PLAYBILL FERGUSON CENTER FOR THE ARTS PEEBLES THEATRE



SATURDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2023

ORDER OF

Opening Number

performed by SI Dance "The Room Where It Happens" from *Hamilton*

Welcome

Larry M. Trumbore, Jr., CEO

Alan Archer, Acting City Manager of Newport News

Set 1

"Be Our Guest" from Beauty and the Beast
"This Nearly Was Mine" from South Pacific
"Is It Really Me?" from 110 in the Shade
"Great Themes of Tchaikovsky"
"Blue Skies" from Betsy
"Somewhere Over the Rainbow"
"Stars" from Les Misérables
"On My Own" from Les Misérables
"Finale" from Les Misérables

A Message from Our Leadership

Larry M. Trumbore, Jr., *CEO* Dr. Jill Cottel, *Medical Director*

> Video Caring for Our Patients

PROGRAM

Supporting Lackey Clinic's Mission

Rick & Lara Overy, Paddle Raise Auctioneers

INTERMISSION (Selection of Light Desserts)

Opening Number

performed by SI Dance "Defying Gravity" from *Wicked*

Set 2

"One Hundred Easy Ways" from Wonderful Town

"Embraceable You" from Crazy for You

"Fly Me to the Moon"

"My Funny Valentine" from Babes in Arms

"A Tribute to Leonard Bernstein" composer of West Side Story

"Wishing You Were Somehow Here Again" from The Phantom of the Opera

"All I Ask of You" from The Phantom of the Opera

"The Music of the Night" from The Phantom of the Opera

"Con te partirò (Time to Say Goodbye)"

Closing Robert Topping, *Board Chair*



Ted Cornell, *concert pianist:* Ted began his studies at the world-renowned Juilliard School in New York City at the age of eight with a full scholarship and subsequently earned both the Bachelor and Master of Science Degrees. He has been honored by being selected to appear in the awards volume of "Outstanding Young Men of America." He is a concert pianist and organist, has recorded six albums, and has in publication several choral arrangements and two volumes of concert piano transcriptions. Ted has made numerous appearances on radio and television and has performed extensively in North America, Europe, the Orient, Australia, and New Zealand. For 30 years he conducted his own chorale organization in concerts throughout the United States and has taught Choral Arts at the King's College in New York. Ted shared in the music ministry of the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association for 42 years. In 1998, Ted and his family moved to Williamsburg, Virginia, where he assumed the position of Director of Music Ministries at the Williamsburg Community Chapel. In 2018, he retired from full-time music to enjoy life with five grandchildren. Ted continues his role as Minister of Worship Emeritus at the Chapel.

Branch Fields, opera soloist: Described by Opera America as "a bass of resonant richness," Branch is a versatile performer engaged throughout North America and beyond in opera, musical theater, and concert. He has sung with Santa Fe Opera, New York City Opera, Boston Lyric Opera, Edmonton Opera, Michigan Opera Theatre, Utah Opera, Opera San Jose, and many other regional companies throughout the U.S. and Canada. In concert, Branch has performed with the Munich Philharmonic, National Symphony Orchestra, Santa Fe Symphony, MDR Leipzig, and the American Symphony Orchestra. Branch's versatility as a singing actor led to his Broadway debut in South Pacific, understudying the role of Emile de Becque in the 2008 Lincoln Center Theater production, which won seven Tony Awards. He has since been Emile in seven productions of *South Pacific* throughout the U.S. and Canada, and was nominated for "Best Actor in a Musical" by theater critic circles in Boston, Massachusetts, and Richmond, Virginia. Recent performances include Sir Lancelot for Intermountain Opera Bozeman, Robert in Bridges of Madison *County* for The Ghostlight Theater in Michigan, Leporello in *Don Giovanni* for Indianapolis Opera, and Capt. Von Trapp for Charlottesville Opera, Montana TheaterWorks, and The Ghostlight Theater.





Phaedra McNorton, soloist: Originally from Mobile, Alabama, Phaedra's performance career has spanned both classical and musical theater. Recently, Phaedra gave a concert at the Botanical Gardens in Lucca, Italy, as part of the "Canto degli Alberi" summer concert series. She was a featured performer in the opening night gala for the National AARP Convention at Civic Opera House in Chicago and then again at Nellis Air Force Base in Las Vegas. Phaedra understudied Sylvia Rhyne in the role of Emma at Downtown Cabaret Theatre's production of Jekyll & Hyde. She performed the role of Agilea under the direction of Edoardo Müller and Ken Weiss in Lucca, Italy. She has been a featured performer with Neil Goldberg's Cirque Productions in the show *Imaginique*. Phaedra was the mezzo soloist for Handel's Messiah at Williamsburg United Methodist Church and Vesperae Solennes de Confessore with the Williamsburg Choral Guild. Phaedra received her Bachelor's in Vocal Performance from the New England Conservatory in Boston. She has studied with Susan Clickner, Helen Hodam, and Claudia Catania. Phaedra has worked with conductors Gunther Schuller, John Moriarty, Edoardo Müller, Lorenzo Malfatti, and Richard Hoenich. In Williamsburg, Phaedra worked for Busch Gardens in the Entertainment Department where she cast and rehearsed the singers for all mainstage shows. Currently, she is the Music Director at St. Martin's Episcopal Church and Professor of Theatre and Music at William and Mary.

Mike Jacobs, *saxophonist*: Mike started playing the saxophone at the age of 10. He played lead alto in the York High School jazz band which participated in the Montreux Jazz Festival and won 2nd place in the high school band competition. Mike graduated from Berklee College of Music with a degree in music education. He moved to Orlando and for the next five years played as a staff musician at Walt Disney World and in one of Orlando's most popular Top 40 bands. He also played at the renowned Gator Growl with the Four Tops and The Temptations when Robin Williams headlined and toured Florida with Liberace. He also performed with the Florida Symphony with Pat and Debbie Boone. Mike moved back to Virginia in 1985 and played in numerous bands in the area and was a featured soloist with the Virginia Symphony in a CBN anniversary telecast. In 2002, Mike received his Master's degree in Jazz Performance from VCU and subsequently taught jazz saxophone at CNU as an adjunct professor and played in the Ella Fitzgerald Jazz Festival. Mike's great passion is praising the Lord with his saxophone. He is currently a member of the Brethren Chorale at New Zion Baptist Church in Williamsburg. He has been married to his wife, Claire, for 31 years and is a proud father to Alexandra and son-in-law Jake Naughton and Rebecca Jacobs.

ARTISTS



TONIGHT'S ARTISTS CONTINUED

Karen Ives, *accompanist*: Karen is Director of Music at St. Stephen Lutheran Church (Williamsburg), where she is organist and directs two adult choirs and a handbell choir. Karen holds a Bachelor of Music Degree in Piano Performance from Wittenberg University (Springfield, OH) and her Master's from the University of South Carolina (Columbia, SC). She has a vocal performance degree from Columbia College where she was the Faculty Staff accompanist for 18 years. She taught piano in CC's precollege program and class piano in the college's music department. Karen accompanied Columbia's Sandlapper Singers, a semi-professional choral ensemble specializing in American music. She served six Lutheran churches in the Columbia area as Director of Music, and was Cantor at Lutheran Church of the Nativity in Arden, NC before moving to Williamsburg. She assists Augsburg Fortress Publishers with music clinic events around the US. Karen is the accompanist for the Williamsburg Choral Guild and the Williamsburg Women's Chorus.

SI Dance: Founded in 2011, SI Dance is a pre-professional dance school in Williamsburg known for its exceptional dance training. At SI Dance we believe in creating a community of dancers who love the power of movement as much as we do. Our experienced and enthusiastic teachers ensure that every one of their dancers leave their classes feeling energized and joyful, filled with all the passion that dance has to offer. SI Dance has a large variety of classes for all skill levels. Whether you are interested in a professional career in dance and want pre-professional training, or if you just want to move and enjoy dance, SI is a well-rounded dance studio with a strong teaching faculty to guide you through your training — paving the way for dancers to pursue their dreams on the world stage. For more information, please visit: **sidance.net**

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Christopher Newport University | Rick & Lara Overy, *Paddle Raise Auctioneers* | Diana Dunnavant, *harpist* | Videos Produced by Carter Mahnke | Kyle Cummings, *event photographer/videographer* Nicola Ibba, *event photographer* | Lackey Clinic's Special Events Committee | Event Volunteers

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