Respect: A Tribute to Aretha Franklin
Tuesday-Friday, January 18-21, 2022 · 8pm
Saturday, January 22, 2022 · 2pm and 8pm
Hayes Hall

Naples Philharmonic
Stuart Chafetz, conductor
Shaleah Adkisson, vocalist
Blaine Alden Krauss, vocalist
Coco Smith, vocalist
John Boswell, piano

Selections to be announced from the stage.

The Naples Philharmonic Pops series is generously endowed by Mike and Anne Armstrong.

This performance will last approximately two hours, including the intermission.
Thank you for silencing all electronic devices.
Stuart Chafetz is the principal pops conductor of the Columbus Symphony and the newly appointed principal pops conductor of the Chautauqua and Marin Symphonies. Chafetz, a conductor celebrated for his dynamic and engaging podium presence, is increasingly in demand with orchestras across the continent, and, this season, he will appear on the podium in Detroit, Houston, Milwaukee, Naples, Philadelphia, Cincinnati, Pittsburgh, San Diego and Winnipeg. He enjoys a special relationship with The Phoenix Symphony, where he leads multiple programs annually.

Chafetz has had the privilege to work with many renowned artists, including Chris Botti, 2 Cellos, Hanson, Rick Springfield, Michael Bolton, Kool & The Gang, Jefferson Starship, America, Little River Band, Brian McKnight, Roberta Flack, George Benson, Richard Chamberlain, The Chieftains, Jennifer Holliday, John Denver, Marvin Hamlish, Thomas Hampson, Wynonna Judd, Jim Nabors, Randy Newman, Jon Kimura Parker and Bernadette Peters. He previously held posts as resident conductor of the Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra and associate conductor of the Louisville Orchestra. As principal timpanist of the Honolulu Symphony for 20 years, Chafetz would also conduct the annual Nutcracker performances with Ballet Hawaii and principals from the American Ballet Theatre. It was during that time that Chafetz led numerous concerts with the Maui Pops Orchestra. He has led numerous spring ballet productions at the world-renowned Jacobs School of Music at Indiana University.

In the summers, Chafetz spends his time at the Chautauqua Institution, where he conducts the annual Fourth of July and Opera Pops concerts with the Chautauqua Symphony Orchestra in addition to his role as the orchestra's timpanist.

When not on the podium, Chafetz makes his home near San Francisco, California, with his wife, Ann Krinitsky. Chafetz holds a bachelor’s degree in music performance from the College-Conservatory of Music at the University of Cincinnati and a master’s from the Eastman School of Music.

Shaleah Adkisson (Vocalist) has been seen on Broadway and on tour in Hair: The American Tribal Love-Rock Musical and off-Broadway in the revival of the Pulitzer Prize-winning musical Rent. Her many regional theater credits include Jubilee (Arena Stage), Clybourne Park, Avenue Q (Arkansas Repertory Theatre), The Hot Mikado, Beehive: The 60’s Musical, Ain’t Misbehavin’ (Broward Stage Door Theatre), Grease, Nunsense (Murry’s Dinner Playhouse) and Children of Eden (Arkansas Repertory Theatre). Shaleah regularly performs in New York City and on tour with Soul Picnic Productions (Back to the Garden and August 1969: A Tribute to the Women of Woodstock). www.shaleahadkisson.com

Blaine Alden Krauss (Vocalist) is currently starring in Hamilton as the standby for both Hamilton and Burr. He was thrilled to be part of the second season of Pose while appearing in The Cher Show on Broadway. Prior to that he was seen as Lola in Kinky Boots shortly after making his Broadway debut in the smash hit Natasha, Pierre and the Great Comet of
1812. He traveled the world as Simba in *The Lion King* and starred in the *Radio City Summer Spectacular*. Blaine regularly performs with symphonies around the globe and is a regular performer at Feinstein’s/54 Below. His talents led him in 2011 to be a feature performer for the largest Commemoration of 9/11 outside of the U.S at the Trocadero in Paris, France. In 2010 he was selected to be 1 of 20 Presidential Scholars in the Arts by the White House and Presidential Scholar Commission. This venture led to meeting President Obama and concluded with a performance at the Kennedy Center in Washington D.C. He was selected to be the Feature Vocalist at the 2010 July 4th Celebration at the U.S. National Archives and was a selected participant at the International Fringe Festival in Edinburgh, Scotland. His theatrical credits include *Godspell* and *Spelling Bee* at the West Virginia Public Theatre, *Evita*, *Into the Woods*, *Civil War*, *Make Me A Song*, *Chess* and Jean Valjean in CCM’s *Les Miserables*. Blaine is a proud graduate of the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music.

**CoCo Smith** (Vocalist) is thrilled to be part of Spot-On Entertainment’s *Respect: A Tribute to Aretha Franklin*. CoCo made her Broadway debut in *The Book of Mormon* and performed the show all over the world (Broadway/National Tour/International). Since being chosen one of “Broadway’s Rising Stars” in 2015, CoCo has starred in numerous theatrical productions across the country including the off-Broadway revival of *The Unsinkable Molly Brown* and regional productions of *Oklahoma* (Weston Playhouse), *Sideshow* (Near West Theatre), and *Children of Eden* (Near West Theatre). CoCo was invited to make a return appearance in the 2016 edition of Broadway’s Rising Stars at historic Town Hall in the heart of Times Square. CoCo is a graduate of the American Musical and Dramatic Academy in New York City and would like to give special thanks to her vocal coach, Tony James. #99CoCoProblems

Pianist **John Boswell** has served as musical director for Judy Collins, Andy Williams, Bob Newhart, Faith Prince, Scott Coulter, Maude Maggart, Carmen Cusack, Babbie Green, Jason Graae and a host of other fine talents. John played the role of Moose in the national tour of *Crazy For You* and has appeared on *The Tonight Show*, *Today Show*, *CBS This Morning*, *Regis And Kathie Lee*, *General Hospital* and was the piano playing hands of Nancy McKeon on the sit-com *The Facts of Life*. Recent concerts with symphonies have included *Jerry Herman: The Broadway Legacy Concert*, *Blockbuster Broadway!, Sheena Easton and Scott Coulter: The Spy Who Loved Me* and *Music of the Knights*. John has been heard singing in the shows *Three Men and a Baby...Grand, Cinema Toast*, *Broadway Today, Wiseguys*, and the New York cult hit *Cashino*. Broadway/Off Broadway credits include *Crazy For You, The Secret Garden, LIZA! Steppin’ Out At Radio City Music Hall*, and *David and The Kathy And Mo Show: Parallel Lives*. His monthly concerts in 2017 at The Gardenia in Los Angeles have been crowd pleasers. John has eight CDs of original piano music and a ninth on the way. While a student at UCLA, John received the Frank Sinatra Award for popular instrumentalists.
The Naples Philharmonic gratefully acknowledges the endowment of its keyboard instrumentalists through the generous support of the Ann Matthews O’Leary Chair.

In grateful appreciation of Henry A. and Louise F. Leander, whose generous philanthropic investment made Hayes Hall’s acoustic shell possible.

† Deceased