

## **Fredericksburg Music Club, Inc. Presents River Oaks Chamber Orchestra In Concert January 21, 2018**

ROCO Brass Quintet  
ROCO (The River Oaks Chamber Orchestra)

The River Oaks Chamber Orchestra is a forty-piece professional chamber orchestra that was founded in 2005 by Alecia Lawyer. A Juilliard-trained musician with an eclectic background as a performer, recording artist, adjunct professor and radio host, Ms. Lawyer had a vision to redefine the orchestral experience for both audience and musicians. The result is ROCO: an orchestra of all-star musicians, distinguished conductors and famous composers who come together from all over the world to present unexpected classics, original compositions and delightful performances that dissolve the barriers between audience and orchestra. ROCO has been called the most fun you can have with serious music!

The ROCO Brass Quintet is a group of musicians that regularly perform in The River Oaks Chamber Orchestra. They provide a taste of what the larger orchestral group performs.

George Chase, trumpet and flugelhorn

A native of upstate New York, George Chase attended the Curtis Institute of Music in Philadelphia, PA, and attended graduate school at Rice University. While in school, he performed with the Albany Symphony, Philadelphia Opera, the Harrisburg Symphony, the St. Cecilia Chamber Orchestra and performed with the Berkshire Opera during the summer. After his graduation from Rice, he joined the Symphony Orchestra of the State of Mexico in Toluca, Mexico. Upon his return to the United States, he began performing with area groups such as the Houston Symphony, Houston Grand Opera, Houston Ballet, Bach Society, Opera in the Heights and the Moores Brass Quintet. George currently performs with ROCO (the River Oaks Chamber Orchestra) and the ROCO Brass Quintet, Opera in the Heights, and Jazz Forever. He serves on the ROCO Board, the Curtis Institute Alumni Council and on the advisory board of the Houston Youth Symphony. He lives in the Woodland Heights with his wife and daughter.

Jason Adams, trumpet and flugelhorn

Jason Adams was born in Worcester, Massachusetts and studied trumpet with Roger Murtha and Chris Gekker at the Hartt School and the Manhattan School of Music. Hailed by the Springfield (MA) Union-News for his "high-stepping and high-energy" playing and the Burlington (IA) Hawk Eye as a "fresh face with a strong talent", he has appeared all over the United States and internationally in various settings, including with the Houston Symphony Orchestra, the Cathedral Brass, the Springfield Symphony Orchestra, where he served as Third Trumpet, the Hartford Symphony Orchestra, the Berkshire Symphony Orchestra, where he served as Co-Principal Trumpet, the Vermont Symphony Orchestra, the American Brass Quintet, the Orchestra of Saint Luke's, the Virtual Consort, and the New England Bach Festival in Marlboro, VT.

Gavin Reed, horn

Gavin Reed is an active freelance artist in the Houston area as well as an Affiliate Artist of University of Houston's Moores School. After completing his Masters Degree under Gail Williams and William Barnewitz at Northwestern University in 2005, he has appeared frequently with the Houston Ballet, Houston Grand Opera, River Oaks Chamber Orchestra and Houston Symphony. In addition to live performances, he has also been heard with these ensembles on Houston's public radio station, KUHF, as well as the nationally broadcast program Performance Today. As a chamber musician, he has performed at London's Royal Academy and has given live concerts on KUHF's The Front Row. He appears frequently with the ROCO Brass Quintet. He has participated in the Las Vegas Music Festival, National Orchestral Institute and during his second summer at Music Academy of the West was named a studio

fellow. He has appeared with the orchestras of Tallahassee, North Carolina (Raleigh), San Antonio and Milwaukee.

James Lee, tenor trombone

James is a Houston-based freelance musician, who studied with Reggie Goebel (Houston freelance musician), Weston Sprott (Metropolitan Opera), Michael Warny (Houston Ballet), John Kitzman (Dallas Symphony), and Bradley White (Houston Symphony). James has performed with the Houston Symphony, Opera in the Heights, Mid-Texas Symphony, Masquerade Theatre, Lake George Music Festival (Lake George, NY), and Salmerum (Houston's premier salsa band). He is particularly active with musical theater in venues all across Texas, and is a sports and fitness enthusiast.

Will Samson, tuba

Will Samson, originally from Appleton, WI, is an active musician in the Houston area. He has performed with the Houston Symphony, Houston Ballet Orchestra, Houston Grand Opera Orchestra, and Green Bay Symphony Orchestra. Will holds degrees from Lawrence University and Rice University. His teachers include David Kirk, Marty Erickson, Charles Guy, and David Stull.

Source: ROCO (The River Oaks Chamber Orchestra) Website