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THE FLORIDA ORCHESTRA
SOUNDWAVES CHAMBER ORCHESTRA SERIES RETURNS

ST. PETERSBURG, FL -- The Florida Orchestra's Soundwaves Chamber Orchestra Series returns with "Enchanted Stories" on Jan. 31-Feb. 2, 2025, conducted by Resident Conductor Chelsea Gallo, the orchestra announced today. The series provides a unique opportunity to experience TFO's world-class musicians performing in small ensembles at intimate, beautiful venues throughout Tampa Bay. Tickets are on sale now at FloridaOrchestra.org.

"The Soundwaves series is a different way to experience music. You're so close to the musicians -- you can see their eyes, you can hear the fingers hitting the instrument," said TFO Resident Conductor Chelsea Gallo. "Each concert is a wonderful opportunity for the audience and musicians to create special moments together that aren't possible in a huge concert hall. This is music that is meant to be shared in intimate settings, and we can't wait to bring it to audiences around Tampa Bay."

The next concert in the series is Enchanted Stories, full of music that tells timeless tales. It includes Barber's *Knoxville: Summer of 1915*, a treasured American piece that depicts a Southern evening from the perspective of a child enjoying his family's simple life. "The work became an ode to the last time a family was together. It transports the listener through space and time, to a place of peace that comes with simplicity," Gallo said. Also on the program are Ravel's beloved *Mother Goose Suite*, Humperdinck's *Hansel and Gretel* and more.

The series is generously sponsored by Rick and Amy Smith.

Tickets are $30 – all fees included – and on sale now at FloridaOrchestra.org, at 727.892.3337 and at The Florida Orchestra Ticket Center, 244 Second Ave. N (first floor) in St. Petersburg. The concerts are:

Enchanted Stories

Chelsea Gallo, conductor
Music that tells timeless tales: Ravel's *Mother Goose Suite*, Humperdinck's *Hansel and Gretel*, Barber's *Knoxville: Summer of 1915* and more.
Fri, Jan 31, 7:30 pm, Church of the Ascension (701 Orange Ave., Clearwater)
Sat, Feb 1, 8 pm, Tampa Theatre
Sun, Feb 2, 2 pm, Palladium Theater – Matinee

The Soldier's Tale

Chelsea Gallo, conductor
This groundbreaking work by Stravinsky tells the story of a soldier who makes a deal with the devil in disguise. Music Director Michael Francis makes a special appearance as narrator and performer.
Thur, Apr 10, 7:30 pm, New Tampa Performing Arts Center
Fri, Apr 11, 7:30 pm, Church of the Ascension, Clearwater
Sat, Apr 12, 2 pm, Palladium Theater – Matinee

The Florida Orchestra's mission is to Inspire | Educate | Unite to build community through the power of music. TFO will perform more than 100 concerts this season in venues throughout Tampa Bay, including a wide range

of classical, popular and family-friendly music. Through concerts and education/community programs combined, TFO serves more than 155,000 residents each season.

About The Florida Orchestra

The Florida Orchestra (TFO) is recognized as Tampa Bay's leading performing arts institution, the largest professional orchestra in Florida, and one of the most vibrant and innovative orchestras in America. It celebrates its 57th season in 2024-25. Under the leadership of Music Director Michael Francis, TFO performs series of classical, popular, and morning coffee concerts in Tampa, St. Petersburg and Clearwater, as well as free Pops in the Park concerts. The orchestra is dedicated to connecting to the community both in-person and virtually, with family and youth concerts and other educational programs. For tickets and information: FloridaOrchestra.org*. The Florida Orchestra is a non-profit 501(c)3 EIN: 59-1223691 CH#1830. To learn more how you can support the power of music in building community, contact:* sweymouth@floridaorchestra.org *To donate now:* FloridaOrchestra.org/donate