The 19th Anniversary Concert

Saturday, November 5th at 12 pm
First Baptist Family Center
2205 15th Avenue, Vero Beach, FL 32960
www.gyotigers.org
Pictured is BRITTANY OLIVIA LOGAN, our 2022 RISING STARS Second Place Winner. Brittany is currently singing the roles of the Priestess in Aida and Clotilde in Norma with the MET Opera in New York City. Photo by JPR Images.

Live Opera 2023

January 8 at 3:00 p.m.
L'Elixir d'Amore / The Elixir of Love
Fully-Staged Opera with the Brevard Symphony Orchestra

February 4 at 7:00 p.m.
Phantom Goes to The Opera (Concert)
Join us for a Special Concert celebrating the Best of Andrew Lloyd Webber classics and our own Opera favorites

March 22, 23 & 24
Rising Stars Opera Festival:
Vocal Competition & Concert
Top MET Opera Laffont Audition Finalists Compete for Cash Prices

Performed at Vero Beach High School Performing Arts Center
program subject to change

TICKETS ON SALE NOW
Subscribe & Save 10%
VeroBeachOpera.org
In Memory of Annie Laure Powell,
the Gifford Resident with a vision
to teach the children of Gifford
how to play the violin.

“Our children are being left behind. What are you going to do about it?” - Annie Laure Powell

IMPACT OF THE GIFFORD YOUTH ORCHESTRA
Using music as our initial teaching tool, we give students specialized training which, along with their home and spiritual training, helps them make better choices as they grow. Participation in the Gifford Youth Orchestra (GYO) changes the paradigm of the students such that they have new skills that help them rise above the expectations of uninformed adults and peers with limited knowledge of who our children really are. GYO children thereafter become more productive members of the community and identify college and career options that heretofore might not have been in their consciousness. At the onset of their entrance into a GYO class they begin to embody the theme, motto and slogan in the above mission message, especially when they play their instruments in their first performance! 100% of the children who stayed in the GYO until they graduated from high school have either enrolled in college or completed.

BEYOND THE ORGANIZATION’S MISSION
The side-effects of our mission statement are greater than the mission! The children have fun. They prosper. Their grades improve. Their behavior improves. They focus more. They learn a new language (music), and become part of a new cultural group (musicians) and as a result ... These children uplift and empower other young people!

EFFECT OF MUSIC ON CHILDREN’S INTELLIGENCE
There is extensive research on the topic of music and children’s intelligence which proves that playing an instrument positively affects educational outcomes, especially as a result of playing and listening to classical music. Children who play a musical instrument are more likely to finish high school and go on to college. They perform better in math and science, and have an easier time learning languages. Music has also been shown to be transformational in creating cycles of success and effecting social change.

LONG—RANGE PLAN FOR A HOME FOR THE GYO
To have a place to call home! GYO space where we can have classes Monday – Friday and not have to create space every week; a home with small practice rooms; a home where we can have; pictures of our children and other musical heroes and sheroes on our walls with affirmations and other symbols of their potential for them to see when they walk into class; a home where we have ample storage space; a home where we know we will always be . . . and be welcomed!
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*The GYO would like to introduce...*

Casey Lunceford, Executive Director

*The Gifford Youth Orchestra (GYO), recently announced the hiring of an Executive Director, Charles R. “Casey” Lunceford II. Mr. Lunceford joined the GYO in early September 2022 as the organization approaches its 20th Anniversary in 2023.*

“I am excited to join the Gifford Youth Orchestra organization and its founder Dr. Crystal Bujol. With this appointment I have the opportunity to get back to my roots in music education. I strongly believe in the power of music as a tool to help students reach their full potential. I also understand the importance of GYO as a member of the Gifford community and look forward to continuing those relationships as we move forward into the future. I want to thank Dr. Bujol and the Board of Directors of the Gifford Youth Orchestra for their confidence and support in offering me this exciting opportunity.”
With deep gratitude and admiration, the staff, students and Board of Directors would like to extend their deepest thanks to The Gifford Youth Orchestra Founder

Dr. Crystal Bujol

Starting with nothing 19 years ago, Dr. Crystal Bujol has created a music program gem in Gifford. Bravo for the masterful performance!
TATIANA WALLACE
GYO Since 2013

Tatiana is a Senior at Vero Beach High School and she will be attending Indian River State College in the Fall!
While in High School, she has been part of the Vero Beach High School Philharmonic and a student-teacher to younger GYO students!!
Thank you Tatiana for your work with the GYO and we wish you the best of luck this Senior Year!
VIVIANDRA PHINIZEE
GYO SINCE 2016

Viviandra is a dedicated student of the violin. She is a sophomore at Vero Beach High School. She is very active in her home church of Mt. Zion AME and is also an accomplished track athlete. Congratulations on your continued success Viviandra!

Future Graduates of the GYO!
Congratulations to these talented students who have been studying with us for more than three years!

Justice Holson  William DaSilva  Aaron Romero
NEW FACES AT GIFFORD YOUTH ORCHESTRA

JESSICA VILLALOBOS, DIRECTOR of OPERATIONS. Jessica was born and raised in Washington State where she grew up singing in choir and taking professional vocal lessons since the age of 10. She has always been passionate about the arts and making a difference in the lives of today’s young people. A licensed foster parent, Jessica has adopted 2 girls out of the foster care system. She has 3 children, ages 6, 14 and 16. An alumnae of Gonzaga University’s undergraduate and graduate programs, she remains a die-hard Gonzaga basketball fan. In her free time, she enjoys reading, relaxing at the beach and singing, of course!

EVAN ROBINET, MUSIC DIRECTOR: Evan is a Vero Beach local, graduating from Vero Beach High School and then returning to after graduating from the University of Central Florida, where he received his degrees in Environmental Science and Music. Evan is a science teacher at Storm Grove Middle School. An active and avid cellist, he has participated in a variety of musical ensembles, ranging from Principal Cellist during his high school years in the VBHS Philharmonic orchestra, and currently plays in the First Presbyterian Church String Ensemble and the Vero Beach Chamber Orchestra. He briefly served as the fill-in orchestra teacher at Storm Grove Middle School. He joined the GYO this past summer and teaches both violin and cello. Through his role as Music Director, he is eager to continue to grow as a musician and teacher and is excited by the opportunity to teach his passion while helping his local community.

KATE SHANAPHY MAINGOT, PROGRAM COORDINATOR, was born into a musical family and has been involved in music and the Arts her whole life. Her artistic background provided the inspiration she needed to pursue acting, singing, dance and Visual Arts throughout her schooling and she is still actively performing and creating to this day. With a television and film degree from Boston University, Kate worked in Marketing and Development for successful nonprofits The Nature Conservancy and The Nantucket Land Council prior to her move to Vero Beach in 2010. She is the Fundraising Advisory Board Member to Vero’s Coastal Connections organization and is a volunteer Big Sister with Big Brothers Big Sisters of Indian River County. Kate performs regularly as a vocalist with two local bands, for the jazz quartet The Shanaphy Family Band and for the Blues & Rock group “Kate Maingot & The Wiley Nash Band”. She is thrilled to be a part of the GYO and looks forward to assisting its dedicated staff, Board of Directors and many talented young artists achieve their dreams.
The Magic Behind the Music is The GYO Board of Directors

Roger Sobkowiak, Treasurer

Jane Burton
President

Elaine Word
Vice President

Marcus Rogers
Legal

Roger Sobkowski
Treasurer

Larry Staley

Oscar Sales
Communications

Tammy Broxton Brown

Jim Parks

Dr. Paul Minotty

Jennifer Trapp

Laica Gerwein-Moreta

Elle Shaw-Berbick

Linda Morgan

Dr. Crystal Bujol
Founder
A Round of Applause for Our Incredible Volunteers!

Marissa Rollins
Jeryl Thompson
Phyllis Parks
Ciera Hopewell
Debbie Avery
George Blythe
Laura Crosby
Coco Burton
Kelli Stevens
Sherri Alessio
Michael Lewis
Linda Rollins
Patti Gibbons
Carla and Joe Hardy
Hellen Cortez
Carter G. Woodson was a scholar whose dedication to celebrating the historic contributions of Black people led to the establishment of Black History Month. He believed that African-American contributions “… were overlooked, ignored, and even suppressed by the writers of history textbooks and the teachers who use them.” He also fervently believed that Black people should be proud of their heritage and all Americans should understand the largely overlooked achievements of Black Americans. Woodson initiated the first celebration of Negro History Week which led to Black History Month, to extend and deepen the study and scholarship on African American history, all year long. Why did Woodson choose February?

This Essay by Daryl Michael Scott Casts Light on February:
Carter G. Woodson chose February for Negro History Week for reasons of tradition and reform. It is commonly said that Woodson selected February to encompass the birthdays of two great Americans who played a prominent role in shaping Black history, namely Abraham Lincoln and Frederick Douglass, whose birthdays are the 12th and the 14th, respectively. More importantly, he chose them for reasons of tradition. Since Lincoln’s assassination in 1865, the Black community, along with other Republicans, had been celebrating the fallen president’s birthday. And since the late 1890s, Black communities across the country had been celebrating Douglass’. Well aware of the pre-existing celebrations, Woodson built Negro History Week around traditional days of commemorating the Black past. He was asking the public to extend their study of Black history, not to create a new tradition. In doing so, he increased his chances for success.
PART 2: The Program – A Part of American History

Introduction and Welcome
Chairman of the GYO Board, Oscar Sales

OPENING: “LIFT EVERY VOICE” – ANNETTE REASON LEADS AUDIENCE
Isabella Cruz Rise up and Follow, Enslaved Peoples’ Spiritual
Jahaziel Hernandez Easy Winners by Scott Joplin

INTRODUCING GARRETT MORGAN – KEREN PEREZ (Student)
Garrett Morgan was an African American a successful businessman whose inventions helped improve public safety including the gas mask, a breathing mask for workers trapped under water and the traffic signal. His 3-position traffic signal was designed to be placed on street corners to notify vehicles and walkers whether they should stop or go.
Navah Kirven and Keren Perez This Little Light of Mine, Unknown Origin
Carlos Hernandez Go Down Moses, Enslaved Peoples’ Spiritual
Aliyah Kirven When the Saints Go Marching In by James M. Black

INTRODUCING MIRIAM BENJAMIN - TAMMY BROWN (Board Member)
In 1888, she invented “The Gong and Signal Chair” for hotels which allowed people to press a button on their chair, turn on a light, and let the waiters know they wanted service. It is now used in many places, including hospitals, the U. S. House of Representatives, and airplanes. When you signal flight attendants that you need something, you are using the Gong and Signal!
Nevaeh Williams: When the Saints Go Marching In by James M. Black (video)
Celine Siadat: Go Down Moses, Enslaved Peoples’ Spiritual (video)
Mobeen Siadat: When the Saints Go Marching In by James M. Black (video)
Ashton Smeltzer Go Tell It on the Mountain, Enslaved Peoples’ Spiritual

INTRODUCING LONNIE JOHNSON – WALLACE DaSYLVA (Student)
African American engineer Lonnie Johnson, is famous for inventing the “Super Squirt” gun, one of the most popular children’s toys in the world.
Justice Hopewell Do Lord, Enslaved Peoples’ Spiritual
Aiden Robinson Kum-Ba-Ya, African Spiritual
Viviandra Phinizee Were You There When They Crucified My Lord, ... Enslaved Peoples’ Spiritual
... Wade in the Water, Enslaved Peoples’ Spiritual
William and Wallace DaSylva

INTRODUCING JESSE RUSSELL – JUSTICE HOPEWELL (Student)
He invented the cell phone -- the very first digital cell phone -- the 2G.
His invention introduced the world to digital cellular technology and now we have the 5G cell phones.
Keren Perez Kum-Ba-Ya, African Spiritual
Christine Domingue & Justice Hopewell Ain’t Gonna Let Nobody Turn Me Around, Enslaved People’s Spiritual
Nick Romero Swing Low Sweet Chariot, Enslaved Peoples’ Spiritual
Jhovanny Vite Banaha, Congolese Folk Song

INTRODUCING MARIE VAN BRITTEN BROWN - ANNETTE REASON (Student)
Marie Van Britten Brown and her husband developed the first modern home security system and the first closed circuit television. Some examples of how her invention is used are things like X ray baggage at airports, security cameras, and baby room monitors.
Chanton Taylor When the Saints Go Marching In by James Milton Black
Abigail Joseph Go Tell It On the Mountains, Enslaved Peoples’ Spiritual
Jahaziel Hernandez Exercise No. 11 by Oscar Peterson
INTRODUCING DR. ERA BATH – DR. PAUL MINOTTY (Board Member)

Dr. Era Bath, the Eye Doctor who developed the Laser to remove cataracts and restore vision to people who can’t see. Her work has helped many people who can’t see, or improve the vision of those who can. Even Crystal Bujol’s vision has been improved by her invention! And, guess who performed her surgery?

Marlie Anderson: When the Saints Go Marching In by James M. Black (video)
Mateen Siadat: He’s Got the Whole World in His Hands by Alan Livingston (video)
Ja’Kebie Marshall: Nobody Knows the Trouble I’ve Seen, African American Spiritual
Annette Reason: Stand Up by Cynthia Erivo

INTRODUCING DR. CHARLES DREW – ATTY. MARCUS ROGERS (Board Member)

Renowned surgeon and pioneer in the preservation of life-saving blood plasma. He discovered a way to store blood plasma so people could have blood transfusions. He also organized America’s first large-scale blood bank.

Aaron Romero: The Maple Leaf Rag by Scott Joplin

INTRODUCING ZORA BALL – JOSEPH DIAZ (Teacher)

Zora Ball, 7-year-old African American girl invented a mobile game App called “Vampire Diamonds.” At seven years old, she is the youngest person to ever design a mobile game app using the programming language called Bootstrap, a language usually used to teach algebra to students between age 12-16.

Tatiana Wallace: Glory by John Legend

INTRODUCING THE ANNIE LAURA POWELL BOOK TABLE – DR. CRYSTAL BUJOL

Rekindling the work Annie Laura Powell started when Gifford Schools were first integrated and Gifford children were being left behind. She organized women to teach them to read using books by Negroes and about Negro History through the collaboration of Parents Involved in Education (PIE). Today, each participating student will receive a book from the Annie Laura Powell Book Table!

INTRODUCING ALAN EMTAGE – LYNN DIMENNA (Teacher)

Alan Emtage is a computer scientist who created “ARCHIE,” the world’s first Internet Search Engine. In doing so, he pioneered platforms such as Yahoo, Twitter and Google. His invention helps you search for things on your computer.

The Gifford Youth Orchestra’s Vocal Coaching Class Presents The Gifford Youth Orchestra’s Anthem: “The Peace of Gifford © composed by Jeryl S. Thompson for the Gifford Youth Orchestra

All we want to task you is for peace; peace throughout the land. And if we told you how we’d make it happen, would you give us your hand? If we were to start our walk together, and you could take the lead, I know that we could make it all so much better ‘cuz love is all we need.

All we want to ask you for is peace. Hear it in our song. Just as long as we are kind and treat each other as if we all belong. Peace would make the whole world change. Trust me and you’ll see. I know that we could make it so much better, ‘cause love is all we need.

Part 3: Closing and Refreshments and Acknowledgements

Program and Student Coordinators:
Linda Scott, Tabitha Williams, and GYO Volunteers Ellen Charles
accompanying GYO Vocal Students Sue Lorimier at the piano with her students!
Jane Burton Videographer Mizell Wilson
Technical Engineer
The Gifford Community Center Staff
The Progressive Civic League (1st GYO Sponsor 2003)
And The Annie Laura Powell Book Table with artifacts offered by her daughter, Terri Ann Hurley

Board of Directors and Administration:

GYO Teaching Staff
Abby Lorimier, Courtney Diaz, Ellen Charles, Joan Haar, Lynn DiMenna, Matthew Oostdyk, and Sue Lorimier
The Christmas party at St. Francis Manor -
A joyful celebration of holiday spirit and songs!
Pictured Here: William DaSilva, Wallace DaSilva, 
Lynn DiMenna, Justice Hopewell

GYO Vocal Students wow the crowd at the Annual Gala.

William and Wallace DaSilva
hit the airwaves on Planet Vero Radio!

Performing at the Treasure Coast Girl's Coalition Luncheon

From left: Joniah Holson, Christine Domingue, Justice 
Hopewell, Keren Perez, Navah Kirven, Lynn 
DiMenna

Front row from left: Christine Domingue, Joniah 
Holson  Back row: Keren Perez, Lynn DiMenna, 
Justice Hopewell, Navah Kirven
GYO SUMMER CAMP 2022

Under the able direction of former GYO violin student and returning Camp Director, Marissa Rollins, with assistance from GYO Program Director, Linda Scott, teachers Sue Lorimier, Courtney Diaz, Evan Robinet, Tamia Williams, Lynn DiMenna and volunteers Cathy Baumann, Carla Hardy, Sandy Cota, Michael Lewis, Deb Avery, Zipporah Pelt, Amelia Clements and Dafne Perez, the 2022 GYO Summer Camp was a week of violin, cello, piano, vocal and percussion lessons, arts and crafts, swimming, performing and just plain old summertime camp FUN!

A special treat for Lynn's vocal students was the addition of professional guest musicians, John Simon, Muffy Charles and Jim Jordan and an extra special video message from vocal coach extraordinaire, Cheryl Porter, congratulating the GYO for their important work and encouraging the campers to "kill it" at their end of the week "finale" performance.

Learning, Friendship, Music, Fun, Laughs and Special Memories are all part of the score at GYO's camp.
Congratulations to the Gifford Youth "Stars"

Carolyn Butler Norton, Elder Law Attorney

has been practicing law for more than 40 years. Her passion as an advocate for the senior population and their families is unparalleled. Carolyn believes that the practice of Elder Law should be comprehensive, focusing on a Life Care Planning Approach.

Carolyn works closely with her clients educating and assisting them with all long-term planning options including healthcare and financial choices, asset protection and end of life decisions.

In addition to drafting legal documents, Carolyn and her team of professionals take a holistic approach with her clients and families, many from out of state, by providing assistance with the information necessary to make informed decisions regarding living arrangements, care providers and related issues.

2770 Indian River Blvd., Suite 309
Vero Beach, FL 32960 (772) 257-5751
www.butlernorton.com
GYO Musical Director Evan Robinet and Program Coordinator Kate Maingot meet and greet potential students at the IRSDC Open House at IRSC.

SPOTLIGHT ON:
ANNETTE REASON
Vocal Student

Annette has been a student in the GYO Vocal Coaching Program since its inception and has been a committed, stand out student and performer. She dazzled our 2021 Annual Concert audience with her rendition of "Lift Every Voice and Sing" (African American hymn) and "Stand Up" (from the movie "Harriet") and then again at the annual Juneteenth Celebration at Gifford Park displaying her beautiful, soaring alto with great poise and confidence. Annette is the Bookkeeping & HR Specialist at The Gifford Youth Achievement Center and a long time supporter of the GYO. She and her husband, Vernon Reason, pastor at the Hallowed Bread Community Church in Melbourne Florida, have lived in Vero Beach for over 25 years.

PIANO STUDENTS of 2022
Bryce Benton
Chanton Bryant
Ryleigh Bullard
Diamond Davis
Christian Gachelin
Amelia Garcia
Peyton Henderson
Derwin Henry
Aaron Hernandez
Carlos Hernandez
Jahaziel Hernandez
Jamaiya Holson
Abigail Joseph
Tyler Marinko
Ja’Kebie Marshall
Majesty McKenzie
De’Andre O’Neal
Karen Perez
Jeanne Perry
Ivanna Powell
Aiden Robinson
Aaron Romero
Nick Romero
Naiyana Sawyers
Mateen Siadat
Mobeen Siadat
Celine Siadat
Aryanna-Jade Wittingham
Neveah Williams
Raymond Wright-Osment

Pictured above left with vocal coach, Lynn DiMenna
Pictured above right: Dr. Crystal Bujol and Sheriff Eric Flowers

2022 Vocal Students
Kha’Mora Darwent
William Dasilva
Wallace Dasilva
Diamond Doby
Christine Dominique
Bailey Henderson
Deanna Henderson
Joniah Holson
Justice Hopewell
Aliyah Kirven
Navah Kirven
Samantha Rossbach

VIOLIN STUDENTS of 2022
Adrianna Anderson
Venetia Broxton
D’Mya Bushell-Cue
Christine Dominique
Iandael Enriquez
Sophia Garcia
Justice Hopewell
Hadassah Kirvin
Jeannelle Lormil
Autumn Morris
Ariel Perez
Vivandra Phinizee
Ashton Smetzer
Chanton Taylor
Narela Vega
Tatiana Wallace
Antawnette Williams
DeAnna Henderson
Joniah Holson

CELLO STUDENTS of ’22
Avriana Collins
Jahaziel Hernandez
Nina Ruebusch
Jhovannny Vite

2022 Piano Students
Bryce Benton
Chanton Bryant
Ryleigh Bullard
Diamond Davis
Christian Gachelin
Amelia Garcia
Peyton Henderson
Derwin Henry
Aaron Hernandez
Carlos Hernandez
Jahaziel Hernandez
Jamaiya Holson
Abigail Joseph
Tyler Marinko
Ja’Kebie Marshall
Majesty McKenzie
De’Andre O’Neal
Karen Perez
Jeanne Perry
Ivanna Powell
Aiden Robinson
Aaron Romero
Nick Romero
Naiyana Sawyers
Mateen Siadat
Mobeen Siadat
Celine Siadat
Aryanna-Jade Wittingham
Neveah Williams
Raymond Wright-Osment

Pictured above left with vocal coach, Lynn DiMenna
Pictured above right: Dr. Crystal Bujol and Sheriff Eric Flowers
GYO 2021 CIRCLES OF SUPPORT
Including Donations Received between October 1, 2021 and October 20, 2022.

Gifford Florida Youth Orchestra’s 2020/21 Circles of Financial Support
Honoring African American Musicians and GYO Donors

Aaron Dworkin Circle: Gifts up to $49.99
Dr. Aaron Dworkin is an accomplished acoustic and electric violinist, and a spoken-word and visual artist. Born in New York, his biological father was of Irish descent and his biological mother was African American, while his adoptive family was Jewish. His adoptive mother, an amateur violinist, sparked his early interest in music. He is the Founder and President of The Sphinx Organization, the national arts organization that transforms lives through the power of diversity and the arts. Dr. Dworkin was President Obama’s first appointment to the National Council on the Arts.

Regina Carter Circle: Gifts between $50 and $99.99
A classically trained jazz violinist who began studying the violin in her hometown of Detroit at age four. Known as the most significant jazz violinist since Jean-Luc Ponty of the late ’60s. As a teenager, Regina took master violin classes from Itzhak Perlman and Yehudi Menuhin. As a gesture of solidarity for America, after the September 11th attacks, the city of Genoa, Italy invited her to perform on Niccolo Paganni’s Il Cannone Guarnerius, a 1743 violin. She became the first jazz musician to play this priceless instrument.

Beethoven Circle: Gifts between $100 and $249.99
German born Ludwig Van Beethoven is considered Europe’s greatest classical music composer. His ancestors were Moors (Black people), North African Muslims who conquered parts of Europe and made Spain their capital for over 800 years. One of Beethoven’s homes in Vienna, Austria, the music capital of Europe at the time, was called “the Schwarzespanierhaus,” the “House of the Black Spaniard.” Beethoven was one of the most innovative and amazing musical geniuses, ever. His deafness made that genius even more so. His music reveals a cultural connection to his African ancestry. He was the first composer to invigorate European classical music with an inherently African rhythmic trait.
Circle Supporters:

Joseph Bolonge, Le Chevalier de Saint-Georges Circle: Gifts between $250 and $499.00

Bolonge, born on a small West Indian Island, the only child of a black slave and her white master, became one of the most accomplished men in 18th century Europe. He is remembered as the first classical composer of African ancestry. Bolonge was a virtuoso violinist and conductor of the Paris Symphony Orchestra. Known as the “Black Mozart,” he was the first musician of color to play for royalty. Before launching his career in classical music, he won fame as one of the best fencers in Europe. He also served as Colonel of the Legion Saint-Georges, the first all-black European regiment during the French Revolution.


William Grant Still Circle: Gifts between $500 and $999.99

Still began violin lessons when he was 15. Composed music at 16. He heard his Grandmother’s plantation stories and included her spirituals in his compositions. Still was the first African American to conduct a major symphony orchestra in the U.S, directing the Los Angeles Philharmonic in his compositions at the Hollywood Bowl in 1936. In 1955 he became the first African American to conduct a major symphony orchestra in the Deep South, the New Orleans Philharmonic at Southern University. His opera "Troubled Island" was the first African American opera to be produced by a major U.S. company. It was performed at the City Center of Music and Drama in New York City in 1949 and televised over a national network. He wrote over 150 compositions including operas, ballets, symphonies, chamber works, and arrangements of folk themes, especially Negro spirituals, plus choral and solo vocal works.

William Grant Still Circle

Beckett E Waddell, Bruce & Polly Behrens, C&C Schneider, Carter Global, Dale Sorensen Real Estate, Inc., Elaine Word, Insurcorp Agency Alliance, Melnick Family Foundation, New Vision Eye Center, LLC, Richard Atkinson, Treasure Coast Realty, Vero Beach Opera, Warren Clear, Paralegal Advantage, Richard and Barbara Carlin, Maryam Siadat, Deborah Padnuk, Alliance Title of the Treasure Coast, Carol S. Amaru, Anthony Davenport, Tom Barlow, Vero Beach Sunrise Rotary Club, Eddie Hudson, Patricia White, Joe Flescher, Joel Deputat, Tammy Brown, PayPal Giving Fund, Rotary Club of Sebastian, Marcus Rogers

Yo-Yo Ma Circle: Gifts between $1,000 and $2499.99

Born in Paris, Chinese virtuoso cellist Yo-Yo Ma, a child prodigy, began performing at age five. He performed for President John F. Kennedy at age seven, studied at the Juilliard School and Harvard University. He established the ‘Silk Road Project’ to promote the study of the cultural, artistic and intellectual traditions along the ancient Silk Road trade route. He plays a 1733 Montagnana cello nicknamed “Petunia”. Yo-Yo Ma's 75 music albums have earned 15 Grammy awards.

Nokuthula Ngwenyama Circle: Gifts between $2,500 and $4,999.99

President of the American Viola Society, Ms. Ngwenyama is a solo violist, recitalist, and chamber musician of Zimbabwean and Japanese descent. Born in California, she came to international attention when she won the Primrose International Viola Competition and the Young Concert Artists International Auditions at age 17. She received the prestigious Avery Fisher Career Grant in 1998. As a Fulbright Scholar she attended the Conservatoire National Superieur de Musique de Paris and received a Master of Theological Studies degree from Harvard University.

Circle of Supporters: Richard Reynolds, The Walt Disney Company, Vero Beach Firefighters Association, Inc, Vero Beach Rotary Foundation, Stanley Winters, Community Church of Vero Beach, The James Edward Hudock Trust, Carol Ludwig, Roger & Maria Sobkowiak

Duke Ellington Circle: Gifts between $5,000 and $9,999.00

Edward Kennedy "Duke" Ellington was a self-educated American composer, pianist, and jazz orchestra bandleader who gained international recognition through his orchestra's appearances at the famous Cotton Club in New York. Ellington composed thousands of celebrated scores over his 50-year career - work that has stood the test of time. Pioneering the big band classical jazz world, many of his compositions included elegant parts for violin and viola such as ‘Duke Ellington's Jazz Violin Session,' an album his band recorded in 1963. A musical giant among giants, Ellington is generally considered to have elevated jazz to an art form equal to other traditional music genres.

Frederick Douglas’s Circle: Gifts $10,000.00 and above

Grand Harbor Born in Grand Harbor, Maryland as a slave in 1818, he taught himself to read and write, escaped to New England, became a preacher, newspaper publisher, bank president, diplomat, musician, fiery orator, and author of hundreds of books and speeches. He spoke seven languages, was an advisor to President Abraham Lincoln, and served as the American Minister to Haiti. His greatest achievements were in the political arena as an eloquent advocate of abolition, women’s rights, and racial justice. Called "The Father of the Civil Rights Movement," his life is memorialized at his home in Cedar Hills in Washington, D.C., where the rooms are filled with mementos of Douglass' extraordinary life, including his beloved Stradivarius!

Photo: Frederick Douglass teaching his grandson, Joseph Douglass, who became a world-class violinist, performing for many presidents at the White House. A symbol of what we hope our students will do, as well — pass the violin down through their generations.

Circle of Supporters: Barbara Beckman, Deming Holleran Education Foundation of Indian River County, Inc., Mildred C. Gipson, Trustee, Ruth Camp Campbell Foundation, Alan Forester, Dean Neiman, Johns Island Community Service League, Minotty Family Foundation, Quail Valley Charities Inc., Indian River Community Foundation, Indian River Board of County Commissioners, Children's Services, CSAC

When you decide to join our Circle of Support,

Please make your check payable to

The Gifford Youth Orchestra, P. O. Box 691166, Vero Beach FL, 32969 ...

and write the name of your chosen musical exemplar in the memo line.

We thank you in Advance for your Sustaining Support!

For more information, Dr. Crystal Bujol 772-213-3007 GYOOrchestra@gyotigers.org

Ellen Charles, one of GYO’s beloved Piano Teachers, is passionate about her students’ progress, their connection to song and sharing her life-long love of music.
Earlier this year, steps were taken to move our music and wellness program into the public school system. The GYO was able to partner with Dodgertown Elementary and create an after-school enrichment program to further aid in enhancing our children’s minds, bodies, and spirits. This is the first pilot program of its kind for GYO. It currently serves 22 students and we have plans to expand into other schools in Indian River County. This program, which is free to students, was made possible by the Indian River County School District.

What is the primary purpose of Qigong?

Qigong, pronounced “chi gong,” was developed in China thousands of years ago as part of traditional Chinese medicine. It involves using exercises to optimize energy within the body, mind, and spirit, with the goal of improving and maintaining health and well-being. The meditative aspects of Qigong can help children to reduce anxiety and worry, calm their minds, improve focus and concentration, release tension and improve mental clarity. Dr. Bujol added it to the GYO program particularly to help brown and black children deal with the daily PTSD and possible symptoms of depression that accompany children in underserved communities and the issues children living in poverty have to face. The effects of Qigong support the GYO motto, “More Violins, Less Violence, Better Tomorrows”, giving its students additional skills to cope with stress.

African American children growing up poor are at greater risk of disrupted physiological functioning and depressed academic achievement. “Stress” is a commonplace term for hormonal changes that occur in response to frightening or threatening events or conditions. When severe, these changes are termed “toxic” stress and can impede children’s behavior, cognitive capacity, and emotional and physical health. This report was produced in collaboration with the Opportunity Institute. Frightening or threatening situations are more sustained and are experienced more frequently by African American and socially and economically disadvantaged children, who also have less access to protective resources that can mitigate their stress to tolerable levels. Report • By Leila Morsy and Richard Rothstein • May 1, 2019

Katie Nall, PhD: Qigong Instructor

Charles McNatt: Ukelele Instructor
Professional Singer and GYO Vocal Instructor, Muffy Charles with some of her biggest fans at the Dodgertown Elementary Enrichment Program

Dr. Katie Nall leads a Qi Gong group through movement and breathing exercises.

Chuck McNatt engages and encourages students to get up and sing during ukulele class.

DIVING D.E.E.P.
The GYO Joins The Dodgertown Elementary Enrichment Program
19th Anniversary Annual Concert Programme

Welcome from Casey Lunceford, Executive Director

Opening Prayer by Reverend Crystal Bujol, Founder of the GYO

~

“Bile ‘Em Cabbage Down” - Traditional - GYO Strings Ensemble
“French Folk Song” - Traditional - GYO Strings Ensemble
“Cripple Creek” - Traditional - GYO Strings Ensemble
“May Song” - Traditional - Justice Hopewell
“French Folk Song” - Traditional - Hadassah Kirven

“She’ll Be Coming Around The Mountain” - Traditional - Raymond Wright-Osment

“Chorus from Judas Maccabaeus” - G.F. Handel - Antawnette Williams
“Gavotte” - J.B Lully - Viviandra Phinizee
“Little Playmates” - Chwatal - Nick Romero
“Devil’s Dream” - Traditional - DeAnna Henderson
“Hungarian Folk Song” - Bartok - Mateen Siadat

“Twinkle Twinkle Little Star” - Traditional - Abigail Roberts
“Perpetual Motion” in D Major - S. Suzuki - Avriana Collins

“Go Tell Aunt Rhody” - Folk Traditional - Carlos Hernandez

“Bourree” - J.S. Bach - Jamaiya Holson

“Me & Julio Down By the Schoolyard” - Simon & Garfunkel - William & Wallace DeSilva
15 MINUTE INTERMISSION

“Peace For Gifford” - Lyrics and Music by Jeryl Thompson

GYO Vocal Ensemble

~

“Allegro” - S. Suzuki - Avriana Collins, Jahaziel Hernandez, Nina Ruebusch

“Minuet 1” - J.S. Bach - Nina Ruebusch

“Somewhere Over The Rainbow” - Harold Arlen - Justice Hopewell

Concerto No. 2 in B minor”- Rieding - Adrianna Anderson

“Ecossaise” - Hummel - Celine Siadat

“Violin Concerto” - Vivaldi - Jearnelle Lormil

“Chant Arabe” – Anonymous – Keren Perez

“Sonata in E Minor” - Vivaldi - Jahaziel Hernandez

“Allegro”- S. Suzuki - Mobeen Siadat

“Ecossaise” - Beethoven - Aaron Romero

“Bourree” - G.F. Handel - Venetia Broxton

“Minuet 3”- S. Suzuki - D’Mya Bushell Cue

“Violin Concerto in B minor, Mvt. 1 and Mvt. 3” - Rieding - Tatiana Wallace

“Can You Feel The Love Tonight?” - Elton John, Arr. E. Robinet - GYO Chamber Orchestra
KNOW IT BY HEART:
FUTURE GRADUATES OF THE GIFFORD YOUTH ORCHESTRA

Mieca-Eeja Ferguson
Autumn Morris
Jearnelle Lormil
Navah Kirven
Mateen Siadat
Jahaziel Hernandez
Christine Domingue
Aaron Romero 2017
Jeanne Perry 2018
Marlie Anderson
Celine Siadat 2019
Wallace Da Silva 2020
Nevaeh Williams 2019
Adrianna Anderson 2018
Gavriela Kirven
Mobeen Siadat – 2019
Ivanna Powell 2018
Bailey Henderson 2018
Keren Perez
GYAC MORE THAN AN AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAM

PURPOSE

Our Goal for Every Student
Enter GYAC with a purpose, perform to the best of your ability and exit more prepared for life beyond school.

GYAC’s Mission in Motion
With God’s guidance, GYAC creates educational, cultural and social opportunities that enhance the lives of the youth and families we serve.

PERFORMANCE

Students continue to demonstrate that our efforts have a positive impact.

Academic Support Includes:
- Dedicated time for homework completion
- Improved grades in Math and English
- Sunday Reading Program for elementary students
- One-on-one tutors in Math, Reading and Science
- Guidance Counselor support

PREPAREDNESS

Preparing Students for the Future
- Career exploration
- Educational field trips
- Safe and structured after school learning environment
- Guest speakers
- Lifelong friendship & socialization
- Character building exercises
- Job opportunities

Vocational and Post-secondary Educational Scholarships
GYAC students, in pursuit of vocational training or post-secondary education, are eligible to apply for scholarships.

Scholarships are awarded for up to four (4) years pending availability of funds, academic performance and volunteerism at GYAC.

At GYAC, we believe that all children are capable of success. No Exceptions!

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Cheering Us On!

“If you can imagine it, you can achieve it. If you can dream it, you can become it!”
William Arthur Ward

GREETINGS FROM PARIS!

Dear GYO Students,
It is beautiful here. We want you to see its beauty and to see more of the world than Florida. We want you to travel, explore and experience the greater yet to be! Sail, Fly, Take the Train and make music wherever you go!

Remember...The Future has no limit. SOAR!!!

Drs. Carl and Elaine Word
GYO Board Members 2003-2019

Tatiana Wallace
We are so proud of you and Love You So Much!

Love,
Papi, Alexis, Grandma, Papa & Mom
“Beware what you set your heart upon. For it surely shall be yours!”

... Ralph Waldo Emerson

My vision for the Gifford Youth Orchestra is a Performing Arts Theater in Gifford, Florida. A place to call home that is really its own home, with enough rooms, closets, filtered water system, practice rooms and performance stage. A place to live with all the right recording equipment, PA systems, studio facilities, and movie theater capabilities. A home with fabulous bathrooms, kitchens, windows, elevators, and a lobby that is comfortable and chairs that are wonderful, and a perfect air conditioning system. A place that is totally conducive to orchestra performances, youth choir performances, piano recitals, plays, public speaking, African American drama and dance, Hispanic drama and dance, and other unusual and unique drama and dance, and all the community center rights and privileges.

I envision a collaboration to create something else that is beautiful in Gifford. An architect's dream. A cultural center that would put us on the tourist map, the chamber of commerce map, and the cultural arts map. A home with the perfect staff to operate such a fabulous facility, creating jobs of pride in the community.

I see this performing arts center as the next jewel in Gifford that brings people across the bridge into Gifford and invites more interaction with the cultural community of Vero Beach and Indian River County and the world. A Cultural Arts Disney World that belongs to Gifford and helps educate people inside and outside Gifford to the beauty of its history, and the history of its ancestors.

I see the walls of this edifice (and the walls of Gifford) being an African American living history book where students and teachers and others can come to study Pan African history in a memorable, interactive, and unbelievably enjoyable manner. A place where racial healings can take place. Where pride in community can be enriched. My dream is that our Mission Statement soar beyond our wildest imagination doing the most good for the most people in a most magnificent manner!

Crystal Bujol’s Vision Statement for the GYO
Originally Written May 2012
First made public in the Johns Island Grant Application September 2016
DID YOU KNOW?

Children are able to learn more efficiently and often avoid chronic illnesses in later life by simply making small adjustments to their early lifestyles. As their trusted leaders, you are in the best position to help them develop wellness promoting lifestyles early in life.

By taking my free online wellness self-test, you will be reminded of countless wellness promoting lifestyle habits and possibilities you can share with them from time to time.
Gallatin & Company, LLC

Proudly Supports The Gifford Youth Orchestra

Happy 19th Anniversary!
You are the Music - PLAY ON! PLAY ON!

Cheering Us On!

To the Founder, Instructors and Staff
Of The Gifford Youth Orchestra

Crystal Bujol & Elaine Word
Joan Haar  Sue Lorimier  Lynn DiMenna
Courtney Diaz  Sue Lorimier
Abby Lorimier

We would like to welcome Muffy and Ellen Charles, Evan Robinet, Jessica Villalobos, Amanda Armas, Kate Maingot and Casey Lunceford

Thank you all for your tireless efforts in building our musical foundations and your devotion to your students.

From the Families of Roof Repairs Only
We Extend Our Most Sincere Thanks and Gratitude

Nina,
We are so proud of your hard work, dedication, and passion for music!
You are our favorite cellist!

We Love You!

Love, Mom & Dad
Greetings from the Dominican Republic! Music is my life. Serving on the GYO Board of Directors brings more music into my life. Congratulations for 19 years of Less Violence - More Music!

Jane Burton, GYO Board President

All Best Wishes From New England In the Fall To The Young Musicians!

Deming Holleran
Dear GYO Students,

Your future is full of promise and is limitless. There will be challenges and mountains you will need to overcome. However, please have no fear because your persistence, your will and your character will help you navigate these challenges. Your faith, your family and your friends will be at your side to help guide your journey.

But most importantly understand who you are as a person and the internal power of thought. Know that there is nothing or anyone that can stop a person who knows he or she is unstoppable. You must know this; you must believe this. you must live this.

You are unstoppable and never forget it.

GYO Board Member Marcus A. Rogers, CPA, Esq. and Jennifer Rogers

Let Your Light Shine Through Your Music, Always, In All Ways!

"Greetings from the Ministers and Members of The First Woman's Church in the City of the Angels Los Angeles, California

“She, Her, Hers”

Congratulations to Our Founder, Rev. Dr. Crystal Bujol. Thank You GYO for More Music, More Light ~ More Peace!

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The GYO Teachers and Staff are the ROCK to our ROLL!!!
When the GYO staff consisted of two violin teachers and one administrator, try as we might, we eventually fell behind in writing our letters of appreciation to send to our wonderful program donors. On May 12, 2014, at 3:27am, out of desperation, I reached out to the GYO parents to ask if they could help us, wondering if anyone possibly had time to respond to the call.

Alexis Krasotkin immediately stepped up and said she would be happy to write thank you letters... to every one of the donors! Well, 1,151 emails and umpteen letters of appreciation later, we are still feeling the generosity of spirit that flowed from her hands. Alexis, please know that you are truly loved and appreciated!

Most Sincerely,

A Very Grateful, Dr. Crystal Bujol
( Flowers by Elaine Word, CFI, CFD)
Greetings from Orange County, California
Laying down tracks in orange county, California
Composer
“The Gifford Peace Song.”
My dream is that one day we (the GYO) will have our own studio and record tracks for many songs and many young artists!

Jeryl Thompson
President Jerry Jams Music Publishing and LTP Entertainment
GYO Administrative Director
Motown 1970 – 1980

“The Peace For Gifford”
In keeping with the GYO Slogan:
‘More Violins, Less Violence, Better Tomorrows’

All we want to task you is for peace
Peace throughout the land
And if we told you how we’d make it happen
Would you give us your hand?
If we were to start our walk together,
And you could take the lead
I know that we could make it all so much better
‘cause Love is All We Need.

Chorus:
Take the time to hear each other, Learn to Let It Be
From north to south from west to east — Let Us Live in Peace

All we want to ask you for is Peace
Hear it in our song
Just as long as we are kind and treat each other
As if we all belong
Peace would make the whole world change
Trust me and you'll see
I know that we could make it so much better
‘cause Love is All We Need
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