



# *Symphony Notes*

A publication of the Livermore-Amador Symphony and Guild.

Vol. 60, No. 4, May 2023

## **LIVERMORE-AMADOR SYMPHONY**

**Lara Webber, Music Director & Conductor**

Arthur P. Barnes, Music Director Emeritus

Presents

### ***Drama and Fantasy*** ***O'Connor Plays Beethoven***

**Lara Webber, Conductor**

**Saturday, May 20, 2023, 8:00 p.m.**

Prelude talk 7-7:30 by Lara Webber. Doors open 6:30 p.m.

<b>Overture to <i>The Abduction from the Seraglio</i></b>	<b>W. A. Mozart</b>
<b>Piano Concerto No. 3</b>	<b>Ludwig van Beethoven</b>
John O'Connor, soloist	
<b>The Enchanted Lake</b>	<b>Anatoly Liadov</b>
<b><i>Firebird Suite</i></b>	<b>Igor Stravinsky</b>

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

*Audience and performers are invited to enjoy a post-concert reception  
in the lobby hosted by the Livermore-Amador Symphony Guild.*

**Tickets:** <https://livermoreamadorsymphony.org/tickets.html>;  
Bankhead ticket office at 2400 First St., Livermore; or 925-373-6800.

## LAS May 20 Concert, “Drama and Fantasy” Beethoven’s Piano Concerto No. 3, John O’Conor, soloist

The internationally renowned pianist from Dublin, Ireland, John O’Conor, will perform with the symphony on the Bankhead stage at the May 20 concert. As LAS conductor and music director Lara Webber puts it, “We are thrilled to welcome one of the most remarkable pianists of our time, John O’Conor, an exceptional interpreter of the music of Beethoven.”

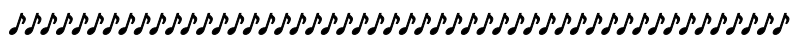


Since unanimously winning first prize at the International Beethoven Piano Competition in Vienna in 1973, O’Conor has toured the world in recital and concert appearances. His recordings, including the complete Beethoven Piano Concertos with the London Symphony Orchestra, have been met with great acclaim. O’Conor is also regarded as one of the most important piano teachers in the world today. He is deeply committed to the development of young pianists, giving masterclasses and lectures in many of the places he performs and in several major music institutions. O’Conor, a Steinway artist, currently holds positions as Distinguished Artist in Residence, Professor of Piano, Chair of the Keyboard Division, Shenandoah Conservatory in Virginia; Professor of Piano, Glenn Gould School of the Royal Conservatory of Music in Toronto; Distinguished Visiting Artist, Technical University of Dublin Conservatoire of Music; and Visiting Professor at Japan’s Showa University. His students have won numerous international prizes and he continues to be in demand for masterclasses and as a juror at many prestigious international piano competitions worldwide.

Some of our LAS audience has already had the pleasure of experiencing O’Conor perform—at the Bankhead in 2019 at a Del Valle Fine Arts performance—and are most eager to hear him again on May 20! His now long-awaited performance with LAS was originally scheduled for 2021 until it became clear that the concert would be postponed due to the pandemic. In January of that year, O’Conor graciously recorded a conversation with Lara Webber, and, as a gift to our community and a prelude to his future performance with LAS, made a recording of three nocturnes. The conversation is at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9Ecldxk9M34> and the performance is available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=or9OgvMtoY>.

A special note of thanks to Linda Tinney, past LASA president and current LASA board and Guild member. She is credited with introducing O’Conor to our local arts community and to Lara Webber with the 2019 DVFA performance. This ultimately resulted in his upcoming appearance with LAS!

Plan to arrive at the concert in time for Lara’s pre-concert talk, 7-7:30. Following the concert, all audience members and performers are invited to enjoy the post-concert reception hosted by the Guild. Don’t miss it!



**Purchase tickets and more tickets!** <https://livermoreamadorsymphony.org/tickets.html>;  
Bankhead ticket office at 2400 First St., Livermore; or 925-373-6800.

## A Message from GUILD PRESIDENT BETH WILSON

The Guild's Spring Meeting was held at the gracious home of **Tim and Claudia Barry**. In addition to electing our officers we heard three of the Symphony's Competition runners-up: **Michael Oliveira, Henna Lam, and Chiara Thendean**, all wonderful violinists.



Thanks to the hard work of many, the Guild was able to give the Symphony Association a check for **\$10,000** at the Annual Meeting on April 25<sup>th</sup>. It's always my honor to be the one to present these checks, but I'm representing many of you.

We look ahead now to our *Spring Luncheon on May 25<sup>th</sup> at Beeb's Restaurant*, where, in addition to a good lunch and fellowship, we will elect two new Nominating Committee members, present the incoming officers, and hear from a lovely woodwind trio. This is also an opportunity to join the Symphony Guild for next season.

Congratulations are in order to our newly elected Guild officers: **President PJ Wells, Vice-President Linda Miller, Secretary Sally Swanson, and Treasurer Judy McMurry**. As this will be my final President's article, I want to thank all the people who have worked with me the last three years to help make the Guild so successful. Officers and committee chairs have stepped up to do such excellent work to create a thriving and supportive Guild.

Kudos to **vice presidents Joan Green and Nancy McKenzie; secretaries Lou Anne Martin and Sally Swanson; and Joan Dickinson**, who served as treasurer for more than a decade. Also to committee chairs **Anne Anaya, Claudia Barry, Tim Barry, Joyce Brown, Lisa Burkhart, Judy Eckart, Marcia Elchesen, Linda Miller, Helen Moore, Mary Anne Rozsa, Sonya Sheffield, Linda Tinney, PJ Wells, and Pat Wheeler**, without whom we couldn't have accomplished nearly as much. I discovered our industrious estate sales workers, too, and the Guild can only support the Symphony monetarily because of their expertise and work.

My heartfelt thanks to so many of you who have contributed to the success of the Guild and the Symphony Association.

*Beth Wilson*

President, Symphony Guild



## A Message from LAS ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT TIM BARRY

### A Season to Remember !

As we approach our last concert of the season, *Drama and Fantasy, O'Conor Plays Beethoven* on May 20th, I'm reminded of how audacious this season's planning was. The September 10th Gala with **Ben Folds** was so challenging and joyful, and used every percussion instrument and player we have... Mr. Folds was highly complimentary of our orchestra as I was beaming in my seat!



Our October 15th *Pops On The Green* concert was so well attended on a beautiful afternoon in front of the Bankhead Theater! It showcased our symphony's versatility, the talents of high school jazz group Element 116, our conductor's infinite charm with attending children to whom she gave a chance to step up onto the box and conduct our orchestra, and the work of our stalwart Symphony Guild, who made all of the arrangements under the guidance of chair **Linda Tinney** and raised \$1,000 in on-site donations collected from the crowd!

Our December 3rd *Family Concert*, with partner Valley Dance Theatre, was a fun element to a full day of Holiday family fun in downtown Livermore, which culminated in the delightful *Holiday Joy* concert that evening with the spectacular **Christopher Keady** organ performance in the Saint-Saëns Symphony No. 3. Well-played, all!

Then the ambitious February 5-6-7 *Violins of Hope* concerts, in partnership with the **East Bay Holocaust Education Center** and featuring terrific soloist **Lindsay Deutsch** and our own principal cellist **Peter Bedrossian**. The historic instruments of the Holocaust were played beautifully by our musicians, and soloists outdid themselves! But this was not just about the music; it included the video presentations highlighting the realities of the Jewish Holocaust, combined with personal reflections by family members, the instrument craftsmen who reconditioned the instruments, and the sponsors who shared their thoughts and cultural awareness for the audience. A truly memorable experience and a community treasure of an event!

Our April 1st *Kaleidoscopic Color and Spiritual Sound* concert featured the beautiful music of composers **Arturo Marquez** and **Florence Price** as well as featured winners of the Competition for Young Musicians. This was a particularly inspiring concert with music by ethnically diverse composers of different eras and performances by three excellent student musicians who experienced the thrill of playing with our symphony!

I'm excited to hear our orchestra join elite pianist **John O'Conor** on May 20th to complete our season with Mozart, Beethoven, Liadov and Stravinsky. Mostly, I'm extremely appreciative of the many talented musicians; hard-working Guild volunteers; loyal patrons; and especially our talented, enthusiastic, and beloved conductor, **Lara**, for a "**Season To Remember**" for all of us. Oh, and we've just endured three years of pandemic, with its effects on our health, cancelled concerts, masking, lost audiences, and lost revenues. We thank you for your patience, perseverance, and care for fellow musicians by masking. We trust that next season we'll be able to drop the masks along with other orchestras in the region if government regulations allow, fingers crossed! Our next season promises to be stellar, and I'm so glad we're moving forward together!

Musically yours,

*Tim Barry*, president



## 2023–2024 CONCERTS

*Livermore-Amador Symphony Youth Orchestra*

**Free Summer Concert—Open to the Public!**

**Invite your family, friends, and neighbors!**

**Saturday July 29, 2023, 7:00 p.m.**

**First Presbyterian Church, 4<sup>th</sup> and L Streets, Livermore**

### **LVPAC *Brilliance at the Bankhead Gala* Saturday, September 9**

***Our Livermore-Amador Symphony will perform with Jason Alexander!***

Best known for his award-winning, nine-year stint as the now iconic George Costanza of television's *Seinfeld*, Jason Alexander has achieved international recognition for a career noted for its extraordinary diversity. Aside from his performances on stage, screen, and television, he has worked extensively as a writer, composer, director, producer, and teacher of acting. His Broadway credits include the original Broadway cast of the Hal Prince/Stephen Sondheim musical *Merrily We Roll Along*, *The Rink*, Neil Simon's *Broadway Bound*, *Accomplice*, and his Tony Award-winning performance in *Jerome Robbins' Broadway*. Jason also authored the libretto for that show, which went on to win a Tony Award for Best Musical. See the Bankhead's website for ticket information, <https://livermorearts.org>.

### **Livermore-Amador Symphony POPS Concert, September 30, 3pm**

**POPS** returns again al fresco on the Shea Stage in the Bankhead Plaza! Bring a picnic or snack and enjoy the music by our wonderful symphony. No need for tickets, but donations will be accepted happily! Pops is sponsored by the Livermore-Amador Symphony Guild, with all donations going to the Symphony. ***Join us!***

### **Regular Concert Season Bankhead Theater, Livermore**

**December 2, 2023**

**February 10, 2024**

**April 13, 2024**

**June 1, 2024**

**Purchase your season subscription now for best prices!**

***See Season Preview flyer in this issue for details.***

**You may also purchase an early subscription at the May 20 concert.**

***Season brochures will be mailed and also available in the Bankhead lobby.***

## Symphony Guild Spring Luncheon



**Thursday, May 25, 2023 at 11:30 am**  
**Beeb's Sports Bar and Grill at Las Positas Golf Course**  
915 Clubhouse Drive, Livermore

### **Short Guild business meeting**

Opportunity to renew your Guild membership for next season!  
No pre-payment required for luncheon—order and pay at the lunch counter.

Take a peek:

[Salads & Appetizers](#)  
[Sandwiches & Burgers & More](#)

### **Entertainment by**

Eva Langfeldt (oboe), Chris Diggins (clarinet), and Marianne Beeler (flute)

### **RSVP by May 18**

Tim Barry [teabarry10@gmail.com](mailto:teabarry10@gmail.com) or 925-518-9070

~~~~~

## GUILD MEMBERSHIP 2023-2024

### ***Get Ready for a NEW SEASON!***

**Please complete and return the 2023-2024 Guild Membership Form.** Invite a friend to join the Guild too! The form is included in this *Symphony Notes* and is also available on the Symphony's website. You may turn it in at the luncheon May 25 or mail it to incoming Guild Treasurer Judy McMurry at the address on the form. Please call me at 925-443-7398 if you have any questions. ~ **Linda Miller, Membership Chair**



*Photo courtesy of Beth Wilson*

***Guild members and guests were entertained by these talented violinists at the Guild spring business meeting on April 20. Left to right: Michael Oliveira, Sibelius's Violin Concerto, 3<sup>rd</sup> movement; Henna Lam, Bach's Partita No. 2, allemande; and Chiara Thendean, Lalo's Symphonie Espagnole, allegro non troppo. The musicians and their parents visited and enjoyed refreshments with those who attended the meeting at the home of Claudia and Tim Barry.***

**LIVERMORE-AMADOR SYMPHONY and GUILD  
CALENDAR May—December 2023**

---

***Livermore-Amador Symphony Concert:  
Drama and Fantasy, O’Conor Plays Beethoven***

***John O’Conor, piano***

**Saturday, May 20, 2023, 8:00 p.m.  
Prelude talk, 7–7:30**

**Bankhead Theater, Livermore**

**Thursday, May 25, 2023, 11:30 a.m.**

Guild Spring Luncheon (See page 6.)  
Beeb’s Restaurant, 915 Clubhouse Dr., Livermore

**Saturday, July 29, 2023, 7:00 p.m.**

LAS Youth Orchestra Concert, free to the public.  
First Presbyterian Church, 4th & L Streets, Livermore

**Thursday, September 7, 2023, 4–5:30 p.m.**

Guild Prelude Party, First Presbyterian Hall, 4th & L Streets, Livermore

**Saturday, September 9, 2023 evening**

Brilliance at the Bankhead Gala, Jason Alexander accompanied by LAS  
Bankhead Theater, Livermore

**Thursday, September 21, 2023, 5-8 pm**

Sipping with the Symphony, Page Mill Winery, 1960 S Livermore Ave.

**Saturday, September 30, 2023, 3:00 p.m.**

POPS Concert, outdoors on the Bankhead Plaza

**December 2, 2023**

3:00 p.m. Free Family Concert  
8:00 p.m. Evening Concert, *Winter Tales*  
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: Tim Barry  
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>



# Livermore-Amador Symphony

## 60th Anniversary Season! 2023–2024 Preview

Lara Webber, Music Director & Conductor

Dr. Arthur P. Barnes, Music Director Emeritus



### Pops Concert September 30, 2023

Concert at 3 p.m.

For the third year in a row, our annual Pops concert will be al fresco on the Shea Stage in the Bankhead Plaza on an autumn afternoon. Bring a picnic or snack. No need for tickets, but donations will be accepted happily! As always, Pops is sponsored by the Livermore-Amador Symphony Guild, with all donations going to the Symphony. Join us on Saturday September 30 at 3 o'clock!

### Family Concert December 2, 2023

Concert at 3 p.m.

Our family concert is full of holiday fun for everyone just before Livermore's holiday parade. Presented in coordination with Livermore Arts and in partnership with Valley Dance Theatre, this concert is free of charge.

### Winter Tales December 2, 2023

Concert at 8 p.m. (no preconcert talk)

Celebrate the season with magical music and fairy tales. Humperdinck's *Hansel and Gretel Suite* takes us back to our childhood adventures, fears, and fantasies. Respighi's shimmering *Trittico Botticelliano* brings a warm glow to the dark days of winter and features music familiar in Christmas carols. Get your holidays off to a festive start with the sounds of the symphony!

### Vibrant Variations February 10, 2024

Inside the Music, 7–7:15 p.m.; concert at 7:30 p.m.

Join us and welcome great young musical talent to the stage from our own community in performances featuring the winners of our annual Competition for Young Musicians. In addition, the orchestra celebrates Chinese New Year with the joyous "Saibei Dance" by An-lun Huang. Benjamin Britten's fantastic "The Young Person's Guide to the Orchestra," an audience favorite, is a set of thrilling variations full of energy and humor. The colorful sounds of Mexican composer José Moncayo's "Huapango" infuse the evening with traditional Mexican folk dance. This concert is always a community event you won't want to miss.

### Butterflies and Brahms April 13, 2024

Inside the Music, 7–7:15 p.m.; concert at 7:30 p.m.

Springtime is for lovers and romantics. Open your heart to beautiful music inspired by a timeless Chinese folk tale as Bay Area violin soloist Chase Spruill joins LAS to perform the beloved *Butterfly Lovers' Violin Concerto*. We open the evening with *D'un matin de printemps* ("Of a Spring Morning"), brilliant music of Lili Boulanger. And the lush and passionate Symphony No. 4 by Johannes Brahms is not to be missed. Celebrate springtime with the Symphony!

### Delightful Dvořák June 1, 2024

Inside the Music, 7–7:15 p.m.; concert at 7:30 p.m.

Our season finale features a new work by American composer Lori Laitman. Her beautiful piece *Becoming a Redwood* features tenor Chad Somers, singing the poetry of Dana Gioia. The marvelous woodwinds of LAS are front and center in Richard Strauss' youthful *Serenade in E-flat*. After also hearing the tunes of Dvořák's sunny and sumptuous Symphony No. 6, we'll send you out singing.

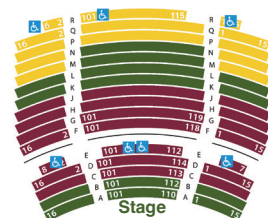
Programs subject to change.

### Season Tickets

Dec., Feb., April, and June concerts.

Live at  
**The Bankhead**

Bankhead Theater



| Section | A                                 | B                              | C                              |
|---------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| ADULT   | <input type="checkbox"/> \$151    | <input type="checkbox"/> \$126 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$101 |
|         | <input type="checkbox"/> \$143    | <input type="checkbox"/> \$119 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$95  |
|         | <b>Early Purchase: by July 15</b> |                                |                                |

YOUTH (under age 22) \$0 in all sections

Tickets: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

I want to retain my seat(s) from the 2022–2023 season.

**Retention of seats is guaranteed only for renewals received by September 9, 2023.**

### Payment

Write a check payable to **LVPAC**, or pay by credit card:

Amex  Discover  MC  Visa

Account # \_\_\_\_\_

Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_ Security Code \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

### Contact Information

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_ Seat(s) in the 2022–2023 season

**Bring or mail this form to the Bankhead Theater Box Office, 2400 First St., Livermore CA 94550, or email its image to [boxoffice@bankheadtheater.org](mailto:boxoffice@bankheadtheater.org) (no subscription orders by phone)**

**Donation** Please consider a tax-deductible contribution.

**Donations may be made directly to LAS:**

**write a check payable to Livermore-Amador Symphony and send it to PO. Box 1049, Livermore CA 94551-1049; or pay by credit card at [livermoreamadorsymphony.org](http://livermoreamadorsymphony.org).**

**Donor levels:** Angel, \$1500 or more; Patron, \$1000–\$1499;

Benefactor, \$500–\$999; Sustainer, \$300–\$499;

Supporter, \$200–\$299; Contributor, \$100–\$199; Friend, \$50–\$99.

(The Livermore Valley Performing Arts Center is no longer processing donations to LAS with ticket orders.)

*The Symphony and the Bankhead Theater follow applicable Alameda County Public Health Department protocols and CDC recommendations. See [livermorearts.org](http://livermorearts.org) FAQs. We prioritize the health and well-being of our audience and musicians over all else.*

**Single-concert tickets** go on sale September 10, 2023, at \$42, \$35, or \$28 for adults, and free for youth under age 22.

**For further information please call 925.447.6454 or see [livermoreamadorsymphony.org](http://livermoreamadorsymphony.org).**



# LIVERMORE AMADOR SYMPHONY

## Join the Livermore-Amador Symphony Guild

The Livermore-Amador Symphony Guild provides support to the Symphony.

The Guild produces and distributes concert-season brochures, hosts receptions, raises funds (organizes and runs estate sales, plans and produces the annual Pops concert), and more.

Members gather for a prelude event in September, for meetings in January and April, and for a luncheon in May. Music is a part of each gathering. Please join the Guild!

### Yes, I'll help, and I'd be especially willing to:

- Sort and price items prior to garage/estate sales
- Organize musical entertainment for meetings
- Chair a committee / serve on the board of directors
- Purchase and organize refreshments
- Order/pick up flowers for concert soloists
- Assist at receptions at Guild meetings, etc.
- Drive Guild members to events/concerts
- Please note that I need a ride to events/concerts**
- Work at garage/estate sales
- Plan new fundraisers and activities
- Telephone members
- Recruit new members
- Transport sale items, etc.
- Provide my house for a reception
- Staff a table at concerts

### Annual Dues and Requirements

**Active Member**  \$20.00 Active members are those who have paid their annual Active membership dues and agree to participate in Guild functions, activities, and all fund-raisers, as outlined in Guild policies. They will receive all notices of Guild activities and meetings, and have voting privileges at Guild membership meetings.

**Associate Member**  \$35.00 Associate members are those who have paid their Associate membership dues and agree to participate in Guild fund-raisers. They will receive all notices of Guild activities and meetings, and have voting privileges at Guild membership meetings.

**Friend of the Guild**  \$50.00 Friends of the LAS Guild. Friends are those members who have paid their Friends membership dues. They are invited, but not required, to participate in Guild fund-raisers and activities. They will receive all notices of Guild activities and meetings, and have voting privileges at Guild membership meetings.

- I am joining as a Friend of the Guild, but please **contact me** about opportunities to help with Guild activities as they arise.
- I am joining as a Friend of the Guild; please **do not contact me** to ask for additional assistance.

Make checks payable to Livermore-Amador Symphony Guild or L.A.S.G.

Please write *Active*, *Associate*, or *Friend* on the check.

**Bring check and form to the May luncheon or the September prelude party or send to:**

Judy McMurry  
L.A.S. Guild  
583 Bell Avenue  
Livermore CA 94550

*Unless you indicate that you wish otherwise, the information below will be included in a directory distributed to Guild members and LAS Association Board members.*

- I am a renewing member and my contact information is unchanged

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Street Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
City

\_\_\_\_\_  
Zip Code

\_\_\_\_\_  
Home Phone Number

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mobile Phone Number

*For more information, contact Linda Miller at (925) 443-7398.*

