

Houston Symphony League Bay Area



Joan Wade, President

WWW.HSLBA.ORG

Linda Coney, Editor
September, 2008



TO PERFORM ON SEPTEMBER 10, 2008



The first meeting of the thirty-second season of HSLBA will be on Wednesday, September 10 at Webster Presbyterian Church, 201 W. NASA Parkway, Webster, TX, and will begin with socializing at 10:00. There will be a short business meeting with announcements of activities. Entertainment will follow at about 10:45.

Duo Capriccio was established with the aim of expanding the repertoire for the unique ensemble of oboe and guitar. They specialize in classical music from all eras with an emphasis on the music of contemporary composers and occasional forays into popular genres. Their repertoire includes works by Astor Piazzolla, Francis Poulenc, and Domenico Cimarosa.

Tracy Russell has had a lengthy career as an oboist, teacher and freelance musician and has played with symphony orchestras in the U.S. as well as South America. Prior to moving to Texas Ms. Russell was Professor of oboe at the University of Caldas in Manizales, Colombia where she also coached chamber ensembles and taught courses in ethnomusicology. In Colombia she was a featured soloist at the Popayan Music Festival. She also premiered several electro-acoustic works in Bogota and soloed on many occasions with the Caldas Chamber Orchestra with whom she recorded the Marcello *Concerto for Oboe*. Ms. Russell is currently pursuing a Doctoral Degree in Oboe Performance at the University of Houston where she teaches classes on the history of popular music and music of the world.

Ingo Sveinsson was born in Reykjavik, Iceland and graduated from Reykjavik Conservatory with a master's degree in Classical Guitar Performance. He is a versatile musician with a comprehensive career as a performing artist and teacher of the classical guitar. In addition to his career as a solo guitarist, ensemble player and teacher, Mr. Sveinsson has appeared as a soloist with many internationally renowned symphony orchestras in major cities around the world and his musicianship has been highly praised by both critics and audiences. His interest in and interpretation of 20th century music has given him the opportunity to work with some of today's talented composers and premiere many of their works for both solo guitar as well as ensemble music. Critics and audiences have praised his performances.

Guests are welcome at this meeting. Webster Presbyterian Church is on the south side of NASA Pkwy. Just west of Highway 3. Turn south on Austin St. to find the church entrance at the back of the building, and ample parking across the street from the entrance.



PRESIDENT'S NOTES

By Joan Wade

I extend a warm welcome to new and renewing members. Many of you have been working over the summer to make this an exciting and innovative 32nd year for the Houston Symphony League Bay Area.

Deanna Lamoreux has lined up outstanding musicians for the four morning and three evening meetings. The September daytime meeting at the Webster Presbyterian Church will feature Oboist Tracy Russell and Guitarist Ingo Sveinsson. In October a very special evening meeting is planned at the Arts Alliance. *The Houston Branch* will perform, comprised of Houston Symphony Principal Flutist Aralee Dorough; Bob Dorough, Piano; Colin Gatwood, Oboe; Joel Fulgham, Drums; David Craig, Bass; and Larry Slezak, Saxophone; and in November, Ruth Tomfohrde, Pianist, will accompany Dr. Timothy Jones, Baritone. They are respectively Professor Emeritus and Faculty Member, Moores School of Music, University of Houston. You will not want to miss these programs, so mark your calendar now.

A well deserved thank you is extended to Stephen Glenn who has created and underwritten a Web site for HSLBA. He will assist Isabel Konradi and her committee to develop the content of the main menu and sub menus. They will be accessed by www.hslba.org and become an important information and communication tool.

The Prospective New Member Wine and Cheese Reception planned by Chair Ann Gay and Membership VP, Glenda Toole and hosted by Renate and Art Wood was a great success with over 40 in attendance.

Natalie Ong is heading up the Selection Committee who have been busy seeking beautiful and unique waterfront homes for the "A Day by the Bay" Preview Party and Home Tour March 27-29, 2009. Committee Chairs and Helping Hands are needed to make this year's fundraiser as successful as last year's. Please contact Natalie at 281-386-8827 if you are interested.

It is a privilege to serve as President and to work with such a dedicated and enthusiastic membership to guarantee a productive and enjoyable year for HSLBA.

MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORIES

The Membership Directory publication date was approved by the HSLBA Board to be published in October rather than September. To ensure that your name is in the directory, please mail your dues to Glenda Toole, 1721 Capstan Road, Houston, TX 77062, or pay at the September 10 meeting.

DO WE HAVE YOUR CORRECT EMAIL ADDRESS?

By Ken Jones

HSLBA uses email to notify members of many important events. In addition to reminding members about upcoming meetings, we also use email to advise our members about any changes in meeting plans (times, locations, programs, etc.), interesting musical opportunities in the area, and information concerning our members that you will want to know. We try to keep our email address file up-to-date, but we need your help. If you have not been receiving email from HSLBA and would like to receive it, please send an email to Ken Jones (kcj6951@sbcglobal.net) and ask to be put on the list. If for some reason you prefer that we take you off our list, we'll do that if you make that request. Please send any emails to Ken Jones from the email account that you want HSLBA to use to contact you. HSLBA contacts those without email by phone, and will continue to do so.

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Jean Raffetto has had a serious accident. She suffered a fractured rib and a fractured pelvis as a result of a fall. I know that all of us join in hoping that she has a speedy recovery. Bill Molnar will undergo extensive surgery next week. We wish him a safe and speedy recovery.

It is with great sadness that we report the passing of Dorothy Corts, mother of Sherry Straight and Frank Schneck, husband of Joann Schneck this summer. Please keep these members and their families in your thoughts and prayers.

Ima Hogg Competition

By Diane McLaughlin

For those of you who do not know, this year's Ima Hogg competition was a very close "race." We started with 60+ entrants, who sent CD's of a piece of music. The orchestra members eliminated down to 10 finalists, who were invited to come to Houston to the semi-finals in June. They played for the judges and four were selected to compete in the finals, accompanied by the Houston Symphony Orchestra. Fourth place and audience choice went to Jeewon Lee, pianist; , the Selma Neumann award (which we underwrite through an endowment in perpetuity) went to Yoojung Han, pianist. Chloe Trevor, violinist, took second place and first place was awarded to Lazlo Meso-Aruda, cellist. He performed at the July 6 Dollar Concert in Jones Hall.

Those who volunteered to help with the competition and anyone who participated in our educational projects were invited to a reception before the concert. I would again like to thank all who helped me make the luncheon which we prepared and served to the orchestra the day the finalists rehearsed with the orchestra. They were so appreciative of our efforts.



COME RIDE WITH US

For six Sundays in the 2008-2009 Symphony season, the Houston Symphony League Bay Area bus will depart the Bay Area Park and Ride for Jones Hall at 1:00 pm. We attend the Total Gold Classics concerts on September 21, October 19, November 16, March 1, April 5, and May 3. The bus leaves promptly at 1:00 so those who are interested, can attend the pre-concert lecture. The cost of the bus ride is \$60.00 for the season. We are saving \$5.00 this year by taking the county bus; but there is no eating/drinking allowed on the county bus, so eat lunch before you come! It's a care-free and fun trip to hear beautiful music! Sybil and I will be out front at the September meeting to take reservations. Call us any time with questions or to sign up if you are not going to be at the September meeting.

by Sybil Mathews and Victoria Wendling

281-487-6463

281-554-7012

NOTE-ABLES SUMMER VACATION OVER

by Jo Ann Mills

The Note-ables will resume rehearsals August 28 after taking the summer off. We already have several performances scheduled for different groups and will be adding more soon.

We really do have fun and it is a nice, congenial group of folks—24 singers, both men and women, plus Director, Accompanist and Manager. But, we always like to welcome new members to the group!! So, if you like to sing, please come join us!!! Our repertoire consists of "Oldies", Broadway tunes, Irish, Christmas, Patriotic, Spirituals, etc. Our Director, Carol Barwick, is loads of fun and has lots of fun ideas.

If you would like to check us out some Thursday afternoon, come to Gloria Dei Lutheran Church at 2:00 on the 2nd floor of the Life Center. We rehearse there every week. Just come to listen, or come sing and see if you enjoy the group. There are no auditions — if you say you can sing, we believe you!!

Also, if any of you belong to clubs or organizations that might like us to present a program, or if you have any questions about the Note-Ables, please call Jo Anne Mills at 281-286-3171.463 281-554-7012.

HOUSTON SYMPHONY LEAGUE BAY AREA

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Newsletter postage is underwritten by Texas Retirement and Tax Advisors, owned by Charles and Carolyn Blacknall, to help people secure their retirement. (281-486-9992)

OCTOBER 2008 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

To submit articles for the October newsletter e-mail (preferred), or mail them by September 23 to:

Linda Coney
2117 Victoria Court
League City, TX 77573
lbconey@comcast.net
281-332-2087

General Meeting

September 10, 2008 10 a.m.
Webster Presbyterian Church

Board Meeting

September 15, 2008 9:30 a.m.
16023 Clearcrest Dr., Brookforest
Home of Yvonne Herring

Memorial Music Education Fund

Houston Symphony League Bay Area has established the Memorial Music Education Fund to accept donations in memory of friends and family members. HSLBA will gratefully accept and acknowledge any contributions. State the Name of the person you wish to remember and provide the Name and address of the person to receive notification of the Contribution.

Make checks payable to HSLBA and send to:

Roberta Liston, Education Treasurer
126 Bristol Bend Lane
Dickinson, Texas 77536

If you know of a HSLBA member who has had a serious illness, or death of a spouse or child, please notify Nina McGlashen.