

2016 PROGRAM

**SILL**®

SARASOTA INSTITUTE OF LIFETIME LEARNING

# Global Issues Series

An Insider's View  
of Today's World

**FREE!**  
Ambassadors  
Panel  
March 30  
See page 49



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

## Sarasota Program

**Pages M4- M5** MONDAY MUSIC SESSIONS

### MUSIC MONDAYS

12 Lectures January 4 - March 21, 10:30 am  
Church of the Palms, 3224 Bee Ridge Road

**Pages G4- G5** TUESDAY LECTURE SERIES

### GLOBAL ISSUES SERIES I

12 Lectures January 5 - March 22, 10:30 am  
First United Methodist Church, 104 S. Pineapple Ave.

**Pages G6- G7** WEDNESDAY LECTURE SERIES

### GLOBAL ISSUES SERIES II

12 Lectures January 6 - March 23, 10:30 am  
First United Methodist Church, 104 S. Pineapple Ave.

**Pages G8- G9** THURSDAY LECTURE SERIES

### GLOBAL ISSUES SERIES III

12 Lectures January 7 - March 24, 10:30 am  
First United Methodist Church, 104 S. Pineapple Ave.

**Page G28** LAKEWOOD RANCH LECTURE SERIES

### GLOBAL ISSUES SERIES

6 Lectures 1/14, 1/28 2/11, 2/25, 3/3, 3/24, 7:00 pm  
State College of Florida, 7131 Professional Parkway East

**Pages G10- G11** THURSDAY SEMINARS

6 Seminars January 7 - March 17, 2:00 pm  
First United Methodist Church, 104 S. Pineapple Ave.

Please flip the brochure for information on the Music series

## Venice Program

**Pages M4- M5** MONDAY MUSIC SESSIONS

### MUSIC MONDAYS

12 Lectures January 4 - March 21, 3:00 pm  
Venice Presbyterian Church, 825 The Rialto

**Pages G12- G13** TUESDAY LECTURE SERIES

### GLOBAL ISSUES SERIES I

12 Lectures January 5 - March 22, 2:30 pm  
Venice Community Center, 326 S. Nokomis Ave.

**Pages G14- G15** FRIDAY LECTURE SERIES

### GLOBAL ISSUES SERIES II

12 Lectures January 8 - March 25, 10:00 am  
Venice Community Center, 326 S. Nokomis Ave.

## A Message from the President

Welcome to SILL's 45th year of outstanding lectures. SILL exists for you and thrives because of your continued support.

In 1972, SILL was founded as an educational, non-profit organization to bring outstanding experts to Sarasota to speak on the burning issues of the day. Well over 2000 people attend SILL lectures weekly and hundreds watch live telecasts at major retirement centers.



Begin your week with Music Mondays. June LeBell's upbeat, informative, and entertaining program blends humor, intelligent discussion, and performance.

Our lectures on world and national affairs remain SILL's core. Iran, the Middle East, China, Russia - our Program Committee has put together what is possibly our best ever set of lectures.

How does SILL work? SILL board members perform the key tasks -everything from defining program topics and hiring speakers to renting the halls, marketing the programs, and selling the tickets.

Would you like to help? Join our team of loyal volunteers who meet and greet, collect tickets, and help out at each venue. Make a donation to SILL and enter the ranks of the Friends of SILL. Bring friends to lectures. It is a great honor and responsibility to serve you as SILL's president. SILL has a great history and is your first choice institute for lifetime learning.

*Dr. Robert V. Barylski,  
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 and seminars are held at First United Methodist Church, 104 S. Pineapple Ave. Lectures are at 10:30 am. Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday. Seminars are at 2:00 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.

**LAKEWOOD RANCH** Global Issues lectures are held in State College of Florida Main Auditorium, 7131 Professional Parkway East. 7:00 pm Thursday



– JANUARY 5 –

***China's Dream: The Hundred-Year Marathon***

Will China's rise bring cooperation? What if the "China Dream" is to replace us, just as America replaced the British Empire, without firing a shot? Dr. **Michael Pillsbury** will describe our need for a new, more competitive strategy toward China – perhaps our greatest national security challenge?

– JANUARY 12 –

***The War in the Ukraine***

What's really happening in the Ukraine? What's the real Russian presence there? And why is it important? Foreign correspondent **Nolan Peterson** – just returned from the front lines – gives us a first hand report on how dangerous the situation is and what the ramifications might be.

– JANUARY 19 –

***The Vladimir Putin Phenomenon***

Vladimir Putin has dominated Russian politics for the past 17 years. What explains Putin's 80% approval ratings in spite of Russia's economic recession and deteriorating relations with the West? Dr. **Robert Barylski** explains the Vladimir Putin phenomenon and how Putin cultivates his image and power as the "indispensable" servant of the Russian people.

– JANUARY 26 –

***The Nuclear Deal's Impact on Iranian Politics and Society***

The Iranian nuclear deal is part of a broader effort to repair relations between Iran and the West. Supporters believe it promotes liberalization by increasing contact with the outside world. Opponents warn it strengthens the Islamist regime with new funding, investment, and access to Western technology. Dr. **Mohsen Milani** evaluates prospects for change in Iranian society and politics given the nuclear deal.

– FEBRUARY 2 –

***The Global Refugee Crisis – Unprecedented in Scope and Scale***

With the UN's recent declaration that the crisis in Iraq has reached a level 3 humanitarian emergency (the most severe), there are now four concurrent level 3 emergencies globally – in Syria, the Central African Republic, South Sudan, and Iraq. This has never happened before. **George Biddle** explores how the host countries, aid organizations, UN agencies, donor nations, and refugees themselves are managing.

– FEBRUARY 9 –

***The Disunited United Kingdom***

The United Kingdom looks to be increasingly vulnerable to dissolution. The recent Scottish Nationalist landslide indicates the increasing nationalistic desire of the Scots. A referendum on whether the UK should remain a member of the European Union is scheduled before the end of 2017. **Baroness Margaret Jay** will address the implications of the UK leaving the EU.

– FEBRUARY 16 –

***The Dangers of Demonization***

Diplomats and politicians, dealing with countries they neither like nor understand, often fill their ignorance with prejudice. That was the U.S. case with Vietnam and Iraq. The costs were immense. **Amb. Donald Gregg's** experience in Vietnam and Korea makes him ask whether that tragic pattern will repeat with North Korea.

– FEBRUARY 23 –

***High Cost Drugs: What Is the Solution?***

Americans pay some of the world's highest prices for their prescription drugs. Dr. **Troyen Brennan** will discuss the problems and the costs associated with drug development and the way in which they challenge affordability in the American Health Care System.

– MARCH 1 –

***The Wrong Enemy: America in Afghanistan 2001-2014***

**Carlotta Gall** reported from Afghanistan and Pakistan during the entire American military campaign from 2001 on. She saw the cost of the war to American forces and the Afghan people and reveals the identity of the real enemy: Pakistan's duplicitous intelligence service which supported the insurgency and protected Osama bin Laden.

– MARCH 8 –

***The Military 15 Years After 9/11***

Economic uncertainty and new approaches to recruitment have altered the image of the U.S. military. War has changed from a finite conflict to a perpetual struggle that threatens everyone and any place, including cyberspace. Dr. **Lawrence Korb** will discuss how the military is changing to adapt to these new realities.

– MARCH 15 –

***Turkey's Uncertain Future***

For almost 13 years Recep Erdogan has led Turkey, almost tripling GNP, revolutionizing foreign policy, and helping integrate devout Muslim and Kurdish groups. Increasing authoritarianism led 60% of voters to reject his party in June elections. **Amb. James Jeffrey** will explore the importance of Turkey's continued stability and democracy.

– MARCH 22 –

***Ten Mega Trends Impacting Africa's Future***

Africa is a dynamic continent. Over the past twenty years, a number of trends have emerged across Africa reflecting the changing nature of a complex continent. These trends vary by country, but as a whole they help define a continent. **Amb. Johnnie Carson** will explore these trends and what they mean for Africa



– JANUARY 6 –

**Secrets of the U.S.-China Relationship**

**Dr. Michael Pillsbury** will discuss two of the government's darkest secrets: Cold War cooperation between the CIA and the Chinese intelligence service; and more recent intelligence conflicts between Beijing and Washington. The cooperation soured and became Spy versus Spy: competition for defectors and cyber espionage. Who's ahead today?

– JANUARY 13 –

**A Soldier's View of Today's Military**

The U.S. military faces major budget cuts and widespread uncertainty over its mission. What's the effect on the men and women in uniform? Former USAF special ops pilot **Nolan Peterson**, veteran of Afghanistan and Iraq, provides a soldier's view of today's military and analyzes the long-term ramifications.

– JANUARY 20 –

**Ukraine: How Are We Doing?**

Public opinion surveys reveal deep concern about bread and butter issues--economic recession, political corruption, and inflation. Ukrainians gave their pro-Western president, Viktor Poroshenko, a 67% disapproval rating. Only 15% reported their country was heading in the right direction. **Dr. Robert Barylski** discusses implications for American foreign policy and the so-called New Cold War in Europe.

– JANUARY 27 –

**Iran's Foreign Relations After the Nuclear Deal**

**Dr. Mohsen Milani** explains the nuclear deal's impact upon Iran's position in the international system. Some governments and corporations see Iran's opening as a golden opportunity for profitable business. Others fear Iran's growing influence across the Middle East and consider Iran a political, military, and economic threat. Dr. Milani analyzes this complex situation's implications for American policy.

– FEBRUARY 3 –

**Syria – The Worst Humanitarian Crisis in a Generation**

There are now 10 million uprooted Syrians – three million refugees in neighboring countries and another seven million displaced internally. This constitutes almost half the pre-war Syrian population. **George Biddle** discusses what is being done to alleviate the profound suffering of the Syrian people and how Syria's neighbors are faring.

– FEBRUARY 10 –

**The Rise of Islamic Radicalism in European Nations**

Europe is shocked by the terrorist activities of radicalized citizens in apparently settled communities and alarmed by the growing number of young Muslims travelling to Syria and Iraq to fight for Daesh (ISIS) and other extremist groups. **Baroness Margaret Jay** will examine causes and cures for this new development.

– FEBRUARY 17 –

**U.S. Intelligence and the War on Terror**

The costs and questionable value of America's use of torture after 9/11 will be argued for a long time. Now the question is whether drones and air strikes can successfully cope with what has been called "the great war of our time." **Amb. Donald Gregg**, who spent 32 years with the CIA, will discuss these issues.

– FEBRUARY 24 –

**The Health Care Law - From a Health Lawyer's Perspective**

Representing a radical shift from the past, the Affordable Care Act has encountered numerous legal challenges. **Dr. Troyce Brennan** will address interpretation of the new law from a lawyer's point of view and address likely future changes.

– MARCH 2 –

**After Bin Laden: U.S. Relations with Afghanistan and Pakistan Today**

As the United States ends its combat mission in Afghanistan – with all troops to withdraw by 2017 – the Taliban and al Qaeda remain a menace. **Carlotta Gall** will explore whether peace can work, whether the Afghan government will stand on its own, and whether Pakistan will prove a responsible neighbor.

– MARCH 9 –

**Military Budgets in an Age of Austerity**

In order to comply with the Budget Control Act of 2011, the Department of Defense will face budget cuts of at least \$450 billion in the next ten years. How does it cope with these budget cuts and still provide adequate security for U.S. citizens? **Dr. Lawrence Korb** will discuss these issues.

– MARCH 16 –

**Middle East on the Brink**

**Amb. James Jeffrey** sees the Middle East as dramatically dangerous for world security right now. The threatened breakdown of nation states puts the region's modernity at risk. Threats from tribal patterns and pan-Islamic movements such as al-Qaeda, ISIS, and Iran mean the U.S. and nations of the region have to up their game.

– MARCH 23 –

**Africa: Challenges, Change and Conflict**

**Amb. Johnnie Carson** will discuss topical issues of importance as the African continent moves further into the 21st century. He will explore the challenges of terrorism, leadership and exogenous factors as nations move to find their place in a global society.

For more speaker and topic details visit our website

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

941-365-6404



– JANUARY 7 –

**American Foreign Policy and World Order in an Election Year**

Foreign policy is likely to play a greater role in 2016 than in recent presidential elections, **Dr. Robert Lieber** contends. Despite efforts to reduce engagements abroad, America's own national security and the future of world order may require returning to a more robust world role.

– JANUARY 14 –

**Current Issues in U.S. Intelligence**

**Dr. Mark Lowenthal** will discuss current issues in U.S. intelligence and their implications for U.S. national security. Terrorist threats, the intelligence budget, ongoing intelligence leaks, cyber security, and the changing international environment all present greater challenges for our intelligence agencies today.

– JANUARY 21 –

**China Goes Global: The Partial Power**

By many measures, the People's Republic of China has become a global actor, if not a global power. But what is really known about China's rapidly growing presence and does it challenge the U.S.? China expert **David Shambaugh** explores these important questions.

– JANUARY 28 –

**Surging American Inequality: How Much and Why?**

U.S. income inequality has surged to levels last seen in the roaring 1920s, and rising inequality is a major concern of voters. **Dr. Gary Burtless** will describe inequality trends over the past four decades and, more important, the reasons income disparities have soared since the late 1970s.

– FEBRUARY 4 –

**Russia and Putin: What Next?**

Vladimir Putin has launched Russia back onto the world stage as a major player. By combining the old game of international power politics with new cyber tools, Putin has played a weak hand with ruthless cunning and ability. But the real test of any authoritarian regime is the matter of succession. International journalist and author **Martin Walker** looks ahead to Russia after Putin.

– FEBRUARY 11 –

**The Arctic**

At one time the Arctic was viewed as a vast wasteland of little interest. No more! Now it is the focal point of international competition. Russia's increased military presence raises the specter of a militarized Arctic. Is the Arctic becoming a pawn in U.S.-Russian relations? **Amb. Kenneth Yalowitz** takes a look at the future of this pristine wilderness.

For more speaker and topic details visit our website

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

941-365-6404

– FEBRUARY 18 –

**Modern Mercenaries: How For-Profit Warriors Are Changing Global Affairs**

Mercenaries are back. Putin is using them in Ukraine, Nigeria used them to defeat Boko Haram, and some wonder whether they could be used against ISIS. **Dr. Sean McFate** reveals how this world works, why it has returned after existing in the shadows, and what it means for the future of peace and war.

– FEBRUARY 25 –

**Japan's Grand Strategy**

For the past 70 years, the U.S. has assumed that Japan's security policies would reinforce American interests in Asia. But the political and military profile of Asia has changed. What are the next steps for Japan's national security and foreign policies? **Dr. Richard Samuels** will assess the nature and impact of potential changes.

– MARCH 3 –

**Measuring and Gaining U.S. Influence in Latin America and the Caribbean**

Many commentators bemoan the loss of U.S. influence in Latin America. **Dr. Francisco Mora** will explain that zero-sum approaches ignore the complexity of hemispheric relations. He will argue that U.S. influence in Latin America is characterized by wide and deep economic and social ties that occur via a network of cross-national relationships.

– MARCH 10 –

**The Iran Deal and Its Implications**

**Dr. Nabeel Khoury** will look at positive and negative aspects of the nuclear agreement with Iran. He will review Iran's chances of building a nuclear weapon as well as the implications of the agreement for the region, specifically, Iran's rivalry with Saudi Arabia and the proxy conflicts in the region.

– MARCH 17 –

**Facing a World of Challenges**

From the Middle East to Central Europe, from Korea to Africa, the U.S. faces major foreign policy challenges. **Amb. Christopher Hill** will draw on his vast experience to explain their underlying causes and options for U.S. responses, with significant implications for U.S. domestic and foreign policy.

– MARCH 24 –

**Global Middle Class Instability**

**Amb. Richard Boucher** explains that the evolution of economic policy has created a new normal and a growing middle class in major developing nations. The middle class also has growing expectations of governments that challenge the current basis of stability and governance.



– JANUARY 7 –

*Why the U.S. Is Not Destined to Decline*

Despite problems at home and threats abroad, the U.S. possesses deep underlying strengths in its population, resources, economy, science and technology, military power, and attractiveness to talented immigrants. Ultimately, says **Dr. Robert J. Lieber**, this is less a question of material factors than of policy, leadership, and political will.

– JANUARY 21 –

*The U.S. and China: Partners or Competitors?*

The U.S. and China are the world's two most important powers. For more than three decades the two nations have interacted bilaterally and regionally in Asia – but now the relationship is increasingly global. Can Washington and Beijing sustain a partnership or are they destined to become competitors? China expert **David Shambaugh** discusses these important issues with seminar participants.

– FEBRUARY 4 –

*Africa*

Africa is indeed a land of mystery when viewed from the West. The independence waves of the 1950's and 1960's made it seem a land of promise. Today it seems a land of religious conflict, terrorism and environmental catastrophes. Journalist and author **Martin Walker** discusses Africa today, the problems it faces, and its prospects for the future.

– FEBRUARY 18 –

*Durable Disorder: The Future World Order?*

The last 25 years have seen a descent into regional disorder: the Balkans in the 1990s, much of the Middle East and most of Africa today. Some greet this in panic while others remain in denial. Looking to the Middle Ages for insight, in this session **Dr. Sean McFate** explores the possibility of an emerging world order that contains rather than solves problems.

– MARCH 10 –

*The Conflict in Syria*

**Dr. Nabeel Khoury** will discuss the origins of the conflict and how it has evolved from a simple people's uprising against tyranny to a complicated regional struggle for power involving all of Syria's neighbors and the international community. In addition, possible outcomes of the conflict will be considered, along with its humanitarian costs.

– MARCH 17 –

*Challenges to U.S. Leadership in Asia*

As Asia becomes a bigger part of the world economy, it faces challenges to stability from the South China Sea to the Philippines to the Korean peninsula. The U.S. must adjust to new realities. **Amb. Christopher Hill** will review our options for sustaining our Allies and defending our interests across Asia.

2015-16 POPS & CLASSICAL SEASON • NOVEMBER-APRIL

from *Bach to Rock!*  
at The Venice Performing Arts Center

Tickets Start at **\$20**

wusf  
Public Media

TBD

Find us on Facebook

Tickets & Group Reservations: CALL 941-207-8822  
or Order Tickets Online at: [thevenicesymphony.org](http://thevenicesymphony.org)

Sarasota Concert Association  
**2016 Great Performers Series**  
at the Van Wezel Performing Arts Hall

**Orpheus Chamber Orchestra**  
January 26 • 7:30 p.m.

**Cleveland Orchestra**  
January 31 • 3 p.m.  
Franz Welser-Möst, conductor

**Miró String Quartet**  
February 15 • 7:30 p.m.

**Russian National Orchestra**  
March 8 • 7:30 p.m.  
Kirill Karabits, conductor • Stefan Jackiw, violin

**Olga Kern, piano**  
March 14 • 7:30 p.m.

**941-225-6500**  
[www.scasarasota.org](http://www.scasarasota.org)

**Olga Kern**



– JANUARY 5 –

***China's Dream: The Hundred-Year Marathon***

Will China's rise bring cooperation? What if the "China Dream" is to replace us, just as America replaced the British Empire, without firing a shot? Dr. **Michael Pillsbury** will describe our need for a new, more competitive strategy toward China – perhaps our greatest national security challenge?

– JANUARY 12 –

***The War in the Ukraine***

What's really happening in the Ukraine? What's the real Russian presence there? And why is it important? Foreign correspondent **Nolan Peterson** – just returned from the front lines – gives us a first hand report on how dangerous the situation is and what the ramifications might be.

– JANUARY 19 –

***The Vladimir Putin Phenomenon***

Vladimir Putin has dominated Russian politics for the past 17 years. What explains Putin's 80% approval ratings in spite of Russia's economic recession and deteriorating relations with the West? Dr. **Robert Barylski** explains the Vladimir Putin phenomenon and how Putin cultivates his image and power as the "indispensable" servant of the Russian people.

– JANUARY 26 –

***The Nuclear Deal's Impact on Iranian Politics and Society***

The Iranian nuclear deal is part of a broader effort to repair relations between Iran and the West. Supporters believe it promotes liberalization by increasing contact with the outside world. Opponents warn it strengthens the Islamist regime with new funding, investment, and access to Western technology. Dr. **Mohsen Milani** evaluates prospects for change in Iranian society and politics given the nuclear deal.

– FEBRUARY 2 –

***The Global Refugee Crisis – Unprecedented in Scope and Scale***

With the UN's recent declaration that the crisis in Iraq has reached a level 3 humanitarian emergency (the most severe), there are now four concurrent level 3 emergencies globally – in Syria, the Central African Republic, South Sudan, and Iraq. This has never happened before. **George Biddle** explores how the host countries, aid organizations, UN agencies, donor nations, and refugees themselves are managing.

– FEBRUARY 9 –

***The Disunited United Kingdom***

The United Kingdom looks to be increasingly vulnerable to dissolution. The recent Scottish Nationalist landslide indicates the increasing nationalistic desire of the Scots. A referendum on whether the UK should remain a member of the European Union is scheduled before the end of 2017. **Baroness Margaret Jay** will address the implications of the UK leaving the EU.

– FEBRUARY 16 –

***The Dangers of Demonization***

Diplomats and politicians, dealing with countries they neither like nor understand, often fill their ignorance with prejudice. That was the U.S. case with Vietnam and Iraq. The costs were immense. **Amb. Donald Gregg's** experience in Vietnam and Korea makes him ask whether that tragic pattern will repeat with North Korea.

– FEBRUARY 23 –

***High Cost Drugs: What Is the Solution?***

Americans pay some of the world's highest prices for their prescription drugs. Dr. **Troyen Brennan** will discuss the problems and the costs associated with drug development and the way in which they challenge affordability in the American Health Care System.

– MARCH 1 –

***The Wrong Enemy: America in Afghanistan 2001-2014***

**Carlotta Gall** reported from Afghanistan and Pakistan during the entire American military campaign from 2001 on. She saw the cost of the war to American forces and the Afghan people and reveals the identity of the real enemy: Pakistan's duplicitous intelligence service which supported the insurgency and protected Osama bin Laden.

– MARCH 8 –

***The Military 15 Years After 9/11***

Economic uncertainty and new approaches to recruitment have altered the image of the U.S. military. War has changed from a finite conflict to a perpetual struggle that threatens everyone and any place, including cyberspace. Dr. **Lawrence Korb** will discuss how the military is changing to adapt to these new realities.

– MARCH 15 –

***Turkey's Uncertain Future***

For almost 13 years Recep Erdogan has led Turkey, almost tripling GNP, revolutionizing foreign policy, and helping integrate devout Muslim and Kurdish groups. Increasing authoritarianism led 60% of voters to reject his party in June elections. **Amb. James Jeffrey** will explore the importance of Turkey's continued stability and democracy.

– MARCH 22 –

***Ten Mega Trends Impacting Africa's Future***

Africa is a dynamic continent. Over the past twenty years, a number of trends have emerged across Africa reflecting the changing nature of a complex continent. These trends vary by country, but as a whole they help define a continent. **Amb. Johnnie Carson** will explore these trends and what they mean for Africa



– JANUARY 8 –

**American Foreign Policy and World Order in an Election Year**

Foreign policy is likely to play a greater role in 2016 than in recent presidential elections, **Dr. Robert Lieber** contends. Despite efforts to reduce engagements abroad, America's own national security and the future of world order may require returning to a more robust world role.

– JANUARY 15 –

**Current Issues in U.S. Intelligence**

**Dr. Mark Lowenthal** will discuss current issues in U.S. intelligence and their implications for U.S. national security. Terrorist threats, the intelligence budget, ongoing intelligence leaks, cyber security, and the changing international environment all present greater challenges for our intelligence agencies today.

– JANUARY 22 –

**China Goes Global: The Partial Power**

By many measures, the People's Republic of China has become a global actor, if not a global power. But what is really known about China's rapidly growing presence and does it challenge the U.S.? China expert **David Shambaugh** explores these important questions.

– JANUARY 29 –

**Surging American Inequality: How Much and Why?**

U.S. income inequality has surged to levels last seen in the roaring 1920s, and rising inequality is a major concern of voters. **Dr. Gary Burtless** will describe inequality trends over the past four decades and, more important, the reasons income disparities have soared since the late 1970s.

– FEBRUARY 5 –

**Russia and Putin: What Next?**

Vladimir Putin has launched Russia back onto the world stage as a major player. By combining the old game of international power politics with new cyber tools, Putin has played a weak hand with ruthless cunning and ability. But the real test of any authoritarian regime is the matter of succession. International journalist and author **Martin Walker** looks ahead to Russia after Putin.

– FEBRUARY 12 –

**The Arctic**

At one time the Arctic was viewed as a vast wasteland of little interest. No more! Now it is the focal point of international competition. Russia's increased military presence raises the specter of a militarized Arctic. Is the Arctic becoming a pawn in U.S.-Russian relations? **Amb. Kenneth Yalowitz** takes a look at the future of this pristine wilderness.

For more speaker and topic details visit our website

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

941-365-6404

– FEBRUARY 19 –

**Modern Mercenaries: How For-Profit Warriors Are Changing Global Affairs**

Mercenaries are back. Putin is using them in Ukraine, Nigeria used them to defeat Boko Haram, and some wonder whether they could be used against ISIS. **Dr. Sean McFate** reveals how this world works, why it has returned after existing in the shadows, and what it means for the future of peace and war.

– FEBRUARY 26 –

**Japan's Grand Strategy**

For the past 70 years, the U.S. has assumed that Japan's security policies would reinforce American interests in Asia. But the political and military profile of Asia has changed. What are the next steps for Japan's national security and foreign policies? **Dr. Richard Samuels** will assess the nature and impact of potential changes.

– MARCH 4 –

**Measuring and Gaining U.S. Influence in Latin America and the Caribbean**

Many commentators bemoan the loss of U.S. influence in Latin America. **Dr. Francisco Mora** will explain that zero-sum approaches ignore the complexity of hemispheric relations. He will argue that U.S. influence in Latin America is characterized by wide and deep economic and social ties that occur via a network of cross-national relationships.

– MARCH 11 –

**The Iran Deal and Its Implications**

**Dr. Nabeel Khoury** will look at positive and negative aspects of the nuclear agreement with Iran. He will review Iran's chances of building a nuclear weapon as well as the implications of the agreement for the region, specifically, Iran's rivalry with Saudi Arabia and the proxy conflicts in the region.

– MARCH 18 –

**Facing a World of Challenges**

From the Middle East to Central Europe, from Korea to Africa, the U.S. faces major foreign policy challenges. **Amb. Christopher Hill** will draw on his vast experience to explain their underlying causes and options for U.S. responses, with significant implications for U.S. domestic and foreign policy.

– MARCH 25 –

**Global Middle Class Instability**

**Amb. Richard Boucher** explains that the evolution of economic policy has created a new normal and a growing middle class in major developing nations. The middle class also has growing expectations of governments that challenge the current basis of stability and governance.

## About Our Speakers



**Dr. Robert V. Barylski** is a retired associate professor in the Department of Government and International Relations at USF Sarasota-Manatee and former dean of the university. He has an undergraduate degree in political science from Brown University and graduate degrees in Russian area studies and political science from Harvard.

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*. 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 participated in U.S. policy symposia at the U.S. Central Command. He is currently serving as President of SILL.



**George Biddle** served as executive director of the International Rescue Committee (IRC) from 2000 to 2015, and is currently an IRC board member. IRC is a global humanitarian organization that responds to the world's worst crises and helps people to survive and rebuild their lives, operating with a budget of over \$500 million and a worldwide staff of 12,000 in 40 countries and 22 U.S. cities.

Currently he is Chairman of World Connect, a grassroots organization that supports local leaders in the developing world to undertake innovative, sustainable and scalable community development projects. World Connect works with young Americans to think and act globally and philanthropically by engaging them in its projects and partnerships.

Prior to joining IRC, Mr. Biddle was vice president of the international Crisis Group, which works through field-based analysis and high-level advocacy to prevent and resolve deadly conflicts.

He has testified before Congress and presented before the European Parliament and UN Security Council. He holds an A.B. degree from Harvard and an M.A. in International Relations from Johns Hopkins.

## About Our Speakers



**Amb. Richard Boucher** is a senior U.S. diplomat turned teacher. Over a thirty year career he reached the highest rank in the Foreign Service: Career Ambassador. Much of his career was spent as the longest serving spokesman in the history of the Department, serving six Secretaries of State. Later he took on responsibility for Afghanistan and Pakistan as Assistant Secretary of State for South and Central Asia

Following his retirement from the State Department, Amb. Boucher served four years as Deputy Secretary-General of the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), which helps developing countries reform economic policy. He is now teaching at the Gerald R. Ford School at the University of Michigan and the Watson Institute at Brown.

Amb. Boucher served as Ambassador to Cyprus (1993-1996) and Consul General in Hong Kong (1996-1999). He led U.S. efforts for the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) from 1999-2000. He also served as a Peace Corps volunteer in Senegal from 1973-1975. Amb. Boucher holds a Bachelor's degree from Tufts University and did graduate work in economics at The George Washington University.



**Dr. Troyen A. Brennan** is Executive Vice President and Chief Medical Officer of CVS Caremark. He is a member of the Institute of Medicine of the National Academy of Sciences.

Prior to joining CVS Caremark, Dr. Brennan was Chief Medical Officer of Aetna Inc. Prior to that he served as President and CEO of Brigham and Women's Physicians Organization. He was also Professor of Medicine at Harvard Medical School and Professor of Law and Public Health at Harvard School of Public Health.

Dr. Brennan holds a B.S. from Southern Methodist University and an M.A. from Harvard, where he was a Rhodes Scholar. He holds an M.D. and an M.P.H. (Masters in Public Health) from Yale Medical School and a J.D. from Yale Law School.

For more speaker and topic details visit our website

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

941-365-6404

## About Our Speakers



**Dr. Gary Burtless** is a Senior Fellow, Economic Studies at the Brookings Institution where he holds the John C. and Nancy D. Whitehead Chair in Economic Studies. He conducts research on issues connected with income distribution and poverty, public finance, aging, labor markets, social insurance and the behavioral effects of government tax and transfer policies. Before joining Brookings, he served as an economist in the policy and evaluation offices of the Departments of Labor and Health, Education, and Welfare (HEW).

Dr. Burtless is co-author of many books including *Five Years After: The Long Term Effects of Welfare-to-Work Programs*; *Globaphobia: Confronting Fears about Open Trade*; and *Can America Afford to Grow Old? Paying for Social Security*. He has also written numerous scholarly and popular articles on labor markets, income distribution, pensions, and the economic effects of Social Security, unemployment insurance, and taxes. He served for five years as co-editor of the *Brookings-Wharton Papers on Urban Affairs* and earlier as associate editor of the *Journal of Human Resources* and assistant editor of the *Brookings Papers on Economic Activity*.

Dr. Burtless received his undergraduate degree from Yale and his Ph.D. in economics from MIT.



**Amb. Johnnie Carson** currently serves as a Senior Advisor at the United States Institute of Peace (USIP). He assumed that position in June 2013, after serving for four years as Assistant Secretary for African Affairs at the State Department from 2009 to 2013.

Amb. Carson's 37-year Foreign Service career includes ambassadorships to Kenya (1999-2003), Zimbabwe (1995-1997), and Uganda (1991-1994); and Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for the Bureau of African Affairs. Earlier in his career he had assignments in Portugal, Botswana, Mozambique, and Nigeria. He has also served as Staff Director for the Africa Subcommittee of the U.S. House of Representatives. Before joining the Foreign Service, Ambassador Carson was a Peace Corps volunteer in Tanzania.

He has a B.A. in History and Political Science from Drake University and a M.A. in International Relations from the School of Oriental and Africa Studies (SOAS) at the University of London. Amb. Carson is the recipient of numerous State Department awards and his published material has appeared in the *Boston Globe*, *The New York Times*, *Time Magazine* and online at CNN, the Royal Africa Society/African Arguments and AllAfrica.com.

## About Our Speakers



**Ms. Carlotta Gall** is a Senior Correspondent with *The New York Times*. A British citizen, she is currently North Africa correspondent and lives in Tunisia.

Ms. Gall began her newspaper career in Russia at *The Moscow Times* in 1994 where she covered the first war in Chechnya and stories across the former Soviet Union. She also reported for *The Economist* and *The Financial Times*.

Beginning in 2001 she spent more than 12 years reporting from Afghanistan and Pakistan for *The New York Times*, including five years as Kabul Bureau Chief. She joined the *Times* in 1999 and reported for three years from the Balkans during the war in Kosovo and the fall of Slobodan Milosevic.

Ms. Gall is the co-author with Thomas de Waal of *Chechnya: Calamity in the Caucasus* (1998). She has won numerous awards for her reporting and was part of a team awarded a Pulitzer Prize for coverage of Afghanistan and Pakistan in 2009. In 2011 she was awarded a Nieman Foundation fellowship at Harvard and the following year completed a book that covers the whole span of the U.S. involvement in Afghanistan: *The Wrong Enemy: America in Afghanistan 2001-2014* (2014).



**Amb. Donald P. Gregg** served as U.S. Ambassador to Korea from 1989 to 1993. Before that he had a long career as an operations officer in the Central Intelligence Agency. He served for 31 years in many countries including Burma, Japan, Vietnam, and Korea. He is chairman emeritus of The Korea Society in New York and chair of the Pacific Century Institute in

Los Angeles, and has written a book about his colorful career called *Potshards: Fragments of a Life Lived in the CIA, the White House and the Two Koreas*.

Amb. Gregg joined the staff of the National Security Council in 1979, where he was in charge of intelligence activities and Asian policy affairs. He then served as National Security Advisor to President George H. W. Bush.

He has received many awards for public service including the Secretary of Defense Award for outstanding Public Service. Amb. Gregg graduated from Williams College in 1951.

## About Our Speakers



**Amb. Christopher Hill** is the Dean of the Josef Korbel School of International Studies at The University of Denver, a position he has held since September 2010. In addition to overseeing the Josef Korbel School, he is author of *Outpost: Life on the Frontlines of American Diplomacy: A Memoir*, a monthly columnist for Project Syndicate, and speaks on international affairs.

Amb. Hill is a former career diplomat and a four-time ambassador. His last post was as Ambassador to Iraq, April 2009 until August 2010. Prior to Iraq, he served as Assistant Secretary of State for East Asian and Pacific Affairs from 2005 until 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. Previously he served as U.S. Ambassador to Poland (2000-2004), Ambassador to the Republic of Macedonia (1996-1999) and Special Envoy to Kosovo (1998-1999). Amb. Hill 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 twenty year career in broadcasting.

Ms. 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 Prime Minister 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.

Ms. Jay left government in 2001 and 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.

For more speaker and topic details visit our website

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

941-365-6404

## About Our Speakers



**Amb. James F. Jeffrey** retired from the Foreign Service with the rank of Career Ambassador in June, 2012. At present he is the Philip Solondz distinguished visiting fellow at The Washington Institute for Near East Policy, a Visiting Instructor at The George Washington University, a consultant, and a member of the Secretary of Defense's Defense Policy Board.

Prior to his service as Ambassador in Ankara (2008-2010) and Baghdad (2010-2012), Amb. Jeffrey served as Assistant to the President and Deputy National Security Advisor in the George W. Bush Administration. Previously he served as Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for the Bureau of Near Eastern Affairs at the Department of State, where his responsibilities included leading the Iran policy team and coordinating public diplomacy. Earlier appointments included service as Senior Advisor on Iraq to the Secretary of State; Deputy Chief of Mission in Baghdad, Ankara, and Kuwait; and Ambassador to Albania.

Amb. Jeffrey holds a B.A. from Northeastern University and an M.S. from Boston University Graduate School of Management. A former infantry officer in the U.S. Army, he served in Germany and Vietnam from 1969 to 1976. His son is currently posted with the Department of State in Kabul.



**Dr. Nabeel Khoury** writes extensively about Arab countries in transition, leadership and development in the Arab world, the rise of Islamist forces in the Middle East and North Africa, and U.S. foreign policy in the region. His articles on the Middle East can be found in the *Middle East Journal*, the *Journal of South Asian and Middle Eastern Studies*, and the *International Journal of Middle East Studies*.

During his time with the Department of State, Dr. Khoury served as Director of the Near East South Asia Office of the Bureau of Intelligence and Research in Washington D.C. (2008-2012). Prior to this he served as Deputy Chief of Mission in Yemen and Deputy Director of the Media Outreach Center in London (2002-2004). He retired with the rank of Minister Counselor.

After leaving the Foreign Service, Dr. Khoury was a Visiting Scholar and a Senior Fellow for Middle East and National Security at the Chicago Council on Global Affairs. He holds a B.A. from the American University of Beirut and an M.A. and Ph.D. in international relations and government from the State University of New York at Albany.

## About Our Speakers



**Dr. Lawrence J. Korb** is a senior fellow at the Center for American Progress and an adjunct professor at Georgetown University.

Dr. Korb was a Senior Fellow and Director of National Security Studies at the Council on Foreign Relations. From July 1998 to October 2002 he was Council Vice President, Director of Studies, and holder of the Maurice Greenberg Chair. Prior

to joining the Council, he served as Director of the Center for Public Policy Education and as a Senior Fellow in the Foreign Policy Studies Program at the Brookings Institution, dean of the Graduate School of Public and International Affairs at the University of Pittsburgh, and Vice President of Corporate Operations at the Raytheon Company. Dr. Korb served as assistant secretary of defense (manpower, reserve affairs, installations, and logistics) from 1981 through 1985, and served on active duty as a Naval Flight Officer.

Dr. Korb has authored, co-authored, edited, and contributed to more than 20 books and more than 100 articles on national security issues. He holds a B.A. from the Athenaeum of Ohio, a master's degree from St. John's University, and a Ph.D. from the State University of New York at Albany.



**Dr. Robert J. Lieber** is Professor of Government and International Affairs at Georgetown University, where he has previously served as Chair of the Government Department and Interim Chair of the Psychology Department. He is author or editor of sixteen books on international relations and U.S. Foreign policy, and has served as an advisor to several presidential campaigns, to the State Department and to the

drafters of U.S. National Intelligence Estimates.

Dr. Lieber's articles and op-eds have appeared in scholarly journals, magazines and major newspapers. His media appearances have included the PBS NewsHour, ABC's Good Morning America, NBC and CBS network news, Voice of America, BBC World Service, and Al Jazeera. He has been the recipient of Georgetown University's Career Research Achievement Award and a distinguished lectureship award from Tokyo University.

Dr. Lieber holds a B.A. from the University of Wisconsin and a Ph.D. from Harvard University. He has held fellowships from the Guggenheim, Rockefeller and Ford foundations, the Council on Foreign Relations and the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars. He has also taught at Harvard, Oxford, and the University of California, Davis, and has been visiting fellow at Fondation Nationale des Sciences Politiques in Paris, and the Brookings Institution in Washington.

## About Our Speakers



**Dr. Mark Lowenthal** is an author and adjunct professor at the Krieger School of Arts and Sciences at Johns Hopkins University in Washington, D.C. Dr. Lowenthal has written five books and over 90 articles or studies on intelligence and national security. His book *Intelligence: From Secrets to Policy* has become a standard undergraduate and graduate text.

In 2005, Dr. Lowenthal retired from a career working with the United States Intelligence Community as a recognized national security affairs expert. He is the former Assistant Director of Central Intelligence for Analysis and Production and former Vice Chairman for Evaluation on the National Intelligence Council (2002-2005). As Assistant Director, he was instrumental in having the Intelligence Community adopt the National Intelligence Priorities Framework (NIPF), which provides guidance on the priorities of the President for intelligence collection requirements. It is the basis upon which all analysis and production decisions are made and ultimately impacts all members of the intelligence community. He has also served in the U.S. State Department's Bureau of Intelligence and Research (INR) as both an office director and as a Deputy Assistant Secretary of State.



**Dr. Sean McFate** is an expert on grand strategy and war. 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 and an adjunct social scientist at the RAND Corporation, both think tanks. Prior to this, Dr. McFate was a private military contractor in Africa, where he helped raise an army for

Liberia, prevent a potential genocide in the Great Lakes region, and other operations.

From 1992 to 2000 he was an U.S. Army officer, serving as paratrooper in the 82nd Airborne Division. Following this, he was an advisor to Amnesty International on human rights and armed conflict, and a Bernard L. Schwartz Fellow at the New America Foundation, a think tank. In the private sector, Dr. McFate was a Vice President at TD International, a political risk consulting firm with offices in Washington, Houston, Singapore, Jakarta, and Zurich. He was also an Associate at BearingPoint (now Deloitte Consulting) and Booz Allen Hamilton. Dr. McFate is widely published, and authored *The Modern Mercenary: Private Armies and What They Mean for World Order* (Oxford University Press).

Dr. McFate holds a B.A. from Brown University, an M.P.P. from the Harvard Kennedy School of Government, and a Ph.D. in international relations from the London School of Economics and Political Science.

## About Our Speakers



**Dr. Mohsen Milani** is the Executive Director of the Center for Strategic & Diplomatic Studies and Professor of Politics at the University of South Florida (USF) in Tampa. He served as a department chair at that university 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 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 he has been engaged in a new "Conversation Series on Global Security" where he has conducted in-depth discussions with prominent experts. 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.



**Dr. Frank O. Mora** is Director of the Kimberly Green Latin American and Caribbean Center and Professor of Politics and International Relations at Florida International University (FIU), Miami, FL. Prior to arriving at FIU, Dr. Mora served as Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for the Western Hemisphere from 2009-2013. He has held several teaching positions, including Professor of National Security Strategy and Latin American Studies at the National War College, National Defense University (2004-2009) and Associate Professor and Chair in the Department of International Studies, Rhodes College (2000-2004).

Dr. Mora is the author or editor of five books and numerous academic and policy articles, book chapters and monographs on hemispheric security, U.S.-Latin American relations, civil-military relations, Cuban politics and military, and Latin American foreign policy.

Dr. Mora graduated with a B.A. in international affairs from The George Washington University in 1986. He received an M.A. in inter-American studies and a Ph.D. in international affairs from the University of Miami. He also completed studies at universities in Peru and Costa Rica. He is a recipient of the Outstanding Public Service Award, Department of Defense (2011).

## About Our Speakers



**Nolan Peterson**, a former special operations pilot and veteran of Iraq and Afghanistan, is a foreign correspondent for *The Daily Signal*. He has reported on the wars in Afghanistan and Ukraine and was the first U.S. journalist to be embedded with the Ukrainian regular army in combat. As a U.S. Air Force officer, he served exchange tours at the French Air Force Academy, the U.S. Embassy in Paris, and held an internship at NATO

Headquarters in Brussels.

Mr. Peterson logged more than 250 hours of combat time in Afghanistan and Iraq, where he was a combat operations director. Subsequently he co-founded a website aimed at veterans.

He graduated from the U.S. Air Force Academy in 2004. He holds a master's degree from the Medill School of Journalism at Northwestern University. He also has a graduate degree from Middlebury College earned during a two-year fellowship at the Sorbonne in Paris.

Mr. Peterson is also an adventurer who has visited more than 40 countries on all seven continents. His adventures include running a marathon across a glacier in Antarctica and swimming the Hellespont.



**Dr. Michael Pillsbury** received a B.A. in History from Stanford University in 1966 and a Ph.D. in political science from Columbia University in 1980. In 1975-76, while an analyst at the RAND Corporation, Dr. Pillsbury published articles in *Foreign Policy* and *International Security* recommending that the United States establish intelligence and military ties with China. The

proposal, publicly commended by Ronald Reagan, Henry Kissinger and James Schlesinger, later became U.S. policy during the Carter and Reagan administrations.

During the Reagan administration, Dr. Pillsbury was the Assistant Under Secretary of Defense for Policy Planning and responsible for implementation of the program of covert aid known as the Reagan Doctrine. Under President George H. W. Bush, Dr. Pillsbury was Special Assistant for Asian Affairs in the Office of the Secretary of Defense. Dr. Pillsbury is a member of the Council on Foreign Relations and the International Institute for Strategic Studies.

In 2015, a former CIA Director described Pillsbury's new book *The Hundred-Year Marathon* as "based on work Michael Pillsbury did that landed him the CIA Director's Exceptional Performance Award." Robert Kagan of the Brookings Institution wrote, "This is without question the most important book written about Chinese strategy and foreign policy in years."

## About Our Speakers



**Dr. Richard J. Samuels** is Ford Professor of Political Science and Director of the MIT Center for International Studies. In 2011 he received the Order of the Rising Sun, an Imperial decoration awarded by the Emperor of Japan and Prime Minister. Dr. Samuels was elected to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and served as Chair of the Japan-U.S. Friendship Commission, an independent Federal grant-making agency.

In 2015 he was named an Albert Einstein Fellow at the Free University of Berlin. His most recent books are *3.11: Disaster and Change in Japan* (2013), a study of the political and policy consequences of the 2011 Tohoku catastrophe, and *Securing Japan: Japan's Grand Strategy and the Future of East Asia* (2007), which was a finalist for the Lionel Gelber Prize for the best book in international affairs.

Dr. Samuels holds an undergraduate degree from Colgate University and a master's degree from Tufts. He received his Ph.D. from MIT in 1980.



**Dr. David Shambaugh** is an internationally recognized authority and author on contemporary China and the international relations of Asia.

He is presently Professor of Political Science & International Affairs and the founding Director of the China Policy Program in the Elliott School of International Affairs at The George Washington University. He is also a Nonresident Senior Fellow at The Brookings Institution. He currently serves on the Board of Directors of the National Committee on U.S.-China Relations and is a member of the Council on Foreign Relations.

Dr. Shambaugh is also a frequent commentator in the international media, serves on a number of editorial boards, and has been a consultant to various governments, research institutions, foundations, and private corporations. He has written or edited thirty books, including *China Goes Global: The Partial Power* (2013), which was selected by *The Economist*, *Foreign Affairs*, and *Bloomberg News* as one of the "Best Books of the Year," and *Tangled Titans: The United States and China* (2012). He is currently writing a new book on China's future to be published in 2016.

Dr. Shambaugh holds a bachelor's degree from The George Washington University, a master's degree from Johns Hopkins, and a doctorate from the University of Michigan.

## About Our Speakers



**Martin Walker** is a senior fellow of the Global Business Policy Council, a private think-tank for CEOs created by A. T. Kearney business consultancy, and a senior scholar of the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars in Washington, D.C.

A distinguished journalist, he is Editor-in-Chief Emeritus of the United Press International (UPI), and in a 25 year career with the Manchester *Guardian* newspaper, served as bureau chief in Moscow and the United States, as well as European editor and assistant editor.

Mr. Walker is a regular broadcaster on the BBC, NPR and CNN, and a panelist on *Inside Washington* and *The McLaughlin Report*. Additionally, he is a senior fellow of the World Policy Institute at the New School for Social Research in New York, and a contributing editor of the *LA Times* Opinion section and of *Europe Magazine*.

His publications include: *Waking Giant: Gorbachev and Perestroika; The Cold War: A History; Clinton: The President They Deserve; and America Reborn* (2000). His series of novels about Inspector Bruno have sold over one million copies worldwide and are published in 15 languages.

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



While with the Department of State, **Amb. Kenneth S. Yalowitz's** domestic assignments included country director for Australia-New Zealand Affairs, deputy director for economics of the Office of Soviet Union Affairs, and Congressional Foreign Affairs Fellow.

Ambassador Yalowitz taught political science at the Industrial College of the Armed Forces. He also served as the Area Studies Chair on the former Soviet Union and Dean of the Senior Seminar at the Foreign Service Institute, the U.S. government's training institution for American diplomats and other professionals for foreign service.

He has won a variety of awards for conflict prevention and overall diplomatic performance. In 1984 he received a superior honor award for crisis management in the shutdown of KAL-007. He was chosen for the Ambassador Robert Frasure award for peacemaking and conflict prevention in 2000 for his work to prevent the spillover of the Chechen war into Georgia.

Amb. Yalowitz did his undergraduate work at the University of Wisconsin. He holds a Russian Institute Certificate and an M.A. and M. Phil. from Columbia University. He speaks Russian.



# Global Issues Series **Lakewood Ranch Program**

State College of Florida

Thursdays, 7:00 pm

– JANUARY 14 –

## *Current Issues in U.S. Intelligence*

**Dr. Mark Lowenthal** will discuss current issues in U.S. intelligence and their implications for U.S. national security. Terrorist threats, the intelligence budget, ongoing intelligence leaks, cyber security, and the changing international environment all present greater challenges for our intelligence agencies today.

– JANUARY 28 –

## *Surging American Inequality: How Much and Why?*

U.S. income inequality has surged to levels last seen in the roaring 1920s, and rising inequality is a major concern of voters. **Dr. Gary Burtless** will describe inequality trends over the past four decades and, more important, the reasons income disparities have soared since the late 1970s.

– FEBRUARY 11 –

## *The Arctic*

At one time the Arctic was viewed as a vast wasteland of little interest. No more! Now it is the focal point of international competition. Russia's increased military presence raises the specter of a militarized Arctic. Is the Arctic becoming a pawn in U.S.-Russian relations? **Amb. Kenneth Yalowitz** takes a look at the future of this pristine wilderness.

– FEBRUARY 25 –

## *Japan's Grand Strategy*

For the past 70 years, the U.S. has assumed that Japan's security policies would reinforce American interests in Asia. But the political and military profile of Asia has changed. What are the next steps for Japan's national security and foreign policies? **Dr. Richard Samuels** will assess the nature and impact of potential changes.

– MARCH 3 –

## *Measuring and Gaining U.S. Influence in Latin America and the Caribbean*

Many commentators bemoan the loss of U.S. influence in Latin America. **Dr. Francisco Mora** will explain that zero-sum approaches ignore the complexity of hemispheric relations. He will argue that U.S. influence in Latin America is characterized by wide and deep economic and social ties that occur via a network of cross-national relationships.

– MARCH 24 –

## *Global Middle Class Instability*

**Amb. Richard Boucher** explains that the evolution of economic policy has created a new normal and a growing middle class in major developing nations. The middle class also has growing expectations of governments that challenge the current basis of stability and governance.

## Venice

**Music Mondays**  
Venice Presbyterian Church

JANUARY	<b>4</b> <i>Sherrill Milnes and Maria Zouves</i>
	<b>11</b> <i>John Demain, Conductor</i>
	<b>18</b> <i>Ashu, Classical Saxophonist</i>
FEBRUARY	<b>25</b> <i>Thomas Shepard, Record Producer</i>
	<b>1</b> <i>Elizabeth Beilman, Violist and Benjamin Beilman, Violinist</i>
	<b>8</b> <i>Fred Plotkin, We Can't Pigeon Hole Him</i>
MARCH	<b>15</b> <i>Joseph Volpe, Former General Manager, Metropolitan Opera</i>
	<b>22</b> <i>Victor Derenzi, Artistic Director, Sarasota Opera</i>
	<b>29</b> <i>The Seventh U.S. Army Symphony Orchestra</i>
	<b>7</b> <i>Brandon and Rich Ridenour, Trumpet and Piano Duo</i>
	<b>14</b> <i>John Brancy, Award-Winning Baritone</i>
	<b>21</b> <i>Libby Larsen, Composer</i>

## Sarasota Seminars

**Thursdays, 2:00 - 4:30 pm**  
First Church in Sarasota

<b>January 7</b> <i>Why the U.S. Is Not Destined to Decline</i> Dr. Robert Lieber
<b>January 21</b> <i>The U.S. and China: Partners or Competitors?</i> Dr. David Shambaugh
<b>February 4</b> <i>Africa</i> Martin Walker
<b>February 18</b> <i>Durable Disorder: The Future World Order?</i> Dr. Sean McFate
<b>March 10</b> <i>The Conflict in Syria</i> Dr. Nabeel Khoury
<b>March 17</b> <i>Challenges to U.S. Leadership in Asia</i> Amb. Christopher Hill

## Lakewood Ranch Lectures

**Thursdays, 7:00 pm**  
State College of Florida Main Auditorium

<b>January 14</b> <i>Current Issues in U.S. Intelligence</i> Dr. Mark Lowenthal
<b>January 28</b> <i>Surging American Inequality: How Much and Why?</i> Dr. Gary Burtless
<b>February 11</b> <i>The Arctic</i> Amb. Kenneth Yalowitz
<b>February 25</b> <i>Japan's Grand Strategy</i> Dr. Richard Samuels
<b>March 3</b> <i>Measuring and Gaining U.S. Influence in Latin America and the Caribbean</i> Dr. Francisco Mora
<b>March 24</b> <i>Global Middle Class Instability</i> Amb. Richard Boucher

## Venice

**Global Issues Series I**  
Tuesday

**Global Issues Series II**  
Friday

JANUARY	<b>5</b> <i>China's Dream: The Hundred-Year Marathon</i> Dr. Michael Pillsbury	<b>8</b> <i>American Foreign Policy and World Order in an Election Year</i> Dr. Robert Lieber
	<b>12</b> <i>The War in the Ukraine</i> Nolan Peterson	<b>15</b> <i>Current Issues in U.S. Intelligence</i> Dr. Mark Lowenthal
	<b>19</b> <i>The Vladimir Putin Phenomenon</i> Dr. Robert Baryliski	<b>22</b> <i>China Goes Global: The Partial Power</i> David Shambaugh
	<b>26</b> <i>The Nuclear Deal's Impact on Iranian Politics and Society</i> Dr. Mohsen Milani	<b>29</b> <i>Surging American Inequality: How Much and Why?</i> Dr. Gary Burtless
	<b>2</b> <i>The Global Refugee Crisis – Unprecedented in Scope and Scale</i> George Biddle	<b>5</b> <i>Russia and Putin: What Next?</i> Martin Walker
FEBRUARY	<b>9</b> <i>The Disunited United Kingdom</i> Baroness Margaret Jay	<b>12</b> <i>The Arctic</i> Amb. Kenneth Yalowitz
	<b>16</b> <i>The Dangers of Demonization</i> Amb. Donald Gregg	<b>19</b> <i>Modern Mercenaries: How For-Profit Warriors Are Changing Global Affairs</i> Dr. Shawn McFate
	<b>23</b> <i>High Cost Drugs: What Is the Solution?</i> Dr. Troy Brennan	<b>26</b> <i>Japan's Grand Strategy</i> Dr. Richard Samuels
	<b>1</b> <i>The Wrong Enemy: America in Afghanistan 2001- 2014</i> Carlotta Gall	<b>4</b> <i>Measuring and Gaining U.S. Influence in Latin America and the Caribbean</i> Dr. Francisco Mora
MARCH	<b>8</b> <i>The Military 15 Years Post 9/11</i> Dr. Lawrence Korb	<b>11</b> <i>The Iran Deal and Its Implications</i> Dr. Nabeel Khoury
	<b>15</b> <i>Turkey's Uncertain Future</i> Amb. James Jeffrey	<b>18</b> <i>Facing a World of Challenges</i> Amb. Christopher Hill
	<b>22</b> <i>Ten Mega Trends Impacting Africa's Future</i> Amb. Johnnie Carson	<b>25</b> <i>Global Middle Class Instability</i> Amb. Richard Boucher

Music  
MondaysGlobal Issues Series I  
TuesdayGlobal Issues Series II  
WednesdayGlobal Issues Series III  
Thursday

<b>4</b> <i>Sherrill Milnes and Maria Zouves</i>	<b>5</b> <i>China's Dream: The Hundred-Year Marathon</i> Dr. Michael Pillsbury	<b>6</b> <i>Secrets of the U.S.- China Relationship</i> Dr. Michael Pillsbury	<b>7</b> <i>American Foreign Policy and World Order in an Election Year</i> Dr. Robert Lieber
<b>11</b> <i>John Demain, Conductor</i>	<b>12</b> <i>The War in the Ukraine</i> Nolan Peterson	<b>13</b> <i>A Soldier's View of Today's Military</i> Nolan Peterson	<b>14</b> <i>Current Issues in U.S. Intelligence</i> Dr. Mark Lowenthal
<b>18</b> <i>Ashu, Classical Saxophonist</i>	<b>19</b> <i>The Vladimir Putin Phenomenon</i> Dr. Robert Barylski	<b>20</b> <i>Ukraine: How Are We Doing?</i> Dr. Robert Barylski	<b>21</b> <i>China Goes Global: The Partial Power</i> David Shambaugh
<b>25</b> <i>Thomas Shepard, Record Producer</i>	<b>26</b> <i>The Nuclear Deal's Impact on Iranian Politics and Society</i> Dr. Mohsen Milani	<b>27</b> <i>Iran's Foreign Relations After the Nuclear Deal</i> Dr. Mohsen Milani	<b>28</b> <i>Surging American Inequality: How Much and Why?</i> Dr. Gary Burtless
<b>1</b> <i>Elizabeth Beilman, Violist and Benjamin Beilman, Violinist</i>	<b>2</b> <i>The Global Refugee Crisis – Unprecedented in Scope and Scale</i> George Biddle	<b>3</b> <i>Syria – The Worst Humanitarian Crisis in a Generation</i> George Biddle	<b>4</b> <i>Russia and Putin: What Next?</i> Martin Walker
<b>8</b> <i>Fred Plotkin, We Can't Pigeon Hole Him</i>	<b>9</b> <i>The Disunited United Kingdom</i> Baroness Margaret Jay	<b>10</b> <i>The Rise of Islamic Radicalism in European Nations</i> Baroness Margaret Jay	<b>11</b> <i>The Arctic</i> Amb. Kenneth Yalowitz
<b>15</b> <i>Joseph Volpe, Former General Manager, Metropolitan Opera</i>	<b>16</b> <i>The Dangers of Demonization</i> Amb. Donald Gregg	<b>17</b> <i>U.S. Intelligence and the War on Terror</i> Amb. Donald Gregg	<b>18</b> <i>Modern Mercenaries: How For-Profit Warriors Are Changing Global Affairs</i> Dr. Shawn McFate
<b>22</b> <i>Victor Derenzi, Artistic Director, Sarasota Opera</i>	<b>23</b> <i>High Cost Drugs: What Is the Solution?</i> Dr. Troy Brennan	<b>24</b> <i>The Health Care Law - From a Health Lawyer's Perspective</i> Dr. Troyen Brennan	<b>25</b> <i>Japan's Grand Strategy</i> Dr. Richard Samuels
<b>29</b> <i>The Seventh U.S. Army Symphony Orchestra</i>	<b>1</b> <i>The Wrong Enemy: America in Afghanistan 2001- 2014</i> Carlotta Gall	<b>2</b> <i>After Bin Laden: U.S. Relations with Afghanistan and Pakistan Today</i> Carlotta Gall	<b>3</b> <i>Measuring and Gaining U.S. Influence in Latin America and the Caribbean</i> Dr. Francisco Mora
<b>7</b> <i>Brandon and Rich Ridenour, Trumpet and Piano Duo</i>	<b>8</b> <i>The Military 15 Years After 9/11</i> Dr. Lawrence Korb	<b>9</b> <i>Military Budgets in an Age of Austerity</i> Dr. Lawrence Korb	<b>10</b> <i>The Iran Deal and Its Implications</i> Dr. Nabeel Khoury
<b>14</b> <i>John Brancy, Award-Winning Baritone</i>	<b>15</b> <i>Turkey's Uncertain Future</i> Amb. James Jeffrey	<b>16</b> <i>Middle East on the Brink</i> Amb. James Jeffrey	<b>17</b> <i>Facing a World of Challenges</i> Amb. Christopher Hill
<b>21</b> <i>Libby Larsen, Composer</i>	<b>22</b> <i>Ten Mega Trends Impacting Africa's Future</i> Amb. Johnnie Carson	<b>23</b> <i>Africa: Challenges, Change and Conflict</i> Amb. Johnnie Carson	<b>24</b> <i>Global Middle Class Instability</i> Amb. Richard Boucher

JANUARY

FEBRUARY

MARCH

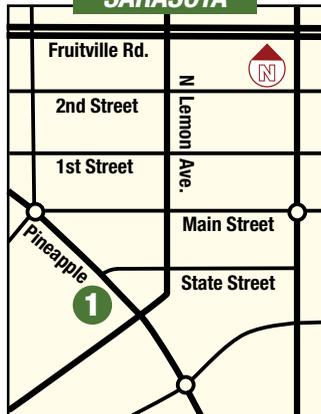
JANUARY

FEBRUARY

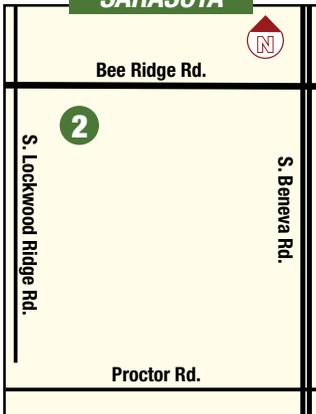
MARCH

## SILL Program Locations

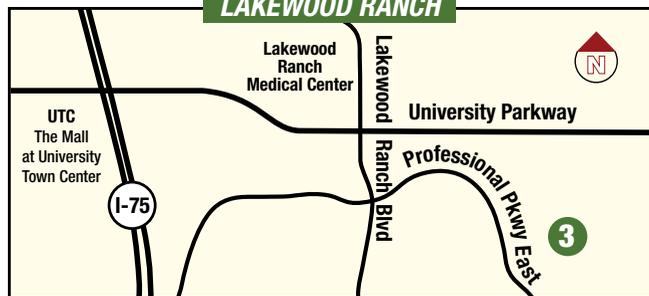
### SARASOTA



### SARASOTA



### LAKWOOD RANCH



- 1** *First Church*  
104 S. Pineapple Ave
- 2** *Church of the Palms*  
3224 Bee Ridge Rd
- 3** *State College of Florida*  
7131 Professional Parkway E
- 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



## Mail-in Order Form

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail (please print) \_\_\_\_\_

Yes  No  Please include me on your mailing list.

Complete reverse side of this form and mail it with your check payable to:

SILL Registrar  
Box 219  
8499 S. Tamiami Trail  
Sarasota, FL 34238

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

## Subscription Ticket Order Form

	QTY	x PRICE	AMT.
<b>SARASOTA PROGRAM</b>			
<b><i>Mondays: Music</i></b>		x \$85	
<b><i>Tuesdays: Global Issues Series I</i></b>		x \$85	
<b><i>Wednesdays: Global Issues Series II</i></b>		x \$85	
<b><i>Thursdays: Global Issues Series III</i></b>		x \$85	
<b>VENICE PROGRAM</b>			
<b><i>Mondays: Music</i></b>		x \$85	
<b><i>Tuesdays: Global Issues Series I</i></b>		x \$85	
<b><i>Fridays: Global Issues Series II</i></b>		x \$85	
All series are 12 lectures. Single lectures \$10 at the door			
<b>LAKWOOD RANCH PROGRAM</b>			
<b><i>Thursdays: 6 Lectures 1/14, 1/28, 2/11, 2/25, 3/3, 3/24</i></b>		x \$45	
Single Lectures \$10 at the door. Lectures are held at the State College of Florida Main Auditorium 7131 Professional Parkway E			
<b>SEMINARS</b>			
<b><i>Jan 7 Dr. Robert Lieber</i></b>		x \$30	
<b><i>Jan 21 Dr. David Shambaugh</i></b>		x \$30	
<b><i>Feb 4 Martin Walker</i></b>		x \$30	
<b><i>Feb 18 Dr. Sean McFate</i></b>		x \$30	
<b><i>Mar 10 Dr. Nabeel Khoury</i></b>		x \$30	
<b><i>Mar 17 Amb. Christopher Hill</i></b>		x \$30	
Seminars are held at First Church 104 S. Pineapple Ave., Sarasota			
<b>TICKET TOTAL</b>			
<b>Mail Tickets</b>		<b>\$3</b>	
<b><i>Friends of SILL</i></b> (Tax Deductible Contribution)			
<b>TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED</b>			<b>\$</b>

For seminars where seats are available, \$30 tickets will be sold at the door.

## 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 43 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 area 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

Jane Baisley	Bob Inglis	Dale Povenmire
Sue Banks	Dean Inglis	Dorothy Roney
Maxine Becker	Jimmy Jewell	Joyce Rosenthal
Donn Blodgett	Joyce Jewell	Pat Savage
Monroe Brett	Milt Kalafa	Susan Schayes
Theresa Bulman	Lou Ann Koch	Liz Schreiber
Kathy Byrnes	Jan LaHaie	Ruth Ann Schumeister
Nancy Cabral	Jim Lapides	Pat Schwing
Barbara Campo	Lucy Lapides	Barb Smith
Tom Campo	CC Leslie	Dick Smith
Edith Catler	Coke Levin	Michael Spring
Marvin Catler	Selma Levin	Bernard Stecher
Lisa Crump	Mary Little	Jay Steele
William Dennis	Sandy Livon	Harry Stein
Rene Desjardins	Tom Lordi	Sheila Stein
Christine Deutsch	Tom Marquis	Bob Stewart
Ben Eisenberg	Cort Martin	Carmen Stoeckmann
Cheryl Escott	Walter Maxymuk	Melvin Stone
Bill Fearen	Betsy Mayes	Karen Szymanski
Rita Feder	Chip Merrill	Lynn Thierry
Pat Finnerty	Suzie Merrill	Jewel Thompson
Bill Forester	Marilyn Moist	Margrit Vogler
Dennis Franks	Royce Morris	Rosanna White
Bob Goldschmidt	Teresa Morris	Jo Williams
Joan Goldschmidt	Marie Myers	Nancy Williams
Charleen Gorbet	Tom Myers	Marsha Zed
Kate Harris	Sona Nocera	Tom Zed
Katalin Holzmann	Don Oakley	
Susan Hook	Marion Oakley	



## A SPECTACULAR VIEW *of Sarasota*



Once you've seen Plymouth Harbor and meet the people who call it home, you will change the way you think about your future.

Our view on whole person wellness combined with all of the thoughtful services and amenities that are part of the Plymouth Harbor lifestyle allow you to focus on the activities and interests you enjoy most. All in a setting that looks like a first-class resort, but feels just like home.

Come see for yourself – and get a fresh perspective on retirement living. Call us today for a tour of our award-winning campus, luxury accommodations and amenities.



A SPECTACULAR VIEW OF RETIREMENT

*Call Today to Schedule a Personal Tour*

700 John Ringling Blvd • Sarasota, Florida 34236  
(941) 365-2600 • [www.PlymouthHarbor.org](http://www.PlymouthHarbor.org)



A Not-For-Profit Continuing Care Retirement Community (CCRC) / OIR #88039



Venice Theatre



JOIN  
US!



TICKETS & INFO  
VeniceStage.com  
941-488-1115

MainStage, Stage II, Cabaret, Family Shows  
... there's something for everyone at VT!  
Our 15-16 Season includes:

**Church Basement Ladies**

**Hair, directed by Ben Vereen!**

**A Christmas Carol**

**Noises Off**

**Sweeney Todd**

**Ragtime**

**The Rocky Horror Show**

**Venus in Fur**

**A Funny Thing Happened  
on the Way to the Forum**

**James and the Giant Peach**

*and much more!*

ACTORS: Audition information available at  
VeniceStage.com

## MUSIC FINE ARTS SERIES

2015-16

FIRST CHURCH SARASOTA



**Belle Canto & The Jazz Trio • Nov. 8 - 6 pm**

*Belles on Broadway*

*Benefit Concert for Family Promise*

**Annual Christmas Concert • Dec. 13 - 7 pm**

*Festive music and dance, brass and organ*

**Ashu in Concert • Jan. 17 - 7 pm**

*"A brilliant saxophone soloist..."*

*Riveting...Pizzazz to burn!"*

**Valentines Concert • Feb. 14 - 7 pm**

*First Church Vocal Quintet*

**Singspiration V: Belle Canto • Mar. 6 - 7 pm**

*"Amazing voices and harmony. A joy to listen to."*

**Duke University Chorale • Mar. 14 - 7 pm**

*Sacred to secular, Renaissance to contemporary*

**Organized Rhythm • Mar. 30 - 7 pm**

**Organ and Percussion Duo**

Clive Driskill-Smith & Joseph Gramley

*"Organized Rhythm blew the crowd away!"*

**Sharon Scott • Apr. 13 - 7 pm**

*"Her megawatt voice brings down the house!"*

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

104 South Pineapple Avenue • 955-0935

[www.firstsrq.com/music/fine-arts-series](http://www.firstsrq.com/music/fine-arts-series)

2015 TWENTIETH  
2016 ANNIVERSARY SEASON



## ARTIST SERIES CONCERTS

OF SARASOTA

Exceptional musicians from around the world, performing for you in America's only 18th Century European Opera House, and other one-of-a-kind venues.



PIANO ♦ VOICE ♦ POPS ♦ INSTRUMENTAL

*Unique, live musical events that entertain, engage and inspire.*

More than forty performances annually.  
For our schedule, details and tickets visit

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

TICKETS 941.360.7399 (Daily 10-4)

GROUPS & INFORMATION

941.306.1202 (M-F, 10-4)

Artist Series Concerts of Sarasota is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization – learn more about us at: [www.thegivingpartner.org](http://www.thegivingpartner.org)

REGIONAL BREAKFAST SYMPOSIUM 2015-16 SERIES



KEY REGIONAL TOPICS  
– PHILANTHROPY  
– BUSINESS INNOVATION  
– ECONOMIC IMPACT

SRQ | THE MAGAZINE



SARASOTA  
BRADENTON  
INTERNATIONAL



BECOME AN SB2 MEMBER | THE FRANCIS | [SRQSB2.COM](http://SRQSB2.COM)  
GET YOUR SEASON PASS TODAY! 941-365-7702 x221  
FOR SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES, CONTACT ASHLEY GRANT AT  
[ASHLEY.GRANT@SRQME.COM](mailto:ASHLEY.GRANT@SRQME.COM) OR 941-365-7702 x204.

# THE PLAYERS

Your Community Your Theatre

*Celebrating What Makes Us...*

*Celebrating...*

*...Intrigue!*

**1 THE 39 STEPS**  
Sep. 30 - Oct. 11, 2015

*...Flight!*

**2 CHITTY CHITTY BANG BANG**  
Oct. 28 - Nov. 15, 2015

*...Romance!*

**3 SHE LOVES ME**  
Dec. 2 - 20, 2015

*...The Stage!*

**4 THE DROWSY**  
Chaperone  
Jan. 13 - 31, 2016

*...Tenacity!*

**5 HANDS ON A HARDBODY**  
Feb. 17 - Mar. 6, 2016

*...Being Yourself!*

**6 La Cage** AUX FOLLES  
Mar. 23 - Apr. 10, 2016

*...The Senses!*

**7 THE SMELL OF THE KILL**  
Apr. 27 - May 8, 2016

86th Season Broadway Series

*Miracle!*

838 N. Tamiami Trail ThePlayers.org  
Sarasota, FL 34236 941.365.2494

YOU ARE THE JEWISH COMMUNITY.



THIS IS YOUR FEDERATION.



TOGETHER, WE DO EXTRAORDINARY THINGS.



The Jewish Federation  
OF SARASOTA-MANATEE

KLINGENSTEIN JEWISH CENTER  
580 McIntosh Road • Sarasota, FL 34232  
941.371.4546 • [www.jfedsrq.org](http://www.jfedsrq.org)



.COM/JFEDSRQ





## Hotel Indigo

Located downtown along the coastline of Sarasota Bay, Hotel Indigo captures the art of tropical inspiration with luxurious amenities and exceptional service. Our urban boutique hotel offers courtesy airport transportation; gourmet, local cuisine; complimentary Wi-Fi; covered parking; and pet-friendly room options.



(941) 487-3800  
 (866) 2-INDIGO  
 1223 Blvd of the Arts, Sarasota  
[www.srqhotel.com](http://www.srqhotel.com)

*Education is the kindling of a flame, not the filling of a vessel.* SOCRATES

Unitarian Universalist Congregations are welcoming communities. Members follow diverse spiritual paths.



**VENICE** • 1971 Pinebrook Rd.  
 941-485-2105 • [uucov.org](http://uucov.org)

**SARASOTA** • 3975 Fruitville Rd.  
 941-371-4975 • [uusarasota.com](http://uusarasota.com)

**BRADENTON** • 322 15th St. West  
 941-746-0067 • [uuofbradenton.org](http://uuofbradenton.org)



*Live Beautifully*



*Lakehouse West*  
 — RETIREMENT ESTATE —

*Make the rest of your life the best of your life.*

(941) 923-7525  
 3435 Fox Run Rd, Sarasota, FL 34231  
[www.lakehousewest.com](http://www.lakehousewest.com) • Lic.#AL5850

## Friends of SILL

SILL is a volunteer organization, totally funded by ticket sales, the support of institutional sponsors and the generous contributions from its friends.

We want to thank the many Friends of SILL whose names appear below for helping us to maintain the high quality and reasonable cost of our programs.

The listing is for donations received between 7/1/14 and 6/30/15.

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:

**SILL Registrar, Box 219, 8499 S. Tamiami Trail, Sarasota, FL 34238**

Thank you for being a Friend of SILL.

### Friends of SILL Honor Roll

#### \$500+ Patron

Joan & Jack Hall  
Jack & Mary Hawes  
David Snyder  
Elizabeth Tannenbaum

#### \$100+ Sponsor

Martin & Jane Albaum  
Howard Baker  
William Baldwin  
Bruce Ballard  
M. Beverly Bartner  
Marc & Nancy Bazilian  
Donald Bernstein  
Murray Bring  
A. Bushey  
Irene & Alec Cass  
Adrienne Cipolla  
Kevin Collins  
Robert Copeland  
Robert Copenrath  
Brian Cosgrove  
Robert Cox  
Katherine Daley  
Michael Day  
Philip Dierstein  
James Ericson

Robert Fechter  
Gerald Fickenscher  
Shirley Foss  
Herman Frankel  
Jean & Michael Freed  
Michele Glazer  
Doris Glick  
Ruth Goldmann  
Robert Goree  
Robert Grady Jr  
Barbara & Norman Gross  
Donnalun Gunn  
Judith Handelman  
Christine Heider  
Jack Heller  
Wilmer Hergenrader  
Dorothy Hurd  
Herbert Hurwitz  
Robert & Sallie Kendall Jr  
Nancy & Philip Kotler  
Stuart Lefkovich  
Joan Lieberman  
Herbert Lippitz  
Marks & Donna Lockhart

William Marcus  
Louis Marquet  
Phyllis Meyerhoff  
George & Julie Mosher  
Samantha Nagel  
Irving & Marilyn Naiditch  
Alan Papernick  
Stu & Gini Peltz  
John Redfield  
Barbara Rosin  
Terry Roth  
Barry Safir  
Carla Salmon  
Marjorie Sandy  
Joan Sarney  
Kenneth Satir  
Richard Seidel  
Claudine & Allen Siegel  
Ted & Mary Ann Simon  
Bruce Stewart  
Alan Stone  
Martin Strobel  
Jim & Joan Symons

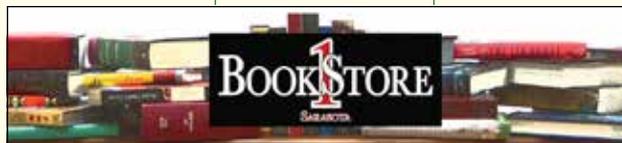
Pat Taylor  
Penny Thomas  
Maxine Unger  
Joan & Jerry Wexler  
Family Foundation  
Elizabeth Winston  
George Wood

#### \$50+ Friend

Sheri Abramson  
Brian Baxter  
Robert Bayer  
Richard Beckerman  
Arnold Belker  
Bernard Berkman  
Barbara Blackburn  
Janis & Aaron Brenner  
Sandra Brinker  
William Burckhardt  
Judith Burgis  
Linda Buxbaum  
June Cassidy  
Richard Chais  
Helen Charash  
Sheila Cohen  
Arthur Coren  
Carolyn Cunniffe  
Bernice Davis  
Elizabeth Dayani  
Chantal Diem  
Irwin Eisenfeld  
Dean & Anne Estabrook  
Alfred Fader  
Jean Farrington  
Sanford Feuer  
Donna Fisher  
Rosalind Foer  
Mickey Fox  
Marcia Frankel

Ann Friedman  
Barbara Gahry  
Elizabeth Gallick  
Ruth Geniesse  
Carol Gilbert  
Lynn Gilchrist  
Marvin & Phyllis Goldblatt  
Samuel Gotoff  
Robert & Janet Guertin  
Malcolm Hay  
Rita Hebel  
David Helligman  
Jay Heyman  
Robert Hirsch  
Bette Hoffman  
William Howes  
Donald Kallman  
Joel Kaplan  
Manuel Kaplan  
John Kidd  
Angela King  
Richard Klein  
Seymour Klionsky  
Ellis & Bernice Lasberg  
Edward Levi  
Gloria Levine  
Sanford MacKman  
Robin Mann  
Valerie McKenzie  
Sharon Mehler  
Jack Meyers  
Susan Newmark  
Ann & Al Oppenheim  
Margaret Pennington  
Jane Plitt  
Robert & Joan Ravin  
Harriet & Ray Resnick  
Margot Robinson

Ursula Robinson  
Elyse Rogers  
Sandy Romley  
Marvin Rosen  
Warner Rosenthal  
Mary Rosner  
Martin Rubashkin  
Herbert Ruderman  
Charles Schenck  
Samuel Seager  
Stephen Shuster  
Susan Siltan  
Lynn Simmons  
Marcia Skinner  
Paul Smilow  
Robert Spadaccia  
Virgil Stanciu  
Sol Steingard  
Beverly Stone  
Wolf Strehlow  
Barbara Struth  
Jack Sullivan  
Rosalie Thomas  
Stan Trost  
Marty Vogelfanger  
Ronald Ward  
Vanessa Wassenaar  
Susan Wellek  
John Wells  
Sara & Stanley Werner  
Bruce Wertheimer  
Mary Winnick  
Robert & Linda Winter  
Harvey Wolfson  
Gary & Sandra Yakes  
Bruce Zeitlin



1359 Main Street, Downtown Sarasota

941-365-7900

[www.sarasotabooks.com](http://www.sarasotabooks.com)

Proud to be your **SILL** bookstore

## Seating Policy & Other Notes

### SERIES TICKETS

The purchase of a \$85 series ticket (\$45 for 6 lecture Lakewood Ranch series) entitles the holder to attend all of the lectures in that series. To order tickets using your credit card, go to our website, [www.sillsarasota.org](http://www.sillsarasota.org). All ticket sales are final.

### SINGLE DAY ADMISSIONS

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

### COMPACT DISC RECORDINGS

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.

Sarasota Institute of Lifetime Learning

Box 219, 8499 S Tamiami Trail, Sarasota, FL 34230 941-365-6404 [www.sillsarasota.org](http://www.sillsarasota.org)

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.

## Board Members

### Directors

Dr. Robert Baryliski	<i>President</i>	Gerald Luhman II	<i>Director</i>
Dr. John McGruder Jr.*	<i>Vice President</i>	Joan G. MacDonnell	<i>Director</i>
Bob Germain	<i>Secretary</i>	Craig Marion	<i>Director</i>
Mary Lou Spottswood	<i>Treasurer</i>	Jim McGee	<i>Director</i>
Rick Banks	<i>Director</i>	Joy McIntyre *	<i>Director</i>
C. Beth Cotner	<i>Director</i>	Robert Moist	<i>Director</i>
Bob Deutsch	<i>Director</i>	Dr. Don Savage	<i>Director</i>
Peter J. Huber *	<i>Director</i>	Dr. Frances Smith-Williams	<i>Director</i>
June Lebell	<i>Director</i>	Mary Testa *	<i>Director</i>
Irwin Livon *	<i>Director</i>	Chet Thompson *	<i>Director</i>
Jorie Lueloff	<i>Director</i>	Roy Turrett	<i>Director</i>
		Dr. Mustafa Yilmaz	<i>Director</i>

\* Former SILL Board President

### Adjunct Members

Richard Friedman	Herman Gilbert
Donald R. Blivas	Jeff Olesen
Patricia G. Chapman	Lionel Olmer
Adrienne Cipolla	Bob Toplin
Carmine Cipolla	

### Ex-Officio Members

Robert G. Bailey,  
Former President  
Scott L. Behoteguy,  
Former President

## Ambassadors Panel

March 30, 2016 First United Methodist Church

### U.S. Foreign Relations – The View from the Embassy

Under the guiding hand of veteran NBC news anchor Jorie Lueloff, retired U.S. Ambassadors Douglas McElhaney, James McGee, and James Walsh will help us understand U.S. relations with the World. These three friends of SILL have long diplomatic experience in every major region of the world, and we expect their interaction to bring out unique perspectives on US national security and global interests

Admission to our experimental ambassadors panel will be free to our subscribers and attendees, but event tickets will be required. The tickets will be distributed on a first come first served basis early in March at the Global Issues lectures. We will provide further information on the process during the SILL GI season.

## Explore a World of Knowledge

Give your mind a workout with over 150 courses and a host of lectures, workshops, forums, and films on the vibrant USF Sarasota/Manatee campus!

### Lifelong Learning Academy

2016 Winter Semester  
**JAN. 11-MARCH 4**

2016 Spring Semester  
**MARCH 7-APRIL 28**

Courses run 2-8 sessions

**REGISTER NOW!**

Register online or by phone:  
[www.lla-sm.org](http://www.lla-sm.org) • 941-359-4296

Request a catalog at:  
[info@thelifelonglearningacademy.com](mailto:info@thelifelonglearningacademy.com)



St. Petersburg Conference on World Affairs  
St. Petersburg, Florida:  
February 17-19, 2016



Join diplomats, intelligence officials, and media and academic experts for the 2016 conference to be held at the USF – St. Petersburg University Student Center. Everyone is invited to attend. Admission and parking are free.

Sign up today: [stpetersburgintheworld.com](http://stpetersburgintheworld.com)



## 90 years young.

Whether found at your home in the morning or on your iPad as you search for details of the movie you want to see tonight, our products are designed to serve as your trusted source for news and information **all day, every day.**

*The Herald-Tribune is proud to salute the SILL and the solid foundation it provides for lifelong learning.*



# celebrate.

#HT90years

For advertising, call 941-361-4000 For subscriptions, call 941-365-6060



**Hearing Loss  
Association  
of America**  
Sarasota/Manatee

## Discover How Much More You Can Hear

- Innovative hearing aid technologies
- New phone & assistive technologies
- Auditory exercises that restore lost hearing
- Communication strategies
- New caption systems at local cinemas
- Loops at over local 100 venues  
Player's Theatre, Holly Hall & Venice Community Center



**Expert  
speakers &  
mentors to help  
improve your  
hearing by 20%  
or more.**



"Best Cause"

**Contact: [info@hlas.org](mailto:info@hlas.org)  
941-320-8825  
[www.HLAS.org](http://www.HLAS.org)**

2016 PROGRAM

**SILL**®

The logo for SILL features the word "SILL" in a bold, white, sans-serif font. A yellow starburst with radiating lines is positioned behind the letter "I". A registered trademark symbol (®) is located to the upper right of the "L".

SARASOTA INSTITUTE OF LIFETIME LEARNING

# Music Mondays Series

Musical Conversations  
with Great Performers



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

## Sarasota Program

Pages M4- M5 MONDAY MUSIC SESSIONS

### MUSIC MONDAYS

12 Lectures January 4 - March 21, 10:30 am  
Church of the Palms, 3224 Bee Ridge Road

Pages G4- G5 TUESDAY LECTURE SERIES

### GLOBAL ISSUES SERIES I

12 Lectures January 5 - March 22, 10:30 am  
First United Methodist Church, 104 S. Pineapple Ave.

Pages G6- G7 WEDNESDAY LECTURE SERIES

### GLOBAL ISSUES SERIES II

12 Lectures January 6 - March 23, 10:30 am  
First United Methodist Church, 104 S. Pineapple Ave.

Pages G8- G9 THURSDAY LECTURE SERIES

### GLOBAL ISSUES SERIES III

12 Lectures January 7 - March 24, 10:30 am  
First United Methodist Church, 104 S. Pineapple Ave.

Page G28 LAKEWOOD RANCH LECTURE SERIES

### GLOBAL ISSUES SERIES

6 Lectures 1/14, 1/28, 2/11, 2/25, 3/3, 3/24 7:00 pm  
State College of Florida, 7131 Professional Parkway East

Pages G10- G11 THURSDAY SEMINARS

6 Seminars January 7 - March 17, 2:00 pm  
First United Methodist Church, 104 S. Pineapple Ave.

Please flip the brochure for information on the Global Issues series

## Venice Program

Pages M4- M5 MONDAY MUSIC SESSIONS

### MUSIC MONDAYS

12 Lectures January 4 - March 21, 3:00 pm  
Venice Presbyterian Church, 825 The Rialto

Pages G12- G13 TUESDAY LECTURE SERIES

### GLOBAL ISSUES SERIES I

12 Lectures January 5 - March 22, 2:30 pm  
Venice Community Center, 326 S. Nokomis Ave.

Pages G14- G15 FRIDAY LECTURE SERIES

### GLOBAL ISSUES SERIES II

12 Lectures January 8 - March 25, 10:00 am  
Venice Community Center, 326 S. Nokomis Ave.

## Overview

### June LeBell

It's another exciting season at SILL's Music Mondays and, once again, there are some changes to announce. For our audience in Venice, we've made a move to the larger, state-of-the-art Venice Presbyterian Church. Our Sarasota audiences will continue to enjoy the large but intimate space at The Church of the Palms and, with the line-up of guests we've scheduled for 2016, we'll need every seat in these enlarged spaces.



From the great baritone Sherrill Milnes to the world-famous American composer, Libby Larsen, we have guests that are that special combination of entertaining and enlightening.

We have two speakers who are multiple Grammy Award winners! Three illustrious conductors of "Uncle Sam's Orchestra," (the 7th Army Symphony) will join us to talk about their experiences leading one of the foremost U.S. military ensembles that never played in the USA. We have award winning singers, trumpeters, pianists, composers, authors and instrumentalists on our roster.

If you thought Music Mondays was exciting in the past, wait until this season. We plan to knock you out.

## Music Advisory Board

The Music Monday series is produced and organized by **June LeBell** (see M10 for full bio), with the assistance of the following advisors:

**Edward Alley**, conductor and music administrator, was conductor of the renowned 7th Army Symphony in Europe, led 18 tours of the Goldovsky Opera Theater in the U.S., and was Manager of the NY Philharmonic. In Sarasota, he's served on numerous boards and chaired the recent Music Director Search Committee for the Sarasota Orchestra, which culminated in the hiring of Anu Tali.

**Joseph Holt** (See M9 for full bio)

**Marilyn Horne**, one of the world's greatest mezzo-sopranos, is also the founder of the Marilyn Horne Foundation (now known as the Marilyn Horne Legacy at Carnegie Hall), exploring the art of song. Through her Foundation, 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 audiences at SILL.

**Daniel Jordan**, concertmaster of the Sarasota Orchestra and violinist in the Sarasota String Quartet, is also the assistant principal second violinist of the Santa Fe Opera Orchestra. He holds Bachelor's and Master's degrees from the Cleveland Institute of Music.

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

**Robert Sherman** (See M12 for full bio)

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

– JANUARY 4 –

**Sherrill Milnes and Maria Zouves** The foremost baritone of his generation, Sherrill Milnes just celebrated two landmarks, his 80th birthday and the 50th anniversary of his debut at the Met. He and his wife, Maria Zouves, will recount his career and tell us about their organization, VoicExperience, which provides training to aspiring young artists while fostering new audiences.

– JANUARY 11 –

**Conductor John Demain** DeMain, known as, “one of the top conductors in the world,” is Director of the Madison Symphony and Opera. John’s won a Grammy, Tony and France’s Grand Prix du Disque. He’s conducted more than 350 performances of “Porgy and Bess” and world premieres of Bernstein’s “A Quiet Place” and Adams’ “Nixon in China.”

– JANUARY 18 –

**Classical Saxophonist Ashu** Ashu, only in his mid-20s, has won dozens of international awards, made his Carnegie Hall debut at 16 and, according to the *Chicago Tribune*, “is just as much fun to watch as it is to listen to him.” He’s appeared in concert from Azerbaijan to Vienna and his stage presence and personality match his spectacular playing.

– JANUARY 25 –

**Thomas Z. Shepard, Record Producer** Winner of 12 Grammys, Tom is a prolific record producer who’s also a composer, conductor, music arranger and pianist. This charming and knowledgeable raconteur has worked with them all, from Anna Moffo to Richard Tucker. He’s one of America’s most fascinating speakers on classical music and Broadway recordings.

– FEBRUARY 1 –

**Elizabeth Beilman, Violist, and Benjamin Beilman, Violinist** This brother-sister team have separate but equally exciting careers. Elizabeth was principal violist with Sarasota Orchestra (she’s now moved to the Utah Symphony) and violinist Benjamin is one of the great, rising super-star soloists. The *Washington Post* said he was “Mightily impressive.” This is a rare chance to hear them together!

– FEBRUARY 8 –

**Fred Plotkin, We Can’t Pigeon Hole Him** Fred is the true essence of “Renaissance Man.” Fulbright Scholar, opera director, lecturer and author, his articles appear regularly in *The NY Times*, London’s *Guardian*, *Opera News* and *Bon Appetit*. A regular on the Met Opera broadcasts, he is one of the most knowledgeable speakers on the big three we know: Music, Food and Travel.

– FEBRUARY 15 –

**Joseph Volpe, Former General Manager, Metropolitan Opera** In 42 years at the Met, Volpe rose from Apprentice Carpenter to General Manager. Among his numerous accomplishments at the Met, he increased the season more than anyone since 1935, added world premieres and conceived the Met Titles. He was also a fearless manager, successful and respected negotiator, and well-spoken face of the company.

– FEBRUARY 22 –

**Victor Derenzi, Artistic Director, Sarasota Opera** 2016 marks the final year of Sarasota Opera’s complete Verdi cycle. And we mean COMPLETE. Under the aegis of deRenzi, the company will have performed every known note by the composer, something few if any other ensembles have achieved. DeRenzi looks back at this massive accomplishment and ahead to the future.

– FEBRUARY 29 –

**The Seventh U.S. Army Symphony Orchestra** Dubbed “Uncle Sam’s Orchestra,” this legendary ensemble, of draftees from major conservatories and orchestras, never played in the States but was formed to play all over Europe, showing America’s got culture. Led by conductors who went on to international fame, we feature three of them in conversation and music that will make you proud.

– MARCH 7 –

**Brandon And Rich Ridenour, Trumpet and Piano Duo** After their extraordinary success at SILL last season when they filled in at the last minute, the Ridenours are returning for more great music and conversation. Brandon was named first trumpet with Canadian Brass when he was only 20. His father, Rich, is a terrific pianist. Together, they’ll blast you out of your seats.

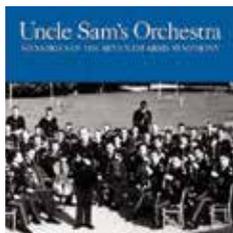
– MARCH 14 –

**John Brancy, Award-Winning Baritone** Last year, Marilyn Horne wrote June LeBell about John Brancy. She said, “Hire him while you can still afford him.” This award-winning young baritone is making headlines around the world. Hear how he’s building a career while he’s learning new roles and winning major competitions

– MARCH 23 –

**Libby Larsen, Composer** One of America’s most prolific and most performed living composers, Libby Larsen has been hailed by *The Wall Street Journal* as coming up “with a way to make contemporary opera . . . current and accessible to the average audience.” Working with performers from The Kings Singers to Frederica von Stade, she’s also an enthusiastic speaker who’s beloved by musicians.

## About Our Artists



### **The Seventh U.S. Army Symphony Orchestra**

Known as “Uncle Sam’s Orchestra,” this 75-piece ensemble existed between the Korean and Vietnamese Wars, and consisted of draftees from Juilliard, Curtis and other major conservatories who then went on to become section

players and first chair leaders in orchestras from Chicago and Philadelphia to Los Angeles and New York. The orchestra never played in the U.S. but, for ten years, performed for European civilian audiences and at the 1958 World’s Fair in Brussels, to prove that America had culture and talent. Founded by Samuel Adler, this legendary orchestra had music directors that included Henry Lewis, (The New Jersey Symphony and the Metropolitan Opera Orchestra), Kenneth Schermerhorn (assistant conductor of the New York Philharmonic and Music Director of American Ballet Theatre and Nashville Symphony), Ling Tung (Grand Teton Music Festival and Hong Kong Philharmonic), and the three conductors who will represent the Orchestra at SILL: founder Samuel Adler, Edward Alley and John Canarina.



### **Ashu**

The *Chicago Tribune* said that Ashu is “just as much fun to watch him as it is to listen to him.” Although Ashu is only in his mid-20’s, this concert saxophonist has won more international awards and competitions than we have room to name. In fact, he’s defied convention by winning competitions usually won by pianists

and violinists, including First Prize in the Musical Olympus International Festival Audience Award in St. Petersburg, Russia. He made his recital debut at Carnegie Hall and, when he was 16, made his concerto debut at DAR Constitution Hall in Washington, D.C. In the few years since then, he’s appeared world-wide, from Azerbaijan and Canada, to Munich, France and Vienna.

With a growing demand from prominent orchestras around the world, recent concerto invitations include the Vienna Chamber Orchestra, St. Petersburg Chamber Philharmonic, Montreal Chamber Orchestra, and the Cape Town Philharmonic. Recent recital engagements in the U.S.A. include the Ravinia Festival, Kravis Center, and Performance Santa Fe series.

*For more speaker and topic details visit our website*

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

941-365-6404

## About Our Artists



### **Elizabeth and Benjamin Beilman**

Do these names sound familiar? Until this season, Elizabeth Beilman was the principal violist of the Sarasota Orchestra. (Now she’s in Salt Lake City with the Utah Symphony.) Elizabeth was awarded the President’s Prize by Yuri Bashmet at the 2013 Lionel Tertis International Viola Competition. She has served as viola faculty at the Luzerne Music Center in upstate New York. And as a member of the Luzerne Chamber Players, Elizabeth has collaborated with New York Philharmonic Assistant Concertmaster Michelle Kim.



Her brother, Benjamin Beilman, played at the Van Wezel last season when he appeared with the illustrious Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center. Benjamin, who is 25, has won raves. The *New York Times* praised his “handsome technique, burnished sound and quiet confidence.” He recently won the prestigious Avery Fisher Career Grant, a London Music Masters Award and first prize in both the Young Concert Artists International Auditions and the Montreal International Musical Competition. He’s soloed with orchestras from London to San Francisco.



### **John Brancy**

The *New York Times* said baritone John Brancy is “a vibrant, resonant presence...dashing, strong-voiced.” June LeBell first heard of him when she got an email from Marilyn Horne suggesting SILL “hire him while you can still afford him.” (He had recently won first prize in the Marilyn Horne Song Competition.) John has appeared in major roles with the Edmonton Opera and Opera Lyra Ottawa, he’s sung with New York’s Musica Sacra at Carnegie Hall, and he’s been part of the illustrious New York Festival of Song, Opera Theater of St. Louis, and companies from Frankfurt to San Francisco. Opera News said John has “impeccable timing, dynamic physicality and robust voice.” He was the winner of the 2010 Juilliard School Honors Recital Competition and in the following year made his Alice Tully Hall debut. Mr. Brancy is a recent winner of the Sullivan Foundation Grand Prize and career grants, 1st Prize at the Classical Singer Magazine Competition, and the Gold Award for Voice at the YoungArts Foundation competition. He appears at SILL with pianist, Adam Nielsen, an official pianist for the Marilyn Horne Foundation at Carnegie Hall and the Heifetz String Institute.

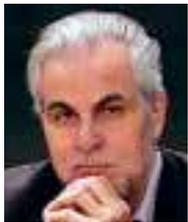
## About Our Artists



### **John DeMain**

Music Director of the Madison Symphony and Artistic Director of the Madison Opera, John DeMain has conducted major orchestras from St. Louis, Pittsburgh, Detroit and Seattle, to the Boston Pops and the London Sinfonietta. Jake Heggie, one of America's leading composers, said, "There's no one

like John DeMain...he's one of the top conductors in the world." During his distinguished 17-years with Houston Grand Opera, in addition to conducting a wide spectrum of the standard operatic repertoire, DeMain led a history-making production of *Porgy and Bess*, winning a Grammy Award, Tony Award and France's Grand Prix du Disque for the RCA recording. In all, he has conducted more than 350 performances of *Porgy and Bess* throughout the world. His critically acclaimed New York City Opera production of the opera was televised on PBS's acclaimed *Live from Lincoln Center* series and garnered an Emmy nomination for "Outstanding Classical Music & Dance Program." DeMain was the second recipient of the Julius Rudel Award, one of the first six conductors to receive the Exxon/National Endowment for the Arts Conductor Fellowship, and led the world premieres of Bernstein's "A Quiet Place" and Adams' "Nixon in China."



### **Victor DeRenzi**

As Artistic Director and Principal Conductor of Sarasota Opera since 1982, Maestro DeRenzi has produced over 70 different operas, conducting close to 600 performances for Sarasota Opera. He has devoted much of his career to building the company while continuing to conduct nationally and

internationally, most notably with Lyric Opera of Chicago, Opera Theatre of Saint Louis, and the Toledo and New Orleans operas. He has also conducted in Hong Kong, Nice, the Canary Islands, and many Canadian cities. Sarasota Opera's Verdi Cycle and American Classics Series, both DeRenzi initiatives, consistently garner the company international attention as a place to experience rarely performed operatic works. In 2007, Maestro DeRenzi was honored by OPERA America for 25 years of service. The City of Sarasota recognized him on three separate occasions for service to the community and *Sarasota Magazine* has twice recognized him as one of Sarasota's 100 Most Powerful People. The 2016 Winter series of Sarasota Opera will mark the conclusion of the Verdi Cycle, at which point, the Maestro will be one of the few, if not the only, conductor to claim he has performed every known note ever written by Giuseppe Verdi.

## About Our Artists



### **Joseph Holt, Host & Pianist**

Now in his sixth season as Artistic Director of the Gloria Musicae Singers, Sarasota's professional chorus, Dr. Joseph Holt enjoys a wide-ranging musical career as conductor, pianist, chamber musician, arts administrator, educator, arranger and interviewer. Before arriving in Sarasota, he served more than 20 years as principal pianist with the

United States Army Chorus in Washington, D.C., performing for U.S. Presidents, dignitaries from around the world and military officials. He held the position of Associate Music Director for the illustrious Choral Arts Society of Washington for 15 years and led the ensemble in the Family Christmas Concerts at the Kennedy Center. Most recently, he's been named Artistic Director of Special Projects with the Artist Series Concerts of Sarasota. An ebullient and inquisitive interviewer, his stints as a Host at SILL's Music Mondays have brought a different and fresh perspective to the performers and he's been roundly praised by audiences in Sarasota and Venice.



### **Libby Larsen**

One of America's most prolific and most performed living composers, Libby Larsen has created more than 500 works spanning virtually every genre from intimate vocal and chamber music to massive orchestral works and over 15 operas. Larsen has been hailed as "the only English-speaking composer since Benjamin Britten who matches great

verse with fine music so intelligently and expressively" (*USA Today*); as "a composer who has made the art of symphonic writing very much her own" (*Gramophone*); as "a mistress of orchestration" (*Times Union*); and for "assembling one of the most impressive bodies of music of our time" (*Hartford Courant*). The *Wall Street Journal* wrote, "Libby Larsen has come up with a way to make contemporary opera both musically current and accessible to the average audience." The winner of numerous awards, including a Grammy as producer of a CD by soprano Arlene Auger, her opera, "Frankenstein, The Modern Prometheus," was selected as one of eight best classical music events by USA Today. She's worked with dozens of international musicians including The King's Singers, Benita Valente, and Frederica von Stade. Her works are recorded on such labels as Angel/EMI, Nonesuch, Decca, and Koch International.

For more speaker and topic details visit our website

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

941-365-6404

## About Our Artists



### **June LeBell, Director and Host**

June began her career in 1973 at WQXR, the nation's largest and oldest commercial classical music radio station, when she became the first female announcer in this field in the country. She remained at WQXR for almost 30 years, garnering more than 18 major awards for outstanding broadcasts, and hosting, writing and producing special programs with such sponsors as IBM, ITT, Zabars and The Russian Tea Room. She has hosted and narrated live presentations with the New York Philharmonic, The Marilyn Horne Foundation, New York City Opera, the Metropolitan Museum of Art, Lincoln Center, the 92nd Street Y, Carnegie Hall and Santa Fe Opera. Along with freelance work for The NY Times, Ovation, Gourmet, and Stagebill, she is Music Critic for The Observer in Sarasota, and author of "Kitchen Classics from the Philharmonic," published by Doubleday with illustrations by Al Hirschfeld. "June LeBell's Musical Conversations," a one hour, series heard twice a month, is written and hosted by June, and co-produced by her with husband, Edward Alley. It features noted musicians from Marilyn Horne to Leonard Slatkin, on Public Radio's Classical WSMR, 89.1 and 103.9.



### **Sherrill Milnes and Maria Zouves**

Sherrill Milnes is universally acclaimed as the foremost operatic baritone of his generation. With his powerful voice, commanding stage presence, and rugged handsomeness, he received the kind of adulation that is usually reserved for tenors. He sang over 650 performances at the Met, where he was honored with sixteen new productions, seven opening nights, and ten national telecasts. He is the winner of three Grammy Awards, and the most recorded American singer of his time. In 2008 he received the Opera News Award for Distinguished Achievement, and he's now celebrating the 50th anniversary of his debut at the Met. Driven by his dedication to make the vocal arts vibrant, vital, and entertaining in today's world, Mr. Milnes continues to give master classes, judge competitions, and mentor new generations of singers. With his wife, Maria Zouves, he co-founded and runs the Sherrill Milnes VOICE Programs: VOICE Experience Foundation and the Savannah VOICE Festival provide training for aspiring young artists while fostering new audiences for the arts.

## About Our Artists



### **Fred Plotkin**

According to his bio in the annals of the New York Philharmonic, Fred Plotkin discovered the concept of "The Renaissance Man" as a small child growing up one block from Avery Fisher Hall, and he has devoted himself to pursuing that ideal. He has worked in opera since 1972, as well as in management, production, design, coaching, consulting, and broadcasting – everything but singing. As a Fulbright Scholar, he directed opera at Milan's Teatro alla Scala and later was the performance manager of The Metropolitan Opera for five years. Mr. Plotkin has also worked for orchestras and other classical music organizations. He is the author of *Opera 101: A Complete Guide to Learning and Loving Opera* and *Classical Music 101: A Complete Guide to Learning and Loving Classical Music*, for which he recorded audio versions. Mr. Plotkin has written six renowned books on Italian cuisine and has cooked on television and radio. His articles appear regularly in *The New York Times*, *Time*, London's *Guardian* and *Daily Telegraph*, *Opera News*, *Bon Appétit*, and other leading publications. His blog posts for WQXR have a devoted following.



### **Brandon and Rich Ridenour**

In 2006, Brandon Ridenour was invited to join the illustrious Canadian Brass. He was 20 years old and the youngest trumpeter ever named to that important position. He stayed with Canadian Brass for seven years, during which time he toured the world, performed on television, recorded ten albums and received three Juno Award nominations. Since then, Brandon has appeared as soloist with ensembles from the National Symphony and LA Philharmonic, and in such venues as Carnegie Hall in NYC and Disney Hall in Los Angeles. He is a winner of the 2014 Concert Artist Guild Victor Elmaleh Competition and the Morton Gould ASCAP Young Composers Award. Brandon and his father, the accomplished pianist, Rich Ridenour, appeared at SILL last season to fill in at the last minute. They were such a sensation, we brought them back for an encore performance this year.

For more speaker and topic details visit our website

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

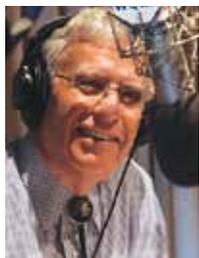
941-365-6404

## About Our Artists



### **Thomas Z. Shepard**

The winner of 12 Grammy Awards, Tom is a prolific record producer who is best known for his recordings of Broadway musicals. Shepard is also a composer, conductor, music arranger and pianist. He produced the original cast recordings of many of the Sondheim musicals, including "Sweeney Todd," "Company," and "Sunday in the Park with George." He also produced the original cast recordings of "1776," "La Cage aux Folles" and "42nd Street." Having attended Juilliard, Oberlin and Yale, Shepard is also the composer of several operas, musicals and chamber works. He's worked for CBS, Columbia, RCA and MCA. And he's arranged music and conducted for Anna Moffo, Richard Kiley, the Norman Luboff Choir and Richard Tucker. Shepard's classical music recordings include albums with Leonard Bernstein, Pierre Boulez and others. A charming and knowledgeable raconteur, his musical expertise and the multitude of great performers he's met, make him one of the country's most fascinating speakers on the recording process, classical music and Broadway.



### **Robert Sherman, Host Broadcaster**

*(Photo credit: Steven J. Sherman)*

Broadcaster, writer, teacher, and radio personality, Robert Sherman recently celebrated his 58th anniversary with WQXR, where he is the host and producer of "The McGraw-Hill Young Artists Showcase," and has presided over the annual broadcasts of the Avery Fisher Career Grant presentations.

His popular folk series "Woody's Children" is now heard weekly on New York's public radio WFUV. For more than forty years he was a music critic and columnist for *The New York Times*, and for nearly twenty served on the faculty of The Juilliard School.

He's given seminars at Yale, the Eastman School, N.Y.U. and the Oberlin Conservatory, and has been a concert narrator with Canadian Brass and the United States Military Academy (West Point) Band. Co-author of "*The Complete Idiot's Guide to Classical Music*" and two best-selling books with Victor Borge, he also joined with his brother, Alexander Sherman, to compile a pictorial history of their celebrated mother, pianist Nadia Reisenberg, and is president of a foundation dedicated to the preservation of her legacy and that of her equally celebrated sister, the theremin virtuoso Clara Rockmore.

## About Our Artists



### **Joseph Volpe**

Joseph Volpe's Metropolitan Opera career spanned 42 years as he rose from Apprentice Carpenter to General Manager. His greatest contribution to the Met's history may have been using masterful negotiation to rid the company of the strife between 16 unions and management, which had plagued the Met for years. He was able to corral the most colossal egos in opera – Pavarotti, Domingo, Stratas, Zeffirelli, and others into a cohesive family of artists. He made working harmony such a priority that he was not afraid to fire a diva (Kathleen Battle) who would not abide by company rules. As general manager, Volpe increased the overall length of the season and added several world premieres including commissions made under his aegis. The Met's repertory expanded with 22 works given their Met premieres - more new works than under any general manager since Giulio Gatti-Casazza, who ran the company from 1908 to 1935. Volpe conceived and developed "Met Titles," which were introduced during the 1995–96 season. Volpe's 2006 memoir, *The Toughest Show on Earth: My Rise and Reign at the Metropolitan Opera*, published by Knopf, describes his 42 years at the Met.



### **Voices raised to move, inspire, and delight 2015 - 2016 Season**

December 2 – Classic Christmas

February 28 – Haydn's *Creation* with the Sarasota Orchestra

March 19 – The Ringling Viewpoint

April 3 & 5 – *Barnum's Bird* – opera with State College of Florida

July 4 – Patriotic Spectacular

Info/Tickets 24/7 at – [www.GloriaMusicae.org](http://www.GloriaMusicae.org) – 941.387.6046