



MICHAEL HALL • MUSIC DIRECTOR

Contact: Mary Larkin

(239) 418-0996

Choruses

The **Southwest Florida Symphony Chorus** is a fully auditioned, 100+ voice group representing Lee, Collier and Charlotte counties. Rich and resonant, the chorus, under the direction of Joseph Caulkins, has earned a reputation for energetic performances and innovative programming.

These talented and dedicated volunteers present over 15 performances each season, ranging from classical choral/orchestral works to pops selections and choral music. In addition, they present a major choral work for the Classical Series, perform at the annual Holiday Pops concert, and present their own Stained Glass Concert Series. They are also involved in the community, performing for the annual Easter Sunrise Service, Community Prayer Breakfast, and other events.

Since their inception in 1962, the Symphony Chorus has performed over 60 major choral works for orchestra and chorus, recorded two CDs (2007 & 2008) and toured five European countries.

The **Chamber Chorus** is a highly select ensemble from within the Symphony Chorus, which prepares especially challenging and intricate choral music for the Symphony Chamber, Stained Glass and Classical Series.

The Symphony Chorus is an auditioned chorus and open to members 15 and older. Rehearsals are Monday evenings, September through May. Auditions take place in August and September and are by appointment only.

Charles Heard, Accompanist & Assistant Choral Director

Highly talented and multi-faceted, Charles Heard has served as the piano accompanist for the past five seasons. Heard trained the Rackham Symphony Choir (Detroit Symphony) and was the Director of the Dearborn Choral Arts Society and the Seaway Chorale and Orchestra. As a pianist and vocal coach, Heard worked many summers at the National Music Camp, Interlochen, Michigan. He also was involved with the Michigan Opera Theater program where he worked with Jesse Norman and Ashley Putnam. Heard served as a teacher and administrator in Michigan for over 40 years and as the Director of

Music and organist at St. Paul American Lutheran Church in Dearborn, Michigan for 23 years.