



Symphony Notes

A publication of the Livermore-Amador Symphony and Guild

Vol. 59, No. 1, December 2021

THE LIVERMORE-AMADOR SYMPHONY

Lara Webber, Music Director & Conductor

Arthur P. Barnes, Music Director Emeritus

Presents

Symphonic Sounds of the Season

Lara Webber, Conductor

Saturday, December 4, 2021, at 8:15 p.m.

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

Doors open by 7:45 p.m.

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

La Péri Fanfare

Paul Dukas

O Magnum Mysterium

Morten Lauridsen

Sacred and Profane Dances

Claude Debussy

Constance Koo, harp

Symphony No. 7

Ludwig van Beethoven

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

GET YOUR LAS CONCERT TICKETS!

December 4, 2021; February 12, April 23, and June 4, 2022

2 Ways to Purchase Full Season Subscriptions Available Only Until December 4, 2021!

1. Visit the Bankhead ticket office in person, 2400 First Street, Livermore.
Currently open Thursday–Saturday 12–6 p.m., but recommend you double-check hours at livermorearts.org/plan-your-visit or call 925-373-6800.

<OR>

**2. Use the order form on the 2021–2022 Season Preview flyer, and
Drop it off at the Bankhead ticket office or mail it.**

Be sure to allow plenty of time for mail to reach the Bankhead before December 4.
Check payable to **LVPAC** or credit card.

Important: Season tickets are not available by phone or online.

Season Ticket Prices:

Adult Tickets **\$129, 111, 94**

Youth Tickets \$48 (all sections, to age 21)

3 Ways to Purchase Single-Concert Tickets

1. Visit the Bankhead ticket office in person, 2400 First Street, Livermore.
Currently open Thursday–Saturday 12–6 p.m., but recommend you double-check hours at livermorearts.org/plan-your-visit or call 925-373-6800.

2. Phone the Bankhead ticket office, 925-373-6800.

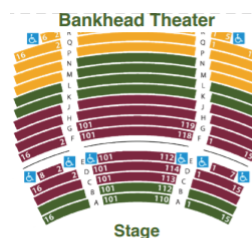
3. Order online: <https://livermorearts.org>

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.

♪♪ ♪♪

From LAS Music Director and Conductor Lara Webber

After a 20-month pandemic interruption, our talented, dedicated community musicians are thrilled to be back in rehearsals. Coming together from so many different perspectives and experiences to collaborate together in expressing symphonic music is an incredible gift we are eager to once again share with our audiences. After online meetings and backyard rehearsals, it is a great privilege and joy for me to once again lead this orchestra in rehearsals and concerts. With the great care taken by the leadership of LAS and the health protocols of the Bankhead Theater, our audiences can feel comfortable reconnecting with their community and attending performances once again.



CONSTANCE KOO
Harp



Our LAS audience will recognize **Constance Koo**, the featured soloist in Claude Debussy's Sacred and Profane Dances at the December 4 evening concert. For several years, Koo has regularly played in the Livermore-Amador Symphony whenever a harp is needed. Her performances are sponsored by the Guild. Koo completed her conservatory training at the Cleveland Institute of Music. She is much in demand, and in addition to giving solo performances, she performs with a variety of orchestras and ensemble groups. She is also an adjunct faculty member for the Merritt College Department of Music. In addition, Koo is passionate about sharing the harp and her music with the community, leading educational events, and performing in churches, schools, and retirement communities.



UPCOMING EVENTS

Livermore-Amador Symphony Concerts **Saturday, December 4, 2021** **Bankhead Theater, Livermore**

3:00 p.m. Free Family Holiday Concert

"The audience is not sedate, so don't worry about bringing young children!"

We return to our traditional **Free Family Concert**, a celebration of the holiday season in music. Short and sweet and geared toward families and children of all ages, you'll hear Hanukkah music, Christmas carols, Leroy Anderson's Clarinet Candy and Sleigh Ride, and much more. The program also features members of the **Valley Dance Theatre** taking the stage with selections from their upcoming Bankhead production of **The Nutcracker**. It's the perfect way to launch your holiday season, with a short, fun filled musical program just before the annual Holiday Parade.

*Contact the Bankhead Theater ticket office 925-373-6800
for information about reserving your free tickets.*

8:15 p.m. Symphonic Sounds of the Season

The same evening, we offer a program celebrating the joy of the season, centered on Beethoven's resilient, resplendent **Symphony No. 7**. LAS brass players open the concert with a brilliant fanfare, and the transcendent music of **Morton Lauridsen's O Magnum Mysterium**. **Constance Koo** is the featured soloist in Debussy's mystical and atmospheric **Sacred and Profane Dances**.

Beethoven's joyful, resilient seventh symphony was actually written during a period of profound suffering and distress. Increasingly deaf, short of money, and unlucky in love, he somehow wrote music loaded with invention, brilliance, and sunny radiance, despite his circumstances. The extraordinary, solemn second movement balances the sunny disposition of the symphony with an expression of grief, revealing music so eloquent and compelling, the audience at the premiere, which Beethoven himself conducted, demanded an immediate encore.

Note: To accommodate the Livermore Downtown Holiday Parade
Evening Concert begins at 8:15 p.m. There will be no prelude talk.

Education AWARDS will be presented to 4 high school seniors at the evening concert.

We hope you'll join us for these performances!

Lara Webber, LAS Music Director and Conductor

♪♪ A Message from ♪♪
GUILD PRESIDENT BETH WILSON

We all are looking ahead to our December 4th Symphony concert with great enthusiasm. First, because it will be our first formal concert in nearly two years. We're also excited to be playing Beethoven's wonderful *Symphony #7* as well as Debussy's *Sacred and Profane Dances*, a gorgeous piece featuring **Constance Koo** on harp. Earlier that day the orchestra will perform its annual free family concert at 3 PM at the Bankhead Theater, sharing holiday music and also featuring dancers from the **Valley Dance Theatre**.



A good crowd came out to the recent *Sipping with the Symphony* wine tasting event, and people of all ages really enjoyed the noshes and camaraderie.

The *Symphony's Picnic with the Pops* event, sponsored by the Guild and chaired by Nancy McKenzie, was a great success. It did threaten to rain, but the show went on and stayed dry. Having it outdoors brought us some new audience members, and the crowd loved the show tunes, marches, and the jazz played by the **Element 116 youth jazz band**. It was even a financial success!

The Youth Competition soloists have been chosen, and, while the winners will join the orchestra at our February concert, some of the runners-up, wonderful young musicians themselves, will entertain Guild members and guests at *January Gems*, our annual winter meeting. Please join us for a wonderful afternoon's entertainment on **Sunday, January 23rd at 2:00 PM at the Bothwell Arts Center** in Livermore. (Note date change from that in the printed *Guild Directory*.)

We are looking forward to seeing you at our upcoming live musical events!



Beth Wilson
Guild President

2021 POPS

“And The Beat Went On!”

The Livermore-Amador Symphony Guild and the Livermore-Amador Symphony had another wonderfully successful POPS concert on October 23rd. The theme for the event was “Picnic with the POPS” and many attendees did! It was our first al fresco concert, the rain cooperated by holding off, and one hundred-plus people had a great time.

The symphony and local teen-age jazz band Element 116 each performed several popular songs to the delight of the audience.

Big thanks to our volunteers **Patricia Fredericks, Monica Kulander, Linda Miller, Sonya Sheffield, and PJ Wells**, who collected donations from our very generous audience.

~Nancy McKenzie, 2021 POPS chair



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

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Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/livamsymph/>

IN REMEMBRANCE

We were deeply saddened to learn that we lost Pat Mann and Peggy Burdick in October.

Both women served terms as Guild president and remained long-time Guild and Symphony supporters.

Patricia Mann 1930–2021



Pat served in various capacities on the Guild board, including two terms as president (1998–2000), Estate Sales committee member, and most recently, Social Correspondence chair until 2020. She was renowned in the Guild for her letter-writing and article-writing abilities. She was a vital member of the Guild bylaws committee, generously sharing her expertise when the bylaws were most recently revised. Pat was also involved in several other groups including American Association of University Women and worked on a number of local political causes.

Pat would have turned 91 in November and led a very active life until she suffered a stroke in 2020. Despite the effects on her body, her mind remained active, alert, inquisitive and “on the ball.” In the two weeks before her death, she attended a Del Valle Fine Arts piano concert at the Bankhead and a relative's birthday party. She will be missed but appreciated for the wonderful person that she was and all that she has done for the community. Pat was predeceased by Lloyd, her husband of 52 years. She is survived by her children and their spouses, Martha (Sam), Lorraine (Victor) and Doug (Tamy), 4 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren.

Margaret (Peggy) Burdick 1933–2021

Peggy joined the Guild soon after the family moved to Livermore and remained a member for 50 years, right up to the time of her death. She served as Guild president from 1976–1977 and 1987–1988. She was involved in a variety of church, music, and community activities, including chairing the campaign to purchase the 2000-pipe organ for Livermore's First Presbyterian Church.



Peggy died suddenly at home on October 21. Her survivors include Claude, her high school sweetheart and husband of 66 years, and children Katherine Wilson, Roberta See, and Lawrence Burdick, 4 grandchildren, and 1 great grandchild. She was pre-deceased by her son Jack. Services were held November 6 at First Presbyterian Church Livermore. In her obituary, family describe Peggy as a “true extrovert” who was known for her warm hospitality. “She remained an optimist even as she became an invalid. She expected to recover to her dying day.”

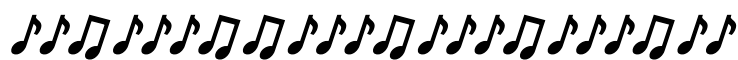
Full obituaries for Pat and Peggy were recently published in *The Independent*.



The Guild's *Sipping with the Symphony* at Page Mill Winery September 23 drew a congenial crowd of about 50 folks, noshing, sipping, listening to music provided by LAS-affiliated musicians, and socializing. All this fun while raising **\$1444** for LAS! From chatting with some of the younger attendees, event chair Sonya Sheffield learned that they had found out about the event from an ad in *The Independent!* *Sipping* will return in 2022—the Guild is already booked for September 22, with the possibility of adding a spring date as well!



Beth Wilson, Phyllis Harding, Alan Copeland
Photos courtesy of Tim Barry



YOUTH NEWS

COMPETITION for YOUNG MUSICIANS

Celicia Thendean and **Dustin Breshears** were selected as winners of the Symphony's 49th annual Competition for Young Musicians. They will perform at the February 12 concert, *The Brilliance of Youth*, along with the 2020 winners, **Valery Breshears** and **Lauren Kim**. All four young musicians will be featured in February *Symphony Notes*.

STUDENT AWARDS

Four high school students will receive cash awards at the December 4th concert. The Symphony Association administers these awards to recognize local high school seniors who have made significant contributions to school and community musical activities. The awards are not based on students' musical ability or plans to pursue further music education. The awards include the John H. Green Memorial Award, the Bill King Memorial Award, and an Association Award named in honor of Music Director Emeritus Arthur Barnes. **The second Association Award this year will be given in honor of retired longtime LAS orchestra and Guild member Nan Davies.** The winning students will be featured in February *Symphony Notes*.

Livermore-Amador Symphony Youth Orchestra

On July 31, the Livermore-Amador Symphony Youth Orchestra performed its annual summer concert to a large audience at the First Presbyterian Church in Livermore, followed by an outdoor reception in the courtyard. Over 50 youth participated. The eclectic program included Corelli's Concerto Grosso, Balmages' "Arabian Dances," and Grieg's *Peer Gynt* Suite. The audience was encouraged to sing the melody along with the orchestra in the closing number, Mayhew Lake's "The Roosters Lay Eggs in Kansas." LASYO is coordinated by Betsy Hausburg and sponsored by the Livermore-Amador Symphony Association. Göran Berg and Don Adkins again served as music directors, and new this year, Sammie Flanzbaum was director of winds and percussion.

School Concert Outreach Assemblies: The symphony plans to again perform concert assemblies in local schools this year. Look for details in February or April *Symphony Notes*.



Valley Dance Theatre students, under the direction of Betsy Hausburg and Madison Adkins, provided entertainment for the Guild's annual autumn Prelude Party in September.

LIVERMORE-AMADOR SYMPHONY and GUILD

Livermore-Amador Symphony Concerts

Saturday, December 4, 2021

3:00 p.m. *Free Family Holiday Concert*

8:15 p.m. *Symphonic Sounds of the Season*

Bankhead Theater, Livermore

CALENDAR 2021-2022

Sunday, January 23, 2022, 2:00 p.m.

Guild Winter Meeting: **January Gems**
Bothwell Arts Center, 2466 8th St., Livermore

Saturday, February 12, 2022, 8:00 p.m. (Prelude talk, 7-7:30)

Livermore-Amador Symphony Concert: The Brilliance of Youth
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
Bankhead Theater, Livermore

Tuesday, April 26, 2022, 7:00-7:20 p.m.

Annual Association Meeting
Bothwell Arts Center, 2466 8th 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
Bankhead Theater, Livermore