

- Special to the Daily Leader

The Southwest Symphony Society will present the Pernambuco String Quartet at 7:30 p.m.. Thursday, June 18, at the Seward County Community College Area Technical School theater. The quartet, featuring violin, viola and cello, will perform classical music selections featuring compositions by Haydn, Korngold, Turina and Mendelssohn.

Pernambuco String Quartet was originally scheduled to perform on March 26 but the concert was canceled due to a snow storm.

“If you had a ticket for the March concert, we will honor it,” said Kay Burtzloff, president of the Southwest Symphony Society. “This is an outstanding quartet, which has a superb repertoire of music selections and we’re pleased to be able to bring their talents to the Liberal community thanks to the assistance of a grant from the Kansas Arts Commission.”

Quartet members include Kristin Mortenson, Mary Lyndal Nyberg, Bruce Williams and Anne Clark. “We were fortunate to hear Kristin this fall when she played with the Tallgrass Trio, another group we were able to bring in with the assistance of the Kansas Arts Commission. All our local violinists are excited to have her back,” Burtzloff said.

“We really want to make these types of performances easily available to the public which is why our ticket prices are so low. Our goal is to provide easy access to classical music.”

The Kansas musicians will open with “String Quartet Movements to Celebrate Franz Joseph Haydn’s 200 Year Anniversary” which includes his compositions: String Quartet in C Major, Op. 33 No. 3 (“The Bird”); String Quartet in C Major, Op. 76 No. 3 (“Kaiser”) and String Quartet in D Major, Op. 76, No. 5. The program will also include String Quartet No. 2 in E flat Major, Op. 26, by Erich Wolfgang Korngold and “La Oracion del Torero” (The Bullfighter’s Prayer) by Joaquin

Turina. They will conclude the evening with String Quartet in E Minor, Op. 44b by Felix Mendelssohn.

Mortenson holds Bachelor's and Master's degrees in violin performance from Louisiana State University. She is Associate Concertmaster of the Topeka Symphony, and has played in the Austin, Baton Rouge, Wichita, and Des Moines Symphonies. Mortenson teaches music theory at Kansas State University, where she is also outreach coordinator for the Music Department. She performs with the Tallgrass Trio, and has taught at Blue Lake Fine Arts Camp since 1986.

Nyberg earned music degrees from Wichita State and Kansas State Universities. She has played in the Wichita, Phoenix, and Abilene

(Texas) Symphony Orchestras, and the Lexington (Ky.) Philharmonic.

She is a member of the Topeka and Salina Symphonies and first violinist in the Bluemont Quartet. She has taught privately and in the public schools.

Williams, violist, received his Bachelor of Music Education from Southwestern College in Winfield where he studied violin and music education under his father, Ross Williams. He received his Masters in Music Education from the University of Oklahoma. Bruce has been a member of the Wichita Symphony, Oklahoma City Symphony, and Corpus Christi Symphony, and is now a member of the Kansas City Civic Orchestra. As a violist, Bruce has soloed with the Hutchinson Symphony, the Winfield Civic Orchestra, the Overland Park Orchestra, the Kansas City Civic Orchestra, the Valley Symphony of South Texas, and the University Symphony in Tampico, Mexico. A former public school orchestra director, he now maintains a private studio of violin and viola students.

Anne Clark holds a Master's in Music Education (Southern Illinois

University/Edwardsville) and a Cello Performance D.M.A. (University of Texas). She has taught public and private school, college, and studio strings, and directs Community ChamberOrchestra. The Orchestra employs youth through adults and has produced a 2-CD set,

“Music of the Kansas Pioneers,” from family archives of music used in Kansas from the 1800s and early 1900s. In June of 2008 Anne was awarded the one OutreachProgram Grant given nationally by the ASTA National Foundation to Promote StringTeaching and Playing, to use for orchestra at Flint Hills Christian School at Green. Her cello recitals have been aired on Radio Kansas.

Admission to the public performance is \$2 for adults, \$1 for students and senior, and free to SCCC Area Technical School students. Tickets are available at the Liberal First National Bank, Brier and Hale Music, the Baker Arts Center and at the door. For more information about the performance, call 629-0203.

The Southwest Symphony Society is a Liberal non-profit organization dedicated to promoting classical and contemporary music in the community utilizing the talents of local and professional musicians.

This program is presented in part by the Kansas Arts Commission, a state agency, and the National Endowment for the Arts, a federal agency. Other sponsors include Holiday Inn Express and First National Bank.