

CHRISTMAS IN JULY HOLIDAY POPS

July 25, 2021 - 7:00 pm
Jackson Street Pier - Sandusky, OH



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**FIRELANDS
SYMPHONY
ORCHESTRA**

CARL TOPILOW, MUSIC DIRECTOR AND CONDUCTOR

www.FirelandsSymphony.com

(419) 621-4800

FSO@FirelandsSymphony.com

WELCOME!



Welcome FSO Fans & Happy Holidays!

I don't know about you, but I could not wait another four months to hear and sing my favorite holiday tunes. From my elementary school music programs with Mrs. Kick at Perrysville Elementary School, to caroling with the Girl Scouts at area nursing homes, solos with my high school choir holiday concerts, performing *Handel's Messiah* during all four years as a student at Heidelberg University and many years thereafter as an alumna, and seeing this all through the eyes of my two sons as they grew up and had the same experiences – every year of my life had unique, yet familiar experiences with live holiday music as a cornerstone.

This all came to an abrupt stop in 2020. It was even more devastating knowing that I was leading the Firelands Symphony Orchestra and we would not be able to present our most popular program. Even though we all needed it more than ever and we pursued every option, the 2020 Holiday Pops Concert would not happen. Instead, we compiled footage of FSO Holiday Pops Concerts of the past and shared the compilation with our patrons far and near. It wasn't the same, but it did bring joy to many in a time of need.

The FSO returns to Jackson Street Pier for its second celebratory pops concert in its 2021 Summer Season and Maestro Topilow has a joyous and jolly program in store. There will even be an opportunity for all of us to join with our voices for our version of 'Caroling on the Pier.' I will be channeling my favorite carol :

*City sidewalks, busy sidewalks dressed in holiday style.
In the air there's a feeling of Christmas.
Children laughing, people passing, meeting smile after smile.
And on every street corner you'll hear: silver bells, silver bells.
It's Christmas-time in the city.
Ring-aling, hear them ring.
Soon it will be Christmas Day!*

The FSO is ecstatic to have this opportunity to bring the holidays to Downtown Sandusky as we creatively and festively celebrate our mission of "Enriching lives through music." Music continues to unite us as we look toward the future in hopes of returning to our 'normal' for the 2021 Holiday Season. For now, please enjoy the amazing sounds of **your** Firelands Symphony Orchestra as we give you that "feeling of Christmas" and meet "smile after smile."

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tricia K. Applegate". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Tricia K. Applegate, Executive Director

MAESTRO CARL TOPILOW



This year Carl Topilow is celebrating his 13th season as Firelands Symphony Orchestra Music Director & Conductor. His tenure with the orchestra has seen a dramatic improvement in the orchestra's quality, a significant rise in subscriptions and concert attendance, and the appearance of world class soloists to our stage.

In addition to his work with the FSO, Topilow is founding conductor of the Cleveland Pops Orchestra, is Music Advisor for the National Repertory Orchestra, a summer festival in Breckenridge, Colorado, and was named Faculty Emeritus at the Cleveland Institute of Music. Topilow has appeared as guest conductor for 125 different orchestras in 37 states and 12 foreign countries.

Topilow's new book, *The Orchestral Conductor's Career Handbook*, published by Rowman and Littlefield, has been acclaimed by prominent conductors Leonard Slatkin, JoAnn Falletta, and Gerard Schwarz.

In addition to his work as conductor, Topilow continues to perform as clarinetist with orchestra as well as with piano in informal recitals.

Topilow's wife, Shirley, is the President and CEO of the Cleveland Pops Orchestra. Their daughter Jenny is a violinist with the Charlotte Symphony Orchestra. Their daughter Emily is working in marketing, pursuing a master's degree in communications, and performs as violinist with a local community orchestra.

NOTES FROM THE PODIUM



We at the Firelands Symphony are excited to be playing for you again!

Last Christmastime wasn't the same without music, and we will be making up for it by spreading holiday cheer in July.

The marvelous songstress Evelyn Wright will be making her Firelands Symphony debut in an array of holiday songs that will stir the wonderful memories of the holiday season. Her experience includes her work as featured vocalist with the Cleveland Jazz Orchestra, and we are delighted that she will be joining us for this unique and special program.

Among the orchestra's presentations will be arrangements made famous by the Trans-Siberian Orchestra. We will play Tchaikovsky's *Trepak* from *The Nutcracker* followed by the Trans-Siberian's' *Mad Russian's Christmas* using the same melody in an upbeat rock version, with a similar formula for *Carol of the Bells*, followed by *Christmas Eve/Sarajevo 12/24*. I'll be performing Leroy Anderson's *Clarinet Candy* with my clarinet colleagues in the orchestra, and our traditional sing-along will give the audience an opportunity to lend their vocal prowess to the concert.

Thank you all for attending the concert and for your continued support of the Firelands Symphony Orchestra!

A handwritten signature of Carl Topilow in green ink. The signature is cursive and reads "Carl Topilow".

Carl Topilow, Music Director and Conductor

OUR SPECIAL THANKS TO:

Adam Reardon & Margareta High School
Jason Werling & Sandusky Parks and Recreation

CONCERT PROGRAM

Christmas in July Holiday Pops

July 25, 2021 at 7 p.m.

Jackson Street Pier

Carl Topilow, Music Director & Conductor

Evelyn Wright, Guest Vocalist

A Christmas Festival.....Leroy Anderson

A Charlie Brown Christmas.....Vince Guaraldi & Lee Mendelson; arr. David Pugh

Trepak from **The Nutcracker**.....P. Tchaikovsky

A Mad Russian's Christmas.....O'Neill, Kinkel, Tchaikovsky; arr. Bob Phillips

Merry Christmas Baby.....arr. Paul Ferguson
Evelyn Wright, Vocalist

Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas.....arr. Paul Ferguson
Evelyn Wright, Vocalist

Clarinet Candy.....Leroy Anderson
Carl Topilow, NicholasThompson, Rebecca Bain: Clarinet

Carol of the Bells.....arr. Richard Hayman

Christmas Eve / Sarajevo 12/24.....O'Neill & Kinkel; arr. Bob Phillips

Cool Yule.....arr. Paul Ferguson
Evelyn Wright, Vocalist

Let It Snow.....arr. Paul Ferguson
Evelyn Wright, Vocalist

White Christmas.....Irving Berlin; arr. Robert Russell Bennett

Sleigh Ride.....Leroy Anderson

A Holly Jolly Sing Along.....arr. James Stephenson
Group Sing Along



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EVELYN WRIGHT

GUEST VOCALIST



A professional vocalist for over 30 plus years, Evelyn Wright has been entertaining like no other in the styles of jazz, R&B, and pop. She has opened for the likes of Mel Torme, Joan Rivers, Harry Belafonte, Bob James, Freddie Jackson, and Regina Belle among others. She also performs with the Tri-C Jazzfest annually.

Wright was awarded the Jazz Legend Award from Tri-C Community College in 2008. She was also awarded Best Female Vocalist in 1985 in conjunction with public broadcasting station WCPN. Evelyn has toured throughout the U.S and Canada performing in the top nightclubs and concert halls. She has had the honor of performing for First Lady Rosalyn Carter, General Colin Powell, and Oprah Winfrey.

The Firelands Symphony Orchestra creates extraordinary musical experiences for the community. To achieve and exceed this mission, we ask for the support of our patrons through donations.

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Carl Topilow

Violin I

Ron Brooker,
Concert Master

Victor Beyens
Hosanna Carella
Maria Monday
Maria Beyens
Sara Beam

Violin II

Priscilla Eva
Alice Weiss
Gina Buzzelli
Jessica Schmidt

Viola

Rosalind Soltow
Eva Mondragon
Jacob Campbell
Maia Hoffman

Cello

Nataliya Pshenychna
Gayle Klaber
Mingyao Zhao
Brian Shifflet

Bass

Tom Flowers
Ann Gilbert

Flute

Kim Zaleski
Jody Chaffee

Piccolo

Jody Chaffee

Oboe

Jesse Martin

Clarinet

Nicholas Thompson
Rebecca Bain

Bassoon

Mackenzie Brauns

Horn

Greg Hillis
Ben Reidhead
Van Parker
Connor Monday

Trumpet

Ted Clark
Justin Rowan
David Banks

Trombone

Adam Reardon
Brian Griffin

Bass Trombone

Devin Roark

Tuba

J.c. Sherman

Timpani

Kirk Georgia

Percussion

Dylan Moffitt
Tim Hampton
Jim Rupp (Drum Set)

Piano

David Robison

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♪ Indicates a 3 year commitment

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William and Jean Bossetti
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Elizabeth Anne Eddowes
Therese Fumich
Chris and Linda Gasteier
Wendy Gomcsak
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John Hufnagle
Larry Hummel
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Tony and Amy Kemnic
Chuck and Peg Kingsley
David and Gladys Kramer
Mary Lacy
Tom and Jean Lander
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Bethany Pereboom
Donald and Judith Pflieger
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Rich and Pam Ryan
Robert and Martha Sawicki

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Doug and Julia Schiefer
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Raymond and Kim Vacca
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Read and Lynda Wakefield
David and Cathy Wobser
Nancy Wolter
Timothy P. Work (In memory of Cathleen)
Louis and Jan Young

Sonata (to \$149)

Anonymous x 21
Anonymous (In memory of Betty Mingus)
Anonymous (In honor of Lizzie Allard)
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John and Annis Apple
Tricia Applegate
Gary and Susan Armstrong
Merle and Joanne Arndt
Thomas Aylward
Mindy Bahnsen
Lauretta Bain (In honor of Rebecca Bain)
Dorothy Baker
Laraine Bauer
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Andrew and Patricia Bazar
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David and Cheryl Kriska (In honor of Amanda Bekeny)
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SAVE THE DATE



Superstar: The Songs. The Stories. The Carpenters.

Sat, Aug. 7 at 7pm

Veterans Memorial Lake Park, Norwalk, Ohio



Samba Joia Percussion Ensemble

Sun, Aug. 8 at 7pm

Huron Boat Basin Amphitheatre, Huron, Ohio



High Frequency Flute Quartet

Thurs, Aug. 19 at 6:30pm

Harbourtown Fine Arts Center, Vermilion, Ohio



Olympic Jazz and Dixieland

Fri, Aug. 27 at 6pm

RiverFront Live, Port Clinton, Ohio



A Night of Americana with Hey Mavis*

Sat, Sept. 18 at 6:30pm

Paper Moon Vineyards, Vermilion, Ohio

** denotes a full orchestra concert*

FREE "DRUMMING WITH DYLAN" SUMMER PROGRAMS FOR YOUTH & ADULTS

Join FSO's principal percussionist Dylan Moffitt for hands-on drumming demonstrations to get you moving and grooving at Mylander Pavilion at Jackson Street Pier! Adult sessions will also include a demonstration by local mixologist & FSO flutist Elizabeth Studer on how to make a signature cocktail which compliments the evening's style.

Please register for these FREE events in advance at:
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Programs run each Wednesday through August 11.

YOUTH: 2:30 pm OR 4:00 pm • **ADULT:** 5:30 pm