



Symphony Notes

A publication of the Livermore-Amador Symphony and Guild

Vol. 54, No. 2, February 2017

THE LIVERMORE-AMADOR SYMPHONY

Arthur P. Barnes, Music Director Emeritus

Presents

Inspirational Journeys

Lara Webber, Music Director & Conductor

Saturday, February 18, 2017, at 8:00 p.m.

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

Prelude talk 7:00–7:30 p.m.
Doors open by 6:30 p.m.

Lara Webber

Blue Cathedral

Jennifer Higdon

Violin Concerto in D Minor, Op. 47, 1st movement

Jean Sibelius

Felix Yu-Shuan Shen, soloist

—————**Intermission**—————

With entertainment in the lobby by Element 116

Piano Concerto No. 1 in C Major, Op. 15, 1st movement

Ludwig van Beethoven

Sehyun (Eunice) Lee, soloist

Symphonic Dances

Edvard Grieg

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**.

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

Happy New Year from all of us in the Guild. Is it just me who feels each year getting so much shorter? Just as soon as I get comfortable with the current year, it's time to change my calendar.

As the orchestra members prepare for the February concert, I want to compliment them on the wonderful evening they provided us all in December. Many attendees made comments to me on how much they enjoyed the program and just how great the orchestra sounded. Kudos to all!

Believe it or not, it's time to start thinking about next year's Pops concert. If you have a burning idea for a great theme, please don't hesitate to let me or another Guild member know. We love ideas that afford us ways to program great music and inspire varied costumes.

Thank you, Guild board, Guild members, and all those who help us in our endeavors to serve our wonderful orchestra.

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

**Attention
Facebook
Users!**



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



February 18th Concert Highlights

**Featured Soloists
Winners of the 44th Annual
Competition for Young Musicians**

Felix Yu-Shuan Shen, violin
Sibelius' Violin Concerto, 1st movement

Sehyun (Eunice) Lee, piano
Beethoven's Piano Concerto No.1, 1st movement

Biographies 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 Symphony
Annual Association Meeting
Tuesday, April 18, 2017, 8:15 p.m.
Music Room
East Avenue Middle School, Livermore**

**♪ Livermore-Amador Guild
Annual Spring Business Meeting
Thursday, April 20, 2017, 7:30 p.m.
Home of Nan & Walt Davies**

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

It is a Happy New Year! We had some wonderful donations come in from the Symphony Holiday Letter sent through email. Thank you, dear donor family, for all the pleasing responses of good cheer and the handful of your responses to the holiday letter with additional giving! The letter also went out to lots of new names since we are working on building our donor base. No responses yet, but that takes time. They will grow into our family.

With great admiration, I share with you that one of our donors, Ann Kasameyer and her family, pledged purchasing a full set of four timpani! Ann and her children want to donate this in memory of Paul Kasameyer, husband, father, and LAS percussion musician. In discussions with Ann, I shared that this donation would put us out of the timpani moving business. I had arranged with the Bankhead Theater to permanently store our future planned purchase of timpani. Thank you, Scott Kenison and LVPAC. I also told Ann that my plan is to allow any resident company or visiting company, by written agreement, to use our timpani. Ann said Paul would have liked that! Thank you,

Ann Kasameyer and family for making our dreams come true!

Talking about dreams, I kicked off the board season announcing 5-year planning. Some quiet grumbling, of course. I knew what it meant. I shared that we are not going to hold off-site planning meetings. We will dream together during our board meetings. The biggest supporter was none other than ... Lara Webber! Board meetings are always open, 4th Mondays, Livermore Library, at 7:30 p.m. Join us!

Livermore's Cultural Arts Council is dreaming for all our art organizations for collective storage and rehearsal space. LVPAC is working on their next gala concept to include LAS.

Shame on me for doing it, but I closed my eyes while playing in an early rehearsal. I saw the blue cathedral! I saw the blue cathedral! You must hear it, to see it! See you at the jam-packed, full of youthful talent concert on February 18!

Denise Leddon

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

**2016–2017 Student Award Winners
Presented at December 3rd 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: euphonium/baritone, guitar, trombone player, and vocalist **James Gurney** of Amador Valley High School.

John H. Green Memorial Award: double bass, electric bass, piano, and guitar player **Elijah Kane** of Granada High School.

Bill King Memorial Award: violinist and pianist **Arie Chen** of Amador Valley High School.

Symphony Association Award: violinist and pianist **Diane Jo** of Amador Valley High School.

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

Notice to Symphony Donors!

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



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>

Nancy McKenzie, Estate Sales Co-Chair

APRIL AND MAY 2017 LAS CONCERTS

Bankhead Theater, 8:00 pm.

April 8 Transfigurations

Matilda Hofman, guest conductor

Wagner: *Lohengrin* Prelude to Act 1

Tchaikovsky: *Swan Lake* Suite

Schubert: *Rosamunde* Overture

Strauss: *Death and Transfiguration*

May 20 Arabian Nights

Lara Webber, conductor

Grieg: *Piano Concerto in A Minor*

Frank Wiens, piano

Rimsky-Korsakov: *Scheherazade*

Kristina Anderson, violin

The **Guild**
is sponsoring the

HARPIST

for all four 2016–2017
regular season concerts!



STUDENT PERFORMERS AT JANUARY 19 WINTER GUILD MEETING

Three students who participated in the Competition for Young Musicians last October were selected by the judges to perform at the Guild meeting on January 19. The program opened with flute player **David Davisson**, a sophomore at Livermore High School, who performed the first movement from the *Flute Concerto in D Major* by Carl Reinecke. David was accompanied by Todd Evans. Next, Dougherty Valley High School sophomore pianist **Rachel Liu** played J.S. Bach's *Partita No. 5 in G Major*. The program closed with cellist **Sean Lee**, also a sophomore at Dougherty Valley High School, with the third movement of *Dvorak's Cello Concerto in B Minor*, accompanied by Yi-Fang Wu.

Following the performance by these talented musicians, Guild members, performers, and guests enjoyed refreshments provided by Guild members **Leona Brush, Patty Canning, Carol Counts, Nan Davies, Mary Ann Johnston, and Leota Lee**.

Thank you to committee chairs **Nan Davies** (Programs), who also hosted the meeting at her home; **Leona Brush** (Refreshments); and **JoAnn Cox** (Competition).

Symphony Association's Financial Review

The review was conducted on November 7. You will find the annual financial report, fiscal year 2015–2016, on the LAS website at

<http://livermoreamadorsymphony.org/overview.html>.

Youth Outreach FIDDLE CLUB

Fiddle Club is up and running at Marylin Avenue Elementary in Livermore, with twenty-two fourth grade students participating. The program is organized by Beth Wilson and Jutta Massoud of LASA's Youth Outreach Committee.

Spring School Concert Assemblies: As part of its outreach to youth, the symphony will perform "Peter and the Wolf" assemblies at two Pleasanton elementary schools in April, narrated by professional actor Michael Wayne Rice, associate artist at Livermore Shakespeare Festival. Funding for the assemblies is provided through partnerships with LVPAC, the Pleasanton Arts Commission, and the Pleasanton Youth Commission.



44th ANNUAL COMPETITION WINNERS

SOLOISTS FOR THE FEBRUARY CONCERT



Felix Yu-Shuan Shen

Felix, age 14, was born in New York and grew up in Taiwan until his family moved to Dublin, California, in 2014. He began playing violin at age 5 and is currently studying with Imant Aira.

Felix has won a number of competition prizes, including as a top prizewinner of the International Violin and Piano Competition of Vienna (2013), the National Student Music Competition of Taiwan (2014), and the United States Open Music Competition (2015).

His first concert solo was performed just months after beginning violin study. In 2012 and 2014, he was appointed concert soloist for NEHS (National Experimental High School), and from 2012–2014 he was concert soloist for the Zhubei Philharmonic Institute. Since 2014, he has participated in recitals for MTAC (Music Teachers' Association of California) and Jou Music Institute. His orchestral experience includes the string orchestra of NEHS (2009-2011), other school orchestras, and Orchestra Gradus ad Parnassum, where he is concertmaster.

He describes music as “a spiritual friend who accompanies me through happiness, joy, anger, loneliness, and disappointment.” For Felix, music is “the most wonderful thing in my life. I enjoy reading it, playing it for real or in my mind, listening to it, or performing it.”

A freshman at Dublin High School, he is the son of Yu-Min Shen and Chen-Yu Wang. Felix is a skilled Rubik's Cube solver, has collected many varieties, and has developed procedures for quick solutions. He has a great interest in math, loves computer science, and has written his own games. Felix is also an active member of his school's Gavel and Gael Force Robotics clubs. Currently studying French, he is fluent in Mandarin, Taiwanese, and English. He looks forward to a career as both a violinist and an engineer.

Sehyun (Eunice) Lee

Eunice has studied piano for more than eight years, and is currently under the tutelage of Mihee Lee. In 2015, she was selected as a winner of the Oakland Symphony Youth Orchestra's annual concerto competition and performed as a soloist with the orchestra. She has received awards multiple times at the U.S. Open Music Competition in both solo and duet categories. In 2016, she received the recognition of “California Arts Scholar” for her completion of the music program for piano performance at the California Institute of the Arts. She also received honorable mention for piano performance from the San Ramon Valley Student Recognition Project in 2016.

In addition to piano, Eunice enjoys playing the violin. She began playing in orchestras at the age of 7, and eventually served as co-concertmaster of the Oakland Symphony Youth Orchestra. She particularly likes chamber music. In 2015, she was invited to play in the Menuhin Chamber Music Seminar at San Francisco State. She also likes to read and write. In 2014, she was selected to participate in the creative writing program at the California State Summer School for the Arts.

A senior at Dougherty Valley High School, 17-year-old Eunice, daughter of Ho-Jeong Kim and Jong-Pil Lee, is known as an ardent animal-lover, an outspoken supporter of minority rights, and an avid food enthusiast. She loves long walks, horror films, and exploring the city with her friends. In college, she plans to continue pursuing her passions in writing, music, and political science. Eunice says that she hopes to experience life in the most fulfilling way she can.



Livermore-Amador Symphony Association
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Livermore, CA 94551-1049

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SYMPHONY NOTES

Calendar

February 2017 and Beyond

Saturday, February 18, 2017

See pages 1, 2, and 5.

Livermore-Amador Symphony Concert: Inspirational Journeys
With Solos by Winners of the Competition for Young Musicians
8:00 p.m., The Bankhead Theater, Livermore

Saturday, April 8, 2017

See page 4.

Livermore-Amador Symphony Concert: Transfigurations
8:00 p.m., The Bankhead Theater, Livermore

Tuesday, April 18, 2017

See page 2.

8:15 p.m. LAS Association Annual Meeting

Thursday, April 20, 2017

See page 2.

7:30 p.m. Guild Spring Business Meeting and Music Program

Saturday, May 20, 2017

See page 4.

Livermore-Amador Symphony Concert: Arabian Nights
8:00 p.m., The Bankhead Theater, Livermore

Friday, October 20, 2017

7:00 p.m. POPS Concert, Robert Livermore Community Center