



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

As I write this note, I am encouraged noting the downward trend in COVID numbers which is allowing us to transition to more activities. The Symphony continues to stream its performances but has also returned to a physical setting, keeping COVID precautions in place. There is a shuttle that leaves from the CDTA Elm Avenue Park and Ride (Delmar bypass and Rt. 32) for the concerts. If you would like to avail yourself of this opportunity, call the box office @ 518-465-4755, Ext. 143, or <https://www.albanysymphony.com/shuttle> to sign up. The cost is \$20 and the van drops you off right in front of the Palace or the Troy Music Hall (regular concerts).

Vanguard continues to hold meetings via Zoom. The Telephone Committee has been making calls to keep members up to date. Feedback from those calls has been very helpful as well as an enjoyable way to stay in touch with our membership. A fundraising committee meets regularly and is trying to create new avenues to raise monies in support of the Symphony. "Eat, Drink, and Be Merry" was a product of this fundraising committee and was very successful. The collection of used instruments program continues with new collection dates being set. Prevues have been moved to the Bethlehem Public Library, still at noon on the Friday before concerts. Parking is no longer an issue! New membership directories have been published and delivered. These are an invaluable source of information, so hopefully you'll keep it handy! Hospitality bags continue to be presented to guest artists arriving to perform with the ASO. And lastly, our volunteerism was so appreciated as we tackled that gargantuan task at the Symphony office in preparation for the Tchaikovsky concert! Thank you to all who came. It was a fun day and so good to be able to gather in person.

Looking forward to a brighter year and the ability to SEE you in person!

Judith Ciccio

NEW MEMBERS

Vanguard is pleased to welcome the following new members:

Debra Hoffmann of Delmar
Robert and Samantha Pape of Albany
Kathy Peleggi of Delmar



MUSIC
IS A PIECE OF ART
THAT GOES IN
THE EARS
STRAIGHT TO THE
HEART



SKIP THE DRIVING AND TAKE THE CONCERT SHUTTLE

Why not consider taking the shuttle to our concerts? The convenient way to arrive at the door of the venue will make your evening even more pleasurable. Pick up your ride at the CDTA Elm Avenue Park and Ride in Delmar at 6 pm, hop on and enjoy the short ride. The service leaves right after the concert at 9:45. The cost is a mere \$20! To reserve your seat, please call the Box Office at 518-694-3300, ext. 2

(Shuttle available for the March 26,
April 23 and June 4.)

The fundraising committee is happy to report that our December event, Eat, Drink and be Merry, raised \$4,680. It was a fun benefit and the committee would like to thank all of you who helped make it a success.

Our Committee is now exploring new ways to raise money for our Symphony as well as to recruit more members into Vanguard-Albany Symphony, Inc. If you have any ideas to share, we would love to hear from you.

Maureen Geis, Chair

April is Volunteer month. As we all know, the volunteers are the foundation of any organization and Vanguard – Albany Symphony, Inc. is no exception. We are honored to have you as part of this outstanding organization and we would like to take this opportunity to thank you for all your efforts, talents and friendship.

In these trying times it is more important than ever to have your willingness, support and expertise to assist in our endeavors to keep beautiful music alive!



Prevues are open to the public and held the Friday before each Saturday ASO concert. We gather in one of the meeting rooms at the Bethlehem Public Library to meet and hear conductor David Alan Miller and one or more performing or composing guests for that concert. The ASO also streams Prevues live. A Prevue is a casual and intriguing hour of conversation. We learn about their music and a bit about their lives from the composer or performer. Then, based on his extensive preparation for each concert, Maestro Miller introduces Prevue attendees to the historic composer's life as context for the music to be played as well as some of the musical aspects of the pieces. To a person, Prevue attendees emerge from the session feeling enlightened, connected and ready to appreciate the performance they are about to hear.

Coming Prevues: March 25, 2022 at noon, Bethlehem Public Library, and April 22, 2022 at noon, Bethlehem Public Library, 451 Delaware Avenue, Delmar, NY. *Susan Jacobsen*

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

The Capital District is very fortunate to have an outstanding, Grammy-winning orchestra available for our listening pleasure. BUT we now celebrate the Maestro that leads these unbelievable musicians. David Alan Miller will be honored at the Albany Symphony Gala for his 30th anniversary season. This is an event you don't want to miss. So mark your calendar for Thursday, April 17, 2022, 6 pm at the Kenmore Ballroom. Further information will be sent to your mailboxes. Let's make sure we show our Music Director how much we appreciate all he has done for our Symphony these past 30 years and how we look forward to his continued success.

March is 'Music in Our Schools' month and it is the perfect time for all of us to contact our political figures to remind them the importance of introducing music to our elementary and high school students! Research has found that music benefits our bodies and minds. The impact on the lives of students during these past two years, unlike any other, is evident in how the social-emotional benefits have carried them through the pandemic. Please encourage our legislature to make sure monies are added to our budgets in order to keep "Music in Our Schools"!



IN MEMORIAM

Gael Casey Vecchio – 01-25-22