



PHOTOS THIS PAGE COURTESY OF TOM GANSER, WHITEWATER, WI

BUILDING A SYMPHONY

Ten years ago, a group of dedicated music lovers founded the Lake Geneva Community Orchestra with just 15 members. Shortly after its formation, Mike Frazier, a cellist who previously played with the Elmhurst (Illinois) Symphony and other community orchestras in Milwaukee, moved to the area looking for a new group to join.

"I've always played in community orchestras," he explains, noting that he and his wife met in the Elmhurst Symphony. Responding to an ad in a local newspaper, Frazier turned up at a rehearsal, and he's been an active member of the now-renamed Lake Geneva Symphony Orchestra (LGSO) ever since, even serving as its board president in 2003 and '04.

"When it was originally formed, we were playing a lot of pops arrangements and easier music. But by 2005, we had close to 50 members and with more players, we had more talent, so we were able to play more challenging pieces. My personal opinion is

that the mission of the orchestra is to perform classical music."

David Anderson, current conductor and music director of LGSO, elaborates, "We exist for our players, for the community as a whole, and for those who want to hear the orchestra in concert and be enriched. We exist to be a cultural benchmark in the area."

To that end, Anderson has introduced increasingly ambitious pieces and collaborations to the orchestra's schedule. Since taking over the role of music director two years ago, Anderson initiated the "Beethoven Project," in which LGSO aspires to perform all nine Beethoven symphonies in nine years. This year, LGSO will perform Beethoven's Sixth Symphony, and Frazier is particularly excited; "It's my personal favorite," he confides.

Last year, Anderson also arranged for LGSO to perform its first world-premiere piece, a composition written by Dr. Wayne Oquin of the famed Juilliard School of Music in New York City. Oquin, a friend and colleague of Anderson, traveled to the area for the piece's premiere at LGSO's February concert and hosted pre-concert talks at several local schools prior to the concert. "We spent a lot of time talking to kids about composition, about the importance of writing new music," says Anderson.



LAKE GENEVA SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA 2012-2013 SEASON

OCTOBER 20, 2012, 7:30 P.M.

Location to be determined

- Marquez, Danzon #2
 - Mozart, Piano Concerto, K. 503 in C Major
- David Anderson, soloist (conducting from keyboard)
- Stravinsky, Firebird Suite

HOLIDAY CONCERT

DECEMBER 1, 2012, 7:30 P.M.

Calvary Community Church, Highway 50 and Harris Road, Williams Bay

FEBRUARY 16, 2013, 7:30 P.M.

Location to be determined

- Beethoven, Symphony No. 6
 - Haydn, Cello Concerto in C Major, 1st movement
- Matthew Frazier, soloist, 2012 Young Artist Competition winner
- Tchaikovsky, Romeo and Juliet

GALA

MARCH 16, 2013

Location to be determined

MAY 18, 2013, 7:30 P.M.

Calvary Community Church, Highway 50 and Harris Road, Williams Bay

- Verdi, La Traviata Concert Version
- Desiree Hassler, soprano
Hoss Brock, tenor
Michael Cavalieri, baritone