



May — June, 2019

Symphony Notes

HSV/HS Symphony Guild is a member of the HSV Arts Council

Visit us at: www.SymphonyGuild.org
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Message from the President

Dear Guild Members,

It is partly with a heavy heart that I write my concluding "Letter From the President" article. I say partly, because as I step down as Guild president, our incoming president Jim Gifford is very inspiring and will lead the Guild very well.

It is membership renewal time. Your continued support is greatly appreciated. Your membership and gifting is needed for the Guild to continue our support of the ASO, provide music education programs for area students, and to bring you the quality programming you have come to enjoy. Together we members are the backbone of the Guild.

It has been my honor to serve as your president and to work alongside the Guild board members. Each member is a professional in every sense of the word, always prepared with their contributions for every project, concert and event we produce for you, our membership.

I wish you well and thank you for the support and kindness that has been shown to me and to our Guild.

"A man should hear a little music, read a little poetry, and see a fine picture every day of his life, in order that worldly cares may not obliterate the sense of the beautiful which God has implanted in the human soul."

~Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

Very truly,

Guild President

The Gatsby Gala – A Roaring Success!

The evening of April 27 saw the Coronado Center ballroom resplendent in black, gold, silver and white, as the Guild presented its major fundraiser of the year. This year's Roaring 20's theme was played out splendidly, with many of the ladies dressed as

flappers, and in other period attire. The gentlemen lived up to the theme as well, in their formal suits and hats, some even in Gatsby white!

The evening's events included both live and silent auctions, roving "cigarette girls" offering hors oeuvres, a gourmet meal, and music provided by Guild Scholarship recipient Makayla Fulkerson, and ASO musicians Meredith Maddox Hicks and Rick Dimond.

Event Chair Donna Toney thanks her hard-working committee for everything each member did so that the Guild can continue to support music education in our local area schools.

Symphony Guild Hosts ASO Youth Orchestras



Associate Conductor Geoffrey Robson and the ASO Youth Orchestra

How do you make an annual meeting a must-see event? You combine it with an inspirational concert featuring two of the youth orchestras sponsored by the Arkansas Symphony. After a brief welcome and a few announcements from outgoing Guild President Suzanne Babbie, the children became the event.

The Arkansas Symphony Orchestra Youth Ensembles began as a dream of the ASO's founders in the 1960's and today continues to attract Arkansas' leading student-musicians. Ranging in age from 9-18 and traveling from over 37 communities throughout the state, the ASYO has grown to over

200 members.

First on the program was the Academy Orchestra. This intermediate level group includes students from the 7th through the 12th grades, and consists of woodwind, brass, string and percussion players, who must audition for a spot in the group. Conductor Tom McDonald led the ensemble through four interesting and challenging pieces. The world of classical music was represented, with composers from Czechoslovakia, Wales, Russia and Mexico.

Next on the bill was the Youth Orchestra. For students from the 8th through the 12th grades, this most advanced ensemble boasts some of the top student musicians in Arkansas. The orchestra under conductor Geoffrey Robson began with Verdi's *Overture to Nabucco*, then proceeded to the 5-movement, Spanish-inspired *Capriccio Espagnol*, by Rimsky-Korsakov.

The audience, comprised of many justifiably proud parents and enthusiastic HSV residents, gave both orchestras a well-deserved standing ovation for such excellent performances.

We Say Good-bye to Philip Mann



It was a joyful yet bittersweet afternoon as the Arkansas Symphony Orchestra presented its last symphonic concert conducted by Philip Mann. Those of us in attendance at Maestro Mann's final pre-concert talk were privileged to hear him reminisce about his relationship with composer Michael Fine (composer of the first piece on the program), and his special relationship with the people of Arkansas.

After proceeding into the auditorium, we were treated to the world premier of *Concerto for Three Oboes and String Orchestra*. A conversation between Maestro Fine and our Maestro Mann inspired this piece. The interplay between the oboes and the strings was moving and expressive.

The major piece was Gustav Mahler's *Symphony No. 5 in C-sharp Minor*. Composed over several years, the movements progress from the somber and bleak feel of the first two movements, through a much more positive scherzo, to

the final two movements filled with love and hope.

Following several ovations, the audience and Philip were treated to a surprise appearance by Governor Asa and Mrs. Susan Hutchinson. Governor Hutchinson presented Maestro Mann with a special commendation and plaque from the state of Arkansas, and thanked him for all he has brought to the Arkansas Symphony Orchestra.

All of us who have in any way come in contact with the talented Maestro Philip Mann share in that expression of gratitude, and wish Philip nothing but continued success in the years to come.

Guild Awards Four Scholarships



Incoming Education VP Donna Toney and outgoing VP Jim Kelly

Every year our Guild holds auditions to award college scholarships to deserving high school seniors. The Guild also awards renewing scholarships to prior winners who meet qualifications. This year's auditions saw four talented young people perform and chat with the Education Committee members. The committee was impressed with the students' proficiency and poise throughout the auditions and the interviews.

The first three to audition were graduating seniors from Lakeside High School. Baritone Garrett Lee performed a rendition of "The Water is Wide." He was awarded a \$1,500 scholarship, \$1,000 from the Symphony Guild and \$500 contributed by The Village Chorale. He will be attending Belmont University in Nashville, Tennessee. Trumpet player Colton Guill presented "Believe Me If All Those Endearing Young Charms." He was awarded a \$2,250 scholarship and plans to attend Arkansas Tech University. Violinist Krystyna Valdivia, who is also a ASO Youth Orchestra member, presented "Czardas," and will be attending Henderson State University. Arkansas Tech freshman Josh Martin performed "Sonata for Trumpet and Piano," and was awarded a

continuing \$1,500 scholarship.

Congratulations to these four young people, and to the three prior winners continuing their music education whose scholarships will be renewed. They are Makayla Fulkerson, Katie Garner and Barry Kohr.

Guild Announces Election Results for 2019-2020



At the May 4 Annual Meeting and ASO Academy and Youth Orchestra Concert, President Suzanne Babbie announced the names of the incoming Board of Directors for the 2019-2020 fiscal year. They are:

President: Jim Gifford
 Administrative VP: Carolyn Bowers
 Secretary: Maureen Morgan
 Treasurer: Donna Waldrop
 Immediate Past President: Suzanne Babbie
 Development VP: Joe Stewart
 Education VP: Donna Toney
 Membership Recruitment VP: Jim Dixon
 Membership Services VPs: Molly Crawshaw and Priscilla O'Malley
 Public Relations VP: Patricia Shaha
 Special Projects VP: Lynn Petti
 Ticket VP: Elaine Weeter
 Members-at-Large: Linda Holt-Monson, Marie Hylden, Nancy Jorgensen, Suzanne Kuch, Nancy Piersol, Martha Smither, Bev Thompson
 Special Advisors to the Board: JoAnn Mangione, Jim McKeand

Thank you to all of these officers, and to the many others who serve on committees and special projects for your HS/HSV Symphony Guild.

Guilds Support Annual ASO Musician's Appreciation Dinner



Guild presidents (left to right): Kathy Westmoreland (Russellville), Suzanne Babbie and Nikki Lawson (Little Rock)

The three Arkansas Symphony Orchestra Guilds (Hot Springs/Hot Springs Village, Little Rock and Russellville) jointly hosted the annual Musician's Appreciation dinner Saturday May 11 between the afternoon rehearsal and evening E.T Pops Concert. It was a wonderful opportunity to visit with the musicians and personally thank them on behalf of our memberships for their continued excellence.

Our 2019—2020 Season

The Program Committee is hard at work developing exciting events for the upcoming season. Watch for information in upcoming newsletters.

Have you renewed your membership yet?

Don't forget to renew your Hot Springs/Hot Springs Village Symphony Guild membership. You can do this by mail, or very easily online at www.symphonymusic.org. Simply log in using the Login button on the upper right portion of the home page. Once logged in, click on your name to view your profile. Click the renew button. The next screen will show your renewal dates. If you would like to add a donation, scroll down below the "Update and next" button to add a donation, then click the update button to proceed. Try it!

Membership and Donation Information

If you are receiving this newsletter, you are a Symphony Guild member or newsletter subscriber. We thank you very much for your continued support.

We welcome new members at any time during the year. Please consider inviting your friends to join the Guild. If they have an email address, they may join [online](#) on our website. If they would prefer to join through the mail, they can click on [MemberApplication.pdf](#) on the website to get a membership/renewal form. If they do not have internet access, please ask them to call Jim Gifford at 922-1680.

The Guild is happy to receive donations throughout the year. Donations may be directly using our [website](#) or through the US Mail. We want to properly recognize each of our donors, so if you would like to donate through the US Mail, please complete our [DonationForm.pdf](#) and include it with your donation. If you choose to make an additional gift, we will recognize you in our printed programs.

Members Only

You will find a searchable directory in the member area on our website. You will also find a printable copy of the directory in the same location. To access the member only section of the website, you will need to login. To do so, click on **LOGIN** in the upper right section of the header on any page on our website. This will take you to the login page. Your email address is your id. If you have forgotten your password or have never logged in, click on the forgot password link on the login page to get a new one. Alternatively, if you have a Facebook account that uses the same email address, you may click on the Facebook icon and use those login credentials.

Once you are logged into the website, you may see the directory, edit your personal profile to keep us up-to-date if any of your contact information changes, adjust your email preferences, and adjust your privacy (directory) settings. For help with the website, please contact Suzanne Kuch at 915-8016 or info@symphonyguild.org.

If we do not have your email address and you would like a printed copy of the directory, please contact Suzanne Kuch at 501-915-8016. If for privacy reasons, you do not want to be included in the directory or do not want a particular piece of information included in the directory (address or phone number for example), please contact

Suzanne Kuch. If you elected not to be included in past directories, we have not included you in the current directory.

Bus Service to Sunday ASO Masterworks Concerts

If you have tickets to the Sunday performances of the Arkansas Symphony Orchestra Masterworks concert series and don't want to drive, we offer bus service from the Village. To sign up to ride the bus, please contact either

Molly Crawshaw at 922-0622 or by email at mscrawshaw@yahoo.com or Priscilla O'Malley at 915-0051 or by email at prisomalley@yahoo.com

You can pay for each trip when you board the bus or you may purchase the entire series of trips (for a discount) in advance.

The Guild is part of AmazonSmile

If you shop online, Amazon offers you a way to make a donation to your favorite charity when you shop. Instead of shopping at the usual Amazon website, go to www.smile.amazon.com. Once there, select your charity from their list. The AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the price of your eligible AmazonSmile purchase to the charity of your choice. The Guild is listed as Hot Springs-Hot Springs Village Symphony Guild, Inc.

Stay Up-To-Date at the Guild Facebook Page

Keep up with current Guild events and projects at the HS/V Symphony Guild [Facebook](#) page. The page is filled with photos of recent Guild events as well as up-to-the minute announcements regarding upcoming events. And if you "**follow**" the Guild on Facebook these photos and events will make it to your newsfeed. Please invite your Facebook friends (Guild members or not) to **follow** our page too!

Supporting All Arts

The **Hot Springs/Hot Springs Village Symphony Guild** is a member of the **Hot Springs Village Arts Council**, and fully supports all of the creative, visual and performing arts in and around Hot Springs and Hot Springs Village. For information on the upcoming events of the Council's members, please visit www.hsvarts.org.

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