



Orchestrating  
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Orchestrating  
A  
Musical Community

TROY WEBDELL, Music Director and Conductor

Dear Advocate of the Arts,

Music is the universal language that nourishes and connects our collective souls and brings understanding between people and cultures. Today, there is a vital need for music and music education to be a continuing part of our community and everyday lives. South Shore Chamber Orchestra fills this need by bringing musicians, audiences and communities together to create memorable musical experiences throughout the south shore region.

South Shore Chamber Orchestra began in 2002 as the Northern Indiana Faculty Chamber Orchestra. This educationally based group was originally made up of public and private music teachers whose main goal was to promote music education by bringing live music into the schools and community. In 2005, the name was changed to South Shore Chamber Orchestra in order to encompass musicians and audiences from the entire south shore community.

“Orchestrating a Musical Community,” explains what SSCO provides to the south shore region. We will offer an opportunity for musical experiences in an intimate setting where professional, community, and student musicians can interact with each other and audiences. We will do this through innovative programming that challenges, educates, and entertains at the highest artistic level.



Performance at  
Trinity Lutheran Church, Valparaiso, IN



Performance at  
Old World Market, Valparaiso, IN

South Shore Chamber Orchestra concerts and recitals feature local musicians as soloists performing world-renowned concertos, smaller ensembles in true chamber music settings, exciting masterworks for large orchestra and musical theatre. SSCO is unique in its flexibility with instrumentation and musicians. Because of our ability to “flux” in size, South Shore Chamber Orchestra can perform with a range of only one musician to a full orchestra of 55 members. The only organization of its kind along the south shore region, SSCO is capable of performing virtually any type of music in any setting.

Behind the concert scene, music education and community outreach continue to play an important role in the mission of SSCO. In 2008, we initiated South Shore Youth Orchestra, which includes two separate ability based string orchestras for school age children. The SSYO performs several times per year at concerts and other special events. SSCO is continuing our 3<sup>rd</sup> year working with our regional arts partner, South Shore Arts, by offering an arts education program through the Lake and Porter County Public Library System. The *Making Memories: A Family Enrichment Program*, is designed for families and targets combining reading, writing and the arts. Additionally, our commitment to music education will continue to expand in 2009, as we are planning to offer a substantial scholarship for an aspiring college-bound music student.



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Michael Schelle, composer and Webdell after the SSCO performance of *Spiderbaby for Chamber Orchestra*.

Community Outreach has also been an ongoing success, especially in our partnership with Prevent Child Abuse Porter County. In the past two years, SSCO has been able to raise over \$7,000 to help PCAPC purchase the much-needed equipment to aid children who are victims of abuse.

SSCO has also developed a Summer Sidewalk Chamber Music Series featuring our woodwind quintet, string quartet and South Shore Tango Quintet. These free concerts are in partnership with local businesses that usually provide the concert location. This has proven to be an excellent way to showcase and create awareness of local community businesses.

In an effort to promote the creation of new art, SSCO partnered with visual artist David Hugg in 2007 to create new paintings based on music performed by the orchestra. The featured music was *Spiderbaby for Chamber Orchestra* by Indianapolis composer Michael Schelle who was present for the performance. In November 2008, we will again experience the fusion of art and music with new paintings by artist Linda Eyermaun and music of George Gershwin.

South Shore Chamber Orchestra is a 501c3 not-for-profit organization. Any contribution to SSCO is tax deductible to the fullest extent allowed by law. We are continually in need of additional funds to continue to expand our mission and continue to pay for education programs such as student apprenticeships, scholarships and public school visitations and concerts; assist in community outreach by developing benefit concerts to help other area organizations; build a library of orchestral music to enhance our community and children's concerts; and allow us to increase the number of performances per year in order to reach a larger portion of the South Shore Community.

Thank you in advance for your support,

Peter Brannen  
President, South Shore Chamber Orchestra