

2009-10

10A Sunday, November 8, 2009

Symphony Guild presents 'An Evening in Old Vienna'

VALDOSTA — The Valdosta Symphony Guild presents "An Evening in Old Vienna" to be held 6:30 p.m., Nov. 14, Valdosta Country Club.

The evening will be transformed by Valdosta's own Kay Jennett into a replica of the 18th century and the spirit of Old Vienna.

shopping sprees, party packages, artwork by your favorite local artists, gift baskets and the opportunity to conduct the Valdosta Symphony Orchestra.

Tickets: \$95 per person, a portion of which is tax deductible.

For ticket information, please contact: Sarah Smart, 242-3524; Bonnie Hanson, 247-8952.

Proceeds from the

LOCAL



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

From left to right, Bonnie Rainey (president-elect), Gail Hobgood, Jeani Synyard, and Dee Broadfoot hold some of the items which will be included in the live and silent auction at the Symphony Ball.

The Symphony Ball will benefit the Valdosta Symphony Orchestra Children's Program, the Valdosta Advocacy Resource Center (LARC) and



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valdostadailytimes.com

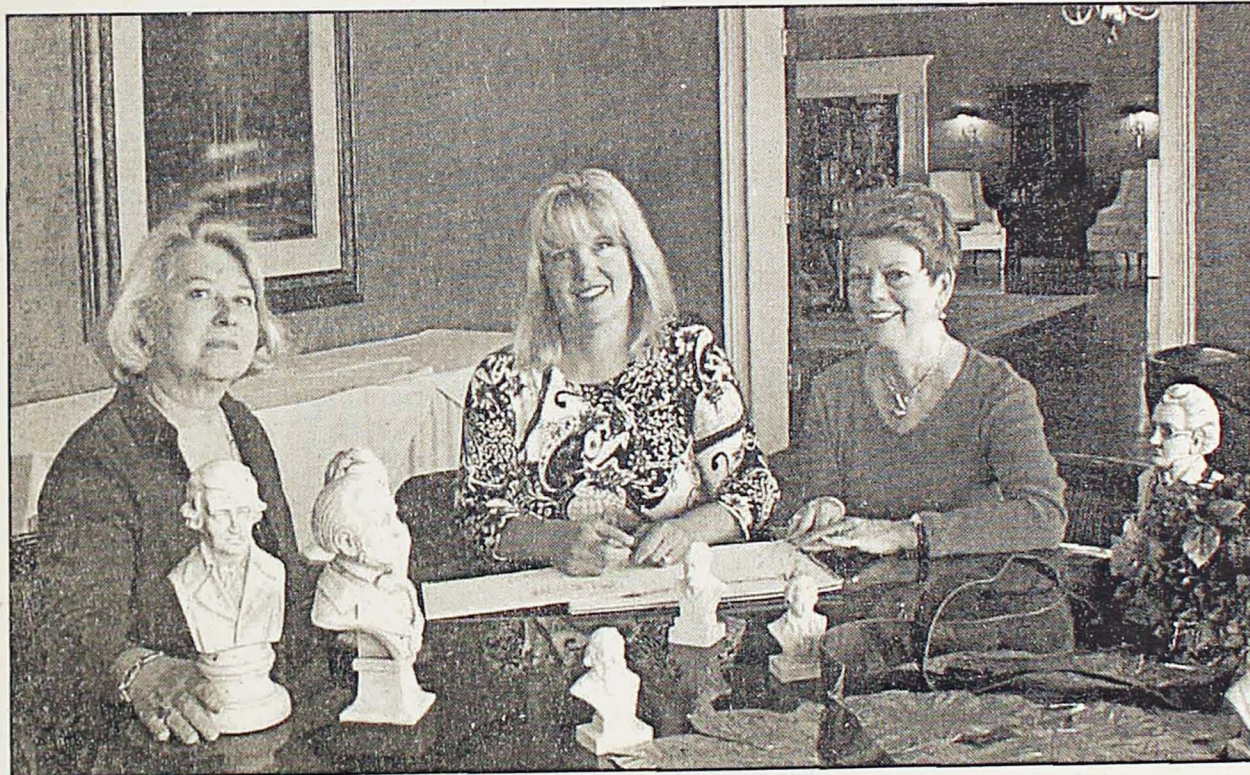
Tuesday, December 8, 2009 5A



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

\$40,000 Night

The Valdosta Symphony Guild recently held 'A Night in Old Vienna' Symphony Ball. The Guild raised more than \$40,000 to support the symphony and its children's programs. Pictured (from left to right): Kay Jennett, Gail Hobgood, Jeani Synyard, Anita Sinnott, Bonnie Rainey, Jean Johnson, Rhonda Hamman, Nancy Warren.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

A Night in Old Vienna

Valdosta Symphony Ball Co-chairs Anita Sinnott and Bonnie Rainey confer with Decorations Chair Kay Jennett, left, about ball decor and table decorations. The theme for this year's Symphony Ball, to be held Saturday, at Valdosta Country Club is 'A Night in Old Vienna.'



Thank you for your
generous contribution
to the success of the
event.







Symphony explores the heavenly sound of 'The Human Voice'

BY DEAN POLING
THE VALDOSTA DAILY TIMES

VALDOSTA — While the Valdosta Symphony Orchestra is not presenting a Christmas concert this year, it is presenting the often heavenly sound of "The Human Voice."

That voice will be raised this weekend by soprano Tamara Hardesty as she joins the orchestra in performances of Mozart's "Exsultate, Jubilate," and Mahler's Fourth Symphony.

A newcomer to Valdosta, she is married to the Valdosta Symphony Orchestra's new conductor Howard Hsu. But her credentials as a singer of classical work are her own.

She has performed at the famed Kennedy Center, making her debut there with the soprano solo in the Monteverdi Vespers with the Washington Chorus, according to the Valdosta Symphony Orchestra's "Symphony Notes."

She has performed in venues across the nation in operatic roles ranging from Susanna in "Le Nozze di Figaro," Zerlina in "Don Giovanni," Pamina in "Die Zauberflöte," Musetta in "La Bohème," to Adele in "Die Fledermaus."

The New York Times music critic James R. Oestreich described Hardesty's singing as "... a particular joy, singing with a clear, agile soprano and spinning out the coloratura with ease." Andrew Porter wrote in The New Yorker magazine that Hardesty "gave pleasure in many gentle, fluent, well-shaped passages."

In her comments in "Symphony Notes," she writes that she and Hsu met in 1994 and have always wanted to perform Mahler's Fourth Symphony together. "It is the perfect combination of grand symphonic literature and lovely

SHOWTIME

Valdosta Symphony Orchestra's "The Human Voice."

■ **When:** 8 p.m. Saturday.

■ **Where:** Whitehead Auditorium, Valdosta State University Fine Arts Building, corner of Oak and Brookwood.

■ **Ticket:** \$20.

■ **Reservations, more information:** Call Valerie Holton, (229) 333-5804.

vocal solo," she said.

The Valdosta Daily Times conducted an e-mail interview with Hardesty about this weekend's music, her preparation, and working with her husband.

THE VALDOSTA DAILY TIMES: Are you, Howard and Hudson enjoying Valdosta?

TAMARA HARDESTY: "Yes, we like it here a lot, especially our new friends and neighbors. It's a great place to raise our 3-and-a-half-year-old son, Hudson, and his sister on the way.

THE VALDOSTA DAILY TIMES: How do you prepare for your vocal performance? Do you sing without musical accompaniment until the rehearsals with the orchestra? Or do you sing along to recorded music? What is your preparation like?

TAMARA HARDESTY: "I play the piano, so I can play a piano version of the orchestral accompaniment while singing along. But sometimes, I'll just sing unaccompanied, to really hear every detail and get it just right."

THE VALDOSTA DAILY TIMES: You are singing works by both Mahler and Mozart for this concert. How do these works complement each other? How difficult is it to prepare for two works in the same concert?

TAMARA HARDESTY: "Both



Soprano Tamara Hardesty performs works by Mozart and Mahler this weekend with the Valdosta Symphony Orchestra.

pieces are about heaven, so even though they are in different languages and from different musical eras, they complement each other very well.

In the Mozart, the text asks us to rejoice in the blessings of heaven. And the text of the Mahler describes heaven from the point of view of a child. Now, whether this is a human child that has passed who is sending a reassuring message, or just a child-like celestial being, is not clear, but it is so sweet and innocent. The child describes the lovely music and abundance that awaits us in heaven; it is very moving, especially since I am six-and-a-half months pregnant with my second child."

THE VALDOSTA DAILY TIMES: If this is not too personal a question: What is it like working as husband/conductor and wife/singer in preparing for the same concert? Do you and

Howard have rules when working together?

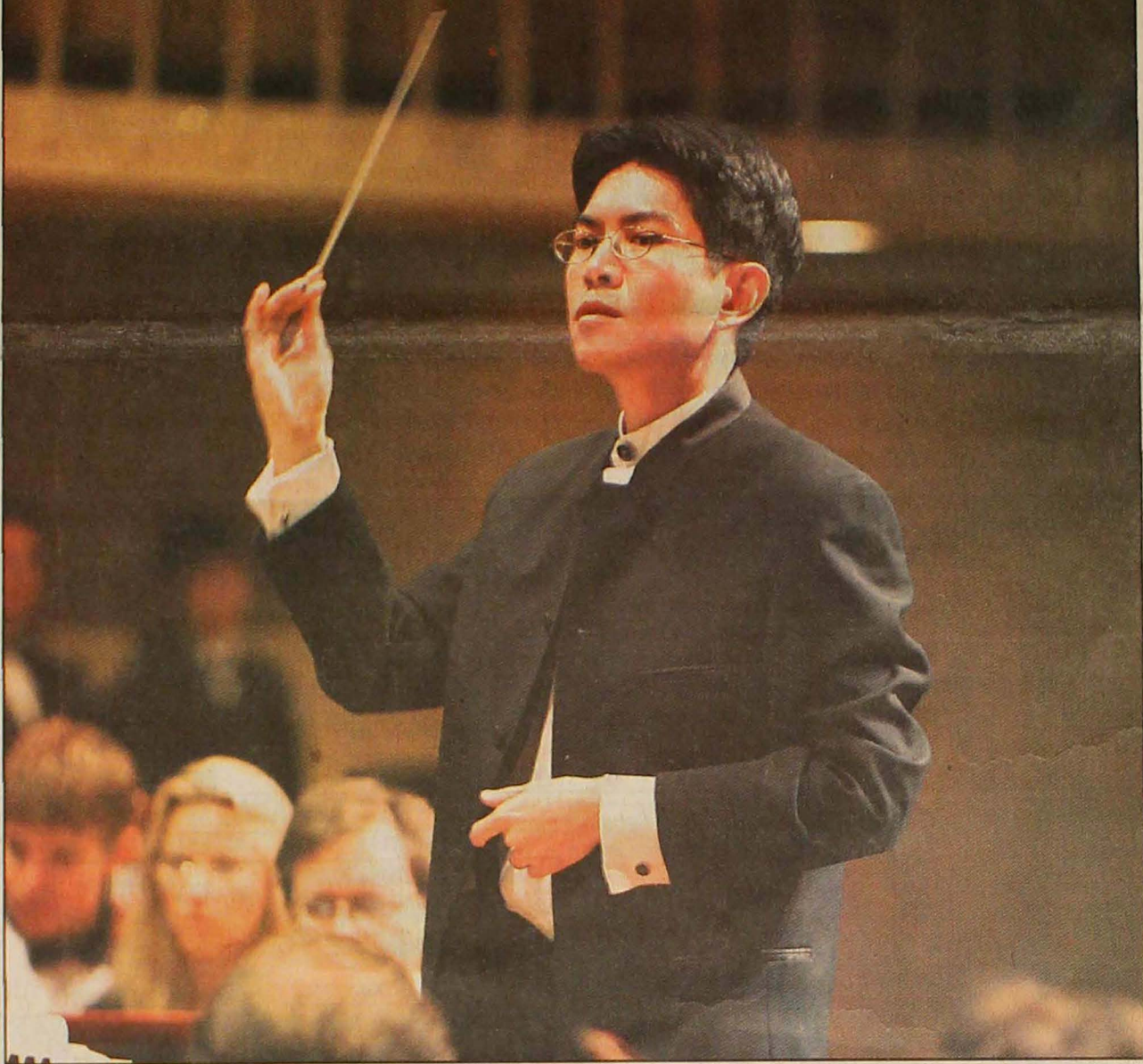
TAMARA HARDESTY: "We generally work well together. The hard part has been finding time to discuss or rehearse the music, since we're both very engaged in parenting our pre-schooler. On the positive side, we are so in tune with each other and can just feel what musical gesture the other might do.

On the other hand, if we have a disagreement about tempo, it's interesting. See, he's in charge on the podium, but I'm in charge at home!"

THE VALDOSTA DAILY TIMES: You have sung in venues such as the Kennedy Center. Will you continue performing in other locations while living in Valdosta?

TAMARA HARDESTY: "These days I'm more family oriented, with our second child due this spring, but I hope to always stay active performing."

Orchestral Spotlight



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Howard Hsu, Valdosta Symphony Orchestra conductor and music director, leads the orchestra in its season-ending performance this weekend. The concert highlights the talents of the orchestra.

Valdosta Symphony wraps season this weekend

BY DEAN POLING
THE VALDOSTA DAILY TIMES

SHOWTIME

**Valdosta Symphony Orchestra presents
"Musical Colors," featuring music
by Wagner, Berlioz and Brahms.**

When: 8 p.m. Saturday, May 1.

Where: Whitehead Auditorium, Valdosta State University Fine Arts Building, corner of Oak and Brookwood.

Ticket: \$20.

Reservations, more information: Call VSU College of the Arts Outreach, (229) 333-2150; or visit www.valdostasympphony.org

not just the back-up for talented soloists. The orchestra can shine on its own.

To showcase these unified talents, "Musical Col-

ors" presents orchestral masterpieces: Wagner's "Tannhauser Overture," Berlioz's "Hungarian March," and Brahms' Sec-

ond Symphony.

"These works are for those interested in the art of orchestration," Hsu says. "The evolution of orchestration or, in the case of the Brahms, the de-evolution of orchestration."

While the VSO has attracted impressive soloists, audiences may wish to remember that the Valdosta-based and Valdosta State University-empowered orchestra has its share of impressive credentials. There are, after all, many cities larger than Valdosta that cannot boast their

MUSIC | 4A



OA Sunday, March 21, 2010



SUBMITTED PHOTO

T-shirt design winner

Valdosta Symphony Guild named Lourdes Torres the winner of the T-shirt design test it held. Lourdes' design will be printed on T-shirts given out to participants in the race sponsored by the Symphony Guild. Proceeds from the race will benefit youth programs offered by the Guild. Lourdes, an eighth grader, will be officially honored at the March 27 Symphony performance. Her artwork will be used on posters displayed around town promoting the race and Symphony Guild. Pictured: Anita Sinnott of the Valdosta Symphony Guild presents a certificate and gift to Lourdes Torres, with Lowndes Alternative School Principal Derald Jones (far left) and teacher Candi Strassburg (far right).

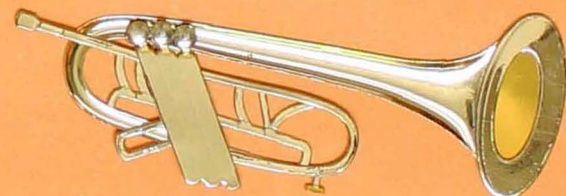
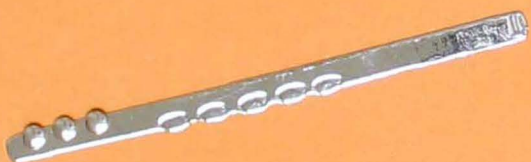




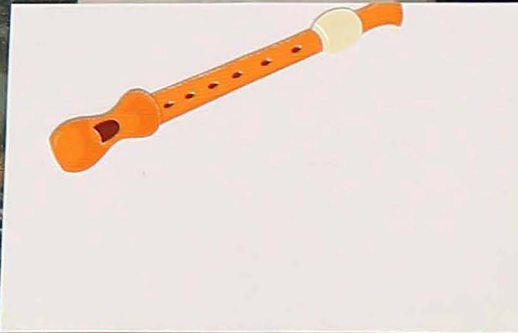
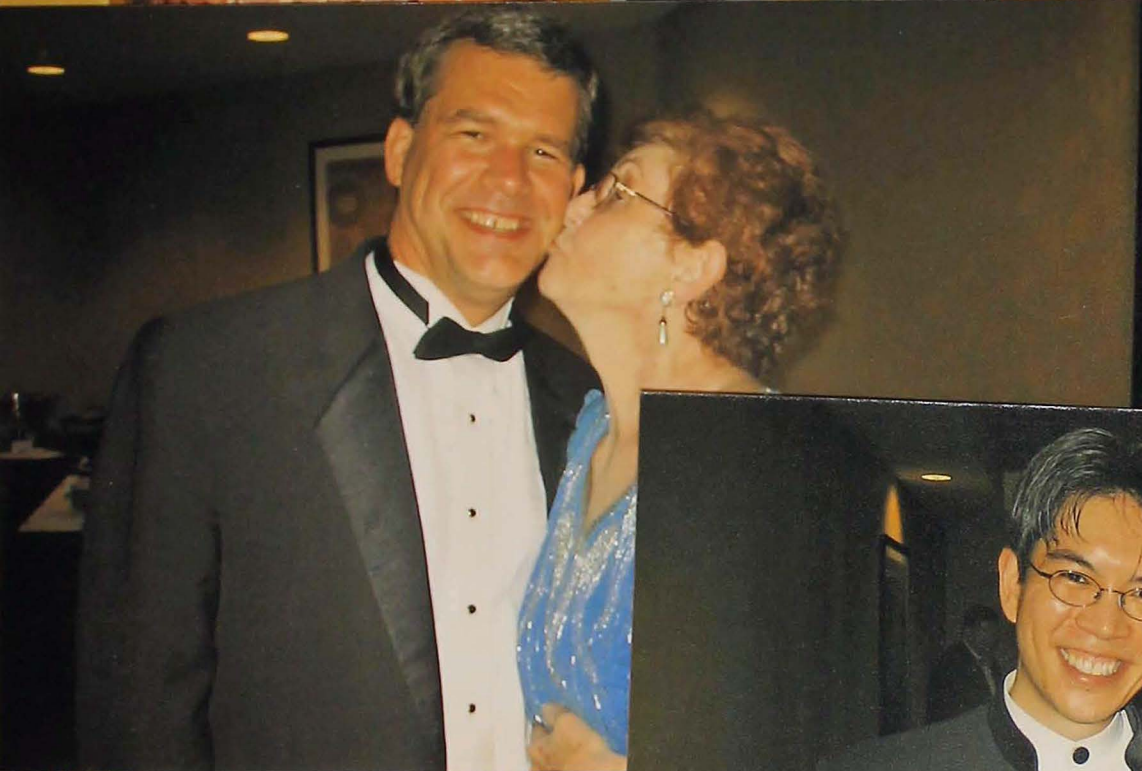
Thank You
Linda



Chia Magna







2010 2011

8A Thursday, October 7, 2010

LOCAL | STATE



New Symphony Guild Members

The Valdosta Symphony Guild recently welcomed new members for the 2010-2011 season. The Symphony is working on its biggest fundraiser of the year, the Symphony Ball. This year's theme: 'An Asian Fantasy'. Guild representatives are excited to host the ball in a new location. The ball will be at the new Valdosta Student Union Ballroom, Saturday, Nov. 13. PICTURED: Six of the new Guild members, Emily Vallotton, Deann Scruggs, Tamara Hardesty, Dana Simpson.

SUBMITTED PHOTO

valdostadailytimes.com



Pictured are three additional new members to the Valdosta Symphony Guild: Neasa Hapiak, Stefanie Trexler, Jessica Newman. Not pictured: Barbara Pearce.

SUBMITTED PHOTO



SUBMITTED PHOTO

An Asian fantasy

The Valdosta Symphony Guild presents the 2010 Symphony Ball Saturday, Nov. 13, Valdosta State University's Student Union Ballroom. The ballroom will be transformed to represent 'An Asian Fantasy,' with decorations designed and coordinated by Kay Jennett. Ball guests will be greeted with music by the Cosmopolitan String Quartet. Silent auction items, including an elite table of special items, will be available. Guests will also be able to view photos of live and dessert auction items projected on a giant screen in the ballroom. The Symphony Ball is fortunate to have many sponsors, who will be honored during the ball. Proceeds from the Symphony Ball and Auction benefit the many youth and collegiate programs of the Valdosta Symphony Orchestra, and the Glenn Wisenbaker Memorial Concert, which is a special orchestra dress rehearsal before the February concert, when the clients of Lowndes Advocacy Resource Center come to Whitehead Auditorium. An evening of dining and dancing to the music of Rhythm Oil that also raises funds for the VSO and its programs. More information: Call (229) 242-3524.

PHOTOGRAPHED from left to right: Kay Jennett, Bonnie Hanson, Nancy [unclear]



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Artwork donation

Valwood art teachers Patricia Smith and Keri George have donated their original artwork to the Valdosta Symphony Ball silent auction. The event, being held on Saturday at the Valdosta Country Club, will benefit the Valdosta Symphony Orchestra's children's programs and the Lowndes Advocacy Resource Center. Smith teaches Upper School art at Valwood and is pictured with her watercolor entitled "Birds of Paradise." George teaches Lower School art at Valwood and has donated her etching entitled "Early Riser." The etching is one of only six existing prints and was exhibited in the 2007 Fine Arts Competition at the Georgia National Fair in Perry, where it won first place.



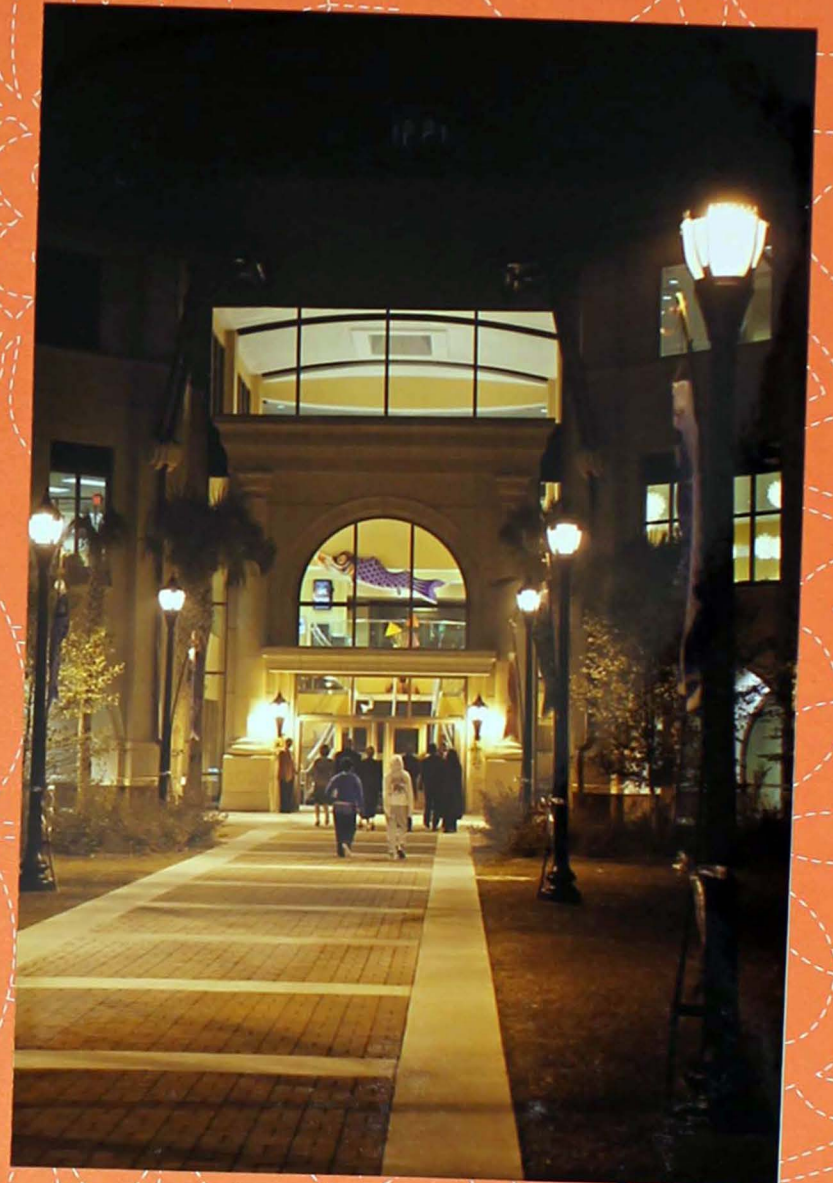
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Symphony ball auction start for this weekend

President Bonnie Rainey and President-elect Jeani Synyard will host the silent auction at the 2010 Symphony Ball this Saturday, Nov. 13, at Valdosta State University's Student Union Ballroom. Reservations, more information: Call (229) 242-3524.

















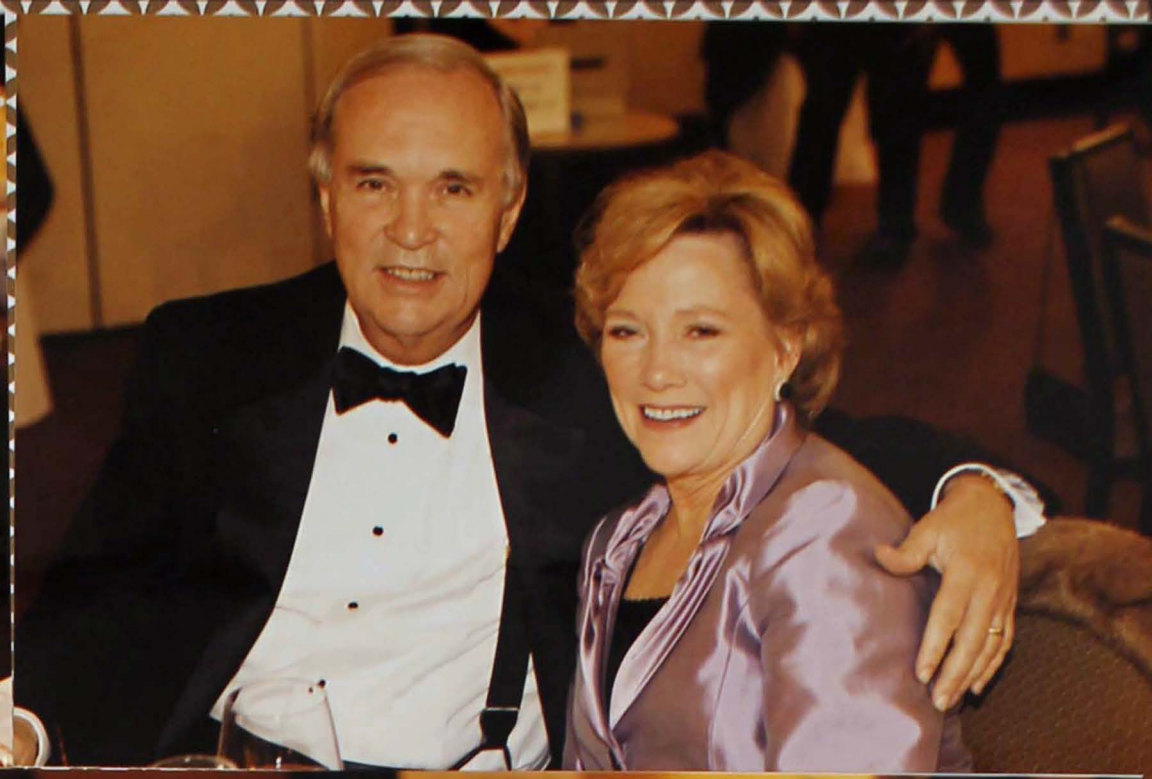




















Sunday, November 28, 2010 **1c**

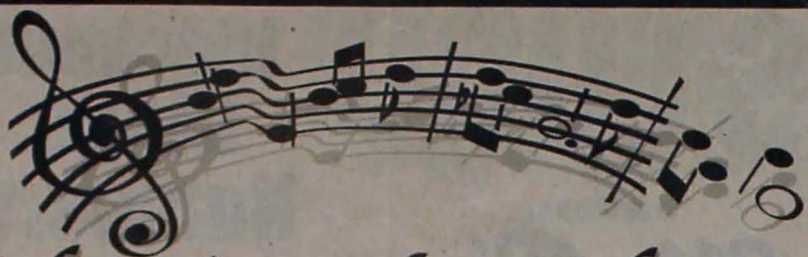
Life



Pictured are Valdosta Symphony Orchestra Conductor Howard Hsu, with Claras played by Kamie Hartley and Libby McCrary, **Nutcracker Prince** played by John Stephen; bottom row, Jessica Rhodes (Spanish Duet), Kindsay Lastinger (Snow Queen), Caroline Scruggs (Sugar Plum Fairy), Ellen Chiang (Dew Drop). Dance Arts Inc.'s production of 'The Nutcracker,' featuring the Valdosta Symphony Orchestra, plays next weekend.

JONATHAN M. CHICK | THE VALDOSTA DAILY TIMES

VSU SYMPHONY RUN



Moving for Music

To benefit Valdosta's own Symphony Orchestra

Saturday, March 5, 2011

VSU Front Lawn

Registration begins 7:00AM

5K - 8:00AM • 1 Mile Fun Run - 9:00AM

Registration before February 26, \$15; Race Day \$20.

Family of 4 before February 26, \$45; Race Day \$60.

Information: Get Active 229-219-0010.

Register/Pay online at www.runningintheusa.com

888

653212553



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Former astronaut Norman Thagard will narrate this Saturday night's performance of Holst's 'The Planets' by the Valdosta Symphony Orchestra.

Out of This World

Astronaut to narrate symphony performance

added to the course. Smoot will join the orgia y Many e registra ningint Whe weeker pick up flyers for the next few weeks races. If you bring your checkbook, you can hand the completed entry forms and check to the Course Line, LLC race official. You are then entered into your next race.

See you at the races!

3-8-11 Masked Avenger, Smoot win races

For the second week in a row, the overall champions of the 5K held in Valdosta were the Masked Avenger (17:20) and Alice Smoot (20:01). Although the skies looked threatening Saturday morning, many people made the decision to participate in either the 5K or fun run by either running, walking or a combination of the two. This was the second annual event. The Valdosta Symphony Guild puts on a very good event. The course started on Patterson Street and ran through the streets surrounding the VSU campus, finishing along the brick sidewalk just in front of West Hall.



Todd Smoot
Column

In the women's field, the top 10 included Alice Smoot, followed by Julia Baun, Sarah Van Kuiken, Kelly Turner, Kerry Murphy, Sheya Taylor, India Music, Sonya Merriman, Eryn Wilkey and Galen Mirate.

The top 10 men included the Masked Avenger, Pete Madson, Tyler Thurman, Matthew Baun, Daniel Sullivan, Toby Wilkey, Alan Johnson, Steven Wilson, Doug Farwell and Frank Ryan. The first male completed the 5K in 17:20, while 10th place was 21:32. Complete results can be found on www.runningintheusa.com.

While the Moving for Music event was happening in Valdosta, the Adel Kiwanis Club was putting on their run and walk starting and finishing at Cook Memorial Stadium. There were 73 individuals that participated in the 5K, while 154 people walked

the four laps on the track to complete the 1-mile distance. Keegan Boyd and Lisa Eppes were the overall male and female champions of the 5K. Trey Register and Sara Knighton won the 1-mile event.

On March 12, the Azalea Festival 5K and 1-mile runs will be held in Valdosta, with the start-finish line located at the VSU Rec Center on Sustella Drive. Registration starts at 7 a.m. on Saturday and the 5K starts promptly at 8 a.m.

To get more information, send a request to be

RACES

Upcoming local events:

March 12	Azalea Festival 5K and 1 mile
March 19	Don't Run With Scissors 5K
March 26	'Dosta Dash 10K and 5K
April 2	Justice in Motion 5K
April 16	Victory for Victoria 5K and 10K
April 30th	Catch Me If You Can 5K

Friday, January 21, 2011 **7A**

Tunes for Tots becomes Carnival of the Instruments

BY DEAN POLING
THE VALDOSTA DAILY TIMES

VALDOSTA — Have a child interested in learning more about a particular musical instrument? Or a youngster who shows interest in music?

This weekend's Carnival of the Instruments may be just the ticket for you and your young Mozart. Carnival of the Instruments has formerly been called Tunes for Tots.

Sponsored by the Valdosta Symphony Guild, Valdosta Symphony Orchestra musicians demonstrate how various instruments work and sound

QUICK INFO

Carnival of the Instruments, a Valdosta Symphony Orchestra and Valdosta Symphony Guild event.

When: 10 a.m.-noon Saturday, Jan. 22.

Where: Whitehead Auditorium, Valdosta State University Fine Arts Building, corner of Oak and Brookwood.

Admission: Free.

then allow youngsters a hands-on demonstration.

The South Georgia String Project, a group composed of young area

musicians, is scheduled to perform during the event.

Children may be accompanied by an adult for this event.

