



The Big Bend Community Orchestra

presents our

100th *Performance & Fundraising Event*

Dr. Shelby Chipman, Music Director Dr. Michael
Douty, Associate Conductor Jason Freeman, Assistant
Conductor

Saturday, February 11, 2023, 3:30pm
Turner Auditorium
Tallahassee Community College

Big Bend Community Personnel

Dr. Shelby Chipman, *Music Director*
Dr. Michael Douty, *Associate Conductor*
Jason Freeman, *Assistant Conductor*

Violin I

Jon Ahlquist** Concertmaster
Karalee Poschman
Michael Mascagni
Ed Lyon
Noah Thomas
Lexi Jones

Violin II

Victoria Pharis*
Judy Blancett**^
Paula Warmath
Rachel Hillman
Lee Robertson
Kassidy Hopkins
Evelyn Becerra
Victor Dickenson

Viola

Mary E. Purvis*
Jade Forsythe
Andrea Repp^

Cello

Cheryl Frazier*
Emily Walker*
Chelsea Blomberg
Kirstin Heagney
Stephen Harris
Corynne Moss-Brewer
Lalah Choice
Jan DeLaney
Candalee Jones

Double Bass

Georges Weatherly**
Bob Hubbard
Georges Nyssa

** Principal
* Co-Principals
^ Charter
Member

Flute

Mona McGregor*
Janie Wulff*

Oboe

Zina Ward*
Susan Maynard**^

Clarinet

Ginny Densmore**^
Linda Schmidt**^

Bassoon

Kira Harding
Steve Gwin

Saxophone

Dick Drennon^
Alex Butler
Curtis Holland

Horn

Pam Whitworth
Ellen LaBarre
George Luke**

Trumpet

Charlie Baker**
Alejandro Romero

Trombone

Rob Ragsdale
Caden Ragsdale
Jerrold Pinter

Tuba

John Geisler

Percussion

Shaylor James**^

Piano

Joanna Sobkowska-
Parsons

Recordings/Photos

David Fusselman^

Fundraiser Assistant

Marcia Jordan

BBCO BOARD

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Cheryl Frazier

Vice-chairman

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Ginny Densmore

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George Luke

Production

Ed Lyon

Publicity

Mona McGregor

Parliamentarian

James Brown





BBCO's 100th Concert

Today's concert is the beginning of the Big Bend Community Orchestra's 30th year and the performance of our 100th concert since our founding on February 10th of 1994. The first concert took place on the stormy Sunday afternoon of May 15th, 1994 in the auditorium of Godby High School. Waldie Anderson, Co-Founder, conducted 53 musicians including 21 string players, a pianist, and 31 wind and percussion players.

The printed program included the following description of the orchestra's beginnings. "The Big Bend Community Orchestra is the brainchild of Ginny Densmore, longtime Tallahassee music educator. A conversation during the holiday season in December of 1993 led Ms. Densmore and Mr. Anderson, both members of the Capital City Band, to explore the possibilities of starting an all-volunteer, non-audition community orchestra. Publicity in the Tallahassee Democrat, the Florida Flambeau, and on WFSU/WFSQ-FM resulted in immediate and enthusiastic response from the community. Since the first rehearsal and organizational meeting on Feb. 10, 1994, more than fifty musicians have been attending regular Thursday evening rehearsals at the Florida State University School. Orchestra members represent a wide range of backgrounds and professions. Some are new to the community, some have been here for many years with little or no opportunity to play orchestral music, and all are pleased with the chance to dust off their instruments and play in an orchestra again."

After the first few years, the BBCO began auditioning the wind players to ensure a better balance by keeping the number of players true to traditional orchestration. The string section has remained non-auditioned and has varied in numbers over the years. Over 850 musicians have participated in the orchestra since its inception.

The BBCO was supported by The Artist Series of Tallahassee from 1994 until 2009 when we secured a separate non-profit status. The venues we have used over the years include the Florida State University School, Godby High School, Rickards High School, North Florida Christian School, Leon High School, Lincoln High School, Florida A&M University, the Maguire Center at Westminster Oaks Retirement Community, and Fairview Middle School. Since 2006 when we became affiliated with The Tallahassee Community College we have been provided rehearsal space and the use of Turner Auditorium for two concerts each season. An anonymous donor also contributed a generous donation to the TCC Foundation for our use.

Waldie Anderson was the BBCO Music Director until May of 2004, followed by Dr. James Croft from fall of 2004 until May 2007. Dr. Shelby Chipman became Associate Director in 2006 and has been Music Director from 2007 until the present time. The orchestra has had many short-term Assistant Conductors from both FAMU and FSU as well as few Associate Directors including Ed Kawakami for five years, Lisa Foltz for three years, and Dr. Michael Douty from 2019 to the present time.

Florida A&M University Music Department professors have guest conducted and played with the orchestra as well as helping find substitute wind players when needed. For the last several years, the Florida A&M University Department of Music has made our orchestra rehearsals part of their string class requirements. The Florida State University College of Music has helped in finding assistant conductors who want experience working with a community orchestra. They have also allowed us to access to their orchestra music library. The Javacya Conservatory has been a strong supporter since the early years along with the Tallahassee Youth Orchestra, the Home School Orchestra, and area music teachers who have encouraged their students to participate in our Young Artist Competitions which began in 2007.

Four musicians who played in our very first concert have played in all 27 seasons (the equivalent of two seasons were missed because of the pandemic): Judy Blancett, violin; Ginny Densmore, clarinet and Co-Founder; Shaylor James, tympani; Linda Schmidt, clarinet. Also playing in the first concert and participating today are Dick Drennon, saxophone, (17 seasons); and David Fusselman, a variety of instruments and currently photographer and recording engineer, (15 seasons). Although the following current members did not begin playing with the BBCO on the first concert, they have participated with the orchestra for more than 15 years: Andrea Repp, viola (26); George Luke, horn, and Susan Maynard, oboe (21.5); Julie Sherman, viola (20 - unable to participate today). Marcia Jordan, violin and/or fundraiser (19); James Brown, cello, and Michael Mascagni, violin (17.5); Cheryl Frazier, cello (16); George Weatherly, string bass (15.5); Shelby Chipman, conductor (15 - unable to participate today). The BBCO has also had another five longtime members who are no longer play with us: Richard Hopkins, bassoon, (21.5 - moved); Ern Jones, violin (20.5 - deceased); Steve Masterson, violin (20.5 - moved); Lily Navon, violin (20) and Patty Gladden, violin (17.5) who might both may be in the audience today.

We proudly celebrate this 100th program by remembering and thanking all those who have made the dream of a community orchestra come true—including our audience. Love to you all!!!!

Big Bend Community Orchestra

100th Public Performance

Dr. Michael Douty, Associate Conductor Saturday,

February 11, 2023 at 3:30 p.m.

TCC Turner Auditorium

Romanian Dances

Bela Bartók

1. *Bot tánc / Jocul cu bâță (Stick Dance)*
Inspired by a melody Bartók heard played by two gypsy violinists in a Transylvanian village
2. *Brâul (Sash Dance)*
A traditional Romanian dance which uses a sash around the dancers' waists
3. *Topogó / Pe loc (In One Spot)*
Slow and haunting, it evokes a middle eastern flute over an open 5th drone
4. *Bucsumí tánc / Buciumeana (Dance from Bucsum)*
A slow Romanian folk dance
5. *Román polka / Poarga Românească (Romanian Polka)*
A quick dance
6. *Aprózó / Mărunțel (Fast Dance)*
Two distinct melodies played as one movement

Violin Concerto in A Minor RV 356, Op. 3, No 6

Antonio Vivaldi

First Movement – Laura Green, violin

Cello Concerto in B Minor, Op. 104

Antonín Dvorák

First Movement – Param Mehta, cello

Forgotten Dreams

Leroy Anderson

Reception to follow

Next Concert:

Saturday, April 22, 2023

3:30p.m.

Turner Auditorium

Tallahassee Community College

Thank you for attending BBCO's

100th
*Performance &
Fundraising Event*

Congratulations to all the students who participated in the
Young Artist Competition.

Join us in the lobby for a free reception,
silent auction and raffle immediately following today's performance.





Big Bend Community Orchestra Young Artist Competition Winners 2022-2023



Param Mehta, *Cellist*

Age Category 15-18 – 1st Place Winner

Param is a high school cellist in his senior year at Florida High. He started playing cello in his beginning orchestra at age 12 and fell in love with the instrument. He has taken initiative in being active in his community by achieving principal cellist in All-State, All-District, and TYO. He also has participated in summer programs nationally and internationally. This includes the prestigious Hilton Head Chamber Music Institute, Green Mountain Chamber Music Festival, Chamber Music Festanza,

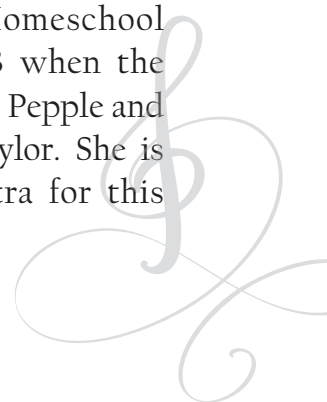
The Indo-European Youth Symphony Orchestra, and FSU Summer Music Camps. He has won Chamber music competitions with his esteemed IRIS Quartet; these include Second Prize at the Charleston International Chamber Music Competition 2022, First and Second Prize at NOLA Chamber Fest in 2021 and 2022 respectively. Param also was chosen as a finalist in the Northwest Florida Symphony Orchestra's Youth Concerto Competition in 2022. His Principal teacher is Kim Jones, but he has studied with Professor Gregory Sauer (Florida State University) and Dr. Felix Wang (Vanderbilt University). He enjoys chamber music with his colleagues in the IRIS Quartet and the TYO Symphony Quartet and recently started an internship with LAMP Chamber Players. He hopes to achieve a double degree from college in Cello Performance and Biomedical Engineering.



Laura Hope Green, *Violinist*

Age Category 11-14 – 1st Place Winner

Laura Hope Green, age 12, is the daughter of Dr. Harris Green and Lisa Green. She is the sixth of ten children and plays violin along with her siblings in the Tallahassee Homeschool Orchestra. Laura began playing violin at age 3 when the homeschool orchestra first began under Dr. Joanna Pepple and started private lessons this August with Lee Taylor. She is thankful to the Big Bend Community Orchestra for this wonderful opportunity.





Dr. Shelby R. Chipman, *Conductor*

Dr. Shelby R. Chipman is the Director of Marching and Pep Bands and an associate professor at Florida A&M University (FAMU). His responsibilities in the Department of Music include teaching Instrumental Music Education, conducting, and coordinating student recitals and student teachers (as music interns). Additionally, he conducts the Wind Symphony, Symphonic Band, and String Ensemble.

He is a native of Miami, where he graduated from Miami Northwestern Senior High. He received his Bachelor of Science degrees in Computer Science and Music Education from Florida A&M University, where he was conducting student of Dr. William P. Foster and Dr. Julian E. White. Professor Chipman completed his master's degree in music education at the University of Illinois, and received his Ph.D. in music education from the Florida State University (FSU) College of Music.

Prior to his appointment at FAMU, he taught music in the Miami-Dade County Public School system for 10 years. His band program at Miami Central High School developed into one of the finest band programs in the country. As much as a teacher as he was a musician, Dr. Chipman was named Teacher of the Year during the 1993-94 school year. Under his leadership the Rocket Marching band performed in the 1993, 1995, and 1997 King Orange Jamboree Parades, 1993 Heritage Festival (New Orleans), 1990-96 FAMU's Homecoming Festivals (Tallahassee, Fla.), 1992-97 MLK Parades & Festival (St. Petersburg, Fla.), 1997 Macy's Day Parade (New York City), and numerous other marching events. The Miami Central High School Symphonic Band performed at the prestigious Bands of America National Concert Festival in Indianapolis, IN.

Dr. Chipman is a member of Kappa Kappa Psi Band Fraternity, Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia Music Fraternity, Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Music Educators National Conference (MENC), Florida Music Educators Association (FMEA), Florida Bandmasters Association (FBA), College Band Directors National Conference (CBDNA), FMEA Black Caucus, and Bethel AME Church (Tallahassee). He has coordinated numerous band festivals and had the pleasure of working with James Croft, Timothy Reynish, James Suddith, Jim Sparks, Gary Green, Anthony Maiello, and Eugene Corporon, who represent some of the finest conductors in the world. In addition to working with these outstanding conductors, Dr. Chipman has presented music education and conducting clinics on several public school and college campuses, as well as given lectures at the FMEA conference and Mid-West Band & Orchestra Clinic in Chicago. He is an active adjudicator and clinician throughout the Southeastern United States and currently serves as music director/conductor of the Tallahassee Big Bend Community Orchestra, as well as, Florida Music Education Association (FMEA) President-Elect. He was the Florida collegiate advisor for the National Association for Music Education (NAfME) for eight years. Dr. Chipman is married to Detrick LaShawn and together they have one son, Israel Armenian Chipman.

As an educator, Dr. Chipman believes that all students can learn. He believes there are obstacles that create barriers, but through faith, guidance, and love anything can be accomplished.



Dr. Michael Douty, *Associate Conductor*

A professional musician and educator since 2005, Dr. Michael Douty fosters an enthusiastic, positive rehearsal environment for ensembles under his direction. After earning a Bachelor's degree in Instrumental Music Education from Milligan College, Douty taught elementary music and grades 6-12 band in Greene County, Tennessee. He then earned a Master of Music at the University of Tennessee, studying conducting with Dr. Gary Sousa, and a Ph.D. at Florida State University, conducting wind ensembles with Prof. Richard Clary, orchestra with Dr. Alexander Jiménez, and choir with Dr. André Thomas. Douty has directed numerous church and community ensembles, has performed professionally on multiple woodwinds for theater and orchestra, and currently teaches band and orchestra at Fairview Middle School in Tallahassee. An advocate for new music, Douty has conducted chamber music by Ondrej Štochl for the biennial FSU Festival of New Music and has commissioned and directed new works by Michael Markowski and Jorge Variego. In his 2019 dissertation, Douty highlighted significant contributions of female composers to the repertoire for chamber winds. He now resides in Tallahassee with his wife and two children.



Jason Freeman, *Assistant Conductor*

Jason Freeman is a doctoral student at Florida State University, studying Music Education with a concentration in Wind Band Conducting. He received his Bachelor of Science degree in Music Education from Winston-Salem State University. As a student he served as a student-arranger, three-year section leader, and a member of the Wind Ensemble, Chamber Orchestra, Marching Band, and Horn Ensembles. In 2009, he was selected as a member of the prestigious National Collegiate Wind Ensemble and performed under world-class conductor H. Robert Reynolds at Carnegie Hall. In 2011, Mr. Freeman was selected as principal horn at the HBCU National

Band Director Consortium.

After graduation he taught band at Lexington High School in Lexington, North Carolina. In 2014, he received his Master of Music degree in Horn Performance from the University of North Carolina School of the Arts where he studied with David Jolley. After completing his degree, Mr. Freeman taught high school band at Whites Creek High School in Nashville, TN. During his four years the program grew from seven to over seventy members. In Nashville, Mr. Freeman conducted marching band, concert band, jazz band, and pep band. After leaving Nashville, he returned home to North Carolina as band director at his alma mater, Northwood High School. While serving as director, the band grew from 120 students to over 200, receiving superior ratings at marching and concert adjudicated events. His most notable accomplishment at Northwood was conducting music by Leonard Bernstein in celebration of his 100th birthday. Selections included *Divertimento*, *Slava!*, and *The Candide Suite*.