



# *Symphony Notes*

A publication of the Livermore-Amador Symphony and Guild

Vol. 59, No. 2, February 2022

## ***THE LIVERMORE-AMADOR SYMPHONY***

**Lara Webber, Music Director & Conductor**

Arthur P. Barnes, Music Director Emeritus

*Presents*

## **The Brilliance of Youth**

**Lara Webber, Conductor**

**Saturday, February 12, 2022, at 8:00 p.m.**

**BANKHEAD THEATER, 2400 First Street, Livermore  
Livermore Valley Performing Arts Center**

*Doors open by 7:30 p.m.*

*Proof of full Covid vaccination, photo ID, and masks are required to enter theater.*

***Lyric Suite***

**George Walker**

**Piano Concerto in A Minor, Opus 54, 1<sup>st</sup> mvt.**

**Robert Schumann**

Celicia Thendean, soloist

**Violin Concerto in A Minor, Opus 37, 1<sup>st</sup> mvt.**

**Henri Vieuxtemps**

Dustin Breshears, soloist

**Zigeunerweisen, Opus 20**

**Pablo de Sarasate**

Valery Breshears, violin soloist

***Holberg Suite***

**Edvard Grieg**

Concert program is subject to further change due to the pandemic. Please check LAS website for updates. <https://livermoreamadorsymphony.org/>

Livermore-Amador Symphony is a Resident Company of the Bankhead Theater  
and a member of the Livermore Cultural Arts Council (LCAC).

## **2021-2022 STUDENT AWARD WINNERS**

*The Symphony Association administers four awards, given to recognize high school seniors who are active in music during their high school careers. These awards are based on participation in musical events and activities, particularly activities that support music education and music in the community. All four of this season's winners received their awards in-person from the Bankhead stage at the December 4 evening concert following intermission!*

### **Symphony Association Award**

*Given in honor of longtime orchestra member **Nan Davies**.*

**Harshita Krupadanam**, a student at Quarry Lane School, has been a member of Quarry Lane's Tri-M Honor Society throughout high school and now serves as its president. Harshita has wide-ranging experience with music, from playing in the Valley Handbell Academy's highest-level handbell choir since seventh grade, to being a violin soloist with her school's jazz band in ninth grade, to being a finalist at the International Fryderyk Chopin Piano Competition for Children and Youth in Poland in 2018. She won the grand prize from Lawrence Berkeley National Lab in their 2019 MyFaveElement contest with a sing-along she wrote (about silicon). In 2019 and 2021, she played violin in the LAS Youth Orchestra. Harshita plans to become a scientific researcher after college and graduate school.

### **Arthur P Barnes Symphony Association Award**

*Given in honor of LAS Music Director Emeritus Barnes.*

**Cheryl Tang**, a student at Dougherty Valley High School, plays piano and violin. She has received awards in competitions including the Asia Open Piano Competition, Manhattan International Young Artists Music Festival, and Hong Kong Youth Barclampory Music Festival. Cheryl has played in the San Francisco Symphony Youth Orchestra, the Metropolitan Youth Orchestra of Hong Kong, and the Hong Kong Youth Symphony Orchestra. She founded and has conducted her school's orchestra. Since 2020, she has taught piano and violin to children ages 6 to 13. As a volunteer music tutor, she has helped raise funds for organizations combating COVID-19. With the Tri-Valley Youth Music Group, she has performed for the elderly in senior housing. Cheryl plans to participate in orchestras and ensembles during college and continue to tutor students.

### **John H. Green Memorial Award**

*Established by Tot and John W. Green in memory of their son, **John H. Green**.*

*(He played horn, attended Granada High and received a Symphony Association Award.)*

**William Crowhurst**, a student at Livermore High School, plays trombone, guitar, and bass. William has won awards at the Folsom Jazz Festival for outstanding musicianship and at the Campana Jazz Festival as outstanding musician. A past member of the LHS concert and marching bands and a current member of the honor symphonic band, since tenth grade he has played in the LHS honors jazz band and in the youth jazz band Element 116. He has performed with Element 116, led by his trombone teacher, Matt Finders, at the VA Medical Center in Livermore and at the LAS Pops concert in October. He recently helped at a fundraising event for Livermore's Quest Science Center, bringing guitar effect pedals to demonstrate and explain how they work. In college, William plans to major in physics or math and minor in music.

*(Continued, page 3)*

## *A Message from Music Director Lara Webber*



“Art, in itself, is an attempt to bring order out of chaos.” ~ *Stephen Sondheim*

This quote from Stephen Sondheim, who we lost late last year, really hits the nail on the head in this moment for arts organizations everywhere. Omicron has created chaos for all of us, and brought new disruption to orchestras that had just figured out how to reform. We are finding ways to persevere, and there is clearly a strong appetite among our LAS musicians who are able to play during this period, to make music however they can. Our rehearsals have been fulfilling and productive. As we proceed very carefully with many of our string players in rehearsal, we are ever more aware of the musical and expressive connections we create that sustain our humanity and common purpose. Never have we needed music, art, and theater more than we do now.

In art, change is a constant, no musical phrase is ever played exactly the same way twice. We must embrace that flexibility now more than ever. As I write this, we have already made significant changes to our February 12 concert, and I am so grateful to our musicians and the leadership of the Board and Guild as we persevere. With luck, we will offer you a beautifully expressive and exciting concert showcasing our Young Musicians Competition winning soloists and teen jazz band *Element 116!* We will continue to prioritize the well-being of our musicians and look forward to seeing you all at our next performance.

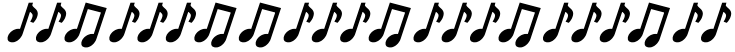
*(Student Award Winners, cont.)*

### **Bill King Memorial Award**

*Established by Jean and Walter King in memory of their son, Bill King.*

(He loved music and played cello and trombone at Jackson and East Avenue Middle Schools.)

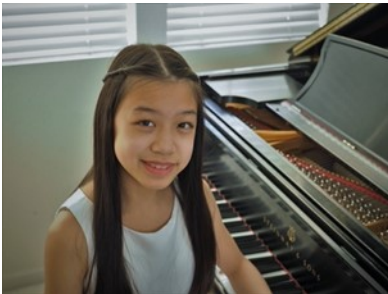
**Ellen Kim**, a student at Amador Valley High School, plays piano and violin, but her primary instrument is violin. She intends to major in violin performance or psychology in college. A student of Christina Mok of Symphony San Jose, Ellen has participated in the Philadelphia International Music Festival and Berkeley’s Junior Bach Festival, for example. She has been a member of the Young People’s Symphony Orchestra in Berkeley since eleventh grade. In ninth and tenth grades, she was a member of the California Youth Symphony in Palo Alto and also played in pit orchestras at Amador. Last year she provided comfort packages, including music recordings, to John Muir Hospital doctors. She plays in the HopeBox Charity Youth Orchestra based in San Jose, which raises money for impoverished children.

  
**COMPETITION for YOUNG MUSICIANS**

**2020-2021 Winners  
Valery Breshears and Lauren Kim**

**2021-2022 Winners  
Dustin Breshears and Celia Thendean**

*The Livermore-Amador Symphony Association conducts this competition each October. The winners are awarded \$500 prizes and perform as soloists with the Symphony at the February concert. Since the February 2021 concert was cancelled due to the pandemic, last season's winners were invited to perform at the February 2022 concert instead. Unfortunately, **Lauren Kim** is unable to perform with the symphony in the upcoming concert as she is now a college student in Virginia. We wish Lauren well in her studies.*



**Celia Thendean, age 13, will perform the first movement of Piano Concerto in A Minor, Opus 54, by Robert Schumann.** She started piano lessons from Professor Anna Poklewski at age 5. She also recently began lessons from Professor Ilana Vered. Celia is currently enrolled in the San Francisco Conservatory of Music pre-college program studying cello under Mr. Eric Sung. In addition to winning the Livermore-Amador Symphony Competition for Young Musicians 2021, Celia has won numerous prizes. These include first prize at the V Future Stars International Piano Competition, Young Musicians category; first prize Platinum Medalist at the 2020-2021 Canadian International Music Competition, Junior Performer category; first prize at the Sumy International Competition 2020, second prize at the 2021 Chicago International Music Competition, second prize in the Elevato Piano Competition, and second prize at the Napolinova E-competition. She also won the Vivace Award at Vivace Music Festival in Summer 2020 and was invited to perform in Wilmington, North Carolina, alongside professors Marina Lomasov, Joseph Racker, and Ara Gregorian. Celia attended Music Fest Perugia in Summer 2019, performing Beethoven Piano Concerto No. 3, with Paolo Ponziano Ciardi conducting. Celia was selected to perform at the Livermore-Amador Symphony Guild meeting in January 2020. Besides playing piano, she also plays cello and oboe, and also enjoys reading and math.



**Dustin Breshears, age 14, will perform the first movement of Violin Concerto in A Minor, Opus 37, by Henri Vieuxtemps.**

Dustin is in the 9th grade at the Oakland School for the Arts. He began violin lessons at age 4 with David Mallory. By age 7, Dustin started studying at the San Francisco Conservatory of Music, Pre-college Division under William Barbini, and currently studies with Zhao Wei. Additionally, Dustin is coached by his accompanist, Ayke Agus. Dustin has soloed with four different orchestras since the age of six. He has won numerous solo awards in addition to the Livermore-Amador Symphony Competition for Young Musicians 2021, including winner Parnassus-San Francisco Conservatory of Music Con-

certo Competition, 1st Place MTAC State VOCE Competition, winner Palo Alto Philharmonic Concerto Movement Competition, 1st Place U.S. International Music Competition, 1st Place U.S. Open Music Competition, 1st Place ASTA-San Francisco Competition, 1st Place ASTA-Sacramento Competition, 1st Place CAPMT-Sacramento Competition, 1st Place DVC-HNU Strings Competition, 1st Place Classical Masters Competition, and a winner of the 2021 Pacific Musical Society & Foundation Competition. Dustin is a recipient of the 2021 Jack Kent Cooke Young Artist Award.



**Valery Breshears will perform the violin solo in Pablo de Sarasate's Zigeunerweisen, Opus 20.**

She is 12 and in the 7th grade at the Oakland School for the Arts. Valery began violin lessons at age 2 with David Mallory. By the age of 5, she began studies at the San Francisco Conservatory of Music, Pre-college Division under William Barbini, and currently studies with Zhao Wei. She is also coached by her accompanist, Ayke Agus. Valery has soloed

eight times with six different orchestras since the age of six. She has won numerous solo competitions in addition to the Livermore-Amador Symphony Competition for Young Musicians 2020, including winner Parnassus-San Francisco Conservatory of Music Concerto Competition, Fremont Symphony Nafisa Taghioff Award, 1st Place U.S. International Music Competition, 1st Place ASTA-San Francisco Competition, 1st Place ASTA-Sacramento Competition, 1st Place CAPMT-Sacramento Competition, 1st Place DVC-HNU Strings Competition, 1st Place Classical Masters Competition, and a winner of the 2021 Pacific Musical Society & Foundation Competition. Valery is a recipient of the 2021 Jack Kent Cooke Young Artist Award.

♪♪ A Message from ♪♪  
**GUILD PRESIDENT BETH WILSON**

Livermore-Amador Symphony patrons were thrilled to hear the Symphony perform live at our December concert. After such a long time not being able to gather to hear live music, audience members were truly moved to see and listen to our live symphonic music again.



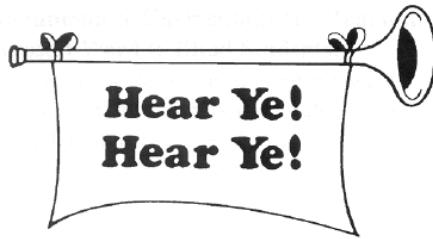
The January Gems Guild event took place on Zoom again this year. Guild members, musicians, and Symphony board members enjoyed the brief meeting followed by three outstanding young runners-up from our Youth Competition—Sora Corro and Wilson Liu on piano, and Starla Breshears on cello. The youngsters attended the Zoom meeting to introduce themselves and their pieces, and then the audience heard Youtube videos of their beautiful musical selections.

Due to the recent COVID surge our February concert is, of course, in flux. One thing we all have learned the past couple of years is flexibility! It's particularly important to Lara and the orchestra members that we are able to present the winners from our Youth Competition, so everyone is hoping that can take place. We know that whatever the Symphony is able to present, our audience will appreciate hearing live music again.

The Guild recently received an extremely generous donation from Maudie Kuenning, a long time Guild member. These funds will enable the Guild to support the Symphony in ways we wouldn't be able to do otherwise, and we are so grateful to her! This, along with another recent generous donation to the Symphony from the family of Marie Ruzicka, is vital to our work. All those of us on the Guild board thank them from the bottoms of our hearts.



*Beth Wilson*  
Guild President



**Mark Your Calendar Now!**  
**Don't miss these important meetings.**

♪ **Livermore-Amador Symphony Guild**  
**Annual Spring Business Meeting**  
**Thursday, April 14, 2022, 7:30 p.m.**  
Location to be announced.  
*Guild officers and Nominating committee elections.*

♪ **Livermore-Amador Symphony**  
**Annual Association Meeting**  
**Tuesday, April 26, 2022, 7:00–7:20 p.m.**  
Immediately preceding LAS rehearsal—  
Bothwell Arts Center, 2466 8<sup>th</sup> St., Livermore  
*Association Board members election.*

**Additional meeting information will be sent to  
Guild and Association members in early April.**



*At the February 12 Concert:*  
**Intermission Performance**  
**Teen Jazz Band**  
***Element 116***  
**Directed by Matt Finders**

# GET TICKETS FOR THE FEBRUARY 12 CONCERT!

< 3 OPTIONS >

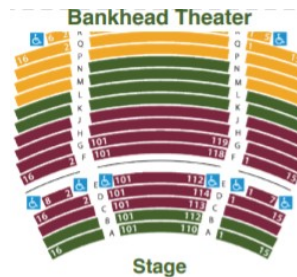
1. Order online: <https://livermorearts.org>
2. Phone the Bankhead ticket office, 925-373-6800.
3. Visit the Bankhead ticket office in person, 2400 First Street, Livermore.  
It's currently open Thursday–Saturday 12-6 p.m., but we recommend you double-check hours at [livermorearts.org/plan-your-visit](https://livermorearts.org/plan-your-visit) or call 925-373-6800.

## Single Ticket Prices:

Adult Tickets **\$37, 32, 27**

Youth Tickets \$12 (all sections, to age 21)

Colors of adult ticket prices correspond to sections on Bankhead seating chart.



Questions? Call the Symphony phone# 925-447-6454.

***Check the Symphony website for updates on the concert program.***

<https://livermoreamadorsymphony.org/>

Click on CONCERTS from the homepage.

You may also access the Bankhead theater ticket order link from the LAS website:

Click on BUY TICKETS!



## LIVERMORE-AMADOR SYMPHONY and GUILD CALENDAR 2021-2022

---

**Saturday, February 12, 2022**  
**Livermore-Amador Symphony Concert**  
**Featuring winners of the 2020 and 2021**  
**Competition for Young Musicians**  
**The Brilliance of Youth**  
**8:00 p.m. Bankhead Theater, Livermore**

**Thursday, April 14, 2022, 7:30 p.m.**  
Guild Spring Business Meeting  
Location pending

**Saturday, April 23, 2022, 8:00 p.m. (Prelude talk, 7-7:30)**  
*Livermore-Amador Symphony Concert: Vibrant Voices*  
Heidi Moss-Erickson, vocalist  
Bankhead Theater, Livermore

**Tuesday, April 26, 2022, 7:00-7:20 p.m.**  
Annual Association Meeting  
Bothwell Arts Center, 2466 8<sup>th</sup> St., Livermore

**Thursday, May 26, 2022**  
Guild Spring Luncheon  
Beeb's, 915 Clubhouse Dr., Livermore

**Saturday, June 4, 2022, 8:00 p.m. (Prelude talk, 7-7:30)**  
*Livermore-Amador Symphony Concert: Building a New World*  
Frederic Chiu, piano  
Bankhead Theater, Livermore

*Symphony Notes* is published four times a year for members of the Livermore-Amador Symphony Association, Orchestra, and Guild. Symphony Association President Alan Frank; Guild President Beth Wilson; Editor Nile Runge. PO Box 1049, Livermore, CA 94551-1049. 925-447-6454.

Website: [www.livermoreamadorsymphony.org](http://www.livermoreamadorsymphony.org)  
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/LivAmSymph/>  
Twitter: <https://twitter.com/livamsymph>  
Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/livamsymph/>