



The Verner Clarinet Choir

Upcoming performances

February 23, 2014, 6:00 P.M.

Summit County Library, Main St, Akron, OH

Verner Clarinet Choir and Copley Clarinet Choir



Choir

Theodore Johnson...Conductor. Member of The Cleveland Orchestra (1959- 95), Chicago Symphony, Kansas City Philharmonic, Santa Fe Opera, Kansas City Lyric Opera, Casals Festival Orchestra, Cleveland Ballet, Cleveland Octet, Akron and Canton Symphonies. Faculty (retired) of Cleveland Institute of Music, Akron University, Blossom Music School, Kansas City Conservatory, Cleveland Music School Settlement, and Kansas City School System. Maintains a private lesson studio for clarinet. Founder and president of TJ line of clarinet accessories.

Joe Fried...as a high school senior, played first chair clarinet in Leopold Stokowski's "American Youth" orchestra in Carnegie Hall and Constitution Hall. Graduate from Eastman School of Music studying with Stanley Hasty, then in Cleveland with Robert Marcellus and Theodore Johnson. Finalist with Atlanta and one of four for a position with Edmonton. Received a full scholarship to Case Western University's Weatherhead School of Business and started his own accounting business. After 34 years, he resumed his studies with Theodore Johnson. Performed with Cleveland State clarinet choir in Drinko Hall, and with his pianist wife, Nina, for the Musical Art Society, Music and Drama Club, and Cecilian Musical Club.

Fred Heyburn...graduate of the University of Akron and Kent State University. Member of Akron and Canton Symphonies, Kent State/Stark Concert Band, Sounds of Sousa Band, and big band Swing Machine. Teaches privately and repairs woodwinds and saxophones.

Dick Ingersoll...graduate of University of Michigan. Member of 5th Army Band in Chicago and 29th Army band on Okinawa, Japan. Graduate in clarinet from the Cleveland Institute of Music where he studied with Theodore Johnson. Taught private music lessons and played professionally in the Greater Cleveland Area.

Doug Jones... Eb contra alto clarinet. After retiring from a forty year business career, devoted time to music, playing clarinet and bass clarinet with Lakeland Civic Band, Suburban Symphony Orchestra, Heights Chamber Orchestra, Chagrin Valley Chamber Orchestra, Solon Philharmonic Orchestra, University Heights Symphonic Band, and local summer bands.

Victoria Marra...graduate of Baldwin Wallace University, studying in the Conservatory with Dr. Alan Squire then Johannessen International School in Canada. Soloist performing in Cleveland, Niagara-on-the-Lake, and Toronto; and also premiering with chamber, and orchestral compositions by members of the Cleveland Composers Guild and the Guild of Temple Musicians. Music Director of Symphony West and principal clarinetist of the Cleveland Philharmonic. Performed with the Blossom Festival Band, including a WGBH television production. Faculty of The Cleveland Music School Settlement.

Brian Medellin...**Contrabass clarinet.** Attended the University of Akron School of Music, where he studied clarinet with Kristina Belisle-Jones. Taught private music lessons and played in local bands.

Dennis Nygren, PhD...professor of clarinet at Kent State University (1983-2012) and Northern Michigan University (1973-83), and currently teaches at Cleveland State University. Faculty at Oakland University (2012), and served as principal clarinet and soloist with the NORAD (North American Defense Band) (1968-71). First clarinetist to earn a Doctor of Music degree from Northwestern University. Performed with the Cleveland Orchestra, Cleveland Ballet, Cleveland Opera and Cleveland Light Opera, Ohio Chamber Orchestra, and Akron and Canton Symphonies; and performed in Canada, Greece, Egypt, Iceland, and throughout the United States. Writes and arranges. His CD *A Clarinet Collective* received excellent reviews.

Thomas Reed, PhD...professor of Music and Chair of the Department of Music, Ashland University. Member of the Akron Symphony (bass clarinet), Ashland Symphony (principal clarinet), Blossom Festival Band, and Cleveland Jazz Orchestra (saxophone). Performed with the Cleveland Chamber Symphony and Cleveland Orchestra. Member of the woodwind quartet IRON TOYS. Soloist with Akron, Mansfield, Ashland, and Clarence (NY) Symphonies; and performs on CDs with the Akron Symphony, Cleveland Chamber Symphony, Cleveland Jazz Orchestra, the Jazz Unit, and the Paul Ferguson Jazz Orchestra. His clarinet CD *Mutually Inclusive* was released in 2008 on Capstone Records. Graduate of Ohio State University (DMA), University of Michigan (BME), and University of Akron (MM).

James Stahl...graduate of the University of Akron and Cleveland Institute of Music. His teachers include famed Cleveland Orchestra Clarinetist Theodore Johnson. He is president of Central Instrument Company, Inc., Cuyahoga Falls, OH; and founder and sponsor of the 150 member New Horizon Band of Summit and Stark Counties, which provides an opportunity for older adults to learn to play a musical instrument.

Caroline Stilwell...graduate of Kent State University with a BS in education and a Masters of Fine Arts. She studied clarinet in Europe. Caroline taught 35 years as a music specialist in the public schools. She continues as a clarinet instructor in the Norton Schools and playing in the Wadsworth Community Band.

Craig Wohlschlager...applied music and accompanying faculties of Malone University, Canton, OH. Teaches and is the auditions coordinator for Sessione Senese per la Musica et l'Arte; a summer festival for chamber orchestra and opera studies in Siena, Italy. Maintains a private studio of students. Performed with the Cleveland Orchestra's Symphonic Winds and Blossom Band, Ashtabula Pops Orchestra, and Trinity Chamber Orchestra. Recitalist for Tuesday Musical Club of Akron, MacDowell Club of Canton, Jefferson Arts Council series, and numerous faculty artist recitals at Malone University. Performs at Porthouse Theatre and KSU main campus for musical theatre productions. Founding member of 3Squared, a trio of musicians dedicated to performing works for multiple and unique instrumentation.

Jeff Young...graduate of the University of Akron School of Music, where he studied clarinet with Kristina Belisle-Jones. Works at Kent State University as an advancement officer for the College of the Arts. Maintains a private lesson studio for clarinet and saxophone, and is a member of Wadsworth Community Band.