



Photo provided  
**The Southwest Michigan Symphony Orchestra will present "The Magical Music of Disney" during a Saturday concert at Lake Michigan College's Mendel Center Mainstage Theatre.**



Image courtesy of The Walt Disney Company

## SMSO brings movie music to the stage for Saturday concert

By **JEREMY D. BONFIGLIO**  
 HP Features Writer

BENTON HARBOR — Walt Disney. Just saying the name of the man who founded the cartoon studio in the 1920s conjures up visions of dancing hippos, an English nanny and her magical umbrella, and that famous anthropomorphic mouse in red shorts, large yellow shoes and white gloves.

Robin Fountain, the Southwest Michigan Symphony Orchestra's music director and conductor, says the Disney character he is most fond of, however, might be a bit surprising.



**FOUNTAIN**

"Actually, I find 'The Little Mermaid' particularly moving because it was the very first video tape that I got my son when he was small," Fountain says by telephone from Vanderbilt University's Nashville, Tenn., campus. "He loved 'The Little Mermaid,' although I remember he was quite scared of the witch scene. It just brings back beautiful memories of lying with my then very little son enjoying a cartoon experience together. Sometimes we like things

because they're good and sometimes we like things because they have happy associations."

Expect both Saturday when the Southwest Michigan Symphony Orchestra presents "The Magical Music of Disney" at the Lake Michigan College Mendel Center Mainstage Theatre. The program of suites pairs memorable scores from Disney's most popular animated films with a series of images projected on a screen above the orchestra synchronized to the music.

"A number of audience members over the years have asked when we

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