



Symphony Notes

A publication of the Livermore-Amador Symphony and Guild

Vol.53, No.2, February 2016

THE LIVERMORE-AMADOR SYMPHONY

Arthur P. Barnes, Music Director Emeritus

Presents

Color and Romance

Lara Webber, Music Director & Conductor

Saturday, February 20, 2016, at 8:00 p.m.

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

Prelude talk at 7:00 p.m.

Doors open at 6:30 p.m.

Lara Webber

Rainbow Body

Christopher Theofanidis

Cello Concerto No. 1 in E-flat Major, Opus 107, 1st movement

Jiho Choi, soloist

Dmitri Shostakovich

Danse Bacchanale from *Samson and Delilah*

Camille Saint-Saëns

~~~~~**Intermission**~~~~~

With entertainment in the lobby by Element 116

**Violin Concerto in D Major, Opus 35, 1<sup>st</sup> movement**

Dong Hui (Tony) Kim, soloist

**Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky**

**Variations on a Theme of Joseph Haydn**

**Johannes Brahms**

#### **TICKET INFORMATION**

**Tickets are available at the Bankhead ticket office.**

**Contributions to the Symphony may also be given at the ticket office.**

**In Person:** Bankhead Theater Ticket Office, 2400 First Street, Livermore.

Tuesday through Saturday, Noon to 6 p.m.

**Website:** [www.bankheadtheater.org](http://www.bankheadtheater.org) **Phone:** 925-373-6800

Make checks payable to LVPAC.

**♪ A Note from  
Linda Tinney,  
LAS Guild President**

The season opening concert in December was a huge success. With the theater full, and festive holiday celebrations all around, we were sure to enjoy a great evening. Thank you, Bankhead Theater staff and Guild, for providing the lovely champagne reception that followed the concert. We had lots of time to chat and visit with our musicians and friends. I feel so fortunate to live in such a vibrant arts community.

The February concert is sure to be a big hit as well! Keeping with tradition, winners of the Symphony's Competition for Young Musicians are featured, with performances by cellist Jiho Choi and violinist Dong Hui (Tony) Kim.

Please be sure to linger after the concert for another champagne and sparkling cider reception provided by the Guild. It will be a wonderful opportunity to chat with and congratulate our competition winners as well as the orchestra.

I know we are well into the new year, but I wish you all a very happy and healthy one.

*Linda Tinney, Guild President*

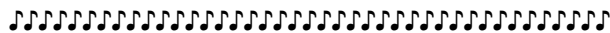
**Notice to Concert Ticket Holders.  
Can't use your concert tickets?**

Call the Bankhead Ticket Office (925-373-6800) up to 1 hour before the concert to release your seats. You will be mailed a tax donation receipt.

*Symphony Notes* is published four times a year for members of the Livermore-Amador Symphony Association, Orchestra, and Guild. Symphony Association President Denise Leddon; Guild President Linda Tinney; Editor Marcia Stimatz Elchesen. PO Box 1049, Livermore, CA 94551-1049. 925-447-6454. Website: [www.livermoreamadorsymphony.org](http://www.livermoreamadorsymphony.org)

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



**February 20<sup>th</sup> Concert  
Highlights**

**Featured Soloists  
Winners of the 43rd Annual  
Competition for Young Musicians**

**Jiho Choi, cello**

Shostakovich's Cello Concerto No. 1, 1<sup>st</sup> movement  
Junior at Amador Valley High School  
Parents – Seung Lee and Hyung Choi

**Dong Hui (Tony) Kim, violin**

Tchaikovsky's Violin Concerto, 1<sup>st</sup> movement  
Junior at Dublin High School  
Parents – Sang and Sunny Kim

**Bios of Jiho and Tony are on page 5.**

**In the Bankhead Lobby:**

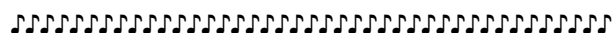


**Intermission  
Performance**

**Element 116 Jazz Band**



**~Following the Concert~  
Join us for a Reception  
Hosted by LAS Guild.**



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

**♪ Livermore-Amador Guild  
Annual Spring Business Meeting  
Thursday, April 14, 2016, 7:30 p.m.  
Home of Nan & Walt Davies**

**♪ Livermore-Amador Symphony  
Annual Association Meeting  
Tuesday, April 19, 2016, 8:15 p.m.  
East Avenue Middle School, Livermore**

***A Letter from***  
**LAS Association President**  
**Denise Leddon**

Fantastic! We filled out the theater for both concerts on December 5<sup>th</sup> with returning and new patrons! Our afternoon Free Family Concert, Symphony Storytime & Surprises, reached new families in our community to introduce them to symphonic music through *Peter and the Wolf* and other delights. To further enrich their experience, we shared the spotlight with our guests, the international award-winning Cantabella Children's Chorus. They are so talented; there is nothing like captivating children in the audience with children as performers! In the holiday spirit, we had a sing-along, topped off with an Instrument Petting Zoo in the lobby for the children. Thank you to all our LAS musicians, conductor Lara Webber, the Cantabella singers and conductor Ofer dal Lal, narrator John Marchand, Shea Homes for their \$5000 donation to the Bankhead to sponsor this concert, and to Bryan Waugh and Shari DiScala for helping me provide lunch between concerts. Thank you, LVPAC Executive Director Scott Kenison, for the idea to present this free family concert.

Did you enjoy *Peter and the Wolf* during the evening concert? I hope you were not confused with our official start time of 8:15 and elimination of the pre-concert talk. The change was made to help alleviate parking problems due to Livermore's annual downtown holiday parade, and will be the pattern for our future December concerts.

On November 5<sup>th</sup>, the Symphony performed *Peter and the Wolf* at three Livermore elementary schools (Jackson Avenue, Marilyn Avenue, and Arroyo Seco), part of LASA's commitment to youth outreach. Reaching over 1000 students, the children at all the schools roared with excitement. Livermore Mayor John Marchand also narrated *Peter and the Wolf* at these performances. He was especially

entertaining during the question-and-answer sessions. Thank you to the LVPAC Education Fund and Livermore Rotary for funding, LAS Education Youth Outreach committee for planning, our LAS musicians and John Marchand for taking time out of their day to perform, and Marcia Elchesen and Nancy McKenzie for providing a most wonderful lunch. Thank you, Lara Webber, for kicking this project off the ground and chalk-marking the dimensions of the smallest stage on your driveway to see that the orchestra fit!

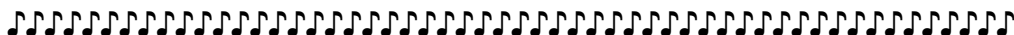
There is a big push to restore music education to all Livermore elementary schools. Lara Webber gave wonderful talks on this topic at Livermore Rotary and Livermore Cultural Arts Council meetings. LCAC has a new Advocacy committee to work on this and is barreling ahead.

I was thankful for the holiday break following our busy, busy, busy season start. Back to rehearsal on January 5<sup>th</sup>, we tried out Theofanidis' "Rainbow Body." I shared with conductor Lara Webber afterwards, "It physically twisted my mind!" (You know: like wringing out a washcloth.) Lara asked me, "But did you like it?" Yes, I love it! You must not miss "Rainbow Body" and our other gems come February 20<sup>th</sup>!

As anyone who knows me realizes, I so enjoy the Guild for the parties they host for us. Thank you, Guild, for another year of champagne and punch get-togethers in the lobby after our concerts this season.

***Happy New Year!***  
**Denise Leddon**

*Denise is in her second year as Association President and plays second violin in the orchestra.*



**STUDENT PERFORMERS AT  
JANUARY 28 WINTER GUILD MEETING**

Three participants in the **Competition for Young Musicians** performed a delightful concert for approximately 35 Guild members and guests at the Guild winter meeting. Following a brief business meeting led by Guild president Linda Tinney, JoAnn Cox, the organizer of the annual Competition for Young Musicians, introduced the student performers.

The program opened with pianist **Rachel Liu**, a freshman at Dougherty Valley High School, who performed Mozart's Piano Concerto No. 20, 1<sup>st</sup> movement. Rachel was accompanied by her brother Vincent Liu (who was a Competition winner last year). She was followed by cellist **Sean Lee**, also a freshman at Dougherty Valley High School, playing the 4<sup>th</sup> movement of Cello Concerto in E Minor by Edward Elgar. Sean's accompanist was Yi-fang Wu. The program closed with J.S. Bach's Partita No.1 in B-flat Major, performed by Dublin High School tenth grader pianist **Chloe Ma**.

Following the performance by these wonderfully talented musicians, Guild members, performers, and guests enjoyed a reception, with delicious refreshments provided by Guild members. Thank you to committee chairs Nan Davies (Programs) and Maudie Kuenning (Receptions).

Thanks also to JoAnn Cox for her steadfast dedication to the students who participate in the annual LAS competition, and to Ann Kasameyer for again hosting both the competition and the meeting in her home.

The Guild is sponsoring a  
**HARPIST**  
to play with the orchestra  
at all four of the  
2015-16 concerts!



**2015–2016 Student Award Winners  
Presented at December 5<sup>th</sup> Concert**

The Symphony Association administers four awards (currently \$400 each) to recognize high school seniors who have made significant contributions to school and community musical activities. This season, the awards went to these four outstanding students. Their biographies appeared in the December concert program and are also on the LAS website Youth Awards page.

**Arthur P. Barnes Award:** bassoon, piano, and trumpet player **Jeffrey Seidl** of Livermore High School.

**John H. Green Memorial Award:** vocalist, pianist, and violinist **Talia Wang** of Amador Valley High School.

**Bill King Memorial Award:** cellist **Irene Su** of Amador Valley High School.

**Association Award:** bass trombone player **Kevin Yang** of Amador Valley High School.

♪ **Jim Hartman**, LAS horn player, has been appointed to the new volunteer position of production manager for the orchestra.

♪ **Bryan Waugh**, LAS horn player and orchestra personnel manager, researched, located, and procured a celesta, then donated the instrument to the Symphony. It made its LAS debut for our December concerts in the Bankhead, and the Valley Dance Theatre's pit orchestra used it for *The Nutcracker*.

**Thank you for your generosity, Bryan!**

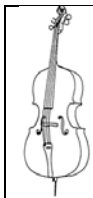
**Guild Estate Sales**  
**\$ Money raised benefits LAS! \$**

**SUPPORT THE GUILD'S EFFORTS:**

*Income from estate sales is one of the primary ways the Guild raises money!* If you know anyone who is significantly downsizing or closing out a home, please tell them about this wonderful service the Guild offers! Contact **Marie Ruzicka**, Estate Sales Chair <[marie.ruz@gmail.com](mailto:marie.ruz@gmail.com)>.

**Amazing Fact!** The Livermore-Amador Symphony reached nearly 2000 audience members in performances on November 5 and December 5, a majority of whom were children!

**Be one of the first! Join the recently launched A.P. Barnes Society!** Find out more by inquiring at [APBarnesSociety@livermoreamadorsymphony.org](mailto:APBarnesSociety@livermoreamadorsymphony.org)



## 43<sup>rd</sup> ANNUAL COMPETITION WINNERS SOLOISTS FOR THE FEBRUARY CONCERT



**Jiho Choi**, age 16, is a member of the award-winning Konpeito Cello Quartet. She made her Carnegie Hall debut at age 14 as a first-place winner in the American Protégé International Concerto Competition. During the 2014–2015 school year, she won first prizes at the state round of the 2014 Music Teachers National Association Junior Strings Competition in California and in the regional round in New Mexico. She then became a national finalist in Chicago. Jiho also performed Dvořák's Cello Concerto for the International Music Competition of the Chinese Music Teachers' Association of Northern California (CMTANC) and was selected by the Junior Bach Festival to perform movements from Bach's Suite 3. She finished the school year by performing a solo recital as the winner of Fremont Symphony's Young Recitalist Competition and Kabalevsky's Cello Concerto No. 2 (2<sup>nd</sup> movement) with the Palo Alto Philharmonic as a winner of its Concerto Movement Competition.

As a former pre-college student at the San Francisco Conservatory of Music, Jiho received scholarships from Music@Menlo, which she attended in the summers of 2013 and 2014. There, she received master classes and coaching by several renowned musicians. She is also a 2015 merit scholarship recipient of the Meadowmount School of Music and was featured on its YouTube channel in Shostakovich's String Quartet No. 8 as the cellist of the only under-18 chamber group to perform on campus. Jiho currently studies under Jonathan Koh at the California Music Preparatory Academy.

The daughter of Seung Lee and Hyung Choi, Jiho is a junior at Pleasanton's Amador Valley High. In addition to her academic and music activities, she enjoys watching movies and microblogging. She speaks English, Korean, and Spanish fluently and hopes to study more languages in the future.

Jiho says, "Throughout my whole life, my interests and ambitions have always been changing and shifting based on my feelings and identity at the moment, but my love and connection to music has always remained constant... I find comfort in music, not only through a warm melody, but often through reassurance from the composer that someone has related to my emotions at some point. It's healing to play something that cathartic."

**Dong Hui (Tony) Kim** began playing piano at age 6 and violin at age 8. He currently studies violin with Davis Law at the San Francisco Conservatory of Music. Tony is concertmaster of his school orchestra and a first violinist in the San Francisco Symphony Youth Orchestra. As a pianist and violinist, he has won numerous international and regional competitions. In 2013, he was a first-place winner of various categories in the U.S. Open Music Competition. He has also won first-place prizes in the 2013 *Korea Times* Youth Music Competition, the contemporary division of the 2014 East Bay Piano Competition, and CMTANC's 2014 United States International Music Competition. In 2014, he was selected as a violinist in the California All-State High School Orchestra. Most recently, he was a winner of the 2015 Korean-American Music Supporters' Association Young Artist Competition and he debuted as a soloist in the Spangenberg Theatre in Palo Alto.

The son of Sang and Sunny Kim, 16-year-old Tony is a junior at Dublin High School. He is secretary of the Bay Area Association of Visiting Musicians and has made trips for the past three years to Veterans Administration facilities in Martinez, Palo Alto, San Francisco, and Livermore, enthusiastically sharing music with hospice patients. He loves to bring each patient a special kind of comfort that the patient has not experienced for a long time. He looks forward to serving more patients, spreading more joy in the community, and inspiring more patients to remain hopeful about their lives.

"Music, as an influential force throughout my life, has always been with me," says Tony. "This is why I seem to find my place as a performer—I can share my musical experience with others through my playing in front of them. Music...has taken me through the hardest times of my life and has helped me enjoy the happiest moments of my life."

In addition to music, Tony is extremely interested in math and science and is president of his school's Math and Olympiad Clubs. In 2014, he won third place in the Alameda County Science and Engineering Fair. He was a two-time qualifier for the American Invitational Mathematics Examinations and a 2015 National Finalist for the U.S. National Chemistry Olympiad competition.

Livermore-Amador Symphony Association  
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SYMPHONY NOTES

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## Calendar

## February 2016 and Beyond

**Saturday, February 20, 2016**

See pages 1, 2, and 5

***Livermore-Amador Symphony Concert: Color and Romance***

**With Solos by Winners of the Competition for Young Musicians**

**8:00 p.m., The Bankhead Theater, Livermore**

**Saturday, April 9, 2016**

***Livermore-Amador Symphony Concert: Dvořák Cello Concerto***

**Austin Huntington, soloist**

**8:00 p.m., The Bankhead Theater, Livermore**

**Thursday, April 14, 2016**

***Guild Annual Spring Business Meeting 7:30 p.m.***

See page 2.

**Tuesday, April 19, 2016**

***Livermore-Amador Symphony Association Annual Meeting***

**8:15 p.m., East Avenue Middle School, Livermore**

See page 2.

**Saturday, May 21, 2016**

***Livermore-Amador Symphony Concert: A Tale of Two Cities***

**Heidi Moss, soprano**

**8:00 p.m., The Bankhead Theater, Livermore**