



# TASO News

*Texas Association for Symphony Orchestras*

*The purpose for this organization shall be, "To promote, develop and support symphony orchestras"*

## From the President



Jan St. Hilaire

President, TASO  
2011-2012

### Take Advantage of Super Orchestra Volunteers with leadership experience!

I am honored to work with incredible members of Texas Association for Symphony Orchestras who have contributed so much to their own community orchestras! In addition to these accomplished Board Members, we have Helen Shaffer, Past President of TASO, representative of the Houston Symphony as the current President of **Association of Major Symphony Orchestra Volunteers**; Terry Brown of the Houston Symphony who serves on AMSOV Board; and Heather Moore, Past President of TASO, representative of Dallas Symphony Orchestra and current President of the **Volunteer Council for League of American Orchestras**. These mentors and other TASO Board Members bring expertise in leadership to our organization and information we can bring to better our own community Orchestras.

In September our TASO Board met to judge the entries for the **Awards of Excellence**. Chair of the AOE committee Tiffany Ammerman and her committee selected outstanding winners that we will celebrate at the **2012 TASO Conference to be held in Lubbock on May 3-6**, chaired by our Immediate Past President, Jan Bradley. The **Award Winners and Recognized Projects** were selected by chair Joan Wade and her committee meeting and we will also look forward to their presentation at the May annual conference.

**16th Annual Juanita Miller Concerto Competition** will be held on Saturday, January 14, 2012, at the Owens Art Center on the campus of Southern Methodist University in Dallas. We are fortunate to have an incredible committee to bring this prestigious competition to success once again. Heather Moore, Joi Smith, Peggy Jones and Marilyn Adams will guide us to another successful event. This event would not be possible without the individual contributions and organization support; we thank you for your generosity.

Many thanks to: Deborah Brown for the changes to our website, Linda Hatchel for this fabulous newsletter, Janna Shafer for our public relations and keeping us looking great in the photos!

We'll look forward to seeing everyone in Dallas January 12th to 14<sup>th</sup> for our next meetings! Please check out the new changes to our website [www.TASOvolunteers.com](http://www.TASOvolunteers.com)

Wishing you Health and Happiness in 2012!

## TASO CALENDAR

Jan. 12-13	TASO Board of Directors Dallas
Jan. 14	Juanita Miller Concerto Competition – SMU
Mar. 16	Newsletter Deadline
May 3-6	<b>Save the date!</b> TASO Conference, Lubbock
June 5-8	<b>Save the Date!</b> League of American Orchestras Conference (LAO) Dallas
June 15	Newsletter Deadline

## **COMMITTEES AND PROJECTS**



### **Recognized Service Projects**

*by Joan G. Wade*

### **TASO PROJECT AWARDS & RECOGNIZED PROJECTS**

#### **EDUCATION**

Amarillo: Young People's Concerts  
Houston: Junior Patrons Program and Celebration  
Waco: Painted Violin Art Contest  
Recognized Project:  
Clear Lake Symphony - Music in Schools

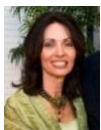
#### **FUNDRAISING:**

Amarillo: Vintage Amarillo  
Tyler: Senior Gifts  
Wichita Falls: Derby Day – Run For the Roses  
Recognized Projects:  
Tyler – Endowment Revival  
FASO – Dressed to a Tea

#### **SERVICE:**

Dallas: Orchestra Appreciation Luncheon  
Dallas: Up Close and Classical  
Plano: 2011 Collin County Young Artist Competition

### **Awards of Excellence Winners Announced**



*by Tiffany Ammerman*

*Chairperson*

*TASO Awards of Excellence*

On behalf of the Awards of Excellence Committee and myself as Chair, we are proud to announce the selection of the following winners:

Kathy Sheldon from Amarillo, Texas  
2011-2012 Volunteer Award of Excellence Winner  
Nominated by the Amarillo Symphony Guild

Sam & Sonia Wilson from Austin, Texas  
2011-2012 Patron Award of Excellence Winner  
Nominated by The Women's Symphony League of Austin

The Ambassador Hotel in Amarillo, Texas  
2011-2012 Business Award of Excellence Winner  
Nominated by the Amarillo Symphony Guild

The committee worked extremely hard this year and had a most difficult decision. I would like to thank our committee members Marsha Green, Advisor; Helen Shaffer; Curtis Wade; and Mildred Witte. The Awards will be presented at the Annual Conference to take place on May 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2012, in Lubbock, Texas.



### **TFA Holds First Arts Advocacy Academy Workshop Irving, Texas September 27, 2011**

*Submitted by Mary Padgett  
Texans for the Arts (TFA) Liaison*

Presented in conjunction with the Irving Arts Center and sponsored by the Cultural Data Project, operated by the Pew Charitable Trusts, the TFA Foundation held its first workshop, "Arts Funding and Leadership Development," at the Irving Arts Center on September 27, 2011.

The "faculty" of TFA's Arts Advocacy Academy, led by "Dean" Cookie Ruiz, CFRE, includes Allen Craig, partner in the Houston law office of Gardere, Wynne, Sewell, LLP; Megan Crigger, Acting Manager of the City of Austin's Division of Cultural Affairs, Joseph R. Wilson, TFA Board President; and Lynn Barnett, Executive Director of the Abilene Cultural Affairs Council. All are member of the Texans for the Arts Board of Directors.

The workshop attendees - arts administrators, board members, artists, volunteers and city government officials - heard presentations on "Building a Fundraising Board" and the ins and outs of becoming a "certified" state arts' advocate. In addition, the workshop included an update on the efforts of the Cultural Data Project to add Texas to the list of states reporting arts related data.

As an extra special attraction, the attendees were able to spend time viewing the blockbuster exhibit at the Irving Arts Center - Genghis Kahn - The Exhibition as guests of the Center.

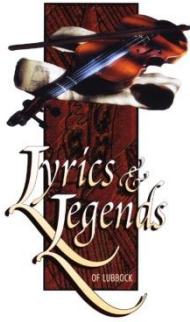
Our next regional workshop will be held in February, 2012, and followed by similar ones throughout the state. Watch your email for these announcements.

**2012 TASO Conference in Lubbock!**  
**May 3-6**  
**Exciting Plans!**

**Lubbock Symphony Guild in High Gear for TASO  
Conference 2012**

by

*Jan Adair Bradley and Bobbe Crawford, Co-Chairmen*



The Lubbock Symphony Guild is excited and eager to host the TASO Conference in Lubbock. Held at the Overton Hotel, this year's conference starts on Thursday, May 3rd and ends on Sunday, May 6<sup>th</sup>.

When you arrive on Thursday, you will be welcomed with West Texas hospitality! Our event kicks off with a cocktail reception and the Awards of Excellence dinner banquet. This year's honorees are:

*Kathy Sheldon from Amarillo, Texas*  
2011-2012 Volunteer Award of Excellence Winner  
Nominated by the Amarillo Symphony Guild

*Sam & Sonia Wilson from Austin, Texas*  
2011-2012 Patron Award of Excellence Winner  
Nominated by The Women's Symphony League  
of Austin

*The Ambassador Hotel in Amarillo, Texas*  
2011-2012 Business Award of Excellence Winner  
Nominated by the Amarillo Symphony Guild

Friday evening you will be whisked away from the Overton to some of the most beautiful homes in Lubbock for a gourmet meal in an intimate setting!

A highlight of this conference is **"Getting to Know You"** reports from our delegates representing their symphony guilds and leagues. You also will attend workshops with topics such as **"The Basics of Marketing Your Organization and Events"**, **"Bringing Your Art to Other Audiences"**, **"Fundraising from Individuals – From Ticket Sales to Major Gifts"**, **"What You Need to Know About Social Media: The How, When and Why"**, and **"Writing Grants! You Can Do It!"**

As a conference attendee, you will be entertained by our **Juanita Miller Concerto Winners** and our wonderful talent from Lubbock and surrounding communities!

Your conference registration will cover all meals, including the Saturday night pre-concert dinner at the Lubbock Country Club. You will be our guest for a stellar **Lubbock Symphony Orchestra** performance with conductor, **Tomas Golka!!** After the concert you will be hosted to lavish desserts and wine by our past mayor Wendy Sitton and her husband Frank.

Your registration packet will be mailed in March, and the forms will also be on the website.

[www.TASOvolunteers.com](http://www.TASOvolunteers.com)

**Mark your calendars and make plans to attend!**

**16<sup>th</sup> Annual Juanita Miller Concerto  
Competition!**

The 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Juanita Miller Concerto Competition, one of TASO's centerpiece projects, will be held at the Owens Art Center on the SMU campus January 14, 2012. The event features musicians in grades 9-12 competing in three divisions (Piano, Strings, Winds) for cash prizes and the chance to perform a concerto at the 2012 TASO Conference in Lubbock, Texas. A Grand Prize winner will be selected from the three First Place winners and will also perform with the Brazos Valley Symphony Orchestra and the East Texas Symphony in the 2013-2014 season.

TASO attendees are encouraged to stay in Dallas following the January 13, 2012, meeting to enjoy the competition and to hear some of the brightest talents in the state compete for this prestigious award. Representatives are also encouraged to fill a work shift during the competition.

More details will be available at the January Board meeting. For more information, contact either of the following:

Peggy Jones, JMCC Co-Chair (817-292-3797 or [texas\\_pj@att.net](mailto:texas_pj@att.net))

Jan Woodward, VP of Projects (325-691-5355 or [woodward24@suddenlink.net](mailto:woodward24@suddenlink.net))

**SAVE THE DATE!**  
**LAO is coming to Dallas**

SAVE THE DATE FOR THE **LEAGUE OF AMERICAN ORCHESTRAS CONFERENCE IN DALLAS, JUNE 5-8, 2012**

Symphony volunteers will experience extensive networking opportunities, leadership development sessions, and presentations from the Award of Excellence winners as well as Roundtable presenters from volunteer organizations across North America. Tuesday evening, June 5, a dine-around is scheduled for volunteer delegates to have a chance to get-acquainted. Several restaurants within walking distance will be reserved for the delegates and this activity is "dutch-treat."

On schedule during the Conference are two symphony concerts at the Meyerson Symphony Center which is a short walk from the conference hotel, the Sheraton Downtown. The performance by the Dallas Symphony Orchestra will take place Wednesday, June 6. On Thursday, June 7, attendees will be treated to a performance by the Fort Worth Symphony Orchestra. Tickets will be available for purchase with online registration.

*Now is the time* to make sure you and your organization are *budgeting* to attend this upcoming Conference. Online registration and hotel reservations will be open in February 2012. It is not too early to take advantage of this rewarding National Conference in Dallas. And be sure that this Conference is on the radar screen of your orchestra staff and board.

The web site [www.americanorchestras.org](http://www.americanorchestras.org) will have information concerning the Conference.

**SEE YOU IN DALLAS!**



**LEAGUES AND GUILDS**

**Dallas Symphony Orchestra League**

*Submitted by Sharon Knowles*

It has been a busy time for the The Dallas Symphony Orchestra League and we have lots to share with you.

**1)** The Dallas Symphony Orchestra League is thrilled to announce the **Deb It Shopping Card Program**. This innovative fundraising program offers card holder discounts at exclusive boutiques and stores in Dallas. For merchants, the Deb It program offers exciting partnership opportunities. Card cost: \$65.00.

This Shopping Card Program will work with various Dallas merchants offering discounts to the Debutantes, their family members, and The Honor Guard who will be attending the Debutante Presentation Ball and other related events. The Deb It card will also be sold to the Dallas Symphony Orchestra League patrons.

We will be obtaining many of the same merchants that have already offered to provide proceeds to the Dallas Symphony Orchestra League in prior events.

Merchants will be approached with the goal of obtaining 100 merchants for this 2011-2012 season that will offer wonderful shopping opportunities and excellent services for the Deb It card holders.

Modern Luxury Dallas will be our media sponsor and will offer on-going VIP Event Invitations to all card-holders. The media sponsor will also be available to assist in hosting the kick-off event which we plan to host at ESCADA in Highland Park Village in late September.

Merchants will be asked to give card holders a 10% discount and to donate an additional amount to the Dallas Symphony Orchestra League. The Dallas Symphony Orchestra League will provide non-profit receipts to the merchants.

Marketing and advertising opportunities vary at the different sponsorship levels.

Sample:

*PRESENTING SPONSOR - \$15,000 to \$20,000 (Limited to only one (1) sponsor)*

1. Name and logo to appear on the back of Deb It card
2. Name and logo to appear on all DebIt card-related collateral and signage
3. Presenting Sponsor to be listed and promoted on the DSOL website
4. Presenting Sponsor to receive four invitations to the Symphony Presentation Ball at the Meyerson Symphony Center Saturday, February 11, 2012
5. Presenting Sponsor to receive acknowledgement and recognition in all DSOL newsletters
6. Presenting Sponsor to be listed on the DSOL sponsor and donor page in the Dallas Symphony Orchestra PLAYBILL (read by up to 300,000 people annually).
7. Presenting Sponsor's name to be listed on crystal plaque in the Meyerson Lobby
8. Presenting Sponsor to be allowed usage of the Dallas Symphony Orchestra's logo to acknowledge status as a proud sponsor of the Dallas Symphony Orchestra
9. Deb It Card Program window cling will be provided to all sponsors.

**2)** The Dallas Symphony Orchestra League has been honored and recognized as one of the **Service Award Winners** for "Orchestra Appreciation" Luncheon and "Up Close and Classical." Stay tuned to hear more about these exciting programs at the TASO Conference to be held May 3 – May 6, 2012 in Lubbock, Texas. They will be sure to whet your appetite.

**3) Cavalli Rocks!** Wins the Gold Book Online Award of Excellence. The first round of awards from The League of American Orchestras has been released, and our league is pleased to announce that Cavalli Rocks! won the Gold Book Online Award of Excellence. The fundraiser took place last year at Land Co. 7 Senses in the Design District. In addition to including the League's members, this unique fundraiser targeted new audiences, especially the savvy 40 and under crowd, by adding a new twist to the fashion show/ food & spirits/ music concept.

The evening event included dancing, a fashion show featuring Roberto Cavalli's Archived Collection of designs that had been worn by famous people, and a single live auction item worth \$19,500 from American Airlines and The Residences at The Ritz-Carlton, Grand Cayman. The highlight of the evening included the DSO Young Strings performing with the Paul Renna Rock Band. The combination of violins and rock music was exhilarating!

Congratulations goes to Nancy Murphy, Teffy Jacobs, Molly Nolan, Pat McLaughlin, and Jackie Boyd for their creativity and execution of this event that raised \$30,000 to help support the DSO's education and community engagement programs. Jackie Boyd will present the Cavalli Rocks! fundraiser at the 2012 National Conference of The League of American Orchestras.

**4) The Innovators** of the Dallas Symphony Orchestra League announces their annual fundraiser, **Affaire de Champagne**, benefitting the Young Strings program of the DSO. DJ Marshall Argovitz will be spinning the tunes as we dance the night away at this fun and exciting cocktail party. Themed "Masquerade", the party will feature a Mask Contest, silent auction, heavy appetizers, and, of course, wine and champagne. We will also have performances by Young Strings students. We had a fantastic time last year. Come join us this year! Saturday, April 14, 2012 - The Loft at Gilley's - 1135 S. Lamar St, Dallas, TX 75215. For more information, visit the Innovators website:

[www.dsolinnovators.com](http://www.dsolinnovators.com)

### **FASO Brazos Valley**

*By Jane Van Valkenburg and Erin Kracht*

### **"DRESSED TO A TEA"**



FASO presented the second annual "Dressed to a Tea" fundraiser on Nov. 3, 2011. This year's elegant event was staged in the gracious setting of Miramont Country Club in Bryan. Over 225 were in attendance – a 25% increase over last year's inaugural event.

Models included FASO members, the president of the Brazos Valley Symphony Society, the executive director of the Brazos Valley Symphony, Symphony Belle, and two Belle moms.

Elegant fashions, festive hats, delectable sweets and savories, one-of-a-kind designer teapots, a Ross Volunteer, a sublime string quartet, engaging raffle items, the hospitality of the Symphony Belles, friendly conversations and publicity for the Brazos Valley Symphony: all these were elements of a successful afternoon that raised over \$6,000 for children's educational programs of the BVSO.



"Dressed to a Tea" was a rousing success!

### Symphony League of Fort Worth

*Submitted by Lenna Hughes*

#### FALL FUNDRAISER

The second annual Tri-Arts Festival, a fund-raising celebration of the performing arts in Fort Worth, was a stunning success.

More than 200 patrons paid \$125 each to enjoy an evening of string music, opera and ballet staged in a century-old railroad station that had been turned into a sparkling wonderland of colored lights, glowing candles and flowers.

Tri-Arts is a unique collaboration of three volunteer organizations, the Fort Worth Symphony League, the Fort Worth Opera Guild and the Ballet Guild of Fort Worth. The groups worked together to organize the event and pooled their efforts to sell tickets and attract donors. The united effort was first tried in Fort Worth in 2010. The first event was a modest success and that inspired a second year that saw a tripling of the funds raised. Underwriting and in-kind donations covered most of the expenses.



The highlight of the evening was a representative presentation by each of the three performing arts. A string quartet, led by the concertmaster of the Fort Worth Symphony, was presented by the League. The Opera Guild presented a series of arias sung by Ava Pine. The Ballet Guild's contribution was a Swan Lake pas de deux by dancers from the Texas Ballet Theater.



*VIP Reception  
(Ava Pine in center)*



*The evening's emcee, Mike Snyder  
with Marion Snipes and Martha Dunlap*

#### DECEMBER HOLIDAY EVENT

On December 8, the Symphony League of Fort Worth will host a Holiday event in the home of Dr. John Forestner and his partner, Brad Alford. Hors d'oeuvres, champagne, and wine will be served. Members of the Youth Orchestra of Fort Worth will provide entertainment.

The theme for all League events for 2011-2012 is "Life is Better with Music."

### Houston Symphony League Bay Area

*Submitted by Joan G. Wade*

#### 'A Day by the Bay' Home Tour

'A Day by the Bay' Home Tour Weekend is a Houston Symphony League Bay Area (HSLBA) sponsored fundraising project for the "I Love Music" education program in the Clear Creek ISD elementary schools. More than 150 volunteers are involved with the tour and the goal is to net about \$21,000 for education outreach efforts. Community sponsors contribute additional support to cover the \$41,700 needed to take this important program to the schools.



This program supplements music education curriculum with an entertaining introduction to orchestral instruments. First graders enjoy a puppet show with instrument demonstrations, while second, third and fourth graders are treated to in-school performances by professional ensembles. Fifth graders take a field trip to Jones Hall for a Houston Symphony Explorer concert.

This year's tour, showcasing four Clear Lake waterfront homes in Nassau Bay, is scheduled for Saturday and Sunday, March 24-25, 2012. In 2008 Nassau Bay endured the ravages of Hurricane Ike and all four homes were damaged to some extent.

In fact one of the houses had to be completely rebuilt. Houses on this HSLBA tour have been restored and newly refurbished.

Tickets are \$15 in advance or \$20 at the door (available at each home). The weekend kicks off with a pre-tour party on Friday evening, March 23. Tickets are \$75 for the party which also includes admission to all four homes.

For more information visit [www.hslba.org](http://www.hslba.org) or call Alberta at 281.480.4370.

In order to introduce the league to another Bay Area cultural arts organization, and to increase membership and a volunteer base for the Home Tour, a sold out **'Music at the Museum'** offering was held at the Bay Area Museum on October 25, 2011. The evening of wine and hors d'oeuvres was jointly hosted by the league and the museum's guild and featured the Fidelis Quartet. This string quartet of Houston Symphony musicians presented a program of classical and popular music from the Houston Symphony's repertoire.

### Marshall Symphony League

by Tiffany Ammerman



The Marshall Symphony League has had a busy fall season. On September 7, 2011 we hosted *Dixieland On-the-Square* from 11:30 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. Dixieland tunes were played by our most popular Dixieland band. The League sold box lunches as a fundraiser for the league and society. It was a great success.



The league held the *first general meeting* of the year on September 8, 2011 at the Michelson Museum of Art with guest speaker Tiffany Ammerman standing in for Maestro Leonard Kacenjar and speaking on the upcoming season.



On September 16, 2011 the League hosted its annual *Gourmet Hot Dog fundraiser* during the Friday night rehearsal as a part of the opening concert weekend events. This year's *opening concert* for the

Symphony and the Marshall Regional Arts Council featured our symphony with the Jeans 'n Classics band performing "It Came from the Jersey Shore" featuring the music of Jon Bon Jovi, Bruce Springsteen and Frankie Valli. The entire weekend was a resounding success and is a community effort for Marshall.



The *Taste of Symphony* was held on Saturday, October 29<sup>th</sup> from 11:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. featuring recipes prepared by League members and sold to the public. This event is a long running success for the League and was held at The Michelson Museum of Art.



The League held the *second general meeting* of the year on Thursday, November 10, 2011 and the featured program was the Marshall High School Strings Program.



On November 14<sup>th</sup>, 2011, the *second concert* of the year was held at East Texas Baptist University in Ornelas Spiritual Life Center featuring "The Texas String Festival," the William Tell Overture, music of Rogers & Hammerstein, and clips from The Lone Ranger. The concert was presented in memory of long-time board member Marjorie Perkins.



### Music Guild of New Mexico

by Teri Fahs

The Music Guild of New Mexico continues to gain strength daily!

Great things are happening for our Guild.

- ✓ Our membership numbers are up! We are currently close to 275 members! Our October New Member Meet and Greet Social attracted over 40 people and was a fabulous event.
- ✓ Our new president elect – Jackie Tobias – is a great addition to our Executive Committee. Jackie brings extensive experience in media and the dynamics of group organization.

- ✓ We have 40 Señoritas this year. The Señoritas have already provided many hours of community service to the Blue Start Mothers of Albuquerque, Albuquerque BioPark Zoo, The Duke City Marathon, the Albuquerque Opera Guild, the Animal Humane Doggie Dash & Dawdle, the Wounded Warriors Home Tour and the Rio Grande Arts & Crafts Fair. In addition they have attended classes on preparing for college, time management, self defense and internet safety, and heart health and healthy living.
- ✓ Guild members ushered for the inaugural performance of the Figueroa Project. "The Figueroa Project is a new, fresh and dynamic approach to classical music, tailored to our times, in order to bring new energy, excitement and audiences to energize the musical life of Albuquerque and New Mexico."\* The project is lead by the former music director of the NM Symphony Orchestra Guillermo Figueroa.
  - \* [www.figueroaproject.org](http://www.figueroaproject.org)
- ✓ Guild members also ushered for the introductory Concerts for 5<sup>th</sup> Graders at Popejoy Hall by the New Mexico Philharmonic.
- ✓ By the first week of December we will have introduced classical music to over half of the 1<sup>st</sup> grade classes in Albuquerque and Rio Rancho.
- ✓ Our members wrangled a wildly successful musical petting zoo in September.

With our **new mission** to support nonprofit musical organizations that educate, enhance and enrich the quality of our New Mexico community comes the opportunity to support many organizations. A wonderful Guild committee has developed an application for grant monies which will be ready in early spring. The Guild as already fielded numerous requests for the application. What a marvelous time to be a member of the Music Guild of New Mexico!



Please visit us at [www.musicguildofnewmexico.org](http://www.musicguildofnewmexico.org) . Program and contact information is readily available.

## Plano Symphony Orchestra

Submitted by Irma Landis and Marcela Holley

### *Mimosas with the Maestro*

The Plano Symphony Orchestra holds a beautiful luncheon for its donors every fall. This year, the event was held on Sunday, October 9<sup>th</sup>, at the spectacular home of Anthony and Sherrie Varrichio in our City of Plano. The Varrichio's are long time supporters of the organization.

The Guild is responsible for making the arrangements and providing the food and entertainment. In keeping with our theme for this season, "New York New York", the menu centered on an Italian flavor. The decorations and invitations carried the theme as well. The Guild members got to show off their culinary expertise and the attendees were greatly impressed. Sparkling Mimosas were served as the guests started to arrive.

It is always our treat to have our conductor, Maestro Hector Guzman with us at this event. He is always gracious in greeting and mingling with our guests throughout the event. He also outlined what the symphony patrons can expect in the upcoming season.

Our guests were treated to fun, food and a good time. This is an event everyone looks forward to each year and the photos are testimony of that day.



**East Texas Symphony Orchestra  
and the  
Women's Symphony League of Tyler**

*By Joi Smith*

Who is that? Where did you say he is from? Wow! I did not know our symphony could play like that! Electricity is in the air as the East Texas Symphony Orchestra kick starts our conductor search with a "Welcome to Texas Campaign."



*Richard Lee*



*Matthew Savery*

Richard Lee, a candidate from Canada, and Matthew Savery from Montana have electrified the concert hall with their thrilling conducting and have succumbed to the charms of East Texas: big hats, big belt buckles and bodacious bar-b-que.

Each of the five candidates will enjoy a photo shoot at Cavender's Boot city and a quick lesson on truck driving safety! Stay tuned as the reports keep pouring in and music keeps stompin' out.



By now!

**Waco Symphony Council**

*By Betsy Reeder*

The Waco Symphony Council has had an extremely busy fall celebrating the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Waco Symphony with special activities along with our regular events.

Our season kicked off on September 27<sup>th</sup> with a concert by Joshua Bell. Prior to this concert we hosted a Preview party where we also unveiled some of the Painted Strings to be auctioned at our fundraiser on November 18<sup>th</sup>.



On October 13<sup>th</sup>, we hosted over 5000 area 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> graders for our Children's Concert. The Baylor Symphony Orchestra, Joy's School of

Dance, and the Baylor Chamber Singers gave 3 separate performances that day to the schools. Many of the students had never attended a live musical performance so their rapt attention and smiling faces were confirmation that this is a much needed and well appreciated event sponsored by the Council.



That same night we had our Conductor's Dinner, where the upper level donors are honored with a special dinner. At the dinner, Maestro Stephen Heyde was presented with the "Golden Baton" award for his 25 outstanding years leading the Waco Symphony Orchestra. Several surprise guests also attended that entertained the crowd with stories of Maestro Heyde's tenure with the symphony.



On November 6<sup>th</sup>, the Council sponsored "ZooTunes" with Cameron Park Zoo. The Zoo recently added a new pavilion, which was perfect for this event. Even the unexpected "intermission" due to rain did not stop the fun and



activities. This is the 4<sup>th</sup> year of this event, and many attendees had come previously and brought friends and family. Once again, the Instrument Petting Zoo was a very popular activity at the ZooTunes event, along with the inflatables and face painting. Over 90 Belles and Brass and 25 Council members volunteered at this event. The Baylor Symphony Orchestra repeated many of the selections from the Children's Concert in October, and the Waco Youth Symphony



also entertained the audience with musical selections.



On November 1<sup>st</sup> we hosted a preview Party for the November 8<sup>th</sup> Jose Feghali concert. At the concert, the Painted Strings were again exhibited, and we took pre-bids for the upcoming auction. The Waco Symphony Association also is selling special Christmas Ornaments, hand blown by Stanton Glass Studios, to commemorate the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary season.

On November 18<sup>th</sup>, we had our Painted Strings Gala Fundraiser. In addition to 24 beautifully painted instruments, other auction items included New York vacations, wine selections, jewelry and private dinners. At this time the total amount raised



is not finalized, but it was well attended and everyone had a great time supporting the symphony.

Our upcoming events include our annual Christmas Concert on December 9<sup>th</sup> and the new year will start with a concert on January 12<sup>th</sup> with Andre Watts.

On Valentine's Day the Council will host a pre-concert Valentine's Day dinner before the Chris Botti concert! A perfect Valentine's Day evening.

Our 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary year celebration continues with plans for the Belle & Brass presentation in March, where we will have a Belle & Brass reunion luncheon and fashion show.

WSO 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Opening Concert  
After Party  
*Submitted by Marsha Green*



*Guest artist Joshua Bell with Margaret C. Brown (TASO President 1973) and Marsha K. Green (TASO President 2009)*

### **Wichita Falls Symphony League** *By Judy Pipes and Jane McGough*

On October 15, 2011, the Wichita Falls Symphony League held a **pre-concert reception fundraiser** at the Memorial Auditorium. Many patrons and special guests enjoyed the beautiful decor, good food and wine, and the entertainment provided by a trio from the Wichita Falls Youth Symphony Orchestra composed of Hunter Sanchez, first violin; Julie Nicholson, second violin and Emma White, cello.

This is the first year a reception has been held on the balcony level of the auditorium where the symphony has performed since the 1940s. Many community leaders enjoyed it so much that they would like to see it repeated in the future.

Candler Schaffer, conductor, and Mark Francis, executive director, were at the reception to greet patrons. The first chairs of most sections of the orchestra were also guests. These instrumentalists were pleased to meet and express thanks to the patrons who donated funds through the "Chair" program (first chair of each section of the orchestra) to the WFSO.

**The October concert** was outstanding, featuring Beethoven's Ninth Symphony under the direction of Dr. Jerry McCoy with the University of North Texas Chorus and thirty members of the Wichita Falls Chorus who were prepared by Dr. Dan White, Wichita Falls ISD Fine Arts Curriculum Specialist.

Soloists for the evening were Lynn Eustes, soprano; Linda Di Fore, mezzo soprano; Alex Bumpas, tenor and Stephen Morscheck, bass. The performance was enjoyed by all.

The Wichita Falls Symphony League hosts a **coffee for League members** and guests each Thursday morning before the Saturday concert. The coffees are always an exciting time with musical entertainment, good food and the opportunity to meet with others who support the orchestra. Future coffees will be held on November 10, February 9, and March 22. On Thursday, December 8, a brunch will be held at First Presbyterian Church in lieu of the usual coffee.

At the **December 10 concert**, the WFSO's guest artists will be the **Canadian Brass** in a special Christmas concert. The Wichita Falls Youth Symphony Orchestra will perform several selections on stage before the concert and from the pit during the concert as they join the WFSO in several numbers. There will also be two student apprentices from the YSO who will perform with the WF Symphony Orchestra. After having been coached by WFSO members for a few weeks' lessons, these apprentices will play on stage with their coaches during the concert.

Another tradition of the Wichita Falls Symphony League is to provide a **meal for the orchestra** at the Friday evening rehearsals. This year members will also help usher at the concert along with the League-sponsored youth performing group, APPLAUSE. The League is also preparing for our spring Scholarship Audition Program.

**Event Planning: A Lecture by Todd Fiscus** of Dallas will be held on Thursday, March 8, 2012, at 5:00 pm, at the Kemp at the Forum. This is an opportunity for attendees to learn more about planning special events from Todd who did the wedding reception for Tony Romo and does event planning throughout the USA and overseas.

On Saturday, May 5, at the Wichita Falls Country Club at 4:00 pm, ***Run for the Roses, A Kentucky Derby Day Event***, with food, exciting games, bidding on both silent and live auctions, and the opportunity to watch the Derby will be held. Both of these future events will be part of the Wichita Falls Symphony League's commitment to raising funds for our Wichita Falls Symphony Orchestra.



### **What Member Organizations are Doing** ***Calendars from Member Organizations***

#### **Abilene Philharmonic**

Jan. 28 Celebrations  
Rachel Barton Pine, Violin  
Feb. 25 A Gershwin Evening  
Apr. 12 A Cabaret Night  
(Special Benefit Concert)  
Apr. 21 New World  
Greg Hustis, Horn  
May 5 Broadway a la Carte II  
[www.abilenephilharmonic.org](http://www.abilenephilharmonic.org)

#### **Amarillo Symphony Guild**

Jan. 20 Lunch and Listening  
Jan. 20-21 Concert "Great Romantics"  
Nancy Ambrose King, Oboe  
Jan. 29 Young Performer's Competition  
WTAMU Fine Arts Complex  
Feb. 25 Symphony Ball  
Feb. 17 Lunch and Listening  
Feb. 17-18 Concert "Bold & Brassy"  
Koichiro Yamamoto, Trombone  
Mar. 9-10 Concert "Starry, Starry Night of  
Strings,"  
Chee Yun Kim, Violin  
Apr. 19 Membership Meeting  
Apr. 27 Lunch and Listening  
Apr. 27-28 Concert "Bravura! Carmina Burana"  
With Amarillo Master Chorale  
[www.amarillosymphony.org](http://www.amarillosymphony.org)

#### **Women's Symphony League of Austin**

Dec. 30 Firecracker Conductor Contest @  
POPS, Palmer Events Center

Dec. 30-31 Pops Concert, Music of John  
Williams  
Jan. 13-14 ASO Concert  
Emanuel Ax, Piano  
Long Center  
Feb. 4 or 11 Children's Valentine Fundraiser  
Feb. 20 POPS Concert, Natalie Cole  
Long Center  
Mar. 2-3 ASO Concert  
Denyce Graves, Mezzo-Soprano  
Long Center  
Mar. 9 Ray Benson, Asleep at the Wheel  
Long Center  
Mar. 30-31 ASO Concert  
Bion Tsang, Cello  
Long Center  
Apr. 26 Texas Young Composers Concerts  
Long Center  
Apr. 21/28 Showhouse/Spring Fundraiser  
May 4-5 ASO Concert  
Conspirare Symphonic Choir  
Long Center  
June 1-2 ASO Concert  
Jon Nakamatsu, Piano  
Long Center  
June 8-9 POPS Concert  
The Texas Tenors  
Palmer Events Center  
[www.austinsymphony.org](http://www.austinsymphony.org)

#### **Symphony League of Beaumont The Symphony of Southeast Texas**

Jan 21 Symphony Pops Concert  
"The Sounds of New Orleans: A  
Tribute to Louis Armstrong  
Byron Stripling, Trumpet  
Mar. 3 Master Series II Concert  
Amadeus 2.0  
Symphony of Southeast Texas  
Chorus  
Apr. 14 Master Series IV  
Clash of the Titans!  
[www.sost.org](http://www.sost.org)

#### **Brazosport Symphony League**

Feb. 18 Community Concert – *But  
seriously...Humor in Music*  
Brazosport Symphony League  
Educational Outreach Program to  
local schools

Mar. 24 Subscription II - *An Evening of Recognition*. Young Artist Competition Winner  
 May 5 Subscription III - *The Glory of Tchaikovsky*  
<http://www.bcfas.org>

### FASO-Brazos Valley

Jan. 23 Children's Concert "Peter and the Wolf" and Franco Bettati, piano, winner of the Youth Concerto Competition  
 Feb. 19 Concert, "From Waltz to Tango" Guest Artist Federico Mondelci, Saxophone  
 Feb. (TBA) Youth Concerto Competition  
 Mar. 25 Concert, "the Americas and Beyond" Guest Artist, Chad Ibison, guitar, winner of the TAMU International Guitar Symposium & Competition  
 Apr. 22 Concert, "The Grand Finale" Guest Artist, Lulu Chang, piano, winner of the 2010 Juanita Miller Concerto Competition  
 May 5 Derby Day  
[office@bvso.org](mailto:office@bvso.org)  
 (979) 696-6100

### Clear Lake Area Symphony Society

Feb. 3 Concert  
 Chabrier: "Joyeuse Marche,"  
 Tchaikowsky: "Francesca da Rimini," Goldmark: "Rustic Wedding" Symphony  
 Mar. 9 Concert  
 Berlioz: "King Lear" Overture  
 Winners - Youth Concerto Competition  
 Apr. 20 Final Season Concert  
 Gade: "Echoes of Ossian," Grofe: "Grand Canyon Suite," Overture,  
 Litloff: "Piano Concerto Symphonique No. 4"  
 Matthew Cash, Piano  
 May 5 "7<sup>th</sup> Annual Great Chefs of the Bay Area"  
 Houston Hilton NASA Clear Lake  
[www.clearlakesymphony.org](http://www.clearlakesymphony.org)

### Conroe Symphony League

Feb. 13 "The Romance of the Symphony"  
 Apr. 16 "Celebrating Spring"  
 June 25 "A Patriotic Celebration"  
[www.conroesymphony.org](http://www.conroesymphony.org)

### Symphony Guild of Corpus Christi

Feb. 18 Subscription Concert 4  
 The Best of Broadway  
 Mar. 10 Subscription Concert 5  
 Jose Feghali, Piano  
 Apr. 14 Subscription Concert 6  
 Stephen Hough, Piano  
[www.ccsymphony.org](http://www.ccsymphony.org)

### Dallas Symphony Orchestra League

Dec. 12-13 Michael W. Smith Christmas  
 Dec. 23 A Canadian Brass Christmas  
 Dec. 26-27 Mannheim Steamroller Christmas  
 Dec. 31 From Moscow to Vienna!  
 Jan. 5-7 Glinka *Russian & Ludmilla Overture*, Glass – *An American Four Seasons*, Tchaikovsky Symphony 2  
 R. McDuffie, Violin  
 Peter Ounkjian, Conductor  
 Jan. 13-14 Masters of Film Music:  
 James Newton Harris  
 Jan. 19-22 Rautavaara *Manhattan Trilogy*  
 Sibelius Violin Concerto  
 Sibelius Symphony No. 5  
 Caroline Goulding, Violin  
 Pietari Inkinen, Conductor  
 Jan. 26-28 Mozart Clarinet Concerto  
 Schubert Symphony No. 9  
 Gregory Raden, Clarinet  
 Jaap van Zweden, Conductor  
 Feb. 2-5 Wagner *Siegfried Idyll*  
 Mozart Piano Concerto 20,  
 Wagner *Good Friday Spell* from *Parsifal*, Debussy *La Mer*  
 David Fray, Piano  
 Jaap van Zweden, Conductor  
 Feb. 9 & 12 Yesterday Once More: A Musical Tribute to the Carpenters  
 Feb. 16-19 Adams *Short Ride in a Fast Machine*, Prokofiev Piano Concerto No. 3  
 Tchaikovsky Symphony No. 6, *Pathetique*  
 Severin von Eckardstein, Piano

Feb. 23-26 Jaap van Zweden, Conductor  
Vivaldi *The Four Seasons*  
Rossini-Britten *Matinee*  
*Musicales*, Elgar *Enigma Variations*  
Shannon Lee, violin

Mar. 1-3 Ed Spanjaard, Conductor  
Mozart Symphony No. 38  
Berlioz *Te Deum*  
Richard Croft, Tenor, DSO Chorus  
Children's Chorus of Great Dallas,  
John Nelson, Conductor

Mar. 5 Doc Severinsen and his Big Band  
Mar. 6-7 Earth, Wind & Fire with the DSO  
Mar. 15-18 John Luther Adams *Dark Waves*,  
Schubert & Strauss Songs,  
Shostakovich Symphony No. 9  
Matthias Goerne, Baritone  
Jaap van Zweden, Conductor

Mar. 23-24 Kool & The Gang  
Mar. 25 Stories in Music with Jamie  
Bernstein (Family Concert)

Mar. 29-31 Bach *St. Matthew Passion*  
Soloists, DSO Chorus  
Children's Chorus of Great Dallas  
Jaap van Zweden, Conductor

Apr. 3 The Music of ABBA  
Apr. 5-7 Masters of Film Music  
Harry Gregson-Williams

Apr. 12-15 Sibelius *Rakastava*  
Grieg Piano Concerto, Grieg  
*Lyric Suite*, Sibelius Symphony No.7  
Andre Watts, Piano  
James Gaffigan, Conductor

April 26-29 Bruckner Symphony No. 8  
Jaap van Zweden, Conductor

May 3-5 Haydn Symphony 92  
Mozart Symphony 40  
Tchaikovsky *Variations on a Rococo*  
*Theme*  
Johannes Moser, Cello  
Jaap van Zweden, Conductor

May 11 & 13 Beethoven *Fidelio*  
Soloists, DSO Chorus  
Jaap van Zweden, Conductor

May 18-20 Masters of Film Music:  
Michael Giacchino

May 25-26 Armed Forces Salute with  
Marvin Hamlisch

June 8-9 Cole Porter Tribute with Michael  
Feinstein and Marvin Hamlisch

[www.dallassymphony.com](http://www.dallassymphony.com)

## El Paso Symphony Guild

Jan. 27-28 Classical Concert #4  
Peck: The Glory and the Grandeur;  
Concerto for PercussionTrio  
Tchaikovsky: Symphony No. 5  
Bach: Concerto for Two Violins  
in d minor  
Soovin Kim, Violin  
Ik-Hwan Bae, Violin  
Michael Buttermann, Conductor

Feb. 24-25 Classical Concert #5  
Adams: The Chairman Dances;  
Foxtrot for Orchestra  
Dvořák: Symphony No. 9  
Sibelius: Violin Concerto, D minor  
Chee-Yun, Violin  
Peter Rubardt, Conductor

Apr. 20-21 Classical Concert #6  
Glinka Overture to *Ruslan and*  
*Ludmila*  
Prokofiev *Romeo and Juliet*  
(movements from Suites 1 and 2)  
Elgar Cello Concerto, op.85, E  
minor  
Zuill Bailey, Cello  
Mariusz Smolij, Conductor  
[www.epso.org](http://www.epso.org)

## Symphony League of Forth Worth

Dec. 21 Christmas with the Von Trapp  
Family Singers

Jan. 13-15 Beethoven & Brahms  
Arnaldo Cohen, Piano

Feb. 3-5 Cinderella  
Ana Victoria Luperi, Clarinet

Mar. 2-4 Schumann Piano Concerto  
Markus Groh, Piano

Mar. 23-25 The Firebird  
Alisa Weilerstein, Cello

Apr. 13-15 Budding Violinist  
Will Hagen, Violin

May 4-6 Cliburn Gold  
Haochen Zhang, Piano  
[www.fwsymphony.org](http://www.fwsymphony.org)

## Houston Symphony League

Jan. 6	B# Brunch
Jan. 7	Houston Symphony League Concerto Competition
Feb. 14-15	Explorers Concerts
Mar. 7	Explorers Concerts
Apr. 4	Explorers Concerts
Mar. 8	Springs Membership Tea
Mar. 10	Family Concerts
Apr. 28	Family Concerts
Mar. 23	Symphony Ball
Mar. 30	B# Brunch with Miles Hoffman
Apr. 4	Explorers Concert
Apr. 21	Children's Fashion Show
May 2	President's Luncheon
May 20	Maestro's Wine Dinner
May 31-June 2	Ima Hogg Competition

## Houston Symphony League Bay Area

### Irving (ENVISO) Symphony League

The Irving Symphony is changing its name to Enviso in an effort to broaden its regional and demographic appeal. The new name is similar to the Latin word *invisio* which means "to behold." It also incorporates ISO, the abbreviation used for Irving Symphony Orchestra. The symphony is marketed as "Enviso: Symphonic Music You Can See."

Feb. 11	Les Fleurs Di Wu, Piano
Mar. 10	An Evening with Jane Monheit
Apr. 14	An Evening with Cling Eastwood

[www.irvingsymphony.com](http://www.irvingsymphony.com)

## Marshall Symphony League

Feb. 20	Icy Rene Simpson, Soprano Kerone Jackson, Bariton
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[www.marshallsymphony.com](http://www.marshallsymphony.com)

## Mid Texas Symphony Guild

Feb. 18	Appalachian Spring
Apr. 1	Compare and Contrast
May 6	The West and the West Side

[www.mtsymphony.org](http://www.mtsymphony.org)

## Music Guild of New Mexico

[www.newmexicosymphonyguild.org](http://www.newmexicosymphonyguild.org)

## Midland-Odessa Symphony and Chorale

Dec. 18	LSBQ Chamber Greathouse Recital Hall
Jan. 7	The Planets: A Multi-Media Show Wagner-Noel Hall
Jan. 21	Masterworks 3 "Coming to America" Kyle Orth, 2011 NYAC Winner, Piano Wagner-Noel Hall
Feb. 11	The Vienna Boys Choir First Presbyterian Church, Midland
Feb. 12	WTW Chamber Greathouse Recital Hall
Feb. 26	PBSQ Chamber Greathouse Recital Hall
Mar. 3	POPS 3 Jeans n' Classics: "Elton John Tribute" Wagner-Noel Hall
Mar. 25	LSBQ Chamber Greathouse Recital Hall
Apr. 14	Masterworks 4 "Something Old, Something New" Wagner-Noel Hall
Apr. 22	Kid's Choir Greathouse Recital Hall
Apr. 29	Chorale Chamber Greathouse Recital Hall
May 12	POPS 4 The Texas Tenors Wagner-Noel Hall

[www.mosc.org](http://www.mosc.org)

## Plano Symphony Guild

Dec. 18	Home for the Holidays
Jan. 21	Cirque de la Symphonie
Feb. 18	The Texas Tenors
Mar. 24	Porgy & Bess and the Young Artists Soloists: Donnie Ray Albert and Pamela Dillard
Apr. 21	Finlandia Mariusz Patyra, Violin

[www.planosymphony.org](http://www.planosymphony.org)

## San Angelo Symphony Guild

- Jan. 20 Dragons, Drums and Delights Fundraiser. Ring in the Year of the Dragon with live music, dancing and Pacific Rim Delights.
- Jan. 28 Symphony Guild Gala, "A Royal Affair" with a British theme carried throughout including our Belles, introduced in the fashion of Royalty, followed by an elegant dinner and dance.
- Feb. 4 Rodeo Night!
- Mar. 3 Elegance and Beauty
- Mar. 9 Springtime in Paris (Fundraiser) Stroll down a boulevard of French paintings, enjoy a wonderful French inspired dinner and be serenaded by violinist Brandie Phillips.

## Women's Symphony League of Tyler East Texas Symphony Orchestra

- Jan. 14 Sublime Melodies:  
Emperor and Finlandia  
Robert Trevino, Conductor
- Jan. 19 Boogie Woogie Bugle Boy Bunko
- Jan. 24 Games Day at the USO Hollytree  
Country Club
- Mar. 10 Spanish Rhythms  
Steven Jarvi, Conductor
- Apr. 28 The Most Famous Four Notes  
Viswa Subbaraman, Conductor
- [www.wsTyler.org](http://www.wsTyler.org)  
[www.etsso.org](http://www.etsso.org)

## Victoria Symphony League

- Jan. 21 Michael Martin Murphey  
[www.victoriasymphony.com](http://www.victoriasymphony.com)

## Waco Symphony Council

- Jan. 12 Concert, Guest Artist Andre Watts
- Feb. 14 Concert, Guest Artist Chris Botti
- Mar. 24 Golden Anniversary Brunch/Style  
Show honoring former Belles
- Mar. 24 Concert, Guest Artist James Pitts  
Presentation of Belles & Brass
- [www.wacosymphony.com](http://www.wacosymphony.com)  
[www.wacosymphonycouncil.com](http://www.wacosymphonycouncil.com)

## Wichita Falls Symphony League

- Mar. 8 Lecture on Event Planning by Todd  
Fiscus of Dallas
- May 5 Run for the Roses: A Kentucky  
Derby Day Event



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# Photo Gallery

Board Dinner  
September 18, 2011  
Royal China Restaurant



*Terry White, Linda Hatchel, Blanche Stastney*



*Heather Moore, Helen Shaffer*



*Jan St. Hilaire, Suzanne Markwell, JoBeth Corwin*



*Sharon Knowles, Jana Shafer*



*LaVerne Gollob, Jan Woodward*



*Susan Douglas, Deborah Brown*



*Betty Wall, Marsha Green*



*Jan Adair Bradley, Dianne Sawyer*



*Annis Lane with her mother Louise Shatley*



*Annette Findley, Laura Hyde, Betsy Reeder*

TASO Board Meeting  
September 19, 2011



*TASO ladies from Tyler:  
Joi Smith, LaVerne Gollob, Laura Hyde, and Annette Findley*



*Steve Alter, LAO Director of Advertising and Marketing  
Polly Kahn, LAO Vice President of Learning and Leadership  
Heather Moore, LAO Volunteer Council President  
Helen Shaffer, LAO Volunteer Council President-Elect*



*Steve Alter, LAO Director of Advertising and Marketing  
Polly Kahn, LAO Vice President of Learning and Leadership  
Heather Moore, LAO Volunteer Council President  
Laura Hyde, LAO National Conference Chairman-  
Volunteer Division.*