

The Annasemble

February 2019



Annasemble's ACO held a performance for the residents of The Windsor and The Village on Feb. 3, 2019. The Windsor has asked ACO to perform again in April 2019. The full orchestra was asked to participate again at Tacachale in December for both the residents and the ACO for before the Tree Lighting event. It is wonderful that Annasemble is being requested!

ACO at The Village & The Windsor Feb. 3, 2019

The Director's Note

Annasemble:

The spring is buzzing with music; it's amazing, exciting and exhausting all at once. The ACO just made me feel so proud: They played at both the Windsor and the Village. A double bill and with very attentive listeners. They liked us so much at The Windsor that they asked us back immediately. And right they were: the ACO sounded fabulous! :-)

Annasemble is getting ready for our March 24 workshop, which really is a continuation of our earlier "Play-Along" at the end of our concerts. We now have a group of applicants who have started practicing Pachelbel. And to top things off: the Petty Medley is ready and we will have a bit of Rock-feel in our orchestra! Let's Rock on!

Your music director, Annemieke

Upcoming Events

March 24, 2019 –
Workshop and concert –
Co-Production with Star
Center Children's Theatre.
At the Thelma Boltin Center
- Workshop at 2:00 pm -
Concert program at 3:30 pm

April 9 2019 – ACO at the
Windsor 5:00-7:00 pm

May 5, 2019 – Meadow
Brook Appreciation Concert
3:00 pm

May 12, 2019 – Spring
Concert at Haile

From The Board

Thanks in part to funding from the City of Gainesville grant – we are looking at starting to replace the music stands. There are two possibilities at rehearsal – please look at them and give us your feedback.

Also, work will begin on developing a dedicated website for Annasemble. If anyone is knowledgeable in this area please let Kathy know – we would love assistance.

Annasemble is an inclusive, non-competitive yet challenging orchestra for high school and adult members and provides the community with music enrichment, education and performances.



My Metronome experience.

This may be blatantly obvious to most but not to me. Annemieke has recommended working with a metronome since I started taking lessons. I had an electronic tuner which had one but it never seemed loud enough. So when I practiced I would play soft so I could hear it. When we used Annemieke's metronome I really liked it because one I could hear it and two it had a rich pleasant sound. So I set out to get one like hers. I looked at the prices and there was quite a bit of difference between plastic built triangle shaped metronomes and wood ones. Thinking I should save money I bought a plastic one. I found it a bit louder and not a very rich sound. Again I felt I was fighting the metronome trying to hear it and thinking it was just me not use to it. I found myself again at one of my lessons using Annemieke's metronome and I realized it was actually fun playing and hearing it. I went to Hogtowne music with the intent to buy a wooden triangle metronome no matter what the cost and with "you get what you pay for" attitude. I was pleasantly surprised to be shown a Matrix MR-500 Quartz metronome which is small, electronic and duplicates a loud "rich wooden" sound for around \$25.00. I am very happy with it and am finding it making my "practices" more fun. I probably will still get a wooden one in the future because I think really like the way they look and sound.

Jerry Janiec



Annasemble Spotlight

Aidan Collins

Aidan expressed that he wanted to play the violin by the time he could talk. We did not get Aidan a violin until he was eight after he had been asking for it for five years. . Aidan was so excited. We went to Jan Van Roojin's violin shop and Jan kindly showed Aidan around the shop and talked to him for at least an hour. He selected a quarter size violin for Aidan, which was not too expensive. I asked him whom he thought would work best with Aidan, and he unequivocally recommended Annemieke. She met with us and agreed to take Aidan as a student. He started lessons a month after he turned eight.

When Aidan was nine, he was practicing at the convention we were attending dressed in a Pikachu outfit, and there was a Volkswagen bug painted like Pikachu. As he played people stopped to listen and started putting money in his violin case. He played for a little over an hour, and made \$180. Someone posted a picture of video to YouTube of him playing his violin. He was hooked.

He continued to busk when we were places outside of Gainesville that welcomed buskers. He got some tips from Annemieke about busking, and she encouraged him to continue doing this.

Clint or myself was always somewhere nearby when he did this, and he kept and saved up all the money he made. When he wanted to upgrade to a much more expensive violin at 12, he used this money to do so.

Aidan has been talking about traveling to Europe, bringing his violin, and busking to make money for his travels.

He really enjoys playing the violin, and I am very thankful that he has this in his life and that he has found this group to play with. The Violin has always been Aidan's choice, and he is the one who makes the decisions about what he would like to do with it, including participating in Annasemble. His father and I are very proud of him.