



Gulf Coast Symphony

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Dr. Andrew M. Kurtz, Music Director

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: April 30, 2007

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Galloway Magic Carpet Family Concert: Sunday, May 20, 2007, 4pm

Fort Myers, Florida --The **Gulf Coast Symphony**, Southwest Florida's premier community orchestra, performs the final of its acclaimed **Galloway Magic Carpet Family Concert Series** on **Sunday, May 20, 2007 at 4pm** at the Galloway Ford Dealership, 1800 Boy Scout Road as part of the Edison Festival Celebration. The concert is **FREE** and open to all. No tickets or advance reservations are required. The theme of the 2006-07 Magic Carpet Family Concerts is **SYMPHONY TALES**. This concert features Music with Stories, and features Prokofiev's Peter and the Wolf, Saint-Saints Carnival of the Animals and Tubby the Tuba!

The Gulf Coast Symphony has been performing family concerts for the past ten years. The Gulf Coast Symphony's **Galloway Magic Carpet Family Concert Series** is a partnership with the Galloway Family, the oldest and most respected automotive organization in Southwest Florida since 1927. Designed for children of all ages, these **FREE** one hour concerts are the perfect introduction to the symphony orchestra. Children can sit on their own "magic carpet" as they are taken on a journey through the sights and sound unique to a symphony orchestra. Interactive demonstrations, explanations, and one-on-one interaction with orchestra members are all elements of these exciting and captivating concerts. An instrument petting zoo will be on display before and after each concert. Additionally, artwork made by Lee County's Special Needs students will be on display at some concerts. For more information call the Gulf Coast Symphony office at (239) 489-1800 or email: MagicCarpetConcerts@gulfcoastsymphony.org

The Gulf Coast Symphony is Southwest Florida's premier community orchestra. It draws its membership from Naples to Port Charlotte and has performed to sold-out audiences. Its twelfth season featured its highly popular *Symphonic Sensations Concert Series* at the Barbara

B. Mann Performing Arts Hall, its Galloway Magic Carpet Family Concert Series and its new ACCESS Classical concerts at Bishop Verot's Anderson Theater. The Gulf Coast Symphony sponsors a comprehensive arts education program, **Musical Gateways**, dedicated to providing ongoing educational opportunities for adult and youth alike, that includes in depth artist residencies for its partner schools and the entire community. The Gulf Coast Symphony rehearses weekly from October through May. For more information on orchestra membership call the Gulf Coast Symphony office at 489-1800 or email us at info@gulfcoastsymphony.org

The Gulf Coast Symphony's Music Director and founder is Andrew Kurtz. Kurtz is also the Artistic Director of the Center City Opera Theater of Philadelphia and in his fourth season as Music Director of the Florida Jewish Philharmonic Orchestra. He is conductor for the national tour of *CANTORS: A Faith In Song*, featuring three of the world's leading Cantors performing an evening of popular and religious Jewish songs. Kurtz's 2006-07 season included concerts with the Gulf Coast Symphony, the Charlotte Symphony Orchestra, and leading seven operas, including the world premiere of Lowell Liebermann's *Picture of Dorian Gray* with the Center City Opera Theater. In 2001 Kurtz won First Prize in the Accademia Dell'Arte International Conducting Competition and made his European debut in Florence, Italy. Kurtz is also a respected and talented arts educator, and serves as a Resident Music Director and teacher at the Luzerne Music Festival. He received his Doctorate from the Peabody Conservatory of Music in Baltimore.

The Gulf Coast Symphony's 2006-2007 sponsors include Galloway Family of Dealerships, the Southwest Florida Community Foundation, Lee Memorial Hospitals, the Bireley Foundation, the City of Ft Myers, Family Healthcare Centers of Florida, 21st Century Oncology, Ameriprise Financial and Symphonia Medicus: "Doctors Dedicated to Classical Healing".

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Event: GALLOWAY MAGIC CARPET FAMILY CONCERT

Date: SUNDAY, May 20 at 4pm

Place: Galloway Ford Showroom (1800 Boy Scout Drive)

FREE ADMISSION – NO TICKETS REQUIRED