



2025-2026 CONCERT SERIES

**THE WOODBRIDGE FLUTE CHOIR PRESENTS**

**Spring Concert:**

**Music from the Movies**



Sunday, May 17, 2026 3:00 PM  
The Mather Tysons, VA

# Woodbridge Flute Choir Performers

## Debbie Gilbert, Artistic Director

Laura Breese, bass flute  
Sheree Budge, contrabass flute  
Kathy Cowan, C flute  
Karen Edwards, C flute  
Jennifer Father, C flute  
Diane Hopkins, C flute  
Michael Horowitz, bass flute  
Jeannine Jorgensen, C flute  
MaryBeth Keller, C flute  
Beth Koehler, C flute  
Neel Lingam, C flute  
Gail Maas, C flute

Howard McCullers, contrabass flute  
Theresa McCullers, alto flute  
Jan McEwen, C flute  
Ginger Melby, alto flute  
Tara Nadel, C flute and piccolo  
Joe Pelican, alto flute  
Dana Richardson, C flute  
Jessie Scalph, alto flute  
Lisa Sheldone, C flute and piccolo  
Jim Waterman, bass flute  
Cindy West, bass flute

If you would like to be a patron of the Woodbridge Flute Choir, please make your check payable to *Woodbridge Flute Choir* and mail it to:  
P.O. Box 10368, Burke, VA 22009 or use the QR code below



The Woodbridge Flute Choir is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization

The Woodbridge Flute Choir is funded in part by



*and with the generous support of our donors and patrons.*

# PROGRAM

**The Great Escape March**

E. Bernstein

Arranged by Mel Orriss

**Bring Him Home from “Les Misérables”** Claude-Michel Schönberg

**Defying Gravity**

Stephen Schwartz

**Cinema Paradiso**

Ennio Morricone

Arranged by Clarence Lam

Piccolo soloist: Lisa Sheldone

**Circle of Life**

Sir Elton John

Arranged by Gareth McLearnon

C Flute Soloists: Lisa Sheldone, Karen Edwards,  
MaryBeth Keller

Panpipes: Gail Maas

**The Girl from Ipanema**

Antonio Carlos Jobim

Arranged by Kelly Via

Piccolo soloist: Tara Nadel

**Snow White Medley**

Arranged by Steve Sample

**Por Una Cabeza**

Gardel/Le Pera

Arranged by Gareth McLearnon

**The Shadow of Your Smile**

Johnny Mandel

Arranged by James Christensen

C flute soloist: Jennifer Father

**Tribute to Richard Rodgers**

Arranged by Anne McGinty

**So Many Themes, So Little Time**

Arranged by Gareth McLearnon

## Special Thanks

The Staff of The Mather

Our Patrons and Sponsors

The Woodbridge Flute Choir Board of Directors  
and staff for their time and talents

The Woodbridge Flute Choir, directed by Debbie Gilbert and assisted by Lisa Sheldone, was founded in 1996 by Rebecca Jeffreys as an outlet and learning experience for volunteer and adult flutists and has progressed from a modest background music group to a serious performance ensemble.

Since its inception, the WFC has performed a regular concert series in Northern Virginia and has performed at charitable and gala events, Flute Society of Washington events, and flute choir festivals. The choir has also performed at the Kennedy Center and the White House and was invited to perform at the 2011, 2013, 2015 and 2025 National Flute Association Conventions.

The group has produced four commercial CD's called Woodbridge Suite, Passages, A Silver Christmas, and our latest CD Butterfly released in 2014. All four of our CD's are available for download through CDBaby.com, iTunes, or amazon.com.

As part of its mission to educate its members and the Washington area flute community the Choir has sponsored master classes and performed with internationally acclaimed flutists such as Per Oien, John Barcellona, Tadeu Coelho, Chris Potter, Alexa Still, Thomas Robertello, Aaron Goldman, Ali Ryerson, Mel Orriss and piccolo soloist Nan Raphael. In recognition of the need for new music written specifically for flute choir, the WFC has commissioned and present world premieres of original works by Gretchen Morse, Nancy Wood, Lee Larsen, Mel Lauf, Jonathan Cohen, Alexandra Molnar-Suhajda, Russell Nadel, Greg Lutz, John Buckley and Jeffrey Hart.

Since March 2009 the Choir has held an annual Concerto Scholarship Competition for high school flutists. The WFC awards the winner with a scholarship and the opportunity to perform a concerto with the flute choir. Information about the 2026 competition is available on our website at [www.woodbridgeflutechoir.org](http://www.woodbridgeflutechoir.org)

***Donations help perpetuate the growth of arts and  
the success of the Woodbridge Flute Choir***

Checks can be made out to the address below or use the  
QR code below  
Woodbridge Flute Choir  
P.O. Box 10368  
Burke, VA 22009



*The Woodbridge Flute Choir is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization. A financial statement is available upon written request from the Virginia office of Consumer Affairs.*

# WOODBIDGE FLUTE CHOIR RECORDINGS

## *Butterfly*

Released in April 2014, this long awaited fourth album under the direction of Debbie Gilbert, features several works that were commissioned by the Woodbridge Flute Choir. The title piece, *Butterfly*, composed by Russell Nadel, was inspired by the story of a family-friend's experience with a red admiral butterfly. In it, the butterfly is represented by a solo piccolo, performed by Woodbridge member, Tara Nadel. Composer Greg Lutz wrote three of the works featured on the CD - *Afternoon with the Kiddo*, *Traffic Jam*, and *A Couple of Scenes from New Orleans*. Alexandra Molnar-Suhajda's composition, *Solemnities*, was commissioned by the group to celebrate its tenth anniversary in 2006. Also included are Kathleen Mayne's *Balcony* and Valerie Coleman's *Pontchartrain*.

## *A Silver Christmas*

Released in December 2004, our third commercial recording is the perfect CD for the holidays. This spirited recording features traditional favorites such as *Joy to the World*, *O Little Town of Bethlehem*, and *Jingle Bells*, along with beautiful arrangements of *Greensleeves*, *Snowdrops*, and *Silent Night* featuring harp and piano.

## *Passages*

Released on August 1, 2002, our second commercial recording features new works commissioned by the Woodbridge Flute Choir, including Gretchen Morse's *Furry Leaves* and *Hear My Voice*, and local composer Melvin Lauf, Jr.'s popular *Southern Peace*. Hear other spirited works such as Smetana's *The Bartered Bride*, Catherine McMichael's *Academie of Dance*, and Nancy Wood's *Pedazitos*.

## *Woodbridge Suite*

Released in 2000, our first CD features local composers Alexandra Molnar-Suhajda (*Greek Tableaux*) and Melvin Lauf Jr. (*Secluded Stream*), along with our first commissioned work *Woodbridge Suite* by Gretchen Morse. Brahms' *How Lovely is Thy Dwelling Place*, Kabalevsky's *Comedian Gallop*, and Burnette's *Stained Glass Images* round out the disc's program.

CD's are available for purchase after today's concert.

CD's and digital downloads are available from CDBaby, iTunes, and Amazon



Debbie Gilbert, artistic director, holds a B.M.E. from Louisiana State University and has taught private flute lessons to youth and adults for over 30 years. She is currently the principal flutist with the Piedmont Symphony Orchestra and she directs the adult handbell choir at Greenwich Presbyterian Church.

She is also a sixteen-time winner in the National Flute Association (NFA) annual professional Flute Choir Competition and directed the 2015 NFA High School Flute Choir. She is a past president of the Flute Society of Washington (FSW) and coordinator and co-teacher of the FSW Adult Flute Camp. She directed the FSW 2020 Mid-Atlantic High School Flute Choir.

For many years she directed flute choirs at the public high schools in Fauquier County and from 1991-1999 she was the founder and director of the Fauquier Flute Ensemble (an all-adult group). From 1996-2004 she served as the music director at Manassas St. Thomas United Methodist Church. Debbie has studied flute with Max Schoenfeld, Jeanne Timm, Thomas Perazzoli, Tadeu Coelho and Toshiko Kohno.

Lisa Sheldone, assistant director, was principal flutist with the Beach Cities (CA) Symphony (1997/98 season) and served as assistant principal flutist in the Topanga Symphony for ten seasons. She has also performed with the West Valley Symphony, Simi Valley Orchestra, Israel Pops Orchestra, Hour of Power Orchestra, Agoura Hills Community Concert Band, the Mike Stanley Wind Ensemble, and in the pit orchestra for the Coneja Players and Cabrillo Music Theatre. Among her favorite musical experiences, however, was as a member of the flute ensemble Flauto Badinage, an expandable flute chamber group that performed as a trio, quartet, and quintet throughout Southern California.





Debbie Gilbert, Artistic Director  
Lisa Sheldone, Assistant Director

## **Board of Directors**

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# About the Flutes

A flute is a musical instrument that is shaped like a thin pipe and is played by blowing across a hole near one end of the pipe. The flute is one of the oldest man-made musical instruments. In 1998, archaeologists in Slovenia found a two holed flute made of bone and estimated its age at 50,000 years old. Our modern flutes have many keys and are now made of silver, gold, platinum, wood, and even plastic.

## Piccolo



The piccolo is half the size of the concert flute and is pitched one octave higher. The sound of this little instrument can soar above a 75 piece concert band. You are probably most familiar with the sound of the piccolo from Sousa's famous march, "The Stars and Stripes Forever."

## Concert Flute



The concert or C flute is the instrument that most students will start with in band. It is pitched in C and its range is over three octaves, starting from middle C.

## Alto Flute



The alto flute has a wider and longer tube than the standard C flute so it sounds lower. It is pitched in the key of G. The lowest note of its range is the G below middle C. The alto flute sound is described as mellow and the alto flute is now a standard in jazz.

## Bass Flute



The bass flute evolved during the 1930's and 40's with the rise in Hollywood music. It is pitched one octave lower than the concert flute. The tube is twice as long as the concert flute so it has a curve in the tube to bring the tone hole closer to the player.

## Contrabass Flute

The contrabass flute is a newer addition to the flute family. It is pitched two octaves lower than the concert flute. Its tube is so long that the flute has two curves and the flutist plays the instrument while standing.



# Special Thanks

The Staff of the Mather  
The Woodbridge Flute Choir Board of Directors  
and staff for their time and talents

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## Upcoming Events

Woodbridge Flute Choir 2025-2026 30<sup>th</sup> Concert Season

Sunday, October 18, 2026 4:00PM  
St. John's Lutheran Church  
5952 Franconia Rd, Alexandria, VA

Holiday Concert and Benefit for Farthest Corners  
Sunday, December 6, 2026 4:00PM  
Greenwich Presbyterian Church  
15400 Greenwich Church Way, Nokesville, Virginia 20181

Concerto Scholarship Concert  
Sunday, March 7, 2027 3:00PM  
Adat Reyim Congregation  
6500 Westbury Oaks Ct, Springfield, VA 22152

Guest Artist: Aaron Goldman  
Spring Concert  
Sunday, May 2, 2027 3:00PM  
Greenspring Village Square Chapel  
7420 Spring Village Drive, Springfield, VA 22150



For more information, visit our website at  
[www.woodbridgeflutechoir.org](http://www.woodbridgeflutechoir.org) or use the QR code below

