



Yes, they are coming again. For the 15th consecutive year, Duke University's Symphony Orchestra will perform in Beaufort. This year's concert will be hosted by the Foundation for Leadership Education, a newly established organization formed to promote leadership education for youth throughout Beaufort County.

Speaking from Durham, Conductor Harry Davidson expressed his thanks to Beaufort Memorial Hospital for establishing this unique relationship between the orchestra and the Beaufort Community. "These students and I are proud that the proceeds of the orchestra's Beaufort performances have helped fund new programs at Beaufort Memorial, especially the Healing Arts program. We look forward to providing visibility for the new leadership education foundation and helping to fund scholarships that will strengthen their effort." He continued, "Not only are our students proud to help such worthy causes, but the warmth and hospitality of so many Beaufort area residents makes this a highlight of our year."



Another aspect of the Orchestra's special relationship with Beaufort has been the featuring of a local youth chorus. Music educator Vic Varner works closely with Davidson to provide orchestration for the instruments to allow his Beaufort students to sing with the accompaniment of a full-fledged symphony orchestra. Varner and Davidson's collaboration has provided this opportunity for Varner's singers from Beaufort High and USCB, and now this year from his "Blue Notes" ensemble from Beaufort Academy. "This is a rare experience for a youth chorus and is a boost to the development of these Beaufort students," says Varner.

The concert takes place at Sea Island Presbyterian Church on Saturday, April 14 at 7PM. For tickets, go online to www.LowcountryLeaders.com or call 843-524-3393. Tickets are \$40, or \$80 to include Conductor's reception in historic Beaufort home.