

# PRELUDE

Volume XLVI, No. 8 April 2018 Eugene Symphony Guild Newsletter

*Mission Statement: The Eugene Symphony Guild supports the Eugene Symphony through fundraising, community education, and volunteer services.*



## NOW THE ENERGY BEGINS

In 1960, long before the Hult Center was built, a group of dedicated music lovers joined together in the home of Caroline Boekleheide to form the Emerald Chamber Players, which in 1968 became the Eugene Symphony. Scott Freck, Executive Director of the Eugene Symphony Association, in a tribute to her, has stated that without her, there might not have been a Eugene Symphony. Caroline, an active member of the Symphony Guild, was a Guild member until her death this year. From its beginning, the Guild has worked tirelessly to support the Symphony.

This year, Eugene Symphony Guild's flagship fundraiser, **Music in the Garden**, will celebrate 21 years of garden tours and music in Eugene. Music in the Garden, co-chaired by Sue Ashton and Betsy Patton, features five private gardens in the Eugene area and is a self-guided tour. It is held the second Sunday in June from 10 to 4 p.m. Many of the gardens we selected have been developed by homeowners; others have been professionally designed. Music in the Garden is very popular with the Eugene community, with more than 800 people visiting the gardens each year. Over 100 community musicians donate their talent in ensembles large and small to provide live music all day long in every garden. The tour includes refreshments and drawings for prizes. A variety of garden art is offered by vendors. Music in the Garden tour is held rain or shine.

A new event will be sponsoring the **First Friday ArtWalk**. Join Eugene Symphony Guild member Ada Weeks, your tour host guide, Friday, May 4, from 5:30-8:00 p.m. as the Lane Arts Council presents the First Friday ArtWalk in downtown Eugene. Take the guided tour and follow the host to hear from featured artists, or explore the galleries and venues from 5:30-8:00 p.m. on your own.

The enjoyable **Musical Chairs** parties chaired by Francee Hillyer are from May 19 to September 23 featuring a wide selection of events from lectures to concerts to parties in a number of locations. We are using fun and imagination to create the Musical Chairs variety of these fundraising events.

### ESG April Meetings

The *Board meeting* is Wednesday April 11, 1:30 p.m. at the Quail Run Clubhouse, 435 Covey Lane, Eugene.

The *General meeting* is Wednesday, April 18, 10:30 a.m. at the Masonic Lodge, 2777 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. (across from Autzen Stadium).

We will have a members' art show for this meeting and ask members bring their creations to share. See page 5 for more information.



# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Dear Members

The Guild's March general meeting took place today, March 21st, International Happiness

Day! I hope you are experiencing some sense of well-being, hope and peace. Many members attended today but we missed our friends who were not there. Our general meetings are where our planning and socializing come together to enhance the whole meaning of membership.

Today's meeting was fun with a birthday cake and the singing of "Happy Birthday to us" in celebration of our 50th Anniversary. Some speakers read bits of our history from Melva Boles' *Eugene Symphony Guild History* booklet. We learned about the oboe from Symphony member Cheryl Wefler. Opportunities for volunteering at several of our upcoming activities and events were reported.

The next three months are full of fun and work. Many of these opportunities are listed elsewhere in the *Prelude*, and I want to emphasize their importance. Spring is our busiest time of year for planning and carrying out our most lucrative fundraisers. This is when we really mobilize our

membership and ask for your participation in events that support our financial pledge to our wonderful Eugene Symphony. Please say "yes" when asked to participate; or better yet, step up and volunteer and ask for a specific job. Working together to bring about these events is one of the most satisfying parts of belonging to the Guild according to surveys we have taken.

The Guild also has the privilege of again sponsoring the 2018 Young Artist Competition which takes place on April 15. This is something all members should be excited about because we are not just helping the individual students, we are helping provide a continuation of talent and resources for the cultural benefit of area residents in the future.

April and May are full of exciting moments so keep your eyes and ears tuned and keep up with your Guild offerings. We try to get the word to everyone through the newsletter, emails, meetings, and calling. If you think you are missing information, please let me know. I look forward to seeing you next time and thank you for all you do!

Carolyn

## Congratulations Carolyn

On Sunday, February 25, Carolyn Abbott was named Volunteer of the Month in the business section of the Register-Guard. Her nomination is no surprise to those of us who witness her unstoppable drive and commitment to the Eugene Symphony Guild. The article notes she spends many hours a week volunteering for the Guild as President. This acknowledgement is a welcome recognition for both Carolyn and the Eugene Symphony Guild where she mentions our various community activities. We want Carolyn to know how much we appreciate her ongoing energy and commitment as her second presidential year winds down.



## BANDING TOGETHER

**Music in the Garden**, our main fundraiser for the year, will take place on June 10. We have five unique and beautiful gardens, all in the River Road and Santa Clara areas. Many thanks to our ten liaisons: Christine Hogan, Caryn Ledford, Karen Ailor, Sylvia Kaufman, Sandra Weingarten, Bonnie Fromhold, Darian Fadeley, Melva Boles, Ching Lee, Carolyn Abbott, and Ginger Fifield. They are interacting with their garden owners to determine the location for vendor displays, musicians, ticket takers, what is needed in terms of tables, chairs, and signs, and more.

We have a wonderful team of committed people to head up the areas connected with the production of the tour, as follows:

- \* Publicity/Promotion: Ginger Fifield
- \* Musicians: Doreen Kilen and Sharron Smith
- \* Sponsor Liaison: Nancy Holloman
- \* Vendor Liaison: Nan Helsabeck
- \* Garden Party: Ginger Fifield and Francee Hillyer
- \* Garden Party Reservations: Ginger Fifield
- \* Ticket Development & Production: Sue Ashton
- \* Member Ticket Sales: Caroline Manewal
- \* Outlet Ticket Sales: Ginger Bopp
- \* Scheduler for Ticket Takers: Karen Olsen
- \* Plant Sale: Marilyn Deaton, Juliet Bender, Karen Ailor
- \* Raffle: Bonnie Fromhold, Melva Boles
- \* Poster Development & Production: Sue Ashton and Jerril Nilson
- \* Poster Distribution: Nancy Holloman
- \* Program Development and Production: Sue Ashton and Karen Ailor
- \* Name Tags: Susan Greenwald
- \* Signs: Nancy Holloman
- \* Cookies: Sylvia Kaufman
- \* Coffee: Barbara Ness

We currently have eight sponsors for this year's tour. Well done, Nancy!

Karen Olsen will soon begin calling and scheduling ticket takers in April. Please say "yes" when she calls. It is only a three hour commitment, and can be very enjoyable.

We hope you all will start baking cookies. Sylvia has a large freezer so you can begin baking right away and take them to her home for storage in her freezer. We need lots of cookies. We hope you will make every effort to sell tickets and invite your friends and neighbors to come. Extra help and support can be given to a number of these listed positions if you are able to help out.

Let's work hard and make this a fun and successful event! We need everyone's participation. Call Betsy (541) 434-9188 or Sue (541) 255-7323 if you have questions. *NOTE: MIG committee garden tour will meet at Gerot garden, 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. on April 14.*

The **Musical Chairs 1st event**. May 19, CLASS ACT IN METALS – A visit to the studio of sculptor Jud Turner for 25 guests, \$25/person (Musical Chairs booklets will be mailed in early April.)

When were you last invited to the studio of a world-renowned sculptor? Such a great opportunity doesn't come around that often! So, don't miss this chance to visit with Jud Turner, Eugene's own world famous sculptor, in his studio, intriguingly named, "The Oblivion Factory." Your afternoon will be an exercise in amazement, as Jud talks about his art and shows slides of his body of work. From his website we learn that Jud makes his art, "out of materials that were not originally intended to be artistic mediums." That alone is pretty incredible, and the result is a wide-ranging collection of the eclectic art that has won him global recognition. Locally, an example of Jud's sculpture is the magnificent Blue Heron on the University of Oregon campus. As an added attraction, you will also meet an odd



addition to any artist's work place, Pigg, his mini-pig that always accompanies him to the studio, and has been a model for some of his sculptures. Who can resist? Wine and appetizers put the finishing touch to an awe-inspiring afternoon.

**ArtWalk**— Ada Weeks, Chair, (541) 896-3135 The Eugene Symphony Guild's 50th anniversary will be celebrated as the sponsor of the Lane Arts Council's May 4th First Friday ArtWalk from 5:30-8:00 p.m. in downtown Eugene. Ada Weeks, your tour host will take you to the five galleries for half-hour tour stops to hear from the featured artists. Or, explore the galleries and venues on your own. The five galleries, venues, and artists featured will be announced soon. For more ArtWalk information, check out [www.lanearts.org](http://www.lanearts.org).

The **Eugene Public Library** will hold a musical event on Saturday, June 2, from 2 - 3 p.m. celebrating the 50th anniversary of the Guild and promoting Music in the Garden. Cake will be served in the library. More information in the May Prelude.

# Behind the Curtain — Symphony News

Greetings, Guild members!

Happy Spring! I hope all of your daffodils, grape hyacinths, and forsythia are in riotous bloom....I love springtime in Oregon, when the rain gets warmer!



As predicted, March was a whirlwind at the Eugene Symphony. A few of my favorite highlights:

1) Watching more than 2,000 elementary students dancing together to Duke Ellington's "It Don't Mean a Thing" during our

*The Orchestra Swings* Youth

Concert on Tuesday, March 13. Thank you all again for helping us to introduce these young minds to the joy of live music.

2) Marveling at cellist Zuill Bailey's communicative and musical mastery during his extensive residency that same week. He did 10, count them, TEN engagement events all over town. My favorites included a performance in the glorious rotunda of the Eugene Public Library, a visit to the Boys & Girls Club of Emerald Valley (at which he mesmerized 35 boisterous middle-schoolers into sitting in silence, eyes closed, for a full two minutes after he finished playing), and his performance at Sacred Heart Medical Center at River-Bend's magnificent chapel, which was transmitted by closed-circuit television to be available in every patient's hospital room. Bailey's approach to our art is fully aligned with the Eugene Symphony's mission of enriching lives through the power of music, and wow, did we ever that week! The Symphonic series concert that Thursday was spectacular too.

And yet time waits for no one, so we quickly recover ourselves and get ready for the next great opportunity to make an impact. You may recall that last September we hosted Grammy-winning composer Augusta "Gusty" Read Thomas for a similar residency; we now look forward to welcoming her back to Eugene for the second leg of that project. She'll return to the same schools to check in on the students' progress, and also add other activities including an exhibit at UO's Museum of Natural and Cultural History, a partnership with Oregon Supported Living Program, and a collaboration

with DanceAbility International, which connects people with and without disabilities through dance and movement.

Also joining us this month are the stunning quartet Third Coast Percussion, for whom "Gusty's" new work *Sonorous Earth* was commissioned. The lads from Third Coast will also deliver a range of residency events in schools and community centers. I'm so proud of how we have continued to expand the scope of our work outside the Hult Center and bring music directly into the lives of our neighbors.

Now, about the concert on April 19...please don't miss it! We begin with a short but rousing fanfare by Paul Dukas before turning the stage over to Third Coast and their collection of more than 300 percussion instruments, many of which are bells collected from cultures across the globe. The piece was greeted with rousing ovations at its world premiere in Chicago in November, and ours will be just the second performance ever, making it a West Coast Premiere. Then, on the second half, Francesco and the orchestra will let us join Siegfried on his fateful sail down the Rhine River (from Richard Wagner's cataclysmic opera *Götterdämmerung*, last of his monumental Ring cycle) before we venture out to sea in Claude Debussy's *La mer*. This three-movement masterpiece paints the ocean in its many moods with brushstrokes of sound, and is one of the most satisfying orchestral experiences we can have in a concert hall. The world over, orchestra musicians LOVE to perform this piece, and I can't wait for Francesco and our hearty band to dig into it. I hope you can join us too.

With that, I'll thank you for all that you do for the Guild, the Symphony, and our community.

My best,  
Scott Freck  
Executive Director



## AND THE NOMINATIONS ARE:

The Nominating committee is proud to present the following slate of candidates for election and installation at the June Annual Meeting:

President: Suzanne Shapiro

Executive Vice President: Inga West

Treasurer: Corky Hughes

Secretary: Juliet Bender

Vice President Fundraising: Ginger Fifield

Vice President Education/Social: Ada Weeks

Vice President Promotion: Susan Ashton

It is a great pleasure to announce that these talented, enthusiastic members will be leading the Guild into the start of its next 50 years!

## GARDENS IN THE SPRING

We will have a table at Gray's Garden Center on May 12. This is Mother's Day weekend and Gray's has a big sale. Information and raffle tickets for our Music in the Garden event will be handed out. This is a fun event with music and an opportunity to promote MIG. A sign up sheet for volunteers will be handed out at the April general meeting, the hours are noon to 4 p.m.

Thank you to everyone who helped at the Spring Kickoff event at Johnson Brother's Garden Market. We had 233 people enter our drawing which is about 100 more than last year. Everyone had fun and enjoyed talking to so many nice gardeners.

## YOUTH CONCERT THANK YOU!

A big *thank you* to all who volunteered at the Youth Concert March 13. Another great success. Special thanks to Bev Andrews and the telephone committee: Cornelia Leser, Sylvia Kaufman, Linda Cummins, Pat Ross. Thanks also to Betsy Patton for invaluable help behind the scenes, Suzanne Shapiro for helping at the table, Julie Collins for assisting Link Up parents, Doreen Kilen and Joanne Berry in the cloakroom. We couldn't have done it without all of you.

## APRIL IS VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION MONTH

Many of our members have artistic talents that are active, hidden, forgotten, underappreciated, dormant, or unexplored. Now is your chance to display treasures you have made over the years to your appreciative Guild friends.

At our April 18 membership meeting we will take time to display and present any artistic items that you have made and bring. This can include paintings, sculptures, carvings, sewing, knitting, weaving, glass work, photography, scrapbooking, instrument playing, singing, and anything else that could be described as artistic talent.

Start right now thinking about what you can bring and call Bonnie Fromhold, (541) 686-0107, to register your items. You may want to bring your own display racks and we will have tables also for displays. This should be a fun meeting and a way for us all to appreciate our volunteers' many talents! So mark your calendars for the April 18 Guild meeting bonus.



## DROPPED CHORDS AND MISCELLANEOUS NOTES..

Guild member Ada Weeks is collecting buttons to aid a project in Visalia, CA, to honor the six million Jewish people killed by the Nazi Holocaust of WWII. The movement was started by Cynthia Fischer Simonian, para rabbi for Congregation Beit Shalom. You may donate any buttons by bringing them to the next Guild meeting or calling Ada Weeks (541)-896-3135 to arrange pickup or delivery or calling Cynthia Simonian, (559)-308-1333 or mail to Congregation Beit Shalom, 115 E. Paseo Ave., Visalia, CA 93277. Thank you for your generous donation of used or new buttons!

## APRIL CONCERT PREVIEW

Composer Augusta, she prefers “Gusty”, Read Thomas returns for another residency and brings with her guest artists Third Coast Percussion. She has worked with this quartet many times, and this month they will be presenting her composition, *Sonorous Earth*, which is a West Coast premiere and is a co-commission by Eugene Symphony and the Chicago Philharmonic, which gave the world premiere back in November.

This work is a concerto for more than 300 bells and other metallic implements and symphony orchestra. With its exotic array of bells, chimes, gongs, Japanese singing bowls and more, this concerto will provide great visual as well as acoustic entertainment. “Imagine myriad points of light, or multiple showers of shiny metallic objects, flashing across

the cosmos, and you get a sense of what this arresting and evocative music sounds like.” Chicago Tribune.

Our program opens with the fanfare to Dukas’ (remember *The Sorcerer’s Apprentice*?) ballet *La Peri*, a ballet in one act depicting man’s search for immortality and encounter with the mythical peri, the flower of immortality. Also in this concert we will hear Wagner’s *Siegfried’s Rhine Journey* from *Götterdämmerung*, and Debussy’s *La Mer*.

Don’t forget to join us in Studio 1 at 6:30 p.m., before Thursday’s concert, for an entertaining and informative Guild sponsored preview with Francesco Lecce-Chong, and composer “Gusty” Thomas.

—Sandra Weingarten

## STAY TUNED

Mark your calendar for the last concert of the 2017-2018 Symphony season. Hayden’s buoyant *Symphony No. 88* and Mahler’s monumental *Symphony No. 5* will be conducted by Francesco Lecce-Chong on May 17 at 7:30 p.m. You don’t want to miss it.

Eugene Symphony will have a Symphony Happy Hour with Francesco on Monday, April 16, from 5:00 to 6:30 p.m. We will meet him at Slightly Coffee Roasters, 545 E8th Avenue, Suite A, Eugene. Street parking is available on 8th Avenue. There is free parking in the Northwest Community Credit Union parking lot nearby. There’s no cost to attend and coffee, tea, wine, beer, and cocktails will be available for purchase. Francesco will discuss the music you will hear at the April 19 concert. For the record, he will have these get-togethers every concert week that he is in town, which includes April and May of the remaining season.

## MUSICIAN OF THE MONTH

A recent arrival in Eugene, Eric Alterman has made himself right at home, becoming a cellist in the Eugene Symphony, Oregon Mozart Players, and Delgani String Quartet. Before coming to Eugene, Eric was Assistant Principal Cellist in the Orquestra Sinfonia Brasileira, based in Rio de Janeiro, as well as making many solo performances. What a pleasure to have him here in Eugene. Come and meet him at our April meeting.

## SOCIAL NOTES

**Book Club (second Monday)** The Book Note Club will meet on April 9 at Karen Olsen's home, 443 Covey Lane, at 7:00 p.m. We are reviewing *The First Congress* (non-fiction) by Fergus Bordewich. Please give Karen a call at (541)-342-5190 to let her know you are coming. Please leave a message if there is no answer. We look forward to having new members join our group.

**Guild Bridge Group (second Friday)** The Guild Bridge Group will meet the second Friday, April 13, from 1 to 4 p.m., at the home of Heather Nolle and June Campbell. Please call Heather at (541) 505-9155 to reserve your place.

**Armchair Travelers (fourth Monday)** Armchair Travelers will be held at Bonnie Fromhold's home, 2175 Fairway Loop, Eugene on Monday, April 23, 7:00 p.m., (541) 686-0107. Call if you can join us. The program is to be determined.

**Yoga (every Thursday)** Yoga with Helen is held on Thursdays, 10 a.m., for an hour. Call Nancy Holloman, at (541) 228-1805 or Darian Fadeley, at (541) 942-9851 if you are interested.

## Young Artist Competition

The Eugene Symphony Guild Young Artist Competition is open to exceptional instrumentalists, currently residing in Oregon, ages 14-18 in the junior division and 19-25 in the senior division. The junior division prizes include \$500 for 1st Place and \$250 for 2nd Place, and the senior division prizes include \$1,000 for 1st Place and \$500 for 2nd Place. The Guild provides \$1500 of that prize money. The winner of each division may be offered the opportunity to play with the Eugene Symphony at the Concert in the Park. Winners of both divisions may be invited to perform at Symphony Guild functions and or other community events.

## PERSONAL INTERLUDES

### An ESA Office Shift

It is the start of my Monday morning shift in the Symphony office and I have walked in the door at 10:00 a.m. I check the phone to see if the message light is blinking. Then I head off to the office of Lisa Raffin (the Finance/Administration Director) to say good morning and let her know I've arrived. Following that is a tour of the other offices to see who is in and who is out. I set the In/Out board to reflect staff members present. I listen to phone messages and check the front desk bulletin board for volunteer messages. Then I turn on the computer to check for emails and look at the office calendar for the day.

If this were a Monday before a youth concert at the Hult Center, the morning would be spent color-coding seating charts to be used by the ushers for the morning and afternoon concerts. This project frequently runs into the afternoon shift. Other mornings there may be checks or letters to be stuffed into envelopes, which are then stamped, the amount of postage recorded on the monthly

chart, and the envelopes placed in the outgoing mail tray. The Register-Guard is checked for ads, articles, or reviews of symphony concerts or activities. These are cut out and placed in the season's archive notebook.

At any time during the week, Music Director Francesco Lecce-Chong might stop by the office for a consultation with staff, orchestra musicians could come by to pick up music before rehearsals, or ESA board members or community members might pass through. The front desk volunteer signs for letters or packages delivered. Some days there are errands to run to the bank, the Hult Center, or elsewhere downtown.

There are days with no chores and days when there is just not enough time to get projects done, but for me there are never boring days. Every day, the business of running a symphony orchestra and related events is exciting for me. The staff members are friendly and helpful, and are wonderful people to work for and with. I know that whatever we can do to help is important and appreciated.

—Suzanne Shapiro

*The ESG uses the program call Vertical Response (VR for colorful monthly announcements) but many of our members are not receiving it. If the below message is not recognized from last month, and you did not receive it (by email) please contact Sandra Weingarten (541) 517-0519.*

**MARCH TO OUR MARCH MEETING!**

**THINK SPRING**

(dates and time listed here)

**Still celebrating our 50<sup>th</sup>!**

**Birthday cake!!!**

(more small print about MIG & MC's etc.)

Musical Guest

**Happy Birthday** wishes to our members with April birthdays:

Delpha Camp, Lois Eagleton, Ginger Fifield, Flo Hering, Donna Hill, Doreen Kilen, Edwenda Matycock, Barbara Miner, Rosemary Mulligan, Sharron Smith, Emilie York.



Address Changes:

Sharon Strahm, Springs Living Community, 1641 Veranda Park Dr. #238, Medford, OR. 97504

Susan Greenwald, (after April 7) 1085 North Pond Road, Eugene 97401, all else is unchanged.

*All material for the Prelude is due on the 15th of each month prior to publication. Any material received after the 20th is subject to available space. Thank you for your cooperation. Judy England, Prelude Editor*



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**Happy Springtime!**