



Symphony Notes

A publication of the Livermore-Amador Symphony and Guild

Vol. 55, No. 1, December 2017

THE LIVERMORE-AMADOR SYMPHONY

Lara Webber, Music Director & Conductor

Arthur P. Barnes, Music Director Emeritus

Presents

Musical Heroes

Lara Webber, Music Director & Conductor

Saturday, December 2, 2017, at 8:15 p.m.

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

Doors open by 7:45 p.m.

Egmont Overture

Ludwig van Beethoven

Lieutenant Kijé Suite

Sergei Prokofiev

————— **Intermission** —————

Symphony No. 2

Jean Sibelius

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 **Phone:** 925-373-6800
Make checks payable to **LVPAC**.

Nancy McKenzie
LAS Guild

♪♪ *From our*
Presidents ♪♪

Linda Tinney
LAS Association

Hello to all!

I was just getting my feet wet as your new Guild president in August, when our hard-working Estate Sale committee had a sale! We had three sales in two months, all headed up by Marie Ruzicka and Pat Burnett. Wonderful work, ladies and gentlemen. On September 14th the Guild held its first-ever wine tasting fundraiser "Sipping With the Symphony," raising almost \$900. We plan to do another one in May. On September 21st we held our annual Guild Prelude Party and packed the house! Valley Dance Theatre presented a wonderful dance program and Leona Brush and her volunteers fed us well.

Our annual POPS concert in October was once again filled wall-to-wall. Linda Tinney and her committee did an exceptional job. We had costumes, food, and lots of fun! Of course, none of it could have happened without our superb Livermore-Amador Symphony and its talented Music Director and Conductor Lara Webber. (See Pops article, page 6.)

Helen Moore, our Guild historian, is looking for photographs. You remember photos, those things we used to paste in books called photo albums. When you're at a Symphony or Guild event, click away with your phone, then send your photos to me at nancymac360@gmail.com. I'll get them to Helen.

Calling all brainstormers! As you know, all the money the Guild raises goes to our symphony and music education programs in our communities. When you go to a wonderful fundraiser or hear about a great idea, contact me or anyone else on the Guild board with the idea. We may not do the same thing, probably won't in fact, but it starts us all thinking about what other types of things might work. Think about it. This is the first time we had a wine tasting event and we made lots of money for the symphony.

I will see you at our first concert on December 2nd!

Nancy McKenzie, LAS Guild President

Symphony Notes is published four times a year for members of the Livermore-Amador Symphony Association, Orchestra, and Guild. Symphony Association President Linda Tinney; Guild President Nancy McKenzie; Editor Marcia Stimatz Elchesen. PO Box 1049, Livermore, CA 94551-1049. 925-447-6454. Website: www.livermoreamadorsymphony.org

Greetings from the other side of the page!

I am happy to be continuing my support of the symphony this year as Association president and I leave the Guild in the very capable hands of Nancy McKenzie and the dedicated Guild members. We have some wonderful concerts ahead of us and I look forward to working with our very talented, dedicated and hard working board.

This past summer I ventured off to Spain and France. While in Barcelona I had the opportunity to attend the Barcelona Symphony. My Spanish friend, Joaquín Achúcarro, was the piano soloist in a theater of 3000 people. Afterwards I traveled with him and his wife to Valencia to attend his recital. It's wonderful to be a sightseer but even more exciting to see someone you know perform. I had such a good time that I will go back during the holidays to ring in the New Year in Madeira, Portugal. I have heard that Madeira holds the Guinness world record for the largest fireworks display. They say it is best seen from the sea, which is where I'll be. So stay tuned for the February edition of *Symphony Notes* to find out if that claim is really true!

Linda Tinney, LAS Association President

December Concert ANNOUNCEMENTS

REMINDER!

*To accommodate the Livermore Downtown
Holiday Parade:*

**Concert begins at 8:15 p.m.
There will be no prelude talk!**

Education AWARDS will be presented
to 4 high school seniors after intermission.



**★Following the Concert★
Join us for a reception
in the Bankhead Lobby!
Hosted by the Guild.**

**Third Annual Free Family Concert!
Bankhead Theater, December 2, 3:00 p.m.**

The concert is meant to welcome new listeners, especially families with young kids. It will be a fifty-minute, fun-filled program of seasonal music, Hanukkah, and Christmas songs. Dancers from Valley Dance Theatre will also present brief selections from their *Nutcracker* production which opens December 9 at the Bankhead.

Come sing along with the symphony, enjoy the talents of VDT, and afterwards meet the musicians and dancers in the lobby. At the Instrument Petting Zoo, LAS musicians will offer children an opportunity to try out a variety of string, wind, or brass instruments to encourage an interest in learning to play a musical instrument. It's a perfect way to start the holiday season, right before the downtown parade!

The concert is made possible thanks to the volunteer musicians and dancers, and funding from the Livermore Valley Performing Arts Center. The concert is free to the public. **Update! Concert is sold out. Ticket-holders must be seated by 2:45 p.m. At that time, any remaining seats will be opened to stand-by patrons in a waiting line.**



**Evening Concert
December 2, 8:15 p.m.
Musical Heroes**

**Notes From our Music Director and
Conductor Lara Webber**

Join us as we explore themes of heroism, described in vivid symphonic detail. Inspired by the voice of his favorite writer, Goethe, Beethoven's *Egmont* Overture describes the heroism of the brave Count Egmont as he struggles and dies trying to liberate his country.

Next, Prokofiev, in some of his most inventive music, brings an imaginary military leader to life. His *Lieutenant Kijé* Suite follows this mythical man from his noble birth to a grand wedding, a wild sleigh ride, and ultimately his death and burial.

We conclude with the soaring second symphony of Sibelius, who became Finland's musical hero with this stirring masterpiece that came to represent the Finnish struggle for independence from their Russian occupiers at the turn of the 20th century.

**Announcing the
December 2
Concert Debut of
Our Beautiful
Professional
Hammered Copper
Timpani!**



**A gift from the
Kasameyer family**

Ann and her children made this gift in memory of Paul Kasameyer—husband, father, and long-time LAS percussion musician.

“We are delighted to purchase the timpani for the Symphony. As you all know, being involved with LAS was a really important part of Paul's life here in Livermore. I'm looking forward to hearing them in concert.”

Ann Kasameyer
Karen, Amy, Alan

**An Important Update!
—Notice to Concert Ticket Holders—
Can't use your concert tickets?**

The Bankhead Theater ticket office no longer processes returned LAS concert tickets as a donation to the Symphony. We suggest you consider offering your tickets to someone else who can use them.



Notice to Symphony Donors!

If you made a donation to LAS through LVPAC (or directly to LAS) and have not yet received acknowledgement from the Symphony, please contact Judy Eckart (judy@justjudy.com or 925-294-9477).

♪♪ The Future of Classical Music! ♪♪

COMPETITION FOR YOUNG MUSICIANS

There were *three* winners of the 45th annual competition, held this year on October 1. They are Joey Zhu, piano; Sean Lee, cello; and David Davisson, flute. Joey performed the first movement of Rachmaninoff's Piano Concerto No. 2 in C Minor, Sean performed the first movement of Cello Concerto No. 1 in E-flat Major by Shostakovich, and David performed the first movement of Mozart's Flute Concerto in G Major.

As soloists they will perform the same works with the symphony at its February 24 concert. Judges for the competition were Lara Webber, LAS music director, and Kristina Anderson, LAS concertmaster.

Our sincere thanks go to Ann Kasameyer for once again providing her home to the Symphony Association as the site of the competition.

STUDENT PERFORMERS AT JANUARY 18 WINTER GUILD MEETING

Three students who participated in the Competition for Young Musicians have been selected by the judges to perform at the Guild meeting on Thursday evening, January 18. The brief business meeting starts at 7:30 and the musical program will begin at approximately 7:45. The students are viola player Rhea Park and pianists Anna Hong and Alicia Zhang.

The meeting will take place at the home of Ann Kasameyer. Members of the orchestra and the LASA Board, along with their guests, are invited to join Guild members at the performance of these talented young musicians and enjoy refreshments afterwards.

Jutta Massoud, Competition Chair

Livermore-Amador Symphony Youth Orchestra (LASYO) Ninth Season

The Livermore-Amador Symphony Youth Orchestra performed its 9th annual summer concert on July 22 at the First Presbyterian Church in Livermore, followed by a reception in the fellowship hall. Fifty-one musicians, from the Tri-Valley and beyond, gathered twice weekly for four weeks of rehearsals at the Bothwell Arts Center to prepare for the concert.

The program included Beethoven's Symphony No. 7, second movement, and *Egmont* Overture; Bizet's *L'Arlesienne* Suite No. 1, third movement; Haydn's Symphony No. 88, Finale; Suite for Variety Stage Orchestra, seventh movement, by Shostakovich; Tango for Strings by Michael McLean; and Escualo, Tango by Astor Piazzolla. The concertmaster was Ingrid Nordberg; Brendan Hwang was assistant concertmaster.

LAS Youth Orchestra is sponsored by the Livermore-Amador Symphony Association and is coordinated by Betsy Hausburg; Göran Berg and Don Adkins served as music directors. Hausburg plays tuba with LAS, Berg is artistic director of Sycamore Strings Academy in Livermore, and Adkins is a music educator, conductor, performer, composer, and church musician.

Specials thanks go to these adult participants and mentors: Sarah Berman, bassoon; Ashley Bowers, viola; Christine-Ann Immesoete, horn; and Cyndy Salmon, clarinet.



Spring School Concert Assemblies: As part of its outreach to youth, the symphony will again perform school concert assemblies in the spring. This season LAS will double the numbers of children we reached last year by performing *Peter and the Wolf* at both Livermore and Pleasanton schools. The performances have been funded through grants received from the City of Pleasanton and Clorox.

Livermore-Amador Symphony GUILD



NEWS from the Estate Sales Committee

**The Guild held three sales
August 4th–September 9th!**

Thanks to the many wonderful Guild members who worked long and hard to make our three recent estate sales successful. You really are an amazing group. The sales netted a total of \$7148!

The following people worked on and at the sales:

Leona Brush, Dean Burnett, Bob Canning, Patty Canning, Dorothy Clarkson, Adela Cook, Carol Counts, Nan Davies, Joan Dickinson, Marcia Elchesen, Patricia Fredericks, Nancy Fritsch, Irma Giannotti, Joan Green, Dick Hatfield, Mary Justice, Mary Ann Johnston, Maudie Kuenning, Leota Lee, Anne Lindl, Sally Marone, Nancy McKenzie, Barbara Morrison, Sharron Morrison, Carole Murray, Janice Paquette, Cherie Jo Patenaude, Bill Rabe, Marie Ross, Carlotta Schauer, Dale Schauer, Joie Spooner, Sally Swanson, Naomi Thomas, Naomi Webster, and Ayn Wieskamp.

Last spring, the committee worked with Judy Eckart of *JustJudy* to produce a new 5x7 flashy advertising post card. Guild members have fanned out with the cards, getting permission to leave them in various locations such as libraries, the Bankhead lobby, mortuaries, realtors, financial planners, and law offices. A card picked up by a Symphony patron at the LAS May concert was responsible for one of our recent Estate sales!

Marie Ruzicka and Patricia Burnett
Estate Sales Co-Chairs

The Guild
is sponsoring the
HARPIST
for all four concerts
this season!



ORDER YOUR GUILD GEAR HERE!

PERSONALIZED GUILD MEMBER NAME BADGE



I want to order a GUILD MEMBER name badge!
Cost \$15.00 (includes tax).

(Your name will go just above GUILD MEMBER.)
Please note: standard badge has a magnet clasp not suitable for pacemaker users.

Print your name exactly as you want it on your badge.
Name: _____

* Please special order me a badge with a pin clasp.



LIVERMORE-AMADOR SYMPHONY TOTE BAG

I want to order the LAS tote bag. Special price \$15.00 per bag (includes tax).

Durable polycanvas, white & royal blue, features outer pocket and sturdy straps. Perfect size for shopping! (18"x11"x3¼"). Makes a great gift!

How many? _____ Total Cost: _____

Order by December 15th!

Name _____ Phone _____

- Send completed order form with a check for total amount due, **payable to LAS Guild**.
- Write Badge/Bag in memo line.
- Mail your check and your completed order form to:
LAS Guild, P.O. Box 1049, Livermore, CA 94551
Contact Marcia Elchesen with questions. 925-321-0730.

GUILD NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The Nominating committee will meet in January to begin drafting a slate of officers for 2018–2019 and two new Nominating committee members for a two-year term. Please contact one of the committee members with any suggestions: **Lou Anne Martin (chair), Patty Canning, Joan Green, Nan Davies, and Leota Lee**. Their contact information is in the current Guild directory.

POPS 2017

HEROES & VILLAINS

Lots of people have attended the Pops concert over the years and the community looks forward to it every year. One measure of a successful Pops event has to be when first-time attendees enthusiastically ask for the date of next year's event before the current event is over! The theme this year, "Heroes and Villains," provided a wide array of costume possibilities. There were firefighters, Cruella de Vil, a policewoman, Amelia Earhart, Lizzie Borden, Boris and Natasha, Captain America, Wonder Woman, Dracula, and a burglar, among many others.

And who knew that the Beach Boys wrote and recorded a song in 1970 with that very same title: "Heroes and Villains!" It seemed like the perfect "must do" program opener if at all possible. Thanks to Ian Brekke, Director of Choral and Vocal Studies at Las Positas College, and his jazz choir members who provided backup vocals: Zara Hading, Brynn Linville, Allison Middlekauff, Shreya Pujari, and Mallory Shaffar. And special thanks to the backup rock band: Matt Finders, keyboard; Brynli Toulze, guitar; Lukas Ostien, bass guitar; Quincy Johns, drums; Diane Schildbach, trombone; and Bryan Waugh, slide whistle.

Lara Webber, music director and "superconductor," led the orchestra in some great musical numbers such as the themes from *Rocky*, *Goldfinger*, *Star Wars*, and *Jaws*. We even had the menacing shark make an appearance. Nancy McKenzie, LAS Guild president, a.k.a the villainous Lizzie Borden, was a superb emcee for the evening.

Element 116 added a special flair to the program with rousing arrangements of "Bad, Bad Leroy Brown," "Spiderman," "Batman," and "Wonder Woman," while Lara sang the lead.

Tremendous thanks go out to the Pops Steering Committee: Pat Burnett, Ginger Bytnar, Bob Canning, Patty Canning, Nan Davies, Joan Dickinson, Patti Fredericks, Jim Hartman, Mary Jestice, Denise Leddon, Sally Marone, Lou Anne Martin, Nancy McKenzie, Linda Miller, Barbara Morrison, Marie Ruzicka, and Bryan Waugh. And thanks to special volunteers Marcia Elchesen, Mary Ann Johnston, Dave Leddon, Judy McMurry, Sharron Morrison, Janice Paquette, Sue Rabe, Josiane Selvage, Elaine Traficante, and Howard Tsztoo. We are also grateful to our student volunteers Sierra Graham, Abdul Karim, Abby Rothe, and Kayelin Santa Elena.

And finally, thanks to our wonderful LAS orchestra, many of whom got into the spirit of the occasion with a variety of hero and villain costumes. The musicians seemed to be having as much fun as the audience!

We are already thinking about next year's Pops, which will take place on Friday, October 26, 2018.

So mark your calendars now and get ready for another great event!

Linda Tinney, 2017 Pops Committee Chair

Ideas for a theme? Email me at karnlei@comcast.net.



Sipping With The Symphony

Page Mill Winery Twilight Tasting

The Guild held its first-ever wine-tasting fundraiser on September 14 at Livermore's Page Mill Winery. Page Mill offers its Twilight Tasting to local organizations as a fundraising opportunity, with all tasting fees and 10% of sales going to the fundraising host.

Guild members organized tasty noshes and offered two raffle items as well as wine-themed crystal for sale. LAS musicians Nan Davies and Muriel Haupt (flute and cello duo), and Ursula Goldstein, Kathleen Fasenfest, and Alan Copeland (string trio) performed during the event, adding elegant ambience to the occasion. In addition to Symphony supporters, several other community members came for wine tasting and unexpectedly got to enjoy the music and learn about LAS.

The event was so successful that the Guild has already booked another date for the spring! Mark your calendar for May 24. Details will appear in April *Symphony Notes*.



Livermore-Amador Symphony provided stellar backup accompaniment for the Indigo Girls at LVPAC's second annual fundraising gala in September. The performance drew a number of audience members new to the Bankhead and to LAS. We hope they come back to hear us during our regular concert season!

POPS CONCERT

SPECIAL THANKS!

Wine Donations

Jan and Bill Daum

Frantic Frog Winery

William Thomson,

Harris Tesla Vineyards, LLC

Lecia Roundtree,

Wine Group, Inc.

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! For more information: <http://livermoreamadorsymphony.org/estatesales.html>

Pat Burnett and Marie Ruzicka
Estate Sales Co-Chair

Join the A.P. Barnes Society! Inquire at APBarnesSociety@livermoreamadorsymphony.org.

Members are dedicated supporters who have included Livermore-Amador Symphony in their estate plans. Financial contributions will help to:

- ♪ Sustain the Artistic Growth of the Symphony
- ♪ Provide Access and Enrichment to Young People
- ♪ Strengthen the Financial Foundation of the Symphony

CALLING ALL ORCHESTRA MEMBERS!

We'd like to feature occasional pieces about LAS musicians in future *Symphony Notes*. We want to hear from you, whether you're new or have been with LAS for any number of years. If you are willing to be featured or would like to suggest a fellow orchestra member, please contact Marcia Elchesen, *Symphony Notes* Editor, 925-321-0730.

Attention Facebook Users!



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

Look for the Symphony Association's annual financial report, fiscal year 2016-2017, in the February 2018 issue of *Symphony Notes*. The financial review took place on November 6.

Livermore-Amador Symphony Association
P. O. Box 1049
Livermore, CA 94551-1049

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SYMPHONY NOTES

Calendar

December 2017 and Beyond

Saturday, December 2, 2017

See pages 1, 2, and 3.

Livermore-Amador Symphony Concerts:

The Bankhead Theater, Livermore

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

8:15 p.m., *Musical Heroes*

Thursday, January 18, 2018

See page 4.

Guild Winter Meeting 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, February 24, 2018

See page 4.

Livermore-Amador Symphony Concert: Wild Water and Wonder

With Solos by Winners of the Competition for Young Musicians

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

Saturday, April 14, 2018

Livermore-Amador Symphony Concert: The Human Spirit & the Natural World

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

Saturday, June 2, 2018

Livermore-Amador Symphony Concert: Romantic Expressions

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