



Fall 2011

## MIDLAND SYMPHONY LEAGUE

### From the President

Dear Friends of the Symphony,

Whether you have been a member for several years or are just joining, we welcome you to the Midland Symphony League. Our goal is to be supportive of our orchestra and the musicians in it. We look forward to another excellent season, with the opportunity to experience the approach and style of several guest conductors.

We encourage you to show your support for the symphony by renewing your membership or becoming a member of the League. The membership form (on the next page) lists many ways to be helpful. Some are fund raiser related, while others help out the office with tasks such as mailing or entering computer data. We always need members to serve at receptions or help with

publicity. Please fill out the enclosed form and return it to us by October 1st, so we can print an accurate membership booklet and get you connected with the chairs of our various committees.

Please accept our invitation to join us for a luncheon on Friday, September 30<sup>th</sup>, when we will welcome Carlton and Ladonna Woods back to Midland. Carlton is conductor emeritus of the MSO and will be our guest conductor for the October 1<sup>st</sup> concert – I can't think of a better way to start the new season!

Looking forward to a musically rewarding year together—

Cheryl Weeks-Rosten

### What is a "Symphony League"?

Across our country, orchestra volunteers provide leadership and service to American orchestras while communicating to the American public the value and importance of orchestras and the music they perform. Although called by many names, from "Volunteer Council" to "Symphony League" to "Women's Symphony Association", all these groups have the same goal—to help their professional orchestra provide high quality symphonic music to the local community. The work of symphony volunteer groups varies greatly depending on the size and resources of the orchestras they support, but all orchestras depend on volunteers for their continued success and existence.

Professional orchestras run the gamut from those with fulltime musicians who put on dozens of concerts a year (like Detroit Symphony Orchestra) to those with musicians who are paid on a per-service basis and who put on four or five concerts a year (like our own MSO). Small, part time orchestras often have very small professional staffs and rely on volunteers to do the nitty-gritty work of running an orchestra, from

selling tickets to cleaning up after concerts. Medium size and larger orchestras have enough professional staff to handle technical details of performances, box office sales, etc and depend on volunteers mostly for education activities and community outreach. And, because tickets sales do not cover the entire cost of running an orchestra, all orchestras need volunteers to help raise money.

How these volunteers raise money varies greatly — for example, the Women's Symphony League of Tyler, TX, held a "bunco evening" that raised over \$8,000 for the East Texas Symphony Orchestra. Volunteers for the Naples (FL) Symphony Orchestra held a series of twenty "Parties of Note" with ticket prices varying from \$50 to \$200 per person; they raised \$80,000 for their symphony! The outreach activities of orchestra volunteer groups also vary widely. If you are interested in finding out more about what other symphony volunteer groups do, the League of American Orchestras website has information about fundraising and outreach activities from many orchestras at [www.goldbookonline.org](http://www.goldbookonline.org). Take a look!

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## A Season of Notable Events!

Monday, September 12	"Inside the Music" with Etcyl Blair	7:00 p.m. MCFTA Lecture Room
Friday, September 30	Luncheon—Season Opener!	Noon, MCFTA Garden Room
Saturday, Oct 1	MSO Opening Night: Schumann and Sibelius Carlton Woods, Conductor Emeritus; Daria Rabotkina, piano	8:00 p.m. MCFTA Auditorium
Wednesday, October 5	Bennigan's Fundraiser (Dine in or takeout anytime during the day and the League gets 20% of the sales. Coupon required.)	
Friday, October 21	Group visit to Voices Exhibit Midland County Historical Society, Doan History Center	Noon brown bag lunch League provides drinks
Saturday, November 5	MSO Concert: Symphonic Dances Bohuslav Rattay, guest conductor; Pip Clarke, violin	8:00 p.m. MCFTA Auditorium
Friday, November 11	Elder-Beerman Community Sale Days (Purchase coupon books ahead of time	
Saturday, November 12	from a League board member, the League gets \$5 per booklet.)	
Friday, November 18	Jazz 101 with Jim Hohmeyer in Garden Room in afternoon	
Saturday, December 10	Swingin' Holiday Pops Joan Landry, guest conductor; Capitol Quartet, saxophone quartet	8:00 p.m. MCFTA Auditorium
Wednesday, December 28	Collegiate Recital	7:00 p.m. St. John's Episcopal Church
Monday, January 23	"Inside the Music" with Etcyl Blair	7:00 p.m. MCFTA Lecture Room
Friday, February 17	Refreshments at the Symphony rehearsal	
Saturday, February 18	Simple Gifts Chelsea Tipton II, guest conductor	8:00 p.m. MCFTA Auditorium
Friday, February 24	Luncheon and Dessert demonstration	details TBD
Saturday, April 14	MSO Concert: Walton and the Waltz Mischa Santora, guest conductor; Elissa Lee Koljonen, violin	8:00 p.m. MCFTA Auditorium
Friday, April 20	Tour of Temple Theater with Barton organ recital, lunch at Saginaw Club next door afterwards	details TBD
Friday, May 18	Annual meeting / luncheon	noon, MCFTA Garden Room

Note: Some events on calendar are not finalized. Look for complete details in future mailings.

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# Midland Symphony League—2011—2012 Membership

◇ Renewal Single \$20

◇ New Member Single \$20

◇ Renewal Couple \$30

◇ New Member Couple \$30

Return by October 1, 2011 to be included in the directory.

I learned about the League from \_\_\_\_\_

Please Print

Last Name \_\_\_\_\_ First Name \_\_\_\_\_

For the directory (example: Doe, Jane; joint: Doe, Jane and John)

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Work \_\_\_\_\_ Cell \_\_\_\_\_

( ) I do not wish my cell phone number to be published in the directory.

Your email Address \_\_\_\_\_ Birthday \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ (Month / Day)

**IMPORTANT NOTE:** In an effort to conserve materials and reduce costs, most League communications and some invitations will be emailed to all members if an address is provided.

## Volunteer Opportunities

Volunteers are essential to the League's activities. Please check your areas of interest. A committee chair will contact you.

### SERVICE

- ◇ **SPECIAL MAILINGS** - work with other League members on MSO mailings
- ◇ **COMPUTER DATA ENTRY** - computer experience helpful
- ◇ **ORCHESTRA REFRESHMENTS** - provide food and/or help with set-up/clean-up for one or more rehearsals per season
- ◇ **POST CONCERT RECEPTIONS** - help with set-up/clean-up for receptions following MSO concerts

### EDUCATION/OUTREACH

- ◇ **SCHOLARSHIP AUDITIONS** - provide on-site support for judges, contestants, and guests
- ◇ **TUNES FOR TOTS** - help greet and count program attendees
- ◇ **INSIDE THE MUSIC LECTURES** - greet and provide refreshments for attendees
- ◇ **COLLEGIATE RECITAL** - provide planning and logistical assistance, provide on-site support for recitalists

### FUNDRAISING

- ◇ **BASKET RAFFLE** - help gather basket contents, sell tickets before concerts
- ◇ **BENNIGAN'S NIGHTS** - coordinate with restaurant, publicize to membership
- ◇ **ELDER-BEERMAN COMMUNITY SALE** - staff table to sell tickets in store, sell tickets in community
- ◇ **NEW EVENTS** - help develop new fundraising events or host an event in your home

**EVENT COMMITTEES** - logistics and planning for league meetings, publicize to membership, assist at meetings, work with caterer, etc

- ◇ **OCTOBER—'VOICES' EXHIBIT**
- ◇ **NOVEMBER—JAZZ 101**
- ◇ **FEBRUARY —LET'S DO DESSERT!**
- ◇ **APRIL—TEMPLE THEATER TOUR WITH LUNCH**
- ◇ **MAY—ANNUAL MEETING**

Annual Midland Symphony League Membership \$ \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to make an additional donation to the League to be used for education projects, outreach events, social events \$ \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL (membership dues and donations) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**PAYMENT:** Send check, payable to MCFTA- Midland Symphony Orchestra, along with completed form to :

Midland Symphony League Membership  
MCFTA  
1801 W. St. Andrews  
Midland, MI 48640

You may also drop off your membership at the MCFTA box office or turn in at the first luncheon of the season.

## Midland Symphony League

Midland Symphony Orchestra  
Midland Center for the Arts  
1801 W. St. Andrews  
Midland, MI 48640

President: Cheryl Weeks-Rosten  
Vice-President: Pat Zimmerman  
Treasurer: Linda Kosch  
Secretary: Sharon Tower

Board members:  
Mair Alsgaard  
Mary Ann Anschutz  
Sarah Dergazarian  
Barbara DuRussel  
Nina Frurip  
Haroldtine Malecki  
Annette Pierce  
Allison Wilcox

MSO Managing Director:  
Kimberly Dimond

### **Start the Season off Right!**

The pleasure of your company is requested  
At a "Welcome back to Midland!" luncheon for  
Carlton and Ladonna Woods  
Friday, September 30<sup>th</sup> at noon  
Midland Center for the Arts, Garden Room

Suggested donation \$25.00

Please RSVP by September 23 to Cheryl Weeks-Rosten  
at 631-5126 or [cwrosten@gmail.com](mailto:cwrosten@gmail.com)