



# *Symphony Notes*

A publication of the Livermore-Amador Symphony

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## **Livermore-Amador Symphony 2020–2021 Season Announcement**

*"The life of the arts, far from being an interruption, a distraction, in the life of a nation, is very close to the center of a nation's purpose...and is a test of the quality of a nation's civilization." John F. Kennedy*

In this pandemic, in these uncertain times, our society has turned to the arts for comfort, for inspiration, for activism, and for harmony. As arts leaders in our community, the Livermore-Amador Symphony has deeply missed collaborating in rehearsals and performing for our audiences, *but we are still here for you.*

The health and well-being of our musicians and audience must be prioritized over all else, and so we have made the difficult but necessary choice to extend our suspension of normal orchestral activities, rehearsals, and full concerts, through the end of 2020.

We will take the time remaining this summer and this fall to regularly evaluate and institute best practices to safely begin our LAS season in 2021. We will continue to explore ways to reach out to our community online or outdoors. Our organization is in good shape to endure this period and is planning for the day we can return to concerts at the Bankhead Theater, to our in-school outreach programs, and to our Holiday and Pops concerts.

**We are excited and hopeful as we plan to resume operations in 2021**, highlighted by the music of Beethoven, Prokofiev, Stravinsky, Mozart, Marquez, and Dvorak, and featuring piano soloists John O'Connor and Frederic Chiu.

Please stay tuned and stay in touch. Your community orchestra is here for you, even if we can't be in concert together. Find us online and support our work at [www.livermoreamadorsymphony.org](http://www.livermoreamadorsymphony.org), and on Facebook.

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



## Farewell and Best Wishes, LAS Concertmaster Tina Anderson

*Livermore-Amador Symphony Concertmaster Tina Anderson is leaving her position after 12 seasons with the orchestra. She and husband Steve intend to spend much more time at their home in Northern California.*

I am so grateful to have partnered with Tina in leading the LAS over these last 6 seasons. She plays beautifully and combines deep professional experience with good pedagogical instincts, a great combination of skills for a community orchestra concertmaster.

To understand the importance of the role Tina has played over the years, it is necessary to know what a concertmaster actually does. You all know she starts the concert, striding onto the stage and leading the tuning. She is second in command to the conductor, and is not only the leader of the first violin sections, but really of all the string sections, often determining the bowings and who-plays-what when parts are divided. She is a co-pilot of sorts for the entire orchestra. She is also tasked with playing some of the most beautiful and demanding solos in the repertoire we play. Our audiences will particularly remember her *Scheherazade* cadenzas, *Swan Lake* solos, Romanze from Schumann's Fourth Symphony, and so many others.

Tina has been truly devoted to this orchestra in the midst of a career as concertmaster of the Santa Cruz Symphony, the Diablo Symphony, and playing in the first violin sections of the Oakland Symphony, West Bay Opera, and other local orchestras. In addition to her responsibilities as Concertmaster here, Tina judged our Young Musicians Competition, led sectional rehearsals, volunteered her time serving on our music committee, and much more.

When I began my tenure as Music Director of LAS, it was the very first time I had led a community-based orchestra. All my prior experience had been with professional orchestras, and to be honest, I wasn't sure I had the right set of skills to do this well. In my first rehearsals and concerts, there were many times when I was stuck for an answer, searching and experimenting to find the right approach to a challenging musical passage. Tina often held the key to success, and with excellent timing and just the right "bedside manner" would deftly offer tricks of the trade that always helped her colleagues improve. In doing so, she often conveyed to me a solution that she could see was true to my musical vision, and would also be really successful for our wonderful musicians. I am a better conductor from my collaboration with Tina, and she helped this orchestra grow.

Tina and her husband Steve Anderson are such generous, fun people—a dynamic duo! Steve is a really talented trumpet player who for years now has been the secret sauce in the center of our brass section. We will surely miss his beautiful playing and leadership as well! Together, Tina and Steve often had us laughing and smiling in rehearsals. I will miss his huge smile and Tina's occasional wisecrack that would have me giggling in the middle of the music.

Tina's big heart, musicianship, leadership, and experience will be deeply missed. Congratulations, Tina, on a job well done. All of us in the Livermore-Amador Symphony will miss you and Steve so much. Come back and join us anytime! ~Lara Webber, LAS Music Director

## ♪♪ A TRIBUTE TO THE MUSICAL LEGACY ♪♪ OF ETHAN ALLEN PLATT

The Livermore-Amador Symphony Guild is proud to honor Ethan Allen Platt with a Tribute to his musical legacy. Ethan recently passed away in May at the age of 102 having lived a full and joyful life. He was Charter President of the Livermore Symphony, founded in 1963 to bring beautiful music to our Valley. Classical music was a passion for Ethan, and he enjoyed playing the clarinet with the Symphony for 20 years. During this period, he also served as the Symphony's general manager which he performed diligently with all the diverse tasks that confronted him—managing musicians, instruments, props, sheet music, program schedules, and the list goes on. He did this for his joy and love of music and wanted to share that love with the Livermore community. He was also the founder of the Livermore Woodwind Quintet that played through the '60s and '70s for many musical and social events of the era.

Ethan was much more than a lover of all things musical and a skilled clarinet player. He served in World



War II as a lieutenant in the Philippines and Japan and in the Korean War, then went on to earn a bachelor's degree in engineering and a master's degree in nuclear engineering. He was employed for 32 years at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory in various projects related to nuclear powered engines, research, and intelligence programs, and retired in 1984.

Ethan had a zest for life, enjoying to the fullest his music and contributions in his career. He continued to support the Symphony with his presence at concert performances and he maintained relationships with many LAS musicians throughout the years.

The Livermore-Amador Symphony Guild wants to honor Ethan's musical endeavors with an Imaginary Non-Concert that will raise funds to buy sheet music for the Symphony which will be labeled, "The Ethan Platt Tribute Fund." The flyer for the event is on the next page for your convenience with hopes that you will support the Guild with a donation recognizing Ethan Allen Platt's contributions to bringing "the sound of music" to our Valley.



## ETHAN PLATT TRIBUTE

YOU ARE INVITED  
TO HONOR ETHAN  
WITH AN IMAGINARY  
NON-CONCERT,  
JULY 31ST, 2020,  
IN SUPPORT OF THE  
LIVERMORE-AMADOR  
SYMPHONY GUILD.

Due to the Shelter-in-Place the symphony is unable to perform live.

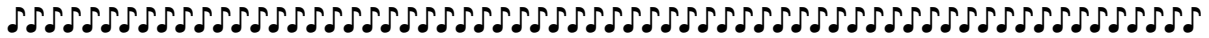
No need to get dressed up or put gas in the car!

All donations will go to buy sheet music, a big expense for the Symphony.

The music will be labeled, 'The Ethan Platt Tribute Fund.'

**CONDUCTOR \$1,000**  
**OVATION \$500**  
**SPONSOR \$250**  
**FRIEND \$125**

Please make checks  
payable to:  
Livermore-Amador  
Symphony Guild  
P.O. Box 1049, Livermore  
94551



## Livermore-Amador Symphony Guild

### IT'S TIME TO RENEW GUILD MEMBERSHIP!

*"Music lifts the soul. We know this as we listen to concert music. We never lose the need for symphonic sounds, even when producing them has diminished as it has with COVID 19 shuttering venues. I look forward to a future where such production is again possible and want our LAS to be part of it. I happily join the LAS Guild in order to help keep the organization alive while awaiting those wonderful concerts."*

Pat Mann (Guild member for over 20 years)

**Let's renew our Guild membership on July 1<sup>st</sup> this year!** We weren't able to have our May luncheon or the opportunity to renew our membership at the Symphony's last concert.

But the Guild continues to be active in its work to support the Symphony, and we need you to be a part of that effort. Just send your check to treasurer Joan Dickinson 3550 Pacific Avenue #1407, Livermore 94550.

Membership forms can be found on the next page or: <http://livermoreamadorsymphony.org> under "Join Us."

**LAS players**, we encourage you to join the Guild as active members and to encourage your family members and friends to join, too. There are many folks in the Tri-Valley who enjoy classical music just waiting to be asked!

**Questions:** Contact Guild Membership chair Linda Miller at (925) 443-7398.



### **Guild Estate Sales** Money raised benefits LAS!

***The Guild raised \$11,536 for the Symphony this season through Estate Sales profits!***

The Estate Sales committee is still here and ready to go! As soon as it is safe, and the city approves, we will start our sales again. We have a contract already signed for a wonderful sale in Livermore and a couple more in the works.

Thanks again to all our estate sale volunteers. We so appreciate all of your hard work.

Stay healthy, we hope to see you soon.

Marie and Nancy, *Estate Sales Co-Chairs*



# Be a Symphony Supporting Player! 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
- Plan/produce the annual Pops concert
- Publish the *Symphony Notes* newsletter
- 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.
- Provide my house for a reception
- Drive Guild members to events/concerts
- Please note that I need a ride to events/concerts
- Work at garage/estate sales
- Work at the Pops concert
- Plan new fundraisers and activities
- Telephone members
- Recruit new members
- Transport food, sale items, etc.
- Present flowers to soloists
- Assist at receptions after concerts
- 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 **do 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.

**Mail check and form to:**  
Joan Dickinson, Treasurer  
L.A.S. Guild  
3550 Pacific Ave, Apt. 1407  
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.*

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

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

City \_\_\_\_\_ 9-digit Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

# ♪ A NOTE FROM...

## **KATHY STREETER GUILD PRESIDENT 2019–2020**

How many of you knew what ZOOM was a year ago? I sure didn't. And it never occurred to me that I would suddenly be considered "at risk" and have to spend day after day at home. I didn't anticipate watching TV with my husband as a celebration of our 58<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary or giving happy birthday wishes to our daughter, son-in-law, and grandchildren by phone without the joy of baking a cake and singing to them in person. These are things I took for granted.

And then life took an unexpected turn to show us who is boss. So what now? Well, first of all, it appears this is not going to be a short-lived situation. Now is the time to stay connected with each other and pay attention to what makes us feel better.... like music... like friendly conversation.... like staying close to friends and family, especially with those who live alone.

Think about what this would be like without music. I have seen our very own musicians share their music online. I have seen a ballet company teaching very basic ballet online. I have seen and heard poems read aloud online.

And I want to thank all of you out there for forwarding funny videos and jokes that make me smile at the least and sometimes laugh right out loud.

I want you to know what a fabulous experience being your Guild President this last year has been. You are a wonderful group of dedicated and welcoming people. I had a wonderful time and I feel very lucky to have shared this last year with you. I am looking forward to more.

THANK YOU!  
*Kathy Streeter*

## **BETH WILSON GUILD PRESIDENT 2020–2021**

I'm honored to be chosen as president of the Symphony Guild and excited to be working more closely with this wonderful group of people. The Guild members work hard with great spirit to support the Livermore-Amador Symphony—and they have a good time doing it! Kudos to the Guild officers for

all their effort and support this past year, and many thanks to Kathy Streeter, who has presided so skillfully. I look forward to being part of this outstanding collaborative team!

*Beth Wilson*



## **GUILD BOARD OFFICERS 2020-2021**

Beth Wilson, President  
Joan Green, Vice-President  
Lou Anne Martin, Secretary  
Joan Dickinson, Treasurer  
Kathy Streeter, Past President

# ♪ A NOTE to the Orchestra and LASA Board

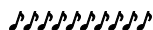
As Guild president for 5 years, I wrote a column in each of the Guild's quarterly *Symphony Notes*. As symphony board president for the last 3 years, this was an "option" which I mostly passed up. However, as my final term is about to expire, I need to tell you all just what it has meant for me to be working with you these last 8 years. At every turn, here and abroad, I was proud to say I was the Guild or LAS Association president and I did so at every opportunity and wherever my travels took me. I will still brag about the Symphony because I am so proud of this orchestra and what it provides. We are facing "new and challenging times" as everyone says. But I am optimistic that the need for what you produce is so great, creative minds will figure out a way for you to deliver this precious gift only you can give. I will miss you all but will still be nearby to support and cheer you on!

*Linda Tinney*, LASA President

## **NEW!** Meet the Musicians!

A special section on the LAS website now features recorded pieces by LAS musicians. Contents are frequently updated. Don't forget to check it out!

[Meet the Musicians page](#)



### **Livermore-Amador Symphony 2021 Winter-Spring Concerts**

Bankhead Theater, Livermore

Mark these dates on your calendar-

Stay tuned for updates

February 20, 2021

April 17, 2021 [date corrected 9/12/20]

June 19, 2021

## ***Livermore-Amador Symphony Association Board 2020-2021***

Anne Anaya,* <i>Officer at-Large</i>	Stacy Hughes*	Dean Simpson
Anne Badders	Jean King	Leslie Stevens*
Peter Bedrossian*	Denise Leddon*	Clark Streeter
Carol Boster	Jutta Massoud*	Linda Tinney
Marcia S. Elchesen, <i>Secretary</i>	Jacqueline McBride*	Ron White
Alan Frank,* <i>President</i>	Nancy McKenzie	Beth Wilson,* <i>Vice-President</i>
Ursula Goldstein*	Nissa Nack*	Juliana Zolynas*
	Lynn Seppala, <i>Treasurer</i>	
	*Orchestra player	