

President's Message

Ellen Schneider



It is hard to believe that we are now planning our final luncheon of this year's schedule, with only a few special Treats left to go before our members go into their "summer modes"! I have been truly honored to have been Society president for the past two years. They have been unusual and challenging, coinciding with the onset and continuing pandemic. Like all volunteer organizations in the area, the Symphony

Society has been impacted in many ways. But as we look at Spring 2022, we can feel a new optimism for the future!

Our "Spring into Fashion" in March was a brave return to Society fundraising. Co-chairs Stacia Featherston and Sandy Magyar did a magnificent job of making it an upbeat (and financially successful) event. There were lots of smiles all around as we could don our dress-up clothes and enjoy the company of our friends once again. Thank you to all who helped and, most of all, participated!

You will be receiving this issue of News of Note just about the same time as our biggest fundraiser, "Year of the Tiger" is taking place. A big THANK YOU to co-chairs Liz Marnul and Verena Schneider-Christians and all their team of helpers who have been working so hard on this event for so many months. At the time I am writing this, the good news is we have a sold-out event with lots of anticipation for a great evening!

Encouraging young people in music is just one aspect of our mission, and our scholarship programs are essential activities. There are several of them, thanks to funding from various sources, including our own Society efforts. Our Scholarship Committee needs new members! You do not need to be a music teacher, musician, or experienced with scholarship programs! To get an idea of the scope of

one of these scholarships, plan to sit in on auditions for the Jillian Prescott Music Awards on Saturday, April 16, at FGCU's Bower School of Music. No cost, just pleasure! See more about it inside this issue.

The Board of Trustees of the Southwest Florida Symphony Orchestra would like to invite Every Member who has helped in some way this year to a Volunteer Appreciation Happy Hour. If you have volunteered on an event as a planner or worker, helped at a concert or luncheon, hosted or helped at a Treat, helped with mailings, helped with scholarship competitions, been on an administrative committee, or anything else in support of the Society's goals, please come to the Volunteer Appreciation Happy Hour to be held on Tuesday, April 5. See Page 6 for more details, and special invitations will be emailed soon.. I hope you can join us.

The new Society year starts with the election of officers at our April luncheon meeting. Our Nominating Committee has proposed a very dedicated and competent slate of officers to take the reins of the Society for the 2022-2023 year. Incoming president Jan Hladik will do an outstanding job as your leader, but there are still very important positions to be filled. Please say "YES" if you are asked to take on a helping role. With input and fresh ideas from every member, the Symphony Society can achieve its goals to support the Orchestra while members can make friends and enjoy great music. Please don't wait to be called!

My sincere thanks to the Society Board and all Society members for your continued support and dedication to our organization during these past two years. It has been a memorable experience!

Ellen

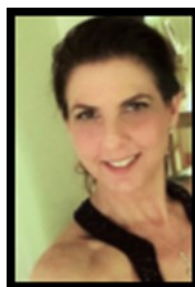
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Executive Director's Message

Amy Ginsburg



Here we are nearing the end of another season; one that has been exceptionally meaningful. We each celebrated anniversaries, weathered the second year of this pandemic together – and because we did it together, we're exiting the storm healthy and strong, and I feel like we, the Society, board and administrative staff, have grown closer and more supportive during this year than we may have ever been before. Thank you for your friendship, support and creative energy during the past seven months.

I look forward to seeing all of you one more time at April's luncheon before we embark on summer travels, but do keep an eye on your inboxes as there may be opportunities for us to reconnect during (what used to be considered) off-season.

In the meantime, don't forget we have one more Masterworks featuring a guest "neighboring" conductor, Radu Paponiu, who serves as the associate conductor with the Naples Philharmonic. You have an opportunity to meet and get to know him a few days before that concert at his welcome reception.

We'll close our Diamond Jubilee Season at BBMann with a Pops Concert: the music of Earth, Wind & Fire, a week later. This is a perfect, celebratory way to end our year, so we hope you'll come groove with us then!

You'll have one more opportunity to catch our Youth Orchestra Ensembles at First Assembly of God in Fort Myers in early May, then finally, back by popular demand, Brave New Chamber Music returns in mid-May with Rock & Roll and the String Quartet: Remastered featuring local favorite, Andrew Lipke on guitar, vocals and storytelling.

Have a wonderful, happy, HEALTHY summer!

Maestro Radu Paponiu Meet & Greet

Wednesday, April 20, Bell Tower Artistic & Operations Center, 5:30-7:30pm, Tickets: \$50 per person

Masterworks 4

Saturday, April 23 at Barbara B. Mann Hall
6:30 pre-concert lecture, 7:30 concert
Society tickets: \$25 per person

Pops 3: Serpentine Fire – The Music of Earth, Wind & Fire

Saturday, April 30 at Barbara B. Mann Hall
Society tickets: \$25 per person

Youth Orchestra Performance

Monday, May 9 at First Assembly of God, Fort Myers
5:00pm, Free admission, suggested \$10 per person donation

Rock & Roll and the String Quartet

- Thursday, May 12 at Tribby Arts Center, Shell Point, 7:00pm. Tickets must be purchased through the Tribby Box Office, (239) 415-5667 or <https://www.shellpoint.org/concerts/>
- Friday, May 13 at the Sidney & Berne Davis Art Center, 7:30pm, Tickets: \$30 per person
- Saturday, May 14 at Gulf Theater, Punta Gorda 7:00pm, Tickets: \$25
- Sunday, May 15 at the Bell Tower Artistic & Operations Center, 5:00pm, Tickets: \$25



Proposed Officers 2022-2023

At the March luncheon meeting, the Nominations Committee announced the following proposed slate of officers for the 2022-2023 season. Elections and installation will take place at the luncheon meeting on April 1 at the Landings.

President – Jan Hladik
1st Vice- President – Pat Obermiller
Recording Secretary – Richard Quodomine
Corresponding Secretary – June Gibson
Treasurer – Joanne Hostetter
Assistant Treasurer – Stacia Fetherston

Nominations Committee
Anne Wardlow, Ellen Clifford, Kim Wittstadt

Southwest Florida Symphony Society Luncheon

Friday, April 1, 2022

The Landings Yacht, Golf & Tennis Club

4425 S. Landings
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, March 25

***** 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: Landings Cobb Salad (crisp romaine hearts, smoked turkey, baby heirloom tomatoes, hard boiled egg, apple smoked bacon, avocado and Gorgonzola cheese), rolls & butter with chef's choice of dessert. A Vegetarian option is available if requested when a reservation is made.

Special Drinks: Credit Card or Cash

Directions:

Enter the Landings from McGregor 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 ready when you approach the gate house in case you need it.**

Program:

The musical portion of the luncheon is still to be determined.

Election of Officers for the 2022-2023 year will be held, followed by their Installation.

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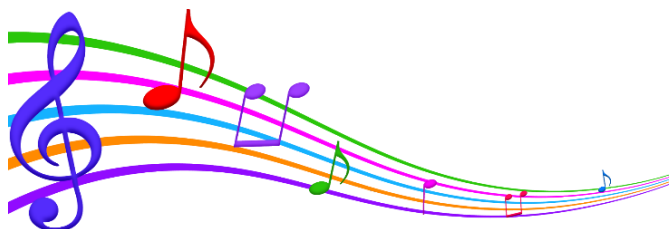
**CASH DRAWING TO BENEFIT
SCHOLARSHIP FUND**
Remember to bring your dollars!!!



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.

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.



Symphony of Treats

Thank you to all those Symphony Society Members who attended the Mardi Gras Party at our home on Feb. 26. Unfortunately, Mr. D (Andy DeCarlo), who was scheduled to provide our music for singing and dancing, was unable to come as he had had a stroke 2 weeks prior and was in rehab. We missed him but managed. Otherwise, we all had a good time.

Next up is Liz Marnul's "Elegant Poolside Party" dinner on March 26. Those who were lucky enough to get a reservation are certainly in for a delightful evening.

ATTENTION

There has been a CHANGE OF VENUE for the **"Everybody Loves a Sunday Brunch/Lunch"** on April 24. BRUNCH will be held at THE VILLAGES OF COUNTRY CREEK in Estero. There will be a FULL BRUNCH including Omelet station, eggs any way you like; carving station, bacon, sausages, bagels, toast, sweets, fruit and more.

EASY TRAVEL – South on 41, Left on Corkscrew (as if going to Miramar); Left at 2nd light into Villages of Country Creek; keep to left and park in front of Clubhouse.

Come hungry and you will love it!!
Make your reservation with Sue Wells for BRUNCH on Sunday, April 24, 2022

It's a BARGAIN at \$35 ----and MIMOSAS and BLOODY MARYs at \$5 – (on your own) and refillable

See you all at the TIGER!!!!

Kim Wittstadt
(410-262-8224 for questions)

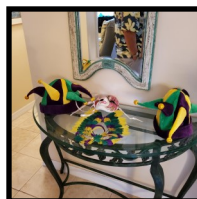
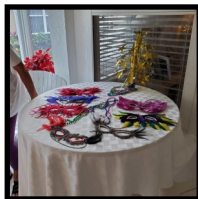
TREAT—Mardi Gras Celebration

February 26, 2022—Home of Gerard and Kim Wittstadt



Kim Wittstadt and
Tootsie Hill in the kitchen

Thank you to Jean Nicholson for the pictures.

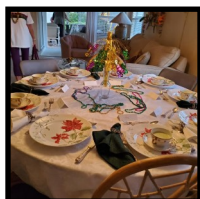


Left: Donna Munizzi and Angelo DePardo

Right: Linda Knight and Jan Hladik

Below Center: Linda DePardo

Below Right: Brian McChesney and Jean Nicholson



Birthday	Name
04/01	Sue Matthews
04/02	Nancy Petralia
04/03	Lyn DeWolfe
04/06	Renate Englert
04/10	Linda M. DePardo
04/11	Evelyn M. Hagfeldt
04/11	Helen Arlene Houck
04/15	Mady Teeple
04/17	Helen Bovbjerg Niedung
04/18	Liz Neuhardt
04/21	Frank Matthews
04/29	Anne Kimball
04/29	Maureen C. Malloy
04/30	Patrick Neuman



SPRING INTO FASHION

We would like to thank each of you for your support of "Spring into Fashion" held on March 4th.

Many, many thanks to those who provided baskets for the raffle, the greeters and reception people, the models, those who sold our raffle tickets, the staff at The Landings, Cathy and Ralph from Razzle Dazzle and all those who attended the event.

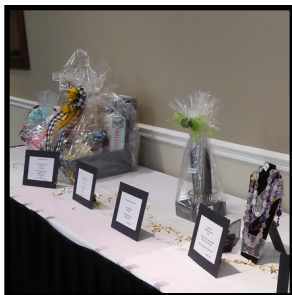
Sincerely,
Stacia Featherston and Sandy Magyar
 Co-chairs of "Spring into Fashion"

Spring Into Fashion March 4, 2022

The Landings
 Yacht, Golf & Country Club



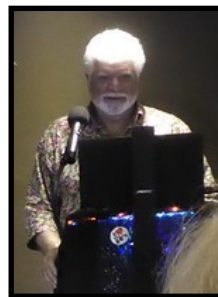
The models, Left to Right: Donna Munizzi, Amy Ginsburg, Dolly Ross, Linda DePardo, Madeline Seefeld, Debbie Wilson, Joanne Hostetter, Elle Clifford



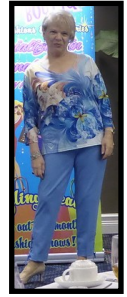
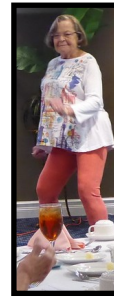
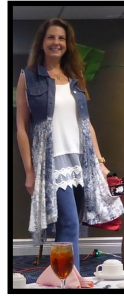
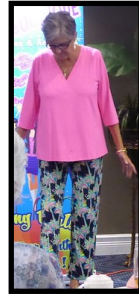
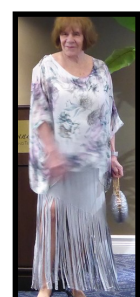
Pat Obermiller and Kim Wittstadt sold tickets for the gorgeous raffle baskets.



Kitty Satterfield made the centerpieces.



Cathy and Ralph brought the clothes from Razzle Dazzle and provided the commentary



Maestra & Maestros

Meet & Greet



THE SYMPHONY SOCIETY
SUPPORTING THE SOUTHWEST FLORIDA SYMPHONY

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'oeuvres, 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 S. Cleveland Ave 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 the names of
the attendees.*

Cost:
\$50 per person/event

A THANK YOU EVENT!

A SPECIAL TIME TO SAY

THANK YOU

The Board of Trustees of SWFLSO invites every Society Member who has lent a hand in a big or small way over the past year to a

Society Volunteer Appreciation
HAPPY HOUR!

Wine, Soft Drinks, and Light Food

Tuesday, April 5
5:00 pm to 7:00 pm

SWFLSO Artistic & Operations Center
Bell Tower Unit 175

If you can attend, please make a **RESERVATION** by leaving a message for Barb Coons at 239-549-8283 or sending an e-mail to kayebarb3344@gmail.com

SCHOLARSHIP UPDATE

JILLIAN PRESCOTT MUSIC AWARDS

This scholarship competition, which honors the memory of the late very dedicated Society member Jillian Prescott, is funded by a memorial fund with The Collaboratory (formerly the Southwest Florida Community Foundation). (Our thanks to our member Dick Prescott for his support of this fund and our participation.) The Symphony Society organizes and produces the ambitious program of auditions for young musicians between the ages of 12 and 22 (divided into two age groups). The young musicians compete in one of five music disciplines: keyboard, strings, woodwind & brass, percussion, and voice. In prior years there have been as many as 50 students competing for the cash prizes in each category, with the total distributed each year close to \$10,000.

After a hiatus of two years because of the pandemic, we are holding the Prescott Competition on Saturday, April 16, at FGCU's Bower School of Music. The auditions are scheduled in groups by musical discipline and begin at 9:00 a.m. and proceed with minimal breaks until 5:00 p.m. A team of Society members is assisting in this event, but all Society members and friends are invited to come and listen to these young artists perform. You will be amazed at the talent in our community! It is FREE, and no reservation is needed. Just come by and enjoy! Perhaps you will be inspired to be a part of the Symphony Society Scholarship Committee next year!

(NOTE: The audition schedule and categories being heard will not be finalized until April 12.)

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



A Meeting of Symphony Society
Board Members and Chairpersons
will be held IN PERSON
Wednesday, March 30 at 10:30 a.m.
in the Training Room
at the Sanibel Captiva Community Bank
9311 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.

Dates to Remember

- March 25 Deadline for April Luncheon Reservations
- March 26 TREAT: Elegant Poolside Party
- March 30 Executive Committee and Board Meeting
- April 1 Luncheon—The Landings Yacht, Golf & Tennis Club
- April 10 Deadline for May News of Note
- April 20 Meet & Greet: Radu Paponiu
- April 23 Masterworks 4
- April 24 TREAT: Everyone Loves a Sunday Brunch
- April 30 Pops 3
- May 9 Youth Orchestra Performance
- May 12, 13, 14, 15 Rock & Roll & the String Quartet

"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.

Symphony Society Membership Renewal 2022-2023

Please mail renewal form to:

Symphony Society Membership Committee, 2455 La Salle Avenue, Fort Myers, FL 33907-5812
The fiscal year is July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2023 Receipt by Aug 1, 2022 ensures Yearbook listing

Choose your membership level and note your additional donation for the scholarship fund:

\$50 ☐ Active (I will participate in Society events, join a committee, organize a Treat, etc.)

\$75 ☐ Patron (I am not able to provide any active participation this year)

\$_____ ☐ Symphony Society Scholarship-Education Fund donation. Music study scholarships are awarded to talented local youth following an annual competition in December.

\$17 ☐ I have an e-mail address but I'd like a printed copy of the News of Note mailed to me.

TOTAL \$_____ Circle payment option: Check payable to SWFLSS AmEx MCard Visa Discover

Credit Card Acct. No.: _____ Expiration Date: _____

Name: _____ Birthday: _____ CVV/Security Code: _____

Spouse: _____ MM/DD Billing Zip Code: _____

Address: _____

Summer Address: _____

Dates for mail to summer address:

From: _____ To: _____

Local Phone: _____ E-Mail: _____

Cell Phone: _____ Summer Phone: _____

SOUTHWEST FLORIDA SYMPHONY SOCIETY
 7500 College Parkway, Suite 200
 Fort Myers, FL 33907



Why a Survey

It keeps records up to date. When records are up to date, it is useful to match member's talent or interest to projects. It helps the Board to be better acquainted with the members. It saves a lot of phone calls as it narrows the number of calls when your project needs a specific helper, as you can get a data base search for just the right person. It insures you will be contacted for the project best suited to you. It only takes a couple of minutes to review it and checked the answers yes or no. That way there won't be any doubt about your intensions. I've heard complaints about not being called, so now is your opportunity to solve that problem and be more engaged with the Society.

SWFL Symphony Society Survey

1. Can you help with a "funraiser"? Y___ N___
2. Can you help with luncheon arrangements? Y___ N___
3. Can you write publicity notices? Y___ N___
4. Do you have computer skills, i.e. making a list and emailing? Y___ N___
5. Would you like to learn more about the scholarships? Y___ N___
6. Do you have ideas or connections for luncheon entertainment? Y___ N___
7. Would you like to brainstorm ideas for "funraisers"? Y___ N___
8. Have you had accounting/bookkeeping experience? Y___ N___
9. Could you handle a mailing project from home? Y___ N___
10. Do you have ideas or sources for corporate event sponsors? Y___ N___
11. Have you had recruiting experience? Y___ N___
12. Do you play bridge? Y___ N___
13. Do you like fashion shows? Y___ N___
14. Are you creative? Y___ N___
15. Do you like to take photographs? Y___ N___
16. Have you ever attended a Treat? Y___ N___
17. Do you have ideas for a Treat? Y___ N___
18. Could you help with small one time projects? Y___ N___
19. Are you active on Facebook? Y___ N___

No, "Funraiser" is not a typo. This is what we are and do.

NAME _____

PHONE _____ EMAIL _____

This survey will be at each place setting for the April luncheon, If you will not be attending, please print, fill out and return to Jan Hladik, 16626 On Par Blvd., Fort Myers, FL 33908.

Thank you for taking the time to respond. It is greatly appreciated.

Executive Board