

Teen piano prodigy plays with Southwest Florida Sym



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Southwest Florida music experts have called him gifted, brilliant and a rising-star piano prodigy.

Now 14-year-old [Noah Waddell](#) is joining the Southwest Florida Symphony this Saturday for its third Masterworks concert of the season.

Maestro [Nir Kabaretti](#) conducts "Masterworks III: Love Triangle" at [Barbara B. Mann Performing Arts Hall](#). Tickets are \$24-\$84.

The 8 p.m. concert explores the real-life love triangle involving composer [Robert Schumann](#), his wife [Clara Schumann](#) and young piano prodigy [Johannes Brahms](#). Musical selections will be Robert Schumann's fiery "[Manfred Overture](#)," Brahms' lyrical "[Symphony No. 2 in D major](#)" and Clara Schumann's "[Piano Concerto in A minor](#)" (with Waddell on piano, who is the same age as the composer was when she wrote the concerto).

Waddell started playing piano at 7 years old after his family bought one on a whim. He won his first piano competition in 2011.

Since then, he's performed at churches, concert halls and performing arts centers; shared the stage with the Tampa Bay Symphony and the [Coral Gables Chamber Symphony](#); and appeared on the [Christian Television Network](#), the PBS TV show "Curious Kids" and the syndicated NPR radio show "From the Top."

The ninth grader at Fort Myers' Crosspointe Academy loves all classical music, but he particularly enjoys Beethoven and Chopin. "I'm very comfortable with them," he told The News-Press last year. "I can feel the music."

Learn more about Waddell at noahwaddell.com.

For more information about the concert, call 418-1500 or visit swfilso.org.

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