

President's Message

Jan Hladik



The New Year usually comes a variety of resolutions to change behaviors. Occasionally real change is made but most often the self-promises quickly fall by the wayside. How about you? Did you make any resolutions? Did any of them involve the Society? Now is a good time to review the functions and purpose of the Society and where you fit in. Provide financial support?

Serve on a Committee? Lead a committee? Be a leader in the organization? The Nominations Committee is already at work for next season. It is an important and difficult undertaking. To find capable people willing to say yes to leading the Society into the next season and beyond. So when they contact you, please don't automatically say no. Give it some honest consideration.

We are approaching the highlights of our fundraising season. February 14 is "For the Love of Music", a grand evening of entertainment, good food and friendship. We need a "Gala" after how the past year has been and this is it. Tell your friends what a wonderful evening it will be and invite them to come.

Something new to our events is a photo booth where you can get photos of you dressed in your finery or do something a little wacky with your friends. For too long it has fallen to Society members to attend events and it would be wonderful to have so many come that we would have to increase the reservation with the facility. But this is an excellent opportunity to invite friends who could be potential new members and to re-energize past members to re-join. The Society is a dynamic organization and we need to grow our membership. How are people to know what we do unless we include them in our activities.

March is traditionally the fashion show. "Spring into Fashion" will be an interesting, fun filled luncheon. This is another opportunity to introduce your friends and neighbors to the workings of the Society. The old saying "the more the merrier" certainly holds true for this event. What's different for this luncheon: reservations need to be made and paid for in advance.

Elsewhere in this NON there is more information about each of these events, be sure to read it and get your reservations in.

Jan Hladik

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For the Love of Music

Buy your tickets today for the Symphony Society annual gala on Feb. 16 at 6 p.m. at La Venezia Ballroom, in Cape Coral.

Themed "For the Love of Music," the special evening will celebrate famous composers throughout history and feature a served surf and turf dinner, an open bar, musical entertainment by the fabulous Riverside Band, exciting silent and live auctions, and a photobooth to capture memories with friends.

The annual gala serves as our major fundraising event of the year for the Society. A variety of sponsorship opportunities are available for the event. We have an exciting evening in store for you!

See page 5 for more information.

Executive Director's Message

Amy Ginsburg



Just like that, there goes the first month of the year! Our January concerts were stellar, as expected, and now we're gearing up for our signature Brave New Music Concerts where we'll blend the music of contemporary 1960s classical composer, Phillip Glass with the early days of electronica,

the music of David Bowie. Anyone who is fascinated with music of all genres should not miss this concert – and you have two opportunities to catch it.

Bowie + Glass featuring Voltron Collective

Conductor, Matt Wardell, Ocala Symphony Music Director

- ♦ Saturday, February 11th at Barbara B. Mann Hall, 7:30pm
- ♦ Sunday, February 12th at Charlotte Performing Arts Center, 4:00pm

Click [HERE](#) to buy tickets or call our wonderful box office manager, Erica, at 239-418-1500 and she'll help you select the perfect seats.

I talked a lot about host housing for our artistic staff in last month's News of Note and a handful of you responded by filling out a host form online. Thank you so much for opening your homes to the people who make the music we perform possible. You are invaluable to the fiber of this organization. As other Society members migrate south for the winter and others have completed storm repairs on their homes, we hope you'll consider signing up for our host program, too. If you'd be willing to open your home to a Southwest Florida Symphony musician this season, click [HERE](#) to fill out our host program registration form and our personnel manager will reach out to you ASAP.

Wishing you all a Valentine's Day filled with the love of family and friends and music that brings you joy.



Urgent Message from the Nominations Committee

The Nominations Committee is charged with nominating members to serve as the officers for the following season. The Nominations Committee urges any member who would consider serving as President, Treasurer or any other position on the Executive Committee, to immediately call or email a member of the Nominations Committee (below) to let them know of your possible interest in serving. We also welcome suggestions of members who might fill these positions. The organization cannot continue to function unless these positions are filled.

A President must be able to fill the Chair positions for all of the Committees represented on the Board. There is also a critical need for people who are willing to chair the following committees next year, as these important positions are either currently unfilled or will be vacated at the end of this season: (1) Ways and Means, (2) Luncheons, (3) Scholarship Competitions, (4) each of the fundraising events and activities, and (5) Editor of NON. There will be additional openings, as well.

If any member would like to offer to fill any of these positions, please let the Nominations Committee know ASAP.

Thank you!

Nominations Committee

Anne Wardlow (954-257-8082)

Ellen Schneider (239-839-6664)

Kim Wittstadt (410-262-8224)

Southwest Florida Symphony Society Luncheon

Friday, February 3, 2023

**Heritage Palms
Golf and Tennis Club**
10420 Washingtonian Palm Way
Fort Myers FL 33966

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

Please pay at Registration Desk
\$30.00 Cash or Check
\$31.50 Charge

*****For Reservations*****
***** Call 239-666-1230 *****

Reservation Deadline
Friday, January 27, 2023

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).



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.

NOTE: After a discussion and vote at the September SWFLSS Board of Directors meeting, the lunch price has been raised to \$30.00 for cash or check, \$31.50 for charges.

This is necessary to simply cover the cost of the luncheons.

Menu: The February Luncheon will feature a Cook-to-order Pasta Bar. After enjoying a Caesar salad and rolls which will be on the table, you will go to the pasta bar where the chefs will prepare your pasta just the way you want it. Choose which kind of pasta you want and add your choice of chicken, sausage and a variety of freshly cooked vegetables. Finish with a red or white sauce. Servers will be available to assist any who might have trouble getting to the pasta bar or carrying their plate. Dessert will be cannolis with a variety of toppings served at the table.

Special Drinks: Cash or Credit Card

Directions: From Colonial and Cleveland (US 41), go east on Colonial to Challenger Blvd., about 2.5 miles. Right on Challenger Blvd., Right on Winkler Rd., Right on Six Mile Cypress Parkway. Right on Heritage Palms Blvd. The Club House is straight ahead at intersection of Washingtonian Palm Way. **From Daniels Rd. and Cleveland (US 41)** go east on Daniels Rd. about 2 miles to Six Mile Cypress Pkwy. Left on Six Mile Cypress Pkwy about 3 miles. Left on Heritage Palms Blvd. to Club House. Please have your Driver's License handy in case you need to show it to the guard at the gate.

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.



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

Symphony of Treats

A fun afternoon was had by ten Symphony Society ladies at **CHRISTMAS IN THE GARDEN** at the Berne Davis Gardens in December. They toured the gardens, had lunch and then made a holiday decoration complete with greenery, flowers and ribbons. We thank Linda Knight for the delicious lunch she prepared for the group and for handling the details of the day.

SOUP NIGHT was another successful TREAT on January 14 for twenty-one guests at the Symphony Artistic Center in Bell Tower. The Society chefs did a great job preparing a variety of exceedingly tasty hot and cold soups for guests. Pat Short, a new member of the Society, took the lead for this Treat working with Kim in coordinating the evening. Thank you so much, Pat. And a big thank you to Stacia, Madeline, Ellen, Anne, Jan, Diane and JoAnn for making those wonderful soups.

Our next TREAT is scheduled for Tuesday, Feb. 7 - **LUNCH WITH ROGER**. Roger is Gloria Selander's (a long time Society member,) husband, a dear sweet man who has agreed to demonstrate his artistic skill in glass

cutting and engraving. See the booklet for more information about this TREAT. There are still a few openings if you want to attend. But get your reservation in QUICKLY so you do not miss this.

WINES FROM DOWN UNDER at the home of Verena and Michael Schneider-Christians is coming up on March 5. This TREAT is a very special one, as you will learn about and taste some extraordinary wines. Verena and Michael outdo themselves every year with their wine TREAT.

Send all reservations to: Kim Wittstadt, 20871 Blacksmith Forge, Estero, FL. 33928

As always, thank you for your support of the Symphony of Treats.

Happy New Year to all!

Kim, Sae, and Rosanne



| Birthday | Name |
|----------|-----------------------------|
| 02/01 | Susan Jane Fay |
| 02/02 | Verena Schneider-Christians |
| 02/06 | Jane O. Barnes |
| 02/07 | Fay Ebrite |
| 02/10 | Gail Blackburn |
| 02/13 | June Gibson |
| 02/15 | Mary Ann Redman |
| 02/16 | Darlynda "dj" Arnold |
| 02/18 | Sandy Magyar |
| 02/18 | Madeline Seefeld |
| 02/20 | Linda Gosey |
| 02/24 | Linda Knight |
| 02/24 | Valerie Lee |
| 02/24 | Donna E. Munizzi |
| 02/26 | Jane V. King |
| 02/26 | Rachel Abraham |
| 02/27 | Joanne Hostetter |
| 02/27 | Patricia Short |

Symphony Society Board of Directors Meeting
10:30 a.m., Wednesday, February 1, 2023

All members are welcome to attend

SWFL Symphony Orchestra Office Conference Room
7500 College Parkway

Dates to Remember

- Jan. 27 Deadline for Feb. Luncheon Reservations
- Feb. 1 Board Meeting
- Feb. 3 Luncheon at Heritage Palms Golf & Country Club
- Feb. 11 & 12 Brave New Pops 2 - Bowie + Glass featuring Voltron Collective
- Feb. 16 "For the Love of Music" gala
- Feb. 24 Deadline to make & pay for reservations for "Spring into Fashion"
- Mar. 1 Board Meeting
- Mar. 3 "Spring into Fashion" luncheon




FOR THE *Love of Music*

A Gala evening with friends who support the Southwest Florida Symphony Orchestra

THURSDAY FEBRUARY 16TH 2023, 6PM | LA VENEZIA BALLROOM, CAPE CORAL




FOR THE *Love of Music*

Sponsorships

RENAISSANCE
Host and Event sponsor - \$1500
 Complimentary table for 6 people, one specialty wine bottle for dinner table, preferred table placement, name in program, name mentioned from the stage, name in the SWFLSS yearbook and website in the 2023/24 season, name on signage at event 6 sets of raffle tickets for the basket drawing.

BAROQUE
Venue and Entertainment sponsor - \$1000
 2 complimentary tickets to the event, preferred table seating, one bottle of specialty wine for the table, name in program, name mentioned from the stage, name in the SWFLSS yearbook and website in the 2023/24 season, name on signage at event, 3 sets of raffle tickets for the basket drawing.

CLASSIC
Benefactor - \$500
 One complimentary ticket to event, Name in program, name mentioned from the stage, name in the SWFLSS yearbook and website in the 2023/24 season name on signage at the event.

ROMANTIC
Partner - \$150
 Cost for dinner, entertainment, and open bar.

20TH CENTURY
Supporter
 A gift from your heart, unable to attend.

TO MAKE RESERVATIONS
 Mail check to SWFL Symphony Society, 7500 College Pkwy, # 200, Ft Myers FL 33907
 Call for Credit Card reservations Joanne at (317) 409-0845





Spring Into Fashion

Fashion Show and Luncheon

March 3rd, 2023 | Doors open 11:30 a.m.

The Landings Yacht Club

4425 S. Landings Drive
Fort Myers, FL 33919

**Pre-payment is required. Your reservation is complete
when your payment is received.**

Payment must be received by Friday, February 24th.

First Name _____

Last Name _____

Address _____

Email _____

Phone _____

Vegan Meal Request? _____

Payment (Price is \$55)

Paying via check: Y or N

Mail to ATTN: Symphony Society
7500 College Parkway, Ste 200
Fort Myers, FL 33917

Credit Card # _____

Expiration Date _____

Security Code _____

Billing ZIP code _____



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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.

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239-542-9511



239-851-0982

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Ellen W. Clifford
Attorney-At-Law
ellenwclifford@embarqmail.com



CHORAL ARTISTRY
Dr. Trent Brown, Artistic Director
Abigail Allison, Accompanist

4 the Love of Piano
four hand piano & chorus
Jan 8, 2023



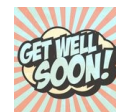
Tickets/Information:
ChoralArtistry.org
239-560-5695

Special Thanks to:



The Symphonic Choral DBA Choral Artistry is an independent 501 (c)3 non-profit corporation. Sponsored in part by the State of Florida, Department of State, Division of Cultural Affairs and the Florida Council on Arts and Culture.

Congratulations!



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)

Thinking of you

Luncheon—January 6, 2023



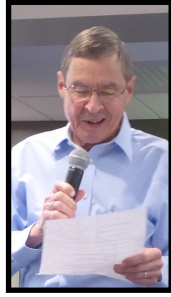
We were treated to a performance from our new concertmaster, Orin Laursen, at the January luncheon. He played some Bach as well as some Irish folk tunes harping back to his early days when he learnt to fiddle Appalachian folk music.



Our two Members of the Year were honored. Jane King was introduced by Anne Wardlow (left) and Michael Schneider-Christians was introduced by Kitty Satterfield (right). Both honorees were given a rose.



Several members spoke about upcoming events hoping that more members will sign on for tickets or volunteer duties.



Left to Right: Verena Schneider-Christians, **For the Love of Music**; Stacia Featherston, **Spring into Fashion**; Pat Neuman, **Marilyn Van Sickle Voice Competition**; Kim Wittstadt, **Symphony of Treats**;



Members with over 20 years service with the Society: Standing: Sue Matthews, Joan Fedorak, Bonnie Gray, Paula Mattas. Seated: Bee Horner, Shirley Marsh. In addition Mae-Jean Nothstine and Gloria Selander were added to the ranks of long-serving Society members, though they were not present at the luncheon