

# TAKE NOTE

*Spring 2018*

## *A message from Eledith Falk*

It's spring in Austin, and as we are enjoying blankets of bluebonnets, warm days, and sunny skies, we also look back over a winter filled with wonderful events made possible by the Women's Symphony League.

On February 11<sup>th</sup>, the WSL was proud to host a tremendously fun and successful Red Haute Valentine's Party and Children's Style Show. Cheers and thanks to our event-chair Dream Team: Kara Belew, Michele Johnson, and Cynthia Pittenger, whose creativity and seamless teamwork resulted in a very special and memorable event. A particularly heartfelt thank-you goes to Sue Webber who, once again, coordinated a delightful fashion show involving more than 65 children!



Women's Symphony League  
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### MISSION

The mission of the Women's Symphony League of Austin is to provide service and financial support for the Austin Symphony Orchestra and its programs, and offer educational opportunities for the children and the community to further develop appreciation of music.

The ASO Youth Leadership Council has also enjoyed dynamic events over the winter months. On January 28, 2018, long-time voice of KLBJ radio **Ed Clements** enthralled students with stories from his lengthy career in the entertainment industry. Mr. Clements was joined by **Beau Armstrong** - Chairman, President, and CEO of Stratus Properties. A nationally-recognized leader in the real estate industry, Mr. Armstrong is also a pioneer in environmentally sustainable building and responsible land stewardship, such as the Block 21 Project encompassing the W Austin Hotel and the Austin City Limits Live venue. The final speaker series event for YLC took place on February 25<sup>th</sup>, featuring "Renaissance Man" **Andrew Heller**, an acclaimed international recording artist with nine albums

## *A Message from Eledith Falk Continued...*

and over 20 songs in the Top 15 on numerous charts. This one-time pupil of Leonard Bernstein was named the 2015 Breakthrough Artist of the Year by *New Music Weekly*. Remarkably, prior to his recording career, Mr. Heller also had a prolific scientific career at IBM, ultimately being designated as the youngest-ever IBM Fellow and president of IBM's Independent Business Unit. After leaving IBM, Mr. Heller helped found and mentor dozens of companies. On April 13<sup>th</sup>, members of the YLC and their families are invited to attend the YLC Awards Reception at the Long Center, prior to the ASO's performance of Beethoven's Symphony No. 5 in C Minor. We are delighted to announce that Maestro Peter Bay will be in attendance to congratulate our YLC members on a remarkable year.

In early February, WSL Gold Member Sonia Wilson invited us into her beautiful home for a festive General Meeting, featuring a quartet of ASO musicians. All in attendance were captivated by a preview of the ASO's 2018 high school program. I know I speak for our entire membership when I say how much I treasure seeing (and hearing!) first-hand the unique, invaluable educational programming we as an organization support. It puts a smile on my face, thinking of all the students who will enjoy this opportunity.

More fun events are just around the corner! We have our final General Meeting for the 2017-2018 year taking place on May 7<sup>th</sup>, as well as the Sarah & Ernest Butler Pops Series Concert featuring the music of Frank Sinatra on June 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>. Also, preparations for the 2018 Jewel Ball are well underway, and our Royal Court will be announced at the Jewel Tea on May 18<sup>th</sup> at the home of Stacey Toomey. I hope you are able to join us. In addition to supporting the ASO's educational programming, the WSL provides a unique and wonderful opportunity to meet and make lifelong connections with other fascinating, dynamic women who share your passion for music education. New friends are waiting for you at each of these events. Enjoy this beautiful season!



### **Join Us for the Member Enrichment Happy Hour Wednesday, April 25th 5:30-7:30PM**

**The Renner Project, located at 2018 North Lamar,** is a 5,000 sq. ft. store and studio offering high-style twentieth century modern, vintage and antique pieces.

Kimberly Renner will open her showroom and personally update us on furniture trends. We will also be able to tour and hang out in her fabulous private residence upstairs. Tickets available on the WSL Website. Friends are welcome to attend with you.



*The 2018 Jewel Ball*  
*“An Austin Tradition”*

On Saturday, September 22, 2018, the Women’s Symphony League of Austin will showcase its newest gem: The 2018 Jewel Ball - *An Austin Tradition*. With a history spanning over six decades, the Jewel Ball is truly the essential Austin Tradition, with families celebrating several generations of participation in this exquisite event. For Austin, the Jewel Ball represents the zenith of the social season, an evening of unmatched entertainment and elegance.



The Jewel Ball annually honors local families for their support of the Austin Symphony Orchestra with a Royal Court presentation. Fellow members of the Texas Association for Symphony Orchestras are invited to honor symphony patrons from their communities as members of the Visiting Jewel Court.

Our Princesses have been selected and they will be announced at the Jewel Tea in May. Meanwhile, please take the time now to nominate your college- age son or grandson -- and even a college-age friend -- to be a Royal Escort. In addition, we are actively recruiting Visiting Jewels (your children's college-age friends and family who live outside of Austin) to serve on our Court.

To nominate any young participants you have in your household or friend group to the Royal Court, kindly contact Nina Helburn at 512-426-9695; or Susanne Tetzlaff at 512-789-4424, if you wish to recommend someone to be a visiting Jewel or an Escort.

*2018 Jewel Ball Committee Members*

Chairpersons: Christian Wells & Michele Zurovec

- |                 |                  |                    |                   |                 |                     |
|-----------------|------------------|--------------------|-------------------|-----------------|---------------------|
| Sandy Alcalá    | Stephanie Ashby  | Lisa Barton        | Julie Baselice    | Kim Bates       | Jene Bearse         |
| Molly Benson    | Melissa Billman  | Lacey Bowen        | Darlene Breitigam | Stacey Brewer   |                     |
| Tiffany Britton | Natalie Brown    | Barbara Crockett   | Jordan Cronin     | Cate Daboub     | Wendy Daniel        |
| Regina Dargahi  | Olivia Derr      | Eledith Falk       | Erin Geisler      | Karen Gernstein |                     |
| Eva Gail Gibbs  | Ingrid Gillespie | Rebecca Gindele    | Beth Grimm        | Missy Harris    | Nina Helburn        |
| Rhonda Hissey   | Brandi Horne     | Celeste Hubert     | Kelly Hyten       | Ashley Hyten    |                     |
| Sara Hyten      | Melissa Jackson  | Patty Jackson      | Krystin Johnson   | Katie Kaighin   | Francine Kimbrell   |
| Rebecca King    | Wendy Lary       | Courtney MacDonald | Catherine Manley  | Christy Merritt |                     |
| Marion More     | Shannon Owen     | Leslie Pardue      | Amanda Pettit     | Jill Powell     | Kathryn Scarborough |
| Phyllis Sharp   | Jane Sibley      | Karen Temborius    | Susanne Tetzlaff  | Wendy Thompson  |                     |
| Vanessa Tufto   | Kerry Ugarte     | Jennifer Vinklarek | Sue Webber        | Suzy Whittenton | Jill Williams       |
|                 | Sharon Wilson    | Sonia Wilson       | Meredith Wood     |                 |                     |

## *7th Annual Red Haute Valentines Party and Children's Style Show*



The **7th Annual Red Haute Valentines Party and Children's Style Show** took place on Sunday, February 11th at the **OMNI Barton Creek Resort**. The **"To Paris With Love"** themed event raised funds to support the Austin Symphony Orchestra and its children's programs.

As one of Austin's premier Valentine's events, To Paris With Love featured a one-of-a-kind children's fashion show introducing the latest style trends for toddlers through teens. Attendees watched sisters, friends, daughters and granddaughters strut the runway in fashions from presenting runway boutiques including **Citizen**

**Smalls, Estilo, Lilly Pulitzer, Monogram Lady, Pajama Princess, Ruby Pearl, Oh Yeah!, India Hicks, Beautycounter, Ruby Violet, Yes Please!, and Adalante.**

Guests were delighted to shop at the Valentine Marketplace. The Marketplace featured objets de désir from the runway boutiques represented. In addition to shopping, attendees enjoyed The Cupcake Decorating Station and the famous chocolate fountain, playful photo booth, the Valentine Creation Station as well as the beloved Instrumental Petting Zoo. Back by popular demand were also the Pick-a-Prize and Hugs & Kisses games.

A huge thank you goes out to **Sue Webber of Webber Productions** for producing another fabulous and stylish children's fashion show, the **Baldwin Beauty School** stylists who styled the models' hair and make make-up, and our wonderful emcee **Lauren Bayne**.





## *Simón Simón*

Our performing troop of a dozen women travels onsite to the schools with instruments on hand. This fun and educational bilingual music education program for school-age children in grades K-3rd grade follows little Simón as he learns about the four instrument groups of the symphony in a 30-minute interactive performance by members of the WSL.



### *Update from Simón Simón*



Simón Simón Chairperson Hollis Matheney tells us that Simón and Simón are having a fun and successful year. They practiced in the fall and are performing this spring. She wants to remind us that you don't need to speak Spanish or be a voice major or minor to help out! The kids think we're great and make us feel like rock stars! This education committee is a great opportunity to serve others, challenge ourselves and be part of a group that values music and children, Hollis says.

## *A little about...Orchestra Relations*

The Orchestra Relations committee is made up of many amazing WSL members who are assisted by members of the Board of Directors of the Austin Symphony. Committee members provide a monthly sit down dinner backstage at the Long Center for the Austin Symphony musicians prior to their dress rehearsal. Menus are provided to committee members, who in return sign up for the dishes they would like to bring. These dishes can be homemade or purchased.

Committee members have a choice of working one dinner shift and providing two dishes or providing three dishes for the dinners as part of their work. Volunteers deliver their food items to the Long Center backstage for meal set up. They are invited to stay for the rehearsal or drop off their food items in disposable containers. The Orchestra Relations committee is a great opportunity to meet orchestra members, show appreciation for their talent, and listen to the rehearsal. The 2018 Orchestra Relations Committee members have worked hard to provide an outstanding dinner experience for the musicians, and they have had fun being backstage at the Long Center.



## *Get to Know Our New Members...*



**Tiffany Britton**

*Birthday - Sep 8th*

*Sponsor: Jene Bears & Michelle Zurovec*

*Where did you grow up? Austin, TX.*

*What are your hobbies? Aggie Football, Walking, Boating on Lake Travis*

*Favorite restaurants? Tex Mex (Matt's, Chuy's, Maudie's)*

*Do you work outside the home? Yes, me and my husband own a lobby firm.*



**Alexandra Bradshaw**

*Birthday - July 3rd*

*Sponsors: Pasha Moore, Brandi Horne, & Lauren Wied*

*Where did you grow up? Vero Beach, Florida*

*Do you have any pets? Yes. A Siamese Cat named Tuna.*

*What is your favorite Austin tradition? I love taking my out of town guests to Franklin BBQ.*

*Anything else you want to tell us? I'm so excited to be part of this organization!*



**Emma Garrett**

*Birthday - April 11th*

*Sponsors: Megan Helmbrecht & Shannon Meroney*

*Where did you grow up? Bellaire, TX.*

*Do you have children? Yes. Sarah (6th Grade) and Ben (3rd Grade)*

*Do you work outside the home? Yes. Office Mgr & Chief Administrator for E3 Alliance. In a previous career, I practiced family law.*

*Favorite Travel Destination? Montana.*



**Anna Belle Williams**

*Birthday - Jan. 7th*

*Sponsors: Helen Gilbert & Christy Merritt*

*Where did you grow up? Houston, TX.*

*Where did you go to school? University of Texas*

*What do you do for fun? Bike, Travel, Surf, Ski (Water & Snow)*

*Do you have children? Yes. Luke (16) and Zach (14) Luke attends Austin High and Zach attends O'Henry.*



**Women's Symphony League**

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