

2024

GLOBAL ISSUES
LECTURE SERIES



SARASOTA INSTITUTE OF LIFETIME LEARNING

**AN INSIDER'S VIEW
OF TODAY'S WORLD**

sillsarasota.org

SARASOTA PROGRAM

Pages M4-M5 MONDAY

MUSIC MONDAYS

12 Conversations January 8 – March 25, 10:30 am

Pages G4-G5 TUESDAY

GLOBAL ISSUES SERIES I

12 Lectures January 9 – March 26, 10:30 am

Pages G6-G7 THURSDAY

GLOBAL ISSUES SERIES II

12 Lectures January 11 – March 28, 10:30 am

VENICE PROGRAM

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12 Conversations January 8 – March 25, 3:00 pm

Pages G8-G9 TUESDAY

GLOBAL ISSUES SERIES I

12 Lectures January 9 – March 26 2:30 pm

Pages G10-G11 FRIDAY

GLOBAL ISSUES SERIES II

12 Lectures January 12 – March 29, 10:00 am

LAKESWOOD RANCH PROGRAM

Pages G12-G13 WEDNESDAY

GLOBAL ISSUES SERIES I

12 Lectures January 10 – March 27, 11:00 am

Pages G14-G15 THURSDAY

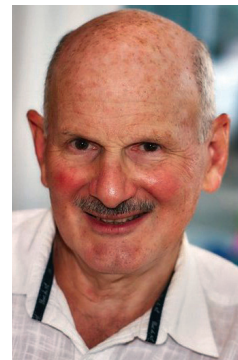
GLOBAL ISSUES SERIES II

12 Lectures January 11 – March 28, 5:00 pm

Please flip the brochure for information on
the **Music Mondays** series

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

I am happy to present SILL's program for our 2024 season. We have again assembled programs for Music Mondays and Global Issues that will spice up your Sarasota winter and give you plenty to think and talk about. I am particularly looking forward to hearing from: Bob Bunting on how we adapt to climate change; Charlayne Hunter-Gault on the reasons to be optimistic even in trying and troubled times; and General Russel Honore on the Rise of Political Violence in the U.S. These are among the outstanding group of speakers assembled by our Global Issues Program Committee led by Beth Cotner.



Hearing more about the careers of musicians helps to increase my enjoyment of the music they perform, and I hope you feel the same. Producer and Host Joseph Holt has assembled a wide-ranging scope for Music Mondays. Along the way, we will learn to love the Balalaika accompanied by piano from a Russian Duo, hear an unusual string sextet from the Curtis Institute featuring seasoned professionals alongside emerging artists, hear of the cello in a multigenerational tale of the Holocaust, and experience the joy of jazz in the young hands of Colin Leonard, local saxophone player. It should be another outstanding year full of musical surprises.

We have one change in our schedule of events. On Wednesday morning the Global Issues speaker will offer his lecture at 11 am at Cornerstone Church in Lakewood Ranch rather than presenting a different topic in Sarasota, as in the past.

We added increased flexibility to our ticket packages for you for live events. Video on Demand will be available only for the Thursday Global Issues lectures. You can find the details in this brochure or on our website. Any full series subscription includes a free "invite a friend" ticket good at any SILL event. Let me close by thanking you for being a member of the SILL Community. As you place your ticket orders, I hope you will consider making an additional contribution as a "Friend of SILL."

With Best Regards
Bob Deutsch, *President*

– JANUARY 9 –

Responding to a World in 'Permacrisis'

Bombarded by an explosion of natural disasters, health crises, wars, political instability, and economic dislocation, governments are overwhelmed, business struggles to navigate the uncertainty, non-profits cannot meet the demand, and media has lost its independent voice. **Amb. Daniel Speckhard** will speak to the transformational change needed to confront the existential challenges facing the world.

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Taiwan has an outsize role in the world economy but is a thorny political issue in US-China relations. **Dr. Shelley Rigger** will explain why Taiwan is of enduring value to the United States and why we should commit resources so the people of Taiwan can choose their relationship with the PRC.

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Putin's War: How is it Affecting Global Order?

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Artificial Intelligence:

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Martin Walker explains that Europe has two "UK" problems, Ukraine and the UK. War fatigue will be growing for a negotiated settlement between Russia and Ukraine and its financial supporters, the U.S. and the EU. New elections in Britain could deliver a center-left government committed to moving closer to the EU.

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Why Americans Love and Hate Government

After communism's collapse, many Americans believed free markets and limited government would bring widespread democracy and prosperity. With terrorism, a financial crisis, and COVID, American attitudes shifted from free market advocacy to defense of authoritarian policies. **Dr. Jeremi Suri** will explore why this shift occurred, and implications for the future of democracy.

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Amb. Harriet Elam-Thomas will draw on her 42 years in the U.S. Foreign Service and 18 years in academia to discuss the value of soft power in 21st century diplomacy. With examples from her assignments in Greece and Turkey, she will highlight how mutual respect builds lasting relationships that reduce global threats.

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ABOUT OUR SPEAKERS



Rod Adams is a managing partner with Nucleation Capital, a venture capital fund focusing on advanced nuclear energy and deep decarbonization. The fund is building a portfolio of innovative ventures using a new model of venture fundraising that allows accredited investors to make modest quarterly investments.

Mr. Adams has been the publisher of *Atomic Insights* since 1995 and host of the Atomic Show podcast since 2006. He worked at Babcock & Wilcox as a member of a team developing a small modular reactor called mPower. He served for 33 years in the U.S. Navy, U.S. Naval Reserves, and U.S. Naval Academy. He served on two nuclear submarines and in a variety of submarine support roles at Navy Headquarters in Washington, D.C.

In 1993 Mr. Adams founded Adams Atomic Engines, a small modular reactor (SMR) company that was ahead of the bleeding edge. After 2003 interest in that technology sector began growing among investors and government entities in the U.S. and internationally. The interest has been expanding rapidly in the period since Russia invaded Ukraine.

Mr. Adams holds a B.S. in English from the U.S. Naval Academy and an M.S. in Systems Technology from the U.S. Naval Postgraduate School.



Dr. Robert V. Barylski is a retired associate professor in the Department of Government and International Relations at USF Sarasota and former Dean of the University prior to his retirement.

An expert on civil-military relations in Russia, Dr. Barylski published *The Soldier in Russian Politics 1988-1996: Duty, Dictatorship and Democracy under Gorbachev and Yeltsin*. 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 Dr. Barylski has become one of the leading experts on Russian policy towards states and peoples of Islamic heritage. He 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 has participated in U.S. policy symposia at the U.S. Central Command.

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

ABOUT OUR SPEAKERS



Bob Bunting, a scientist and serial entrepreneur, is the CEO of the Climate Adaptation and Mitigation Center, an organization dedicated to providing information about the impact of global warming. Mr. Bunting is also the CEO of Waterstone Strategies, a business consulting firm. From 2005-2011, he served as CEO of Pathogen Systems, a company that is commercializing liquid crystal technology. He has also worked for Digital Globe and MacDonald, Dettwiler and Associates.

Within the academic community, Mr. Bunting was instrumental in the development of the Entrepreneurship Program at the University of Colorado Leeds School of Business where he served on the faculty. Mr. Bunting taught courses in atmospheric science at St. Louis University, Meramec College, Washington University, Indiana University-Purdue University at Indianapolis, and Metro State College (Denver).

Since 1988, Mr. Bunting has been on the board of directors for the Colorado Music Festival. He is presently on the advisory boards of the University of Colorado College of Music and the Deming Center for Entrepreneurship.

Mr. Bunting holds B.S. & M.S. degrees in Atmospheric Science from St. Louis University.



Amb. Harriet L. Elam-Thomas has six decades of international affairs experience in public diplomacy in government and academia. In September 2021 she marked her second retirement after 18 years at the University of Central Florida where she established and directed a diplomacy program. Several of her students are now career diplomats and others have held foreign affairs-related internships in the U.S. and abroad. Amb. Elam-Thomas was Counselor of the United States Information Agency and acting Deputy Director of the agency until October 1999 prior to USIA's 1999 integration into the Department of State.

As a foreign service officer, Amb. Elam-Thomas held positions as U.S. Ambassador to Senegal, Country Affairs Officer for Greece, Turkey and Cyprus, as well as other positions in France, Belgium, Mali and Côte D'Ivoire. She has received distinguished awards for her service, including the U.S. Government's Superior Honor Award and the Director General's Cup of the U.S. Department of State.

Amb. Elam-Thomas holds a B.S. in International Business from Simmons College and an M.A. in Public Diplomacy from the Fletcher School of Law & Diplomacy at Tufts University. She resides in Orlando, FL with her husband Wilfred J. Thomas.

ABOUT OUR SPEAKERS



Amb. Robert L. Gallucci is a Distinguished Professor in the Practice of Diplomacy at Georgetown University's Walsh School of Foreign Service. From 2015 to 2016 he was Director of the Kluge Center at the Library of Congress, and from 2009 to 2014 he was President of the MacArthur Foundation.

During the previous 13 years, Dr. Gallucci was the Dean of the School of Foreign Service at Georgetown University. This followed more than 20 years of service with the U.S. government and international organizations where he held positions as Special Envoy dealing with the threat of ballistic missiles and weapons of mass destruction, Ambassador at Large, Assistant Secretary of State for Political-Military Affairs, Deputy Executive Chairman of the UN Commission charged with the disarmament of Iraq after the first Gulf War, and Deputy Director General of the Multinational Force and Observers -- the Sinai peacekeeping force.

Dr. Gallucci holds a B.A. from Stony Brook University and an M.A. and Ph.D. from Brandeis University. He is the author of *Neither Peace Nor Honor: The Politics of American Military Policy in Viet-Nam* and co-author of *Going Critical: The First North Korean Nuclear Crisis*.



Roya Hakakian is an Iranian-American writer and public speaker. Her works appear in leading English language publications including *The New York Times*, *New York Review of Books* and *The Atlantic*. She serves as a fellow at Yale University's Davenport College, is a member of the Council on Foreign Relations, and is a former associate producer at CBS's 60 Minutes.

A founding member of the Iran Human Rights Documentation Center, she has spoken on CNN as well as in Washington D.C. for the Senate Foreign Affairs Committee. Her latest book, *A Beginner's Guide to America: For the Immigrant and the Curious*, has been called a contemporary Tocquevillian account by the Wall Street Journal and the Boston Globe.

Ms. Hakakian is a recipient of the Guggenheim Fellowship among many other prizes and has been called one of "the most important activists, academics and journalists of her generation."

She received her bachelor's degree from Brooklyn College.

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ABOUT OUR SPEAKERS



Dr. Bruce Hoffman has been studying terrorism and insurgency for nearly five decades. He is a professor at Georgetown University's Walsh School of Foreign Service and former director of both its Center for Jewish Civilization and its Security Studies Master of Arts degree program. Dr. Hoffman is also currently the Shelby Cullom and Kathryn W. Davis Senior Fellow for Counterterrorism and Homeland Security at the Council on Foreign Relations, and the George H. Gilmore Senior Fellow at the U.S. Military Academy's Combating Terrorism Center.

Dr. Hoffman is the author of the award-winning book, *Anonymous Soldiers* (2015). His other books include *Inside Terrorism* (3rd edition, 2017), cited as one of the 25 most notable books published by Columbia University Press on the occasion of its 125th anniversary and *The Evolution of the Global Terrorist Threat* (2014). He is co-author of *God, Guns, and Sedition: Far-Right Terrorism in America*, which is scheduled to be published in December 2023.

Dr. Hoffman holds degrees in government, history, and international relations. He received his doctorate from Oxford University.



Lieutenant General Russel L. Honoré retired from the U.S. Army after 37 years on active duty in a variety of command and staff positions which focused on defense support to civil authorities and homeland defense. He planned the responses to the Shuttle Columbia Tragedy and the D.C. Sniper Shootings.

General Honoré supported the Defense Department response to numerous hurricanes, not the least of which was Hurricane Katrina that nearly devastated the population of New Orleans in 2005. He commanded Joint Task Force Katrina which dealt with the humanitarian crisis and safety of tens of thousands of people impacted by the disaster. He was also in charge of military responses to eight other hurricanes.

Recognized for his take-charge attitude in the wake of disasters, in retirement General Honoré was asked to lead the investigation into the January 6, 2021 Capitol riots. At the request of House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, he rendered a report as to corrective actions that need to be implemented to ensure such a tragedy does not successfully recur. General Honoré is a noted public speaker and author.

ABOUT OUR SPEAKERS



Charlayne Hunter-Gault is an award-winning journalist whose works have appeared in *The New Yorker*, *The New York Times*, *PBS*, *NPR* and *CNN*. She is the author of five books including *My People*, deemed one of the best nonfiction books of 2022. Ms. Hunter-Gault worked for 20 years with the PBS NewsHour, as both NPR and later CNN's Johannesburg bureau chief, and as a contributor to *The New Yorker*.

Ms. Hunter-Gault has won numerous honors including two Peabody and two Emmy awards. She was inducted into the National Association of Black Journalists Hall of Fame, received the Black Enterprises Legacy Award and the Washington Press Club Foundation's Lifetime Achievement Award. Her latest award is also for Lifetime Achievement from the Anisfield Wolf Book Awards, which annually recognizes authors whose work explores racism and diversity.

Ms. Hunter-Gault holds a B.A. in journalism from the University of Georgia.



Carla Koppell is a vice dean for the Georgetown University School of Foreign Service and Managing Director of the Georgetown Institute for Women, Peace and Security. She has worked in over 30 conflict zones throughout the world. Ms. Koppell led the United States Institute of Peace's Center for Applied Conflict Transformation, served as the Chief Strategy Officer for the U.S. Agency for International

Development (USAID) and as USAID's inaugural senior coordinator for Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment. She also led the Conflict Prevention Project at the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars and the non-governmental Institute for Inclusive Security.

Ms. Koppell has published two books, *Untapped Power*, and *Preventing the Next Wave of Conflict: Understanding Non-Traditional Threats to Global Stability*. She has contributed numerous articles and reports and has spoken widely on foreign policy issues at the United Nations, NATO, before U.S. congressional and Canadian parliamentary committees, and for the Council on Foreign Relations.

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

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ABOUT OUR SPEAKERS



Dr. David M. Lampton is an Oksenberg-Rohlen Fellow at Stanford University's Asia-Pacific Research Center and Hyman Professor and Director of China Studies Emeritus at the Johns Hopkins University School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS). He is a former chairman of the The Asia Foundation, former president of the National Committee on United States-China Relations, and former dean of faculty at SAIS.

Dr. Lampton's most recent book is *Following the Leader: Ruling China, from Deng Xiaoping to Xi Jinping*. It was initially published in January 2014 and was issued in a second edition with a new preface in 2019. His current field research focuses on Beijing's effort to build high-speed and other rail lines to Singapore from South China and involves interviews and field research in eight countries. The underlying issue is how to conceive of Chinese power. He is also author of *The Three Faces of Chinese Power: Might, Money, and Minds* (2008).

Dr. Lampton received his B.A., M.A., and Ph.D. degrees from Stanford University where, as an undergraduate student, he was a firefighter. He holds an honorary doctorate from the Russian Academy of Sciences' Institute of Far Eastern Studies.



Dr. Susan A. MacManus is a USF Distinguished University Professor Emerita Department of Government and International Affairs, School of Interdisciplinary Global Studies.

Dr. MacManus has authored or co-authored numerous publications on Florida politics, including *Florida's Minority Trailblazers: The Men and Women Who Changed the Face of Florida Government, Politics in Florida, Young v. Old: Generational Combat in the 21st Century* and *Targeting Senior Voters*. Dr. MacManus and her mother, Elizabeth, authored two local Florida history books: *Citrus, Sawmills, Critters & Crackers: Early Life in Lutz and Central Pasco County* and *Going, Going, Almost Gone: Lutz-Land O' Lakes Pioneers Share Their Precious Memories*. From 1998 to 2015, she served as political analyst for WFLA News Channel 8 (Tampa's NBC affiliate).

Since 2016, Dr. MacManus has been the political analyst for ABC Action News (Tampa's ABC affiliate). She is a featured columnist on sayfiereview.com, a widely read Florida-based political website. Dr. MacManus has appeared on every major broadcast and cable television and radio network and been interviewed by major newspapers in Florida, the U.S., and abroad.

Dr. MacManus received her M.A. from the University of Michigan and Ph.D. from Florida State University. She is Florida's most-quoted political scientist and is not affiliated with any political party.

ABOUT OUR SPEAKERS



Amb. John R. Malott's professional career in the U.S. Foreign Service and as a non-profit leader has focused on Asia, and in particular, Japan. During his 31-years in the U.S. Department of State, he served as U.S. Ambassador to Malaysia; Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for South Asian Affairs; U.S. Consul General in Osaka, economic officer at the U.S. Embassy in Tokyo, and U.S. Consul in Kobe, Japan; Deputy U.S. Consul General in Mumbai, India; Deputy Director and later Director of the Office of Japanese Affairs in Washington; and civilian advisor to the U.S. Army in the Mekong Delta during the Vietnam War.

After retirement from the State Department, Amb. Malott served for 12 years as President of the Japan-America Society of Washington D.C. In 2017 the Emperor of Japan awarded him the Order of the Rising Sun with Gold Rays and Neck Ribbon for his lifelong contribution to U.S.-Japan relations.

Currently, Amb. Malott serves as an advisor to the Japan-America Society, the National Cherry Blossom Festival of Washington, D.C., and to groups promoting Japanese language education to new generations of Americans. He is a graduate of Northwestern University and the National War College.



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*), and "Iran's Policy toward Iraq" (book chapter). He is currently writing a book about Iranian foreign policy. At USF World, he has been conducting a *Conversation Series on Global Security*. Prominent experts have been invited to the program for in-depth conversations with him.

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



Amb. Richard L. Morningstar is a Senior Advisor at ASG, a global consulting firm. He is the founding Director and Chairman of the Global Energy Center at the Atlantic Council. From 2012 to 2014, he served as U.S. Ambassador to the Republic of Azerbaijan. Previously, he was the U.S. Secretary of State's Special Envoy for Eurasian Energy. He has lectured at Harvard University and at Stanford Law School.

From 1999 to 2001 Amb. Morningstar served as U.S. Ambassador to the European Union. Prior to this, he served as Special Advisor to the President and Secretary of State for Caspian Basin Energy Diplomacy. Prior to returning to the government in 2009, Amb. Morningstar served on the board of the American Councils for International Education and as a trustee of both the Kosovo-America Educational Foundation and the Eurasia Foundation. He is a member of the Council on Foreign Relations.

Amb. Morningstar received his J.D. from Stanford Law School and his B.A. from Harvard University.



A former U.S. Air Force special operations pilot and a veteran of the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq, **Nolan Peterson** is a conflict journalist and author whose adventures have taken him to all seven continents. He is the author of *Why Soldiers Miss War* as well as several fiction collections. As a war correspondent, Mr. Peterson has reported extensively from the front lines in eastern Ukraine, Afghanistan, Iraq, and Syria. He has been featured on CNN, Fox News, the BBC, *Newsweek*, the Heritage Foundation, and *Coffee or Die Magazine*.

Mr. Peterson graduated from the U.S. Air Force Academy. He attended graduate school at the Sorbonne in Paris, France. After leaving the Air Force in 2011, he completed a master's degree in journalism from Northwestern University's Medill School of Journalism where he was a McCormick Foundation fellow. He recently joined the Atlantic Council as senior fellow and the Pentagon's Irregular Warfare Center as a warfare expert.



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ABOUT OUR SPEAKERS



Dr. Shelley Rigger is Vice President for Academic Affairs, Dean of Faculty, and Brown Professor of Asian Studies at Davidson University. Her research and writing focus on Taiwanese politics and the relationships among the United States, the People's Republic of China, and Taiwan.

In 2019-2020 Dr. Rigger was a Fulbright scholar at National Taiwan University in Taipei, studying the political and social views of Taiwanese youth. She has been a visiting professor at universities in the People's Republic of China-Fudan University (2006) and Shanghai Jiaotong University (2013 & 2015) and a visiting researcher at National Chengchi University in Taiwan in 2005. Dr. Rigger is also non-resident fellow of the China Policy Institute at Nottingham University and a senior fellow of the Foreign Policy Research Institute. She interacts frequently with U.S. government officials, especially in the Taiwan policy field.

She has written two books for general readers on Taiwan: *Why Taiwan Matters: Small Island, Global Powerhouse* (2011) and *The Tiger Leading the Dragon: How Taiwan Propelled China's Economic Rise* (2021). Dr. Rigger is a director of The Taiwan Fund, a closed-end investment fund specializing in Taiwan-listed companies. She holds a B.A. from Princeton University and a Ph.D. from Harvard University.



Amb. Dennis Ross is counselor and William Davidson Distinguished Fellow at The Washington Institute for Near East Policy. For more than 12 years he played a leading role in shaping U.S. involvement in the Middle East peace process. He dealt directly with the principals and was the U.S. point man on the peace process in both the George H. W. Bush and the Bill Clinton administrations.

Amb. Ross served two years as special assistant to President Obama and National Security Council Senior Director for the Central Region, and six months as special advisor on Iran to Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton. Previously he played a prominent role in U.S. policy towards the former Soviet Union and the unification of Germany and its integration into NATO.

Amb. Ross's most recent book, *Be Strong and of Good Courage: How Israel's Most Important Leaders Shaped Its Destiny*, written with his colleague David Makovsky, profiles four Israeli prime ministers who made historic choices. It explores lessons from these decisions for guidance on dealing with the fateful choice that Israel's leaders must soon confront or by default become a binational state.

A graduate of UCLA, Amb. Ross has been named UCLA alumnus of the year.

ABOUT OUR SPEAKERS



Amb. Eric Rubin was elected to serve as the President of the American Foreign Service Association (AFSA) after his posting as U.S. Ambassador to Bulgaria (2016-2019). He retired from the Foreign Service in 2023.

Having joined the Foreign Service in 1985 after graduating from Yale, he started as a political and human rights officer in Honduras (1985-1988). In 1989 he was assigned to the State Department's Operations Center. From 1989 to 1991 he worked in the Office of Soviet Union Affairs where he monitored and reported on the collapse of the Soviet Union. Next, he served as the security affairs officer for Central and Eastern Europe.

Amb. Rubin left Washington in 1994 for Kiev, Ukraine as Deputy Political Counsellor. In 2001 he was posted to Chiang Mai, Thailand as Consul General.

In 2004 he returned to Washington as the director of the Office of Policy Planning and Coordination in the Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs. In 2006 he served as the executive assistant to R. Nicholas Burns, the Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs at the time. From 2008 to 2011 he served as the Deputy Chief of Mission in Moscow.



Dr. Peter W. Singer is Strategist at New America, a Professor of Practice at Arizona State University, and Founding and Manager Partner at Useful Fiction LLC. He is described in *The Wall Street Journal* as "the premier futurist in the national-security environment". *The Smithsonian* named him one of the nation's 100 leading innovators, *Defense News* one of the 100 most

influential people in defense issues, and *Foreign Policy* to their Top 100 Global Thinkers List.

Dr. Singer is an official "Mad Scientist" for the U.S. Army's Training and Doctrine Command. His non-fiction books include *Corporate Warriors: The Rise of the Privatized Military Industry*, *Children at War*, *Wired for War: The Robotics Revolution and Conflict in the 21st Century*, *Cybersecurity and Cyberwar: What Everyone Needs to Know*, and *Like War*, which explores how social media has changed war and politics.

He is also co-author of a new type of novel, a technothriller used to communicate nonfiction research. *Ghost Fleet: A Novel of the Next World War* led to briefings everywhere from the White House to the Pentagon. His latest, *Burn-In: A Novel of the Real Robotic Revolution*, has been described as "a visionary new form of storytelling."

Dr. Singer received his B.A. from Princeton University and his Ph.D. from Harvard University.

ABOUT OUR SPEAKERS



Amb. Daniel Speckhard is the President and CEO of Corus International, a corporate family of non-profits and businesses doing good in the world. A transformational change agent and visionary, he brings deep experience working at the nexus of economic development, international security, and political change, areas closely linked to Corus' mission to serve people experiencing poverty and marginalization overseas.

A former U.S. Ambassador to Greece and Belarus, Amb. Speckhard has had a long and distinguished career in government service. He has deep experience with countries in transition from supporting Russia, Ukraine, and the former Soviet states following the end of the Cold War, to helping Eastern European countries in strengthening their nascent democracies and joining NATO, to coordinating Iraq's post-war reconstruction and recovery effort. He also understands the transformational power of technology and data science, having been a Senior Fellow with Palantir Technologies.

Amb. Speckhard serves as a Senior Advisor to the Center for Strategic and International Studies and is on the Board of Visitors of the University of Wisconsin's La Follette School of Public Affairs.



Dr. Angela Stent is Director of the Center for Eurasian, Russian and East European Studies and Professor of Government and Foreign Service at Georgetown University. She is also a Senior Fellow (non-resident) at the Brookings Institution and co-chairs its Hewett Forum on Post-Soviet Affairs. She was a member of the senior advisory panel for NATO's supreme allied commander in Europe for Admiral James Stavridis and General Philip Breedlove. She is a member of the Council on Foreign Relations.

Dr. Stent won the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy's prize for the best book on U.S.-Russian Relations for her most recent book, *Putin's World: Russia Against the West and With the Rest* (2019). She won the American Academy of Diplomacy's Douglas Dillon prize for the best book on the practice of American Diplomacy for her previous book, *The Limits of Partnership: US-Russian Relations in the Twenty-First Century* (2014).

Dr. Stent received her B.A. from Cambridge University, her MSc. with distinction from the London School of Economics and Political Science and her M.A. and Ph.D. from Harvard University.

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.

Dr. Suri is the author and editor of eleven books on contemporary politics and foreign policy.

His latest book is *Civil War By Other Means: America's Long and Unfinished Fight for Democracy* (2022). His previous book, *The Impossible Presidency: The Rise and Fall of America's Highest Office*, was a *New York Times* Book Review Editor's Choice.

In 2018 Dr. Suri received the President's Associates Teaching Excellence Award from the University of Texas, and the Pro Bene Meritis Award for Contributions to the Liberal Arts. His writings appear widely in blogs and print media including *The New York Times*, *Washington Post*, *Houston Chronicle*, *Atlantic*, *Time*, *Wired*, *New Republic*, and *Foreign Policy*. Dr. Suri is also a frequent public lecturer and guest on radio and television programs. He hosts a weekly podcast, "This is Democracy," available through his professional webpage: <https://jeremisuri.net>.



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 is now enjoying his third career as a mystery novelist, and his 'Bruno, chief of police' novels have now sold more than 4 million copies in 17 languages. Bruno's Cookbook, written with his wife, Julia, was awarded the Gourmand International prize as the world's best French cookbook, and 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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VENICE

GLOBAL ISSUES

GLOBAL ISSUES

First United Methodist Church
Tuesday 10:30 am Thursday 10:30 am

Venice Community Center
Tuesday 2:30 pm Friday 10:00 am

JANUARY

FEBRUARY

MARCH

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16	A Fragile Balkan Region in the Vortex of War in Ukraine Eric Rubin	18	US-China Relations from Cold War to Cold War David Lampton
23	Ukraine: Lessons in Modern Warfare Nolan Peterson	25	Artificial Intelligence: Reality Catching Up to Science Fiction Peter Singer
30	Taiwan: Economic Powerhouse, Security Flash Point Shelley Rigger	1	Europe's Double Trouble UK's: Ukraine and the UK Martin Walker
6	The Changing Climate and our Changing World Bob Bunting	8	Why Americans Love and Hate Government Jeremy Suri
13	The War on Terror Twenty Years Later: Are We Safer Now? Bruce Hoffman	15	Me Worry? Non-Traditional Threats to Global Security Carla Koppell
20	Iran: The Women's Rights Moment Roya Hakakian	22	Adapting to the Ebb of U.S. Middle East Focus and Influence Dennis Ross
27	Putin's War: How is it Affecting Global Order? Angela Stent	29	Soft Power Diplomacy: America's Hidden Treasure Harriet Elam-Thomas
5	Trying Times, Troubled Times: The Reasons to be Optimistic Charlayne Hunter-Gault	7	Can Nuclear Energy Help Save the Planet? Rod Adams
12	Russia, Ukraine and European Energy Security Richard Morningstar	14	Insurrection in America: The rise in Political Violence Russel Honore
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LAKEWOOD RANCH

GLOBAL ISSUES

Cornerstone Church

Wednesday 11:00 am

Thursday 5:00 pm

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31	<i>Taiwan: Economic Powerhouse, Security Flash Point</i> Shelley Rigger	1	<i>Europe's Double Trouble UK's: Ukraine and the UK</i> Martin Walker

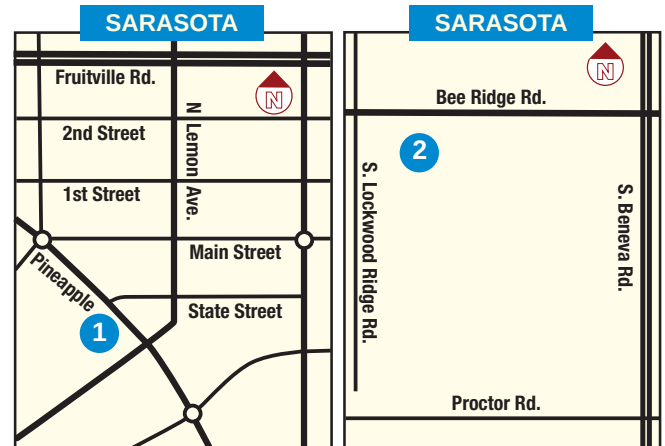
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28	<i>Putin's War: How is it Affecting Global Order?</i> Angela Stent	29	<i>Soft Power Diplomacy: America's Hidden Treasure</i> Harriet Elam-Thomas

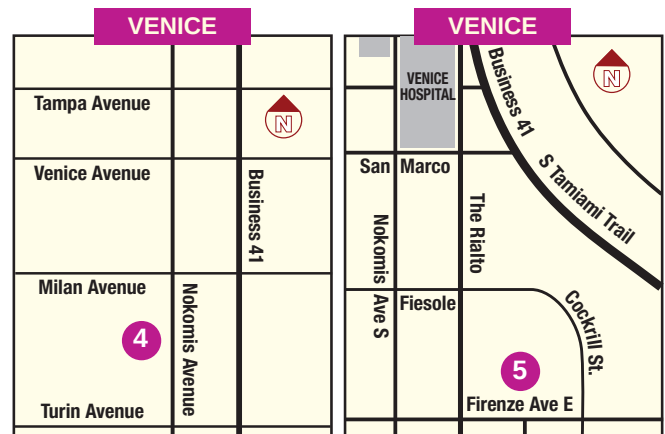
MARCH

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MUSIC MONDAYS

Sarasota: 10:30 am First United Methodist Church

Venice: 3:00 pm Venice Presbyterian Church

JANUARY

8 Jonathan Mamora
Piano

15 Natalie Helm and
Cheeko Matsusaka
Cello, Cello

22 Peter Rothstein
Director

29 Eddie Tobin
Piano

FEBRUARY

5 Ariana Kim
Violin

12 Oleg Kruglyakov and
Terry Boyarsky
Balalaika, Piano

19 Doug Wright
Playwright and Librettist

26 Ricardo Jose Rivera
and Carmenchú
Dominguez
Baritone, Soprano

MARCH

4 Janet Horvath
Cello/Author

11 Curtis Herwig
String Sextet

18 Larisa Martinez
Mezzo-Soprano

25 Colin Leonard
Saxophone



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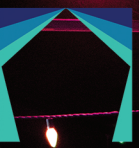
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DAVID FRENCH
Nov. 16 • 6:30 pm • Sanctuary

David French is a political columnist and former attorney who has argued high-profile religious liberty cases. His most recent book is *Divided We Fall: America's Secession Threat and How to Restore Our Nation*.




DR. EDDIE GLAUDE, JR.
Jan. 25, 2024
6:30 pm • Sanctuary

Bestselling author (*Begin Again: James Baldwin's America and Its Urgent Lessons for our Own*) and Chair of Princeton's Department of African American Studies.




DR. KRISTIN KOBES DU MEZ
Feb. 22, 2024 • 6:30 pm
Sanctuary

Author of the bestselling book *Jesus and John Wayne*, and a professor of History at Calvin University. Her research areas focus on the intersection of gender, religion, and politics in recent American history.



JIM WALLIS
March 14, 2024
6:30 pm • Sanctuary

Bestselling author, public theologian, renowned preacher, and founder of *Sojourners Magazine*. He has taught faith and public life courses at Harvard and Georgetown University.



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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.

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

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IN MEMORIUM

Richard Friedman

— 1930-2023 —

Richard Friedman served on the SILL board for 11 years. Richard was an accomplished lawyer (assistant state's attorney for Illinois under various administrations) and a great adventurer. He wrote the constitution for both the country of Georgia and Somalia. He helped to organize the Vietnam airlift with a 2-day notice and rode polo ponies in Uzbekistan. He also ran for Mayor of Chicago (unsuccessfully) against Mayor Daily. He had an unending curiosity and was interested in discussing world affairs up until the end.

Lee Solomon

— 1927-2023 —

Lee was a quintessential gentleman, self-confident and of great intellect, with an uncanny ability to discern the heart of an issue. A longtime SILL Seminar devotee, he served the Board seven years, through 2012. His professional expertise was in starting and publishing magazines and included 20 years lived in Italy. This was instrumental in helping expand the SILL brand and profoundly contributed to what became SILL's greatest growth period.

Marcella Woodworth

— 1945-2023 —

After gratifying careers in education and corporate America, Marcella Woodworth found a second calling at SILL where she served as a SILL Board member and in the position of Secretary. For several years, she and her husband, Archie, were the coordinators for our Venice venue. This gave her the opportunity to indulge her interest in political and international affairs and occasionally to utilize her fluent foreign language skills. She will be greatly missed.



For more information visit our website
sillsarasota.org

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The purchase of a \$110 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 the Order Form on page G33. To order tickets using your credit card, go to our website.

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Daily tickets to all lectures are \$15 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 \$15 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 \$110.

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Thursday Video on Demand recordings have closed captioning. 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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2024

MUSIC MONDAYS

MUSIC SERIES



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SARASOTA PROGRAM

Pages M4-M5 MONDAY

MUSIC MONDAYS

12 Conversations January 8 – March 25, 10:30 am

Pages G4-G5 TUESDAY

GLOBAL ISSUES SERIES I

12 Lectures January 9 – March 26, 10:30 am

Pages G6-G7 THURSDAY

GLOBAL ISSUES SERIES II

12 Lectures January 11 – March 28, 10:30 am

VENICE PROGRAM

Pages M4-M5 MONDAY

MUSIC MONDAYS

12 Conversations January 8 – March 25, 3:00 pm

Pages G8-G9 TUESDAY

GLOBAL ISSUES SERIES I

12 Lectures January 9 – March 26 2:30 pm

Pages G10-G11 FRIDAY

GLOBAL ISSUES SERIES II

12 Lectures January 12 – March 29, 10:00 am

LAKESWOOD RANCH PROGRAM

Pages G12-G13 WEDNESDAY

GLOBAL ISSUES SERIES I

12 Lectures January 10 – March 27, 11:00 am

Pages G14-G15 THURSDAY

GLOBAL ISSUES SERIES II

12 Lectures January 11 – March 28, 5:00 pm

Please flip the brochure for information on
the **Global Issues** series

OVERVIEW

Featuring a wide variety of musicians from around the country, Music Mondays 2024 continues the tradition of lively musical conversations in Sarasota and Venice. From world-class pianists to extraordinary string performers to sensational vocalists, this season features a mosaic of musical artists who will share their artistry as well as their unique stories as performing artists. Unusual amongst the offerings will be



a showcase of the balalaika, a folk string instrument from Russia, plus a couple of sessions featuring musically minded artists who create within the musical medium but aren't necessarily practicing musicians. Peter Rothstein, incoming Producing Artistic Director for the Asolo Theatre and librettist Doug Wright from the Hermitage Artist Retreat will lead us in a lively discussion about their work in the world of musical theater. And Janet Horvath, former cellist with the Minnesota Orchestra, will talk about her recent award-winning book, *The Cello Still Sings-A Generational Story of the Holocaust and of the Transformative Power of Music*.

A balance between popular and classical music provides a good contrast this season, particularly with the artistry of local pianist Eddie Tobin, former music director for Engelbert Humperdinck, as well as jazz sensation Colin Leonard, a third-year student at the famed Oberlin Conservatory of Music. We continue to feature star musicians from local ensembles and this year I'm delighted that cellists Natalie Helm and Cheeko Matsusaka from the Sarasota Orchestra will join us and discuss their work with non-profit organizations in the area. Pianist Jonathan Mamora, recent winner of the Olga Kern International Piano Competition, will delight us with his pianistic prowess and string lovers will be in heaven with the artistry of Ariana Kim and a star-studded sextet of musicians from the Curtis Institute of Music. Rounding out the season are a trio of emerging Latin American singers who are taking the world by storm. Ricardo José Rivera, performing with the Sarasota Opera this coming season, is joined by his wife Carmenchú Domínguez in a special duo session and Larisa Martínez, soprano, has one of the sultriest voices on the planet.

Along with my co-host, Betsy Traba, we hope you will join us on our journey this season – Music Mondays: Musical Conversations with Great Performers is a unique program presented by SILL, offering you a glimpse into the life of amazing artists.

We celebrate the extraordinary life of Robert Sherman, noted radio personality and host for many Music Mondays sessions, who passed away in July 2023. The 2024 Music Mondays season is dedicated to his memory and contributions to the community of Sarasota.

Joseph Holt

MUSIC MONDAYS

Musical Conversations

SARASOTA

10:30 am – Church of the Palms

VENICE

3:00 pm – Venice Presbyterian Church

– JANUARY 8 –

Jonathan Mamora, Piano

Jonathan Mamora is the first prize winner in the 2022 International Olga Kern Piano Competition and has performed throughout North America, South America, Europe, and Asia. He is Indonesian American and has served as a church pianist and organist – the result of having been enrolled in piano lessons by his parents for the purpose of becoming a church musician.

– JANUARY 15 –

Natalie Helm and Cheeko Matsusaka, Cello

Natalie Helm and Cheeko Matsusaka, both celebrated cellists, hold positions in the Sarasota Orchestra. Natalie is the director of Upward Notes, an organization that spreads the joy and benefits of music outside of the concert hall. In March of 2020, Cheeko founded Back to the Beat, a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization that is dedicated to bringing in-the-moment-comfort-care to wellness communities.

– JANUARY 22 –

Peter Rothstein, Director

Peter Rothstein is the newly designated Producing Artistic Director for the Asolo Repertory Theatre where he has directed *Man of La Mancha*, *Sweeney Todd* and *Ragtime*. For 25 years Rothstein served as the Founding Artistic Director of Theater Latté Da, a Minneapolis-based company dedicated to new and adventurous music-theater.

– JANUARY 29 –

Eddie Tobin, Piano

Eddie Tobin is a native Floridian. Attending the University of Miami, Eddie was in the Studio Music and Jazz Piano program. For seven and a half years, Eddie was music director, pianist, conductor and arranger for Engelbert Humperdinck. He is a local Sarasota musical legend and is frequently performing around the area.

– FEBRUARY 5 –

Ariana Kim, Violin

Noted by *The New York Times* for giving “the proceedings an invaluable central thread of integrity and stylishness,” violinist Ariana Kim made her New York recital debut at Carnegie’s Weill Hall during her doctoral studies at Juilliard and is now a tenured professor at Cornell University.

– FEBRUARY 12 –

Oleg Kruglyakov and Terry Boyarsky, Balalaika, Piano

Russian Duo was born out of love of traditional music and classical elegance. Oleg Kruglyakov is a balalaika virtuoso from Siberia, trained at the prestigious Urals State Conservatory in Yekaterinburg. Terry Boyarsky is an American concert pianist, Dalcroze Eurhythmics teacher and Ethnomusicologist.

SARASOTA and VENICE

PROGRAMS

– FEBRUARY 19 –

Doug Wright, Playwright/Librettist

Doug Wright is a Pulitzer and Tony Award-winning playwright and librettist. He is currently represented on Broadway with his play *Good Night, Oscar*. Wright is a proud Hermitage alumnus and a member of the Hermitage Board of Trustees. In conversation with Doug Wright will be Hermitage Artistic Director and CEO **Andy Sandberg** or Programs Director **James Monaghan**.

– FEBRUARY 26 –

Ricardo José Rivera and Carmenchú Domínguez, Baritone, Soprano

Puerto Rican baritone Ricardo José Rivera is appearing with the Sarasota Opera in the 2024 Winter Season. Carmenchú Domínguez, soprano, has performed throughout Puerto Rico and her home country of the Dominican Republic.

– MARCH 4 –

Janet Horvath, Cello/Author

A lifelong performing classical musician, soloist, author, speaker, and educator, Janet Horvath was the Minnesota Orchestra’s associate principal cello from 1980 to 2012. She has performed in recital, chamber music, and as soloist with orchestras throughout the US, Canada, and Europe.

– MARCH 11 –

Curtis Institute, String Sextet

Established teaching and performing artists **Benjamin Beilman**, violin; **Milena Pajaro-van de Stadt**, viola; and **Oliver Herbert**, cello join forces with three emerging artists from the famed Curtis Institute of Music in Philadelphia, PA., showcasing their work as performers, mentors and instructors.

– MARCH 18 –

Larisa Martínez, Mezzo-Soprano

Puerto Rican opera singer Larisa Martínez has been praised and sought after for her “smoky soprano” (Opera News), gracing many of the world’s top opera and concert stages including recent debuts as a soloist at the Kennedy Center, Carnegie Hall, Madison Square Garden, and the Hollywood Bowl.

– MARCH 25 –

Colin Leonard, Saxophone

Jazz multi-instrumentalist and composer Colin Leonard weaves together soulful melodies on the saxophone while embracing the harmonious connection between music and the natural world. Currently in his third year at Oberlin Conservatory of Music, Colin is majoring in Jazz Studies and minoring in Environmental Studies.

ABOUT OUR ARTISTS



Curtis Institute, String Sextet

Established teaching and performing artists **Benjamin Beilman**, violin; **Milena Pajaro-van de Stadt**, viola; and **Oliver Herbert**, cello join forces with three emerging artists from the famed **Curtis Institute of Music** in Philadelphia, PA. Three of their students will be joining them for this event, showcasing their work as performers, mentors and instructors.

Benjamin Beilman has won international praise both for his passionate performances and deep rich tone which the Washington Post called “mightily impressive.” *The New York Times* has praised his “handsome technique, burnished sound, and quiet confidence,” and the *Strad* described his playing as “pure poetry.”

Milena Pajaro-van de Stadt, the founding violist of the Dover Quartet, performed with the Grammy-nominated string quartet until 2022. She has appeared as a soloist with the Tokyo Philharmonic Orchestra, the Jacksonville Symphony, and the Sphinx Chamber Orchestra.

Oliver Herbert is quickly building a reputation as an artist with a distinct voice and individual style, admired by audiences for his communicative and connective performances. The recipient of a 2021 Avery Fisher Career Grant, Oliver has been praised by San Francisco Classical Voice for his “expansive tone, virtuosity, and musical instincts.”



Natalie Helm and Cheeko Matsusaka, Cello

Natalie Helm Principal Cello of the Sarasota Orchestra, has been praised by Fox News as having a sound that “catches the attention of the room” and “leaves a lasting

impression”. *LA Times* proclaimed the audience “was transfixed” by her performance that was “handled ardently”. A cellist of “musical grace” and extraordinary versatility, Ms. Helm enjoys a dynamic career as a soloist, chamber musician, orchestral musician, and educator.

As the founder of Upward Notes, she brings musicians together to perform and create opportunities to bring positive social change to the communities she works in. Upward Notes has performed for prisoners, homeless shelters, animal shelters, drug-rehab facilities, dementia

ABOUT OUR ARTISTS

patients, and assisted living facilities throughout the United States. **Cheeko Matsusaka** was the youngest of 5 siblings. Her musical journey began in traditional fashion, starting the cello at age six, eventually receiving her Bachelor in Music from New England Conservatory, and Masters degrees from SUNY at Stony Brook and Carnegie Mellon.

In 2019 Cheeko earned her certification as Certified Music Practitioner from the Music for Healing and Transition Program which enables her to provide live music-at-bedside in healthcare settings. In March of 2020, Cheeko founded Back to the Beat, an organization dedicated to bringing in-the-moment-comfort-care to wellness communities.



Janet Horvath, Cello/Author

Janet Horvath, author and cellist, was born in Toronto, Canada. A lifelong performing classical musician, soloist, author, speaker, and educator, she was the Minnesota Orchestra’s associate principal cello from 1980 to 2012. She has performed in recital, chamber music, and as soloist with orchestras throughout the US, Canada, and Europe.

An advocate for injury prevention for musicians, Ms. Horvath has given masterclasses and seminars for orchestras and conservatories from coast to coast and has appeared on CBC, BBC, and NPR radio stations, and PBS television. She is a popular guest speaker, live and on podcasts and conducts lively conversations about cello playing, the importance of the arts and music in particular, injury prevention, and genocide prevention.

The Cello Still Sings – A Generational Story of the Holocaust and of the Transformative Power of Music, her recently released book, is a sweeping and true history of three generations darkened by the long shadow of the Holocaust. Janet’s parents, both classical musicians and Holocaust survivors, buried who and what they were before. Her first book, *Playing(less) Hurt – An Injury Prevention Guide for Musicians*, received international critical acclaim, winning a gold IPPY award in 2009.



Ariana Kim, Violin

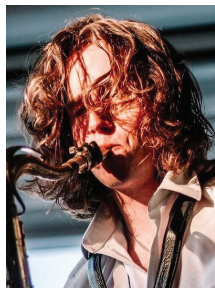
Noted by *The New York Times* for giving “the proceedings an invaluable central thread of integrity and stylishness,” violinist **Ariana Kim** made her New York recital debut at Carnegie’s Weill Hall during her doctoral studies at Juilliard and is now a tenured professor at Cornell University.

At 16, Ariana made her debut with the St. Paul Chamber Orchestra and at 24 was appointed acting concertmaster of the Louisiana Philharmonic in New Orleans; she has since become one of the most respected artists of her generation. As a violinist of the Aizuri Quartet she was awarded the 2017 Osaka International Competition Grand Prize, the 2018 M-Prize, and a 2019 GRAMMY® nomination for the album *Blueprinting*. During her tenure, the ensemble served as a Quartet-in-Residence at the Metropolitan Museum of Art and

ABOUT OUR ARTISTS

presented recitals at Suntory Hall Tokyo, the University of Toronto, and the Kennedy Center, among others in 2020.

Recently having returned from a sabbatical year in South Korea, Ariana spent seven months studying the *gayageum* (an ancient zither-style instrument), performing throughout the country, and presenting master classes at Seoul National University.



Colin Leonard, Saxophone

Jazz multi-instrumentalist and composer **Colin Leonard** weaves together soulful melodies on the saxophone while embracing the harmonious connection between music and the natural world. Born and raised in Sarasota, FL, Colin's musical journey began at the young age of 5, exploring various instruments before discovering his true passion for the saxophone at 10.

With over a decade of dedicated practice, his expressive improvisations have become a hallmark of his artistry, drawing inspiration from an array of musical styles. Currently in his third year at Oberlin Conservatory of Music, Colin is majoring in Jazz Studies and minoring in Environmental Studies. Guided by mentors such as Tony Benade, Gary Bartz, Gerald Cannon, Jamey Haddad, and Paul Samuels, Colin has developed a sound that is playful yet introspective.

As a true multi-instrumentalist, he effortlessly switches between saxophones, clarinet, flute, piccolo, recorders, piano, guitar, aux percussion, and even vocals. Beyond performing, Colin's creativity shines through his compositions, arrangements, and music production, reflecting a passion for pushing artistic boundaries. Colin's musical journey took flight professionally at the age of 15 when he joined the Sarasota/Bradenton music scene with his jazz quartet, "Loose Change."



Jonathan Mamora, Piano

Jonathan Mamora is the first prize winner in the 2022 International Olga Kern Piano Competition and has performed throughout North America, South America, Europe, and Asia. He is Indonesian American and has served as a church pianist and organist – the result of having been enrolled in piano lessons by his parents for the purpose of becoming a church musician.

Jonathan aims to use music as service not only in the church, but also in the community through homes, schools, community centers, and the concert hall. He is currently a doctoral student at the Eastman School of Music.

Acclaimed for his "most assured pianism," "natural, songful lyricism," and "rippling through virtuosic passagework" (*The Dallas Morning News*), Jonathan has performed throughout North America, South America, Europe, and Asia, and he is a prizewinner of numerous piano competitions.

ABOUT OUR ARTISTS

Jonathan currently serves as the Music Director and Organist of St. John's Episcopal Church in Clifton Springs, New York. He often performs as a collaborative pianist for vocalists, instrumentalists, ensembles, and choirs. As a collaborator, Jonathan holds a graduate assistantship in accompanying at the Eastman School of Music and has received the Eastman Excellence in Accompanying Award.



Larisa Martínez, Mezzo-Soprano

Puerto Rican opera singer **Larisa Martínez** has been praised and sought after for her "smoky soprano" (*Opera News*), gracing many of the world's top opera and concert stages including recent debuts as a soloist at the Kennedy Center, Carnegie Hall, Madison Square Garden, and the Hollywood Bowl. In the 2022 season, Larisa Martínez toured extensively with violinist Joshua Bell, in a program entitled "Voice and the Violin" that explores repertoire ranging from classical art song and opera, to musical theater, to a series of selections by Puerto Rican and Spanish composers.

In addition to studying Vocal Performance at the Music Conservatory in San Juan, Puerto Rico, Larisa simultaneously received her Bachelor's degree in Environmental Sciences with high honors from the University of Puerto Rico. She went on to receive a Master's degree from Mannes the New School of Music in New York City.



Ricardo José Rivera and Carmenchú Domínguez, Baritone, Soprano

Puerto Rican baritone and Operalia 2021 Semifinalist **Ricardo José Rivera**

was a member of the Ryan Opera Center Ensemble at the Lyric Opera of Chicago throughout the years 2018-2021. Current engagements include performances of *Poliuto* with Teatro Nuovo where he will sing the role of Severo, performances of *Luisa Miller* with Sarasota Opera where he will sing the role of Miller, and Figaro in *Il barbiere di Siviglia* with San Jose Opera.

A native of the Dominican Republic, soprano **Carmenchú Domínguez** made a successful debut in 2013, singing the title role in Puccini's *Suor Angelica* with Teatro de la Opera of Puerto Rico. Her contributions to the Arts and the health sector have earned her multiple recognitions from the Dominican government. Ms. Dominguez holds both a Master and a Bachelor of Music in Vocal Performance degree from Puerto Rico's Conservatory of Music, where she was very active as a soloist and graduated with highest distinctions. She also holds a Medical Doctor degree and recently completed graduate studies in Non-Profit

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Management, as part of her interest in developing platforms for the promotion of the Arts in the Caribbean and Latin America.



Peter Rothstein, Director

Peter Rothstein is the Producing Artistic Director for Asolo Repertory Theatre where he directed *Man of La Mancha*, *Sweeney Todd* and *Ragtime*. He works extensively as a director of theater, musical theater, opera and new work development. For 25 years Rothstein served as the Founding Artistic Director of Theater Latté Da, a Minneapolis-based company dedicated to new and adventurous music-theater. Other collaborations include the Guthrie Theater, Children's Theatre Company, Ten Thousand

Things and Seattle's 5th Avenue as well as the Minnesota Opera, Boston Lyric Opera, Florida Grand Opera and Chicago Opera Theater.

Rothstein is the creator of *All Is Calm: The Christmas Truce of 1914*, which had its Off Broadway debut in 2018 receiving the Drama Desk Award for Unique Theatrical Experience, and has been seen around the globe airing on PBS. Rothstein served on the board of directors for the National Alliance for Musical Theatre, Alive and Kickin' and the Twin Cities' Ivey Awards. He has been a panelist and evaluator for the Playwrights' Center, the McKnight Foundation, the Minnesota State Arts Board and the National Alliance for Musical Theatre's Festival of New Musicals. He holds degrees in Music and Theater from St. John's University and an MFA in Directing from the University of Wisconsin-Madison.



Oleg Kruglyakov and Terry Boyarsky, Balalaika, Piano

Oleg Kruglyakov, balalaika and **Terry Boyarsky**, piano have a compelling story and an instant rapport with audiences.

They are known for their joyful, energizing performances. Listeners can expect moving, exuberant interpretations which sometimes inspire dancing, sometimes evoke tears. Russian Duo was born out of love of traditional music and classical elegance. Oleg is a balalaika virtuoso from Siberia, trained at the prestigious Urals State Conservatory in Yekaterinburg. Terry is an American concert pianist, Dalcroze Eurhythmics teacher and Ethnomusicologist.

Robert Spano, Music Director, Atlanta Symphony Orchestra writes, "With music of élan, finesse and passion so virtuosically rendered, this duo's performances are irresistible."

Oleg and Terry celebrate cross-cultural creativity, exploring the range of possibilities for balalaika, piano, and voice. They present a remarkable

ABOUT OUR ARTISTS

genre of compositions written for this formerly pagan three-stringed, triangular instrument. The balalaika was modernized at the end of the 19th century for virtuoso performance and ensemble playing. In addition to classical music and folk songs, Russian Duo performs music by Ukrainian composers, tango, blue grass, Soviet film music, and their own arrangements of ragtime. Russian Duo is dedicated to educational outreach and believes it is vital to demonstrate the importance of cross-cultural collaboration to the younger generation.



Eddie Tobin, Piano

Eddie Tobin, pianist, is a native Floridian. He has been singing and playing piano since he was eight years old. Attending the University of Miami, Eddie was in the Studio Music and Jazz Piano program. He entertained around the country and on cruise ships.

Spending 15 great years in Nashville accompanying the Forester Sisters, who opened for Kenny Rogers, and traveling with Brenda Lee. For seven and a half

years, Eddie was music director, pianist, conductor and arranger for Engelbert Humperdinck.

You will hear some jazz, blues, standards, ragtime, classical, pop, calypso and country music. Enjoy his renditions of songs by Jimmy Buffett, Leon Russell, Ray Charles and Johnny Cash.



Doug Wright, Playwright/Librettist

Doug Wright is a Pulitzer and Tony Award-winning playwright and librettist. He is currently represented on Broadway with his play *Good Night, Oscar*, for which Sean Hayes won the 2023 Tony Award for Best Lead Actor. Wright is a proud Hermitage alumnus and, as of 2022, a member of the Hermitage Board of Trustees. He also served as a juror for the inaugural Hermitage Major Theater Award in 2021.

Doug Wright's play *Quills* premiered at Washington, D.C.'s Woolly Mammoth Theatre Company in 1995 and subsequently had its debut Off-Broadway at New York Theatre Workshop. *Quills* garnered the 1995 Kesselring Prize for Best New American Play from the National Arts Club and, for Wright, a 1996 Village Voice Obie Award for Outstanding Achievement in Playwriting.

In 2000, Wright wrote the screenplay for the film adaptation of *Quills*, which starred Geoffrey Rush. Wright's play *I Am My Own Wife* was produced Off-Broadway by Playwrights Horizons in 2003. It transferred to Broadway where it won the Tony Award for Best Play, as well as the Pulitzer Prize for Drama.

In conversation with Doug Wright will be Hermitage Artistic Director and CEO Andy Sandberg or Programs Director James Monaghan.



SARASOTA CONCERT ASSOCIATION

2023-24 SEASON



**CANADIAN BRASS
HOLIDAY CONCERT**
Dec 4, 2023, 7:30 pm
Sarasota Opera House



**SOFIA PHILHARMONIC
ORCHESTRA with
VIOLINIST LIYA PETROVA**
Nayden Todorov, conductor
Jan 15, 7:30 pm | Van Wezel



HARLEM QUARTET
Jan 24, 7:30 pm
Riverview Performing
Arts Center



**DETROIT SYMPHONY with
CELLIST ALISA WEILERSTEIN**
Jader Bignamini, conductor
Feb 19, 7:30 pm | Van Wezel



**ROTTERDAM
PHILHARMONIC with
PIANIST DANIIL TRIFONOV**
Lahav Shani, conductor
March 3, 7:30 pm | Van Wezel



PIANIST BRUCE LIU
March 29, 7:30 pm
Riverview Performing
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Cavatina Duo
January 17, 5:30 pm
performance is followed by dinner
Plantation Golf & Country Club
Spanish flutist Eugenia Moliner and her husband, Bosnian guitarist Denis Azabagic, perform an extravagant program featuring flamenco, tango, and opera fantasies.



Lin Ye, piano
February 24, 4:00 pm
Church of the Palms
Ye performs works by Rachmaninoff and the chamber version of Chopin's beloved Piano Concerto #1, joined by principal musicians of the Sarasota Orchestra.



Miró Quartet
May 5, 4:00 pm • **First Presbyterian Church**
This Emmy Award-winning quartet's program includes Beethoven's String Quartet No. 14, Op. 131 – the piece around which the 2012 film "A Late Quartet" was based.

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**ABRAHAM LINCOLN WALKS
AT MIDNIGHT & HAYDN'S LORD
NELSON MASS**
March 10, 7 pm | First Presbyterian

**CONSIDERING
MATTHEW SHEPARD**
Apr 14, 7 pm | Church of the Palms

**MEMORIAL DAY CONCERT:
UNITED WE STAND**
May 26, 7 pm | Sarasota Opera

Artistic Director
Dr. Joseph Holt

2023-2024 Season
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SEASON 39

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FEBRUARY 20
**Tomorrow's Voices
Today**
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**Tomorrow's Voices
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Student Scholar Soirée

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