

Marcia Pinder – Citizen of the Year

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Survey Details

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Please make sure to read the "Submit a Nomination" information above.

1. NOMINEE INFORMATION

Name of person being nominated: Marcia Pinder
Address: 360 Utah Avenue, Fort Lauderdale, FL
Phone: (754) 322-0838
Email address: marycfertig@gmail.com

2. NOMINATION SUBMITTED BY

Name of person submitting nomination: Mary Fertig
Address: 511 Poinciana Drive
Phone: (954) 763-5020
Email address: marycfertig@gmail.com

3. NOMINATION CATEGORY

Please select the category this nomination is for. You may only select one category per submission.

(o) CITIZEN OF THE YEAR (Nominee must be a resident of the City of Fort Lauderdale.) - The Citizen of the Year award is for that person who, in the opinion of the Committee and the City Commission, has made the greatest contribution to the community in the current year.

4. Based on the category selected above, please describe in detail the nominee's accomplishments or contributions to the community, including specific examples (1,000 words or less). Examples include significant contributions to the welfare and betterment of the community or the City, civic responsibility, financial contributions, volunteer service, leadership, projects accomplished, or other ways this person has improved the quality of life in Fort Lauderdale. A resume may not be substituted as a response to this question.

Marcia Pinder has been a teacher and coach at Dillard High School for 42 years. During that time she has coached the girl's basketball team to unparalleled success with a record of 968 wins and 217 losses, which include 14 district runners-up titles, 28 district titles, 9 regional runners-up titles, 14 regional titles, 14 state appearances, and 10 state championships. Many of her students have been able to go on to post-secondary studies with scholarships earned by their athletic skills.

Coach Pinder's success is not just about winning. It is about the life-skills and team-building skills that she imparts to the students she coaches. Marcia Pinder brings an energy and enthusiasm to her work that she instills in all around her.

Coach Pinder has received many awards. She was inducted into the Broward County Sports Hall of Fame in 2002, inducted into the City of Ft. Lauderdale Walk of Fame in 2011, inducted into the FACA (Florida Athletic Coaches Association) Wall of Fame 2011, and numerous girls basketball awards which includes: Coach of The Year FACA, Coach of The Year Sun-Sentinel, Coach of The Year Miami Herald, FACA All Star Coach, FABC (Florida Athletic Basketball Coaches Association) Court of Legends 2011, FACA Merit Award 1981, FACA Meritorious Service Award 2011, FACA Service Award 2012, NFHS State Coach of The Year 2011, Bethune-Cookman Presidential Alumni Ach. Award 2012, Orange Bowl Amateur Sports Leadership Award 2012, WBCA (Women's Basketball Coaches Association) High School All-American Coach 2012, WBCA High School Coach of The Year 2012, Florida Dairy Farmers Girls' Coach of The Year 2010, 2012, & 2015, BCAA Coach of The Year 2012&2015, BCAA All Star Coach, Broward vs. Dade All Star Coach, FACA Hall Of Fame 2013, NHSACA Coach of The Year Finalist 2006&2013, NHSACA Coach Of The Year 2013, and NHSACA Hall of Fame 2014. Coached one McDonald's All American & WBCA player (Erica Brown 2005). FACA Life Membership Award 2013, Miami Herald Lifetime Ach. Award 2014, National High School Invitational Tournament 2010, 2013, & 2015, Head coach for the East McDonald's American Team 2016, inducted into the Bethune-Cookman Univ. Hall of Fame 2016, the Lifetime Ach. Morgan Wootten Award 2017, the Louise Bing Excellence Award 2018, the Gatorade Coaching Excellence Award 2018, Jordan Brand Classic head coach 2019 and Sun-Sentinel Coach of The Year 2019.

In February, the Dillard High School Girls Basketball Team won their 10th State Championship under the leadership of Marcia Pinder.

In February 1983, the Sun Sentinel wrote this about Coach Pinder:

" 'Pinder is a surrogate mother to her players. They are encouraged to call her at home – day or night – if they have a problem. No subject is ignored. The team and its coach can be seen attending movies together, or eating dinner together, or going to church together. If a player needs money to help pay for college entrance exams, Pinder is the first to offer.

"Nine times out of 10, all they want is someone to listen," says Pinder. "The SAT's. ...well I know how hard it is "I've been helped before.

"Another thing, I've never had a parent tell me to back off. I've had them tell me to keep talking to their kids, though. Having trust in each other is the key. It all comes from the way I've been brought up. I come from a strict, religious family."

Pinder's way has worked and the success has bred interest. About 70 girls tried out for the Dillard girls' junior varsity team this year. Says Robert Green, Dillard's athletic director: "When you start winning, a lot of kids want to be part of the tradition." It is 2019 and Marcia Pinder continues her work on behalf of the students of Fort Lauderdale

5. Based on the nomination category selected and the accomplishments and contributions provided in Question 4, why does the nominee deserve an award in this particular category (250 words or less)?

Marcia Pinder has taught and coached in our community for over four decades. Although she has received many awards, she has not been recognized by the City she lives in, teaches and coaches in. This particular category was selected because Ms. Pinder personifies good citizenship and serves as a model for the type of citizen we would like our students to become. She also serves as a role model for all of us as she gives unselfishly of herself and her time and talents to further the opportunities for the youth of our city. With her incredibly busy schedule at Dillard High School, she still finds time to be involved in her community. Marcia Pinder has exemplified outstanding citizenship day in and day out, year in and year out for decades. The City of Fort Lauderdale would be well-served to have her recognized as the Citizen of the Year.

6. Please provide a brief biography of the nominee (250 words or less). Please include information such as positions held, where the nominee is originally from, years lived in Fort Lauderdale, high school/college name, occupation, sports played, number of children/grandchildren, awards received, publications, etc.

Marcia Pinder is a native of Miami Fl. She is the daughter of George and Rosie Lee Butler (deceased) and one of six siblings. She graduated from Miami Carol City Senior High School in 1969 and Bethune-Cookman University in 1974. Marcia has been married to Warren Pinder for 43 years.

Marcia is an educator and coach. She has taught at Dillard High School and served as the head girl's basketball coach for the past 42 years. She holds the distinction of being the winning-est coach in Florida for her success. Without a losing season, Marcia has compiled a record of 968 wins and 217 losses, which include 14 district runners-up titles, 28 district titles, 9 regional runners-up titles, 14 regional titles, 14 state appearances, and 10 state championships. Marcia has also coached girls volleyball, cross- country, junior- varsity cheerleading and softball.

Marcia Pinder is active in our community. She is a member of Greater New Bethel Baptist Church and I also attend St. Ann's Episcopal Church, FHSAA Advisory Committee, BCAHPED, AARLCC, WBCA, WBCA Victory Club, FACA, FACA Victory Club, FACA State Chairperson, Life Member of AAU, FABC (board member), Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., Ft. Lauderdale Walk of Fame Committee and Florida Sports Hall of Fame Advisory Committee.

7. FOR EXEMPLARY FORMER CITY EMPLOYEE CATEGORY ONLY

Years of service with the City:	Not answered
Position(s) held:	Not answered

8. SUPPORTING MATERIALS

Supporting materials, such as a nominee's resume, news articles, letters of recommendation, etc., may be attached to the nomination. Supporting materials may not be submitted in lieu of answering the questions above and are limited to five (5) additional pages.

Item 1	1 Marcia Pinder South Florida Sun Sentinel Thu, May 24, 2018 .pdf
Item 2	2 Marcia Pinder Morgan Wooten Award South Florida Sun Sentinel Sun Mar 26 2017 .pdf
Item 3	3 Marcia Pinder - 1983 Fort Lauderdale News Mon Feb 21 1983 .pdf
Item 3	
Item 5	

9. HOW DID YOU HEAR ABOUT THE CITIZENS RECOGNITION AWARDS CALL FOR NOMINATIONS? (Please select all that apply.)

☒ Word of Mouth (i.e., friend, neighbor, etc.)

2018 GATORADE COACHING EXCELLENCE AWARD



MICHAEL LAUGHLIN/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Dillard High School girls basketball coach Marcia Pinder speaks in front of her husband Warren at Wednesday night's ceremonies. Pinder has a career coaching record of 942-212.

Dillard's Marcia Pinder receives national honor

BY SHANDEL RICHARDSON
Staff writer

FORT LAUDERDALE — At this point, each honor could get a little old for Dillard girls' basketball coach Marcia Pinder.

She's been celebrated for her success, longevity and character during her 41 years on the sideline. Even now, the feeling is the same when she brings home another accolade. On Wednesday, Pinder was given the 2018 Gatorade Coaching Excellence Award during the school's sports banquet.

"No," Pinder said when asked if she tires of winning awards. "Because it's something new all the time. This is totally different and over the top."

The honor, established in 2016, pays tribute to the "best and most dedicated high school coaches across the country." The boys' award went to Chicago Phillips' football coach Troy McAllister. Both will also be honored at the Gatorade Athlete of the Year Awards in July in Los Angeles.

Pinder said she was shocked to earn the honor because most came after winning one of her nine state titles. This year's Dil-

"This team, it's like they put 20 more years to my life. It was a joy, it was a pleasure coaching them. It was just so energetic."

Marcia Pinder, on her 2017-18 Dillard team

lard team, which only had one senior, lost to Fort Myers in the Class 7A state semifinals.

"It kind of like shocked me," said Pinder, who has a 942-212 record and is the winningest coach in state history. "We didn't win the state and still I'm getting this huge award from Gatorade and having the staff to come out and survey the school and ask me different questions, that's never happened."

It is third major honor Pinder has captured recently. Last year she won the Morgan Wooten Award for Lifetime Achievement in Coaching High School. In 2014, she was named to the National High School Athletic Coaches Association Hall of Fame.

At 66, Pinder said last year's run rejuvenated her career.

"This team, it's like they put 20 more years to my life," Pinder said. "It was a

joy, it was a pleasure coaching them. It was just so energetic. This was the first team that I've ever had I didn't have to really punish for not going 200 percent or being late ... It's a pleasure when you are that comfortable with a team. You don't have to worry about the academic part. The only thing you have to do is make sure they're performing well and getting what they need on the court."

Pinder has no plans of slowing down, either. She wants to continue her career long as possible.

"It's like anything else, I don't think about it," Pinder said of retirement. "If it happens, it happens. I don't have a time on it. I just let [God] be the captain of my ship ... I love what I'm doing."

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Twitter @shandelrich



CARLINE JEAN/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Nine-time state champion coach Marcia Pinder, who leads the Dillard girls basketball team, was named one of two 2017 Morgan Wootten Award honorees nationwide by the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame.

Local legend on a national court

Marcia Pinder

Dillard High School
girls basketball coach

918-206

Record over
40 seasons

9

State titles in
12 appearances

26

District titles

- ◆ Broward County Sports Hall of Fame inductee, 2002
- ◆ McDonald's All-American team coach, 2016
- ◆ National Federation of State High School Associations coach of the year, 2011
- ◆ Florida Dairy Farmers coach of the year, 2010, 2012, 2015

"As long as I can enjoy it and help somebody's child, I'm going to be here."

Marcia Pinder, who will be presented with the Morgan Wootten Award for Lifetime Achievement

BY SHANDEL RICHARDSON | Staff writer

Long before Marcia Pinder ever set foot on a court as a coach, she had faith she could conquer any challenge.

Pinder, the longtime girls basketball coach at Dillard High School in Fort Lauderdale, likes to think her determination dates to a childhood swimming pool visit. As a kid in Opa-locka, she would often watch other children in the water at Bunche Park. Pinder was afraid and didn't know how to swim.

One day, that changed when four brothers threw her in the deep end. She had a choice: sink or swim.

"I had to get out of the water somehow," Pinder said. "I had to swim. I don't know how I did it, but I got out of that pool that day."

Now the winningest high school basketball coach in the state, Pinder found a way to survive on the Broward County sports scene for decades, like she found a way to survive that day in the pool. After 40 seasons, 918 wins and nine state championships, her

See **PINDER, 19A**

DILLARD

Panthers' basketball: They play the game of monopoly

By Gene Wojcikowski

You've seen the latest reports: Underdog Dillard, the state's top-ranked girls basketball team and holder of a record 27 straight victories, wins by another one-point score.

The boys' team, ranked seventh in Florida, won its 24th game in a row and 27th out of 28. Dillard County's best player resides on the Dillard boys' roster. We're talking monopoly here. And it's not the first time the sort of thing has happened at Dillard.

Last season the girls' team won 30 games and the Class 4A state championship. In 1980, the Dillard girls' team advanced to the state semifinals. In 1979, it defeated Miami Northwestern for a state championship.

History tags on the shoulder of Dillard's boys' team, too. The Panthers own state championships in 1969, 1970, 1971 and 1972. Last year, the Dillard boys' team reached the regional final before losing to Twin Lakes. The Panthers are headed for another state playoff appearance this season.

No other high school in the county can match Dillard's basketball record. And no other high school in the county cherishes the sport as much as Dillard does. So popular is Dillard basketball that it traditionally attracts more fans and money than any other sport at the school, including football.

Since 1970, the boys' team has a 19-14 record, meaning they've won about 58 percent of their games. And the girls' record is more impressive. Since the 1974 season, when a county-wide program was started, the Panthers have a 120-20 record. That means they've won an amazing 86 percent of their games.

Other schools have had flings with success. Tucker Morris coached a state championship team at Pompano Beach. But he and Scraman were hard to beat in a few years ago. By usually has strong teams. St. Thomas occasionally is mentioned. But no school identifies with the sport as well as Dillard. It is a tradition started three decades ago. For now, the legacy rests in the hands of Butch Ingram and Marcia Pinder.

It's raining again, so Butch Ingram herds his physical education class into the Dillard gym. There they sit, waiting a while, listening for the sound of a ball that will release them from school. As they wait, Ingram takes with his roll book. Later, he wanders over to a trophy case that houses a series of framed photographs.

"That's the place of a trophy," says Ingram, pointing to the plaque on a shelf. "And over there is the 1959 team that won the state championship. It was taken in 1959's gym."

Ingram moves over to another trophy case. "There's Jim Ford," he says, gesturing toward Dillard's 1961 state championship team picture. "He came back, too. He's at Plantation, ya know."

Ingram rattles off more memories. He enjoys reminiscing. "We had some good teams," says Ingram. "And we had some good nights out there. He is pointing toward the basketball court. "We had games where they had to open the doors to fit all the people in."

Ingram played in the days when neighborhood school was a pretty name for segregation. There's now Pinder and Ingram, two other predominantly black high school basketball champions in the state who are black and white.

Ingram, now 32, has participated in every stage. He used to walk six miles to Dillard each day. "That's what a basket!" he played forward on two Dillard state championship teams in the early 1960s. And when he returned to Dillard, he was a high school sports teacher and a rising and rising success.

One season ago, he returned to Dillard as its boys' basketball coach. He replaced Herman Pittman, the man who had coached the team who had coached

Staff photo by EUGENE MORGAN

Dillard students, from left, Sharon Sweet, Melissa Holmes and Michael Parker let their feelings loose (above). The Panther girls' basketball team, owner of the state title last year, Coach Marcia Pinder (left) is looking for a repeat performance this year.

Butch Ingram the player; Ingram the coach (next).

him 16 years earlier. Ingram's mission: bring back the good old days when Dillard in basketball was harder than opening a wallet with your teeth.

"Basketball has always been a religion in this community," says Ingram, who left a successful program at Pinder's return to Dillard. "We're family here. The school is a family school. If you ever want to get into trouble with Dillard, just talk the family."

"But it's changed a bit. When I played here we had a lot of pride as far as athletes. We took it hard when one of our athletes slipped. This is a school to an athlete today. There's no more pride."

So Ingram improved. He learned from his own mistakes, who still teaches at Dillard, and added them to his own style of coaching. He continued Pittman's practice of being vocal and demonstrative during workouts and games. And he has been blessed with talented players, most notably, Colleen Clinton, who transferred from Pinder.

"Coach Pittman has always been like my silent coach after I left," said Ingram. "You can't look away from 30 to 35 years of experience. I remember forcing him like you'd force a student."

In two seasons, Ingram has won 15 of 14 games. He stresses defense, but isn't at all shy about the team runs and look and game. There's now Pinder and Ingram, two other predominantly black high school basketball champions in the state who are black and white.

"I don't think any coach in the county is as hard on a kid as I am," says Ingram. "You can sleep a kid down just as long as he knows he's stepped down for love, not hate."

"Man, I remember Coach Pittman. He'd ride you just like you had a handle on your back. But he had a purpose. That's what I'm trying to do. Build character. If you see a kid in the street next year selling dope, well, that's heartbreaking. You see all your work going down a vein."

Later at an afternoon practice, Ingram sends his guards down to one end of the court and the forwards and centers to the other end. The guards work on free

throws and a variety of shots from a 15 to 15-foot perimeter. Ingram plays with the forwards and centers. He sets up screens on the court and looks down at the players setting picks and screens. He then shows one of his forwards how to move past the pick and take the correct shot. Not once does he raise his voice. But during a team passing drill a few minutes later, Ingram can be heard through the doors of the gym. The passes are sloppy. The intent of the drill is wasted. Don't worry, says Ingram, his team will improve. They have to.

"I've just been blessed. God gave me a gift." If looks could kill, the visitor would be reading all first undergrowth, despite being on court, getting the way to be paid. "I

had it out with somebody last night about you people. How can you write those things about Coach Pinder. Run up the scores? Why do they play everyone the last. She can't help it if they score points."

The visitor pleads innocent. It doesn't matter. "The people in this county don't know how much Marcia Pinder does for these kids," the teacher says. "They do everything together. Do you know she even helps pay for some of their SAT's college entrance examinations?"

The teacher prays open the door to the girls' locker room. "Miss Pinder, there's a sports writer here in see you." The teacher closes the door. "This coming a few moments later, Pinder

emerged from the room. She is a tiny woman, two inches shorter than her assistant point guard, 5-foot-3 Katrina Loftis. Pinder, who wears glasses, is a lot of talk. She takes short, quick steps. It has been a struggle with Pinder. She wins games, but loses respect. One local newspaper has accused her of running up scores on opponents. She is nervous and hurt by the criticism. Pinder says her starting five rarely plays more than a half of the game as a team. In Saturday's district win over Boyd Anderson, 11 Dillard players appeared in the game. "I can't worry about it," she says. "I have too many other things to do."

Pinder has won 88 percent of her games (123-17) in six seasons. Repeat, at present. She arrived at Dillard in 1973 from St. Mary's Middle School where she taught cheerleading. In 1977, she married

Sharon Sweet, who had worked and the success has been instant. About 70 girls tried out for the Dillard girls' junior varsity team this year. Says Robert Green, Dillard's athletic director, "When you start winning a lot of kids want to be part of the tradition. Pinder has even managed to cut into the popularity of Ingram's program. He is the first to congratulate her."

"The boys' team has had a hell of a lot of accomplishments," Ingram says. "But the girls' team has made additional accomplishments." Pinder remembers Dillard's basketball program from her days at Miami's Carol City High School. The memory provides incentive.

"They were considered very hard to beat," she says. "If you could beat Dillard, you must be tough." Pinder, as well as Ingram, have revived the tradition.

Dillard's 1983 state championship team in ball coach at Plantation and Butch Ingram. (left) is looking for a repeat performance this year.

Plantation wins Region 3-4A, but can't wrestle away trophy

By Sharon Robb

Plantation High captured the trophy's first Region 3-4A wrestling title Saturday night at Winter Park, but the Coliseum have nothing to show for it.

"We were so excited after winning it," said Plantation Coach Tom Adams. "The boys came up to get our trophy and they tell us there's no trophy. The last time we won from Winter Park didn't buy any. I was so damn mad. They told us if we wanted a trophy we would have

to buy our own.

"That's as true as a real stop the face as far as I'm concerned. I have my principal call Winter Park this week. Last year we were running and we got a trophy from Longwood. It's not fair to the kids who wrestled well and contributed points. We didn't have anything to bring home."

The Coliseum didn't dwell on the sour note too long after qualifying five wrestlers for this week's state 4A tournament including region

champion Chris Knight (28-0) at 130 pounds. Knight will be joined by John Mettelle (24-1) at 130, Guy Berlioz (14-3) at 132, Jose Alvarez (17-3) at 140, and Gary Chis (25-1) at 154.

The state tournament has been moved to Winter Park High school Friday and Saturday. It was originally scheduled for Longwood. Longwood's gym, forcing the relocation, was damaged by a fire.

Longwood's gym, forcing the relocation, was damaged by a fire. Officials will still run the meet which goes under way 1 p.m. Fri-

day. The second round is 8:30 p.m.

The semifinals are Saturday at 10 a.m., followed by the wrestling finals at noon, consolation at 4:30 p.m., and championship final at 7:30 p.m.

The Coliseum, who had the region title clinched going into the final round, won with 107 points. Boca Raton was second with 94, the Boca Raton team in the team's history and Deerfield Beach was third with 87.

Deerfield Beach advanced five wrestlers including region champion Andrew Canby (24-2) at 171.

Canby knocked off David Clayton of Coral Springs for the third time this year, 11-3 in the final, after trading six points. In the semifinals and round Canby knocked Brian Sals of St. John's River State with a 10-0 decision.

St. John's River State's Brian Sals was second with 94, the Boca Raton team in the team's history and Deerfield Beach was third with 87.

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St. John's River State's Brian Sals was second with 94, the Boca Raton team in the team's history and Deerfield Beach was third with 87.

Safeea Ali

From: system@fortlauderdale.gov
Sent: Thursday, May 23, 2019 9:42 AM
To: Monique Damiano; Safeea Ali; StrategicCommunications
Subject: 2019 Citizens Recognition Awards Nomination Submittal

A new entry to a form/survey has been submitted.

Form Name: 2019 Citizens Recognition Awards Nomination Form
Date & Time: May 23, 2019 9:41 AM
Response #: 7
Submitter ID: 23843
IP address: 98.203.32.35
Time to complete: 35 min. , 2 sec.

Survey Details

Page 1

1. NOMINEE INFORMATION

Name of person being nominated: Gale M. Butler
Address: 2717 NE 26th Terrace
Phone: (954) 566-0660
Email address: gbutler@birchstatepark.org

2. NOMINATION SUBMITTED BY

Name of person submitting nomination: Trudy Reilly
Address: 3109 East Sunrise Boulevard
Phone: (954) 566-0660
Email address: treilly@birchstatepark.org

3. NOMINATION CATEGORY

Please select the category this nomination is for. You may only select one category per submission.

(o) DISTINGUISHED CITIZEN - The Distinguished Citizen award is given to that resident of the community who has contributed to the development of Fort Lauderdale over a number of years (i.e., a pioneer).

4. Based on the category selected above, please describe in detail the nominee's accomplishments or contributions to the community, including specific examples (1,000 words or less). Examples include significant contributions to the welfare and betterment of the community or the City, civic responsibility, financial contributions, volunteer service, leadership, projects accomplished, or other ways this person has improved the quality of life in Fort Lauderdale. A resume may not be substituted as a response to this question.

Gale returned to Fort Lauderdale in 1983 and joined Landmark Bank as head of Public Relations in the Marketing Department. C&S Bank bought Landmark in 1985 and to meet a challenge from the NAACP, Gale was asked to head up the diversity efforts in Broward County and 17 other Florida counties. Her main focus was Fort Lauderdale where she worked closely with NAACP head Carlton Moore to meet the requirements of the Community Reinvestment Act with which banks were required to comply. Efforts included communicating the new diversity guidelines to all areas of the bank. She also led employee involvement efforts creating inroads to the low income areas of Fort Lauderdale through employee mentoring, bank support of minority organizations such as the NAACP, the Urban League of Broward County, Old Dillard Museum and Walker Elementary School. Her personal efforts included serving on Neighborhood Housing Services and Habitat for Humanity boards and teaching tennis at Carter Park on Saturdays to low-income children. She continued promoting diversity efforts throughout her career first with Blockbuster and then with AutoNation culminating in working with Wayne Huizenga to make AutoNation the lead corporate donor (\$1 million) that paved the way for the community to establish the African-American Research Library and Cultural Center---only the third museum of its kind in the United States behind the Schomburg in Harlem and Auburn Avenue in Atlanta. Gale began the Broward Roundtable comprised of corporate donors and invited non-profit representatives to present, opening the door for corporate support. It lasted throughout her 30-year career resulting in the survival of many small but important and often, minority organizations. She served as Vice President of Corporate Affairs for Blockbuster and Autonation, working for Wayne Huizenga for almost 20 years.

5. Based on the nomination category selected and the accomplishments and contributions provided in Question 4, why does the nominee deserve an award in this particular category (250 words or less)?

Over her 30-year career, Gale has served on the boards of

- Annenberg Challenge
- American Red Cross
- Bonnet House (founding board)
- Boys and Girls Clubs of Broward
- Big Brothers Big Sisters
- Broward Partnership for the Homeless (founding board)
- Broward Roundtable (founder)
- Community Foundation of Broward
- Downtown Council of Fort Lauderdale Chamber of Commerce
- Downtown Development Authority (chair)
- Fort Lauderdale Film Festival (founder of support group Entre Nous)
- Habitat for Humanity (founding board)
- Kids in Distress
- Museum of Art
- Old Dillard Museum (founding chair)
- Stranahan House
- The Tower Club
- Lifetime member of Leadership Broward, Leadership Florida and alumnus of Leadership America
- 20-year mentor in the Women of Tomorrow Scholarship Program

Community Awards:

- March of Dimes Woman of Distinction
- Philharmonic Woman of Substance and Style
- Urban League of Broward's Margaret Roach Award for Community Trusteeship
- Broward Partnership for the Homeless James J. Blosser Community Trustee Award
- Take Stock in Children Mentor of the Year
- Big Brothers Big Sisters Lifetime Achievement Award
- Boys and Girls Clubs of Broward Lifetime Achievement Award
- United Way of Broward's Magnolia Lifetime Achievement Award
- Women in Distress Starfish Lifetime Achievement Award
- Junior Achievement's Melissa Aiello Good Character Award

6. Please provide a brief biography of the nominee (250 words or less). Please include information such as positions held, where the nominee is originally from, years lived in Fort Lauderdale, high school/college name, occupation, sports played, number of children/grandchildren, awards received, publications, etc.

Gale was born Gale Anne Lester at Broward General in Fort Lauderdale, Florida to Anne and Ken Lester (who had served as a captain in the Army Air Corps in London as a bomber pilot). They lived in a duplex on the property owned by her grandmother, Martha Read Adams who had moved to Fort Lauderdale in 1938. Throughout Gale's childhood, she spent half of every school year in Fort Lauderdale and the other half in her other hometown of Mountain Lakes, New Jersey. Her freshman year she attended Sunrise Jr. High, her sophomore year Mountain Lakes (cheerleader), her junior year at Pine Crest Preparatory School (Juniorettes and Swim Team) and graduated from Mountain Lakes High. Gale attended Moravian College in Bethlehem, PA for three years prior to graduating from the University of Miami in Florida. She earned a B.A. in English and minored in History. After college she joined Overseas National Airways based in New York City (JFK) and flew international routes for over five years to Europe, the Middle East (based in Iran and Saudi Arabia for 3 months for Hadj flights), Hawaii and flew troops on their way to either Frankfurt, Germany or Vietnam. During her time in the airlines she modeled with Flight 485. After living in Los Angeles, California and Washington, D.C., Gale returned to Fort Lauderdale for good in 1983 with her six month old son, Todd, now Chief Technology Officer of Niido, powered by Airbnb based in Miami, Florida.

7. FOR EXEMPLARY FORMER CITY EMPLOYEE CATEGORY ONLY

Years of service with the FORT LAUDERDALE
City:
Position(s) held: Not answered

8. SUPPORTING MATERIALS

Supporting materials, such as a nominee's resume, news articles, letters of recommendation, etc., may be attached to the nomination. Supporting materials may not be submitted in lieu of answering the questions above and are limited to five (5) additional pages.

Item 1 [Jim Blosser Letter.pdf](#)
Item 2 [Jim Ellis Letter.pdf](#)
Item 3 [Linda Carter Letter.pdf](#)
Item 3 [Ina Lee Letter.pdf](#)
Item 5 [Resume Gale Butler.pdf](#)

9. HOW DID YOU HEAR ABOUT THE CITIZENS RECOGNITION AWARDS CALL FOR NOMINATIONS? (Please select all that apply.)

☒ Fort Lauderdale Email Eblast

Thank you,
City of Fort Lauderdale, FL

This is an automated message generated by the Vision Content Management System™. Please do not reply directly to this email.



May 13, 2019

City of Fort Lauderdale Recognition Committee

Dear Committee and To Whom It May Concern:

I highly recommend Gale Butler as Fort Lauderdale's Distinguished Citizen of the Year. For decades, whether she worked in the corporate world at AutoNation or as the Executive Director of the Friends of Birch State Park, she has always championed not-for-profit organizations, mentoring our young people and done everything in her power to move the City forward in a responsible way. She has impacted multiple charities and has done so with dignity, grace and through community service.

Gale has more than "distinguished" herself as a model citizen for Fort Lauderdale.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ina Lee". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "I" and a long, sweeping underline.

Ina Lee
Owner/President

Citizens Recognition Awards Committee
City of Fort Lauderdale

Dear Ladies and Gentlemen:

Re: Recommendation for Gale Butler to be Distinguished Citizen of the Year

Gale Butler is an exceptional native of Fort Lauderdale who has and is doing exceptional things for the quality of life in Fort Lauderdale. As demonstrated in her extensive resume', her extraordinary and unselfish services during more that 36 years has been widely recognized with a broad range of Honors and Awards. Additionally, almost 20 of our most important Community non-profit organizations have benefited by her unselfish service and effective leadership on their Boards of Directors. And, to underscore the effectiveness of her leadership abilities, please note she is a graduate and lifetime member of Leadership Broward; a graduate of Leadership Florida; a graduate of Leadership America and the Founding Chair of the Women's Leadership Council of the United Way of Broward.

All of this while serving until 2014 with 3 of our largest and most Community "minded" corporations: Citizens and Southern National Bank of Florida (formerly Landmark Bank); Blockbuster Entertainment and AutoNation, Inc and now for the past 5 years as the Executive Director of the newly created Friends of Birch State Park. This 180 acre beachfront State "nature park" generously donated to the public by the late Hugh Taylor Birch has been neglected, under appreciated and underused for decades. In these past 5 short years with the support of a prestigious Board, she has:

- Created an awareness campaign to "Bring Birch Back";
- Created numerous informational and promotional materials, brochures and regular newsletters;
- Created numerous special and annual fund raisers and cultivated sponsorships and major donors;
- Secured grants (such as by the Community Foundation of Broward) to clean the lake and moat, improve the tunnel under A1A, etc;
- Helped restore the neglected Hugh Taylor Birch historic home which is now a visitor's center;
- Regularly introduces new and prospective supporters and donors to the importance of restoring and improving the beautiful Park;
- And much, much more!

The goal is to provide the Park with funding for projects and maintenance over and above the State park's budget. The effort is paying off with increased awareness/usage and numerous and significant projects already accomplished.

Gale is a "gem" of our City with unprecedented and unequalled accomplishments and impacts on a wide range of organizations, projects and, most importantly, our citizens. Having known and worked with Gale for many of these past 36 years, I'm pleased and honored to support and recommend her for your recognition as Fort Lauderdale's Distinguished Citizen of the Year. In my opinion, an HONOR that she well deserves!

Respectfully submitted,
Jim Blosser (a Fort Lauderdale resident for 54 years!!)

May 16, 2019

City of Fort Lauderdale
Citizens Committee of Recognition
100 N. Andrews Ave
Fort Lauderdale, FL
33301

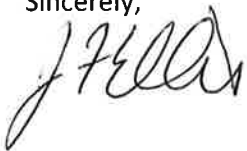
Dear Committee members:

It is my pleasure to recommend Gale M. Butler for the 2019 Citizen of the Year Award. Gale is a Fort Lauderdale native who since 1983 has served on many community boards and hosted numerous community events and fundraisers. For decades, Gale served as the face in the community for Fort Lauderdale's corporate giants: Blockbuster and then AutoNation, helping fund nonprofits and civic groups. Gale has been a board member for Boys and Girls Clubs, Habitat for humanity, Broward Partnership for the Homeless, Big Brothers Big Sisters, United Way of Broward and the Downtown Development Authority, amongst others. She has also been a mentor in both the Take Stock in Children and Women of Tomorrow programs for years.

I met Gale back in the early 1990's when we both worked at Blockbuster Entertainment Corporation and 5 years ago, I recruited her to be the Executive Director of Friends of Birch State Park. It has been an honor to work with Gale and I have developed enormous respect for her passion and dedication to help her community. She is well-respected and, over the years, has developed countless relationships within our community. During the last 5 years, she has worked tirelessly to bring awareness to Hugh Taylor Birch State Park and helped raise funds to "Bring Birch Back"! Many large-scale and smaller projects have been completed at the park and the community has rediscovered Hugh Taylor Birch State Park thanks to the efforts of Friends of Birch State Park led by Gale.

It has been a privilege to know and work with Gale, she is very caring and compassionate and over the years has devoted countless hours to various organizations. She has touched many lives in our community and has made Fort Lauderdale a better place to work and live. I can't think of anyone more deserving of this award than Gale Butler and I hope you will agree. Please feel free to contact me for any additional information you may require.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. Ellis", written over a horizontal line.

Jim Ellis
954-232-2500



Executive Committee

Steven W. Hudson
Chairman

James Donnelly
Vice Chairman

Cynthia Borders-Byrd
Treasurer

Juliet Murphy Roulhac
Secretary

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John B. Deinhardt

Founders

910 E. Las Olas Boulevard
Suite 200

Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301

T 954.761.9503

F 954.761.7102

cfbroward.org



Confirmed in Compliance
with National Standards for
U.S. Community Foundations

May 22, 2019

Ms. Trudy Reilly
Director of Development
Friends of Birch State Park
3109 E. Sunrise Boulevard
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33304

Dear Trudy:

It is my great honor to endorse Gale Butler for the City of Fort Lauderdale's Distinguished Citizen Award. She is a long-time advocate for the City and a dedicated ambassador. Her love for Fort Lauderdale is reflected in her professional and personal life. Not content to sit on the sidelines; Gale sees what needs to get done, rolls up her sleeves and gets to work.

When she was at Landmark Bank, Blockbuster and AutoNation she was the community's "go to" person. And, because of her leadership, she brought the philanthropic muscle of these corporations with her – all to make the City of Fort Lauderdale shine. Whether working on the General Obligation Bond Issue of 1988 that was the lynchpin of the Riverwalk, beach revitalization and Museum of Discovery Science; to working with Wayne Huizenga on a more humane approach to help the city's growing homeless population, no task was too big or too small. She often worked behind the scenes giving others the credit.

Being involved and engaged in the community has never been her job – it is her life. In her personal life, she is active in the Coral Ridge Homeowners Association and has taken leadership roles on its Board. She is comfortable sitting in meeting and engaging in conversations to make neighborhoods safer; or spending her Saturday installing plants around the neighborhood welcome signs.

Lastly, when she had the ability to retire, she didn't. Instead, she seized the opportunity to turn Birch State Park, a diamond in the rough, into a crown jewel for the City of Fort Lauderdale. Her creativity and energy knows no bounds and today people are discovering this special place for the first time.

There is no one more deserving than Gale Butler as the City of Fort Lauderdale Distinguished Citizen.

Sincerely,

Linda B. Carter
President/CEO

Gale M. Butler
2717 NE 26th Terrace
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33306
954-805-8196 GaleButler@GMail.com

Executive Experience: Public Relations - Marketing-Branding-Networking

Strengths throughout career have been the ability to work with media, promote cause or event, build a brand with creativity and consistency, and develop relationships with various social group for the purpose of both fundraising and friend raising.

Professional Experience:

Racing for Cancer

January –June 2014

Non-profit begun by Indycar Champion Ryan Hunter-Reay after his mother passed away from colon cancer, to promote the importance of early testing in saving lives.

Director of Development – Designed and produced fundraising materials aimed at national and local companies resulting in almost \$1 million raised in a six-month timeframe.

AutoNation, Inc.

March 1997 – December 2013

A \$20 billion automotive national retail company head quartered in Fort Lauderdale with more than 23,000 associates with 260 new car dealerships in 15 states primarily in the Sunbelt region.

Vice President of Corporate Affairs – Represented AutoNation in the South Florida area and nationwide through guidelines and oversight of community activities. Launched company-wide associate volunteer program geared toward enhancing the presence of dealerships in their communities. Established national award program for community involvement that included national and local posters and newsletters. Monitored and promoted diversity awareness and activities throughout the company. Won the national One to One mentoring program award begun by Colin Powell as well as named the Most Philanthropic Company by the local branch of the National Association of Fundraising Executives in 1999.

Blockbuster Entertainment

March 1992 – February 1997

A national 5,000-location retail unit of Viacom, Inc. based in Fort Lauderdale with more than 20,000 associates.

Vice President of Community Affairs and Internal Communications-Responsible for corporate image, community affairs, charitable contributions, and corporate events. Internal Communications included a, bi-monthly, company-wide newsletter covering Blockbuster Video, Blockbuster Music, Spelling Entertainment, Showtime, and Paramount Parks. Honored by the local branch of the National Association of Fundraising Executives as Most Philanthropic Company in 1997.

Citizens and Southern National Bank of Florida

October 1983 – February 1992

Vice President of Corporate Communications – Directed internal and external communications including associate publications, media relations, special events, charitable contributions, and community relations for a \$6 billion company. C&S Bank purchased Landmark Bank and was sighted by the NAACP resulting in my designing and executing a statewide campaign to create a diversity-friendly company image through numerous town hall meetings in the Bank's markets. Won national award from

the National Association of Fundraising Executives in 1991. Honored by the Sun-Sentinel with the Spirit of Volunteerism award in 1991. Following the purchase of C&S Bank by NCNB in 1992, promoted to Vice President of Employee Public Relations for Florida, Georgia and North Carolina for NationsBank, now Bank of America.

Education and Community Involvement:

Native of Fort Lauderdale and graduate of University of Miami with a bachelor's degree in English with a minor in History.

Graduate and lifetime member of Leadership Broward, Leadership Florida and Leadership America. Founding chair of Women's Leadership Council of the United Way of Broward. Served on state board of Take Stock in Children and named Mentor of the Year in 2002.

Past/Present board member of the following community non-profit organizations:

- The Greater Fort Lauderdale/Broward Alliance (Vice Chair)
- Boys and Girls Clubs of Broward
- United Way of Broward
- American Red Cross
- Salvation Army
- Habitat for Humanity (Joined the Jimmy Carter 5-day build in Chaing Mai, Thailand – 2009)
- The Bonnet House and Gardens (Chair)
- Kids in Distress (event chair)
- Big Brothers Big Sisters
- Community Foundation of Broward
- Fort Lauderdale Film Festival (Chair and founder of support group "Entre Nous)
- Museum of Art (nominating committee)
- Annenberg Challenge
- Downtown Council (steering committee/secretary/vice chair)
- Old Dillard Museum (founding chair)
- The Tower Club

Awards:

- Woman of Distinction – March of Dimes
- Downtowner of the Year – Downtown Council
- James J. Blosser Community Trustee Award – Broward Partnership for the Homeless
- Mentor of the Year (Take Stock in Children)
- Lifetime Achievement Award (Big Brothers Big Sisters)
- Margaret Roach Award for Community Trusteeship (Urban League)
- Lifetime Achievement Award (Boys and Girls Clubs of Broward)
- Magnolia Lifetime Achievement Award (Women's Council of United Way of Broward)

Personal:

Single with one son, Todd Adams Butler (31), who, after receiving his MBA from George Washington University recently, lives in Washington, D.C. and works for Bozuto, Inc., a national residential management company, as Director of Technology Marketing. Enjoy reading, tennis, skiing, swimming, and traveling.

From: system@fortlauderdale.gov
To: [Monique Damiano](#); [Safeea Ali](#); [StrategicCommunications](#)
Subject: 2019 Citizens Recognition Awards Nomination Submittal
Date: Friday, May 31, 2019 1:53:03 PM

A new entry to a form/survey has been submitted.

Form Name: 2019 Citizens Recognition Awards Nomination Form
Date & Time: May 31, 2019 1:51 PM
Response #: 18
Submitter ID: 24056
IP address: 73.85.63.91
Time to complete: 11 min. , 42 sec.

Survey Details

Page 1

1. NOMINEE INFORMATION

Name of person being nominated: Maestro James Brooks-Bruzzese
Address: 1430 NE 56th Street Ft Lauderdale, FL 33334
Phone: (954) 491-5293
Email address: Colon14boy@aol.com

2. NOMINATION SUBMITTED BY

Name of person submitting nomination: Johanna Wright-Vines
Address: 3641 SW 2nd St Ft Lauderdale, FL 33312
Phone: (954) 369-6004
Email address: cellojo.sfl@gmail.com

3. NOMINATION CATEGORY

Please select the category this nomination is for. You may only select one category per submission.

(o) DISTINGUISHED CITIZEN - The Distinguished Citizen award is given to that resident of the community who has contributed to the development of Fort Lauderdale over a number of years (i.e., a pioneer).

4. Based on the category selected above, please describe in detail the nominee's accomplishments or contributions to the community, including specific examples (1,000 words or less). Examples include significant contributions to the welfare and betterment of the community or the City, civic responsibility, financial contributions, volunteer service, leadership, projects accomplished, or other ways this person has improved the quality of life in Fort Lauderdale. A resume may not be substituted as a response to this question.

Introduction

Maestro James Brooks-Bruzzese's (Maestro) prolific career has spanned 45-years as Founder, Artistic Director, Conductor of three orchestras, and Educator in Fort Lauderdale. A champion of fine arts education and culture, he mentored young musicians and shared the stage with world-renowned artists.

As a musical ambassador, some famous artists Maestro has attracted to perform in Fort Lauderdale are:

Yo-Yo Ma (Cello),
Emanuel Ax (Piano),
Roberto Cani (Violin),
Thomas Tirino (Piano),
Marcin Bronikowski (Baritone),
Rudolf Nureyev (Dancer),
Courtenay Budd (Soprano), and
Alejandro Drago (Violin).

Maestro's has been hailed for his "inspiring, ingenious, and electrifying, musical artistry."
(ThinkMagazine.com) His international acclaim has led to conducting engagements in legendary concert venues, such as:

Vigado Concert Hall (Budapest, Hungary),
Concertgebouw (Amsterdam, Netherlands),
Teatro Colon (Buenos Aires, Argentina),
Teatro El Circulo (Argentina), and
National Theatre of Panama (Panama City, Panama).

And with major orchestras: Berlin Symphony, Cape Town Opera, and Hungarian Virtuosi.

Performing in 54 countries, Maestro shares his love and passion for music, but Fort Lauderdale is home.

Early Days

Maestro was born and raised in the Panama Canal Zone. Duquesne University (Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania) offered Maestro a full scholarship, earning his bachelor's and master's degree in music. He served in the U.S. Army during the Vietnam War. As a Captain, his duties included: training soldiers in weaponry and conducting the U.S. Army Band, where Generals revered him for his musical artistry. After his tour, Maestro returned to Washington University on a full scholarship, obtaining a Ph.D. in Opera Conducting. In 1975, he relocated to South Florida with no job prospects.

Beginnings in Fort Lauderdale

Maestro's first teaching job was as a substitute teacher at Pompano Beach Middle School, which led to a full-time teaching job. He later taught at Pompano Beach High School, Broward Community College, and Florida Atlantic University. He touched the lives of many aspiring musicians, which led to the musical growth and professional development of the following student body:

- Glenn Basham (Violin), a student under Maestro at Pompano High School, performed with the Detroit Symphony, first violinist in the Bergonzi String Quartet, and artist faculty at the University of Miami (UM); currently concertmaster in the Naples Philharmonic.
- Sandy Riblett (Violin) performed in the youth orchestra under the baton of Maestro, later with the Florida Chamber Orchestra, and currently the personnel manager and violinist with the Symphony of the Americas.

- Black Violin: Kevin Sylvester (aka Kev Marucs, Violin) and Wilner Baptiste (aka Wil B, Viola), received their first instruments at Parkway Middle School. At Dillard High School, they attended master classes with Maestro which left a lasting impression. Maestro stressed that mastering their perspective instruments can give them a voice and open global doors.

Building a Musical Community

Maestro co-founded the Broward County Community Youth Symphony in 1975. For eleven years, the mission was to train young musicians in music and discipline. Additionally, he founded the Florida Chamber Orchestra in the 1980s which consisted of professional musicians and highly talented musicians from the youth orchestra. Highly acclaimed, they performed throughout the United States. Ultimately this became Symphony of the Americas which is based at the Broward Center for the Performing Arts. The Maestro and his orchestras have inaugurated both the Amaturo Theater and the Delta Terminal at Fort Lauderdale International Airport.

Educational Outreach

Maestro created Summerfest to not only enrich the cultural environment of South Florida (Fort Lauderdale) and the Americas but also an outreach program to foster cultural relations between local musicians and at-risk children in South America. Concerts are held in intimate settings where diverse orchestral music is performed by a collaboration of musicians and guest artists. The goal is to introduce masterworks in ways that are familiar yet accessible to life-long learners and young students. He is the first Hispanic who brought music education programs from the United States to Latin America for over thirty years.

Maestro partnered with Broward Center for Performing Arts to promote music education in the Broward County School Systems through the "Student Enrichment Through the Arts" (SEAS) Program. This program is a unique partnership between Broward Center for the Performing Arts and Broward County Public School system, playing an integral part of Broward County educational programs. Each performance is curriculum-driven and aligned with Florida standards. The programs include music, dance, drama, historical dramas, and engagement multi-cultural programs. The program reaches school-age children from kindergarten to 12th grade for free.

The relationship has led to music education through lectures, master-classes, symphonic performances, and unique orchestral composition, The Everglades Symphony. In the past 28 years, he has reached between 65,000 to 70,000 Broward County students.

From the Classroom to the Environment

In 1999, Maestro, along with student musicians and dancers from Broward County, spent a weekend in the Florida Everglades learning about the ecology and ways to save the Everglades. The students created a multi-media performance which was inspired by their exposure to the Everglades. Based upon musical themes created by the musicians and dance interruptions, David Heckendor (Composer/Arranger) created the Everglades Symphony. This work was performed with members from the Symphony of the Americas and musicians from Parkway and Dillard Centers for the Arts, in side-by-side performance. The first movement featured the Parkway Pizazz Jazz Dance Company, choreographed by Denyse Savetz. Cylde Butcher (Photographer) shared his photography and spoke of the importance and beauty of the Everglades. Finally, Ron Magill (Miami Metro Zoo) showcased live animals which claimed the Everglades as their home. This weekend and symphony blended history, science, and performing art that reached over 5,000 students, either through participation or as audience members.

Accolades

Maestro studied with legendary artists: Leonard Slatkin (Conductor) and Pablo Casals (Cellist/conductor). He is comfortable performing demanding classical symphonic works, operatic works, and Broadway. His performances are recorded on Pickwick Records in London, under the Hallmark and Orchid labels. The Hollywood Favorites CD was listed on the top 20 charts. Additionally, there are another 30 recordings under the Symphony of the Americas own label.

5. Based on the nomination category selected and the accomplishments and contributions provided in Question 4, why does the nominee deserve an award in this particular category (250 words or less)?

Maestro James Brooks-Bruzzese (Maestro) has spent his career as an educator, a musician, and a conductor; all in service of enriching our community. Since his relocation to Fort Lauderdale, his role as a citizen translated his love of classical music to opportunities to develop our youth, refine the professional goals of aspiring local musicians, and provide the community with the best classical music has to offer.

Music is an international language; it has the ability to evoke deep emotions. It causes humans to respond, by feeling an emotional response and through movement. Music is universal, even if the genre of the music differs. Music is truly diverse. Maestro embraces this language and uses it as a vehicle to communicate with his audiences around the world.

Broward Center's President and CEO Kelley Shanley "hailed [the] Maestro ... and [the] orchestra's important contribution to classical programming, arts education, and community outreach that has extended far beyond its home base in Fort Lauderdale."

The 2019-2020 season of Symphony of the Americas will mark the end of an era as the Maestro retires and moves towards the next chapter in his life.

He will leave a legacy befitting a distinguished citizen of Fort Lauderdale.

6. Please provide a brief biography of the nominee (250 words or less). Please include information such as positions held, where the nominee is originally from, years lived in Fort Lauderdale, high school/college name, occupation, sports played, number of children/grandchildren, awards received, publications, etc.

Maestro James Brooks-Bruzzese, Ph.D. is an accomplished and respected musical leader, dedicated to the arts. He earned his doctorate in Opera Conducting and Musicology from Washington University and coached in a master class under Pablo Casals, and studied with conductors Leonard Slatkin, Ignace Strassfogel and Richard Karp.

During his career, Brooks-Bruzzese produced award-winning student musicals, founded Florida Atlantic University Symphony and the BCC Youth Symphony. Additionally, he founded the Florida Chamber Orchestra, the Florida Music Festival, and the Symphony of the Americas. Summerfest continues to perform for audiences around the globe.

Maestro has appeared with National Symphonies from Central America to Europe. He was the first American to conduct the National Orchestra of Pleven, Bulgaria. He's conducted or collaborated with the finest artists in the world, including Yo-Yo Ma, Emanuel Ax, Phyllis Diller, Doc Severinsen, Mariah Carey, and many others.

Recognized by world leaders and dignitaries, Maestro's accolades include: Hispanic Heritage Foundation's Award for the Arts, a Critics Choice Award at Brazil's Villa Lobos Festival (Rio de Janeiro), 2009 Amigos Award from Hispanic Unity of Florida, and praised by President Reagan as an "Ambassador to Latin America for his exceptional musical talents and diplomatic skills."

Maestro with Rotary International and Sister Cities formed a humanitarian tour to Haiti which raised more than \$50,000 for reforestation and potable water efforts.

His featured recordings have been aired on NPR globally and his thirty compact disc recordings are with Pickwick Records in London as well as the Symphony of the Americas private label.

7. FOR EXEMPLARY FORMER CITY EMPLOYEE CATEGORY ONLY

Years of service with the City: Fort Lauderdale
Position(s) held: Not answered

8. SUPPORTING MATERIALS

Supporting materials, such as a nominee's resume, news articles, letters of recommendation, etc., may be attached to the nomination. Supporting materials may not be submitted in lieu of answering the questions above and are limited to five (5) additional pages.

Item 1 [Outreach.pdf](#)
Item 2 [Recommendations.pdf](#)
Item 3 [Background - FINAL & SUBMITTED.pdf](#)
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Item 5 [Articles.pdf](#)

9. HOW DID YOU HEAR ABOUT THE CITIZENS RECOGNITION AWARDS CALL FOR NOMINATIONS? (Please select all that apply.)

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Music to Our Ears

🕒 November 30, 2017 👤 by Amy Lynne Hayes 💬 0 comments

This season marks a milestone for Symphony of the Americas and maestro James Brooks-Bruzzese in more ways than one. Not only has the symphony been a vibrant part of the community for 30 years, but it continues to make classical music accessible and inspiring at a time when similar cultural entities around the country struggle.

“Isn’t it wonderful that we, as a symphony orchestra, have been in the community for 30 years?” asks executive director Renée LaBonte. “The fact that we are still here and [still] producing as a nonprofit organization—and that we have been able to survive—is worth celebrating.”

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Symphony Of The Americas Celebrates Thirtieth Anniversary At Season Opening With Stellar Soloists And Great Music Making

Symphony Of The Americas Celebrates Thirtieth Anniversary At Season Opening With Stellar Soloists And Great Music Making

Oct 12 2018 | Published by City View | font size | Print | Email |



The Symphony of the Americas opening concert of the 2018-2019 season on Tuesday night at the Broward Center's Amaturo Theater was cause for celebration indeed.

The event marked the ensemble's thirtieth anniversary and the commencement of its fourth decade. Prior to the program, the Broward Center's President and CEO Kelley Shanley hailed the orchestra's important contribution to classical programming, arts education and community outreach that has extended far beyond its home base in Fort Lauderdale. Shanley noted that Maestro James Brooks-Bruzzese and the orchestra inaugurated the Amaturo Theater, giving the first concert in the hall. The ensemble remains the intimate auditorium's mainstay and the season opener proved a capital artistic event.

Following a rousing rendition of The National Anthem, Brooks-Bruzzese led a sparking performance of the Overture to Donizetti's comic opera Don Pasquale. The melody of the tenor aria Come gentil was phrased with élan by principal cellist Iris Van Eck.

Just in time for Halloween, Brooks-Bruzzese captured the Latin color and exotic incantation of Manuel De Falla's Ritual Fire Dance from El Amor Brujo. The growling brass and alert and precise strings conjured up the spooky evocation of a sorcerer to banish evil spirits. Orgia - Danza Fantástica No. 3 by Joaquín Turina evoked multiple hues of instrumental sonority. The rich tone of Van Eck's cello and Marco Key-Navarrete's evocative solo oboe were first among equals in an exciting ensemble traversal of this Andalusian gem.

Ciro Fodere has been one of South Florida's stalwart keyboard soloists, chamber music and ensemble players. Fodere assayed contemporary Uruguayan composer Florencia Di Concilio's Piano Concerto No. 2, a brilliant virtuoso display piece. Fodere had given the premiere of the score in 2017 and he has performed it in North and South America on multiple occasions. Di Concilio, who has studied at the College of Charleston, New England Conservatory and Paris Conservatoire, has written scores for numerous French and Spanish language films. Her concerto displays an exceptional melodic gift. The initial Moderato movement is dominated by haunting thematic material in the manner of Rachmaninoff. Fodere brought sweeping sonority and keyboard spanning aplomb to this appealing work. Brooks-Bruzzese and the orchestra were full partners with particularly distinguished contributions from the lustrous strings and winds. Concertmaster Bogdan Chruszcz's solo was spun with elegance and Fodere superbly conveyed the bravura pyrotechnics of the cadenza. He brought verve and

rhythmic exactitude to the pianistic fireworks of the concluding Allegro. The orchestra unleashed a flood of timbral power in the finale, illustrating Di Concilio's splendidly gauged orchestration. This score is a sure fire crowd pleaser and Fodere and Brooks-Bruzzese received enthusiastic bravos from the audience.

While the comic operas of Gioachino Rossini are well known, his more dramatic works have largely languished in obscurity. Recent revivals have proven many of these scores worthy and viable. Long before Verdi penned his operatic masterpiece, Rossini created an operatic version of Otello in 1816, based on the Shakespeare play. Brooks-Bruzzese opened the concert's second half with the classically framed overture to that score. Despite the opera's subject matter, the overture abounds in typically sparkling themes. Brooks-Bruzzese is a Rossinian to the manor borne and he captured the bright energetic thrust of the music with total stylishness, abetted by the musicians' incisive articulation.

Mozart's Concerto for Two Pianos is one of the genius from Salzburg's most delightful works and Fodere and Uruguayan pianist and pedagogue Enrique Graf concluded the concert with a first rate performance that took the full measure of the score's inspired melodies and pianistic virtuosity. Graf's light, fleet touch and Fodere's more overtly dynamic approach melded perfectly from the duo's first unison entrance. The secondary subject of the opening Allegro was stated with delicacy and finesse by Graf, Brooks-Bruzzese integrating the instrumental lines in true concertante fashion. Finely variegated dynamics and vivacity marked Graf and Fodere's spot on rendering of the cadenza.

The concerto's Andante found the pianists' purity of line and sheer expressive musicality aptly suggesting the almost operatic quality of Mozart's thematic invention. In this concerto, Mozart left the best for last. The concluding Rondo is one of his most vivacious creations. Graf and Fodere vividly brought forth both the movement's boldly assertive heft and silken melodic richness. Transitions between episodic sections were smoothly achieved and the modulation to the sudden stormy passages had appropriate weight without loss of aristocratic grace. The players brought out the score's authentic charm with Brooks-Bruzzese lending lively, precise support in a great display of perfect teamwork. A lengthy, well deserved cheering ovation ended the evening on a festive note.

The Symphony of the Americas presents Holiday Music and Movies December 4 at 7⁴⁵ p.m. and December 9 at 2 p.m. at the Broward Center Amatur Theater. 954-335-7002 www.sota.org

Last modified on Oct 12, 2018

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THE MAESTRO MUSES: SYMPHONY OF THE AMERICAS' ARTISTIC DIRECTOR, JAMES BROOKS-BRUZZESE, REMINISCES ABOUT HIS ILLUSTRIOUS CAREER

Under the guidance of Maestro James Brooks-Bruzzese, South Florida's acclaimed Symphony of the Americas has emerged as one of Broward County's major cultural Institutions. This year, the Symphony celebrates its 29th season of concerts in its performance home, the Broward Center for the Performing Arts, and the tri-county area.

When asked about his most important contributions to Broward's cultural climate, the Maestro immediately mentions his work with children, not only in South Florida, but around the world. "We have to care about our children. They are the next world leaders, and without music in their life, there is no balance. They need an outlet to express themselves, and even if they only use their musical exposure and education to become good listeners, they will have a much better ability to meet life's challenges and become good leaders."

Brooks-Bruzzese was born in a bilingual home in Panama to a Colombian mother and American father in the US Armed Forces. He arrived in South Florida in the early 1970's, teaching in area schools and universities, where he created student orchestras and won national awards. For the past 40 years, he has been an icon in South Florida's arts scene, shaping the cultural identity of the community. His contribution to South Florida's professional music landscape includes the creation of the Florida Music Festival, as well as the founding of the Florida Chamber Orchestra, which evolved into the South Florida Symphony Orchestra. Maestro's first love is opera. He founded the Augusta Opera with singers of the Met and London's Covent Garden, and holds a PhD. in opera conducting.

The Symphony's well-known Summerfest just completed its 25th year with "Best of the Best," bringing the fine artistic reputation of the Symphony to diverse audiences in cultural capitals of the world. The six week festival joins musicians from acclaimed foreign orchestras, with those of the Symphony, and features performances in the US, Europe, and Central & South America.

Internationally, Maestro Brooks-Bruzzese's credits are a force to be reckoned with, highlighting appearances in over thirty-five countries. His international itinerary includes concerts in Berlin, Budapest, Amsterdam, South Africa, Buenos Aires, Asia, Africa, and Russia, just to name a few. One of his most memorable performances was at Amsterdam's legendary Concertgebouw. The Amsterdam press called it "A remarkable performance! ... three standing ovations!" Maestro remembers the steps. "It seemed like 100! The long staircase adjacent to the stage was the way every conductor entered, and when I received all the standing ovations, it meant three times up and down the entire staircase ... that was as memorable as the conducting!"

While conducting an American pops concert in Berlin, when the hall was filled to capacity, people lined up around the outside of the theater with their hands on the wall, hoping to feel some of the vibration of the music of Gershwin and all the American rhythms. "To be responsible for opening the experience of American music to those so hungry for it, is an amazing memory," recalls Maestro. "It proves how important music is to all of us."

In addition, his work with international soloists includes Yo-Yo Ma, Emanuel Ax, Joaquin Achucarro, Eugene Istomin, Yefim Bronfman, the Ashkenazys, Roberta Peters, Eugenia Zukerman, Leonard Rose, Janos Starker, and Cuban pianist, Jorge Luis Prats – one of today's most acclaimed powerhouse soloists. Maestro has an intimate knowledge of many genres of

music. His work in the pop arena has showcased Phyllis Diller, Doc Severinsen and Mariah Carey, among others. Conducting dance, he says, is always a challenge. "Tempo is important to the dancers—they always say it's 'too fast, or too slow,' but I am fortunate to always have their mark of approval!" He has collaborated with Rudolph Nureyev, Amanda McKerrow, Gelsey Kirkland, and the Atlanta, Pittsburgh & Joffrey Ballet companies.

As a Rotarian, he instituted a joint project with Rotary and Sister Cities, taking Symphony musicians to Haiti. A humanitarian tour through music, the project raised over \$50,000 through performances in cities and hillside churches, for potable water efforts and re-forestation. Maestro works with Rotary throughout the world in his performance travels. It is no wonder that Maestro is recognized worldwide. In 2005, he was honored at Washington's Kennedy Center with the Hispanic Heritage Foundation's Award for the Arts for his lifelong work as a world-renowned conductor and dedication to promoting classical music to youth around the world. "To meet Jose Feliciano and Solidad Obrien is an honor in itself, but to be honored alongside both of them, AND conduct the National Symphony at the Awards, was truly a highlight in my life," he remembers.

Interestingly enough, despite his global accomplishments, the most enjoyable concert Maestro has conducted to date was in South Florida. "It was another first, right here in Ft. Lauderdale – conducting the US Synchronized Swimming Team with full orchestra at the pools edge, in one of our many specially choreographed presentations."



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by *Andrea Cabrera* (<http://thinkmagazines.com/author/andrea/>) on January 20, 2017

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Maestro James Brooks Bruzzese: Once Upon a Music Note

By Vanessa Padilla

"We must continue to enrich our youngest generations with the healing and uplifting influence of music."

Maestro James Brooks-Bruzzese began his conducting career nearly 50 years ago, and is celebrating a 29-year legacy along with the Symphony of the Americas this season as the Founder and Artistic Director for programs that reach around the world and bring pride to Ft. Lauderdale, as it expands its own international reputation. His talent and dedication have raised Florida's prominence as a true cultural center for music and artistry. Major music capitals of the world from Budapest to Johannesburg have hailed the Maestro for his "inspiring, ingenious, and electrifying" musical artistry. The Symphony, a Broward County designated Major Cultural Institution, is based at the Broward Center for the Performing Arts.

When asked about his most important contributions to Broward's cultural climate, the Maestro immediately mentions his work with children, not only in South Florida, but around the world. "We have to care about our children. They are the next world leaders, and without music in their life, there is no balance. They need an outlet to express themselves, and even if they only use their musical exposure and education to become good listeners, they will have a much better ability to meet life's challenges and become good leaders."

His educational commitment brings the greatest of guest artists and mentors the smallest of students throughout Florida and the Americas, bringing classical music to life by introducing masterworks in ways that are familiar and accessible. He inspires young students and life-long learners alike, taking care to especially reach those at risk. He is the first Hispanic who has consistently over the past eight years brought music education programs from the US to children in Latin America. In regards to his commitment to bringing musical education to our communities he believes that a city without music is like a human being without a soul.

Brooks-Bruzzese was born in a bilingual home in Panama to a Colombian mother and American father in the US Armed Forces. His most vivid memories of the early years that spurred him to follow music, was leading his own dance band group – playing piano and trumpet in high school. When asked how he feels today about his choice of career, he responds, "it was absolutely right! Life is so interesting with conducting in over 50 countries – the best part is learning about a myriad of cultures, customs and food!"

He arrived in South Florida in the early 1970's, teaching in area schools and universities, where he created student orchestras and won national awards. For the past 40 years, he has been an icon in South Florida's arts scene, shaping the cultural identity of the community. His contribution to South Florida's professional music landscape includes the creation of the Florida Music Festival, founding Sinfonia Virtuosi and chorus, evolving into Symphony of the Americas. In 2005, he was honored at Washington's Kennedy Center with the Hispanic Heritage Foundation's award for the Arts in recognition of his lifelong work.

If he had the power to solve one and only one problem in the world, he replied "Starvation. If everyone could eat, it would be a basic start to solving so many problems, helping to eliminate crime, jealousy." On a positive note, he shares that the difference of growing up today and states, "The influence in the vast changes made in communications and medicine. Yet what has stayed constant is the enrichment and power of music to all around the world."



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THE FACES OF FORT LAUDERDALE

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Renée LaBonte & Maestro James Brooks-Bruzzese, Symphony of the Americas

In 1988, when Symphony of the Americas' Artistic Director Maestro James Brooks-Bruzzese decided to create an orchestra in Fort Lauderdale, it must have looked like a fool's errand. In the heyday of hair bands, decrepit hotels and seedy bars, the conductor saw an oasis ripe with opportunity. Spending his training and doctorate living in colder cities up north, he was eager to settle into a more welcoming climate. Fort Lauderdale reminded him of his native Panama, so he set up his music stand and began conducting his vision. Now, in its 31st season as the orchestra in residence and the official performance partner

with the Broward Center for the Performing Arts, Symphony of the Americas is world-renowned.

Working alongside the Maestro is Vice President and Executive Director Renée LaBonte. As a classical concert pianist herself, LaBonte provides a working knowledge of what happens on stage. Off stage, her approachability and forward-thinking help keep the performances new, exciting and fresh. With series like their Summerfest concerts and tour, or watching as a French artist creates an original new work on stage while the orchestra plays Debussy, Bruzzese and LaBonte have been at the center of Fort Lauderdale's transition from metal to Mozart for years. And with many projects always in the works, the band will continue to play on.



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Music Of Lecuona Sizzles With Tirino And Symphony Of The Americas

Written by Lawrence Budmen
Published: October 14 2017

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The sparkling rhythms and rich melodic tapestry in the music of Ernesto Lecuona (1895-1963) flow from deep within Cuba's cultural heritage. On Tuesday, October 10 the Symphony of the Americas opened its 30th anniversary season at the Broward Center's Amatur Theater with a Hispanic and Italian Heritage Tribute featuring pianist Thomas Tirino playing Lecuona. A brilliant virtuoso who has performed across the globe, Tirino is an authority on the Cuban composer's works. He has researched and edited numerous Lecuona scores, performed the music in countless concerts internationally and made Grammy-winning recordings of Lecuona's complete piano scores. It is difficult to imagine anyone playing this music as well as Tirino. His combination of technical mastery and idiomatic flair consistently produces memorable performances.

In spoken comments from the stage prior to his performance, Tirino noted that seven decades earlier to the day Lecuona had conducted the premiere of his Rapsodia Negra at Carnegie Hall. This score's principal theme was also utilized in Lecuona's dramatic zarzuela El Cafetal. Lively contrasting motifs and dramatic orchestral writing propel this fine score. Tirino's fluency in this repertoire is without peer. Splendidly supported by Maestro James Brooks-Bruzzese and the ensemble, his performance was both brilliant and replete with aristocratic warmth.

Tirino's own arrangement of Lecuona's Suite Andalucia featured some of the Cuban master's most famous melodies. Cordoba and Andaluza pulsed with rhythmic energy and wonderfully subtle pianistic colors. Two solo piano vignettes brought a keyboard tour de force Guadalquivir and the gorgeously impressionistic Alhambra. Under Tirino's fingers, Gitanerias emerged as the very soul of the dance. Tirino's version of Malagueña brought out the beloved vignette's rhapsodic qualities without neglecting fleet-fingered propulsion. With full-bodied orchestral accompaniments, this sampling of Lecuona's greatest hits proved irresistible.

Repeated standing ovations and cheers brought two encores from Tirino. Although Lecuona has become his niche repertoire, this terrific pianist is widely versatile. His first encore illustrated that abundantly. Franz Liszt's Paraphrase on Verdi's Rigoletto is a pianistic minefield that only the most steel-fingered, musically precise keyboard artists dare tackle. Tirino's reading was dazzling. He swept through the knuckle busting octaves and brought finely variegated dynamics to Liszt's showpiece without neglecting its songful bel canto roots. For his second encore, Tirino played a scintillating Lecuona danzon that he had transcribed from a 1920's recording by the composer.

On the concert's first half, following a rousing rendition of The Star-Spangled Banner, Maestro Brooks-Bruzzese led the Symphony of the Americas in a sparkling traversal of Rossini's Overture to La Gazza Ladra. All the score's quirky turns were vibrantly accounted for and the quintessential

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Rossinian crescendo had a potent impact. Mexican composer Arturo Marquez's Danzon No. 2 was alternately sensuous and hard driving. This is a wonderful Latin American score and the orchestra gave it a high voltage performance. A lively reading of the Overture to Donizetti's Anna Bolena concluded the pre-intermission part of the program. The important wind solos in these works were superbly articulated and the entire ensemble was in fine form. Celebrating three decades of performances, the orchestra's season opener was festive indeed!

The Symphony of the Americas season continues with Holiday Voices featuring the Florida Singing Sons and Girl Choir of South Florida 2 p.m. December 3 and 7:45 p.m. December 5 at the Amaturo Theater.

www.symphonyoftheamericas.org

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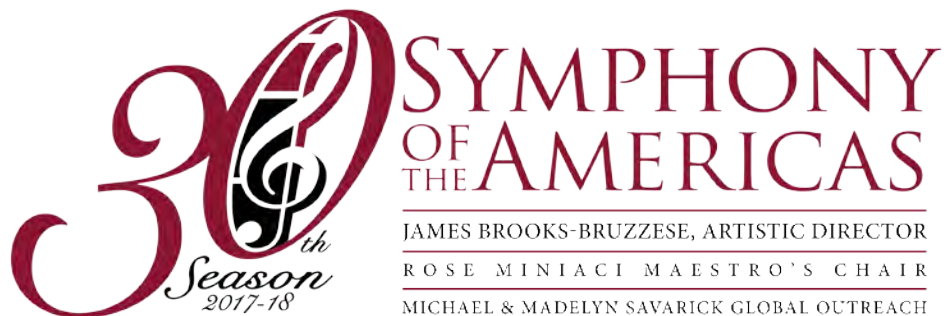
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Study Guide

FROM SEA TO SHINING SEA



January 12, 2018

10 am & 11:30 am

**Broward Center for the Performing Arts – Amaturo Theater
Rose Miniaci Education Concert Series
SEAS Program, Broward County Schools**



James Brooks-Bruzzese

ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

ROSE MINIACI MAESTRO'S CHAIR

Maestro of South Florida's acclaimed Symphony of the Americas, Dr. James Brooks-Bruzzese, was born in Panama in a bilingual home — his mother born in Colombia and his late father a member of the United States Armed Forces. He received his doctorate in

Opera Conducting and Musicology from Washington University in St. Louis. Maestro coached in a master class on the music of Bach under the baton of the great Pablo Casals. Additional studies were with eminent conductors Leonard Slatkin, of St. Louis Symphony and the National Symphony Orchestra; Ignace Strassfogel of New York's Metropolitan Opera and Richard Karp of Pittsburgh Opera. Their mentorship is evident in Maestro's founding of the Augusta Opera with singers from the Metropolitan Opera, Chicago Opera and London's Covent Garden, receiving critical acclaim from Pittsburgh Post and Opera News Magazine. His musicianship is acclaimed as "Dynamic...exciting...and remarkably controlled, but simultaneously free spirited."

Maestro founded the Florida Music Festival and Symphony's Summerfest, now in its 26th summer season, bringing the fine artistic reputation of the Symphony to diverse audiences in great cultural capitals of the world as well as to rural areas, schools and conservatories to young people at home and abroad. This major music festival takes place in Europe, the eastern seaboard of the United States, and the Americas. Summerfest outreach performances have taken place in every country of Central America, four countries of South America and five islands of the Caribbean.

The Berlin Symphony; Budapest's famed Vigado Theater; the magnificent Concertgebouw in Amsterdam; Capetown Opera Company of South Africa; Teatro Colon in Buenos Aires; Teatro Circulo and Salon Piazzolla in Argentina, and throughout the Soviet Union under the auspices of Gosconcert — it is in these "arenas" that Maestro Brooks performs his artistic mastery stirring audiences worldwide. "A remarkable performance! Well balanced and of outstanding quality... which resulted in three standing ovations!" (*NRD-Handelsbad, Concertgebouw, Amsterdam*)

Applause highlighting his work with orchestras and festivals on five continents has marked Maestro an outstanding conductor of the US. He has appeared with major orchestras in Panama, Nicaragua, Romania, Germany, Poland, Italy, Mexico, Switzerland, Argentina, Russia, Austria, South Africa, Guatemala, Uruguay, Brazil, Bulgaria, Costa Rica, Venezuela, Dominican Republic, Czech Republic, Slovak Republic, Spain, Aruba, Turkey, Taiwan, Korea, Hungary and Malaysia's Mozart Festival. Maestro has served as Principal Guest Conductor of Mexico's National Symphony of Xalapa. He is the first American to conduct the National Orchestra of Pleven, Bulgaria, receiving the official medal of the city.

In 2005, Maestro was honored at Washington's Kennedy Center with the Hispanic Heritage Foundation's Award for the Arts in recognition of his lifelong work as a world-renowned conductor and his dedication to promoting classical music to youth around the world. Maestro received the Critics Choice Award at Brazil's famed Villa Lobos Festival in Rio. He has been recognized by heads of state and dignitaries all over the world; US President Ronald Reagan praised Maestro as an "Ambassador to Latin America for his exceptional musical talents and diplomatic skills."

Brooks-Bruzzese's twenty-nine compact disc recordings are with Pickwick Records in London under the Hallmark and Orchid labels as well as the Symphony of the Americas own label. His recordings and broadcasts include legendary orchestras as the Hungarian Virtuosi, Budapest Chamber Orchestra, Natal Philharmonic and the Xalapa Symphony. His recordings feature a diversity of works from *Crazy for Gershwin* and *Hollywood Favourites*, to Piazzolla tangos, and an extensive choice of inspiring string chamber music.



About The Symphony of the Americas

Broward's own professional orchestra, the Symphony of the Americas, celebrates a major milestone of 30 years! Founded in 1987 with its concerts at the Second Presbyterian Church, the orchestra has experienced continuous growth, bringing the best of classical music to the multi-cultural population of South Florida. The Symphony has presented its International Guest Artist Series in its performance home at the Broward Center for the Performing Arts since performing the Broward Center's Gala Opening Concert of the Amaturio Theater in 1991.

"For nearly two decades, James Brooks-Bruzzese's Symphony of the Americas has maintained a niche in Broward's cultural landscape. With its loyal audiences, savvy marketing and artful political outreach, the organization makes many larger groups look like rank amateurs." (Larry Johnson, *Sun-Sentinel*)

In this 30th Anniversary Season, the Symphony continues to present its Guest Artist Subscription Series and outreach concerts during the regular season; a myriad of educational programs with ensembles and full orchestra; and the internationally renowned Summerfest, hosting an internationally acclaimed chamber orchestra each summer joined by selected members of the Symphony of the Americas for concerts throughout Florida and the Americas under Maestro Brooks-Bruzzese's baton. The Symphony takes a leadership role in fostering cultural relations with the Americas, initiating musical exchanges throughout Europe, the US, and Central and South America.

The Symphony remains dedicated to improving the lives of children through the magic of musical investigations, both in South Florida and the Americas. Young children and families learn about musical instruments in programs such as "Patriotic Portrait," "Peanut Butter 'N' Jamboree" or all-encompassing "Jack O'Lantern JamBoree" family concerts which are experienced by Maestro, musicians and audience in costume. The Symphony is proud of its partnerships to expose young at-risk students to the arts, architecture, and environment, as exemplified by its continuing programs with the Bonnet House. Learning experiences such as instrument workshops and open rehearsals for school age and older students, and master classes with international guest artists, all offer a wide range of experiences to stretch growing minds and senses. Educational and outreach programs reach over 35,000 people.

As a collaborator with community organizations and various South Florida cities, the Symphony performs outreach concerts series throughout Palm Beach County, as well as in Weston, Boca Raton, Deerfield Beach, Pembroke Pines, Hollywood, and Miami — all woven into the fabric of our community in parks, community centers, museums and libraries. Presentations of the Symphony are not done and forgotten. Summerfest and other concerts are captured on PBS and compact disc recordings, which are distributed nationally and internationally.

Continuing into its next decade, the Symphony will keep its focus of enriching the lives of all who it touches through the wonderful power of music, taking pride in the contribution it makes to the cultural environment of South Florida.

Program

National Emblem March Edwin Eugene Bagley

On the Trail Ferde Grofé
from *Grand Canyon Suite*

Symphony No. 5 in D, Op. 107 Felix Mendelssohn
4th movement

Symphony No. 6 in F, Op. 68 Ludwig van Beethoven

Bohemia's Woods and Fields Bedrich Smetana
from *Ma Vlast*

Polonaise Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky
from *Eugene Onegin*

From Sea to Shining Sea Samuel Ward

Maestro James Brooks-Bruzzese, Conductor

PROGRAM NOTES

By Lawrence Budmen

National Emblem March

Edwin Eugene Bagley
(1857–1922)

Edwin Eugene Bagley was a multi-talented New England-born musician. His versatility extended to playing both the clarinet and trombone in numerous touring bands and orchestral ensembles, leading his own band and other groups and writing marches and patriotic music for wind ensemble.

The "National Emblem March" is Bagley's most famous piece. Written in 1902, it was greatly admired by America's March King John Philip Sousa (composer of "The Stars and Stripes Forever") who frequently programmed and conducted Bagley's march at concerts. The United States Armed Forces utilizes the march's trio section for the presentation and retiring of the colors.

On the Trail

from *Grand Canyon Suite*

Ferde Grofé
(1892–1972)

Ferde Grofé was one of America's most brilliant and acclaimed composers and arrangers. A pioneer in jazz orchestration, he was chief arranger for the legendary Paul Whiteman Band.

Perhaps Grofé's best known composition is his *Grand Canyon Suite*. Over the course of five movements or sections, Grofé builds a musical portrait of the Grand Canyon from sunrise to sunset. He paints a tonal picture of the national park's famed painted desert and a cloudburst, triggering a fierce storm over the canyon. The most famous section of this 1931 American classic is "On the Trail." Here the music describes a trip through the canyon on a donkey. We hear the donkey bray at the beginning and end. The ride is, at first leisurely; at the end the donkey speeds up. A melody that has long become associated, in movies and television, with the American West is heard to the clop, clop of the burrow's feet. Grofé's score is one of the most inventive and innovative, in terms of color and special musical effects, in the entire American symphonic literature.

Symphony No. 5 in D, Op. 107

4th movement

Felix Mendelssohn
(1808–1847)

Next to Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, Felix Mendelssohn may have been one of the greatest prodigies in the history of music. While still in his teens, he wrote twelve symphonies for strings, a concerto for violin and piano and the Overture to *A Midsummer Night's Dream* - all works that continue to played and recorded today. He would go on to a distinguished conducting and teaching career but continued to compose prolifically.

His *Symphony No. 5* was actually the second of his five symphonies for full orchestra. It was commissioned for the 30th anniversary of the Augsburg Confession, the defining document of the Lutheran Protestant Reformation. The fourth and final movement opens with the solo flute intoning the Lutheran hymn *Ein feste Burg ist unser Gott* ("A Mighty Fortress is Our God"). This is followed by a fast section, partially a set of variations on the hymnal melody. The orchestra's winds and strings are prominently displayed in Mendelssohn's orchestration. A final statement by the full orchestra of the Lutheran theme brings the movement to a triumphant conclusion.

Symphony No. 6 in F, Op. 68

Ludwig van Beethoven
(1770–1827)

Ludwig van Beethoven's life was a story of tragedy and triumph. A remarkably gifted pianist, conductor and composer, Beethoven gradually lost his hearing, eventually becoming near totally deaf. The onset of his hearing loss occurred just as audiences in Vienna acclaimed his early symphonies and piano concertos. In an extraordinary document in which Beethoven wrote of his agony, he revealed that he considered suicide. Casting aside such thoughts, Beethoven continued to compose, creating a body of works that changed music history. When he died in 1827, Beethoven's funeral was attended by a crowd of twenty thousand people. He had become a genuine celebrity. Although much of his later music was initially poorly received and misunderstood, his works have been continuously performed. In the concert halls of the 21st century, Beethoven continues to be the most

popular and frequently heard composer.

Although much of Beethoven's music, particularly the later works, tends toward titanic, monumental pronouncements, he had a gentler, even charming side as well. The *Symphony No. 6* is a joyous work. Written in 1808, it is the only one of Beethoven's nine symphony that is programmatic or descriptive. The entire score depicts the countryside where Beethoven often took long walks and spent time writing and conceiving new scores, away from the musical bustle of Vienna. The third movement is titled "Merry gathering of the country folk" and depicts rustic festivities and dances by the country peasants. The principal theme is a lively dance tune which is repeated throughout the movement. At the end, Beethoven speeds up the dance melody as the revelries become ever more exuberant.

Bohemia's Woods and Fields from *Ma Vlast* Bedrich Smetana (1824–1884)

Long before there was a Czech nation, the composer Bedrich Smetana was a Czech nationalist. His operas and orchestral works reflected Czech themes, both in subject matter and folk infused musical content which mirrored his people's aspirations for national statehood. His opera *The Bartered Bride* is considered the Czech National Opera. Like Beethoven, Smetana's later life was plagued by hearing loss. Already a successful composer and director of the Prague opera, Smetana created his greatest and most popular work after his deafness. His symphonic cycle *Ma Vlast* (My Country) is a series of six tone poems. Each has a distinctive program, depicting folk tales, historical battles or warfare and the natural wonders of the Czech landscape.

"Bohemia's Woods and Fields" is a pictorial soundscape of the meadows and forests that Smetana loved and that gave him musical inspiration. After a busy, whirling musical opening, a Czech nationalist theme rises in the orchestra; finally repeated at full force by the entire ensemble. This is followed by a vivacious dance-like section which leads to a final climactic flourish with the initial Czech melody returning. The entire *Ma Vlast* cycle is one of the monumental achievements in the history of descriptive program music.

Polonaise from *Eugene Onegin* Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky (1840–1893)

Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky was a dominant musical force in late 19th century Russia. The composer of numerous operas, ballets, symphonies, orchestral tone poems, chamber music and solo instrumental works, Tchaikovsky was an inspired creator of memorable melodies and musical fantasy. Even people who know little about music have heard Tchaikovsky's tunes. What would our Christmas festivities be like without Tchaikovsky's immortal ballet *The Nutcracker*? That work has enchanted children of all ages for generations.

The opera *Eugene Onegin* was written and premiered in 1879. It is a dramatic story of the unrequited love between a young country girl and a cold, cynical aristocrat but the Polonaise forms one of the opera's lighter moments. A polonaise is a Polish dance that is highly formal in nature. This is the music of the ballroom rather than the countryside or the local dance hall. In Act III of Tchaikovsky opera, the Polonaise is danced at an Imperial ball at the home of a war hero, now a decorated prince. The main melody is rousing and properly noble with a contrasting secondary theme in the woodwinds.

From Sea to Shining Sea Samuel Ward (1847–1903)

A composer, organist and choral director, Samuel Ward intended for his song "Materna," published in 1892, to be set to the words of the hymn "O Mother Jerusalem." Following Ward's death, more than ten years later, his publisher put Ward's music together with the poem "America" by Katherine Lee Bates. The song "America the Beautiful" has become one of our nation's greatest patriotic anthems. Ward's music and Bates' inspiration verse are a paean to the nation's natural beauty and ideals.

Activities

Sunshine State Standards
Symphony of the Americas

Music

Standard – The student understands music in relationship to culture and history

Standard – The student listens to, analyzes, and describes music

Standard – The student understands the relationship between music and disciplines outside of the arts

Standard – The student understands the relationship between music and the world beyond school setting

MU.C.1.2.1 – the student knows music and composers that represent various historical periods/cultures

MU.C.1.2.3 – the student understands the role that historical contexts have in generating music

MU.D.1.2.2 – the student identifies instruments and their “families”

MU.E.1.2.2 – the student understands the relationship between music and other subjects

MU.E.2.2.2 – the student knows and applies appropriate audience behavior

MU.E.2.2.3 – the student understands that music preferences reflect one’s own personal experiences

MU.E.2.2.4 – the student recognizes the role of musicians and their importance in various musical settings and cultures

Language Arts

Standard – The student uses viewing strategies effectively

Standard – The student understands the power of language

LA.B.1.2.3 – the student uses a variety of spelling strategies

LA.C.2.2.1 – the student determines main concept and supporting details in a nonprint media message

LA.C.2.2.2 – the student recognizes and responds to nonverbal cues in nonprint media

LA.D.2.2.3 – the student recognizes different techniques used in media messages and their purposes

Social Studies

Standard – Time, Continuity, and Change (History)

SS.A.1.2.1 – the student understands how individuals, ideas, decisions and events can influence history

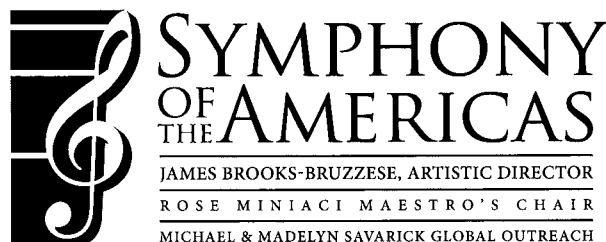
SS.A.2.2.4 – the student understands the emergence of different laws and systems of government

SS.A.3.2.2 – the student knows developments in the humanities and major movements in the arts

SS.A.4.2.3 – the student knows significant political events that led to and characterized the American Revolution

Science

SC.B.1.2.2 – the student recognizes sound as a form of energy





Don't forget: The best way to get to Carnegie Hall is ... to practice!

Marvelous Music

Matching Game

Parts of a Musical Instrument

Match the instruments in the left column with a specific part that you would find on that instrument in the right column.

Instrument	Part of Instrument
Drum •	• Single Reed
Violin •	• Pedals
Oboe •	• Slide
Saxophone •	• Head
Trombone •	• Double Reed
Voice •	• Metal Jingles
Tambourine •	• Vocal Chords
Piano •	• Strings

Musical Terms

Match these musical terms in the left column with their definition or translation in the right column.

Term	Definition / Translation
Allegro •	• One or more singers performing without any other instruments
Forte •	• An instruction to play softly
A cappella •	• An instruction to play at a walking pace
March •	• An instruction to play with force, loud
Duet •	• An introduction to a musical or an opera
Concert master •	• A musician who is extremely skilled technically
Tutti •	• A form of music originally written for military parades
Overture •	• Indicates a section played by the whole orchestra
Virtuoso •	• An instruction to play fast and lively
Andante •	• A piece of music written for two instrumentalists
Piano •	• The first chair violin player



Name _____

Music Worksheet

Instruments Word Scramble

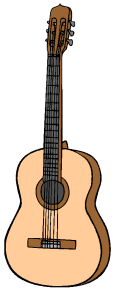
Look at each musical instrument and unscramble the letters and write the name of the instrument on the line.



nipoa



murds



utiarg



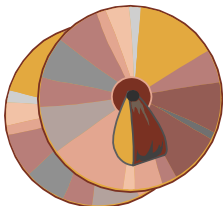
buta



prah



oliniv

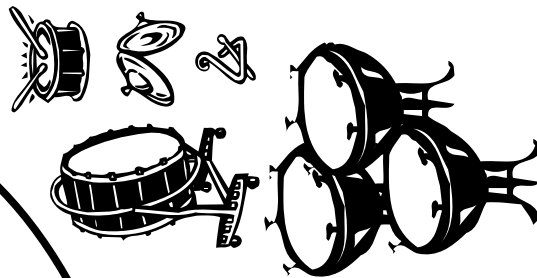


clabmys

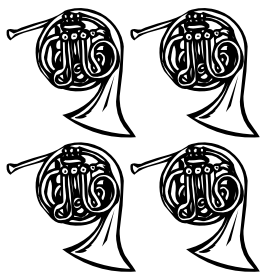


soonbas

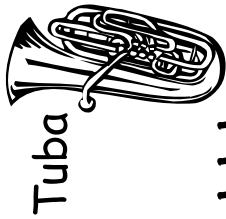
Orchestra Seating Chart



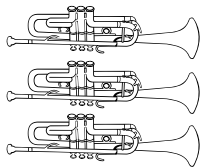
Percussion



French Horns

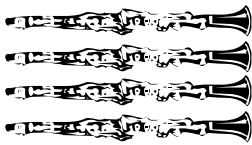
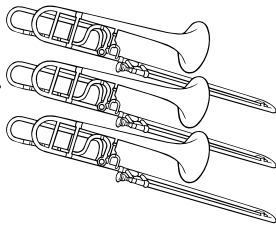


Tuba

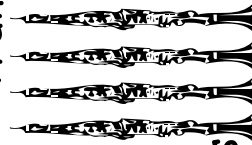


Trumpets

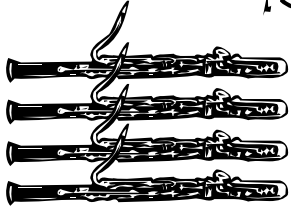
Trombones



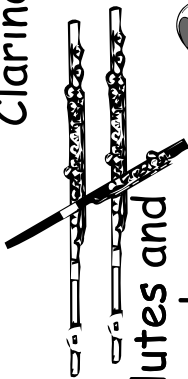
Clarinets



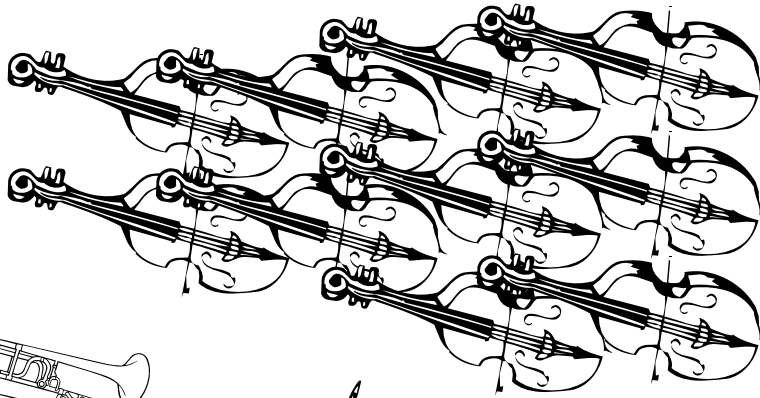
Oboes



Bassoons



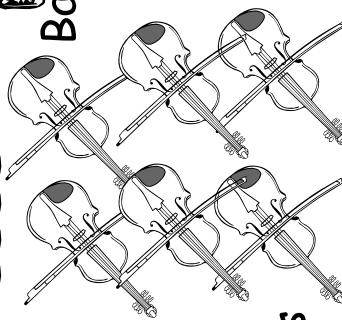
Flutes and Piccolo



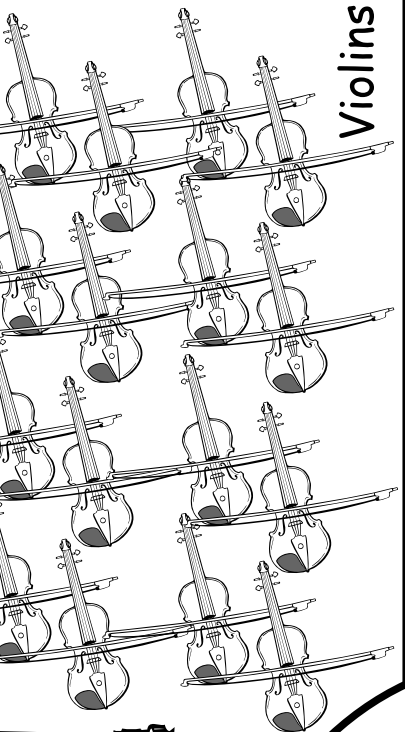
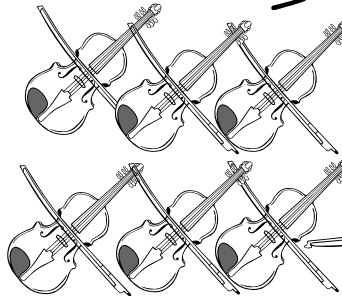
Double Bases



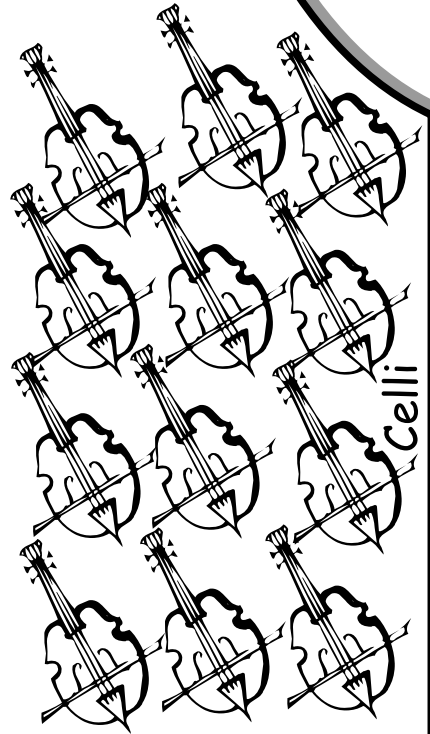
Harps



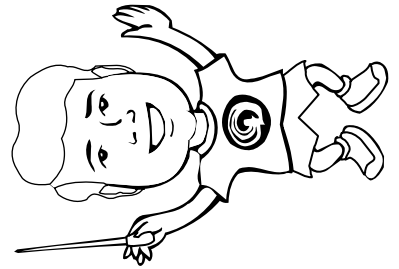
Violas



Violins






Celli



Music Word Search

Can you find the music terms and instruments listed below? When you finish, be sure to toot your own horn!

MARTHOBFDDQPOR KSYMPHONYSHBI
 OTVHBP OIUQWERLESRTYOBKDQPP
 GHTYUPOIBHTNMFJVUIWAF LUTEX
 RISUDIBHVCMRDAVIIGRSUROBNU
 BQOUBVHCISUHUHOPBOTHOIDHVC
 BHDSAAEBOIBJBMOICJLMRIOQTY
 CDTORCONBTBNEKPCMELIPBDCDF
 QINTOCNBMONYP IAE OBCBNQROTU
 ASCLARINETETRD AETVTTVEQNDP
 HYBEQROMONPORLBSHBRWQDIDJX
 OTVHBP OIUQWHBEPQEKOLLICUPP
 RHTYUPOIBHCNMFJRUI MAERXCHE
 CISBDIBHVCMRDAVICGBSUROTNNU
 HQOMELODYCUHRHOPBUOHOIDOV C
 EHDSAVEBOIBEUPBICJNPICKRDF
 SINTOCNBMONYMI AQOBEBAQRSTU
 TSJGNVUROWIVSTVBQEDPOSIUBM
 RUTWDVMARCHHDOVAOUSTROMBCO
 AHESTREPOVOCCQANDQRECI PXLZ
 MCP IANOLFITVHIPDSALCKVOEED
 HEBRSDPVIROCVIPOKLHARMONY S

		
MARCH	DRUMS 	BAND
CLARINET 	TUBA	PIANO
TRUMPET	TROMBONE	CONDUCTOR
ORCHESTRA	MELODY	VIOLIN 
SYMPHONY	HARMONY	FLUTE

"Help me out of the spooky woods," the little boy said with a cry.
See if you can get him out of the maze on your very first try!



© FamilyFun

Rose Miniaci Education Concert Series



BROWARD
CENTER
— for the —
PERFORMING ARTS



BROWARD COUNTY
PUBLIC SCHOOLS



Funding for this organization is provided in part by the Broward County Board of County Commissioners as recommended by the Broward Cultural Council.

Funding for this Program
also provided by:

Amaturo Family Foundation

Community Foundation of Broward

Alfred & Rose Miniaci Foundation

Norman and Bettina Roberts Foundation



JAMES BROOKS-BRUZZESE, ARTISTIC DIRECTOR
ROSE MINIACI MAESTRO'S CHAIR
MICHAEL & MADELYN SAVARICK GLOBAL OUTREACH

SEAS

STUDENT ENRICHMENT IN ARTS & SCIENCE



Broward County
Public Schools
Fort Lauderdale, FL

Performances

Workshops

Very Special Arts Festival

1999-2000

PERFORMANCES FOR SCHOOL GROUPS

ALL COUNTY JAZZ BAND & JAZZ VOCAL ENSEMBLE

Broward County Schools

Grade Level: 6 through 12 (Music students only)
Curriculum: Music
Standards: Grades 6-8 MUC.1.3.1 MUE.2.3.2
Grades 9-12 MUC.1.4.2 MUD.2.4.2
Date: November 23, 1999
Time: 10:30 AM (1 hour and 15 minute show)
Place: Broward Center for the Performing Arts
(Amaturo Theater)

The Broward All County Honor Jazz Band and Choir is comprised of the school district's elementary, middle and high school students who demonstrate outstanding musical ability based on serious musical study over several years. These students become eligible to perform on these concerts as a result of a successful audition and complete participation at a series of rehearsals in preparation for the concert. Most of these students are very involved, musically, and have been featured on other honor concerts at the district, state, and national levels. Guest conductors for the All County Concerts are outstanding college choral directors or other noteworthy conductors known throughout the profession as respected conductors. Repertoire performed is selected from jazz literature intended to challenge the most adept student performers at, or above, their ability level. Come see this showcase representing the hard work and achievements of our very own Broward students!

"CINDERELLA," ACT II

Ballet Florida

Choreography by Vincente Nebrada/Music by Sergei Prokofiev

Grade Level: 2
Curriculum: Language Arts/ Dance/ Music/ Theatre
Standards: LAE.1.1.1 DAB.1.1.1 MUD.1.1.4 THE.1.1.2
Date: November 29 & 30, December 1 & 2, 1999
(1 hour show)
Time: 10:00 AM & 11:30 AM
Place: Broward Center for the Performing Arts
(Amaturo Theater)

Ballet Florida presents this timeless rags to riches tale in a fully staged and costumed production by renowned Venezuelan choreographer, Vincente Nebrada. The story begins with Cinderella's magical transformation from kitchen urchin to enchanting princess. Her fairy godmother turns her torn work dress into a sparkling gown worthy of a queen and a pumpkin into a carriage to transport her to the Grand Ball. At the Ball, her awkward stepmother and stepsisters, comically portrayed by male character dancers, set the guests a twitter with their graceless dance steps and ridiculous manners. Upon her arrival, Cinderella dances with the Prince, capturing him with her innocence and beauty. At the stroke of midnight, she disappears, leaving behind only a glass slipper. This program will feature various styles of classical dance, a story that is equally accessible and enjoyable for grade level two, and is choreographed to musical score by one of the genre's most celebrated composers.

MUSIC FOR YOUTH PROGRAM

Florida Philharmonic Orchestra

Grade Level: 5
Curriculum: Social Studies/ Music
Standards: SSA.3.2.1 SSA.4.2.1 MUC.1.2.1 MUD.1.2.2
Date: December 2, 1999
Time: 10:00 AM & 11:30 AM (1 hour show)
Place: Coral Springs City Centre
(2855 Coral Springs Drive, Coral Springs, FL)
Date: May 2, 2000
Time: 10:00 AM & 11:30 AM (1 hour show)
Place: War Memorial Auditorium
(800 NE 8th Street, Ft. Lauderdale, FL) (Holiday Park)

Join the renowned historian, inventor, scientist, and musician, Benjamin Franklin, as he leads students on a journey through the wonderful world of imagination. This musical program will feature the Florida Philharmonic Orchestra. The musical journey will take students through the various periods of music history featuring repertoire by some of the greatest and most imaginative composers including George F. Handel, Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, Ludwig van Beethoven, Modest Mussorgsky, Charles Ives, and John Williams.

NOTE: THE LOCATION OF THESE PERFORMANCES ARE CORAL SPRINGS CITY CENTRE (December 2, 1999), AND WAR MEMORIAL AUDITORIUM (MAY 2, 2000)

Teachers and other interested adults: A workshop entitled, "A Prelude To The Florida Philharmonic Orchestra" will be presented on February 2, 2000. See The Cultural Adventures Workshop section in this book for more information

EVERGLADES SYMPHONY & MULTIMEDIA SHOW

"Visions for the Millenium"

A Florida Environmental Multimedia Show
Symphony of the Americas/ Young Citizens' Conservation Corps
Barbara Taylor Beggs, Founder and Executive Director, of YCCC

Grade Level: 5 through 12
Curriculum: Science/ Social Studies/ Music/ Visual Arts
Standards:
Grade 5 SC.G.1.2.2 SSA.6.2.2 MUE.1.2.2 VAE.1.2.2
Grades 6-8 SC.D.2.3.2 SSB.2.3.6 MUE.1.3.1 VAB.1.3.1
Grades 9-12 SC.G.2.4.6 SSB.2.4.1 MUE.1.4.1 VAB.1.4.2
Date: December 6, 1999
Time: 10:00 AM & 11:30 AM (1 hour show)
Place: Broward Center for the Performing Arts
(Au-Rene Theater)

This exciting multimedia performance will feature a breathtakingly beautiful Everglades slide presentation by Clyde Butcher, internationally acclaimed natural landscape photographer, set to the music of the Children's Everglades Symphony No. 3. The symphony has been composed and will be conducted by David Heckendorn, arranger for the music score of the Emmy nominated movie, "Mr. Holland's Opus" starring Richard Dreyfuss. Performers will include musicians from Parkway and Dillard Centers for the Arts, as well as musicians representing schools throughout Broward County. The students will play side by side with members of the Symphony of the





Americas, **James Brooks-Bruzzese**, Artistic Director. The symphony will also feature dance and movement performed by Parkway Pizazz Jazz Dance Company, choreography by **Denyse Savetz**. Mr. Clyde Butcher will appear on stage and speak about the importance and beauty of the Everglades accompanied by a video. Mr. Ron Magill, Miami Metro Zoo, will show and discuss live animals that claim the Everglades as their home.

THE GRAMMY CONCERT SERIES FOR CHILDREN

Bob Lappin and the Palm Beach Pops

Grade Level: 3-5 (Only For Schools That Have Pre-registered for Entire Program)

Curriculum: Science/ Social Studies/ Music

Standards: SCH.3.2.4 SSA.3.2.2 MUC.1.2.1 MUD.1.2.2

Date: December 7, 1999

Time: 10:00 AM & 11:30 AM (1 hour show)

Place: Broward Center for the Performing Arts (Au-Rene Theater)

The Palm Beach Pops and the National Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences, also known as the Recording Academy (responsible for the annual Grammy Awards in New York and L.A.), have formed an educational partnership that will serve as a National role model for partnerships between musicians, school districts, and the Recording Academy. Four Broward County underserved elementary schools will experience a performance series of four concerts in their schools featuring a saxophone quartet, a percussion ensemble, a wind quintet, and a zydeco band. This fifth and final concert will feature the full Palm Beach Pops Orchestra. The series focuses on melody and such composers as Bach, Mozart, Duke Ellington, and George Gershwin. Only those schools that have pre-registered for the entire program are invited to attend these performances.

"THE NUTCRACKER"

Miami City Ballet

Grade Level: 4

Curriculum: Language Arts/ Social Studies/ Dance/ Music

Standards: LA.E.2.2.4 SSB.1.2.3 DAD.1.2.3 MUB.2.2.2

Date: December 10, 1999

Time: 10:30 AM (one show only — 2 and 1/2 hours in length)

Place: Broward Center for the Performing Arts (Au-Rene Theater)

Enjoying a performance of The Nutcracker has been a holiday tradition for over 100 years. This is a lavish spectacle of spectacular dancing, beautiful sets, magical special effects, colorful costumes and glorious music. The famous ballet, based on E.T.A. Hoffman's fairy tale, is about a young girl named Marie who receives a nutcracker doll from her mysterious godfather at a Christmas family gathering. After an exciting evening of gift-giving and dancing, Marie falls asleep on the couch and dreams of a magical winter wonderland. The ballet moves the audience through each exciting dream sequence, including the Land of the Sweets where she encounters the Sugar Plum Fairy.

The City of Sunrise is a co-sponsor of this performance. Elementary Schools in the City of Sunrise will be given first selection to attend, provided a request form is submitted no later than October 1st. Full cost of transportation will be the responsibility of each school/center attending this performance only.

Teachers and other interested adults: A workshop entitled, "An Evening With The Miami City Ballet" will be presented on Thursday, October 21, 1999. See The Cultural Adventures Workshop section in this book for more information.



Photo by Steven Caras

SEAS

STUDENT ENRICHMENT IN ARTS & SCIENCE





<http://test.sr32958.com/2017/08/24/summerfest-strikes-chord-young-musicians/>



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PEOPLE

Summerfest strikes a chord with young musicians

Written by: *Stephanie LaBaff*
(<http://test.sr32958.com/author/stephanie-labaff/>) August 24 2017
0



Members of the Summerfest Chamber Orchestra shared more than just beautiful music with Vero Beach High School Orchestra musicians at Summerfest 2017, presented by Symphony of the Americas and hosted last Sunday by the Cultural Council of Indian River County at Christ by the Sea United Methodist Church.

High school musicians paired up with international musicians under the direction of Maestro James Brooks-Bruzzese, artistic director of Summerfest and Symphony of the Americas, during a rehearsal session and were given an up-close look at techniques. Later, before the public, the students performed Mozart's "Eine Kleine Nachtmusik" alongside their worldwide counterparts in the opening number.

"My whole focus is on getting more exposure to the symphony orchestra from people and students who are going to find this a most exciting and, for some of them, game-changing experience," said Barbara Hoffman, Cultural Council executive director. This was the 26th anniversary of the festival and over the past few years the Cultural Council has added educational components linking artistic and cultural traditions.

"The kids gain a lot of motivation from interacting with the professional musicians, and from a practical sense, to see and feel how good they need to get. This is a unique opportunity," said Matthew Stott, VBHS

RECENT POSTS



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Orchestra director. "It's going to make every single one of them better. I think it's part human nature to rise to the level of what's expected of us." During a Q&A session, performers from Cuba, Uzbekistan, Switzerland, Mexico, Italy, Canada and elsewhere spoke with students about their personal love of classical music and what it takes to become a professional musician.

"It is such a gift for us to be able to perform with higher level musicians," said Phoebe Emerson, a VBHS senior and cellist who seemed almost giddy after the afternoon practice session. "To learn and grow alongside professionals is an experience of a lifetime. The things you pick up are invaluable."

"In the classical music world, we are trained that it doesn't matter how hard you work; there's still room to do better. These kinds of experiences will take them to a different level," explained Dr. Marcos Flores, Christ by the Sea music director. "It's also rewarding for the professional musicians. They feel they need to give back and do it with lots of love, because when you love music it doesn't matter where you come from."

Learn more about local cultural opportunities at the Cultural Council's annual Celebrate the Arts Festival, Sept. 23 at Riverside Park. For more information, visit cultural-council.org.



(<http://test.sr32958.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/08/0824/Uploads/2017/08/0824/Uploads/2017/08/0824/DR03.jpg>)
The Symphony of the Americas orchestra rehearses with student musicians at Christ By the Sea Church.



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Giorgio Tentoni and Grace Dooley



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Nathan Russell and Roger Bustamante



(<http://test.sr32958.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/08/0824/Uploads/2017/08/0824/Uploads/2017/08/0824/DR19.jpg>)
Cody Lanier (front) and Domitille Coppey (back)



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Matthew Stott and Barbara Hoffman



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Samantha Louis with Joselyn Mariotti



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Guilia Gori answers questions from student musicians



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UPCOMING EVENTS

There are no upcoming events at this time.

<https://www.bfabroward.org/cirque-de-la-symphonie-a-power-house-combination/>


News

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CIRQUE DE LA SYMPHONIE: A POWER HOUSE COMBINATION

When two world class organizations partner up, the result is nothing short of phenomenal. Combining Symphony of the Americas orchestra with Cirque de la Symphonie performers promises to be an amazing one of a kind show! The productions will take place for local youth as part of an educational outreach program. The Symphony of the Americas is known for thrilling audiences with world-class performances under the artistic leadership of its founder, Maestro James Brooks-Bruzzese. This project features 8 aerialists of the internationally acclaimed Cirque de la Symphonie company, joining the Symphony of the Americas.

The show will take place at the Parker Playhouse, on Monday, November 10, 2014. Symphony of Americas is currently seeking donations from the community to fund this very unique educational experience for students on www.power2give.org/broward. The educational performance is part of Broward County Schools Student Education in Arts & Science (SEAS) program. Its free to students attending with their classes. Presented on fully staged "cirque" apparatus, it is an exciting adaptation of artistic performance – acrobats, dancers and balancers, all professionally choreographed to classical masterpieces performed by 60 professional musicians.

These classical compositions feature composers of different periods of musical history – Baroque, Classical, Romantic and Contemporary. "A total of 2,500 students will see the versatility of classical music, and be introduced to masterwork compositions by composers such as Bach, Vivaldi, Bizet, Dvorak, Saint-Saens and more, all presented in combination with world-record holders and gold medal winning athletes on stage," said Renee LaBonte, VP Executive Director of Symphony of the Americas. On stage introduction of the instrument families of the orchestra will also be given by the Maestro.

This project donation cycle will close on July 29th so time is of the essence! Visit www.power2give.org/broward to learn more or donate. Robyn Vegas, Program Coordinator, Business for the Arts of Broward.

JULY 18, 2014

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UF Celebrates the Panama Canal Centennial



Ask Us!

Hundreds Join University of Florida in Gainesville to Celebrate the Panama Canal's 100th Birthday

Visitors from Norway, Panama, Australia, Mexico and across the United States traveled to the University of Florida in Gainesville to celebrate the Panama Canal centennial August 15-17. The George A. Smathers Libraries organized the weekend of activities and ongoing exhibits across campus to commemorate the anniversary.

The celebratory weekend began August 15 with a presentation by Dr. Richard Cheville, a former Canal Zone physician, on health issues during canal construction. Nearly 80 people attended the lecture and a related exhibit at the Health Science Center Library.

Later that evening, about 400 people gathered at the Phillips Center for the Performing Arts for the Summerfest 2014 concert. Maestro James Brooks-Bruzzese directed the Mission Chamber Orchestra of Rome and musicians from the Symphony of the Americas. The finale, *Rapsodia del Canal de Panama*, composed by Juan Castillo to commemorate the centennial, brought the crowd to its feet.

A large crowd turned out for Panama Canal Zone Day August 16 at the Florida Museum of Natural History. From 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., 1,039 people, including 228 children, visited the museum.

Pollera dancers and musicians from the group Sentimiento Panameno delighted the museum crowd throughout the day. Author and artist Al Sprague was on hand to sign copies of his books. A mola-making activity and storytelling in English and Spanish entertained children.

Fossils and butterflies from Panama were on display at the museum as well as the centennial exhibit *Panama: Tropical Ecosystem*. More than 400 free family photographs were printed with backdrops from Panama and the Canal Zone.

Panama Canal Zone Day also included video oral history interviews with 17 people who have connections to the Canal Zone. The video interviews will be available online, and some of the footage will be assembled for a centennial "time-capsule" video.

The festivities continued later that evening with a sellout crowd of 270 people at the Panama Canal Centennial Banquet. Judy Russell, Dean of University Libraries, welcomed everyone and thanked all who played a role in bringing the Panama Canal Museum Collection to UF.

"The centennial celebration is the culmination of the work of many people over a long period of time. It is gratifying to have such enthusiastic and dedicated participants to share this celebration with us as we reflect on the monumental achievement of the Panama Canal and honor those who made it possible," Russell said.

Master of Ceremonies Joe Wood introduced Joe Wiegand, who regaled the banquet audience with colorful stories for nearly 40 minutes as he portrayed a buoyant Teddy Roosevelt.

"Is there anything that is more Rooseveltian than the picture of me in the great Bucyrus steam shovel at Pedro Miguel? Bully!" Wiegand said.

Curators were on hand August 17 at Smathers Library where about 180 people viewed canal-related exhibits featuring maps, children's literature, *Highlights from the Panama Canal Museum Collection*, including a 38-foot canal model, and the second floor gallery exhibit *Voices from the Panama Canal*. The group also made an unscheduled visit to nearby Library West to see two small exhibits highlighting Canal Zone life and Theodore Roosevelt political cartoons.

Afterward, about 190 people gathered at the Harn Museum of Art for a lecture on molas by author Edith Crouch, followed by a reception and book signing. A related centennial exhibit at the Harn, *Patterns Past and Present: Arts of Panama* showcased ceramics, stone and metalwork as well as numerous molas from the Panama Canal Museum Collection.

"I was thrilled with the amazing turnout and all the great questions and folks who stayed afterwards to talk—an audience of mola lovers. And I'm honored to have had a role in the wonderful centennial events at the University of Florida," Crouch said.



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Press

REVIEW EXCERPTS

FORT LAUDERDALE, FL. -- The Symphony of the Americas' annual Summerfest has brought numerous top flight European chamber orchestras to South Florida and Latin America for more than two decades. For the 2012 edition, the indefatigable Maestro James Brooks-Bruzzese led the Mission Chamber Orchestra of Rome. Joined by several members of the Symphony of the Americas, the ensemble excelled in a lively program before a large and enthusiastic audience at the Broward Center's Amatur Theater on Friday, July 27. (READ MORE....)

"Did justice to the smallest harmonic and melodic details of this contrasting music, played with a surprisingly subtle feeling for timing, phrasing and dynamics.....a remarkable performance, very well balanced and of outstanding quality.....He impressed us in a gratifying way...which resulted in three standing ovations."
NRC-HANDELSBALD, Amsterdam
Concertgebouw Performance

.....
"Received great applause and recognition for an exciting performance."
IL MESSAGGERO, Rome, Italy

.....
"That was one of the most beautiful moments in the entire Villa-Lobos Festival. Without doubt, Brooks-Bruzzese proved to be a Maestro of true quality."
O'GLOBO, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
Antonio Hernandez

.....
"Electrifying....Captivating...Dynamic...
Downright Exciting."
FT. LAUDERDALE NEWS, Ft. Lauderdale, Florida
Tim Smith

.....
"As a conductor, he knows his business."
MIAMI HERALD, Miami, Florida
James Roos

.....
"Electrifying....Captivating...Dynamic...
Downright Exciting."
FT. LAUDERDALE NEWS, Ft. Lauderdale, Florida
Tim Smith

.....
"As a conductor, he knows his business."
MIAMI HERALD, Miami, Florida
James Roos

.....
"Deeply Sensitive...Solid Musicianship...Vigor...Disciplined Orchestra."
MIAMI HERALD, Miami, Fla.
James Roos

.....
"International conductor who knew how to reproduce in Mozart's symphony the main line.....dramatic character, complicated polyphony of contrasting images.....This concert presented both talent and creative inspiration."
SOVIET SIBERIA NEWSPAPER, Novosibirsk, Russia

I. Fine

.....

"In just four days, James Brooks-Bruzzese, a man of cheer, charm and boundless vitality, has stamped his hallmark of quality on an orchestra badly in need of real leadership. What a pity Dr. Brooks is a guest on a mere three-week visit....Natal and the NPO are fortunate to have the benefit of his infectious zeal".
THE NATAL MERCURY, Durban, South Africa
David Lloyd

.....

"Brooks left the stage under long applause which he merited."
REPUBLIC PRESS, Istanbul, Turkey
Ustun Durvel

.....

"Symphony shines....Jackson Symphony.....superior sound, conjured by the blistering baton of guest conductor.
CLARION LEDGER, Jackson, Mississippi
Leslie Myers

.....

"The solidity of Brook's musicianship was immediately evident in Wagner's Prelude to Act I of Die Meistersinger with the Philharmonic Orchestra of Florida."
MIAMI HERALD, Miami, Florida
James Roos

.....

"The Philharmonic has never played better".
PALM BEACH POST, Palm Beach, Florida
Kevin Petrich

.....

"There has been a solid conductor all along right here in the community."
NEWS AND SUN SENTINEL, Ft. Lauderdale, Florida
Tim Smith

.....

"Brooks conducted Beethoven's 5th Symphony without score, and obviously knew every entrance, every note and every rest. Unencumbered by page turning, he was set free to express himself physically in the grand style."
BOCA RATON NEWS, Boca Raton, Fl.
William Beers

.....

"The many climaxes were rousing....There was an overall lift and resonance to the orchestra's tone...."
WTMI RADIO 93.1, Miami, Fl.
Steve Brown

.....

"The best conductor currently working in South Florida."
NEWS AND SUN SENTINEL, Ft. Lauderdale, Fl.
Tim Smith
"What did triumph....was Howard Hanson's stunning Symphony No. 2 magnificently played and interpreted by the ensemble and conductor."
THE TRIBUNE, Ft. Lauderdale, Florida
Robert Freund

.....

"Brooks-Bruzzese encouraged a splendid sense of rapport between the members of the NPO and the soloist which was duly acknowledged at the end...he has given us notice of a fine series of concerts under his baton."
THE DAILY NEWS, Durban, South Africa
George Nisbet

.....

"Opera performance is superior. A five minute standing ovation to a job so well done."
AUGUSTA HERALD, Augusta, Ga.
Robbie T. Barkley

.....
"The Augusta Opera, a performance of extremely high standards."
PITTSBURGH POST, Pittsburgh, Pa.
Robert Croan
.....

.....
"Brooks treated Puccini's youthful drama, La Boheme, as living theatre...."
OPERA NEWS MAGAZINE
Robert Croan
.....

.....
"Conductor Brooks had a very delicate interpretation of the Haydn work and the
Piccolo Sinfonia of Gounod was well conducted."
IL TEMPO
Rome, Italy
.....

.....
"In my opinion and the unanimous opinion of the press, public and orchestra, the
North American James Brooks was the most outstanding conductor of the Villa-
Lobos Festival."
O'GLOBO, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
Antonio Hernandez
.....

.....
"With applause that lasted between three to five minutes after every selection."
LA PRENZA, San Pedro Sula, Honduras
Maria Ordonez
.....

.....
"James Brooks is an intense and dynamic director whose communication and labor
with the orchestra was positively high. This concert will certainly be talked about for
a long time." LA PRENZA, Lima, Peru
Luis Guzman
.....

.....
"Brooks called upon the orchestra's thorough capacity for incendiary playing and
elicited a performance filled with light and fire."
SPRINGFIELD NEWS, Springfield Ohio
Jim Hays
.....

.....
"Demonstrated a talent for making the Alabama Symphony play with precision and
energy."
BIRMINGHAM POST HERALD, Birmingham, Alabama
Mitch Mendelson
.....

.....
"Valuable concert given by the State Philharmonic....gave an exceptionally good
performance." HUDOBNY MIVET
Bratislava, Czechoslovakia
.....

.....
"The public all rose on their feet screaming for more."
LEVANTE PRESS, Valencia, Spain
Jose Mandin
.....

.....
"When all was over, I sat, near to tears. We had enjoyed the
privilege of hearing the work of a magnificent master musician.....JAMES BROOKSBRUZZESE.....
and now he has left us."
NATAL MERCURY, Durban, South Africa
David Lloyd
.....

.....
"But the real experience of the evening was the inspiring conducting by the worldfamous
Florida conductor, James Brooks-Bruzzese, under whose baton the orchestra
performed." VASARNAPI HIROK
Budapest, Hungaria
.....

"Concert of the year....phrasing perfected to finesse, minute balance and wellconsidered dynamic nuances. All this in a warm satisfied tone of the strings....what else do you want?" THE AMIGOE, Curacao,N.A.
Iman Landheer

"The Bach was one of the most sublime moments of the evening.....It was so beautiful, so heavenly,....Brook's baton was precise, brilliant, and showed security....which created magic and fantasy."
THE PRENSA, Panama, Rep. de Pamana
Daniel Dominguez Z.

"James Brooks-Bruzzese, the American conductor who came all the way to Berlin for this concert with the Berlin Symphony, gave an all-encompassing performance high in intensity and with complete control. The vitality and brilliance of the Hungarian Fantasy left one wishing for more."
DIE WELT
Berlin, Germany

"Conductor James Brooks-Bruzzese came especially from the USA for this concert and his was music making of great sensitivity and intensity. These interpretations were highly inspired, ingenious, and powerful. Each and every one of the compositions were brilliant and wildly beautiful."
DER NORD-BERLINER
Berlin, Germany

"Conductor Brooks-Bruzzese coaxed expressive, mostly poised playing in the Hebrides. He took a broadly paced approach to the score, but not at the expense of tension. The conductor captured the solemnity and drama in the score of the Reformation Symphony, and his propulsive tempos in the scherzo and finale were especially telling." SUN-SENTINEL, Ft. Lauderdale, Florida
Tim Smith

"Leading the Cappella Istropolitana with his usual flair, a constant intensity of expression and concern for subtlety was achieved. The freshness in these scores emerged tellingly under Brooks-Bruzzese's gentle guidance"
SUN-SENTINEL, Ft. Lauderdale, Florida
Tim Smith

"Classical summer ends on high note. Brooks-Bruzzese, long noted in South Florida as a thoughtful conductor of broad tastes, coaxed out this intensely idiomatic performance with the Cappella Istropolitana".
MIAMI HERALD, Miami Florida
James Roos

" A solid ensemble of 55 players that can handle the diverse challenges of such musical opposites as Joseph Haydn, Heitor Villa-Lobos and Howard Hanson. Brooks-Bruzzese's highly-charged revival of the Hanson Second Symphony was a welcome one". MIAMI HERALD, Miami, Florida
James Roos

" A lovely evening of fine music masterfully conducted by Maestro James Brooks-Bruzzese. Hanson's Second Symphony was absolutely marvelous and had a great effect on me. I obviously was not the only one feeling this way---it's wonderful to witness a standing ovation lasting at least three minutes. BRAVO MAESTRO."
ENTERTAINMENT NEWS & VIEWS, Ft. Lauderdale, Florida
Howard Salus

"Symphony of the Americas reaffirmed the good impression they made last November by playing another refreshingly different program of music in a fluent, closely knit style---- The orchestra and Brooks-Bruzzese handled the entire program with a touch of incandescence".
MIAMI HERALD, Miami, Florida
James Roos

"Conductor Brooks-Bruzzese was an attentive partner, with Paula Robison, neatly molding the orchestral contributions in the Florida Premier of Robert Beaser's "Song of the Bells". He made a strong case for the Saint-Saens Second Symphony, which was something of much buoyancy and melodic sweetness."

SUN-SENTINEL, Ft. Lauderdale, Florida
Tim Smith

.....
"Brooks-Bruzzese is sometimes taken for granted by the musical powers that be. Yet his Symphony of the Americas, now in its 14th year, has become a popular and firmly entrenched part of the South Florida musical landscape. It was the superb Haydn performance that made the evening memorable. Brooks-Bruzzese was an inspired advocate, producing dedicated rhythmically alert play."

SUN-SENTINEL, Ft. Lauderdale, Florida
Lawrence A. Johnson

.....
"Bruzzese had the Hellenic Camerata under firm yet flexible control, making serene silk of the opening Vivaldi Sinfonia in G major."

MIAMI HERALD, Miami, Florida
James Roos

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Aging in South Florida Symposium

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Featured Listings

Symphony of the Americas

Category: Performing Arts

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Casa Calabria - Authentic Italian Restaurant

Category:

Colors Of Art And Music Intermingle At Symphony Of The Americas

Written by Lawrence Budmen
Published: February 21 2019

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The renowned French-American artist Duaiv joined the Symphony of the Americas on Tuesday night at the Broward Center's Amature Theater for a vivid demonstration of how music and art relate and inspire creativity. Appropriately the Florida based Duaiv painted several canvases on stage to the music of the Impressionist master Claude Debussy. There was more rare Debussy as well from the terrific clarinetist Dimitri Ashkenazy, son of famed pianist-conductor Vladimir Ashkenazy. Maestro James Brooks-Bruzzese presided over an evening of vivacious, multi-hued performances.

Duaiv is also a cellist, having studied at the Conservatoire National de Musique in Paris, and he opened the evening with a lovely performance of Ariel Ramos' Variations on a Theme of Alexander Borodin (for cello and strings). Based on the third movement of Borodin's String Quartet No. 2, also known independently as Nocturne for Strings, Ramos' arrangement spotlights the solo cello in the romantic principal theme. (The Florida based team of composer-lyricists Robert Wright and George Forest turned that melody into the song And This is My Beloved in their 1953 Broadway musical Kismet.) Duaiv played the more ornate variants with precision and fine tone and the orchestra's strings came through with clarity.

With his paint, brushes and canvass in place at stage left, Duaiv made three paintings (his brush strokes projected on a screen behind the orchestra) as Brooks-Bruzzese and the ensemble played three movements from Debussy's Petite Suite. A more perfect melding of music and art can scarcely be imagined. Duaiv's bold strokes, richly textured bursts of color and exuberant patterns exquisitely match Debussy's tints and splashes of melody and gleaming instrumental writing. The light heated repartee between Duaiv and the conductor at the beginning of each section greatly entertained the audience.

Debussy's music remains enchanting. Flute over strings and harp set the languorous thematic figuration of En bateau (Sailing) in motion, establishing the perfect arty ambience. Cortège was animated and invigorating, the string section's precision on display. The final Ballet - Allegro Giusto radiated joy to match the richness of the artist's palette. With the orchestra in high gear, Brooks-Bruzzese set a lively pace that turned more expansive in the central episode. Duaiv also painted to the Czech dance infused section of Smetana's Bohemia Woods and Fields (part of the symphonic cycle Ma Vlast). He even managed to paint and substantially

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Ph.D

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complete his canvass at the conductor's brisk tempo. (The paintings were later auctioned off as a benefit for the Symphony of the Americas, an act of wonderful generosity by Duaiv.)

The program's second half brought some works that have been recorded numerous times but seldom played in concert. British composer Ralph Vaughan Williams' The Wasps Overture was composed for a production of Aristophanes' play at Cambridge University in 1909. This is high stepping, quintessentially English music and Brooks-Bruzzese brought a plethora of forward thrust to its martial strains. Horns and winds were in top form and the strings produced luminous tonal sonority. The sweetness of Bogdan Chruszcz's violin solo matched the spacious, almost cinematic aura of the score's middle section.

Dimitri Ashkenazy has soloed with many of the world's major orchestras and played chamber music with numerous quartets, solo instrumentalists and intimate ensemble as well as his father and his brother - pianist Vovka Ashkenazy. A total master of his instrument, he made the clarinet genuinely sing in the sustained lyrical lines of Debussy's Premiere Rhapsodie. Ashkenazy spun the work's atmospheric glints of instrumental patterns with mellow beauty of tone and exhibited winning agility in the leaps between registers. Brooks-Bruzzese offered a model of fine collaboration, supporting Ashkenazy while keeping the individual orchestral lines transparent (including the clear tinkle of the solo triangle).

Darius Milhaud was a member of Les Six - a group of French composers who attempted to fuse elements of the music hall and popular culture into their classical creations. Milhaud's suite Scaramouche is best known in the original two piano version. In 1939 the composer arranged the three movement work for clarinet and orchestra. No less than a virtuoso than Benny Goodman gave that edition its premiere in 1945. Ashkenazy revealed in the whirling figures of the opening Vif, his slides between notes suggesting a touch of the blues. In the second movement Moderé, fragmentary themes turn into a flowing motif, played by Ashkenazy with haunting finesse, channeling Gallic nostalgia. His brilliant instrumental command took wing in the concluding Brasileira with Ashkenazy matching the jazzy Latin rhythms at full tilt. Brooks-Bruzzese astutely brought out the modernist spice of Milhaud's orchestration.

The concert concluded with the Polonaise from Tchaikovsky's Eugene Onegin, rendered by Brooks-Bruzzese and the players with Imperial Russian passion and nobility - a joyous conclusion to a varied and entrancing concert.

The Symphony of the Americas season continues with pianist-composer Thomas Pandolfi as soloist in in his James Bond and Frank Sinatra Piano Concertos 3 p.m. March 3 at the Broward Center's Amatur Theater.
www.symphonyoftheamericas.org 954-335-7002

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Letter of Recommendations

Thomas Yehuda Tirino 2
Concert Pianist, Musicologist/Teacher/Lecturer, Conductor, Arranger/Composer

Ambassador Jean Elizabeth Manes See Note
United States Ambassador to El Salvador // Office: +503 – 7786- 6488 / Email: ManesJE@state.gov

Note: Due to a family emergency, Ambassador Manes was unable to provide a formal Letter of Recommendation in time of the entry. She welcomes you to contact her directly to confirm her position and intent to provide a letter of recommendation.

THOMAS YEHUDA TIRINO

**Concert Pianist · Musicologist /Teacher/Lecturer · Conductor ·
Arranger/Composer**

23 May 2019

To whom it may Concern:

It is with great pleasure that I write a few words about Maestro James Brooks Bruzzese.

I have known the maestro and have worked regularly with him for over 18 years. I am sufficiently acquainted with his personality, character and professional ability to recommend him unequivocally

His outstanding attributes of character....which I would term as sincerity of purpose and a mature sense of valuesare demonstrated by his achievements, his dedication to his goals, the final outcome being consistently outstanding as conductor, music director/ambassador and educator throughout the world. His talent is immense, and his personality is warm and engaging. In the Fort Lauderdale area and beyond, he has inspired many young people with his innovative programming and presentations. Maestro Brooks has been the guiding force behind the Symphony of the Americas, and has formed it with his vision into one of the leading orchestras of the country. Furthermore, his extension of the symphony to other countries during festivals/Summerfest, etc has greatly expanded the position of the orchestra in the world, and brought world-wide attention to the city of Fort Lauderdale through his music. Indeed, he has become a pillar in the Fort Lauderdale community not only for his musicianship in performance, but also for his outreach to the community and beyond, in a greater sense.

**I am pleased to endorse and recommend Maestro Brooks.
He is worthy of the very highest of honors, and for the Citizen of the Year award.**

Cordially yours,

THOMAS YEHUDA TIRINO

Frank Stranahan – Honored Founder

Form Name: 2019 Citizens Recognition Awards Nomination Form
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Survey Details

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1. NOMINEE INFORMATION

Name of person being nominated: Frank Stranahan
Address: DECEASED
Phone: (954) 763-5020
Email address: marycfertig@gmail.com

2. NOMINATION SUBMITTED BY

Name of person submitting nomination: Mary C. Fertig
Address: 511 Poinciana Drive, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33316
Phone: (954) 763-5020
Email address: marycfertig@gmail.com

3. NOMINATION CATEGORY

Please select the category this nomination is for. You may only select one category per submission.

(o) HONORED FOUNDER - The Honored Founder award is for a courageous citizen who prepared the way for future growth and harmony in Fort Lauderdale. This person may be deceased.

4. Based on the category selected above, please describe in detail the nominee's accomplishments or contributions to the community, including specific examples (1,000 words or less). Examples include significant contributions to the welfare and betterment of the community or the City, civic responsibility, financial contributions, volunteer service, leadership, projects accomplished, or other ways this person has improved the quality of life in Fort Lauderdale. A resume may not be substituted as a response to this question.

Frank Stranahan, born in 1865 in Vienna, Ohio, is the Founding Father of Fort Lauderdale. At the age of 22, Frank traveled with a group of 40 other young men from Ohio to the up and coming pioneer settlement of Melbourne, Florida, where he had family.

His mother's sister married into the Metcalf family and with their son Guy, they had done well for themselves in real estate and operating a newspaper. From 1887-1892, Frank stayed in Melbourne and gained valuable experience working in the mercantile business, which would prepare him for his own ventures in Fort Lauderdale. He also engaged in his first civic activities by being elected marshal and collector of the village of Melbourne.

In 1890, Dade County voters elected to move the county seat from Miami to Juno and Guy Metcalf moved his newspaper south in search of new business opportunities. Editorials in the paper pushed for opening a county road into the Biscayne Bay region, and in 1892 Guy Metcalf secured the contract to build it and later operated a carriage line along the route. Frank was soon hired to manage a camp which abutted the county road and to operate the ferry to move travelers across the New River.

Frank's nearest neighbors were Seminole Indians, the keeper of the lifesaving station, the local postmaster who lived at the station, and a farmer three miles north of the Middle River. Frank had the ability to make the most out of a promising situation and had plans to establish his own business as well: a trading post that would serve the settlers, travelers and Seminole Indians in the area.

Despite the hard economic times, Frank prospered on New River because of his trade with the Seminoles. Frank was well respected by the Seminole people and welcomed them to camp at the post for days at a time. He bought their plumes, skins, pelts, and produce and resold it elsewhere. As he accumulated stock for the trading post, he sold supplies and staples to the Seminoles.

During that first year, at the Brickell's request, the camp and ferry were moved to a plot of land where Stranahan House now stands. In June 1894, the Brickell's deeded to Frank 10.7 acres, including 300 feet river frontage where the camp was resituated, for only \$1 per acre. By the end of 1894, Frank had ended his business relationship with Guy by buying him out of the camp enterprise; the county license for the ferry had been transferred to him; and most importantly, he had become a landowner.

Frank's first trading post was a sapling and palmetto thatch structure; in 1895 he built a two room wooden store and replaced the camp tents with more permanent buildings. Frank's store was the center of the tiny community - he had taken over as postmaster shortly after his arrival - but very few people called New River home at this time. The area, however, was about to change significantly because of two major transportation developments, the Florida East Coast Railway and the Florida East Coast Canal. Frank - who had the only store and the closest thing to hotel accommodations between Lake Worth and Biscayne Bay - gained many new customers from the railroad and canal workers who flooded into the area.

As the 1890s drew to close, Frank Stranahan had achieved a certain level of financial success and influence, and a pioneer community had grown up from his outpost in the wilderness. By 1899, the community had grown large enough to qualify for a teacher from the county board of education. Eighteen-year-old Ivy Julia Cromartie of Lemon City was hired.

Frank and Ivy came to know each other during the five months Ivy lived and taught at the settlement. They married on August 16, 1900 at her family home. Ivy gave up her paid teaching position and instead focused her attention on working with Frank to support his business efforts, becoming more socially active, and forming a mutually respectful relationship with the Seminole people.

Frank built the present day Stranahan House in 1901; the lower floor served as a trading post and the upper floor as a community hall where all the settlements residents met regularly for business or

enjoyment. By 1906, Frank's business had expanded to include a general store and bank and he built a new building closer to the railroad, which had arrived in 1896. The old trading post was renovated as a residence for the Stranahans. The City of Fort Lauderdale was incorporated in 1911.

Frank Stranahan continued in his role as a community leader but never held office as Mayor. Instead, he held a position on the Town Council, founded the Board of Trade, and took leadership roles with his wife in the social and civic life of the developing community.

Frank donated most of the land or the money to purchase or build the important assets of the new municipality. A huge advocate for parks and education, the Stranahans donated land for the first parks, library, high school, hospital, baseball fields, and churches. Under the advisement of their cook, Annie Reed, they donated money for the first black school in Fort Lauderdale. Frank and Ivy both traveled to Washington, DC, to advocate on behalf of the Seminole People to be recognized as a tribe and receive land from the government.

In 1926, Florida's land boom collapsed. Frank suffered extreme economic reverses that were worsened by two devastating hurricanes. Adding to Frank's distress was the knowledge that friends who had invested with him were financially ruined as well. On May 22, 1929, deeply depressed, in ill health, and feeling personally responsible for the future plight of his friends and neighbors, Frank committed suicide.

Frank Stranahan's generosity and dedication touched every area of Fort Lauderdale. He continues to be recognized today as the City's Founding Father and his home-site is where the City of Fort Lauderdale began.

5. Based on the nomination category selected and the accomplishments and contributions provided in Question 4, why does the nominee deserve an award in this particular category (250 words or less)?

Frank Stranahan is the Founding Father of Fort Lauderdale. In the previous 44 years which the City of Fort Lauderdale has presented the Annual Citizens Recognition Awards, we have not honored the man credited with creating the vision and providing so much of the foundation for this City. It is time to recognize the work, generosity, and lasting legacy of Fort Lauderdale's first businessman and most recognized distinguished citizen.

Much of what we have in the City today is due to Frank's generosity. He donated the land for most of our original assets which were vital to build the City. He donated the land for schools, parks, the library, baseball field, and the hospital. He gave money to build churches – including those he did not attend as he felt a well-rounded community needed multiple houses of worship and options for its residents.

He felt personally responsible for the success and future of his community's residents and did everything he could to ensure their success. He was truly a leader and remains one of the most influential and important figures in our community.

6. Please provide a brief biography of the nominee (250 words or less). Please include information such as positions held, where the nominee is originally from, years lived in Fort Lauderdale, high school/college name, occupation, sports played, number of children/grandchildren, awards received, publications, etc.

Frank Stranahan was born on Aug. 21, 1865 in Vienna, Ohio, the second child and son of the Rev. Robert Stranahan and his second wife, Sarah McFadden Stranahan.

By all accounts, Frank was a very good student. After completing his education he went to work in the

steel mills near his home in Vienna. In 1883, he was living and working in Hazelton, Ohio, and over the next few years Frank moved around Ohio, Kansas, and Iowa. At the age of 22, he traveled with a group of 40 other young men from Ohio to the up and coming pioneer settlement of Melbourne.

In January of 1893, he moved to the New River Settlement – which would later become the City of Fort Lauderdale – and remained here until his death in February 1929.

On August 16, 1900, Frank married Ivy Cromartie, the area’s first school teacher and they built their life together on the New River. The couple never had children but have a number of family members live with them including Ivy’s sister Pink, her brother Albert, and Frank’s brother Will.

Frank is recognized as Fort Lauderdale’s Founding Father, first businessman and banker, and leading citizen. He helped to build the City before and after incorporation, sat on the Town Council, and began the Board of Trade. He was a respected by all members of the community including the white, black, and Indian residents. Ninety years after his death, his positive influence and impact continues to be felt today.

7. FOR EXEMPLARY FORMER CITY EMPLOYEE CATEGORY ONLY

Years of service with the City: Not answered

Position(s) held: Not answered

8.SUPPORTING MATERIALS

Supporting materials, such as a nominee’s resume, news articles, letters of recommendation, etc., may be attached to the nomination. Supporting materials may not be submitted in lieu of answering the questions above and are limited to five (5) additional pages.

Item 1	Frank Stranahan - Fort Lauderdale News Fri May 24, 1929.pdf
Item 2	Frank Stranahan Birthday photo.png
Item 3	
Item 3	
Item 5	

9. HOW DID YOU HEAR ABOUT THE CITIZENS RECOGNITION AWARDS CALL FOR NOMINATIONS? (Please select all that apply.)

☒ Fort Lauderdale Email Eblast

Page Six

RESOLUTIONS OF CONDOLENCE ON FRANK STRANAHAN

Various Organizations In This City Express Sympathy On Pioneer's Death

Be it hereby resolved by the W. H. C. Morris Post, No. 36, American Legion, Department of Florida, that, whereas a recent tragedy has resulted in the death of Frank Stranahan, this post wishes to make a public expression, inadequate though it is, of our regard for him and of our appreciation for what he has accomplished.

We recognize Frank Stranahan as the father of this community, not only because he was its first permanent white citizen, but more especially because, through a long life, he has given generously of his time, his guidance, and his material resources for the public welfare, and as a result this community is better because he lived in it.

We Legislators are proud to acknowledge that our post has been one of the beneficiaries of his public-spiritedness. In this hour of general bereavement, we find comfort in the fact that we have not shared until after the death of our loyal friend and benefactor to do what he has sacrificed and what he has accomplished; individually and collectively, we have imparted these facts during his lifetime.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be spread upon the minutes of this meeting, that a copy be given to the press, and that a copy be sent to Mrs. Frank Stranahan.

William C. Morris, Post No. 36, American Legion, by Leo P. Hatfield, Com. Jean Askin, Adj.

Chamber of Commerce

Frank Stranahan, the man, has retired from active duty as Fort Lauderdale's first and foremost citizen. He has served his time as skipper of the good ship, Fort Lauderdale. New river, with her legendary background, which has played so prominent a part in the life of Frank Stranahan, finally opened her arms and carried to everlasting rest the man who a thousand times sat on her lapping waves the brilliant future which has, and is, transpiring as the years go by. Initiatives, friends, and citizens all will never again profit by his advice and sympathy, but

The spirit of Frank Stranahan will be with us through the years. Memories of his great character will eternally lead us on to greater heights. His courage and strength will inspire the generations and many years will elapse before the generation of this truly exceptional man will have been erased and his influence no longer felt.

Mr. Stranahan was an earnest civic worker and supporter of civic organization work. Whether it was charity, education, recreation, health or what not, provided it was a constructive program, Frank Stranahan was in the thick of the fight.

Words cannot be found to ably eulogize the man for whom we grieve today. We can only say that Fort Lauderdale has suffered a great and lasting loss, but is grateful for the good fortune of having earned the heritage of Frank Stranahan's life, and

It is finally resolved, by the board of directors of the Fort Lauderdale Chamber of Commerce that he did not live in vain for the imprint of his deeds are already enshrined on the tablet of Fort Lauderdale history and indelibly impressed on the minds of its citizens, and time will only serve to intensify the respect, regard and admiration for this friend and benefactor who has passed on.

Be it further resolved, that an expression of sincere sympathy be extended to his beloved wife who is so beloved to the citizens of this city, and that condolence be extended to his near relatives and dearest friends.

T. F. Fleming, Vice-Pres. W. T. Eller, Secy.

Merchant's Association

Whereas, the untimely death of Frank Stranahan marks the passing of Fort Lauderdale's first merchant, and

Whereas, Mr. Stranahan has ever been a staunch friend and supporter of the merchants of this city, and

Whereas, Mr. Stranahan was Fort Lauderdale's first citizen and settler, striving continually through the years for the development and growth which has followed; and although it is realized that words cannot express the admiration and respect with which he was regarded in life, nor will they properly voice our regret and grief at his passing.

Be it resolved, by the Merchant's Association of Fort Lauderdale that this word of appreciation for his

life and regret at his death, be prepared and presented to his bereaved wife and relatives.

J. A. Raymond, Pres. W. T. Eller, Secy.

Citizens Building, Loan and Savings Association

The officers and directors of the Citizens Building, Loan and Savings Association have placed in the records of the association the following memorial in honor of Mr. Frank Stranahan, and have presented a copy to Mrs. Stranahan:

This city has become bereft of its founder, its most beloved benefactor and friend, Mr. Frank Stranahan.

By reason of his vision for the future of our city, by his faithful activities in all things for the progress and betterment of the community, and by his great strength of character he endeavored himself to fill his associates.

His passing is an untold loss to every phase of community life.

The officers and directors of the Citizens Building, Loan and Savings Association, of which he was a member, acknowledge this loss with great sorrow, and do hereby express to Mrs. Stranahan their sympathy in this time of bereavement.

Furthermore, they wish to comfort her in that the influence of his life and service will endure as an eternal monument.

Maxwell Baxter, R. A. Cromarty, Wm. Dinkins, C. E. Fritz, John A. Hallett, Geo. W. Hall, H. L. Lyons, F. L. Neville, James K. Richards, Fred R. Shipper, J. L. Simon, R. W. Whelan.

School Trustees

The Trustees of Special Tax School District No. 3, have learned with profound sorrow of the death of Mr. Frank Stranahan.

A sincere and loyal friend of the schools, he gave not only his time, but of his property, and financial assistance, and the schools of Fort Lauderdale have lost their best friend and benefactor.

As a friend of the school children, he furnished and maintained playgrounds, and was keenly interested in the mental and physical development of the youth of this city.

Mr. Stranahan, by his acts of charity, his great strength of character, and his unselfish devotion to the city of Fort Lauderdale, has built for himself a monument that will forever remain an inspiration to the people of this community.

We extend our heartfelt sympathy to Mrs. Stranahan in this great sorrow, and incorporate this Memorial in the school records of this city, in grateful acknowledgment of the services of Mr. Stranahan, and also in honor of Mrs. Stranahan, who was his helpmate in all work for the good of our people.

R. E. Dyer, MRS. R. D. BAILEY, RUSSELL G. SNOW.

Colored Citizens

Whereas, it has pleased the Almighty Father to suffer Frank Stranahan to pass the bounds of this life on Wednesday evening, May 22, and

Whereas, the wholesome, active, and lifelong interest of this deceased benefactor in every good phase of the colored community of Fort Lauderdale renders it proper that we should express publicly our great and lasting appreciation of his efforts, moral support, and encouragement; therefore be it

Resolved, that we now in humble submission to the will of Him who is so wise that He marks the fall of every sparrow.

Resolved, that in the death of Mr. Frank Stranahan we suppose of Fort Lauderdale lose a friend who gave his time, talent, money, land and influence to us that we might attain the highest possible development as a race.

Resolved, that we tender our heartfelt sympathy to the family and relatives of this deceased friend in this their bereavement.

Resolved, that a copy of these resolutions be sent to the bereaved family and one be furnished the local newspaper, with request for their publication. Respectfully submitted,

Committee on Resolutions, Lula Woods chairwoman, Annie Reed, Sylvia Albridge, secretary.

Of the 5,269 youngsters who left home from 100 large cities last year, according to the Traveler's Aid, 200 went to Chicago.

POST OFFICE FRUIT STAND

ACROSS FROM POST OFFICE—WE SELL FRUIT

WE CLOSE THURSDAY FROM 1 TILL 5

SPECIALS	
RHUBARB, per lb.	10c
TENDER OKRA, 2 lbs.	25c
ORANGES, per dozen	50c
FRESH GEORGIA PEACHES, 3 for	10c
PINEAPPLES, Florida, 2 for	10c
HAPPY EGGS, dozen	45c
GRAPES, 2 for	10c
MANGOES, 2 for	10c
SAPONILLA, dozen	25c

GROCERY DEPARTMENT

SUGAR, 5 lbs.	25c
MILK, Borden's, Pet or Carnation, tall cans	9c
COFFEE, Mary Ann, fresh roasted, guaranteed to please, lb.	43c
RICE, 3 lbs.	17c
CRISCO, 3 lbs.	56c
P. & G. SOAP, 3 bars	10c
CORN, Decision Brand, 2 cans	25c
PEAS, Decision Brand, sweet and tender, 2 cans	29c
PEACHES, Decision Brand, 2 1/2 can, Yellow King	19c
FLOUR, Gold Medal, 6 lbs.	31c
Dainty, 6 lbs.	45c
OXYDOL, 10c size, 3 for	24c
MALT, Blue Ribbon, Red Top, Budweiser	56c
BOTTLE CROWNS, 1 gross	23c
BINEABLE—Decision Brand broken glass	60c

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Frank Stranahan

FORT LAUDERDALE'S FOUNDING FATHER
AUGUST 21, 1864

#StranahanHouse
#IAmHistoric

From: [Chaz Adams](#)
To: [Safeea Ali](#); [Monique Damiano](#)
Subject: Citizen Recognition Awards
Date: Thursday, April 18, 2019 1:39:32 PM

Please see the email from Scott Wyman asking that the following two people be nominated on behalf of the Mayor for Citizen Recognition Awards:

- Arnold Abbott for Distinguished Citizen or Honored Founder
- George Gretsas for Exemplary Former Employee

Thanks,

Chaz Adams
Public Affairs Manager
City of Fort Lauderdale
(954) 828-4748
ChazAdams@fortlauderdale.gov

From: Scott Wyman
Sent: Thursday, April 18, 2019 1:37 PM
To: Chaz Adams
Cc: Chris Lagerbloom
Subject: Citizen Recognition Awards

Chaz — Per the recent email seeking nominations for the Citizen Recognition Awards, the mayor wishes to submit the following for consideration. I think the background is self-evident, but feel free to pull related material to provide to the committee as part of the mayor's nominations.

- * Arnold Abbott for Distinguished Citizen or Honored Founder
- * George Gretsas for Exemplary Former Employee

Scott Wyman
Assistant to the Mayor
Office of Mayor Dean Trantalis
City of Fort Lauderdale
954-828-5314

From: system@fortlauderdale.gov
To: [Monique Damiano](#); [Safeea Ali](#); [StrategicCommunications](#)
Subject: 2019 Citizens Recognition Awards Nomination Submittal
Date: Friday, May 31, 2019 2:29:25 PM

A new entry to a form/survey has been submitted.

Form Name: 2019 Citizens Recognition Awards Nomination Form
Date & Time: May 31, 2019 2:28 PM
Response #: 19
Submitter ID: 24060
IP address: 76.108.135.202
Time to complete: 2 min. , 24 sec.

Survey Details

Page 1

1. NOMINEE INFORMATION

Name of person being nominated: Jack Lokeinsky
Address: 735 NE 3rd Avenue, Ft. Laud 33304
Phone: (954) 815-3066
Email address: President@fop31.org

2. NOMINATION SUBMITTED BY

Name of person submitting nomination: Michael Tucker
Address: 735 NE 3rd Avenue, Ft. Laud 33304
Phone: (954) 815-3066
Email address: president@fop31.org

3. NOMINATION CATEGORY

Please select the category this nomination is for. You may only select one category per submission.

(o) EXEMPLARY FORMER CITY EMPLOYEE - The Exemplary Former City Employee award recognizes a former City employee who has served the citizens of Fort Lauderdale for a significant number of years and whose service has made a significant impact on the development and quality of life for the community. This person may be retired, deceased, or separated from the City.

4. Based on the category selected above, please describe in detail the nominee's accomplishments or contributions to the community, including specific examples (1,000 words or less). Examples include significant contributions to the welfare and betterment of the community or the City, civic responsibility, financial contributions, volunteer service, leadership, projects accomplished, or other ways this person has improved the quality of life in Fort Lauderdale. A resume may not be substituted as a response to this question.

Jack Lokeinsky served the City of Ft. Lauderdale for most of his adult life, nearly 30 years, with the Ft. Lauderdale Police Dept. Few nominees for this distinguished award have such tenure and dedicated service to this community. Fewer still would be able to say they literally put their life on the line each and every day for our citizens and neighbors. Having started as a patrol officer in 1988, Jack did exactly that, and faced numerous dangerous encounters to protect and serve. In fact, when Jack was assigned to K9, he chased a armed robbery suspect. Putting his life in harm's way, the encounter with the dangerous felon turned deadly, as the suspect killed Jack's K9 partner. Ultimately Jack's own life was threatened and he used lethal force to stop the suspect. What can deserve more recognition for love of others and our community than he who stared death in the face for 3 decades for us all? This wasn't a career, a short-term job, it was a higher calling.

Later in his career, Jack was transferred to our Youth Services Unit, where his true passion shined. He found he could reach the youths of our community and make a real difference in shaping their futures for the better. In 2005, Jack became the President of the Fraternal Order of Police. He continued his work with our neighbors and youth, developing and supporting numerous sports, school, reading, and educational programs in our City. In fact, under Jack's watch, the FOP contributed nearly \$100k per year to these numerous noble causes and initiatives, and that continues to this day.

After the removal of former City Mgr Gretsas and his "White Plains Mafia," Jack began his most critical work. The Gretsas era had decimated employee morale and working conditions city-wide, and nearly half of our workforce quit. This not only devastated our workforce, but was of course felt in neighborhoods with reduced staffing services. A frustrated community and depleted workforce divided our City. Jack made it his mission to rebuild relationships with City officials, local leaders, HOA Presidents, civic groups, numerous city groups, and moreover with our neighbors. With the cultivation of those relationships and help from the community and leaders, Jack fostered a new era, wherein once-despised employees became appreciated community builders. Bridges now overshadowed the divide, and police, fire, and city employees developed strong connections with our appreciative neighbors. Morale rebounded, working conditions improved, employees returned and a true sense of family enveloped our leaders, employees and citizenry. Jack was infectious, and his love and deep care for others began as a small ripple that literally helped transform a divided City into a unified family, something that continues to this day.

There are too many stories that highlight Jack's love for this City and all who are a part of it. Proof of his incredible impact to the lives of so many in Ft. Lauderdale came upon his tragic passing in 2017. Thousands poured into the Broward Performing Arts Center to mourn, but also share their stories of how Jack singlehandedly touched there lives in some meaningful way. His legacy of love and dedication is unparalleled and will live on in this town forever. Ft. Lauderdale is forever a better place because of one man...our hero, FLPD Sgt and late FOP President Jack Lokeinsky.

5. Based on the nomination category selected and the accomplishments and contributions provided in Question 4, why does the nominee deserve an award in this particular category (250 words or less)?

Jack deserves this award as someone who walked the walk for nearly 3 decades of his service and dedication to the Ft. Lauderdale family, unmatched by any other nominee. There is nothing more one can give of themselves than to lay their life down for others if needed, and Jack proved time and time again ready to do just that. Upon his death, thousands of Ft. Lauderdale citizens, neighbors, leaders, coworkers, and people from all walks of life and various roles within Ft. Lauderdale gathered to mourn, but also to celebrate his life and legacy. He truly reached the hearts of so many, and the heart of our community. And Ft. Lauderdale is forever better because of all he did, all he stood for, and all he fought for.

6. Please provide a brief biography of the nominee (250 words or less). Please include information such as positions held, where the nominee is originally from, years lived in Fort Lauderdale, high

school/college name, occupation, sports played, number of children/grandchildren, awards received, publications, etc.

Jack was born in NY, and came to south Florida as a youth. He joined the City of Ft. Lauderdale in 1988, serving in multiple law enforcement units and positions, and ultimately rose to the rank of Sergeant. He lead the FOP for nearly 25 years, and was the longest serving FOP president in our history, until his passing in 2017. He was recognized by community groups with awards of distinction all over Ft. Lauderdale, and by the thousands of lives he touched. Jack was married Jenny, his high school sweetheart, for 30 years. They have two lovely daughters, Jessie and Katie, and one grandson.

Before policework, Jack was an elite baseball player, nearly playing for the major league. He coached several youth baseball and softball teams in his spare time. He developed a love for long-distance bike riding, travelling, and supporting charitable causes.

7. FOR EXEMPLARY FORMER CITY EMPLOYEE CATEGORY ONLY

Years of service with the 29

City:

Position(s) held: Police Officer and Sergeant

8. SUPPORTING MATERIALS

Supporting materials, such as a nominee's resume, news articles, letters of recommendation, etc., may be attached to the nomination. Supporting materials may not be submitted in lieu of answering the questions above and are limited to five (5) additional pages.

Item 1

Item 2

Item 3

Item 3

Item 5

9. HOW DID YOU HEAR ABOUT THE CITIZENS RECOGNITION AWARDS CALL FOR NOMINATIONS? (Please select all that apply.)

☒ Fort Lauderdale Email Eblast

Thank you,
City of Fort Lauderdale, FL

This is an automated message generated by the Vision Content Management System™. Please do not reply directly to this email.