



Ardsley Resident Writer – **Terri O'Neil**,
Executive Director of
The Savannah Philharmonic



SAVANNAH
PHILHARMONIC

THE Savannah PHILHARMONIC

The Most Wonderful Time of the Year

“It’s the most wonderful time of the year

With the kids jingle belling

And everyone telling you be of good cheer

It’s the most wonderful time of the year.”

- Lyrics by George Wyle and Edward Pola

This 1963 holiday classic, with its “be of good cheer” message, puts a smile on my face whenever I hear the tune. Savannah Philharmonic has certainly enjoyed a beautiful season so far—with our fabulous, sold-out season opener conducted by Music and Artistic Director, Keitaro Harada (Kei), followed by the lovely Mendelssohn Violin Concerto with guest conductor, Sameer Patel, and violinist, William Hagen, and, most recently, the spirited Holiday Spectacular Series. The response to the season thus far has been reassuring, and there is so much more to look forward to.

With limited capacity, now is the time to hurry and purchase your tickets for the Philharmonic’s sensational fundraiser An Evening of Tango set for Friday, January 31, 2020, at 6:00 pm at the cool new venue Victory North, located at 2603 Whitaker Street. Join with our host, Maestro Keitaro Harada, for a tantalizing evening of music and dance with specially crafted cocktails, delicious tapas and, of course, fabulous music. Tickets are \$150 each and are available online at savannahphilharmonic.org or at the Philharmonic office 912-232-6002, opt. 3. Event chair Kelley B. Parker and board chair Rhegan White-Clemm, along with their host committee, will deliver a stunning evening to remember—be there to share in the memory! All proceeds support Savannah Philharmonic’s mission.

You will be delighted to know that Kei (pronounced Kay) is quickly settling into Savannah--which he and his family have quickly grown to love, so, when

you see Kei around town, greet him and let him know how much we look forward to having him in our community. You’ll be happy to know that he is preparing an impressive 2020-2021 season with plans to announce the highlights later this winter. So, stay tuned, the upcoming subscriptions and tickets will be available earlier than ever before!

New subscriptions for the current season set an all-time high, and we aim to exceed those numbers with the 2020-2021 season. As you know, subscription packages are always the best way to experience your Savannah Philharmonic concerts; subscribers receive generous discounts and guaranteed seats for everything including the Philharmonic Experience, Series 8, and the Student Suites. Discounted seats are also available for the Larsen Musician Spotlight Series. Another way to enjoy the Phil is with our Create Your Own Series package; the more of the season you choose to enjoy, the more you save with our multi-concert discounts. Doesn’t that sound like a perfect idea for Holiday gift-giving? Join me in giving the gift of music!

In the news! Savannah Philharmonic is thrilled to be spearheading the recently formed Performing Arts Alliance. This newly formed group includes representatives from all of Savannah’s performing arts organizations, along with city, economic and corporate leaders, to align to advocate for an appropriate performing arts venue. A state-of-the-art venue that provides not only rehearsal and performance space, but shared administrative options for area organizations. Savannah deserves to have a valued asset that gives back to the City’s residents and visitors, and this Alliance is developing a vision, and a plan to create such a venue. Watch for updates, and if you would like to get involved, contact me at Terri@savannahphilharmonic.org.

Other inspiring news, witnessing the next generation embrace the Phil is personally rewarding. Watching Savannah Philhar-

monic’s Young Professionals organize, advocate and having fun at a recent gathering with hosts WTOC-TV anchor-woman, Cyreia Sandlin, and Kacey Kennickell Ray, of the Kennickell Group, while sharing their tremendous enthusiasm for our organization was impressive. This group has big plans for the future of the Savannah Philharmonic.

In the spirit of giving, please consider your Savannah Philharmonic during this holiday season—we count on the generosity of our community, as ticket sales only account for 31% of our production costs.

On behalf of the staff, musicians and Board of the Philharmonic, I wish each of you much “good cheer” and a warm and wonderful holiday! I hope to see you next year—at the Phil!

For more information about Subscription packages, tickets and the schedule for upcoming concerts, please visit savannahphilharmonic.org or email info@savannahphilharmonic.org.



from l to r:
Kacey Kennickell Ray, Kelley Parker & Cyreia Sandlin



Happy Holidays From

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