presents the
Bay Area
Symphony Orchestra & Chorus

Dr. Richard Wright  Orchestra Director
Martha Campanile  Chorus Director

2019 - 2020
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ABOUT BAFFA

The organization known as the Bay Area Friends of the Fine Arts, Inc. was formed in 1968 by a small group of parents and teachers who lived in the Bayport-Blue Point area of Suffolk County's South Shore. Its purpose was to bring the fine arts into the school and community by sponsoring touring dance and theatrical troupes, opera studio recitals and various creative activities. For a number of years an annual "Art In" was held, where exhibits of artist’s works were combined with musical events in day-long affairs.

From the beginning a symphony orchestra was supported which presented three or four concerts annually. Although initially a chorus only existed intermittently, BAFFA now has a permanent choral group which operates separately and with the symphony orchestra. Both the orchestra and chorus depend on dedicated volunteers, amateur and semi-professional musicians, selected students and an important core of professional musicians and music teachers. The music director/orchestra conductor and the chorus director are professional musicians, assisted by part-time orchestra and chorus managers.

For several years, BAFFA rented the Robinson Cottage at the Islip Grange in Sayville using it for a combined office and art gallery. In 1984 these functions were moved to the Gillette House on Gillette Avenue, Sayville. Art exhibitions are held there; the works of local artists are selected, organized into shows, publicized and hung by a volunteer committee. School students from nearby communities exhibit their work in the gallery and there is a high school juried exhibit which is hosted annually.

BAFFA was incorporated in 1977. It is governed by a volunteer Board of Directors selected at the annual meeting held each fall. The Board meets on the first Monday of each month, and its meetings are open to the public. BAFFA’s community of friends is its backbone. They serve on committees, raise money, gallery sit, vote on decisions affecting the organization, and of course receive all BAFFA news and publicity. BAFFA is truly a community; a grass-roots cultural force.
Dear Friends,

Welcome to BAFFA’s exciting new season! I am Andrea Edwards and I’m proud to be President of the Bay Area Friends of the fine Arts. I’ve been a member for 15 years as a Violinist, Board Member, Publicity Director and most recently, Orchestra Manager.

We have a wonderful season planned for our Orchestra, Chorus and Art Gallery each led by our very talented and dedicated directors, Dr. Richard Wright (Orchestra), Martha Campanile (Chorus) and Ellen Stoll (Art Gallery). The love and enthusiasm for their art fuels the energy of the volunteer musicians you will see in the Orchestra and Chorus as well as the volunteers you might not see that coordinate the Gallery and fundraising events for the organization.

We are grateful this year to have been awarded grants from the Knapp-Swezey Foundation and the 2019 Suffolk County Cultural Omnibus Grant. These will help BAFFA tremendously, but, as a not-for-profit Organization, BAFFA is primarily funded by the advertisers you see listed in this journal and private donors like YOU. Thank you for your continued support of both BAFFA and these generous local businesses. Please consider increasing your membership contribution (or becoming a member) and contributing to the donation box at each of the events we host. Every dollar goes directly to the programs and scholarships BAFFA offers.

As we enter our 51st season, I would like to acknowledge some of the amazing people who have been the backbone of BAFFA for decades. Special thanks go out to all our long-term volunteers and board members. Especially, Lois Barton, Ellen Stoll, Robert Acker, Maurice Kemp and of course, our immediate past President, Carole Sheppard. A personal thank you to Steve Alford for being the first person to encourage me to get involved with BAFFA and to the late Barbara Wright who welcomed and mentored me on the Board of Directors. Each have provided the guidance and leadership that has made BAFFA a stable, supportive and creative presence for over 50 years. I am looking forward to maintaining that presence and continuing to help BAFFA grow and expand the ways in which we can contribute to our communities.

Sincerely,

Andrea Edwards
President, Bay Area Friends of the Fine Arts, Inc.
Bay Area Friends of the Fine Arts, Inc.
2019-2020

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A copy of BAFFA’s last annual report may be obtained by writing to the New York State Board of Charities Registration, NY 12223, or from BAFFA, P.O. Box 16, Bayport, NY 11705
Bay Area Symphony Orchestra
"Music Between Friends"
Saturday Nov 23, 2019 at 7:30pm
Bayport/Blue Point High School, Bayport

Bay Area Chorus
"Mass of the Children"
Sunday Nov 24, 2019 at 4:00
Sayville Lutheran Church, 48 Greene Ave, Sayville
In conjunction with AGO (American Guild of Organists - Suffolk) and children’s chorus

Bay Area Symphony Orchestra
"Select Symphonies"
Saturday March 28, 2020 at 7:30
Bayport/Blue Point High School, Bayport

Bay Area Chorus
"Beautiful Music"
Sunday April 5, 2020 (Palm Sunday) at 4:00
United Methodist Church of Patchogue

Bay Area Symphony Orchestra and Chorus
"Forecast: Music!"
Family “POPS” Concert
Saturday June 6, 2020 at 7:00 pm
Bayport/Blue Point High School, Bayport
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Nov 2 - Dec 1
Bell Street Artists - "Tradition and Transition"

Dec 14 - 15
Plein Air Limner Society (PALS) - Holiday Exhibit and sale

Feb 1 - Mar 8
Women Sharing Art - "I AM-East"

Mar 14 - 15
Sayville and Bayport Elementary Schools Multi-Media Exhibit of selected
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Mar 21 - 22
Sayville and Bayport Middle Schools Multi-Media Exhibit of selected Student Art
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