

# PRELUDE

Volume XLVI, No. 10 June 2018 Eugene Symphony Guild Newsletter

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



## In So Many Ways, Our Thanks

It has been a pleasure arranging for Symphony musicians to come to our meetings, and they have been happy and willing to do so. I thank Yvonne Hsueh, Karlie Roberts, Steve Vacchi, Henry Henniger, Mike Anderson, Cheryl Wefler, and Eric Alterman, who entertained and educated us. All have thanked us, and I did receive these emails from Cheryl Wefler and Eric Alterman:

"You and the Guild are so valuable to the symphony. Thank you for all you do and long live the Guild!!! All best wishes and continued success." —Cheryl Wefler.

"I enjoyed meeting the symphony Guild and sharing some music. Thanks." —Eric Alterman.

I want to thank Katy Vizdal in the ESA office. She is doing an incredible job as Education and Community Outreach Coordinator. Working closely with her on the Youth Concerts has been a pleasure.

Thank you also to all Guild members for your energy and dedication, to the Board members for devoting so much time and energy into making our Guild work, and especially to Carolyn for her hard work and inspiring leadership.

Katy receives lots of thank you notes from students after the Youth Concerts. Here are just a few (lightly edited).

"Dear Eugene Symphony, When I went to the Hult Center I was so happy! I've never gone to a concert

I wasn't in. When I heard your music I felt like I could fly. I like how you all play together in harmony. I enjoyed your music the most. I hope I can come to 'The Orchestra Rocks.' Thank you."

"Dear Francesco, When I walked into the Hult Center it felt so amazing. It was so huge! It felt like I was part of the orchestra when I played and sung along. When I listened to the orchestra it felt like everyone in the whole room was in harmony. My favorite part was when we all danced to 'It Don't Mean a Thing (If It Ain't Got That Swing).' You were such a good conductor."

"Dear Francesco, Is it hard to be a conductor because you looked like you were having fun."

"Dear Katy, I really liked how we got to play our recorders and answer the questions on the screen. I really liked the music playing. I like how you guys made it possible for 6th grade to go to the Hult Center. Thank you for the opportunity. I really liked it."

"Dear Bill, I liked how you danced on the stage. When I walked into the Hult Center it was big and I liked how you make jokes and it was a perfect experience for me."

"Dear All of You, Thank you so much for having us and letting us play with you. It was fun. All of (you) are amazing cool and talented. I hope you never stop doing what you love."

—Sandra Weingarten

EVERYONE COME!

ESG Annual Meeting and Luncheon

Tuesday, June 19

(details on page 4)





## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Members,

I am sending a big hug and thank you to all the wonderful members of the Eugene Symphony Guild. My two years as your president have been possible

only with the support, creativity, and participation of board members and the general membership. I feel especially fortunate to have been your leader during the celebration of our 50th anniversary year. Thank you for putting your trust in me during these fun years.

As for individuals to thank, just open the roster and read through it as I have been doing. From the A's (Ailor) to the Z's (Zolman), there is hardly anyone who has not participated in some way to help bring about the goals of the Guild. You are all special to me and I thank you from the bottom of my heart. I would like to mention especially our new members who have jumped right in and taken roles in our organization.

Sadly, we have lost several members this year due to death, and I miss them very much. We will have a meeting dedicated to them next Fall. Some of you have health issues or personal issues that prevent your active involvement in events, but we so appreciate your continued support of the Guild just by being members.

I am thinking of the fun events we held from September through May, and although they are still in the future, I know our June activities will be fun and successful also. Remember the 50th Anniversary kick-off at Valhalla Winery, the Holiday Performance Festival, the Christmas party at Sweetwaters, the celebratory 50th Anniversary Tea at the Country Club, and a general meeting every month (except December) at the Masonic Lodge?

We had smaller events also, mostly promotional, to let people know about the existence of our organization. Many willing hands were involved.

We have some very talented people in the ESG, and we showcased some of them in our April and May general meetings. I hope we continue these activities next year, moving the spotlight to others who have interesting talents. It is such a good way to get to know each other better.

Thanks to all who have agreed to hold board and committee positions next year. You are probably nervous and wondering how you managed to commit to these new responsibilities. Rest assured that you will get lots of support. You don't have to re-invent the wheel; you have 50 years of experience behind you. You may just need to apply a few tweaks here and there. I know you will be impressed with your own abilities by the time you finish. And remember, one day at a time is all that is required.

In closing, I would like to mention one very special person. Sue Ashton has been Executive Vice President this year, which is the first year this position has existed. Last year she was Vice President of Promotions. In both jobs, Sue has been a pillar of strength for me and the Guild. To name Sue's every leadership characteristic and how she has helped would take at least another page. Suffice it to say that her dedication and hard work have earned her the respect and thanks of all of us. Sue, you are a gem!

So, thanks to you all who have helped me through these fun and busy years. See you at Music in the Garden and the Annual Meeting!

— Carolyn



## Introducing Suzanne, Our New President

Many of you do not know me very well, so, as the only candidate for Eugene Symphony Guild President, I would like to introduce myself. My husband and I moved to Eugene 25 years ago from New Jersey. We chose Eugene because of the vibrant arts scene in this area and dived in immediately. Our involvement in The Very Little Theatre led to our becoming Life Members two years ago. My husband is still on the board of directors and I was president of the board before joining the Guild in 2014.

I hold a bachelor's degree in music performance. I have a rich musical background that ranges from years of studying flute with a flutist in the Boston Symphony to studying voice with soloists from the New York City Opera and a Metropolitan Opera coach. I also worked for several years as a church and oratorio soloist in NYC.

Since coming to Eugene I have sung with the Vocal Arts Ensemble, The Eugene Symphony Chorus, The Bach Festival Chorus, and Eugene Opera, and was soloist at several churches.

I have directed plays at the Very Little Theatre, the old Lord Leebrick Theatre, and the Cottage Theater. I have worked backstage in various capacities, including stage manager. On top of my current work for the Guild, I still work VLT shows in the box office, costume room, and as usher.

Four years ago, when I felt there was something lacking in my life, I joined the Eugene Symphony Guild. I began volunteering in the office at the front desk, where I immediately felt at home because of the great staff. I have made wonderful friends through the Guild and truly believe that the Eugene Symphony is an excellent orchestra so worth the effort to support financially and as a volunteer.

I particularly enjoyed being MC and coordinating the musicians at the Holiday Festival we held last Fall, and totally enjoy performing and selling tickets at Music in the Garden. On top of that, nothing can match being an usher and watching the enthusiasm of the children attending the youth concerts. I have been a subscriber to the Eugene Symphony for many years and am amazed that it took me so long to join the Guild. It is wonderful and exciting to have a symphony orchestra that is nationally recognized as a proving ground for up and coming conductors and to be a part of an organization committed to supporting this orchestra. As president of the Guild, I plan to see us continue in our fundraising and social events, providing financial and volunteer aid to the Symphony and forming more lasting friendships with each other.

— Suzanne Shapiro

## SOCIAL NOTES

*Our Book Club, Armchair Travelers, and Bridge Club will take the summer off, then begin meeting again in September.*

**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.

*We need someone to gather information on these activities each month to make certain that the correct data is included in the Prelude. Please contact Judy at (541) 822-6042.*

If you did not receive the following MAY meeting information by email, (Vertical Response), contact Sandra Weingarten, (541) 466-3247.

### Sample:

May Membership Meeting  
Wednesday, May 16, 2018  
Eugene Masonic Center  
2777 MLK Blvd

10:30 social (enjoy a snack and a chat)  
10:45 meeting

Introduce a friend to the Guild!

Learn about who we are and what we do from our Board members!



# BANDING TOGETHER

**Music in the Garden** is almost here, and we want to thank all Guild members who so willingly volunteered for the tasks that are vital to the success of this wonderful event.

Thanks to Jerril Nilsen for her *pro bono* poster design and for updating our website, Facebook, and Twitter, and to members for delivering posters and flyers. Thanks to Carolyn Manewal for coordinating member ticket sales, to Ginger Bopp for coordinating outlet ticket sales, and to members for selling tickets. Thanks to Melva Boles and Bonnie Fromhold for co-chairing the raffle and to everyone who obtained the gifts. Cudos to Ginger Fifield for MIG promotion and to members who promoted the event at Johnson Brothers, Gray's Garden Center, the Art Walk, and the Library. Thanks to Nancy Holloman for obtaining sponsors and to Nan Helsabeck for recruiting vendors.

Thanks to Karen Olsen for scheduling ticket takers and, in advance, to the ticket takers themselves.

Hats off to Nancy Holloman for recruiting the garden owners and to the liaisons who are coordinating with them. Thanks to Doreen Kilen and Sharron Smith for lining up the musicians and to Marilyn Deaton and Juliet Bender for coordinating the plant sale. Thanks in advance to Francee Hillyer and Ginger Fifield for planning the June 8 garden party and to everyone who will provide food and other assistance. Thanks to Barbara Ness for arranging coffee at each garden and, in advance, to members who will provide lots and lots of cookies.

Finally, thanks to everyone for your willing, can-do attitudes. It's all of you great people who make this event the success it has been through the years.

—Betsy Patton and Sue Ashton

## **\* CELEBRATE \* SOCIALIZE \* ENJOY \* LEARN \* EAT \* DRESS UP \* EVERYONE COME**

*Meet and greet at the ESG Annual Meeting on Tuesday, June 19. Come at 11:30 to socialize; lunch begins at noon, followed by the program. The venue is the Country Inn, 4100 Country Farm Road, Eugene (at the intersection with Coburg Road). Join this fun*

*luncheon and meeting where we celebrate the year's successes and make our annual donation to the Eugene Symphony Association. We will vote on the Guild's new slate of officers and install them immediately thereafter.*

*Reservations are due by June 12. Mail your check for \$25 to Carol Welch, 501 Covey Lane, Eugene, OR 97401. Call Bonnie Fromhold, 541-686-0107, if you have questions.*

## UPCOMING MUSICAL CHAIRS 2018

### **TALENT IN THE MAKING**

A Program and Discussion by Lillian Manis for 50 guests

Sunday, June 3, 3:00 p.m., \$25 per person

Contact: Emilie York, (541) 485-7019

### **TAKE ME OUT TO THE (LADIES) BALL GAME**

A Talk by Former Pro Baseball Player Lois Youngen for 35 guests

Thursday, June 14, 11 a.m., \$20 per person

Contact: Doreen Kilen, (541) 343-2192

### **MURAL, MURAL ON THE WALL**

A Walking Tour of Eugene's Murals for 25 guests

Friday, June 22, 5:30-7:30 p.m., \$25 per person

Contact: Sylvia Kaufman, (541) 844-9596

### **HITCH A RIDE ON THE MERRY-GO-ROUND**

A Family-Oriented Tour of the Albany Carousel Museum for unlimited guests

Thursday, July 12, 1:00 p.m., \$20 per adult, \$10 per child

Contact: Doreen Kilen, (541) 343-2192

### **MEET THE MAESTRO**

A Talk by Music Director and Conductor Francesco Lecce-Chong for 40 guests

Wednesday, July 25, 5:00 p.m., \$35 per person

Contact: Carol Welch, (541) 344-5187

### **THE "FAR EAST" DRAWS NEAR**

An Authentic Chinese Dinner for 30 guests

Tuesday, August 28, 5:00 p.m., \$45 per person

Contact: Bonnie Fromhold, (541) 686-0107

### **ARTIST EXTRAORDINAIRE**

An Afternoon with Artist/Writer, Patsy Hand for 30 guests

Thursday, September 6, 5:00 p.m. \$25 per person

Contact: Nancy Holloman, (541) 228-1805

### **MURDER IN DISGUISE**

An Interactive Murder Mystery Dinner for 35 guests

Saturday, September 8, 6:00 p.m. \$45 per person

Contact: Suzanne Shapiro, (541) 342-4795

### **LET'ER BUCK!**

A Mexican Themed Party for 40 guests

Sunday, September 23, 5:00-8:00 p.m., \$45 per person

Contact: Ginger Fifield, (760) 550-0515

## PERSONAL INTERLUDES

### Editors First Year Views

My involvement in the Guild began as a living-at-a-distance sustaining member. I eventually volunteered to usher elementary school students in and out of the Hult Center, wearing silly hats and carrying signs. I dubbed our enthusiastic group the Silly Hat Society. Lovingly, and proudly, I still refer to us this way. One of my rewards was getting to know our amazing group of people.

This fun volunteer effort twice a year enables the Eugene Symphony Association to continue the Youth Concert programs season after season. It is another aspect of providing “financial” support to the Symphony. In this case, we offer our time instead of money.

Providing a volunteer five days a week to the ESA office falls into the same category. Our quiet army of members step in, with very little fanfare, to perform receptionist, mail handler, and general office support duties, saving the ESA significant money each year. A salute to them all!

Guild members deserve admiration for the impressive 50 years we have raised money and volunteered to support the Symphony.

Now we have plenty of opportunities to expand our involvement. The new Family Concerts may be the best area where we can show up and pitch in. New expanded efforts by the ESA to bring classical music to schools, hospitals, and parks are other areas we can support.

We are multi-talented movers and shakers, ready to demonstrate the power of a pink hat, oops, a sophisticated and educated group of dedicated volunteers, ready to prove what we can do with talent, imagination, and hard work.

The 2018-2019 season will give us many opportunities to volunteer. We can save funds as well as raising funds for the ESA, working together, proving that we are not silly after all; we are powerful.

Watch for a new column called “Step Up, Show Up” in the September Prelude that lists specific areas where volunteers are needed. Thank you for a great year, as we look forward to another amazing Eugene Symphony Guild season.  
—Judy England

### Because It Counts

*“Step Up, Show Up,” a new column in the Prelude, will start in September to coincide with the 2018-2019 Eugene Symphony Association season. It will notify our members of the need for volunteers for upcoming ESA events. These may include Youth Concerts, regular or annual events such as Family Concerts and the Play It Again concert, as well as office help for periodic mailings.*

*Watch for these notices with dates, what is needed to help, and contact persons. Thank you in advance for stepping up and showing up!*



## ***SUMMER CONCERT TICKET INFORMATION***

### **Eugene Symphony Association Summer Concerts**

Symphony Guild members have been assured access to four free *Eugene Symphony in the Park* summer concert tickets. They will be available starting on Wednesday, June 13, at noon, which is the subscriber release day. Visit the Hult Center Ticket Office to pick up your tickets. The ticket office has a list of all Eugene Symphony Guild member names to reference, so give them your name and say that you are a member of the Guild.

The concert will take place on Saturday, July 21, at 8 p.m., at the Cuthbert Amphitheater. Four free tickets per household will be available to the public on Tuesday, June 19, at 11 a.m.

The Cottage Grove concert will take place on Monday, July 23, at 7:30 p.m. at Bohemia Park. No tickets are required.

The summer concert program is as follows and is subject to change:

Bernstein: *Candide Overture*  
Gershwin/Bennett: *Porgy and Bess Selections*  
Dvořák: *Slavonic Dance Op. 46, No. 1*  
Sibelius: *Finlandia*  
-Intermission-  
J. Strauss Jr: *Bauern Polka*  
J. Strauss Jr: *Thunder and Lightning Polka*  
(conducted by auction winner as guest conductor)  
John Williams: *Force Awakens Suite, Jedi Steps and Credits*  
Tchaikovsky: *1812 Overture*



Feel free to print a copy of the *Prelude* when it is delivered to your email address for future reference. Current and past issues of the *Prelude* can be found on the Guild website, <https://eugenesymphonyguild.org/membership/newsletter>

*All material for the Prelude is due on the 15th of the month. Thank you for your cooperation.*

My sincere thanks and appreciation to both Barbara Miner and Karen Ailor for their patience and skills guiding me through this year.  
Judy England

### **Happy Birthday Wishes**

To our members with summer birthdays:

*June:* Karen Ailor, Joy Dresie, Chris Johnson, Betty Kjeldgaard, Margo Savell

*July:* Linda Cummens, Sandra Harland, Nancy Holloman, Eileen Russell, Suzanne Shapiro

*August:* Helen Anderson, Sue Ashton, Marilyn Deaton, JoAnne Ellis, Christine Hogan, Sherrill Kirchoff, Pat Ross, Marion Shiflet, Phyllis Villec



## Eugene Symphony Association

Greetings, Guild members,

Whew! What a season! This past year has been one of extraordinary achievement and engagement with our community, and with one another. If you'll indulge me, I'll offer a "lightning

round" recap.

July brought summer concerts and a lightsaber baton. In September we sang "I Could Have Danced All Night" with Renée Fleming and heard Francesco and the orchestra revel in Tchaikovsky's Fourth Symphony. In October we were stunned by piano prodigy Conrad Tao. In November we took thousands of elementary school students on a musical journey through time. In December we thrilled to the sounds of Handel's timeless Messiah and to the sights of Cirque de la Symphonie acrobats soaring above the stage. In January we welcomed our old friend "Jackie" Parker for an astonishing Grieg concerto. February brought us together around our shared love letter to the McKenzie River. In March we deployed superhuman cellist Zuill

Bailey into the community for more than ten events. April connected us with bells from all over the world, as rung by Third Coast Percussion in Augusta Read Thomas' Sonorous Earth. In May we triumphed along with Francesco and our intrepid musicians as they made Mahler's Fifth come alive and set a new bar for artistic achievement.

All that, plus about a thousand other events large and small, make up the modest miracle that is your Eugene Symphony. It is by stitching together all of these experiences, in schools and community centers and parks and libraries and pubs and human service agencies and on and on, that we create positive connections with friends and strangers alike, and share moments of our common humanity. Doesn't it feel good to know that together, we're all helping to make our home a better place? I think so.

Thank you for all that you do for the Guild, the Symphony, and our community. Good luck with *Music in the Garden 2018* and have a wonderful summer!  
My best,  
Scott



**Eugene Symphony Guild**  
115 West 8th Avenue, Ste. 115  
Eugene, Oregon 97401



"June is busting out all over..!"  
*Carousel*, Rogers and Hammerstein