home in Tulsa, Oklahoma.

Dr. Gordon Mason

Dr. Gordon Mason is the founder of Masters As Mentors, a community of performers and teachers dedicated to motivating and inspiring artists to be the best that they can be. Mason earned the DMA in instrumental conducting at the University of South Carolina and has also studied at the Conductor's Institute of South Carolina, Westminster Choir College and the Robert Shaw Choral Workshop at Furman University. He is a retired music professor and is currently an adjunct professor with Reformation Bible College and St. Andrews Music Conservatory in Sanford, FL. His high school choirs placed first in the South Carolina Music Educators Choral Competition for two consecutive years and he has been sought after as an adjudicator, clinician and guest conductor. He has performed with professional symphony orchestras throughout his career and has recently founded the Maitland Symphony Brass Quintet. Dr. Mason celebrates the connections that music brings to all people and energizes those who are willing to "take an imaginative leap into the creative, God-given gift of music making". He also founded a family with a wife and three children...all lovers of music!

Elise Jimenez

Cellist Elise Jimenez first began her studies at the age of 11 with late cellist, Susan Goldmann. She quickly found herself collaborating with many groups throughout Central Florida as a chamber musician, orchestral player, and in various modern ensembles at her schools of study and as a free-lance musician. Her passion for chamber music led her to found the Apollo Quartet at University of Central FL, the Waldstein Piano trio at Stetson University and allowed her to win a Chamber Music assistantship in the Graduate Piano Trio at University of Florida. Ms. Jimenez received a Masters of Music degree in Cello Performance under the tutelage of Dr. Steven Thomas, completed in May of 2014 and her Bachelor's in Music Performance at Stetson University under the instruction of David Bjella. She currently studies with Professor Emeritus from the Indiana school of music, Helga Winold. Ms. Jimenez has taught for the past ten years in various schools and free-lance at local Community schools, as a guest clinician in Seminole County public schools and most recently at Saint Andrew's Conservatory of Music as Cello faculty and Seminole State College as Adjunct professor. She currently performs with a variety of groups and companies in Florida, including Orlando Philharmonic, Brevard Symphony Orchestra, Nova Era at Disney Springs, Beautiful Music Inc., and as a free-lance musician. Some of her more notable performances include artists Yo-yo Ma, Celtic Thunder, Johnny Mathis and Andrea Bocelli's Valentine's Day weekend tour in Miami and Orlando, FL.

Angela Lounds-Singleton, MS

Angela, a homeschool mother of 14 years, is the CEO and head homeschool academic consultant for Singleton Educational Services, supporting homeschool families with curriculum decisions, high school planning, and college applications. She also serves as a K-12 tutor, lead curriculum developer, and head ESL instructor for Sprout Jr, an international English school. Topping it off, she is on faculty at Santa Fe College where she teaches Nutrition for the Health Sciences. Prior to the pandemic, Angela represented homeschool music students throughout Florida as the Director of the North Florida Music Consortium, a division of the International Music & Languages Academy. Angela holds her degrees in Food Science & Human Nutrition and is a passionate homeschool advocate, specializing in STEAM studies (STEM with the Arts).

Allison DeMarco

Allison is the founder and Artistic Director of the Sacred MusicFlorida Competition. For most of her life, she has been an orchestral flutist playing not only with orchestras, but also opera and ballet companies as well. For 12 years she was the Director of Handbell and Children's choirs at Coral Ridge Presbyterian Church where she worked for Dr. D. James Kennedy. She homeschooled both of her children. Her daughter Cecily DeMarco who is finishing her third year at the Juilliard School and her son, Anton, who is a competitive cyclist in South Florida.