

The Florida Orchestra launches Fanfare Project
to perform new works by Florida composers



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ST. PETERSBURG, FL – With titles like *Horizon Gravy* and *Running on Rooftops*, The Florida Orchestra will premiere five short celebratory fanfares written by faculty composers from universities around the state for its Florida Fanfare Project. The debut works add a true Florida flair to TFO's 50th anniversary celebration while supporting new music and showcasing the extraordinary talent in the state. The project also spins off a statewide competition for student composers, with the winning work featured on a TFO concert.

The orchestra is co-commissioning the fanfares through a new partnership with the universities, which selected a faculty member from their composition departments to compose each work. The fanfares could be any genre, though they will relate to the rest of the concert program, and be 3 to 5 minutes long. They will open select Tampa Bay Times Masterworks concerts in Tampa, St. Petersburg and Clearwater, all conducted by Music Director Michael Francis.

The schedule of university composers and concerts that will feature their work:

- **[Paul Reller](#), University of South Florida**

Title: *Horizon Gravy*, premieres Oct. 27-29 on [Tchaikovsky's 1812 Overture](#) concert



Paul Reller, associate professor of music, is a part of the Composition Department and serves as director of USF's Systems Complex for the Recording and Performing Arts Electronic Music Studio. Reller teaches electronic music, acoustic composition, and the History of Blues and Rock Music. He helped start the Bonk Festival of New Music. Click for more on [Paul Reller](#). Click for more on [USF School of Music](#) in Tampa.

- **[Kevin Wilt](#), Florida Atlantic University**

Title: *Running on Rooftops*, premieres Nov. 3-5 on [Beethoven's Symphony No. 7](#) concert



Kevin Wilt is assistant professor of music and composer-in-residence at Florida Atlantic University in Boca Raton. He recently won the Fresh Squeezed Opera Call for Scores with his chamber opera, *Prix Fixe*, and the Musical Chairs Chamber Ensemble Composer Search. Click for more on [Kevin Wilt](#). Click for more on [Florida Atlantic University's Department of Music](#)

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- [Daniel Crozier](#), Rollins College

Title: *Splendor Fountain*, premieres Jan. 19-21 on [Dvorak's Cello Concerto](#) concert



Daniel Crozier is professor of theory and composition at Rollins College in Winter Park, where he has been a recipient of the Cornell Distinguished Teaching Award. His music has been performed or recorded by the Fort Worth Opera, the Seattle Symphony Orchestra, the New York City Opera, the Jacksonville Symphony Orchestra, saxophonist Branford Marsalis and many more. Click for more on [Daniel Crozier](#). Click for more on [The Virginia S. and W.W. Nelson Department of Music](#)

- [Dorothy Hindman](#), Frost School of Music at the University of Miami

Title: *Orchids Grow Here*, premieres Feb. 16-18 on [Romeo and Juliet & West Side Story](#)



Dorothy Hindman is an associate professor of composition in the Department of Theory and Composition at the Frost School of Music located at the University of Miami. Her music is a blend of punk/grunge with a spectralist sensibility. Her more than 400 performances span 30 states and 16 countries, including major venues such as Carnegie Hall, the United Nations, the American Academy in Rome and many more. Click for more on [Dorothy Hindman](#). Click for more on [Frost School of Music](#)

- [Manuel de Murga](#), Stetson University

Title: *Fanfare for Three Cities*, premieres May 4-6 on [Tchaikovsky's Symphony No. 4](#) concert



Manuel de Murga is associate professor of music at Stetson University in Deland and teaches composition, orchestration, improvisation and music theory classes, and directs the music composition program. His music has received international performances at concerts and music festivals in the United States, Canada, Puerto Rico, Europe and Australia. Click for more on [Manuel de Murga](#). Click for more on [The Stetson University School of Music](#)

Also for the 2017-18 season, the orchestra previously announced the commission of a major work by award-winning composer [Michael Ippolito](#), a Tampa native who grew up listening to The Florida Orchestra. Ippolito took inspiration from Florida to compose *Triptych*, which specifically honors TFO's 50th anniversary. The world premiere is Feb. 23-25, 2018, on the [Dvorak's The New World Symphony](#) concert conducted by Michael Francis. In the weeks leading up to the debut, Ippolito will teach composition masterclasses and workshops, give a talk to high school students and attend open rehearsals for his new work.

The Florida Fanfare Project is an extension of the orchestra's Beyond the Bay state program, which began last season with classical Masterworks, youth, side-by-side and hospital concerts in Florida communities that do not have regular access to a major professional orchestra. Last season the program was funded by the state of Florida's Cultural Affairs Division.

Student Composer Competition expands to statewide

As part of the Florida Fanfare Project, students at universities across the state will have the rare opportunity to compose original scores for the orchestra in a statewide competition. The winning work will have its world premiere by The Florida Orchestra on the final Masterworks concert of the season,

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[Beethoven's Pastoral Symphony](#) on May 18-20, 2018, in Tampa, St. Petersburg and Clearwater. The winner also will receive a \$1,000 honorarium.

Each school's composition department can choose up to two students to submit original works 4 to 6 minutes in length. Finalists will be announced Dec. 22. In February 2018, the orchestra will play through finalists' works in a reading, at which students will receive feedback from the conductor and musicians. The winning composition will be selected by Maestro Francis and an advisory group of TFO staff and musicians, and is expected to be announced by the end of February.

The competition offers an unparalleled opportunity for young composers to write for and work with a major orchestra, which also fits with Maestro Francis' passion for nurturing young talent and TFO's commitment to education. It also aligns with the TFO on Campus program, which includes master classes, side-by-sides and other educational collaborations with area universities.

The statewide student competition is an expansion of last season's competition for [University of South Florida student composers](#). The USF winner was undergrad Francesco Sclafani, and the orchestra premiered his work *Deconstruction of Anger* on concerts May 19-21, alongside works by Beethoven and Tchaikovsky, to rave [reviews](#).

[About Michael Francis](#)

Maestro Francis took over as music director of The Florida Orchestra in the fall of 2015 and instantly became a huge hit. Quickly establishing an international presence, the British conductor also is music director of the Mainly Mozart Festival in San Diego and a popular guest conductor around the nation and the globe. [Click for a full bio.](#)

[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.