

President's Message

Ellen Schneider



The signs cannot be ignored: Southwest Florida is bursting with renewed energy! Our neighbors are returning from their Northern retreats, the eateries and stores are becoming crowded, and oh, the traffic! As we come alive after the cloistering of the pandemic, we in the Symphony Society really need to harness some of the new energy to regain momentum in every aspect of our mission.

I hope every member will try to become engaged with our various programs this year! In addition to all the enjoyable Treats and monthly luncheons (concerts of all kinds!) There is a role for each member of the Society! To give a warm welcome back to all members and especially to those who have joined in recent years, we are having a Get-Acquainted Social on Wednesday, November 17 at the Symphony's Artistic and Operations Center at Bell Tower. We encourage everyone to bring a guest to introduce to the Society. Light refreshments will be served from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m., and information about the Society and opportunities to help will be available. You can plan to shop and dine before and after this event with all the new shops opening for the holidays. Pat Obermiller and Sue Matthews, our Membership co-chairs, are organizing this event, so contact them with questions.

Our Scholarship Program has been on hiatus during the pandemic. I am very pleased that we will re-launch it with a target date of January 15 and/or February 5th for auditions. The organizing meeting for this is on

Thursday, October 28, at the Symphony Office on College Parkway, at 10:30 a.m. There are several small tasks involved to make this run smoothly, in addition to roles as judges for those with music expertise. Please come to the meeting or give me a call if you are interested in assisting!

Another important way members can help is hospitality at the Meet and Greet Receptions for the guest conductors being considered as the next Symphony Music Director/Maestro. The first of these is Wednesday, December 8th at the Symphony's Bell Tower Artistic Operations Center. See details inside or contact Liz Marnul.

Yes, we WILL have a BIG fundraising event this year! Mark your calendar for Wednesday, February 9th 2022, and rally your friends for a fun evening of entertainment and scrumptious food at the Cape Coral Yacht Club. The pan-Asian theme is a celebration of magnificent tigers. We will even have valet parking to make it easy for everyone to attend! Again, more details inside this edition of NON. Liz Marnul and Verena Schneider-Christians are co-chairs.

My best wishes to all for a wonderful Thanksgiving with family and friends! We can give thanks that we have survived the worst of the pandemic and we can share the warmth and joy of this holiday — even with precautions! And we have the great live music of our Symphony to enjoy once again!

Ellen

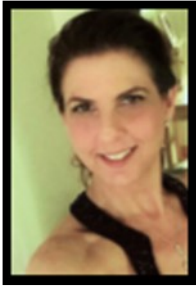
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Executive Director's Message

Amy Ginsburg



With the fall season upon us, musicians nationwide begin to fill concert halls once again, and suddenly, everything feels warmer. Our phones at the Symphony office are buzzing. Paired with the voices of three new staff members, they compose their own background soundtrack. You might overhear a clip of a Bee Gees hit playing from someone's office, blasting you back to another time.

You can feel the exciting energy that comes with the start of the concert season. As we commence, we wonder what might it have felt like to debut the community orchestra, 60 years from today?

Another sweet sound we had the privilege of hearing was that of our Grants & Communications Manager, Emer Olivarez, playing the violin for the Symphony Society Luncheon. Emer played La Folia by A. Correlli in front of 44 Society members—bravo! We are so proud of her. It is always a treat to hear our very own staff members perform.

A few staff changes to note. We welcome Marie Crosby, the Box Office Manager and Administrative Assistant, to the administrative team. We also welcome two musicians of the Symphony you may recognize from seasons past: betrothed violinists, Katherine Baloff, our incoming Orchestra Personnel Manager, and always-smiling Yordan Tenev, the Orchestra's Librarian.

Last week, we spent a whole day getting to know one another a little better and gained more insight into better ways we can communicate with one another. Jessica Tripler, the Vice President of Business Performance Insights, a national consulting and training firm based in Fort Myers, Florida, came in to lead our team building day. Each staff member answered a 50+ question quiz that informed the basis of assessing how we operate. It was a wonderful experience that ended with encouraging one another on how to push a straw through potatoes. (You had to be there to get it!)

Here are the upcoming events through 2021:

The Symphony continues its collection of increasingly popular TinyConcerts, with Dmitry Sitkovetsky's fascinating arrangement which reimagines Bach's epic keyboard masterpiece. These concerts are generously sponsored by Dick Prescott. Please thank him for his gift of music to all of us the next time you see him!

MiniMasterworks: The Goldberg Variations

- Sidney & Berne Davis Art Center, Thursday, November 11, Cocktails at 6:30pm, concert at 7:30pm. Tickets are \$30.
- Bell Tower Artistic & Operations Center, Friday, November 12. Tickets are \$25 – seating is very limited

Holiday TinyPops: Big Band Christmas

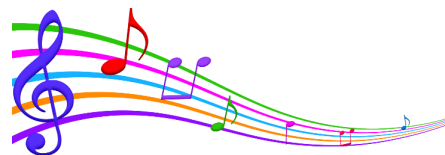
Heather Ivy now joins a Southwest Florida Symphony ensemble to perform holiday songs with a big-band twist at three Southwest Florida venues:

- Gulf Theater in Punta Gorda, Sunday, December 12th at 4pm (\$25)
- The Village Church at Shell Point in south Fort Myers, Monday, December 13th at 7pm (\$35)
- First Presbyterian Church of Bonita Springs – Tuesday, December 14th at 7pm (\$20)

Holiday String Quartet Performances

A string quartet performs holiday tunes at three Southwest Florida venues (Dec 1-4):

- Mercato in North Naples, Wednesday, December 1st at 7pm.
- The tree lighting at Sidney & Berne Davis Art Center (SBDAC), Friday, December 3rd at 5:30pm.
- Bell Tower, Saturday, December 4th at 5pm. Suggested donation of \$10-20.



Southwest Florida Symphony Society Luncheon

Friday, November 5, 2021

The Landings Yacht, Golf & Tennis Club

4415 S. Landings Drive
Fort Myers FL 33919

Doors open at 11:30
Meeting begins at 12:00

Please pay at Registration Desk
\$25.00 Cash or Check
\$26.00 Charge

Reservation Deadline
Friday, October 29

******* Call 239-666-1230 *******

If you make your reservation after the deadline, you will be put on a wait list and be notified if space becomes available.

Cancellations after the reservation deadline and no shows will be billed. Call Madeline Seefeld to cancel (239-292-9910).

Menu: Quiche Lorraine (applewood smoked bacon, Swiss cheese and caramelized onion in an egg custard and baked in the oven) with petite garden salad, rolls & butter. Chef's choice of dessert. A vegetarian option is available if requested when reservation is made.

Special Drinks: Cash or Credit Card

Directions: Enter the Landings from MGregor Blvd. At the first light south of College Parkway. The guard at the gate will direct you to parking. Please have your driver's license handy in case you need it.

COVID 19 Precautions: Seating will be with 6 people per table. As of October 12, masks are optional at The Landings.



Thanks to Ruth Messmer Florist and owner Heather Messmer for providing a floral centerpiece for the President's Table each month. After the luncheon, the flowers are taken to a member who needs support and cheering.

Special Business: Nomination and election of Assistant Treasurer.

Program: Scott Crowley, Cellist



Cellist Scott Crowley, a member of the SWFL Symphony Orchestra, will be our musical feature for November's Luncheon. Scott, a cellist of all styles, has played in various orchestras, operas, musicals and even rock bands throughout the country. Scott started playing the cello at age 6 and nurtured his talent

through attending various summer festivals and music camps, including the prestigious Young Artist Orchestra at Boston University's Tanglewood Institute. He completed his musical training at the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music and then at the University of South Florida. In addition to his classical background, Scott has performed with numerous well-known rock bands and performers including Kansas, Little River Band, Blood, Sweat and Tears, Mannheim Steamroller, Andrea Bocelli, Il Divo, Johnny Mathis, Mary Wilson, Frank Sinatra, Jr., Tito Puente, Jr., and many more.

Scott has over 15 years of private teaching experience and regularly writes blogs about cello technique. His mission is to make classical music more accessible to young people. He often composes his own arrangements for cello and is currently recording some of his favorite works for cello.

Luncheon Collections

At every luncheon we collect used computer ink and toner cartridges which are recycled at the office supply stores for credits towards future purchases for the Symphony office or for the Society directly.



The collection of non-perishable food items for the Harry Chapin Food Bank has ended because of very low participation. You are encouraged to support the Food Bank and other programs to help the hungry through your church or other organizations.

\$\$\$

**CASH DRAWING TO BENEFIT
SCHOLARSHIP FUND**
Remember to bring your dollars!!!

Maestra & Maestros Meet & Greet



The Southwest Florida Symphony's Music Director Search Committee has invited four guest conductors to visit with our orchestra and community as we seek the perfect fit for artistic leadership to guide us into the future. Each visiting conductor will lead a Masterworks Concert during the 2021-2022 season.

We invite you to get to know these exceptional artistic leaders offstage in an intimate setting. The Symphony Society will host a reception for each visiting candidate with complimentary wine and hors d'œuvres, providing our patrons and community with an opportunity to get acquainted with each conductor during his or her week with us.

Reception Dates:

Masterworks 1: Vladimir Kulenovic, Conductor
Reception, December 8, 2021

Masterworks 2: Laura Jackson, Conductor
Reception, January 19, 2022

Masterworks 3: Stephen Mulligan, Conductor
Reception, February 15, 2022

Masterworks 4: Radu Paponiu, Conductor
Reception, April 20, 2022



Reception Location:

The Southwest Florida Symphony's
Artistic & Operations Center at Bell Tower
13499 College Parkway Suite 175,
Fort Myers, FL 33907

Time:

5:30 to 7:00 PM

Reservation Required:

Mail check to: The Symphony Society
7500 College Pkwy. #200,
Ft. Myers, FL 33907
or call 239-887-3314

*Please note the event(s)
numbers on the memo
line of the check.
Please include name
of attendees.*

Cost:

\$50 per person/event

Symphony of Treats

Reservations are coming in everyday for TREATS! Don't delay too long as some are already filled, and have wait lists.

- ♦ The Garden Tea Party at Shangri-La Springs in Bonita scheduled for Wednesday, November 10 still has a few spaces open.
- ♦ The Botanical Gardens Day trip to the gardens in Naples on Thursday, December 2 is almost full.
- ♦ The annual Blue Pointe party to open the holiday season on Wednesday, December 15 can only accommodate 15 more guests. Chef Andi loves to present new and different dishes for us. Included with the evening's fare are beer, wine, coffee, tea or soda. Any other alcoholic Beverages are on your own Tab. Call Sue Wells to join the group to open this Holiday season!

Check your TREATS booklet for the fun Treats in 2022.

We did not plan any fun Halloween Treats this season. Maybe next year.

In the meantime —HAPPY HALLOWEEN!!!

Your Treats Committee,

Kim, Sue, and Rosanne



Birthday	Full Name
11/04	Jan Hladik
11/04	Joe Broughton
11/06	Christina Mehta
11/13	Barbara Yeomans
11/15	Jewel Williams
11/16	Geri McArdle
11/17	Joanne Paulino
11/17	Linda Vinkenbrink
11/19	Maria Kernan
11/25	Nancy Campbell
11/27	Gary D. Niethamer
11/30	Richard Prescott

A Meeting of Symphony Society Board Members and Chairpersons

will be held IN PERSON

Wednesday, November 3, at 10:30 a.m.
in the Conference Room
at the Symphony's Administrative Offices,
7500 College Parkway, Fort Myers.

Please note: there will be no separate Executive Committee Meeting this month.

Please try to attend so we have a quorum to transact any business that comes before the Board.

Please notify Ellen if you cannot attend.

The Nominations Committee of the Southwest Florida Symphony Society proposes the following Executive Officer for the 2021-2022 Term:

Assistant Treasurer: Patricia Obermiller

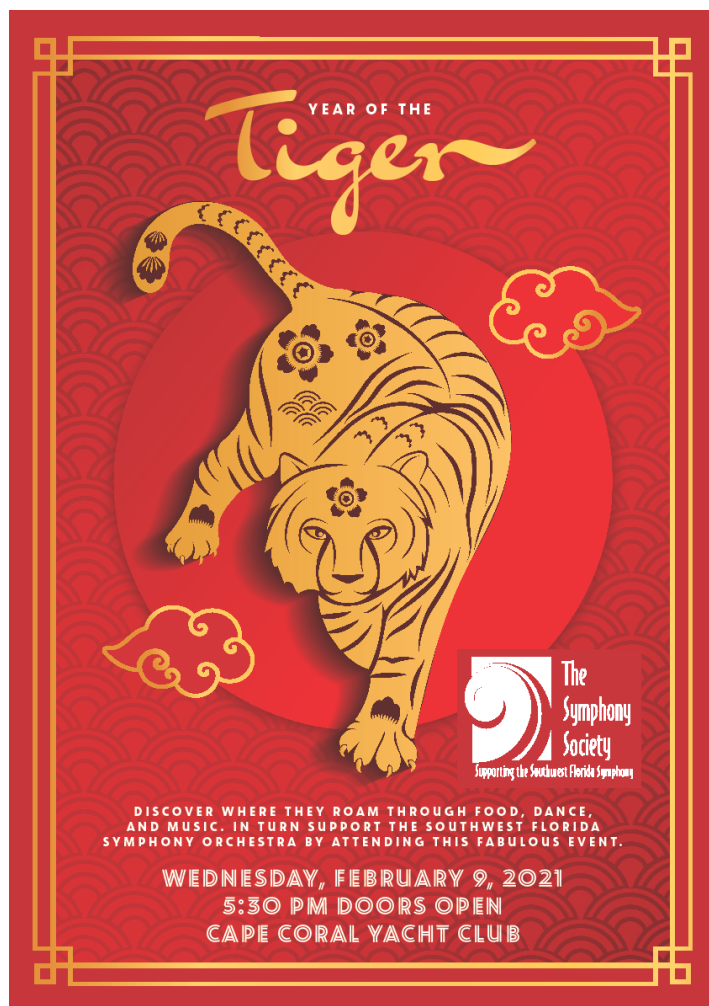
Election for this position will be held at the Southwest Florida Symphony Society meeting at noon on Friday, November 5, 2021 at the Landings Yacht, Golf & Tennis Club. Additional nominations, if any, may be made from the floor at the November 5 meeting. Officer Installation will take place immediately follow the election.

*Submitted by Nominations Committee
Anne Wardlow, Ellen Clifford, Kim Wittstadt*

DIRECTORY UPDATE

New Member

Weber, Carol (Nick Laceterra)



*Every Society Member is
Invited to the Symphony Society's*

Get Acquainted Social
Wednesday, November 17, 2021
2 p.m. — 4 p.m.

SWFLSO Artistic & Operations Center
Bell Tower Shops – Unit 175

*Light Refreshments
Meet Other Society Members
Learn about the
Symphony Society's Activities
Bring a guest*

Make it a fun day with holiday shopping
and dining at the many new shops.

Questions?, call Membership Co-chairs:
Call Pat Obermiller, (815)540-7688 or
Sue Matthews, (239)826-5172

Society Scholarship Committee

Organizational Meeting

All are invited

Thursday, October 28, 2021

10:30 a.m.

Administration Conference Room

7500 College Parkway, Suite 200

Please RSVP to Ellen
239-540-3221

Dates to Remember

- Oct. 23 Pops 1—The New York Bee Gees
- Oct. 29 Deadline for Nov. Luncheon Reservations
- Nov. 3 Executive Committee and Board Meeting
- Nov. 5 Luncheon—Landings Yacht, Golf & Tennis Club
- Nov. 10 Deadline for December News of Note
- Nov. 10 TREAT: A Garden Tea Party
- Nov. 11 & 12 Mini Masterworks: The Goldberg Variations
- Nov. 26 Deadline for Dec. Luncheon Reservations
- Dec. 1 Executive Committee and Board Meeting
- Dec. 1, 3 & 4 Holiday String Quartet Performances
- Dec. 2 TREAT: Botanical Garden Day Trip
- Dec. 3 Luncheon—Magnolia Room at Pelican Preserve
- Dec. 8 Meet & Greet: Vladimir Kulenovic
- Dec. 10 Deadline for January News of Note
- Dec. 11 MW1—Vladimir Kulenovic, Conductor
- Dec. 12, 13 & 14 Holiday TinyPops: Big Band Christmas
- Dec. 15 TREAT: Holiday Season Party

239-542-9511  239-851-0982

Clifford Law Firm, LLC.
Trusts, Estates, Probate, Divorce
Cape Coral, FL
Ellen W. Clifford
Attorney-At-Law
ellenwclifford@embarqmail.com

 **Stacey's Dog Care**
Walking and/or staying at our home
Stacey Gossmann
Dog lover!
4464 W. Mainmast Ct.
Fort Myers, FL 33919
239.470.1659
staceygossmann@comcast.net 

 **2021-2022 Season**
Dr. Trent Brown, Artistic Director
Abigail Allison, Accompanist



  
November 2021 January 2022 April 2022

Choral Artistry is fka Symphonic Chorale of Southwest Florida
ChoralArtistry.org
For Audition Information:
ChoralArtistry.org/general-auditions

Ruth Messmer Florist
65 years of Floral Excellence
Jessica Gnagey
Floral Designer
1850 Boy Scout Dr Unit 111
Fort Myers, FL 33907
239-936-2131
ruthmessmerflorist.com
floristruthmessmer@gmail.com 

Additional advertisements are welcome.
The rate is \$10 per month or \$80 a year
for a business card size ad. Contact
Editor Barb Coons (239-549-8283 or
kayebarb3344@gmail.com) to place an
ad or with questions.

"News of Note" is published 9 times a
year — September through May. Contact
Editor Barb Coons (239-549-8283 or
kayebarb3344@gmail.com) for more
information.

If you know of a Society member who
should receive a card of support or
happiness, please notify the
Corresponding Secretary:
June Gibson
junemgibson@gmail.com
239-936-7792 (home)
617-759-0085 (cell)



Luncheon—October 1, 2021

Heritage Palms Golf & Country Club



Attendees enjoyed conversation and seeing friends.



Halloween themed centerpieces were made by Kitty Satterfield. Kitty allows us to purchase her beautiful creations for \$10 each with proceeds going to the Society's Scholarship Fund.



Emer Olivarez, the Symphony's Grants and Communications Manager, exhibited one of her many talents by playing some baroque violin pieces.



Left: Stacia Featherston advised us to book early for the Symphony of Treats – especially the ones lined up for the next few months.



Above: Liz Marnul spoke about the guest conductor Meet & Greet and the gala "Year of the Tiger" and introduced the graphics for them. We will need several volunteers to make these events successful. Contact Liz if you can spare some time or would like to prepare a presentation basket for a silent auction.



We welcomed three new members: Mary Bearden, Herb Schneider and Judy Joyce, seen with Ellen Schneider.