

MUSIC OF GREAT COMPOSERS: BEAUTIFUL, POWERFUL, INSPIRING (214)

**Wednesdays, 1:00 – 2:30, (3 Classes 1/28 – 2/11) in Rm
19 Tuition \$35**

Walk-in Friendly, \$14. Pay prior to the class in the Center 4Life Learning office.

We all know music we like. This is usually why we decide to go to a particular concert: to hear the melodies and harmonies and rhythms we have come to love. This course will explore some of the techniques and methods composers use. We will see video recordings of great orchestras performing famous works while a “guided tour” is provided of what is happening in the music as it is being played. For example, we all know the most famous 4 notes of classical music: the beginning of Beethoven’s 5th symphony. But did you know that Beethoven used these 4 notes and rhythms in each of the 4 movements of his 5th symphony to create other beautiful and stirring themes but in different even disguised ways? You will hear Beethoven’s 5th symphony (being performed by the Sarasota orchestra this March), Bach’s spectacular Toccata and Fugue in D minor—what is a toccata? what is a fugue? You will also hear throughout the beautiful and stirring music of West Side Story how Leonard Bernstein used a musical interval literally banned by the church for many years because the interval was deemed too discordant. Come and learn about the lives and some music of three great composers.

Bill Smith is a graduate of the Cleveland Institute of Music. Has performed in operas and plays in the Cleveland area and has conducted several choirs. Has sung for years in the 100-member Key Chorale, the symphonic chorale of Sarasota—and sang in the Chorale’s smaller chamber chorus. Bill wrote the program notes for many concerts performed by the Chorale discussing the lives of the composers and analyzing the great works being performed. A few of the choral works Bill has sung are: Bach’s Magnificat in D; Mozart’s Requiem, Hayden’s The Creation; Handel’s Messiah, Beethoven’s 9th; and Bloch’s Sacred Service.