



# TEMPO

Newsletter of the San Antonio Symphony League

February  
2012

Martin Kushner, Editor

## President's Message:



The Symphony League New Year is picking up momentum and will be humming over the next three months!! The 12th annual Music at the Museum was another success, with musical notes from Beethoven and fascinating updates on the Tobin Center for the Performing Arts. The Symphony's Future Stars Competition had its final match and selected the top contestant in each of the string, woodwind and piano divisions. The 42<sup>nd</sup> annual Symphony Ball is preparing to transform the Hyatt Hill Country Resort into "An Enchanted Evening at the Alhambra." This month, over 5,000 elementary students will be guided into Laurie Auditorium to hear and "see" Heroic Beethoven during six concerts held over three days. Our new class of freshman belles will model Julian Gold fashions during our Spring Style Show in April. Something for everyone—sign up to participate, to enjoy, to volunteer. We're where it's happening!

Later this Spring, the League's membership drive will be kicking off and nominations for next year board positions will be sought. If you know of someone interested in joining the League or becoming more involved in a leadership or committee position, now is the time to be heard. Contact any board member listed in the directory and we will be happy to provide you with more details.

As volunteer League members, we all serve in many ways. We are involved in education, mentoring, organizing, publishing and training within our organization and throughout the community. Great things happen when we volunteer, such as

- Saving resources
- Bringing people together
- Promoting personal growth
- Strengthening our community
- Learning a LOT
- Getting a chance to give back
- Making a difference!

Jump in and let's make GREAT things happen together for OUR Symphony!

## Upcoming Events

February 25, 2012  
42nd Symphony Ball - 6:30 pm  
Hyatt Hill Country Resort

March 1, 2012 - 11:30 am  
Orchestra Hospitality Luncheon  
Majestic Theatre Rotunda

March 3, 2012  
10 am - 1 pm  
Paint to Music Drop Off  
Steinway Gallery

March 24, 2012 - 9 am  
Paint to Music Judging Day  
St. Mary's Hall

April 1, 2012 - 3 - 5 pm  
Spring Fashion Show  
Julian Gold

May 1 and May 16, 2012  
9 am to Noon  
Young People's Concert #4  
"Tall Tales: Music Inspired by  
Stories"  
Trinity University  
Laurie Auditorium

May 17, 2012 - 5:30 - 7:30 pm  
End of Season Celebration and  
Installation of Officers  
Home of Dr. Alice Viroslav

May 24, 2012 - 11:30 am  
Orchestra Hospitality Luncheon  
Majestic Theatre Rotunda

**WORKING TOGETHER \*\*\*\*\* SUPPORTING EACH OTHER**

## SASL Spring Fashion Show Coming April 1<sup>st</sup>

Save the date!! On Sunday, April 1st, 2012, from 3-5pm, you will have the incredible opportunity to see our fabulous new Symphony Belle Class of 2015 as they model beautiful clothing from Julian Gold! Enjoy wine and cheese as you watch these young ladies show us the latest in Spring Fashion Trends!! A special thank you goes out to our very own San Antonio Symphony League member, Margaret Byers of Julian Gold, who has graciously agreed to orchestrate our models. Next time you are in the store, please be sure to say a special "thank you" to our Julian Gold friends, Bob Gurwitz and James Glover, for making this event possible. Our Style Show committee consists of Pam Rosser, Melany Andersen, Paulette Jemal, Jennifer Harper, Toni Riester-Wood, and Niti Volpe. Thanks to these new belle moms for stepping up and helping to make this year's fashion show awesome!! We look forward to seeing you all!!

Submitted by Joy Fuhrmann, Belle Development Chair

## Holiday Coffee the Hit of the Holiday Season

The Annual Holiday Coffee held on Thursday, December 7th at 10:00am was a huge success . . . more than 70 members attended. Our hostess was Nancy Pawel and her daughter Charlotte at their lovely home on Geneseo Road in Terrel Hills. The morning was chilly but it did not stop our VP Membership, Agnes Lowe and our President, Kathy Rafferty from greeting our members and their guests at the front door. Johannah Brown arranged our Holiday Coffee Baskets on the front stairs and I believe she sold them all! Jack Fishman, President and CEO of the SAS and Paul Carter, VP SAS Development were special guests. Harpist Elaine Barber traveled from Austin to entertain us with her melodious holiday selections. Nita Kiolbassa, Joy Fuhrmann and Katie Farrimond organized some 20 plus Belle mothers to bring their favorite holiday treats. Zanna with SA Coffee Roasters again donated the delicious coffee and became a new SASL member that morning . . . welcome and thanks!! Suzie Walker, Lynette Nelson and Maureen Hillman helped with advance planning, polishing silver, assembling delicious cranberry punch and clean up duty. The SA Symphony League was proud to give our initial donation of \$50,000 to the SA Symphony that morning. It was a wonderful morning – thanks to all involved!!

Submitted by Maureen Hillman



CEO Jack Fishman receives \$50,000 check from SASL President Rafferty



(L) Hostess Nancy Pawel



## 42<sup>nd</sup> Annual Symphony Ball

We are counting down the days to the San Antonio Symphony League's 42<sup>nd</sup> Annual Symphony Ball, "An Enchanted Evening at the Alhambra," which will be held on Saturday, February 25, 2012, at the Hyatt Hill Country Resort. We will present twenty-one Belles, and celebrate with Spanish cuisine, fine wine and dancing to the music of Max Class and the Class Act.

You can still purchase individual seats for adults for \$250.00 per person, and a table of ten for \$2,500.00. In addition, there are still individual tickets for teens available for \$200.00 per person, with teen tables for ten costing \$2,000.00.

For information and reservations, please contact Karen Newton at (210) 863-5540. We look forward to seeing you at "An Enchanted Evening at the Alhambra," and appreciate your support of . . . OUR San Antonio Symphony!

Submitted by David Kinder, VP Ways and Means

## 2012 Belle Activities

The 2012 Symphony Belles celebrated their participation of their senior year in the Belle program at the Acceptance Tea in early November. Peggy and Dan Allen Hughes, whose daughter Elizabeth was presented as a Belle in 2010, provided their elegant Terrell Hills home for this event. Tea delicacies were enjoyed, presentation gloves (gifted by Julian Gold) were received and photos were taken by Robert Shaw Photography of the Belles, their mothers and special guests. Our 2012 Ball Honoree, Dotty Huffman, presided in the seat of honor at the table, pouring tea.



2012 Belles at the Acceptance Tea.

Immediately following a recent bow practice, the Belles, their escorts and friends enjoyed the Casual Party at the stately Olmos Park home of Lisa and Mike Kelleher, parents of Clara (2014 Symphony Belle). Vicki Marshall chaired this fun Sunday dinner with Susan Bauer, Nikki Dan, Lee McCarty and Jamie Weyand. A Symphony Belle piñata greeted guests in the foyer and another one on the serving table caught each guest's eye. Mexican food was enjoyed by all and the Belles left with a favor gifted to them of party cups with each belle's name on them.

The final event of the senior Belle program prior to the Ball will be a Sunday luncheon at The Argyle for the Belles and their parents. A full rehearsal at the Hyatt Hill Country Resort, venue for the 2012 Symphony Ball, will take place after lunch. Our thoughtful Ball Chair, Karen Newton, has arranged for wine to be served for the mothers who want to view and enjoy these final preparations while the Belles, Presenters and Escorts rehearse.

Submitted by Lisa Caldwell

## Support our Symphony with "Birdies for Charity"

The San Antonio Symphony League is in the midst of its "Birdies for Charity" campaign - a great fundraising opportunity held in conjunction with the April 2012 Valero Texas Open Golf Tournament.

"Birdies.." is like a walk-a-thon, but instead of donating per mile, participants make a pledge for every birdie made at this year's Valero Texas Open. Last year, 1,950 birdies were made, so a one-cent pledge equaled a \$19.50 donation; a nickel pledge equaled a \$97.50 donation. Or you can donate a fixed amount (\$20, \$50, \$100). Of course, we don't expect our members to do all the donating. That's why we want you to share this opportunity with your friends, neighbors, church group, co-workers, your bunco, bridge or poker friends, homeowners association, etc.



It's easy! You can fill out a pledge form online at [valerotexasopen.org](http://valerotexasopen.org). Just click on the "Donate" link, and follow the three steps. Be sure to specify the San Antonio Symphony League as your charity in Step 2. Don't forget to make a guess as to how many birdies will be made this year. You may just win a brand new vehicle!

You may also contact our committee chair, Deborah Munson, Monday through Friday from 8 till 4:30, at 210-764-8881 for assistance or to attain a pledge form. You may also email her at [deborah@newreachmedia.com](mailto:deborah@newreachmedia.com). All pledges are tax deductible and 100% of the proceeds will be given to our Symphony!

"Birdies for Charity" runs through mid-April, but make a pledge now! Donate a penny per birdie now; then, next month pledge another penny! Remember, with every donation, you have another opportunity to win a new car!

# Music at the Museum XII Photos

Please turn to page EIGHT for a report on Music at the Museum.

## The Crowd



## The Event



Gail Wettstein

## The Music



Mastersingers



Jean Robinson - Vivienne Spy  
- Sharon Kuster



John Carroll - Lee Hipp



Anastasia Storer - Bassam Nashawati  
Benjamin Westney - Marisa Bushman

# Music at the Museum XII - Encore Reception



Guest Speaker,  
San Antonio Symphony  
CEO Jack Fishman, speaking  
about the Tobin Center



Rosario Laird welcomes guests  
and does the introductions



Just part of the crowd!

## A Note From Service

Recently I came across a chart showing the estimated dollar value of a volunteer hour for each state. They ranged from \$11.31 to \$32.49. Texas came in at \$21.35 per hour. When the SASymphony writes a grant, the volunteer hours are often included as a sign of commitment of our members to the organization. Just think. In December alone, our very own volunteers in the SAS Office worked 256 hours, accruing \$5,465.60 in volunteer hour credit!

While we have some very well-established committees, there is always a need for an extra few pair of hands, often at the last minute. Our latest request for help from the SASymphony involves transporting visiting guest artists to and from the airport. Although we have a group who has volunteered to do this, there is always a need for more people.

Each of you could help increase our volunteer hour credit by giving an hour or more to the SAS League. Rather than having me send out emails which are easily spammed or deleted, you can email/mail/phone me indicating that you would be willing to be asked to help. This DOES NOT mean that you will be put on a committee or asked to do something that you have not agreed to. I just would like to know who would allow me to contact them about upcoming volunteer needs. It will be up to you to say yes or no. I know how difficult it is to commit. I am a caregiver with set commitments that are complicated to try to work around. However, I enjoy helping when I can and I always meet interesting people and have a good time. Please think about it - then contact me at pennyw@aol.com or 271-7555.

Submitted by Penny Wiederhold, VP Service

## From Jack Fishman, San Antonio Symphony CEO



We are almost half way through our 72nd season, but it is time to start subscription renewals for the 2012–2013 season. The renewal campaign begins in February and ends at the renewal deadline on April 2. That leaves us enough time to run the campaign for new subscribers that takes five months. I know that sounds like a long time, but this schedule is working. Since the 2008–2009 season, the number of subscribers has increased 60% using this strategy.

Here are a few highlights, including an exciting recital by Lang Lang at the very beginning of the season.

### LANG LANG IN RECITAL

**Tuesday, October 16, 2012 at 7:30 p.m. at the Majestic Theatre**

Superstar pianist Lang Lang returns to San Antonio in a solo piano recital without orchestra for one night only. If you were lucky enough to experience Lang Lang in January 2010 for his last appearance in San Antonio, you already know what the excitement is all about. As the Symphony did in his last appearance, the image of his hands will be projected over the piano during the concert, so you'll see his dazzling technique from every seat in the Majestic Theatre.

Heralded as the "hottest artist on the classical music planet" by the *New York Times*, Lang Lang has played sold out recitals and concerts in every major city in the world and is the first Chinese pianist to be engaged by the Vienna Philharmonic, Berlin Philharmonic and all the top American orchestras.

### CLASSICS

The Classics series will feature Sebastian Lang-Lessing's third festival. This time it's a Brahms Festival in February 2013. The Brahms Festival will utilize the same format as the Tchaikovsky Festival did last season—four concerts in nine days. We will perform all four Brahms symphonies, both piano concertos, the violin concerto and the double concerto for violin and cello.

What is especially exciting about the Brahms Festival is the guest artists. The Symphony will be joined by pianist Kirill Gerstein, violinist Vadlim Gluzman and cellist Jian Wang. Gerstein is an unusual superstar pianist, in that he started as a jazz artist! In 2010 he won the prestigious Gilmore Artist Award and in 2010 he was awarded an Avery Fisher Career Grant.

2013 will mark big anniversaries for Verdi and Wagner. Sebastian Lang-Lessing will celebrate both composers over the next two seasons. In this season, that means the great Verdi Requiem with the San Antonio Symphony Mastersingers and four fabulous solo singers. For Wagner, we will offer an orchestra-only version of Wagner's Ring Cycle. Other highlights include Berlioz's *Symphonie Fantastique*, Mozart's "Jupiter" Symphony and Mahler's towering Symphony No. 3.

### POPS

The POPS will feature some great conductors. Our new Assistant Conductor, Akiko Fujimoto, will lead the Holiday Pops and the Fiesta Pops. Steven Reineke, who is the Principal Pops of the National Symphony and the New York Pops, will kick off the season with two Broadway stars from *Wicked*. Carl Topilow, from the Cleveland Pops, will offer a movie-themed concert and Michael Krajewski will be back to salute the sounds of Simon and Garfunkel. The final concert will be Tony Kishman's tribute to the music of Paul McCartney.

**See you at the Symphony!**

## Future Stars Concerto Competition

The San Antonio Symphony's Future Stars Concerto Competition, sponsored by the Symphony League, took place over the last two Saturdays in January 2012. This competition was open to any central Texas student who would not be graduating from high school before April 2012 and who lived within 100 miles of San Antonio. The students competed in three divisions: strings, woodwind/brass, and piano. A field of sixteen young candidates, between the ages of eleven and eighteen, presented themselves at the Majestic Theatre on Jan 21 for the preliminary competition.

Some came with their parents, some with their teachers, some by themselves, but they all hoped to perform as well as possible in front of the three-judge panel. In the cavernous labyrinth under the stage level, Symphony League docents David George and Mary Anne Kramer checked in the candidates as they arrived and helped them navigate their way to their respective practice rooms, then to the "on-deck" room (the only practice room with a piano). Finally, escorted by Jeremy Brimhall, (the Symphony's Director of Education and Community Engagement), they went on stage. By the early afternoon of the first Saturday, the preliminary competition was over and everyone went home to wait for the results. We soon learned that there were six finalists: four string players, one pianist and one clarinetist. On the bright and windy morning of January 28, the finalists came together, this time to perform before a new set of judges in Ruth Taylor Recital Hall at Trinity University. Our Docent Chair, Genie Sobin, welcomed the candidates, and once again, they were escorted to the practice rooms to warm up. (One advantage at Trinity was that each of the practice rooms had a piano, unlike in the basement of the Majestic).

There were more family members and other supporters for each of the candidates than the previous Saturday. Some Symphony players also attended. Within two hours of starting, the competition was over and the judges retreated to another room to deliberate. During this time, Genie and I had a chance to speak to some of the young people and their families. Supporting an aspiring musician is not an easy task and it was clear that both generations work hard, with dedication and sacrifice, for the students to reach this level of proficiency.

Finally, the judges' decisions were announced: Miss Yousun Hah of Austin won the woodwind division, 14-year old Jeevan Subramaniam of San Antonio won the piano division, and 18-year old Collin Turner of Bulverde was the winner of the strings division. The Symphony League will award each of them \$250. The judges were so impressed by the quality of these young candidates that they named two grand prizewinners: Yousun Hah and Collin Turner. These two will share the grand prize of \$750 and will perform with the Symphony later this season.

The Future Stars Competition is a very worthwhile project that the Symphony League supports both financially and with its volunteers. At a time when support for aspiring artists is waning, it is satisfying to know that the League is helping the young musicians of the next generation reach for their lofty goals. Be on the lookout when Yousun Hah and Collin Turner will play for us with the Symphony.

Submitted by Christine F. Green, Future Stars Competition Chair

### Additional members since publication of Directory:

Ms. Madge Breslof 4518 Jarrell San Antonio, TX 78253 (210) 823-1013	Mrs. Zanna Chbeir 6502 Green Top San Antonio, TX 78233 (210) 340-5939	Mrs. Bette Cook 140 Patterson Ave. #101 San Antonio, TX 78209 (210) 822-0112
Janie Cotter & Gary Chavez 3159 Whitewing Lane San Antonio, TX 78230 (210) 342-2108	Ms. Donna Cunaway 240 Mustang Run Boerne, TX 78006 (830) 446-2258	Ms. Debra Golla 2 Bowood Court San Antonio, TX 78218 (210) 885-4057
Ms. Kristin Kellum 132 Park Hill Drive San Antonio, TX 78212	Antje & Norman Klaunig 142 Jordan Place Boerne, TX 78006 (830) 446-2258	Rebecca & Keith Long 119 Evans Ave. San Antonio, TX 78209 (210) 858-4414
Ms. Terri McDowell 300 E. Basse, #1401 San Antonio, TX 78209 (210) 396-7537	Mrs. Lisa Nichols 324 W. Sunset Road San Antonio, TX 78209	Mr. Chuck Ward P.O. Box 690383 San Antonio, TX 78269 (888) 211-9792



**San Antonio Symphony League**

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## ***Music at the Museum XII a Success!***

Our 12th Annual Music at the Museum was held on Monday, January 23rd to great success. More than 160 guests enjoyed the delightful ambiance of the Great Hall of the San Antonio Museum of Art during the pre-concert wine reception. Glasses of wine and passed hors d'oeuvres were generously served by the staff of AnneMarie's Catering. The Jade Exhibit was open for our viewing and a special area of the E Cowden Gallery was reserved for our Silent Auction items. A new part of the auction was an Art Wall with 10+ original works of art by local artists. David Rubin of SAMA helped coordinate and collect these fabulous items. The Wine Pull, where for a \$20.00 donation you receive a mystery bottle of wine, was sold out at 27 bottles thanks to our fabulous volunteers. At 6:50 pm, the crowd was seated and ready for the concert, to which included comical commentary from John Carroll and Lee Hipp. In addition to John and Lee, we owe a big Bravo to Bassam Nashawati, Anastasia Storer, Marisa Bushman, Benjamin Westney, Jeremy Dagett, Vivien Spy, Jean Robinson, Sharon Kuster and John Silantien and the SASymphony Mastersingers. The Concert was in honor of the 2012 San Antonio Beethoven Festival. An Encore Reception, underwritten by The Border Cultural Promotion Foundation and the Marshall T. Steves Foundation, was held in the Latin American Gallery atrium, featuring martinis, elaborate desserts and coffee. Jack Fishman, CEO of SASymphony, presented a captivating update on the Tobin Center for the Performing Arts. We especially appreciate all our volunteers - both from the SAMA docents group and our very own loyal League volunteers. Nancy Cook-Monroe featured the event in her SA Express News column on February 2nd. Wow! While final accounting has yet to take place, a nice amount is expected to be added to our Educational coffers. Thanks to all of our donors and sponsors, too numerous to mention here, and thanks to the committee chaired by Arleen West & Rosario Laird for their hard work. Thanks also to all who attended - make plans now to attend next years's Music at the Museum - it is a hidden treasure!!

Submitted by Maureen Hillman & Sharon Kocurek, M@M League Co-Chairs