



# The Guild Horn

GREENSBORO SYMPHONY GUILD

NOVEMBER 2017

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Great job, Linda Hiatt and Carolyn Woodruff! On September 29th, Linda and Carolyn appeared on WFMY-TV's Good Morning Show to promote our upcoming Feast & Follies Cajun Carnival and were interviewed by Tracey McCain.



*"Always a symphony,  
never a solo!"*



## David Holley and students to perform at November Guild meeting

Guild members will be treated to a performance by David Holley and students at our General Membership Meeting at the home of **Andrea Knupp** on Wednesday, November 15th, 5:30 to 8:00 p.m.

Mr. Holley has performed in operas across the country and has been Director of Opera at UNCG since 1992. He was appointed as the Artistic Director of Greensboro Opera in June 2013. Under his leadership, Greensboro Opera performed excerpts from *Bizet's Carmen* at the Guild's 2016 Feast & Follies at downtown Greensboro's LeBauer Park. This special performance featured mezzo-soprano Sandra Piques Eddy from NYC Metropolitan Opera.

## Feast & Follies Cajun Carnival

*Congratulations!*

*Andrea Knupp, Cathy Nosek and Peggy Hamilton!*

**Andrea** was the lucky winner of the Black Mink Vest donated by Kriegsman Furs and Outerwear, **Cathy** won the David Yurman Sterling Silver Necklace from Fink's Jewelers, and **Peggy** won the Custom Designed Rose Garden donated by Witherspoon Rose Culture.

Actually, all who attended Feast & Follies Cajun Carnival this year were winners! The venue was moved to Canterbury School because of potential weather. The rain outside did not "dampen" the spirits and fun inside.

The silent auction, organized by **Dot Murphy**, had 65 wonderful items to bid on, and there were great wine, beer and hors d'oeuvres for our cocktail hour.

A delicious dinner was served family style while the Grimsley High School Jazz Band performed, followed by UNCG Opera Theater performers singing a selection from *Porgy & Bess*. Dessert, coffee and dancing to the Second Glance Band concluded the evening.

A special and heartfelt "thank you" to all of our supporters and guests at the 2017 Symphony Guild Feast & Follies fundraiser. (Photos on page 7)

# Message from the President

LINDA HIATT



*I would teach children music, physics, and philosophy; but most importantly music, for the patterns in music and all the arts are the keys to learning.*

—Plato

Did you know that music students score 107 points higher on the SAT than non-music students? And that the nonprofit arts and cultural sector generates \$162.2 million in total economic activity in Guilford County? These are just a couple of the statistics that point out how important the arts, and in particular music education, are to our community. Plato's words uttered over 2,000 years ago still ring true today.

November is my family's favorite month of the year because we celebrate a wedding anniversary and our daughter's birthday (on the same day, no less!) but also because we love Thanksgiving. For many of us, November turns our thoughts to the things we are grateful for in our lives. So, in addition to the gift music has been and continues to be in my life, here is my thanks and gratitude list:

- For **Betsy Craft**, our Bravo Award winner, for her service to the Guild in just a few short years. You read all about Betsy in last month's newsletter.
- For **Jody Clayton and Judy Jay**, Feast & Follies co-chairs extraordinaire! **Dot Murphy** organized an awesome silent auction and our sponsors made the evening possible. Our signature fall event was a huge success and filled Berry Hall at Canterbury School with wonderful music and opera, showcasing the very reason we exist—student musicians. Please see Feast & Follies photos page 7.
- For **Andrea Knupp, Elizabeth Craft, Vanessa Skenes and Karen Hundgen, and all Guild and non-Guild volunteers** who pulled off a very successful Super Sale Lost Our Lease Sale! These women exemplify grace under pressure and define rising to the occasion.
- For our General Meetings Hospitality chair, **Laura Kilmartin and her team: Joan Stevenson, Rhonda Barrett and Debbie Johnson and our programs chair, Frances Vinoski**. Our first general membership meeting was held on October 18 at Heritage Greens, a new Guild sponsor. Heritage Greens and our team worked together to make us all feel welcome and created a wonderful space to hear from the Symphony's new Principal Guest Conductor, Evan Feldman.
- For **Melissa Tankersley and Pam Pegram**, co-chairs of Music in the Middle, and **all the Guild members who volunteered** for the two days of concerts, introducing over 6,000 7<sup>th</sup> grade students to The Elements—Earth, Wind, Fire, Air and Space!
- For the **Executive Committee and Board of Directors**—each of these women and men stepped up when asked to take a leadership role in the Guild. The Guild could not function without them.
- For **each and every Greensboro Symphony Guild member**. You are what makes the Guild tick and your love for and devotion to music education is the reason we exist.

In gratitude,

*Linda*

## Simply Social on November 16



Please join us for a **Simply Social** at Fink's Jeweler's, 1951 Battleground Avenue on Thursday, November 16 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Guild members look forward to this lovely evening every year and the chance to do a little holiday shopping and wish list making!

This year's event is hosted by Fink's Jewelers and a new Guild sponsor, UBS-Green Dickson Wealth Management Group. Food will be provided by another new sponsor, Josephine's.

We look forward to seeing you all there.



## Classics Christmas Tea on November 29

Attention Classics! **Pam Stearns** will host a Classics Christmas Tea in your honor on Wednesday, November 29 from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. The event will be held at the Stearns' lovely home. Please mark the date on your calendar and watch for your invitation!

## Request for Barbara Cone Award Nominations

The Nominations and Awards Committee is requesting nominations for the Barbara Cone Award. The Barbara Cone Award, established in 1984, is presented to individuals for distinguished community service in the advancement of music and promotion of the Greensboro Symphony Orchestra.

Nominations are due by January 15, 2018 to **Linda Wilson**, Chair. Send Linda an email or call her for an application form. The Award is presented at our February General Meeting. We look forward to receiving your nominations.

### —NEW MEMBER—

**Dr. Deborah L. Friedman**  
Greensboro



## Guild leaders travel to Charleston, SC for new ideas and inspiration

The annual SOVA Roundtable brings together volunteers from the Southeast region to empower and improve organizations that support symphony orchestras. Representatives gathered together in Charleston, South Carolina from October 8th to October 10th to exchange a variety of knowledge and experiences.

GSO Guild President **Linda Hiatt**, GSO Guild President-Elect **Laura Green** and GSO Guild VP of Operations **Ronda Szymanski**, acting as 2017 SOVA liaison, represented the Greensboro Symphony Guild.

### Topics and ideas

Presentations were made covering such topics as Digital Archiving, Engaging Millennials and Utilizing Technology platforms such as Dropbox, Sign-Up Genius and Social Media applications. Linda Hiatt presented a roundtable information session sharing the details of Greensboro Symphony Guild's signature event, Feast and Follies. Other roundtable session topics included such ideas as Silent Art Auctions for Scholarship Fund, Pursuit of the Podium, and Holiday Homes Tour.

### Added attraction

In addition to Meetings, attendees had the opportunity to take part in a mini bus tour of Historic Downtown Charleston and dinner at the 2008 CSOL Designer Showhouse, a beautiful historic Charleston home. Local heritage sweet grass basket weaving artist, Lillian Huger, demonstrated her exquisite, traditional craftsmanship during the dinner party.

### Guild to host SOVA

2018 will see Greensboro host the SOVA conference. Linda Hiatt and Frances Vinoski will be working with a committee of Greensboro Symphony Guild members to create an informative, engaging SOVA event that will feature Greensboro attractions and showcase the accomplishments of the Greensboro Symphony Guild. We hope many of you can join us for SOVA 2018.

## Debs to be honored at MW Concert

The Symphony Debutantes will be honored at a Masterworks Concert on November 11 at Dana Auditorium on the campus of Guilford College. Debutante families are invited, and the debutantes will be recognized prior to the beginning of the concert. In addition to enjoying the concert, the families will also get an opportunity to meet Maestro Sitkovetsky, GSO President & CEO Lisa Crawford and other GSO Board members at a special reception hosted by the Presentation Ball Committee. **Donna Camp** is chair of the event, assisted by **Andrea Alemanni**, **Christine Brennan**, **Sharon Kasica**, **Andrea Knupp**, **Brenda Macfadden** and **Cindy Stark**.

### Tea for deb mothers

A Fall Tea was held at the lovely home of President-Elect **Laura Green** on October 11. Deb mothers were treated to a beautiful array of refreshments while learning about final ball preparations for the 40th presentation on December 28. Plan now to enjoy the 40th Ball festivities and support this community-wide event. Your invitation with all the details can be found on page 5 of this publication.



**TOP:** Ball Chair Debbie Faircloth (seated left) and Honorary Chair Peggy Hamilton (center front) with deb moms at the Fall Tea held at the home of Laura Green on October 11th.



**CENTER:** debutante mother Polly Cornelius and Guild President Linda Hiatt.



**BOTTOM:** Membership Liaison Donna Richardson, with debutante mother and Guild member, Leslie Meadows.



## Step right up and meet some of our GSYO musicians

We want you to meet some of our Greensboro Symphony Youth Orchestra musicians who will be making their names known in not just the world of music but in the world! This is a diverse group of young people who are able to meet other musicians from other schools. As one member summed it up, "Being part of the Orchestra brings you together with kids similarly motivated. It lets you know that being in the band or orchestra at school does not make you a nerd."

We decided a smile was the best indicator of how each applicant had done in their audition. Consequently, we saw many smiling faces, but perhaps this was not the perfect indicator of how each musician might be feeling, as we asked one of two sisters who auditioned, one after another. We asked if one was happy and she said, "Yes, she was very happy!" but then her sister told us, "Oh, she is always happy."

One personable young man who played a handsome, antique bassoon was anxious before his audition. We asked if our visiting with him was a problem but he assured us that it helped him with his nervousness. He shared that he had been included in his school band's trip to Disney World. A bassoon cannot actually be marched with and played at the same time so his band director had devised a way for him to actually carry it and to make it look like he was playing it. This way he was able to join his band mates to make the trip. After his audition he was all smiles, thought he had done well and came over to thank us for helping with his pre-audition jitters.

Another band student heading to Disney this year, playing the trumpet, was able to answer a question about how much time she spends practicing. A lot! Every morning before school she marches with the band, and also after school. She also plays in the Page H.S. Jazz Band and, of course, practices with the GSYO. She has been playing the trumpet for six years. These children, especially in high school, also have difficult academic schedules.

We have a beautiful harpist, who is new to this year's auditions. She is homeschooled. It is her little brother's job to transport the harp on a special, wheeled dolly. Her Mom told us she always knew she would have a daughter who would play the harp. Her name means, "God's gift of an Angel," and don't Angels play harps? This Angel played for us in the practice room

*(Auditions continued on page 5)*



**TOP:** Encouraging the young musicians and keeping things organized at the GSYO auditions in early September were (l to r) Becky Thomas, Barbara Sanders, and Rosemary Reed.

**CENTER:** Harpist Apsara Koneswaran was all smiles after warming up for her turn before the judges.

**BOTTOM:** Young violinist Elizabeth Linker waits with her father at the GSYO auditions on September 10th.

(Auditions continued from page 4)

and it did sound angelic!

These talented kids take varied paths to meet their interests and goals. One spent her summer in France with her Dad taking a French immersion class.

We saw a young musician, whose family recently came to the U.S. from Romania, where the father had been a music teacher. They heard about the GSYO from the son's violin teacher in Michigan and the family has now moved to Greensboro. He ties ribbons the colors of the Romanian flag on the neck of his violin to remind him of his home country.

A 15 year old violinist, who is home-schooled, is already being recruited scholastically by universities.

As we spoke with so many of these musicians it was clear that they knew where they were headed after high school. Several universities were mentioned and many had goals of going into math or medical fields.

We know that the GSYO can open doors and so, as the doors open and these students stream through, it is just look out world!

The new director of the GSYO is Dr. Evan Feldman, who comes to the Orchestra from UNC Chapel Hill.

Thank you to our wonderful volunteers: **Kristie Smith, Vanessa Skenes, Nancy Wells, Lucia De Ratmiroff, JoAnna Bright and Pam Duncan.**

—Barbara Sanders, Audition chair;  
Becky Thomas and Rosemary Reed, members of the Auditions Committee



**DECEMBER 15**

**7:30 p.m.**

**Fox 8/Old Dominion  
Holiday Concert**

**DECEMBER 30**

**8:00 P.M.**

**Tanger Outlet's  
POPS CONCERT**

# Greensboro Symphony Youth Orchestra

## All Ensemble Concert

**Sunday, November 19, 4:00 p.m.**

**at Greensboro Day School**

**—FREE and open to the public—**



*The Greensboro Symphony Guild*

*requests the pleasure of your company at*

*the Presentation of*

*The Symphony Debutantes*

*followed by Dinner and the Ball*

*in their honor*

*Thursday, the twenty-eighth of December*

*Two thousand and seventeen*

*at half after seven o'clock in the evening*

*The Sheraton Greensboro at Four Seasons*

*Greensboro, North Carolina*

*Cocktail reception at half after six o'clock      Black tie*

*Cost to attend dinner and presentation: \$70*

*Please send your check to:*

*Linda Wilson, Presentation Ball Treasurer*

# Education Campaign Approaches Goal

Through the generosity of many Guild members, the 2017 Education Campaign has collected more than \$6340. There is still time to donate and help us continue to exceed our goal. These funds are used to supplement the educational programs of the Greensboro Symphony Orchestra. Please say "YES" to the many students in the area that need our help!

You can send your check (before December 31, 2017) to the following address:

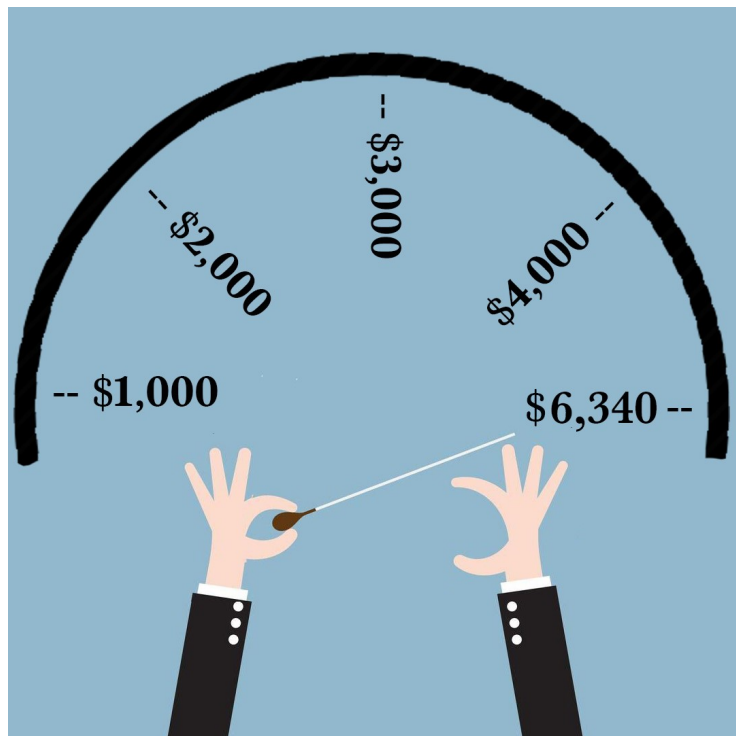
**Greensboro Symphony Guild  
Annual Education Campaign  
P.O. Box 10408  
Greensboro, N.C. 27404**

Please know you can designate your donation in honor of someone special or in memory of a deceased friend or loved one. A special card will be sent to the honoree or family of the deceased. Also, to document your contribution, a tax letter will be sent to you. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact **Frances Vinoski** or **Karen Claypool**.

We wish to express our sincerest thanks to the many Guild members who have already contributed. Thank you to the following members for their recent donations:

Anonymous  
Mary S. Fisher  
Deborah Friedman  
Sarah Hearn vonFoerster,  
*in memory of Dr. Phillip Morgan*  
Robin Kallam  
Andrea Knupp,  
*in honor of Betsy Craft*

Lincoln Financial  
*(matching a previous contribution by Rosemary and Bob Reed)*  
Debbie and Gerald McGee  
Ann and Steve Mueller,  
*in honor of Linda Hiatt*  
Lyn and Richard Pinto  
Martha and John Chandler,  
*in memory of Walter Faison and Anne Bodner*



## 2017-2018 GUILD SPONSORS

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*in honor of Linda Hiatt*  
Robert & Judy Jay  
Charisse & Phil Kleinman  
*in honor of Andrea Knupp*  
CareySound AVL



Feast & Follies Cajun Carnival







*Music Matters!*

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## NOVEMBER CALENDAR

- 6 Executive Committee Meeting**, 12:00 p.m. at the home of Pam Smith.
- 7 Due Date** for submitting items for the **December Guild Horn**.
- 9 Full Board Meeting**, Thursday, at Heritage Greens, 801 Meadowood Street, hosted by Jody Clayton. 6:30 p.m. Social, 7:00 p.m. Meeting.
- 9 Tanger Outlets Masterworks Concert**, Thursday, 8:00 p.m. at Dana Auditorium. Nikita Mndoyants on piano (*First Prize Winner of the 2016 Cleveland Piano Competition*) and the Greensboro Symphony Orchestra performing, Bach Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring; Brahms Piano Concerto No. 1 op. 15D minor; and Beethoven Symphony No. 7.
- 10 Rice Toyota Sitkovetsky & Friends Chamber Concert**, Friday, 8:00 p.m. at UNCG School of Music Recital Hall. Featuring Nikita Mndoyants on piano (*First Prize Winner of the 2016 Cleveland Piano Competition*) performing Schubert Duo for violin & piano A-dur; Mndoyants Variations on a theme by Paganini for piano solo; Mndoyants Notturmo for piano trio; Glinka Grand Sextet for piano and string quintet.
- 11 Tanger Outlets Masterworks Concert**, Saturday, 8:00 p.m. at Dana Auditorium. Nikita Mndoyants on piano (*First Prize Winner of the 2016 Cleveland Piano Competition*) and the Greensboro Symphony Orchestra performing, Bach Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring; Brahms Piano Concerto No. 1 op. 15D minor; and Beethoven Symphony No. 7.
- 15 General Membership Meeting**, Wednesday, 5:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the home of Andrea Knupp; Program: Mr. David Holley, Artistic Director of the Greensboro Opera and Director of Opera at The University of North Carolina Greensboro. David and students will perform. Hospitality Chair: Laura Kilmartin; Hospitality Committee: Joan Stevenson, Rhonda Barrett, Debbie Johnson.
- 16 Simply Social: Fink's/UBS Night**, Thursday, 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m., hosted by Fink's Jewelers and UBS Green Dickson Wealth Management at Fink's Jewelers, 1951 Battleground Avenue. Food provided by Josephine's.
- 19 Greensboro Symphony Youth Orchestra All Ensembles Concert**, Sunday, 4:00 p.m. Greensboro Day School, FREE and open to the public.
- 29 Classics Christmas Tea**, Wednesday, 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m., hosted by Pam Stearns.