

Florida Music Educators Association 2013
All-State Music Conference
A Guitar Concert



A performance by the
Freedom High School Guitar Orchestra

Christopher J. Perez
Director

And featuring guest soloist:
Dr. Stephen Robinson
Stetson University, DeLand, FL

Friday, January 11, 2013
12:30 p.m.
Tampa Convention Center - West Hall



Dear Florida Music Educators Association Members,

It is with great pleasure that I offer my congratulations to the Freedom High School Guitar Orchestra for receiving an invitation to perform at the 2013 Florida Music Educators Association All-State Music Conference. Orange County Public Schools is the 11th largest school district in the nation and is proud of a long-standing tradition of artistic excellence through curriculum-based sequential music instruction. The arts play an integral role in helping us work towards becoming the top producer of successful students in the nation.

OCPS is committed to supporting and promoting the fine and performing arts as part of a well-rounded rigorous academic curriculum. I am very proud to say that the arts are made available to 100% of our students and are taught by certified fine arts teachers. OCPS has earned a reputation for outstanding arts programs through the hard work and commitment of over 550 arts teachers in all disciplines including dance, music, visual art and theatre.

I wish to extend special congratulations to the student members of the Guitar Orchestra and Mr. Christopher Perez, Guitar Director at Freedom High School. With Mr. Perez' leadership, OCPS is gearing up for the second annual, All-County Honor Guitar Ensembles Festival for middle and high school students, as well as a Music Performance Assessment for all guitar programs throughout our district.

Thank you for attending today's concert. I know you will enjoy this performance by the Freedom High School Guitar Orchestra under the direction of Mr. Christopher Perez.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Barbara M. Jenkins'.

Barbara M. Jenkins, Ed.D.
Superintendent



Dear Friends,

On behalf of Freedom High School's students, staff and community, I would like to extend an enthusiastic welcome to those in attendance at today's performance of the Freedom High School Guitar Orchestra at the 2013 Florida Music Educators Association Conference! Our Guitar Orchestra has diligently prepared for this honor, and I am certain you will be impressed with our students and our Guitar Director, Mr. Christopher Perez.

The Freedom High School Guitar Orchestra is a stellar performing ensemble that has earned a reputation of excellence that instills pride throughout our community and school. The Guitar Orchestra is an integral component of Freedom High School's Performing Arts Department. Freedom High School is built upon a philosophy that music sets the tone for the campus and the FHS Performing Arts Department is truly our foundation. The achievement our students earn in music classes comes through in the classroom. The dedication and commitment needed to musically perform at a top level prepare our students for excellence in and out of the classroom.

A special thank you is extended to Mr. Christopher Perez, our Guitar Director. Mr. Perez lends his expertise and passion each day to shape our 190+ musicians into star performers. I would be remiss if I did not extend thanks to our many guitar parents and sponsors who work countless hours to provide the support our program needs. Thanks for your commitment to the "Honor, Excellence and Tradition" of Freedom High School. We hope you enjoy our performance. Our FHS Guitar Orchestra makes FREEDOM ring loudly and proudly!

Sincerely,

Dr. Harold R. Border

Dr. Harold R. Border
Principal
Freedom High School

Program:

Little Prelude (for Lesley) (1989/2009).....Andrew Forrest
Arranged for guitar orchestra instrumentation to utilize the traditional Classical guitar and adding the timbres of the Requinto and Acoustic Bass, this work is whimsical, playful, and emotional; our opening song possesses similar qualities to that of a small child. Along with changing the color and timbre of the instrument in performance (tasto é ponticello), this work also contains a wide range of dynamics, is very rhythmic, and is dissonant at times; almost minimalistic.

Aire on Two Canaries (2012).....arr. Chris Perez

I. Airs des Canaries (1588/89) - Thoinot Arbeau

II. La Canarie (XXXI) (1612) - Michael Praetorius

A dance manuscript written by Tabourot was published in 1588. This manual contains detailed instructions for numerous styles of dance (including the branle, galliard, pavane and tourdion) as well as short sections about military music, drumming, marching, and a few details about dance forms such as Morris dance, the Canary (reputed to be dances from the Canary Islands), the Allemande, Courante, and Bassadance. The manual, Orchésographie (Orchesography), is a major source of information about Renaissance Dance. In keeping with the Renaissance style, scoring was kept light with open voicings and adding period appropriate percussion including tom-tom, finger cymbals, castanets and tambourine.

Kingston Rasta (2007).....Christophe Leu

The title was so inviting that we were diving into the music as soon as the book landed on the music stand. The performance includes some reggae-like bass, adds some tight chords in a swing rhythm played on the off the beat, shows dynamic contrasts and contains some little runs that sit nicely under the fingers. Fun to play and listen to; looks good; sounds better! Jamaica here we come...

Fresco (for guitar solo and trio) (2009).....Rex Willis

Fresco was commissioned by the Florida State Music Teachers Association for the 2008 Collegiate Chapter Convocation. The premiere took place at Hillsborough Community College (Ybor City/Tampa) on October 25, 2008 and was performed by Dr. Rene Gonzales, Professor of Guitar at the University of Miami with members of the La Camerata Guitar Ensemble of Manatee Community College, directed by Rex Willis. We are fortunate enough to have Dr. Stephen Robinson from Stetson University to perform with us as guest soloist; he is this year's 2013 FMEA All-State Guitar Guest Clinician.

Daydream (1989).....Gian Paolo Lopresti

Born in 1964, Gian Paolo Lopresti resides in Italy and is known around the world for his work as a talented concert artist and composer. His composition **Daydream** is scored for guitar trio. Wonderfully written with its sweet melody and fine counterpoint, this work is a staple for many guitar ensembles.

In Dulci Jubilo (2012).....Andrew Forrest

In Dulci Jubilo ("In sweet rejoicing") is a traditional Christmas carol. In its original setting, the carol is a macaronic text of German and Latin dating from the Middle Ages. The tune first appears in Codex 1305, a manuscript in Leipzig University Library dating from c.1400, although it has been suggested that the melody may have existed in Europe prior to this date. Arranged in many different musical mediums throughout history, this version, as scored for guitar orchestra instrumentation, was written by Andrew Forrest for his Guitar Ensemble in York, England and is a beautiful addition to the Guitar Ensemble repertoire.

Kalimba (2001).....Jürg Kindle

In any medium of concert music, once in a while there is a work that stands out so special that it becomes "standard literature" for ensembles to discover, study, enjoy and present. **Kalimba** is one of those pieces. This musical work is based on African and Afro-Cuban rhythms with the sound palette imitating archaic percussion instruments; the sound of the Kalimba, an African 'thumb' piano, is made by putting a handkerchief under the strings of the guitar. This, along with other carefully worked out timbres, goes to make a fascinating soundscape that sometimes lies outside the realms of the guitar. While emphasizing the rhythmic nature of the piece, the melodic invention and development is also full of interest. It is a wonderfully musical and dynamic piece that is challenging and fun to play; so much so that it is permanently in our repertoire.



Our Director:

Mr. Christopher Perez is an active educator, composer, clinician and musician, teaching at Freedom High School in Orlando, Florida. In the fall of 2007 he created the FHS Guitar Program. He is now in his eighteenth year of teaching.

Mr. Perez is a graduate from Western Illinois University, where he studied music education, saxophone and percussion. Mr. Perez is a member of the Florida Music Educators Association, the National Association for Music Education and Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia. His music is published with Drop6 Media, Inc. and has several arrangements on the FBA State Music List. He serves on the FMEA General Music Committee and is the Orange County Public Schools Guitar Chair. Mr. Perez serves as a Minister of Music and musician for the Middle/High School Peer Music Program for Holy Cross Catholic Church in South Orlando. He also is a percussionist with the Southern Winds Concert Band and with Walt Disney World's "ENCORE! Cast Performing Arts".

Throughout Mr. Perez' teaching career, his students and ensembles have consistently performed on local, state and national stages including events and festivals with Orange County Public Schools, Florida Bandmasters Association, Florida Music Educators Association, Bands of America Marching and Concert Band Festivals, Walt Disney World, National Events Concert Band Festival and Chick-fil-A Bowl in Atlanta, GA, Chicago St. Patrick's Day Parade, National Image Conference, and the Long Island Guitar Festival in New York.

He resides in South Orlando with his wife Stephanie and two sons, Evan and Brendan.



Our Guest Artist:

A native of New York, **Dr. Stephen Robinson** began his guitar studies with Bruce Holzman at Florida State University, and worked closely with Andrés Segovia, who called him "a magnificent guitarist, one of the most brilliant guitarists of our times." After pursuing graduate work at the Yale School of Music, Florida State University awarded Robinson the first Doctor of Music Degree in Guitar Performance.

Dr. Robinson is a Professor of Music at Stetson University in Florida, where he is the founding director of the Guitar Program (since 1983). His graduates have excelled in the finest graduate programs of Yale University, The Eastman School of Music, The Peabody Conservatory, Florida State University, and The University of Southern California, among others, and many now hold prominent positions in the professional music world.

Of his multi-faceted career, *Guitarra Magazine* says "Robinson's career as a teacher is well known. He founded and runs the guitar program at Stetson University. At the same time, he has won a bunch of competitions, recorded a score of CDs, and continues touring regularly. What you have with Robinson is a player who has married the two opposite ends of the guitar experience (teaching and performing) by finding a way to express the impetus for both simultaneously. It's a remarkable feat and one to aspire to."

Stephen Robinson resides in DeLand, Florida with his wife, Patrece, and together they have raised four sons.

Program Note:

Due to personal injury, Dr. Stephen Robinson will not be performing “Fresco” with us this afternoon. The Freedom High School Guitar Orchestra wishes Dr. Robinson a speedy recovery and we look forward to performing together in the future. We are very fortunate to have Dr. Robert Phillips of Southeastern University and the Lois Cowles Harrison School for the Visual and Performing Arts, be our guest soloist for “Fresco” today.



Our Guest Artist:

“Virtuosic playing and a perfect sense of timing,” raves *Guitar Extra* of **ROBERT PHILLIPS** debut recording, *Guitarre Nouveau*. Will Crutchfield in the New York Times noted his “aptitude for putting across character.” Since making his debut to a sold-out Weill Recital Hall at Carnegie Hall, Robert has brought his brilliant interpretations to a diverse range of venues – from traditional concert halls including New York’s prestigious Town Hall, and Lincoln Center to jazz nightclubs.

Robert Phillips holds a doctorate in music from the University of Miami. A recipient of a Japan Fulbright, Dr. Phillips is respected internationally as a scholar, and educator, as well as a performer. A former student of Rey de la Torre, Carlos Barbosa-Lima, and David Starobin, he has embraced a wide range of repertory preferences. In addition to the standard classical guitar canon, his repertoire includes works by Luciano Berio, Philip Glass, Alan Hovhaness, Eberhard Weber, Miguel Llobet, and Thelonius Monk. He also performs his own compositions, and has premiered works by three-time Pulitzer nominee, Frank Brazinski, Eric Ross, Alfred Giusto, and Meyer Kupferman, as well as the premier performance of “Goyescana”, a concerto written for him by three-time Grammy winner, Michael Colina. Dr. Phillips also performs in central Florida with a jazz combo.

Robert has contributed a number of articles to “Soundboard”, the journal of the Guitar Foundation of America, and to “American String Teacher”, the journal of the American String Teachers' Association. He spent three years as the classical guitar columnist for “Guitar for the Practicing Musician”, and its sister publication, “Guitar Extra” before becoming a contributing writer for “Guitar Player”. Many of his transcriptions and editions of works for classical guitar have been published in these magazines and by Cherry Lane Music Co., Inc. His anthology, “Great Themes and Variations for Classic Guitar” was published by Mel Bay Publications, Inc., which also released his 2 CD recording of the same title. His newest recording, “*Lo Mestre: The Music of Miguel Llobet*” is due out on Centaur records this winter.

2012-13 Freedom High School Guitar Orchestra



***Christopher Azuaje - 10**
Kenneth Brock - 10
Steven Castillo - 10
Patricia De Andrade - 10
Valeria Demshin - 9
Donald Dominguez - 12
Christopher Dyshuk - 11
Daniel Font - 10
Marta Fuentes - 10
Alexander Garcia - 12
***#Sabrina Giordano - 10**

David Gomez - 10
***Yulia Gomez Diaz - 10**
Diego Gonzalez - 12
James Head - 10
Afia Joarder - 10
Danny Kalaw - 10
^Andy Lau Koo - 11
Kimdell Medilien - 12
Ashley Melendez - 12
Elver Ortiz - 11
Shirlee Ortiz - 12

Sergio Pitta - 11
Nicholas Rasmussen - 11
***Cristian Rivera - 11**
Carlos Sanchez - 10
Luis Sanquirico - 10
Christian Sousa - 12
Matthew Sturniolo - 12
Gloria Tewari - 10
Tiffanie Tran - 9
John Varela - 12
Kristian Wiscovitch - 12

**Denotes 2013 OCPS All-County Guitar Ensemble Participant*

Denotes 2013 FMEA All-State Guitar Ensemble Participant

^Denotes 2013 FMEA All-State Men's Chorus Participant

The Freedom High School Guitar Program and FHS Guitar Orchestra:

The Freedom High School Guitar Program has quickly grown to become one of the largest Performing Arts electives offered with over 190 students enrolled in three Guitar I classes, and three performing classes that serves as our FHS Guitar Ensembles. The program encompasses yearlong accredited classes that meet one period every day during the school day. Students successfully completing a guitar class receive one credit and also fulfill the Performing Arts elective required for graduation.

The FHS Guitar Orchestra performs regularly at concerts, festivals and events locally and around the state of Florida, including giving our now annual Fall and Spring Concerts, participating in the OCPS All-County Honor Guitar Ensemble, clinics and performances for the FMEA All-State Conference and State Guitar Festival and at several resorts with Marriott, the Renaissance Resort at Sea World, and at Walt Disney World as part of the Walt Disney World Holiday Resort Enhancement Program.

The Freedom High School Guitar Program is pleased to announce that in March 2013, the FHS Guitar Orchestra will perform in concert at the 21st Annual Long Island Guitar Festival in Brookville, New York. We are very proud and honored in being selected to perform at this prestigious international guitar festival.

Freedom High School and Performing Arts Department:

Freedom High School is a Florida Department of Education “A” graded community high school, home to over 3,000 “Patriots” in South Orange County. Open since 2003, Freedom High offers rigorous curricula to challenge students and prepare them to participate in our community as productive citizens and lifelong learners. Freedom offers a variety of academic programs for its prestigious students including the Monticello Academy, AVID, Advanced Placement (AP), Academy of Mass Media, Academy of Hospitality, and the Early Childhood Education Academy. In addition, students have opportunities to receive career and technical training through Tech Prep and the Dual Enrollment Program at one of 3 local technical schools and at Valencia College.

Our Performing Arts Department is home to over 670 performing students and is the foundation and centerpiece for Freedom High School. Performance and non-performance classes are offered for students of all ability levels. FHS offers 18 music performing ensembles and include band, chorus, guitar, orchestra and percussion. The FHS Performing Arts recently won the FMEA 2013 Enrollment Award for having over 35% of the student body enrolled in music. A 2012-13 GRAMMY Award High School Semi-Finalist, all programs within the FHS Performing Arts continually perform on local, state and national stages.

Freedom High School Performing Arts Staff:

Erin Brown – Dance
Matthew Brown – Dance, Drama
Franklin Jennings – Department Chair, Band
Emily Pence – Piano, Choral
Christopher Perez – Guitar
Sara Probst – Drama
Edward Rothmel – Associate Choral
Jessica Talbot - Orchestra
Tesfa Wondemagegnehu – Choral

Coda: (Nothing can survive in a vacuum.....)

The FHS Guitar Program is just over 5 years old; our top performing ensemble over 3 years old; needless to say we have matured very quickly. We are here at FMEA due in part to the many that have worked with us, supported our rapid growth, and encouraged Mr. Perez and the FHS Guitar Orchestra to be the best musicians and people we could be. We wish to sincerely thank:

The Freedom High School Administration
The Freedom High School Performing Arts Team
Harris Becker (Long Island University, Brookville, NY)
Mark Ellis (Apopka High School, Apopka, FL)
Jill Gutierrez (Hunter's Creek Middle School, Orlando, FL)
John Parris (Howard W. Blake High School of the Arts, Tampa, FL)
Ed Prasse (Leon High School, Tallahassee, FL)
Dr. Stephen Robinson (Stetson University, DeLand, FL)
Dr. Eric Robles (Lincoln High School, Tallahassee, FL)
Joe Sandusky (Winter Park High School, Winter Park, FL)
Dr. Eladio Scharrón (University of Central Florida, Orlando, FL)
Dr. Leo Welch (Florida State University, Tallahassee, FL)
Rex Willis (State College of Florida, Bradenton, FL)
Our many OCPS Guitar Colleagues
The Parents of all our students performing today

We also thank the fifteen below who were members of last year's Guitar Orchestra, our Senior Class of 2012. A vast majority were with our program all four years, each of them now continuing their post-secondary education at a university. It is with their artistic talent, dedication, selflessness, love, and personal musical leadership that allowed this year's ensemble to perform for you today. From this year's FHS Guitar Orchestra members to them, we express our deepest appreciation, love (we miss you dearly), and sincere thanks.



L to R: (Row 1) Alex Gonzalez, Yoimer Alvarado, Nekkodai Martin, John Kopishke, John Strabelli
(Row 2) Maria Benevides, Vannessa Villabona, Ashley Gonzalez, Ashley Lugo, Kayla Tripoli
(Row 3) Alfred Beran, Michael Brunner, Shan Nawaz, Anthony Kham, John Hamilton



Orange County Public Schools Leadership:

Dr. Barbara Jenkins - Superintendent
Dr. Cathy Pope - Area Superintendent
Scott Evans - Fine Arts Coordinator
Brian Hellhake - Fine Arts Resource Teacher
Ashley Sherman - Fine Arts Resource Teacher

Freedom High School Administration:

Dr. Harold Border - Principal
Charles France - Assistant Principal
Stephanie Minter - Assistant Principal
Joumana Moukaddam - Assistant Principal
Luis Tousent - Assistant Principal



Freedom High School

2500 Taft-Vineland Road - Orlando, FL 32837 407-816-5600

Honor

Excellence

Tradition

