

Evans Haile has received international acclaim as a Host/Producer, Conductor and Performer in a variety of communication fields. Evans is currently the General Director of Opera North in New Hampshire, as well as the Executive Director of the award winning York Theatre in New York City. He is responsible for reopening and acting as Producing Artistic Director of the North Shore Music Theatre in Beverly, Massachusetts. and recently completed 15 years as the Producing Artistic Director of the historic Cape Playhouse in Massachusetts. This past season included a highly successful tour of Australia telling his stories of humor with music. His concert and script adaptation of Meredith Wilson's "The Music Man" is currently on National Tour with Shirley Jones and Patrick Cassidy. International achievements include supervising and conducting the Australian premiere of Villa Lobos' *Magdalena* and three concert tours of Russia with the Moscow Philharmonic. While in Russia he performed the European premiere of Gershwin's *Second Rhapsody for piano* and orchestra. He was a regular Guest Conductor of the Orchestra of the Deutsche Opera in Germany for five years, and the Boston POPS for eight years. At Lincoln Center, he produced and conducted Villa-Lobos' *Magdalena* (recorded for CBS Masterworks), Rogers & Hart's *Babes in Arms* (recorded for New World Records), and Cole Porter's *Fifty Million Frenchmen* (named Best Recording of the Year by USA Today). Mr. Haile recently embarked on the 50 city, sold out Haile to America Tour, hosting and performing an irreverent celebration of 100 years of American Popular Music. Mr. Haile has been profiled twice on "CBS Sunday Morning," produced the Lincoln Center Tribute to American Express and co-founded the award winning New Amsterdam Theater Company, at New York's historic Town Hall. Mr. Haile is very proud to have been a beneficiary of the National Endowment of the Arts.

Emily Misch, a coloratura soprano praised for her "scintillating precision" (Opera News), is establishing herself as a clear-voiced, versatile, and intelligent performer. Her 2017-2018 season included the Grand Finals of the Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions, Olympia in Les Contes d'Hoffmann (Opera North), Valeria in the workshop of Tom Cipullo's Mayo (National Opera Center), and the soprano solos in Mozart's Requiem, Haydn's Paukenmesse (Huntington Choral Society), and Carmina Burana (Altoona Symphony Orchestra). She has been awarded prizes from the Schuyler Foundation for Career Bridges, the Gerda Lissner Foundation, Mannes College, and Yale University, and has participated in young artist training programs at Wolf Trap Opera Company, Opera North (NH), and Opera on the Avalon.

In 1983 a group of local musicians formed the **Gainesville Orchestra**, Raymond Chobaz was appointed as Music Director and Conductor, and in the fall of 1983 a 34-member ensemble performed their inaugural concert. By 1984 the orchestra developed both an advisory board and a Board of Directors. For over three decades the orchestra has been part of the cultural vitality of Alachua County. In 2001 the orchestra secured the services of Maestro Evans Haile as Music Director and Conductor. Attracting this internationally known artist, whose home and history is in Gainesville, substantially enhanced the quality and reputation of the orchestra. Leon Fleisher, world-renowned pianist and conductor, played and conducted at the first concert for 2006-2007 season. In 1989 **GCO** made a commitment to education by creating the *Youth Concert Series*, resulting in a *Family Concert* as part of the regular concert season with an additional special performance of this concert at the University of Florida's Phillips Center for Performing Arts for the schoolchildren of Alachua County and surrounding counties.