

The Florida Orchestra to perform free chamber concerts throughout Tampa Bay for TFO on the Go



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ST. PETERSBURG -- As the Tampa Bay area tries to return to some sort of normalcy after Hurricane Irma, Florida Orchestra chamber groups will perform more than 10 free concerts at hospitals, retirement centers, schools and museums throughout Tampa Bay on Sept. 19-24 for TFO on the Go.

"It has been such a long week for all of us before, during, and after Hurricane Irma," said Erin Horan, Community Engagement Director for The Florida Orchestra. "Now we just want to get back to normal. We hope these intimate concerts can help. We may not be able to fix your roof, but the power of music can provide its own kind of therapy."

The week of free concerts leads up to The Florida Orchestra's launch of its historic 50th anniversary season with *Carmina Burana*, featuring the Master Chorale of Tampa Bay, on Oct. 6-8, under the direction of Music Director Michael Francis in Tampa, St. Petersburg and Clearwater in the Tampa Bay Times Masterworks series.

These three TFO on the Go concerts are free and open to the general public:

1) Storytelling in Music: String Quartet

Dr. Carter G. Woodson African American Museum, 2240 9th Ave S, St. Petersburg

Sat, Sept 23, 12:30 pm

A TFO string quartet will perform a free concert for families that explores how music can tell a story. TFO will also provide the popular North Suncoast Associates Instrument Petting Zoo from 11:30-12:30 in the museum courtyard, weather permitting.

TFO on the Go at the MFA

Museum of Fine Arts, 255 Beach Drive NE, St. Petersburg

These two back-to-back TFO on the Go performances are also a part of St. Petersburg's Festival of the Arts, which shines a light on St. Petersburg's arts and cultural offerings. The festival is produced by the St. Petersburg Arts Alliance (more info at stpetefest.com). The Instrument Petting Zoo will be offered from 1:30-2 pm and between performances in the courtyard, weather permitting.

MFA admission is not required to attend the free concerts; however, MFA admission also is not included.

2) The Science of Sound: French Horn Quintet

Sun, Sept 24, 2 pm

The concert will explore the French horn, a member of the brass family, while giving children a lesson in how sound works – high and low, loud and soft, and more.

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3) Storytelling in Music: String Quartet

Sun, Sept. 24, 3 pm

The interactive performance will explore how music can tell a story using beloved pieces of classical string quartet repertoire, including Mozart and more.

Media opportunities

TFO chamber groups also are scheduled at these locations, subject to change. Please contact Public Relations Manager Kelly Smith for coverage options.

Mease Countryside Hospital (Clearwater)

Cello and Bass Duo

Tue, Sept. 19, 10:30 am

John Knox Village Retirement Community (Tampa)

Brass Quintet

Tue, Sept. 19, 2 pm

Phillip Shore Magnet Elementary School (Tampa)

Cello and Bass Duo

Wed, Sept 20, 9 am

James A. Haley VA Hospital (Tampa)

Brass Quintet

Wed, Sept 20, 10 am

Police Athletic League (St. Petersburg)

Horn Quartet

Wed, Sept 20, 4 pm

Palms of Largo Regal Palms (Clearwater/Largo)

Brass Quintet

Thu, Sept 21, 7 pm

St. Joseph's North Hospital (Tampa/Lutz)

Cello and Bass Duo

Fri, Sept 22, 11 am

Regency Oaks Retirement Community (Clearwater)

Brass Quintet

Fri, Sept 22, 2 pm

In addition to *Carmina Burana*, TFO's 50th anniversary season embraces old favorites as well as new pieces, ranging from Dvorak's *New World Symphony* to Verdi's massive *Requiem*. The Raymond James Pops series opens Oct. 13-15 with *Swing is the Thing* and includes the Music of Star Trek & Star Wars and Rodgers & Hammerstein. The expanded morning Coffee concert season, with performances in St. Petersburg and Clearwater, opens Oct. 12.

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See a full calendar at floridaorchestra.org

Click for more on Music Director [Michael Francis](#)

[About The Florida Orchestra](#)

Celebrating its 50th anniversary in the 2017/18 season, The Florida Orchestra is recognized as Tampa Bay's leading performing arts institution, the largest professional symphony orchestra in Florida, and one of the most vibrant and innovative orchestras in America. Under the leadership of Music Director Michael Francis, it performs more than 130 concerts a season, with series of classical, popular, and morning coffee concerts in Tampa, St. Petersburg and Clearwater, as well as free Pops in the Park concerts. Dedicated to bringing music to all people, connecting to the community is a priority, with pre-concert talks, family and youth concerts and other educational activities. Kids and teens get in free to classical Masterworks concerts with Classical Kids tickets. To subscribe or buy tickets: 727.892.3337 or 1.800.662.7286; floridaorchestra.org.