



Symphony Notes

A publication of the Livermore-Amador Symphony and Guild

Vol. 56, No. 3, April 2019

THE LIVERMORE-AMADOR SYMPHONY

Arthur P. Barnes, Music Director Emeritus

Presents

Dramatic Dvořák

Lara Webber, Music Director & Conductor

Saturday, April 13, 2019, at 8:00 p.m.

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

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

Lara Webber

Capriccio espagnol

Nikolai Rimsky-Korsakov

Cello Concerto

George Kahn

Evan Kahn, soloist

Rondo for Cello and Orchestra

Antonin Dvořák

Evan Kahn, soloist

—————**Intermission**—————

Symphony No. 7

Antonin Dvořák

The audience and performers are invited to enjoy cookies, coffee, cider, and sparkling wine after the concert in the lobby at a reception hosted by the Livermore-Amador Symphony Guild.

TICKET INFORMATION

Tickets are available at the Bankhead 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**.

♪ APRIL 13 LAS CONCERT: Dramatic Dvořák ♪

This concert features soloist Evan Kahn performing a cello concerto composed by his father George Kahn as well Rondo for Cello and Orchestra by Antonin Dvořák.

Los Angeles native **Evan Khan** received a master's degree in chamber music at San Francisco Conservatory of Music and graduated with college and university honors from Carnegie Mellon University.

Khan currently holds principal positions in four orchestras: principal cello in Symphony Silicon Valley, acting principal cello in Opera San Jose, and assistant principal cello in San Jose Chamber Orchestra and West Bay Opera. As cellist in the Lazuli String Quartet/Sutro Strings, he plays in many local chamber music concert series and is a sought-after quartet and piano trio cellist in the San Francisco Bay Area. He has performed as soloist with a number of California orchestras and elsewhere in the US. Khan is also a resident cellist for several Bay Area music collectives and ensembles, including After Everything, Mythica Foundation, and hip-hop band Ensemble Mik Nawooj. Intensely passionate about new music and music of non-Western cultures, he has commissioned and premiered over 50 works by composers from around the world, including the Cello Concerto composed by his father, George Khan, which he will perform at the LAS April 13 concert.

In April–May 2018, he served as Artist-in-Residence with *Performance Today* at NPR, sharing some of his favorite works for cello and his philosophies on music and life. In February 2019, he was named *Musical America's* New Artist of the Month.

In addition to performing and teaching, Khan enjoys making curry, reading postmodern fiction, and watching *The Great British Bake Off*. He plays on a cello by Italian luthier Carlo Carletti, c.1900.

EVAN KAHN, Soloist



Notes from Soloist Evan Khan

George Kahn, Cello Concerto. I'm not sure where to begin! My father wrote this incredible concerto during my time in undergrad, and I gave the first performance in 2015 with a bunch of friends. Since then, my career has blossomed quite a bit, and I'm so incredibly excited to finally give this piece its true premiere with Lara Webber on the podium. I tend to make visualizations of the pieces I play. My dad's concerto is, in a way, a journey from darkness into light. The first movement, brooding and languorous, angsty and inward, gives way in the opening cadenza of the second movement to a more extroverted timbral and harmonic palette; the horizon is near, and we're headed toward it. Then, suddenly, at the

end of the movement, we feel a raindrop, and a joyous scattering of rhythms and vivacious dance carries us through the final movement.

Antonin Dvořák, Rondo for Cello and Orchestra. The rondo is an interesting contrast to my dad's work. A rondo ... returns to the same subject material time and time again, diverging to different episodes in between. There's an inherent lightness to the primary theme of this work, so that even though it's in a minor key, there's nothing serious about it. That said, there's no redemptive arc, no hero's journey—true to its rondo form, it finishes right in the place it begins.

Cello Concerto—Notes from Composer George Khan

The first movement is as Evan describes it. I would add that the piece is one long arc from beginning to end, starting in the bottom of the low strings and ending in the upper reaches of the violins. The solo cello is poking and prodding, asking questions while the ensemble moves at its own pace and in its own trajectory.

Hearing the success of the first movement inspired me to enlarge the piece and turn it into a full-fledged concerto by the time Evan was graduating from Carnegie Mellon University. If the first movement was inspired by Gorecki, the second movement draws on a more

Continued on page 4.



April Concert: Dramatic Dvořák

Notes from Lara Webber, Music Director and Conductor

Dvořák’s Symphony No. 7 is loaded with inspiration and emotion, darkness and light. The themes are soulful and expressive, and often appear as outbursts of emotion. Written in the midst of the death of his mother and the decline of his close colleague, Smetana, this symphony bears the weight of those tragedies. It also shows Dvořák at his finest as a composer, realizing his full voice and finding extraordinary depth in his rich melodic ideas and development. It is an amazing symphony that we are embracing fully and it is a great challenge and privilege to play it.

Rimsky-Korsakov’s *Capriccio espagnol*: Using Spanish folk songs and masterful orchestration, the composer treats a mini-masterpiece that is perfectly paced with delicate solo passages, unique pizzicato techniques in the violins, and dramatic sweeps of sound through the whole orchestra. This music sparkles!

Soloist Evan Khan: I am particularly excited to bring Evan Khan to Livermore. He is an extremely talented, genuine, and generous musician. It is a uniquely wonderful opportunity to perform his father’s concerto alongside a lovely gem for solo cello by Dvořák.



**Livermore-Amador Symphony
Annual Association Meeting**
Tuesday, April 23, 2019, 7pm, Music Room
East Avenue Middle School, Livermore

Members of the LAS Association are volunteer orchestra members, adult season ticket subscribers, and donors of \$50 or more.

LAS CONCERT June 1 *Classical Contrasts*
Lara Webber, conductor; Gwendolyn Mok, soloist
Stravinsky: Suite No. 2 for chamber orchestra
Beethoven: Piano Concerto No. 4
Schumann: Symphony No. 4

Continued from page 3: George Khan, composer
romantic palette a la Vaughan Williams. My idea was to make the orchestra a living, breathing entity, and I think that worked. Being blessed with a very talented son, it was easy to write the cadenzas, as I tried to customize them for his talent. I cannot begin to describe the feeling of having my son perform this concerto for you with a full orchestra. The emotion is quite overwhelming, and my heart is full. Thank you, Lara Webber and the Livermore-Amador Symphony, for taking on this challenge.

Get Ready for Another Year!
**Please complete and return your
2019–20 Guild Membership Form.**

The form is inserted in this *Symphony Notes* and is also available on the Symphony’s website. Please turn it in at the luncheon May 15 or mail to LAS Guild, P.O. Box 1049, Livermore, CA 94551.

Linda Miller, Membership Chair

In Fond Remembrance and Appreciation

Virginia Bing 1918–2019

Virginia Bing passed away March 10 at age 100, just four months after her devoted husband George died. They were married 67 years. She was very active in the early years of the Guild—’60s and ’70s—back in the days when the Guild’s fundraisers included style shows at Castlewood and “Treasures and Trivia.” Virginia served as Guild president for the 1978–79 season and was a dues-paying Guild member until just last year. Her daughter-in-law Deanna Bing recalls that Virginia “loved the music, the organization, and the people involved.” The family held a party for Virginia in celebration her 100th birthday on October 22. A private service with family is planned.

Bev Eckley 1927–2019

Honorary Guild member Bev Eckley passed away shortly before her 92nd birthday. Bev served as Guild president for two seasons (1993-95) and on the Guild steering committee (1997-98). Guild and LAS orchestra member Judy Eckart remembers Bev from that time as “very upbeat and outgoing and curious and gave me the impression of always being busy and in motion, even when she was sitting still.” Guild member Joan Green described Bev as “collaborative and welcoming, with a can-do spirit.” Nephew Jim Branum noted that Bev and late husband Ormond moved to Livermore in 1976 and were very involved in Civil War Roundtable. They often appeared as “General Pleasonton” and his sister, Laura, wearing authentic costumes sewn by Bev. She worked as a bookkeeper but was professionally trained as a singer and loved singing in church choir. Bev continued to attend LAS concerts with friends until fairly recently. A memorial is scheduled for Thursday, April 18, 11:00 a.m. at Callaghan Mortuary in Livermore.

Livermore-Amador Symphony Youth Orchestra
Free Summer Concert—Open to the Public!
Saturday August 3, 2019, 8:00 PM
First Presbyterian Church, Livermore



Livermore-Amador Symphony Guild



Guild Estate Sales

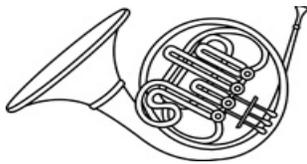
**Money raised benefits LAS!
SUPPORT THE GUILD'S EFFORTS**

Income from estate sales is one of the primary ways the Guild raises money!

Do you know anyone who is significantly downsizing or closing out a home? Please tell them about this wonderful service offered by the Guild! More information is available on the LAS website at livermoreamadorsymphony.org/estatesales.

News Flash! Upcoming Sale! The Guild will hold a sale April 12–13 in Livermore on South M Street between Fourth and College. There will be signs on sale days to direct you to the home.

**Marie Ruzicka and Leona Brush,
Estate Sales Co-Chairs**



Annual Guild Luncheon and Introduction of Officers

**Wednesday, May 15, 2019, 11:00 a.m.
Beeb's Banquet Facility
915 Clubhouse Dr., Livermore**

**Entertainment will be provided
by a wind octet!**



Invite a friend to join you.
Cost **\$25.00** (includes tax and tip)

Check payable to LAS Guild
(You may pay at the door.)

RSVP by May 5 to 925-371-2612.

Patti Fredericks, Luncheon Chair

Guild Annual

Spring Business Meeting

**Thursday, April 18, 2019 at 7:30 p.m.
Home of Nan and Walter Davies**

Come and participate in the Guild's annual spring business meeting and enjoy a wonderful chamber music concert and refreshments!

Immediately following our brief business meeting, attendees will be treated to a performance by *Mistral Wind Quintet* with **Lisa Maher, flute; Eva Langfeldt, oboe; Christy Diggins, clarinet; Michael Garvy, bassoon; and Jeff Dickey, French horn.** They will perform *Serenade*, a four-movement piece by Hans Melchior Bruck, along with one or two shorter compositions.

Guild members will receive an email or phone call RSVP reminder. Guests are welcome. Don't miss it!

Nan Davies, Program Committee Chair

Guild Annual Spring Business Meeting Election Nominees

Officers:

One-year term July 1, 2019–June 30, 2020

Kathy Streeter, President
Joan Green, Vice-President
Marcia Elchesen, Recording Secretary
Joan Dickinson, Treasurer

Nominating Committee Members:

Two-year term July 1, 2019–June 30, 2021

Mary Ann Johnston and Marie Ruzicka
(**Joan Green** and **Joie Spooner** were elected last year to serve a two-year term ending June 30, 2020.)

Nominations will also be accepted from the floor with the consent of the nominee.

2018–2019 Nominating Committee
Joie Spooner (acting chair),
Nan Davies, Joan Green, and Leota Lee.



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 evening 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:

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sort and price items prior to garage/estate sales
<input type="checkbox"/> Plan/produce the annual Pops concert
<input type="checkbox"/> Publish the <i>Symphony Notes</i> newsletter
<input type="checkbox"/> Organize musical entertainment for meetings
<input type="checkbox"/> Chair a committee / serve on the board of directors
<input type="checkbox"/> Purchase and organize refreshments
<input type="checkbox"/> Order/pick up flowers for concert soloists
<input type="checkbox"/> Assist at receptions at Guild meetings, etc.
<input type="checkbox"/> Provide my house for a reception
<input type="checkbox"/> Drive Guild members to events/concerts

<input type="checkbox"/> Please note that I need a ride to events/concerts | <input type="checkbox"/> Work at garage/estate sales
<input type="checkbox"/> Work at the Pops concert
<input type="checkbox"/> Plan new fundraisers and activities
<input type="checkbox"/> Telephone members
<input type="checkbox"/> Recruit new members
<input type="checkbox"/> Transport food, sale items, etc.
<input type="checkbox"/> Present flowers to soloists
<input type="checkbox"/> Assist at receptions after concerts
<input type="checkbox"/> Staff a table at concerts
<input type="checkbox"/> _____ |
|---|--|

All Active, Associate and Friend Guild Members are notified of Guild meetings, fundraisers, and other events, and have voting privileges at membership meetings.

Annual Dues and Requirements

- Active Member** \$20.00 Active members agree to participate in Guild functions, activities, and all fundraisers.
- Associate Member** \$35.00 Associate members agree to participate in Guild fundraisers. They are welcome, but not required, to participate in all other Guild events.
- Friend of the Guild** \$50.00 Friend members are welcome, but not required, to participate in Guild events.

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> I am joining as a Friend of the Guild, but please do contact me about opportunities to help with Guild activities as they arise. | <input type="checkbox"/> 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.

Bring check and form to the May luncheon or send to:

Membership Chairman
 L.A.S. Guild
 P. O. Box 1049
 Livermore, CA 94551-1049

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.

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

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SYMPHONY NOTES

Calendar

April 2019 and Beyond

Saturday, April 13, 2019

See pages 1, 3, and 4.

Livermore-Amador Symphony Concert: Dramatic Dvořák

Evan Kahn, cello

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

Thursday, April 18, 2019

See pages 2 and 5.

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

Tuesday, April 23, 2019

See page 4.

7:00 p.m. LAS Association Annual Meeting

Wednesday, May 15, 2019

See pages 2 and 5.

11:00 a.m. Guild Spring Luncheon and Music Program

Saturday, June 1, 2019

See page 4.

Livermore-Amador Symphony Concert: Classical Contrasts

Gwendolyn Mok, piano

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

Saturday, August 3, 2019

See page 4.

8:00 p.m. LAS Youth Orchestra Concert, First Presbyterian Church, Livermore

Friday, October 25, 2019

See page 2.

8:00 p.m. POPS Concert, Livermore Community Center (Doors open 7:00 p.m.)