



CHESAPEAKE CHAMBER MUSIC INTERLUDE

Fall 2008

CHESAPEAKE CHAMBER MUSIC IS BORN

We're More Than A Festival Now!

by Philip Webster - If you had called the Festival office on July 1, staff members Don Buxton or Nancy Mullen would have answered the telephone with a warm "Good morning, Chesapeake Chamber Music". "Wait a minute", you might have said, "whatever happened to the Eastern Shore Chamber Music Festival?"

What happened is that Eastern Shore Chamber Music Festival has joined the ranks of hundreds of corporations like Esso (now Exxon) and International Business Machines (now IBM) and non-profits such as the Academy of the Arts (now Academy Art Museum) or the Young Men's Christian Association (now the Y) who have changed their names to reflect new circumstances.

A year ago, the Board of Directors of Eastern Shore Chamber Music Festival, Inc. decided to change the corporate name and logo after a strategic review. Having "Festival" in our name was a misnomer, when we sponsored a Competition, a Festival, Interlude concerts, galas and YouthReach programs such as First Strings and Presto!

The Board saw that we were becoming increasingly well-known globally because of the international reach of our Chesapeake Chamber Music Competition, but were caught with a name that began "Eastern Shore". It recognized there are tens of Eastern Shores on bodies of water world-



Corporate Identity Committee, left to right, Chair Philip Webster, Tim Young, David Jeffery and Donald Buxton. Photo by Jerry Michael

wide, but there is only one "Chesapeake" in the world and most people know of it, thanks to Tom Clancy, James Michener, yacht racing, oysters and crabs among other influences.

As one organization we needed a consistency of identity. After extensive deliberation and legal review, the Board settled on "Chesapeake Chamber Music" as our new name. In essence, we had been using the three words for five years as the surname for our Competition, and realized it fit everything we do. What we have become is an organization rooted in the traditions of the "Chesapeake" that is committed to exposing a growing audience of all ages to "Chamber Music" in its broadest sense, from Bach to Bartok, from the Classics to Tango.

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CHESAPEAKE CHAMBER MUSIC INTERLUDE CONCERT TO FEATURE THE GRACIEUX TRIO

2008 International Chesapeake Chamber Music Competition Finalists Return

by Lin Clineburg - The Gracieux Trio, one of five international finalists in the March 2008 International Chesapeake Chamber Music Competition, will perform in a Chesapeake Chamber Music Interlude Concert on Saturday, November 22, at 3 p.m. at the Academy Art Museum in Easton, Maryland. The Interlude Concert is generously underwritten by Wye Financial & Trust.



Gracieux Trio-Photo by Bruce Osborn

This exciting program will include a piano trio by Joseph Haydn, Café Music by Paul Schoenfield, the Maryland premiere of a piano trio by prize winning composer, Zhou Tian, and will feature Maurice Ravel's Piano Trio. A champagne reception following the concert will be held in the Art Academy's spacious atrium gallery where guests will have the opportunity to meet these charming artists while sipping bubbly and enjoying fine hors d'oeuvres.

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2008 Eastern Shore Chamber Music Festival Highlights. A great selection of memorable photos.



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From My First Piano Lesson to Gala Chair.



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YouthReach announces new First String and Presto! programs.



This year's Eastern Shore Chamber Music Festival was the last under that name, as we become Chesapeake Chamber Music. Exceptional performers, some familiar and others new to Festival audiences, delighted us in varied venues. Audiences in Easton enjoyed concerts at the Avalon Theatre, at MEBA, an open rehearsal at the Academy Art Museum, and a street concert. Fifteen of the young violinists of the First Strings program played at the Avalon Theatre as part of the Young People's Concert. The Emmanuel Church in Chestertown, the Aspen Institute at Wye River, and "Pine Bloom", an expansive waterfront estate, all hosted memorable performances.



Photos by LinLayton Photo



A Night in Rio!

To Create a Sizzling CCM Fifth Gala

by Philip Webster - The fifth annual Chesapeake Chamber Music Gala will honor the scintillating music, cuisine and culture of Brasil at A NIGHT IN RIO! on Friday, March 13, 2009, at a new location in the Hyatt Regency Chesapeake Bay Resort in Cambridge, MD.

Honorary Chairpersons of the Gala are former United States Ambassador to Brasil Anthony Harrington and his wife, Hope. Chair is Laurie Yorkilous. The Gala and Concert are generously underwritten by Wye Financial & Trust.

The black tie, Brazilian attire optional event will begin at 6 p.m. in the concert hall with an Interlude Concert of Brazilian music featuring sensuous samba and salsa rhythms, as well as the more classic music of Brazilian composer Hector Villa-Lobos. A cocktail hour featuring tropical drinks from Rio and Brazilian hors d'oeuvres will be accented by a plentiful Silent Auction of unique goods and services. Party-goers will then adjourn to the dining room for a stunning Live Auction led by the Dueling Auctioneers Paul Berry and Bill Corace: A private condo in the ski area of New Hampshire; private home in tropical Costa Rica; private cocktail party at the gallery of Brazilian photographer Fabiano Cafure...and more!

A NIGHT IN RIO! then moves on with a classic Brazilian dinner created for the occasion by Hyatt Regency Executive Chef Tony Breeze, followed by music to samba and salsa the night away.



Former U.S. Ambassador to Brasil and Mrs. Anthony Harrington. Photo by Tom Miller for Melissa Grimes - Guy Photography

For those wishing to extend the Gala experience overnight, rooms are available at the Hyatt Regency at a special Chesapeake Chamber Music group rate by calling 410-901-1234.

Tickets for the Gala are \$150 per person. Patrons who support the Gala at \$300 per person will be given VIP seating at the Gala and be invited to the special Patron's Party at one of Talbot's exclusive waterfront estates. To request an invitation or make a reservation, contact Chesapeake Chamber Music, Inc., PO Box 461, Easton, MD 21601. Tel: 410-819-0380.

From My First Piano Lesson to Gala Chair

by Laurie Yorkilous - I remember my very first lesson ... a nice lady took my hand, and said, "You have the perfect hands to play piano." I did not know she said that to everyone, but I got excited. I studied piano and clarinet for a while, but realized playing an instrument was not a talent of mine. Developing a respect for music was, however, a big part of my childhood.

I grew up in Rochester, New York, exposed to the Eastman School of Music. My dear mother, who is 94 years young, made sure to expose me to a variety of music, giving me my appreciation for those gifted enough to perform. To the best of her ability, she taught me audience etiquette and a love for what sounds beautiful.

When I was Leslie Westbook's guest at the Angel's Concert in 2007, I truly fell in love with chamber music. I was eager to join her Gala committee for "Tango", as a representative for Wye Financial & Trust, Talbot Bank and Shore Bancshares, Inc. I found a new home -- a place where I could learn and offer my organizational aptitude to help create something that I enjoyed.

I came to Easton in 1994, from Northern Virginia. My background has been in event management, human resources and marketing. In 1999, I joined The Avon-Dixon Agency as Business Development Manager. After it became a member of Shore Bancshares,

Inc. family of companies, I was named Director of Marketing for Shore Bancshares in 2005.

I have raised two daughters and two step-sons and I very much enjoy participating in my 2 year old granddaughter's life! Currently, I am on the Public Relations and Ambassador Committee for Shore Leadership, having participated in the Class of 2006. I am an active member of Soroptimists International of Talbot County. I volunteer for Waterfowl Festival, Arts Marketplace and Chesapeake Film Festival.



Laurie Yorkilous, Chair of the Gala. Photo by Tom Miller for Melissa Grimes - Guy Photography

Taking on the complex project of managing Gala 2009 is natural for me and very exciting. I am ready for the challenge and have an excellent committee to work with. Together we will create a fund-raising event that you won't forget. "A Night In Rio!"



NOTES FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

by Donald Buxton - What a year, beginning with an office move in the fall of 2007 resplendent with furniture- assembly late into the night, without dropping a beat in the day- to- day aspects of running an organization - fundraising, grant- writing, answering the phone, etc. Highlights included a wonderful Interlude Concert by the Trio Cavatina on October 6th at the Avalon Theatre, teaching the YouthReach First Strings and Presto! programs to approximately 600 students by Merideth Buxton and Melissa Slacum in Dorchester and Talbot counties, and hiring Nancy Mullen, a welcome "Assistant to the Executive Director" who supports the ever- expanding administrative needs of the organization and assists with the challenges of this expansion.

A Gala to outperform-all-Galas with the "Music of Tango" on March 8th raised much-needed funds for all of our blossoming and continuing programs. A splendid Competition reached its apex on March 29th with all- day, live performances at the Avalon Theatre with five extraordinarily talented ensembles from the United States and abroad playing to a packed house. Finally, the "pièce de résistance", our beloved 23rd Annual Festival filled with amazing musicians and music of incomparable beauty delighted so many of us. If this seems like one huge run- on sentence it's probably because the year seemed to fly by exactly the same way - fast, furious and barely a chance to take a breath.

After all that, it's important to note that this organization continues to be built by a devoted board, committees and volunteers without whom none of this could take place; a year of enormous expansion that couldn't have happened without the helping hands of many people. You have all received by now the exciting news of our corporate identity change to Chesapeake Chamber Music under which all of our programs now reside. This bodes well for our future as Chesapeake Chamber Music continues to offer all of the wonderful programs you've come to know and love with additions here and there to tempt the palate. Twenty- three years ago, I had no idea we could have achieved so much. A stand partner of mine in an orchestra I performed with professionally used to say to me after an exciting concert - "that was a good ride!" I'm looking forward to 2009 and Festival 24 which I know is going to be as exciting and challenging. I hope you'll join us for all our many programs and come along with us for another "great ride"!



Donald Buxton, Executive Director. Photo by Audrey Rooney

InstantEncore Expands Our World

by Stuart Rich - With Festival 23 in June, Chesapeake Chamber Music became affiliated with InstantEncore, a free internet resource which provides the means for classical music lovers, concert presenters, artists, composers, and educators to enhance and extend their concert experience. At www.instantencore.com one can find concerts scheduled throughout the coming year, read music news and reviews, listen to concerts and download music from concerts one has attended. Nearly 10,000 classical concerts are scheduled in the United States during the coming year (over 350 in Maryland); you can search for concerts by such characteristics as venue, composer, ensemble, artist and conductor. If you are traveling, you can search the database for concerts at your destination.

There are presently nearly 200 recordings available for you to "stream" —listen as you work at your computer. You can listen to InstantEncore Radio while you read your e-mail or pay



your bills online. Five 2008 Festival concerts are available for streaming or download—i.e., record in MP3 format—so you can listen on your iPod or make a CD to play in your car. You can access these recordings by typing the following address into your internet browser: www.instantencore.com/chesapeakechambermusic. To download the concerts, just enter the download code "chesapeake2008".

In the three months since we began our affiliation, over 1,000 music lovers have visited our site at InstantEncore—we hope you will do so too!

CHESAPEAKE CHAMBER MUSIC IS BORN - Continued from Page 1

An extensive search for a design firm experienced in developing Corporate Identity systems ensued, leading to Tim Young of Eclectic Graphics who created a new logo for us, evocative of the old but certainly new – a log canoe sailing East into a sea of the musical staff toward a note that looks faintly like a Chesapeake moon. A system of nomenclatures added to the new graphic, employing the new name in a customized type font with programmatic names such as Chesapeake Chamber Music Festival, Chesapeake Chamber Music Competition, Chesapeake Chamber Music Interlude Concerts, Chesapeake Chamber Music YouthReach and Chesapeake Chamber

Music Gala. Tim Young has also worked with CCM in the vibrant, updated look of "Interlude".

Chesapeake Chamber Music is now engaged in transforming its identity in the public's mind via its website, publications, advertising, publicity and mailings. As much as we loved "Eastern Shore Chamber Music Festival", this "new" organization heads toward its 25th Silver Anniversary in 2010 with a new name and a new look. Happy Birthday, "Chesapeake Chamber Music".

YOUTHREACH ANNOUNCES NEW FIRST STRINGS AND PRESTO! PROGRAMS; EXPANSION IN TALBOT AND DORCHESTER COUNTIES

by Patricia Barbis - Chesapeake Chamber Music's YouthReach Program begins its third year of teaching violin in the elementary schools of Dorchester and Talbot counties by offering the First Strings and Presto! programs to new schools, adding a fourth instructor and developing a partnership with the YMCA in Dorchester County.

First Strings is ten sessions over a few weeks of violin instruction for third- and fourth-grade classes using the Suzuki method. This year the program expects to teach hundreds of children and awaken their interest in and love for classical music. The expanded program will be taught at five schools in Talbot County and at seven schools in Dorchester County. Presto! is a once-a-week after-school program for violin classes of 5-8 students who have graduated from First Strings. YouthReach anticipates providing five Presto! sessions at three schools in Talbot County and three in Dorchester County.

Meredith Buxton, Program Director, was joined in teaching last year by Melissa Slacum, a graduate of Wheaton Conservatory of Music, who is presently in charge of developing the YMCA Fun Clubs in Dorchester County. The Fun Clubs, a new after-school program in elementary schools in Dorchester County, are designed to stimulate children's minds and bodies through enrichment and physical activities. Melissa, who will be including Presto! programs as part of the YMCA Fun Clubs, expects the Presto! program to be very popular with First Strings graduates. Don Buxton, Executive Director of CCM and conductor, Dover Symphony Orchestra, also teaches in the expanding Presto! program.

Due to the success of these programs, YouthReach has enlisted a fourth violin teacher, Carol Eron Rizzoli, to expand

the opportunities for elementary children to learn violin and appreciation for classical music. Carol has been a member of the Philadelphia Youth Orchestra, the Cambridge University Music Society, and currently plays in the Dover Symphony Orchestra. She has taught violin and music appreciation and commented, "I hope to share what has been given so generously to me since I was nine years old, especially the incomparable joy that comes from making music."

Chesapeake Chamber Music is committed to providing the First Strings and Presto! programs to all elementary schools in Dorchester and Talbot counties. If a school cannot afford the small fee per classroom, "Schoolerships" are available to assist school systems. If an individual child needs help to pay for Presto!, scholarships are available to parents. CCM is embarking on an active effort to raise additional funds from foundations, grants and individual donors to enable all schools and children who are interested to participate. It has purchased 20 student-sized violins for teaching and may need to purchase ten more violins for the new teacher's classes – a perfect opportunity for a donor who loves classical music.

Fifteen of the young violinists in the First Strings program played at the Avalon Theatre as part of the Young People's Concert during the 23rd Annual Eastern Shore Chamber Music Festival. Their appearance was so successful that plans are being formulated to schedule a second Young People's Concert during the 24th Festival featuring young musicians from the First Strings and Presto! programs and other instrumental groups. Meredith Buxton said, "The next Young People's Concert will be inspiring and fun and showcase our best local student talent."



Fifteen young violinists in the FirstStrings program, lead by teacher Meredith Buxton, played at the Young People's Concert. Photo by Clay Owens, The Star Democrat

THE GRACIEUX TRIO - Continued from Page 1

The Gracieux Trio was founded in New York in 2003, and has performed extensively on tour throughout the United States and Asia, including a Far Eastern Tour this past spring. The Trio made its New York debut in 2004 at Carnegie Hall's Weill Recital Hall to a sold-out performance and high acclaim as winners of the Artists International Chamber Music Award. It has been featured at the Emerson Festival, the Ackerman Series and has performed at such concert venues as Tsuda Hall and Oji Hall in Tokyo, as well as Steinway Hall and Merkin Hall in New York. Its annual recitals in Japan have been broadcast live, receiving high critical acclaim.

Acclaimed violinist Ani Kavafian says of the Trio: "I find their playing to be both sensitive and fresh with a tremendous sense of enthusiasm for every piece of music they perform." The Trio has

been studying with members of the world-renowned Emerson String Quartet.

Gracieux Trio members are prize- winners individually, as well as collectively. Japanese-born violinist Ryoko Arai won first prize at the Paranov Concerto Competition. Yuiko Arai, one of the greatest young cellists of Japan, was the first prize winner at the Toryumon Young Artists Competition and the Kanazawa Young Artists Concert Audition. Taiwan-born Gloria Shih, pianist, has won the Taipei Piano Competition and the Schimmel Piano Competition.

Tickets are available for \$50 per person from Chesapeake Chamber Music, Inc., PO Box 461, Easton, MD 21601, Tel: 410-819-0380, or online at www.ChesapeakeChamberMusic.org



HUNGRY FOR MUSIC!

A First Serving of the Easterly Chamber Orchestra

by Carol Eron Rizzoli - It was a hot, bright afternoon and the natives were obviously hungry, for music that is. Young and old, they streamed through the doors, filled all the chairs, stood, and sat on the floor well before Chesapeake Chamber Music's multi-dimensional executive director, Donald Buxton, took the podium and raised his baton.

The free debut concert of the Easterly Chamber Orchestra in June offered a program of light classical and pops music, including Schubert, excerpts from Handel's "Water Music," Piazzolla's "Oblivion," and Leroy Anderson favorites, including an exuberant "Fiddle-Fiddle." "We are testing the waters," Don told the audience, who expressed their approval with a standing ovation, "and we invite you to join us."



Organizers of the Easterly Chamber Orchestra, Abigail Cureton, Donald Buxton, and Carol Rizzoli. Photo by Ian Buxton

With his commitment to the musical life of the community and his standards of excellence as a violinist, pianist, and conductor, Don was the one and only person two local musicians, one being myself, thought of when we thought about forming a musical ensemble by and for the community. Abby Cureton and I (French horn and violin respectively) approached Don, who independently had been thinking along the same lines.

With the Chamber Music Festival over for the season and no prospect of a classical concert nearby anytime soon, it seemed like a good time to offer a concert. We invited friends and colleagues, all professional musicians, to rehearse and play for free (they did), we raided Don's personal music library, spread the word, and the "Summer Solstice Concert" was born. The Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum generously provided an inspiring venue in the Steamboat Building, and the weather cooperated, with the navy-blue Miles River glinting outside the opened doors and a hint of breeze wafting through the room.

It was a perfect afternoon and a perfect start, with donations coming in that day and in the following weeks.

Of course more help will be needed to establish an ongoing resident orchestra that can contribute on a regular basis to the cultural vitality of our community, and toward that goal, we invite all who love and support classical music to join us.

Contributions may be made to the Easterly Chamber Orchestra, c/o The Mid-Shore Community Foundation, 102 East Dover Street, Easton, MD 21601. The orchestra also welcomes help with organizational work.

IN MEMORY OF OUR CHAMBER MUSIC FRIEND JAMES ROONEY

by Patricia Barbis - Long-time Festival friend James Rooney passed away on September 5th at his home in Chestertown. His wife Audrey's artistic and musical contributions to the Festival are legendary. She chaired the Marketing Committee, served as Vice President, edited Interlude, and currently chairs the Chestertown Committee with élan. In all these endeavors Jim was a behind-the-scenes supporter and advisor.

Illness had kept Jim from full participation in recent concert seasons, but he never missed the Emmanuel Church performances in Chestertown. His favorite musical voices were the viola, flute, horn, and piano. He was thrilled to hear and see Festival pianist Diane Walsh in "33 Variations" at Arena Stage in Washington last summer in a pre-Broadway try-out. As we grow older, he would muse, "Chamber music is like a fine drawing compared with a mural. It

seems transparent, revealing structure that a full symphony might obscure."

Before retirement Jim was a professor of veterinary science at the University of Kentucky, and professor of veterinary pathology at the University of Pennsylvania. He was involved with theater much of his life, having majored in English drama at Dartmouth and was a published and performed playwright who also acted in amateur and professional productions. His theatrical experiences contributed to his appreciation of chamber music and fine food. Jim was an excellent cook.

We are indebted to Jim and Audrey for their generous contributions of time, talent and financial support and extend our warm sympathy to their family. A memorial service for Jim will be held at the Prince Theater in Chestertown on November 16th.



Jim Rooney appropriately attired while listening to chamber music and cooking a gourmet meal.
- Photo by Audrey Rooney

TWO NEW BOARD MEMBERS BRING THEIR TALENTS TO CHESAPEAKE CHAMBER MUSIC

- by Susan Koh

Hanna Woicke

Germany, Lebanon, England, Brasil, Singapore and the United States are countries that have been home to Hanna Woicke prior to living in St. Michaels, Maryland. Hanna met her husband Peter at the University of Saarbrucken in Germany. Later, his work for JP Morgan and The World Bank gave them and their two children opportunities to live, work, and enjoy music performances internationally.



Hanna Woicke - Photo by Jerry Michael

Music was evident in Hanna's childhood home; she particularly remembers listening to her mother's favorite operettas. Peter brought his interest in classical music to their marriage and Hanna says that she can hear his favorite Mozart clarinet concerto note-for-note in her ear.

Hanna's many interests include a love of languages and work as a translator and teacher. She has studied art history and photography and was a curator of the New Jersey Arts Center, specializing in contemporary art. In Singapore, Hanna founded a Friends group that supported the Singapore Symphony Orchestra through fund raising and social events. She also trained docents for the National Museum of Art in Singapore. In Washington, D.C., Hanna headed the Margaret McNamara Memorial Fund established in memory of Robert McNamara's wife. This fund provides financial support to further the education of women from developing countries. Here in Talbot County, Hanna has been trained and serves as a court-appointed special advocate for children.

In 1998, Hanna and Peter, drawn by the beauty and tranquility of the Eastern Shore, moved from Washington D.C. to their waterfront home near St. Michaels. Hanna enthusiastically brings her talents and world experiences to her new CCM Board position. Her vision includes "attracting people from a wider area to CCM events since the programs are so outstanding." She imagines "a support group firmly behind CCM to identify goals and expand the audience to include younger couples and families." Hanna and Peter's two grandchildren play musical instruments and Hanna recognizes the importance of First Strings and Presto! because "these opportunities plant seeds of musical appreciation and experiences that children should have when they are young. Music lessons and concerts are very important to developing talent and encouraging interest in music."

Kathleen Wise

For four decades, Kathleen Wise has called Cambridge, Maryland home, living there with her late husband Dr. Sam Wise, a psychiatrist, and member of the Eastern Shore Hospital System. A mental health-care professional herself, she retired in January 2008 after a career devoted to health care for children and home visiting services for families with newborns.



Kathleen Wise - Photo by Jerry Michael

Music appreciation has always been a part of Kathleen's life. Growing up in a suburb of Chicago that offered an outstanding music education to students, Kathleen and her classmates received extra credit in music classes for listening to radio broadcasts of The Voice of Firestone and opera performances from The Met. Her high school orchestra was top-ranked nationally for several years. Kathleen was also a member of the Glee Club. "My own musical education demonstrated to me how impressionable children are and how early exposure to music can lead to lifelong musical engagement."

Music was important to Kathleen and Sam as they raised their musically-talented daughter Melissa. When Melissa showed an interest in the violin, Kathleen organized violin classes for children in the area. She searched for a teacher and convinced Merideth Rexford to move from Ithaca, New York where she had been studying Suzuki violin teaching methods, to teach in Cambridge. Today Meredith is Meredith Buxton, the Director of First Strings and Presto! and wife of CCM Executive Director Don Buxton. Melissa Wise is now Melissa Slacum, an instrumental music instructor for First Strings.

Kathleen's community interests have included her work as past president of Tidewater Performing Arts and supporting the concert series at Christ Church in Cambridge.

Kathleen has two priorities for her term as a member of the Chesapeake Chamber Music Board. "First, I would like to see the youth outreach project expanded so that more students, particularly disadvantaged students, are exposed to the study of stringed instruments and chamber music. I would like First Strings and Presto! extended to other mid shore counties as interest grows. Second, I would like more chamber music performed in Dorchester County so as to further encourage the involvement of Dorchester residents."

GRACE NOTES

We would like to thank the many people who give generously of their time and talents to all the aspects of the Chesapeake Chamber Music Festival and Competition. We are grateful to each of you for making our concerts, special events, and outreach programs so successful. You contribute to the future of great music on the Chesapeake!





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Gala 2009 – *A Night in Rio*

Chesapeake Chamber Music will open its 24th year on Friday, March 13, 2009 with a sparkling concert Gala “A Night in Rio” at the elegant Hyatt Regency Chesapeake Bay Resort in Cambridge, MD. The concert will feature Brazilian music, from spicy sambas and salsas to selections from the famed Brazilian composer Hector Villa-Lobos.

Brasilian cocktails and hors d’oeuvres will follow, with the opportunity to view and bid on a rich array of live and silent auction items. A classic Brasilian dinner created by award-winning Hyatt Regency Executive Chef Tony Breeze will be served after the auction, with Brasilian music for after-dinner dancing.

To learn more about the not-to-be missed Gala 2009 – A Night in Rio, please see Page 3.

