

SARASOTA INSTITUTE OF LIFETIME LEARNING



PRESENTS

# Global Issues

AN INSIDER'S VIEW  
OF TODAY'S WORLD

2019

[www.sillsarasota.org](http://www.sillsarasota.org)

## SARASOTA PROGRAM

Pages M4-M5 MONDAY

### MUSIC MONDAYS

12 Conversations January 7 - March 25, 10:30 am  
Church of the Palms, 3224 Bee Ridge Road

Pages G4-G5 TUESDAY

### GLOBAL ISSUES SERIES I

12 Lectures January 8 - March 26, 10:30 am  
First United Methodist Church, 104 S. Pineapple Ave.

Pages G6-G7 WEDNESDAY

### GLOBAL ISSUES SERIES II

12 Lectures January 9 - March 27, 10:30 am  
First United Methodist Church, 104 S. Pineapple Ave.

Pages G8-G9 THURSDAY

### GLOBAL ISSUES SERIES III

12 Lectures January 10 - March 28, 10:30 am  
First United Methodist Church, 104 S. Pineapple Ave.

## LAKEWOOD RANCH PROGRAM

Page G10-G11 THURSDAY

### GLOBAL ISSUES SERIES III

12 Lectures January 10 - March 28, 7:00 pm  
Cornerstone Church, 14306 Covenant Way

## VENICE PROGRAM

Pages M4-M5 MONDAY

### MUSIC MONDAYS

12 Conversations January 7 - March 25, 3:00 pm  
Venice Presbyterian Church, 825 The Rialto

Pages G12-G13 TUESDAY

### GLOBAL ISSUES SERIES I

12 Lectures January 8 - March 26, 2:30 pm  
Venice Community Center, 326 S. Nokomis Ave.

Pages G14-G15 FRIDAY

### GLOBAL ISSUES SERIES III

12 Lectures January 11 - March 29, 10:00 am  
Venice Community Center, 326 S. Nokomis Ave.

Please flip the brochure for information on the Music Mondays series

## A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Welcome to the 48th season of SILL! What began as a small group of retirees in search of intellectual stimulation has grown into a blockbuster series of lectures that attracts more than 45,000 people each winter.

SILL's Music Monday program, created by the late June LeBell, continues its wide popularity under the inspired leadership of her husband Edward Alley. For a listing of this season's musical treats and conversations, see the flip side of this brochure.

Our Global Issues program committee has assembled an impressive roster of speakers to analyze the daunting tensions that face the world today. U.S.- Russian relations dominate the headlines. Who better to address the subject than the former U.S. ambassador to Russia John Tefft? For insight into Russian intervention in U.S. elections, we have retired CIA executive officer James Bruce.

Much attention has been focused on Asia – particularly China and North Korea. J. Stapleton Roy, former U.S. ambassador to China, will discuss "U.S.- China Strategic Rivalry". "Dealing with North Korea" is the topic addressed by Christopher Hill, lead U.S. negotiator with North Korea at six party talks under Bush "43". Ambassador Hill will also take on the broad question: "Is America's Global Influence Declining?"

For the view from another part of the world, HRH Prince Turki Al-Faisal, former Saudi ambassador to the United States, will present "Saudi Perspectives on the Mideast." For the U.S. perspective we'll hear from Ambassador Dennis Ross.

Other topics include: "The Changing Demographics in America", "The Future of War", "The Impossible Presidency" and "The Aging Brain".

It's going to be another fabulous season at SILL! Come join us!

Jorie Lueloff, President

## LECTURE LOCATIONS AND TIMES

**SARASOTA** Monday Music sessions are held at Church of the Palms, 3224 Bee Ridge Rd at 10:30 am.

Global Issues lectures are held at First United Methodist Church, 104 S. Pineapple Ave. Lectures are at 10:30 am. Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday.

**LAKEWOOD RANCH** Global Issues lectures are held at Cornerstone Church of Lakewood Ranch, 14306 Covenant Way at 7:00 pm Thursday.

**VENICE** Monday Music sessions are held at Venice Presbyterian Church, 825 The Rialto at 3:00 pm. Global Issues lectures are held in the Venice Community Center, 326 S. Nokomis Ave at 2:30 pm Tuesday and 10:00 am on Friday.



– JANUARY 8 –

*Implications of U.S.-China Strategic Rivalry*

**Amb. J. Stapleton Roy** will discuss how China's rise is confronting the United States with its greatest international challenge. The foundations for a constructive U.S.-China relationship are more fragile than at any time in recent decades. Missteps could lead to military confrontations and a costly arms race. Much depends on U.S. policy choices.

– JANUARY 15 –

*Dealing with North Korea*

**Amb. Christopher Hill** will discuss recent challenges as the United States attempts to deal with North Korea's military buildup, including the nation's development of long-range missiles and nuclear weapons. Attention will be given as well to the role of South Korea and China in relations with North Korea.

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*The Don Savage Lecture*

*How Democracies Die: Global Development*

Military coups and violent seizures of power are now rare. Most countries hold regular elections. Democracies still die, but by different means. **Dr. Daniel Ziblatt** will show that in recent decades several democracies died at the hands of freely elected governments. Leaders used democratic institutions to weaken or destroy democracy.

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*A Seat at the Table: Gender, Power, & Global Security*

Despite substantial evidence that inclusion of women in governance and peace building increases the likelihood that wars end and peace endures, women are severely marginalized in peace negotiations and governments worldwide. **Carla Koppell** will review the research and its implications, highlighting efforts to advance inclusion in conflict resolution policy making and practice.

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*The Trump Administration and America's Asia-Pacific Strategy*

Since entering office, the Trump Administration has sharply altered America's long-standing diplomatic, economic, and security policies in Asia and the Pacific. **Dr. Jonathan Pollack** will discuss what is the President trying to achieve? What are the potential consequences and risks for America's relations with this vitally important region?

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*Smart Power: Diplomacy on the Front Line of American Security*  
American security depends upon American diplomacy. **Amb. Marc Grossman** will describe how diplomats work with the military to practice 'smart power' to maintain U.S. global leadership. Tools include promoting rules-based interactions between nations, fair and expanding global commerce, embracing values such as tolerance and pluralism, and working to have more allies.

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*Trump's Iranian Policy*

In its forty-year history, the Islamic Republic has survived extended wars, sanctions and boycotts and become a regional power with growing nuclear potential. The Trump administration has returned to a confrontational approach after Obama's negotiations, imposing new sanctions. **Dr. Mohsen Milani** will analyze the state of U.S.-Iranian relations and discuss future prospects.

– MARCH 5 –

*The Kremlin Playbook and the Future of the International System*

Russia has successfully cultivated its "New Generation Warfare" - a strategy of influence which intends to break the internal coherence of the enemy system. **Heather Conley** will discuss how Russia has continued to play the role of "global spoiler" to revitalize its great power spheres of influence and reduce U.S. global credibility.

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*Saudi Perspectives on the Middle East*

**HRH Prince Turki Al-Faisal** will discuss the Saudi perspective as it relates to neighboring countries such as Syria, Iraq, Yemen, and Iraq. The relationship between Saudi Arabia and Iran has been strained over issues such as the interpretations of Islam, aspirations for leadership of the Islamic world, and oil export policies. How will new leadership in Saudi Arabia reshape some of these relationships?

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*Fateful Choices in the Middle East: Israel*

Israel has stark choices which go to the heart of its very nature as it faces demographic changes and challenges from within and without. **Amb. Dennis Ross** will discuss the options Israel has and the implications of those choices as Israel strives to ensure it remains a Jewish, democratic state.

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*Trumpism, Putinism, and the Old/New Cold War*

**Dr. Robert Barylski** will argue that neither anti-Russianism nor anti-Americanism fits the strategic facts. The U.S., NATO, and the EU have done much to enhance Russia's military, economic, and political security. Dr. Barylski will review the balance sheet from Afghanistan to Syria and Ukraine and discuss prospects for East-West cooperation.

– JANUARY 9 –

*China's Global and Regional Ambitions*

China is seeking global leadership. **Amb. J. Stapleton Roy** will address China's eagerness to step into the role that the United States is moving away from. It is led by a strong leader with a clear sense of the ambitious goals he wants China to achieve. The United States is not yet seriously addressing this challenge.

– JANUARY 16 –

*Is America's Global Influence Declining?*

**Amb. Christopher Hill** will discuss the global reach of the U.S. He will examine the proposition that an era of U.S. predominance has ended. We now face a world with multiple actors and competitors in a global system that we built but no longer trust.

– JANUARY 23 –

*How Democracies Die: Implications for the U.S.*

**Dr. Daniel Ziblatt** shows that democracies are often weakened not simply by violations of the law but by the rejection of norms of behavior that are well-established in political practice. Drawing insights from developments in Europe and Latin America, Dr. Ziblatt explores lessons for modern American politics.

– JANUARY 30 –

*Changing the Global Patterns of Violence & Restrictions Against Women & Girls*

Gender-based violence persists as a threat to the well-being of women and girls globally, but its contours and implications vary geographically. **Carla Koppell** will discuss the trends and implications for individuals, communities and nations of violence and restrictions against women and girls.

– FEBRUARY 6 –

*How Does Asia and the Pacific View the Future Role of the United States?*

States across the Asia and the Pacific are intensively debating their long-term futures. **Dr. Jonathan Pollack** will discuss what are their expectations of the United States? How do they plan to realize prosperity, stability, and security if American policy is less predictable?

– FEBRUARY 13 –

*How Wars End: Resolving Conflicts Through Diplomacy*

Ending wars and conflicts are among the most important challenges facing 21st century diplomats. **Amb. Marc Grossman** will draw on lessons from his career, including his service as the Special Representative for Afghanistan and Pakistan (SRAP), to consider what to do about contemporary challenges, including Syria.

– FEBRUARY 20 –

*Finding Hope and Avoiding Hype in Dementia-Prevention Research*

There is good reason to hope that we may reduce our risk of dementia by adopting healthy behaviors, and by promoting public health. **Dr. Aron Troen** will review recent research findings regarding prevention and their limitations to explain why the messages from the health community and popular press so frequently conflict.

– FEBRUARY 27 –

*Islamic Republic of Iran's 40th Anniversary*

The Islamic Republic's 1979 revolution has reached middle age. Some Western commentators treat every protest as proof the Iranian people want radical change. Others argue that most Iranians want reform not revolution. **Dr. Mohsen Milani** will discuss how Iranians view themselves, assess and respond to prospects for continuity and change in Iran.

– MARCH 6 –

*A European House Divided: Europe's Future Considered*

Economic stagnation, a migration crisis, Putin's revanchist Russia, Brexit, and the rise of populism and nationalism are but a few challenges facing European cohesion. **Heather Conley** will discuss these issues and how Europe and the United States can foster stronger cohesion to counter rising transatlantic challenges.

– MARCH 13 –

*Vision 2030*

Saudi Vision 2030 is a plan to reduce Saudi Arabia's dependence on oil, diversify its economy, and develop public service sectors such as health, education, infrastructure, recreation, and tourism. Goals include increasing non-oil industry trade between countries through goods and consumer products, and increasing government spending on the military, manufacturing equipment, and ammunition. **HRH Prince Turki Al-Faisal** will discuss how Saudi Arabia will achieve these goals.

– MARCH 20 –

*Fateful Choices in the Middle East: United States*

The U.S. has much at stake in the Middle East that engages its national interest. **Amb. Dennis Ross** will examine the choices we face. He will elaborate their consequences and the direct impacts they could have on our national security.

– MARCH 27 –

*Time to Stop Trying to Give Russia a Western Political Makeover*

Russian youth is embracing modern Western popular culture. But the Putin administration argues that Russia is different because its national traditions and geopolitical situation present a uniquely Eurasian set of challenges and require Eurasian solutions. **Dr. Robert Barylski** will discuss the competition between Eurasianism and liberal values in American policy towards Russia.



## – JANUARY 10 –

***Reflections on U.S. Policy in Post-Soviet Russia  
and Eastern Europe***

The end of the Soviet Union was the greatest strategic shift in the last fifty years. Reflecting on his work as a U.S. policymaker and representative in Russia and Eastern Europe over four decades, **Amb. John Tefft** will offer his thoughts on U.S. policy and the way ahead for the United States in this region which is critical for U.S. national security interest.

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***Russian Covert Intervention in the 2016 U.S. Election  
and the Role of Intelligence in American Democracy***

**Dr. James Bruce** will unpack the key controversies surrounding the election of the 45th U.S. President. How successful were Russian efforts to influence the outcome of that election? How should U.S. intelligence and law enforcement, vital to American democracy, and accustomed to attacks by Russia, counter Russian intervention when they are also under attack from the U.S. President himself?

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***Eurasia's Strategic Realignment:  
The Challenge to U.S. Predominance***

The dominant feature of Eurasia's emerging security landscape is rapid strategic realignment among virtually all actors on which the United States depends. **S. Enders Wimbush** will discuss what this emerging security landscape looks like. What are the key actor's objectives and strategies, and what challenges does the U.S. face to defend America's interests in this dynamic geostrategic environment?

## – JANUARY 31 –

***The German Problem***

Brexit leaves Europe unbalanced, with Germany as the biggest and richest nation, and France a poor second. The Germans have learned – painfully and profoundly – to duck responsibility, but it is being thrust upon them. **Martin Walker** explores how Europe will cope, without widening its north-south divide.

## – FEBRUARY 7 –

***The Impossible Presidency***

**Dr. Jeremi Suri** notes the American presidency changed from the limited role envisaged by the Founding Fathers to the most powerful job in the world. In recent years the presidency became a victim of its own success. Now it is almost impossible to fulfill the expectations placed upon it.

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***The Divided Kingdom of Britain***

Britain is going through an identity crisis. With Brexit, Britain will detach from Europe and focus on internal affairs. Alternatively, the marriage of Prince Harry to a divorced, mixed race American has generated enthusiasm, with citizens embracing a more multi-cultural, multinational life. **Baroness Margaret Jay** will discuss what happens when normal conventions have been shattered. What does this imply for the future?

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***The Future of War***

The future of war is not what most think. The 21st century is maturing into a world mired in perpetual conflict. The weak defeat the strong, and battlefield victory achieves little. Forget what you know about war – it's obsolete. **Dr. Sean McFate** will explain the new rules of war, and how to win.

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***Tensions in the Ukraine and Why It Matters***

Several years ago Russia-backed forces and Ukrainian nationalists came face to face. Today Ukraine is increasingly at the intersection of Russian, American, European and even Chinese interests. Foreign correspondent **Nolan Peterson**, the first U.S. journalist to be embedded with the Ukrainian army, will discuss the current situation and why it matters to the United States. Mr. Peterson will explain why the U.S. needs to strengthen its diplomatic presence in the Ukraine or risk losing influence to its adversaries in Eastern Europe.

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***India: Rise on the World Stage***

**Dr. Alyssa Ayres** will look at India's emergence into the global economy and world stage. After decades of looking inward, India's leaders want the country to be featured in the ranks of the world's great powers. India's vastness, history, and diversity render it incomparable to any other democratic power.

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***Understanding World Leaders***

What do we know about the backgrounds, experiences, world views, leadership styles, and policymaking predispositions of current world leaders of people like Vladimir Putin, Xi Jinping, Kim Jong-un, Angela Merkel, Bashar al-Assad, Emmanuel Macron, and Aung San Suu Kyi? **Dr. Margaret Hermann** takes us on a tour to learn more about current world leaders.

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The United States is no longer a majority white Christian country. White Christians are a shrinking demographic and that has profound social and political implications. **Dr. Robert Jones**, founder and CEO of the Public Opinion Research Institute, will examine the effect of this population shift on the United States and what it means for the future – politically, socially, and culturally.

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## ABOUT OUR SPEAKERS



**HRH Prince Turki Al-Faisal** was appointed as an Adviser at the Saudi Royal Court in 1973. In 1977 he was appointed Director General of the General Intelligence Directorate, Saudi Arabia's main foreign intelligence service. He served as head of the GID until August 2001. In October 2002 he was appointed as the Saudi Arabian Ambassador to the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland where he served until his appointment in

July 2005 as Ambassador to the United States.

Prince Turki retired in February 2007. He is a founder and trustee of the King Faisal Foundation as well as the Chairman of the King Faisal Centre for Research and Islamic Studies. He is also a Trustee of the Oxford Islamic Center at Oxford University and the Center for Contemporary Arab Studies at Georgetown University. He is a member of the Board of Advisors of the Munich Security Conference and serves as a visiting professor at Georgetown and as a lecturer at Harvard.

Prince Turki completed his secondary education at the Lawrenceville School. He graduated from Georgetown University and did graduate work at Princeton, Cambridge, and the University of London.



**Dr. Alyssa Ayres** is senior fellow for India, Pakistan, and South Asia at the Council on Foreign Relations. Her work focuses on India's role in the world and on U.S. relations with South Asia. Her most recent book, *Our Time Has Come: How India is Making Its Place in the World*, was published by Oxford University Press in January 2018.

Dr. Ayres served as Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for South Asia (Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, and Sri Lanka), providing policy direction for four U.S. embassies from 2010 to 2013. She was founding director of the India and South Asia practice at McLarty Associates, the Washington-based international strategic advisory firm, from 2008 to 2010. She served at the State Department as Special Assistant to the Undersecretary for Political Affairs (2007 to 2008) and in the nonprofit sector before that.

Trained originally as a cultural historian, Dr. Ayres received an AB magna cum laude from Harvard College, and an M.A. and Ph.D. from the University of Chicago. Her first book, *Speaking Like a State: Language and Nationalism in Pakistan*, was published by Cambridge University Press in 2009. She has co-edited three books on India and Indian foreign policy, and directed two independent task forces on U.S.-India relations.

## ABOUT OUR SPEAKERS



**Dr. Robert Barylski** is a retired associate professor in the Department of Government and International Relations at USF Sarasota. An expert on civil-military relations in Russia, he published *The Soldier in Russian Politics 1988-1996: Duty, Dictatorship and Democracy under Gorbachev and Yeltsin* (1998; Kindle edition, 2018).

He travels to Russia frequently and speaks and writes on political and economic reconstruction in the former Soviet Union. He is particularly interested in the development of oil resources in Russia and the newly independent nations on its borders. In recent years he has become one of the leading experts on Russian policy towards states and peoples of Islamic heritage.

Dr. Barylski has also spoken to SILL audiences on the rise of tycoons in the Russian economy and the relationships between Russia, China, and Iran. He has made occasional expert contributions to the Voice of America for broadcast to the greater Caspian region and participated in U.S. policy symposia at the U.S. Central Command.

Dr. Barylski has an undergraduate degree in political science from Brown University and graduate degrees in Russian area studies and political science from Harvard.



**Dr. James Bruce** is an adjunct researcher at the RAND Corporation and formerly a Senior Political Scientist there, a retired senior executive officer at CIA, and an adjunct professor at Georgetown and Florida Atlantic Universities. He also taught as an adjunct at Columbia and American Universities and as a full-time faculty member at the National War College. At RAND, he leads research projects for U.S. Intelligence Community and DoD clients.

Dr. Bruce retired from the CIA in 2005 after nearly 24 years. He served as Deputy National Intelligence Officer for Science and Technology and as Chief of Counterintelligence Training. He also served as a senior staff member on the President's Commission on the Intelligence Capabilities of the United States Regarding Weapons of Mass Destruction (Silberman-Robb WMD Commission).

Dr. Bruce has published in such scholarly journals as *Studies in Intelligence*, the *American Intelligence Journal*, the *Journal of Strategic Security*, *The Intelligencer*, the *Defense Intelligence Journal*, *Group Dynamics*, and *World Politics*. He co-edited *Analyzing Intelligence: National Security Practitioners' Perspectives*, 2nd ed. (2014).

Dr. Bruce received his Ph.D. from the Josef Korbel School of International Studies, University of Denver. He is a U.S. Navy veteran.

## ABOUT OUR SPEAKERS



**Heather Conley** is senior vice president for Europe, Eurasia, and the Arctic and director of the Europe Program at the Center for Strategic International Studies. Prior to joining CSIS in 2009, she served as executive director of the Office of the Chairman of the Board at the American National Red Cross. From 2001 to 2005, she served as deputy assistant secretary of state in the Bureau for European and Eurasian Affairs with

responsibilities for U.S. bilateral relations with the countries of northern and central Europe. From 1994 to 2001, she was a senior associate with an international consulting firm led by former U.S. deputy secretary of state Richard L. Armitage.

Ms. Conley began her career in the Bureau of Political Military Affairs at the U.S. Department of State. She was selected to serve as special assistant to the coordinator of U.S. assistance to the newly independent states of the former Soviet Union.

Ms. Conley is a member of the World Economic Forum's Global Agenda Council on the Arctic and is frequently featured as a foreign policy analyst on CNN, MSNBC, BBC, NPR, and PBS. She received her B.A. in international studies from West Virginia Wesleyan College and her M.A. in international relations from the Johns Hopkins University School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS).



**Amb. Marc Grossman** served as the Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs, the State Department's third ranking official, until his retirement in 2005 after 29 years. As Under Secretary, he helped marshal diplomatic support for the international response to the attacks of September 11, 2001. As Assistant Secretary for European Affairs, he helped direct NATO's military campaign in Kosovo and an earlier round of NATO expansion.

Amb. Grossman was the US Ambassador to Turkey 1994 – 1997. He was a Vice Chairman of The Cohen Group from July 2005 to February 2011.

In February, 2011, President Obama and Secretary of State Clinton called Amb. Grossman back to service as the U.S. Special Representative for Afghanistan and Pakistan. Amb. Grossman promoted the international effort to support Afghanistan by shaping major international meetings in Istanbul, Bonn, Chicago and Tokyo. He provided U.S. backing for an Afghan peace process designed to end thirty years of conflict. He returned to The Cohen Group in February, 2013.

Raised in Los Angeles, California, Amb. Grossman has a B.A. in Political Science from the University of California, Santa Barbara and an MS in International Relations from the London School of Economics and Political Science.

## ABOUT OUR SPEAKERS



**Dr. Margaret Hermann** is the Gerald and Daphna Cramer Professor of Global Affairs and Director of the Daniel Patrick Moynihan Institute of Global Affairs at the Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs, Syracuse University. She has developed techniques for assessing the leadership styles of heads of government at a distance and has collected data on over 300 such leaders. She is currently involved in exploring the effects of

different types of leaders and decision processes on the management of crises that cross borders and boundaries as well as lead governments to experience crises.

Dr. Hermann has been president of the International Society of Political Psychology and the International Studies Association as well as editor of two journals, *Political Psychology* and the *International Studies Review*. She developed the Summer Institute in Political Psychology and was its director for nine years. Among her books are *Political Psychology: Issues and Problems* and *Leaders, Groups, and Coalitions: Understanding the People and Processes in Foreign Policymaking*.

Dr. Hermann received a Ph.D. from Northwestern University and an honorary doctorate from DePauw University. She was awarded the William Wasserstrom Prize for Graduate Teaching at Syracuse University in 2017.



**Dr. Kathleen Hicks** is senior vice president, Henry A. Kissinger Chair, and Director of the International Security Program at the Center for Strategic and International Studies. She served in the Obama administration as Principal Deputy under Secretary of Defense for Policy and Deputy under Secretary of Defense for Strategy, Plans, and Forces. She led the development of the 2012 Defense Strategic Guidance and the 2010 Quadrennial Defense Review.

She also oversaw DoD contingency and theater campaign planning.

A frequent writer and lecturer on national security and defense matters, Dr. Hicks is concurrently the Donald Marron Scholar at the Kissinger Center for Global Affairs, Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies. She serves on the boards of advisors for the Truman Center and Soldier Strong and is a member of the Council on Foreign Relations. She served on the National Commission on the Future of the Army and currently serves on the Commission on the National Defense Strategy.

Dr. Hicks holds a Ph.D. in political science from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. She is the recipient of distinguished service awards from three secretaries of defense and the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and received the 2011 DOD Senior Professional Women's Association Excellence in Leadership Award.

## ABOUT OUR SPEAKERS



**Amb. Christopher Hill** is Chief Advisor to the Chancellor for Global Engagement and Professor of the Practice in Diplomacy at the University of Denver. Prior to this he was the Dean of the Josef Korbel School of International Studies at the University, a position he held from September 2010 to December 2017. He is author of *Outpost: Life on the Frontlines of American Diplomacy* and a monthly columnist for Project Syndicate.

Amb. Hill is a former career diplomat. A four-time ambassador, his last post was Ambassador to Iraq, April 2009 to August 2010. Prior to Iraq, Amb. Hill served as Assistant Secretary of State for East Asian and Pacific Affairs (2005-2009) during which he was also the head of the U.S. delegation to the Six Party Talks on the North Korean nuclear issue. Earlier, he was the U.S. Ambassador to the Republic of Korea (2004-2005), Ambassador to Poland (2000-2004), Ambassador to the Republic of Macedonia (1996-1999), and Special Envoy to Kosovo (1998- 1999). He also served as a Special Assistant to the President and a Senior Director on the staff of the National Security Council (1999-2000).

Amb. Hill holds a B.A. from Bowdoin College and a master's degree from the Naval War College.



**Baroness Margaret Jay**'s career has combined government service, the media, and business. She graduated from Oxford University with a degree in Politics, Philosophy and Economics and began a 20 year career in broadcasting.

Baroness Jay was appointed a life peer in July 1992 and acted as an opposition Whip in the House of Lords. She was also appointed as the first

director of the National Aids Trust. Following the Labor Party election victory in 1997, she was appointed to Tony Blair's government first as a Minister of State in the Department of Health and later to the Cabinet as Leader of the House of Lords, Lord Privy Seal and Minister for Women. She played a pivotal role in the major reform that led to the removal of more than 660 hereditary peers (most of its hereditary members) in the House of Lords.

Baroness Jay left government in 2001 and now serves on the board of British Telecom and the Independent News and Media Company. In 2007 she served as co-chair of the Iraq Commission. Since 2011 she has been Chair of the Select Committee on the Constitution in the House of Lords.

## ABOUT OUR SPEAKERS



**Dr. Robert Jones** is co-founder and CEO of the Public Religion Research Institute, a non-profit, non-partisan organization dedicated to conducting independent research into religion, culture, and public policy. He also serves as co-chair of the national steering committee for the Religion and Politics Sections of the American Academy of Religion.

Dr. Jones has served as a consultant and research fellow at several think tanks in Washington, D.C. He is the author of *The End of White Christian America* (2016), which examines the changes in U.S. demographics and religion and the impact on the social values and politics of the United States.

Dr. Jones holds a B.S. in Computing Science and Mathematics from Mississippi College, a M.Div. from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, and a Ph.D. in religion from Emory University where he specialized in the sociology of religion, politics, and religious ethics.



**Carla Koppell** is a distinguished fellow with the Georgetown University Institute for Women, Peace and Security. She previously served as vice president with the United States Institute of Peace, Chief Strategy Officer for the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), USAID's first senior coordinator for Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment, and as a senior advisor to the USAID Administrator. Before joining USAID, Ms.

Koppell directed The Institute for Inclusive Security and the Washington, D.C. office of Hunt Alternatives Fund. She also was a senior advisor and an interim director of the Conflict Prevention Project at the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars.

Ms. Koppell has spoken on a wide range of foreign policy issues, including at the United Nations and NATO, before U.S. congressional and Canadian parliamentary committees, at many research institutions, universities, and in the media. She has published on a wide range of subjects for *Foreign Policy*, *The New York Times*, *The Christian Science Monitor*, and *The Huffington Post*, among others.

Ms. Koppell received her M.A. in public policy from Harvard University's Kennedy School of Government in Cambridge, Massachusetts, and her B.S. from Cornell University.

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## ABOUT OUR SPEAKERS



**Dr. Sean McFate** is an author, novelist, and an expert in foreign policy and national security strategy. He is a professor at the National Defense University and Georgetown University's School of Foreign Service. He is also a Senior Fellow at the Atlantic Council, a think tank in Washington D.C.

Dr. McFate's career began as a paratrooper in the U.S. Army's storied 82nd Airborne Division. After this, Dr. McFate became a private military contractor in Africa, where he dealt with warlords, raised small armies, worked with armed groups in the Sahara, transacted arms deals in Eastern Europe, and helped prevent genocide in the Great Lakes region.

Dr. McFate co-wrote the novels *Shadow War* and *Deep Black* (William Morrow) based on his military experiences. He also authored the non-fiction book *The Modern Mercenary* (Oxford University Press). He has appeared in *The New York Times*, *Wall Street Journal*, *Washington Post*, *The Economist*, MSNBC, Fox News, NPR, BBC, Vice/HBO, The Discovery Channel, American Heroes Channel, and other outlets.

Dr. McFate holds a B.A. from Brown University, MPP from the Harvard Kennedy School of Government, and a Ph.D. in international relations from the London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE). He lives in Washington, D.C.



**Dr. Mohsen Milani** is the Executive Director of the Center for Strategic & Diplomatic Studies and Professor of Politics at the University of South Florida. He served as a department chair from 1998 to 2012.

Dr. Milani has written more than sixty academic articles and book chapters. His book, *The Making of Iran's Islamic Revolution*, has been used as required reading in many universities in the U.S., Europe, Japan, Canada, and Iran. His recent publications include "The Ayatollah's Game Plan" (*Foreign Affairs*), "Rouhani's Foreign Policy" (*Foreign Affairs*), "The Rise and Fall of Rafsanjani" (*The Atlantic*), "Meet Me in Baghdad" (*Foreign Affairs*), "Iran's U.S. Policy" (*Foreign Affairs*), "Iran's policy toward Iraq" (book chapter), and "Iran's Policy Toward Afghanistan" (*Middle East Journal*).

At USF World, he has been conducting a new "Conversation Series on Global Security." Prominent experts have been invited to the program for in-depth conversations with him. In the last decade, he has attended over 100 conferences in 25 countries. He is currently writing a book about Iranian foreign policy.

Born in Tehran, Dr. Milani completed his high school and higher education in the U.S. and received his Ph.D. in political science from the University of Southern California.

## ABOUT OUR SPEAKERS



**Nolan Peterson** is a Kiev-based foreign correspondent who has been reporting on the war in the Ukraine for four years. He was the first U.S. journalist to be embedded with the Ukrainian army. A former U.S. Air Force Special Operations pilot, Mr. Peterson is a combat veteran of the Iraq and Afghanistan wars.

As an international correspondent he has covered conflicts around the world. Apart from his work in the Ukraine, Mr. Peterson has been embedded with U.S. armed forces in Iraq and Afghanistan and with the Kurdish Peshmerga in the battle for Mosul in Iraq. He deployed aboard the USS George H.W. Bush off the coast of Syria to report on the coalition air war against ISIS.

Mr. Peterson is a Sarasota native and a graduate of Pine View. He graduated from the U.S. Air Force Academy in 2004. He holds master degrees from Northwestern University and Middlebury College as well as an advanced degree from the Sorbonne in Paris. Mr. Peterson lives in Kiev with his wife Lilya.



**Dr. Jonathan Pollack** was (until January 2018) Senior Fellow in the Center for East Asian Policy Studies and the John L. Thornton China Center at the Brookings Institution in Washington, D.C. He is now a Non-Resident Senior Fellow at Brookings and resides in Los Angeles. During his tenure at Brookings he served as Director of the Thornton China Center (2012-14) and as holder of the SK-Korea Foundation Chair in Korea Studies (2016-17).

Dr. Pollack appears frequently on U.S. and International media and is a consultant to several organizations on political and military developments in Asia and the Pacific. Prior to his appointment at Brookings in 2010, he served in senior research and management positions at the U.S. Naval War College (2000-2010) and at the RAND Corporation (1978-2000). His primary research interests focus on East Asian security and strategic affairs, the politics and foreign policies of China and the two Koreas, and U.S. strategy in Asia and the Pacific. His publications include *No Exit: North Korea, Nuclear Weapons and International Security* (2011); and *Endangered Order: Revisionism and Strategic Risk in Northeast Asia* (forthcoming).

Dr. Pollack received his M.A. and Ph.D. in political science from the University of Michigan and was a post-doctoral research fellow at Harvard University.



## ABOUT OUR SPEAKERS



**Amb. Dennis Ross** is a counselor and William Davidson Distinguished Fellow at The Washington Institute for Near East Policy since 2011. For more than 12 years, Amb. Ross played a leading role in shaping the Middle East peace process, dealing directly with all parties as the U.S. point man on the peace process in both the George H. W. Bush and Clinton administrations. He served two years as special assistant to President Obama for the

Central Region, and a year as special advisor to Secretary of State Clinton.

Prior to service as special Middle East coordinator, Amb. Ross was director of the State Department's Policy Planning Staff. He played a prominent role in U.S. policy toward the former Soviet Union, the unification of Germany and its integration into NATO, arms control negotiations, and the 1991 Gulf War coalition. During the Reagan administration, he served as director of Near East and South Asian affairs on the National Security Council staff.

A graduate of UCLA, Amb. Ross wrote his dissertation on Soviet decision making and served as executive director of the Berkeley-Stanford program on Soviet International Behavior. He received UCLA's highest medal and has been named UCLA alumnus of the year.



**Amb. J. Stapleton (Stape) Roy** is Director Emeritus of the Kissinger Institute on China and the United States at the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars in Washington, D.C. and a Distinguished Scholar at the Center. He was born in China and spent much of his youth there during the upheavals of World War II and the communist revolution.

He joined the U.S. Foreign Service immediately after graduating from Princeton in 1956, retiring 45 years later with the rank of Career Ambassador, the highest in the service. During a career focused on East Asia and the Soviet Union, his ambassadorial assignments included Singapore, the People's Republic of China, and Indonesia. His final post with the State Department was as Assistant Secretary for Intelligence and Research.

On retirement he joined Kissinger Associates, Inc., a strategic consulting firm, moving to the Wilson Center in 2008 to head the newly created Kissinger Institute. In 2001 he received Princeton University's Woodrow Wilson Award for Distinguished Public Service.

## ABOUT OUR SPEAKERS



**Dr. Jeremi Suri** holds the Mack Brown Distinguished Chair for Leadership in Global Affairs at the University of Texas at Austin. He is a professor in the University's Department of History and the Lyndon B. Johnson School of Public Affairs. Prof. Suri is the author and editor of nine books on contemporary politics and foreign policy, most recently: *The Impossible Presidency: The Rise and Fall of America's Highest Office*.

Dr. Suri's research and teaching have received numerous prizes. In 2007 Smithsonian Magazine named him one of America's "Top Young Innovators" in the Arts and Sciences. In 2018 he received the Pro Bene Meritis Award for the Promotion of the Humanities. His writings appear widely in blogs and print media, including *The New York Times*, the *Washington Post*, *Foreign Affairs*, *Foreign Policy*, *Wired*, and *Fortune*. He is also a frequent public lecturer and guest on radio and television programs.

Dr. Suri holds an A.B. in history from Standord University, an M.A. in history from Ohio University, and a Ph.D. in history from Yale University.



**Amb. John Tefft** is a Senior Fellow at the RAND Corporation, a nonprofit, nonpartisan policy research organization. Prior to this, as a career Foreign Service Officer for 45 years, he served as the United States Ambassador to Russia (2014-2017), Ukraine (2009-2013), Georgia (2005-2009), and Lithuania (2000-2003). He also served earlier in Moscow as Deputy Chief of Mission (1996-1999), Rome (1986-1989), Budapest (1979-1982), and Jerusalem (1972-1974). He was the International Affairs Advisor (Deputy Commandant) of the U.S. National War College and the Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for European and Eurasian Affairs responsible for Eastern Europe.

Amb. Tefft originally retired from the Foreign Service in 2013 and worked as the Executive Director of the RAND Corporation's U.S.-Russian Business Leaders' Forum until he was recalled to duty to serve as the U.S. Ambassador to Russia in 2014. He is the recipient of the Secretary of State's Distinguished Service Award and the State Department's Distinguished Honor Award.

Amb. Tefft holds a B.A. from Marquette University and an M.A. in history from Georgetown University.

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## ABOUT OUR SPEAKERS



“Safe and effective measures for brain protection are vital at any age,” says **Dr. Aron Troen**, Director of the Nutrition and Brain Health Laboratory at the Robert H. Smith Faculty of Agriculture, Food, and Environment. “Our goal is to develop new insights into the basic mechanisms of brain aging in order to prevent a decline in psychological and neurological functions.”

Dr. Troen studies risk-factors for conditions ranging from Alzheimer’s to B-vitamin, folic acid, and iodine deficiencies, working to improve vascular health in the brain as a means to help prevent stroke, cerebrovascular disease, and dementia. He has also been examining the effects of liver health on brain function and is exploring the health benefits of functional foods and creating fortified produce.

Involved in public health and nutritional policy in Israel, he serves on government research committees that address hunger and childhood malnutrition. Internationally recognized, Dr. Troen is a visiting scientist with the Neuroscience and Aging Laboratory of the Jean Mayer USDA Human Nutrition Research Center on Aging at Tufts University. Among his honors are the Alzheimer’s Association Ronald and Nancy Reagan Research Institute New Investigator Research Grant Award.

A graduate of Hebrew University (B.S.), he received a doctorate from Oxford University.



**Martin Walker** has now retired after 30 years in journalism for the *Guardian* and UPI, and a second career with another ten years in think-tanks, including the World Policy Council, the Woodrow Wilson Center for Scholars, and as Director of the Global Business Policy Council. He has been a well-regarded speaker at SILL on numerous topics related to Europe for many years.

He is now enjoying his third career as a mystery novelist, and his ‘Bruno, chief of police’ novels have now sold more than 3 million copies in 17 languages. *The Bruno Cookbook*, written with his wife, Julia, was awarded the Gourmand International prize as the world’s best French cookbook. They are now working on a second, *Bruno’s Garden Cookbook*. He is also a Grand Consul of the wines of Bergerac, and was awarded a gold medal by the French government for his services to tourism.

Mr. Walker is a graduate of Balliol College at Oxford, England.

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## ABOUT OUR SPEAKERS



**S. Enders Wimbush** is Senior Partner, StrateVarious Inc, and Distinguished Senior Fellow of The Jamestown Foundation. He has served in senior positions at the German Marshall Fund and Hudson Institute, and in the private sector at Booz Allen Hamilton and Science Applications International Corporation where he directed analyses of future security environments for both government and corporate clients.

Mr. Wimbush was confirmed as Governor of the United States Broadcasting Board of Governors (2010-12). Earlier he served as Director of Radio Liberty (1987-1993). He is the author of many books, articles, and security policy studies and has written for *The Wall Street Journal*, *The Christian Science Monitor*, *The Los Angeles Times*, *The Washington Times*, *The Journal of Commerce*, *National Interest*, *Survival*, *Global Affairs*, and *The Weekly Standard*.

Mr. Wimbush holds a B.A. in history from the University of Massachusetts at Boston. He completed graduate work at the University of Chicago and was a Fulbright Fellow at Moscow State University.



**Dr. Daniel Ziblatt** is Professor of Government at Harvard University and a faculty associate at Harvard’s Minda De Gunzburg Center for European Studies. Prof. Ziblatt’s research is in comparative politics, with a focus on democratization, state-building, historical political economy, and European politics.

Dr. Ziblatt’s three books are *How Democracies Die* (2018) (with Steven Levitsky), *Conservative Parties and the Birth of Democracy* (2017) and *Structuring the State: The Formation of Italy and Germany and the Puzzle of Federalism* (2006).

Dr. Ziblatt has been (interim) director of Harvard’s Center for European Studies. He has held fellowships in the United States and Europe, most recently as the Fernand Braudel Senior Fellow at the European University Institute (Florence Italy), as well as fellowships at Harvard’s Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study and Stanford’s Center for Advanced Study. He has also been a DAAD Fellow in Berlin, an Alexander von Humboldt visiting fellow at the Max Planck Institute in Cologne and the University of Konstanz, Germany, and visiting professor at Sciences Po Paris (2014) and Ecole Normale Supérieure, Paris (2009).

Dr. Ziblatt holds a B.A. *magna cum laude* from Pomona College and a Ph.D. in political science from the University of California at Berkeley.

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Always, Patsy Cline Jan 11 - Feb 3	Eric Watters April 15
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	21 <b>Sarasota Young Voices</b> Singers	28 <b>George Nickson and Samantha Bennett</b> Percussionist, Violin
FEBRUARY	4 <b>Emmanuel Ceysson</b> Harpist, MET Opera	11 <b>Mary Beth Peil</b> Singer/Actress <i>June LeBell Memorial Artist</i>
	18 <b>Olga Kern</b> Pianist	25 <b>Hanzi Wang</b> Concert Classical Accordion
MARCH	4 <b>Natalie Helm</b> Cello	11 <b>Richard and Peter John Stoltzman</b> Clarinet and Piano
	18 <b>Fernando Traba</b> Bassoon	25 <b>Dr. Joseph Holt</b> Piano, Conductor, Host

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JANUARY	10 <b>Reflections on U.S. Policy in Post-Soviet Russia and Eastern Europe</b> John Tefft	17 <b>Russian Covert Intervention in the 2016 U.S. Election and the Role of Intelligence in American Democracy</b> James Bruce
	24 <b>Eurasia's Strategic Realignment: The Challenge to U.S. Predominance</b> S. Enders Wimbush	31 <b>The German Problem</b> Martin Walker
FEBRUARY	7 <b>The Impossible Presidency</b> Jeremi Suri	14 <b>The Divided Kingdom of Britain</b> Margaret Jay
	21 <b>The Future of War</b> Sean McFate	28 <b>Tensions in the Ukraine and Why It Matters</b> Nolan Peterson
MARCH	7 <b>India: Rise on the World Stage</b> Alyssa Ayres	14 <b>Understanding World Leaders</b> Margaret Hermann
	21 <b>The End of White Christian America</b> Robert Jones	28 <b>The U.S. Role in the World: Domestic Debates and International Context</b> Katherine Hicks

VENICE

GLOBAL ISSUES SERIES I Tuesday      GLOBAL ISSUES SERIES III Friday

JANUARY	8 <b>Implications of U.S.-China Strategic Rivalry</b> J. Stapleton Roy	11 <b>Reflections on U.S. Policy in Post-Soviet Russia and Eastern Europe</b> John Tefft
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FEBRUARY	22 <b>How Democracies Die: Global Development</b> Daniel Ziblatt	25 <b>Eurasia's Strategic Realignment: The Challenge to U.S. Predominance</b> S. Enders Wimbush
	29 <b>A Seat at the Table: Gender, Power, &amp; Global Security</b> Carla Koppell	1 <b>The German Problem</b> Martin Walker
MARCH	5 <b>The Trump Administration and America's Asia-Pacific Strategy</b> Johathan Pollack	8 <b>The Impossible Presidency</b> Jeremi Suri
	12 <b>Smart Power: Diplomacy on the Front Line of American Security</b> Marc Grossman	15 <b>The Divided Kingdom of Britain</b> Margaret Jay
JANUARY	19 <b>Memory Matters in the Aging Brain</b> Aron Troen	22 <b>The Future of War</b> Sean McFate
	26 <b>Trump's Iranian Policy</b> Mohsen Milani	1 <b>Tensions in the Ukraine and Why It Matters</b> Nolan Peterson
FEBRUARY	5 <b>The Kremlin Playbook and the Future of the International System</b> Heather Conley	8 <b>India: Rise on the World Stage</b> Alyssa Ayres
	12 <b>Saudi Perspectives on the Middle East</b> HRH Prince Turki Al-Faisal	15 <b>Understanding World Leaders</b> Margaret Hermann
MARCH	19 <b>Fateful Choices in the Middle East: Israel</b> Dennis Ross	22 <b>The End of White Christian America</b> Robert Jones
	26 <b>Trumpism, Putinism, and the Old/New Cold War</b> Robert Barylski	29 <b>The U.S. Role in the World: Domestic Debates and International Context</b> Katherine Hicks



## MUSIC MONDAYS

Monday

## GLOBAL ISSUES SERIES I

Tuesday

## GLOBAL ISSUES SERIES II

Wednesday

## GLOBAL ISSUES SERIES III

Thursday

JANUARY

<b>7</b> <i>Pedja Muzijevic</i> Pianist	<b>8</b> <i>Implications of U.S.-China Strategic Rivalry</i> J. Stapleton Roy	<b>9</b> <i>China's Global and Regional Ambitions</i> Stapleton Roy	<b>10</b> <i>Reflections on U.S. Policy in Post-Soviet Russia and Eastern Europe</i> John Tefft
<b>14</b> <i>Kara Shay Thomson</i> Soprano	<b>15</b> <i>Dealing with North Korea</i> Christopher Hill	<b>16</b> <i>Is America's Global Influence Declining?</i> Christopher Hill	<b>17</b> <i>Russian Covert Intervention in the 2016 U.S. Election and the Role of Intelligence in American Democracy</i> James Bruce
<b>21</b> <i>Sarasota Young Voices</i> Singers	<b>22</b> <i>How Democracies Die: Global Development</i> Daniel Ziblatt	<b>23</b> <i>How Democracies Die: Implications for the U.S.</i> Daniel Ziblatt	<b>24</b> <i>Eurasia's Strategic Realignment: The Challenge to U.S. Predominance</i> S. Enders Wimbush
<b>28</b> <i>George Nickson and Samantha Bennett</i> Percussionist, Violin	<b>29</b> <i>A Seat at the Table: Gender, Power, &amp; Global Security</i> Carla Koppell	<b>30</b> <i>Changing the Global Patterns of Violence &amp; Restrictions Against Women &amp; Girls</i> Carla Koppell	<b>31</b> <i>The German Problem</i> Martin Walker

JANUARY

FEBRUARY

<b>4</b> <i>Emmanuel Ceysson</i> Harpist, MET Opera	<b>5</b> <i>The Trump Administration and America's Asia-Pacific Strategy</i> Johathan Pollack	<b>6</b> <i>How Does Asia and the Pacific View the Future Role of the United States?</i> Jonathan Pollack	<b>7</b> <i>The Impossible Presidency</i> Jeremi Suri
<b>11</b> <i>Mary Beth Peil</i> Singer/Actress <i>June LeBell Memorial Artist</i>	<b>12</b> <i>Smart Power: Diplomacy on the Front Line of American Security</i> Marc Grossman	<b>13</b> <i>How Wars End: Resolving Conflicts Through Diplomacy</i> Marc Grossman	<b>14</b> <i>The Divided Kingdom of Britain</i> Margaret Jay
<b>18</b> <i>Olga Kern</i> Pianist	<b>19</b> <i>Memory Matters in the Aging Brain</i> Aron Troen	<b>20</b> <i>Finding Hope and Avoiding Hype in Dementia-Prevention Research</i> Aron Troen	<b>21</b> <i>The Future of War</i> Sean McFate
<b>25</b> <i>Hanzhi Wang</i> Concert Classical Accordion	<b>26</b> <i>Trump's Iranian Policy</i> Mohsen Milani	<b>27</b> <i>Islamic Republic of Iran's 40th Anniversary</i> Mohsen Milani	<b>28</b> <i>Tensions in the Ukraine and Why It Matters</i> Nolan Peterson

FEBRUARY

MARCH

<b>4</b> <i>Natalie Helm</i> Cello	<b>5</b> <i>The Kremlin Playbook and the Future of the International System</i> Heather Conley	<b>6</b> <i>A European House Divided: Europe's Future Considered</i> Heather Conley	<b>7</b> <i>India: Rise on the World Stage</i> Alyssa Ayres
<b>11</b> <i>Richard and Peter John Stoltzman</i> Clarinet and Piano	<b>12</b> <i>Saudi Perspectives on the Middle East</i> HRH Prince Turki Al-Faisal	<b>13</b> <i>Vision 2030</i> HRH Prince Turki Al-Faisal	<b>14</b> <i>Understanding World Leaders</i> Margaret Hermann
<b>18</b> <i>Fernando Traba</i> Bassoon	<b>19</b> <i>Fateful Choices in the Middle East: Israel</i> Dennis Ross	<b>20</b> <i>Fateful Choices in the Middle East: United States</i> Dennis Ross	<b>21</b> <i>The End of White Christian America</i> Robert Jones
<b>25</b> <i>Dr. Joseph Holt</i> Piano, Conductor, Host	<b>26</b> <i>Trumpism, Putinism, and the Old/New Cold War</i> Robert Barylski	<b>27</b> <i>Time to Stop Trying to Give Russia a Western Political Makeover</i> Robert Barylski	<b>28</b> <i>The U.S. Role in the World: Domestic Debates and International Context</i> Katherine Hicks

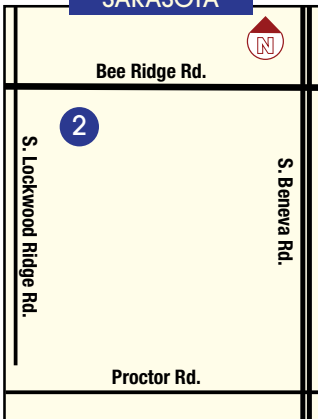
MARCH

## SILL PROGRAM LOCATIONS

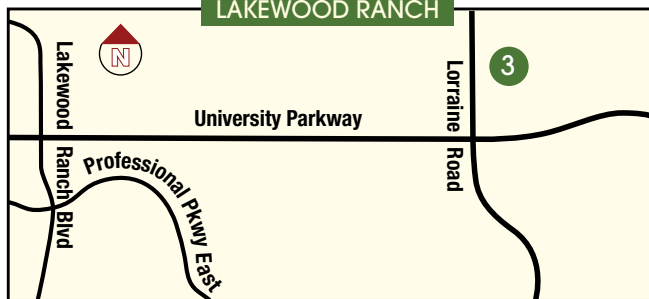
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### SARASOTA

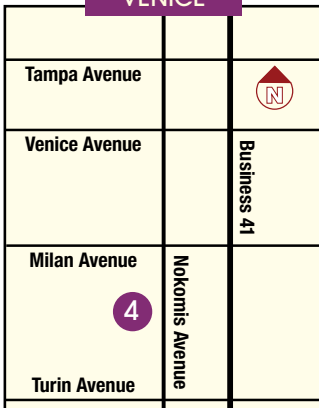


### LAKWOOD RANCH

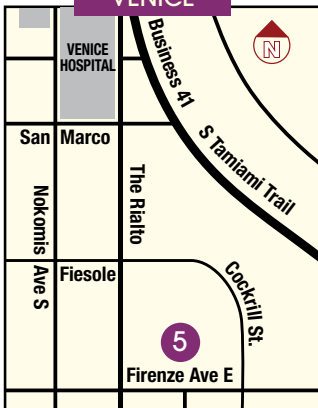


- 1** *First Church*  
104 S. Pineapple Ave
- 2** *Church of the Palms*  
3224 Bee Ridge Rd
- 3** *Cornerstone Church*  
14306 Covenant Way
- 4** *Venice Community Center*  
326 S. Nokomis Ave  
(next to Venice Public Library)
- 5** *Venice Presbyterian Church*  
825 The Rialto  
(south of Venice Hospital)

### VENICE



### VENICE



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Unless \$3 mailing is requested, tickets will be available at the first lecture you attend.  
To order tickets using your credit card, go to our website: [www.sillasarasota.org](http://www.sillasarasota.org)

## 2019 SUBSCRIPTION TICKET ORDER FORM

	QTY	x PRICE	AMT.
<b>SARASOTA PROGRAM</b>			
<i>Mondays: Music Mondays</i>		x \$85	
<i>Tuesdays: Global Issues Series I</i>		x \$85	
<i>Wednesdays: Global Issues Series II</i>		x \$85	
<i>Thursdays: Global Issues Series III</i>		x \$85	
<b>VENICE PROGRAM</b>			
<i>Mondays: Music Mondays</i>		x \$85	
<i>Tuesdays: Global Issues Series I</i>		x \$85	
<i>Fridays: Global Issues Series III</i>		x \$85	
<b>LAKWOOD RANCH PROGRAM</b>			
<i>Thursdays: Global Issues Series III</i>		x \$85	
All series are 12 lectures Single lectures \$10 at the door			
<b>TICKET TOTAL</b>			\$
Mail Tickets		\$3	
<i>Friends of SILL</i> (Tax Deductible Contribution)		\$	
<b>TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED</b>			\$

For sessions where seats are available, tickets will be sold at the door.

## VISIT THE WEBSITE

### YOUR SOURCE FOR:

- Lecture schedules
- Links to speaker associated web sites

Register Your Email Address to Get:

- Email updates on speakers and topics
- Advance notice of new programs

Throughout the season we will be adding information  
to the web site, so visit it often

[www.sillsarasota.org](http://www.sillsarasota.org)

## VOLUNTEERS

### Share your time and talent...volunteer!

Volunteer support is paramount to SILL being in a position to continue offering the Global Issues and Music Series that audiences have enjoyed over the past 48 years.

For every lecture a full complement of volunteers is required to ensure everything runs smoothly. They include the parking facilitators, ushers, greeters, ticket sales and/or logistics administrators, as well as others.

While the Global Issues and Music Series run January through March, the SILL Board works throughout the year in preparation for the next season. In many instances volunteers work directly with the SILL Board members in the areas of marketing, public relations, technical support, programming, recruitment, community outreach, and special events.

If you have the interest and desire to join the many volunteers who are already involved, and wish to learn more, please contact:

**Volunteer Coordinator**  
[sillvolunteer@gmail.com](mailto:sillvolunteer@gmail.com)

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January 16, 2019  
*Washington Post columnist and former White House speechwriter.*

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**KIM PHUC**  
March 2-3, 2019

*Vietnam War survivor and the subject of the iconic war photo.*

**BRIAN MCLAREN**  
October 16, 2019

*Author of The Great Spiritual Migration and leader in the Emerging Church movement.*



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## THURSDAY LECTURE SERIES VIDEOS

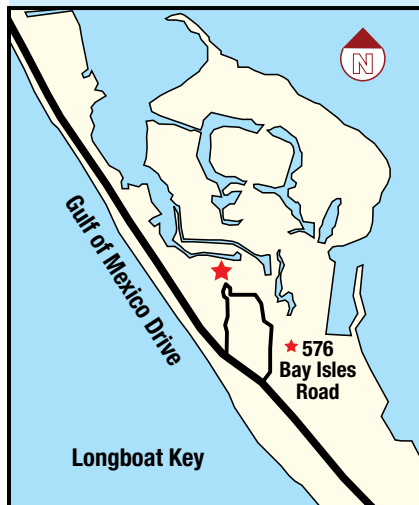
# SILL Comes to Longboat Key

Thursdays, 10:30 am  
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NEW  
FOR  
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Recordings of the 12 SILL Series III lectures will be shown on Thursday mornings at 10:30 am in the Temple Beth Israel sanctuary. The video will be the recording from the previous Thursday's Sarasota lecture. The first video will be shown on Thursday, January 17, 2019 and the last on Thursday, April 4, 2019. Refer to the Global Issues Series III schedule on page G34.

The showings are open to the public. Daily tickets to all lectures are \$10 at the door. Payment may be made by cash or check only.



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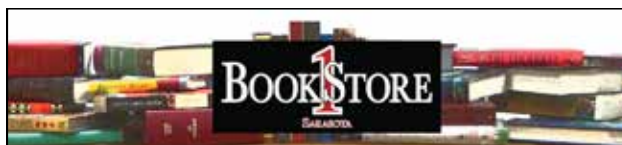
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The listing is for donations received between 7/1/17 and 6/30/18.

Although space constraints only allow acknowledgement of contributions at and above the \$50 level in this booklet, all contributions are gratefully appreciated.

Tax deductible donations to SILL can be added to the "Friends of SILL" line at the bottom of your order form. Donations may also be given to a SILL board member at any lecture or you may mail your check to:

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### **SERIES TICKETS**

The purchase of a \$85 series ticket entitles the holder to attend all of the lectures in that series. It cannot be used for lectures in other series. All ticket sales are final. To order tickets using a check, see Order Form on page G36. To order tickets using your credit card, go to our website: [www.sillsarasota.org](http://www.sillsarasota.org)

### **SINGLE DAY ADMISSIONS**

Daily tickets to all lectures are \$10 at the door. Payment may be made by cash or check only.

### **LECTURE RECORDINGS**

Flash drives and compact discs of all of the Sarasota lectures are available for \$10 each. You can order past, present, and future lectures in the lobby at the end of each lecture. Also available are box sets of 12 lectures of your choice for \$85.

### **ASSISTIVE LISTENING**

Wireless hearing enhancement systems are available free of charge at First United Methodist Church and the Venice Community Center on a first come, first served basis. Your driver's license or credit card will be retained until the receiver is returned at the end of the lecture.

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*Any views, information and/or other content expressed or made available by any SILL speaker are those of the speaker and are not necessarily those of SILL.*

## IN MEMORIAM

### **Don Leidel**

1927 – 2018

With a law degree from the University of Wisconsin, Don embarked on a 41 year career in government service, spanning active duty with the U. S. Air Force, the C.I.A. and the State Department. He was Ambassador to Bahrain twice in the 1980's. He served as a SILL board member for 10 years.

Don was a voracious reader of public policy issues, and was instrumental in bringing many retired foreign service speakers to the Global Issues program.

### **Don Savage**

1938 – 2018

Don received a PhD in economics from the University of Wisconsin and taught at Clark University and the University of Maine before embarking on a 22 year career with Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System where he retired as a Senior Economist in 1988. Don served over 10 years on the SILL board, was a very active recruiter and moderator of the Global Issues program, and is best remembered by his SILL colleagues for his many years as Registrar, a demanding function involving a year-round commitment to SILL.

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PRESENTS

The background of the lower half of the poster is a vibrant, abstract composition. It features several overlapping circles in shades of purple, magenta, and red. Golden musical notes, including eighth notes, quarter notes, and a treble clef, are scattered across the scene, appearing to float or be part of the circular patterns.

# Music Mondays

MUSICAL CONVERSATIONS  
WITH GREAT PERFORMERS

2019

[www.sillsarasota.org](http://www.sillsarasota.org)

## SARASOTA PROGRAM

Pages M4-M5 MONDAY

### MUSIC MONDAYS

12 Conversations January 7 - March 25, 10:30 am  
Church of the Palms, 3224 Bee Ridge Road

Pages G4-G5 TUESDAY

### GLOBAL ISSUES SERIES I

12 Lectures January 8 - March 26, 10:30 am  
First United Methodist Church, 104 S. Pineapple Ave.

Pages G6-G7 WEDNESDAY

### GLOBAL ISSUES SERIES II

12 Lectures January 9 - March 27, 10:30 am  
First United Methodist Church, 104 S. Pineapple Ave.

Pages G8-G9 THURSDAY

### GLOBAL ISSUES SERIES III

12 Lectures January 10 - March 28, 10:30 am  
First United Methodist Church, 104 S. Pineapple Ave.

## LAKEWOOD RANCH PROGRAM

Page G10-G11 THURSDAY

### GLOBAL ISSUES SERIES III

12 Lectures January 10 - March 28, 7:00 pm  
Cornerstone Church, 14306 Covenant Way

## VENICE PROGRAM

Pages M4-M5 MONDAY

### MUSIC MONDAYS

12 Conversations January 7 - March 25, 3:00 pm  
Venice Presbyterian Church, 825 The Rialto

Pages G12-G13 TUESDAY

### GLOBAL ISSUES SERIES I

12 Lectures January 8 - March 26, 2:30 pm  
Venice Community Center, 326 S. Nokomis Ave.

Pages G14-G15 FRIDAY

### GLOBAL ISSUES SERIES III

12 Lectures January 11 - March 29, 10:00 am  
Venice Community Center, 326 S. Nokomis Ave.

Please flip the brochure for information on the Global Issues series

## OVERVIEW

I couldn't begin this overview of the 2019 season of Music Mondays without thanking all of you who attended our 2018 "June LeBell Memorial Season." It was an outstanding success, and our attendance figures showed that over 12,750 people attended Music Mondays in Sarasota and Venice. Enormous thanks to all of you.



Photo Credit: Cliff Roles

For Music Mondays 2019 we've assembled a good mix of emerging talent and well established performers, all spiced and seasoned up with a few old friends. Once again Robert Sherman and Joseph Holt will be alternating as afternoon hosts in Venice, and as a bonus, Joseph Holt will himself be our final guest in March. This should be fun.

This year opens with pianist Pedja Muzijevic, whose musical travels have him making so many appearances that it's almost impossible to track him down. But we did, and he'll be back with more stories and solos just for us.

This season is the 70th Anniversary of the Sarasota Orchestra, and we've invited four of the Principal players to be with us: Fernando Traba, bassoon, and Natalie Helm, cello; George Nickson, percussion and Samantha Bennett, 2nd violin, will also be here with their contemporary music group, **ensembleNEWSRQ**.

With Young Concert Artists in New York, we're happy to present Hanzhi Wang, a classical concert accordionist, who was a First Prize Winner in their 2017 International Auditions, and Emmanuel Ceysson, a former YCA prize winner who is now Principal Harpist of the Metropolitan Opera in New York.

World renowned classical clarinetist Richard Stolzman is currently touring with his pianist son Peter John and they will be performing music of Bernstein, classics, and a little jazz, as well. Soprano Kara Shay Thomson will take time out from her "Turandot" rehearsals for a special visit.

The SILL Board voted that each season one guest would be designated as the "June LeBell Artist" and for 2019 that person is soprano Mary Beth Peil, who is literally a star of opera, stage, television and screen, and twice nominated for a Tony Award, currently starring on Broadway as the Dowager Empress in "Anastasia."

Another special treat is pianist Olga Kern, Van Cliburn Gold Medalist, and internationally known soloist.

As you see, it's going to be a busy and surprising year for Music Mondays. I look forward to seeing all of you for this very special season! Can't wait to get started.

*Edward Alley*



Sarasota 10:30 am - Church of the Palms  
Venice 3:00 pm - Venice Presbyterian Church

– JANUARY 7 –

**Pedja Muzijevic, pianist** Pedja Muzijevic must be one of our busiest pianists, since he has appeared with almost every major Music Festival and Symphony Orchestra in the world as soloist, in recital or chamber music. With stories and performance, Muzijevic takes time out of his busy concert schedule to open the 2019 Season of Music Mondays.

– JANUARY 14 –

**Kara Shay Thomson, soprano** Sarasota Opera audiences have raved about Kara Shay Thomson's performances in "Tosca", "Fidelio" and "Tiefland." Kara has been making history with the Santa Fe Opera, Florida Grand Opera and New York City Opera among others, and will be singing the title role in Puccini's "Turandot" this season in Sarasota. She stops by Music Mondays to talk about her life as a "Traveling Diva" and sing for us as well.

– JANUARY 21 –

**Sarasota Young Voices, singers** For over 10 years, the singers of Sarasota Young Voices, trained and conducted by their founder Genviève Beauchamp have been enchanting audiences. In addition to Sarasota, this group of high school age singers has performed in Notre Dame Cathedral in Paris, the Vatican in Rome, Ireland, and a stirring tour of Greece this past summer. They are not to be missed.

– JANUARY 28 –

**George Nickson and Samantha Bennett, percussionist, violin** George Nickson is Principal Percussionist and Samantha Bennett is Principal 2nd Violin of the Sarasota Orchestra. Three years ago they founded **ensembleNEWSRQ**, devoted to the music of our time. In their second appearance on Music Mondays, George and Samantha will share their enthusiasm, skill, and delight in, as well as explain and introduce us to, some new sounds in music.

– FEBRUARY 4 –

**Emmanuel Ceysson, harpist, MET Opera** With his powerful, virtuoso playing, Emmanuel Ceysson sweeps away all the clichés associated with his instrument. His infectious enthusiasm and boundless energy reveal the harp in all its sparkling splendor. He has won first prizes in the International Harp Competition and Young Concert Artists International Competition, and has performed in the leading concert halls of Europe. Be on hand to welcome Emmanuel Ceysson in his first visit to Music Mondays.

– FEBRUARY 11 –

**Mary Beth Peil, singer/actress** You may have seen Mary Beth Peil as Grams on "Dawson's Creek," or other roles on TV, or on one of her many appearances on Broadway. Her most recent role was the Dowager Empress in "Anastasia," where she received her second Tony nomination. But did you know Mary Beth also had quite a career in opera, singing with the Metropolitan Opera National Company and New York City Opera? Indeed she did, and will tell us about both careers and sing a few songs as we get acquainted.

– FEBRUARY 18 –

**Olga Kern, pianist** Olga Kern catapulted to fame with her Gold Medal win at the Van Cliburn International Piano Competition, the first woman to do so in over 30 years. She maintains an almost impossible schedule of recitals and concerto appearances worldwide, and has appeared in Sarasota with the Detroit Symphony and in solo recital. As gracious and lovely as she is talented, Olga is delighted to join us on Music Mondays.

– FEBRUARY 25 –

**Hanzhi Wang, concert classical accordion** Hanzhi Wang is a winner of the Young Concert Artists International Competition - their first accordionist - and is also a first for Music Mondays. Praised for her engaging stage presence and her musically and technically outstanding performances, she comes to Music Mondays closely following her New York debut in Carnegie Hall. Trained at the Beijing Conservatory and the Royal Danish Academy of Music, she will astound and capture all of us with her artistry.

– MARCH 4 –

**Natalie Helm, cello** Natalie Helm is principal cellist of the Sarasota Orchestra, and also enjoys a dynamic career as a solo recitalist, chamber musician, and educator. A top prize winner in several international competitions, she has appeared throughout Italy and Japan, and premiered and commissioned many works. She is founder of Upward Notes, performing for prisoners, homeless shelters, and dementia assisted living facilities throughout the United States.

– MARCH 11 –

**Richard and Peter John Stoltzman, clarinet and piano** Richard Stoltzman has appeared as soloist with more than a hundred orchestras, in recitals, chamber music, and jazz and is a two-time GRAMMY award winner. Son Peter John Stoltzman is first and foremost a jazz pianist with appearances at Hollywood Bowl, Carnegie Hall and venues world wide. Now on a special joint tour, they are an unbeatable duo in both jazz and classics, bringing both to Music Mondays.

– MARCH 18 –

**Fernando Traba, bassoon** That smiling face behind all those wonderful bassoon sounds in the Sarasota Orchestra belongs to Fernando Traba, who is celebrating 25 years as principal bassoonist. A native of Mexico, he trained at the Cleveland Institute of Music and The Juilliard School and is married to Betsy Traba, principal flutist. Fernando's hobbies are cooking and - of all things - auto mechanics!

– MARCH 25 –

**Dr. Joseph Holt, piano, conductor, host** Joseph Holt is pretty much a moving musical target in Sarasota, since in addition to being alternate host for Music Mondays in Venice, he is also Artistic Director of Choral Artists of Sarasota and Artist Series Concerts, Music Director of Faith Lutheran Church, a sought after soloist and chamber music pianist, and a darned good cook. If we can keep him in one place long enough, Joe will tell us about his career as pianist for the US Army Chorus and other facets of his interesting life.

## ABOUT OUR ARTISTS



### **Edward Alley**, *Producer and Sarasota Host*

Edward Alley became conductor of the legendary 7th US Army Symphony at the age of 22, conducting over 100 concerts throughout Western Europe. As Principal Conductor and Manager of the touring Goldovsky Opera Theater, he conducted over 800 performances of opera throughout the United States and Canada.

He has served as Executive Director of the Martha Baird Rockefeller Fund for Music, Manager of the New York Philharmonic, Associate Director of the Opera Center at the Juilliard School, Director of the Exxon/Arts Endowment Conductor's Program, and was a judge for numerous vocal competitions including the MET Opera auditions. He was an On-Site Evaluator and Grant Panelist for the Opera/Music Theater and Music Programs of the National Endowment for the Arts.

Alley is a former Trustee of the Sarasota Opera and past Board Chair of Gloria Musicae, Artist Series Concerts of Sarasota, and the TDC Grant and Policy Panels of the Arts Alliance of Sarasota County.

He currently writes music reviews for The Observer Group, and succeeds his wife, the late June LeBell, as Producer-Host of Music Mondays.



### **Emmanuel Ceysson**

With his powerful virtuoso playing, Emmanuel Ceysson sweeps away all the clichés associated with his instrument. He has earned the highest international distinctions and prizes, including the Young Concert Artist International Auditions, the International Harp Competition, the prestigious ARD Competition in Munich, and is the first harpist to win all three major international events.

Ceysson has been a visiting professor at London's Royal Academy of Music and has taught at the International Summer Music Academy in Nice since 2010. His recordings with Naxos, Naïve, Clavès, MDG, and others include solo, concerto, and chamber repertoire, and have received universal acclaim. He often gives Master Classes in the course of his domestic and foreign tours.

Prior to being chosen as Principal Harpist of New York's Metropolitan Opera Orchestra, Ceysson was for nine years Harpist of the Opéra National de Paris.

For more about Music Mondays and artists,  
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## ABOUT OUR ARTISTS



### **Natalie Helm**

Natalie Helm is Principal Cello of the Sarasota Orchestra and her playing has been praised by Fox News, the Los Angeles Times, NPR, and People Magazine. A native of Kentucky, she started playing the cello at age eleven, and is a graduate of Curtis Institute of Music and the Colburn School.

She appeared in solo, chamber music, and orchestral solo performances throughout the U.S. before joining the Sarasota Orchestra. A top prize winner in several international competitions, she has also played with the Des Moines Metro Opera, Curtis Institute's Summerfest, and is an Associate Faculty of the Sarasota Music Festival.

Helm is also founder of Upward Notes, bringing musicians together to perform and let music create change in prisons, homeless shelters, and assisted living facilities throughout the U.S.

Natalie plays an 1803 Rafael di Blasio cello, which she has named "Ricky". Maybe we can find out why when she visits Music Mondays.



### **Joseph Holt**, *Venice Co-Host*

Now in his tenth season as Artistic Director and Conductor of the Choral Artists of Sarasota, Dr. Joseph Holt enjoys a wide-ranging career as conductor, pianist, chamber musician, arts administrator, educator, arranger, and interviewer.

Before Sarasota, he served for 20 years as principal pianist with the U.S. Army Chorus in Washington, D.C., performing for U.S. Presidents and other dignitaries. He was Associate Conductor for the Choral Arts Society of Washington for 15 years and led them in the annual Family Christmas Concerts at the Kennedy Center.

In addition, Holt is now Artistic Director of the popular Artist Series Concerts of Sarasota, engaging performers for their various series. SILL's Music Mondays is proud to continue its collaboration with ASC, bringing several artists each season for full recitals on its series as well as appearances on Music Mondays.

Holt has served as a co-host in Venice and pianist for many performers on Music Mondays, but this year marks his first appearance as a bona fide guest, where we will learn more about his interesting career as well as hear him in solo performance.

## ABOUT OUR ARTISTS



### *Olga Kern*

Russian-American pianist Olga Kern is now recognized as one of her generation's greatest pianists. Her American career began with a historic Gold Medal win at the Van Cliburn International Piano Competition, the first female winner in more than 30 years. She is a winner of many international competitions, including the Rachmaninoff International Competition,

which she won at age 17, and now has her own International Piano Competition in Albuquerque, NM.

Ms. Kern has performed concertos with orchestras worldwide, and is an active recitalist as well, performing in Carnegie Hall, Moscow's Great Hall, the Salzburg Festspielhaus, La Scala in Milan, and many, many more.

She has appeared recently in Sarasota as soloist with the Detroit Symphony conducted by Leonard Slatkin and in a solo recital, both at Van Wezel Performance Hall. We are indeed fortunate that she has taken time from her busy concert schedule to be our guest, visit and perform for us on Music Mondays.



### *Pedja Muzijevic*

Pianist Pedja Muzijevic has defined his career with creative programming, unusual combinations of new and old music, and lasting collaborations with artist and ensembles. His peripatetic and seemingly endless performance schedule takes him world-wide, with orchestra, solo recital, chamber music, and festival appearances. He has toured with Mikhail Baryshnikov and the White Oak

Dance Project throughout the U.S. and as artistic administrator of the Baryshnikov Arts Foundation was instrumental in starting the Ringling International Arts Festival here in Sarasota, as well as performing for the Festival.

Muzijevic was born in Sarajevo and studied at the Academy of Music in Zagreb before coming to the United States in 1984 to complete his music education at the Curtis Institute of Music and the Juilliard School.

He returns to Music Mondays after an absence of several years, and we will all be enchanted by his many tales of travels as well as his playing.

For more about Music Mondays and artists,  
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## ABOUT OUR ARTISTS



### *George Nickson/Samantha Bennett*

George Nickson, Principal Percussionist of the Sarasota Orchestra since 2012, is a graduate of the Juilliard School. He also performs regularly with the Boston Symphony, the Washington National Symphony, and the Detroit Symphony. George was also a recent finalist for a Vienna Philharmonic percussion position. He teaches at the Tanglewood Music Center and has

performed at Tanglewood regularly in solo and ensembles.

Samantha Bennett is Principal Second Violin of the Sarasota Orchestra, is a graduate of Boston's New England Conservatory of Music and also performs regularly with the Boston Symphony, Boston Pops, and as Guest Concertmaster of the New Haven Symphony. As a recitalist she has performed in Boston's Jordan Hall, London's Wigmore Hall, and Zankel Hall in Carnegie Hall in New York.

Both George and Samantha are advocates and active performers of contemporary music, and have appeared with the Fromm Players at Tanglewood as well as with leading composers and performers throughout the U.S.

Three years ago they formed **ensembleNEWSRQ**, a musical collective dedicated to the performance and promotion of contemporary music. This ensemble has virtually reinvented the audience for contemporary music in Sarasota and we are delighted to welcome them back to Music Mondays.



### *Mary Beth Peil*

2019 June LeBell Artist

Mary Beth Peil is something of a phenomenon as a performer. She had an outstanding career as an opera singer starting at 21, appearing with the Goldovsky Opera Theater, Metropolitan Opera National Company, New York City Opera, and others before Broadway beckoned in the 1980s.

Her first role was Anna in "The King and I," opposite Yul Brynner, for which she was nominated for a Tony Award. She realized theater was her calling and has been performing steadily ever since.

Probably her best known TV role was as Grams on "Dawson's Creek," but she is seen often on television and motion pictures. Her real home is on the stage, and Broadway audiences have seen her in "Nine," "Follies," "Les Liaisons Dangereuses," "The Visit," and numerous other roles. Mary Beth is currently completing her Broadway run as the Dowager Empress in "Anastasia," and was once again nominated for a Tony Award as Best Supporting Actress in a Musical. As a proud septuagenarian she is still delighting cheering audiences eight times a week.

## ABOUT OUR ARTISTS



Photo credit:  
Steven J. Sherman

### **Robert Sherman, Venice Co-Host**

Broadcaster, writer, teacher and radio personality Robert Sherman has been with WQXR in New York City for over 60 years, where he is host and producer of “The McGraw Family’s Young Artists Showcase” since 1978 and for many years presided over the annual broadcasts of the Avery Fisher Career Grant presentations. His popular folk series, “Woody’s Children,” heard on New York’s public radio WFUV, celebrates its 50th anniversary

in 2019. For more than 40 years he was a music critic and columnist for the *New York Times* and for nearly 20 years was on the faculty of the Juilliard School.

A sought-after commentator, lecturer and narrator, he has given seminars at Yale, the Eastman School, NYU and Oberlin, and has been a concert narrator for countless orchestras in the United States.

He is co-author of *The Smart Guide to Classical Music* and two best-selling books with Victor Borge. With his brother, Alexander Sherman, he completed a pictorial history of their mother, the celebrated pianist Nadia Reisenberg, and is president of a foundation dedicated to the preservation of her legacy, and that of her sister, renowned Theremin virtuoso Clara Rockmore.



### **Richard and Peter John Stoltzman**

Richard Stoltzman’s virtuosity, musicianship and sheer personal magnetism have made him one of the most sought-after concert artists. His unique style of playing has earned him an international reputation as clarinet soloist with more than a hundred orchestras and as a recitalist, chamber music

performer, jazz artist and two-time Grammy award winning recording artist.

His son, Peter John Stoltzman, is currently head of the piano program at the University of Colorado Denver, and is a graduate of the Berklee School of Music, New England Conservatory and the University of Texas. An outstanding jazz pianist, he has toured Japan, performed at the Hollywood Bowl and Carnegie Hall and recorded with leading jazz artists of the day.

In this Bernstein Centennial year, father and son are touring together in a “Tribute to Bernstein at 100.” For Music Mondays, they will talk about their life and careers, separately and together, and perform not only some Bernstein and jazz, but some classics as well.

## ABOUT OUR ARTISTS



### **Kara Shay Thomson**

Kara Shay Thomson has recently appeared with many of our leading opera companies, including the Chicago Lyric Opera, New York City Opera, Santa Fe Opera, and Florida Grand Opera, among others. She has been thrilling Sarasota Opera audiences for several years, appearing as Tosca, Leonore in “Fidelio,” Barber’s “Vanessa” and as Marta in last season’s production of “Tiefland.”

Her concert engagements include appearances at Avery Fisher Hall in Lincoln Center, the Cincinnati May Festival, Chicago’s Ravinia Festival and the Wagner Society of Washington, D.C. This season she returns to the Sarasota Opera singing the title role in Puccini’s “Turandot.” Kara will already be in rehearsal for “Turandot,” but the Sarasota Opera has graciously released her so she can make her first appearance on Music Mondays.



### **Fernando Traba**

Fernando Traba, Principal Bassoon of the Sarasota Orchestra, is a native of Mexico City, Mexico. He began his musical studies with his father at the age of six, and at 22 he received the National Youth Award for musical excellence from the President of Mexico. He has served as Principal Bassoon with all five major orchestras in Mexico City, as well as other orchestras in Mexico, Spain and Portugal.

Traba received his Bachelor and Master’s Degrees from the Cleveland Institute of Music and has done postgraduate study at the Juilliard School. He has been a soloist with the Sarasota Orchestra and is a member of the Sarasota Woodwind Quintet. He is married to Betsy Traba, Principal Flute of the Sarasota Orchestra, and they have two daughters, both competitive swimmers. Fernando has two rather diverse hobbies, cooking and auto mechanics. This will be his second visit to Music Mondays.

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## ABOUT OUR ARTISTS



### **Sarasota Young Voices**

Every week, kids from Sarasota and Manatee counties meet to make music, laugh, and express themselves in music under the expert direction of Geneviève Beauchamp. While studying quality music, members of SYV serve their community by performing at different events including concert series, churches, retirement homes, collaborating with adult choruses, and more.



Photo Credit: Cliff Roles

Geneviève and some of her talented young singers have also toured in Europe, Canada, and the United States, singing everywhere from Notre Dame Cathedral in Paris to the steps of the Parthenon in Greece, where they performed last summer. Music Mondays is pleased to once again welcome Geneviève and members of Sarasota Young Voices for conversation and music-making, so you may hear not only how talented these young performers are, but how their performances have changed their lives.



### **Hanzhi Wang**

Hanzhi Wang is the first classical accordionist to win the Young Concert Artists International Competition and also the first accordionist to appear on Music Mondays. A native of China, she holds degrees from the China Central Conservatory of Music in Beijing and the Royal Danish Academy of Music in Copenhagen.

Ms. Wang has lectured and given master classes at the Manhattan School of Music, the Royal Danish Academy of Music, the Tianjin Music Conservatory and the Capital Normal University in Beijing, and has served on competition juries in Rome, Portugal and Italy. Her concert performances have already taken her around the globe with performances in Europe and Asia, and in her American debut season, she will be appearing in Zankel Hall at Carnegie Hall, Washington's Kennedy Center, and numerous recital and orchestral appearances throughout the country.

## MUSIC ADVISORY BOARD

SILL's Music Mondays series is produced and organized by **Edward Alley** (see page M6 for full bio) with the assistance of the following advisors:

**Joseph Holt** (see page M7 for full bio)

**Marilyn Horne**, one of the world's greatest mezzo-sopranos, is also the founder of the Marilyn Horne Legacy at Carnegie Hall, exploring the art of song. Throughout her career, she has assisted and encouraged some of today's greatest singers, and we are proud to be able to share some of these artists, hand-selected by Ms. Horne, with our audiences on SILL's Music Mondays.

**Daniel Jordan** Probably the best known violinist in Sarasota, Daniel Jordan has been concertmaster of the Sarasota Orchestra since 1998. He is also the Principal 2nd Violin of the Santa Fe Opera Orchestra.

**Joy McIntyre**, a much sought-after voice teacher and music pedagogue, has had a major singing career in Europe and teaching in America. She is a past President of SILL.

**Robert Sherman** (see page M10 for full bio)

**Jeff Spurgeon** is Chief Announcer at WQXR, New York's classical radio station, and has interviewed hundreds of performers in the United States and Europe. Also a trained singer, he keeps us in touch with some of the world's finest performers.

**Susan Wadsworth** established Young Concert Artists in 1961. YCA is dedicated to discovering and launching the careers of extraordinary young musicians, and has been very successful, including soprano Dawn Upshaw, violinist Pinchas Zucherman and pianists Richard Goode, Emmanuel Ax and Murray Perahia among its most successful alumni.

SILL's Music Mondays is pleased to collaborate with Young Concert Artists in New York and Artist Series Concerts of Sarasota to present the finest in early and mid-career performers to our audiences.

For more about Music Mondays and artists, visit our website

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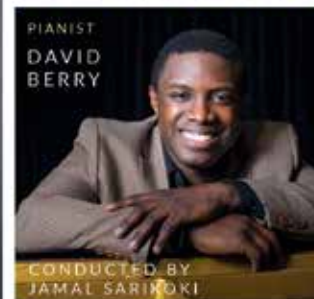


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24 Daniel Jordan, violin; Natalie Helm, cello;  
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**FEBRUARY**  
2 Emmanuel Ceysson, harp  
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19 Tristan Clark and Joe Buono  
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28 Elena Karokhina, Mikhail Smirnov  
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**MARCH**  
7 Stephen, David, Michael and Nate Ditchfield  
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9 & 10 Richard Stoltzman, clarinet & Peter John Stoltzman, piano  
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21 George Nickson, marimba  
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26 Brian Gurl, piano and Carlann Evans, violin  
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