



SANTA CRUZ  
SYMPHONY LEAGUE

# Musical Notes

October, 2019

## Symphony League Preview

Jon Nakamatsu returns to Santa Cruz and will be with us at the Preview to share bits of Beethoven's Piano Concerto #5, just enough to leave us wanting more!



Join us at the home of  
**Mary Ann & Peter Orr,**  
16 Hollins Drive  
(Pasatiempo Exit)

Reception on Friday,  
October 11, 4:00 p.m.

\$20 for League Members,  
\$25 for non-Members

Reservations required

No shuffles, please carpool

We certainly enjoy it when Danny shares insights about the music selected, and we **always** learn something. You won't want to miss this preview to hear more about:



### **Deadline for reservations is Tues., Oct. 8**

To pay by check, please make it out to Santa Cruz Symphony League, and mail to Cheryl Hammond, 1505 42nd Avenue #30, Capitola, CA 95010. Questions? Call Cheryl at 831-475-9482.

To reserve online check out:

[Santacruzsymphonyleague.org](http://Santacruzsymphonyleague.org)

- **Mason Bates'** showpiece for DJ and orchestra, 'Mothership'
- **Igor Stravinsky's** score to the ballet, 'Firebird'



## UPCOMING DATES MARK YOUR CALENDAR

### Upcoming Symphony League Events:

Oct. 21, **League Board Meeting**

Nov. 1, 11:30, **Preview** at Best Western, Seacliff Inn.

Nov. 2 & 3, **Symphony Concert:** <https://santacruzsymphony.org/concerts-events>

Nov. 18, **League Board Meeting**

Nov. 24, **Laguna Seca Driving Tour**

<https://www.santacruzsymphonyleague.org/upcoming-events>

Dec. 7 & 8, **Home Tour**

<https://www.santacruzsymphonyleague.org/upcoming-events>

**Dec. 16, League Board Meeting**

### A Word from our League President:

I'm very excited about this year's Symphony League activities and I invite you to jump onto the band wagon as a volunteer. There is a special energy and sense of community this year that is particularly fun and gratifying.

The Home Tour, December 7-8 is well under way with 5 exquisite homes ready for viewing. This year we're adding a wonderful guided tour by bus that should be a great innovation. Sheila Vaughn, Patricia Greenway and Mary Ann Hobbs are adding innovative gifts to the Home Tour Shops and we're hosting it at the beautiful Sesnon House at Cabrillo College. Cheryl Hammond is on the hunt for volunteers and you should call her if you want to participate.

Don't miss the Wings of Glory - 1940s Ball on March 16th to be held at the beautiful Veterans Memorial Hall on Front Street in downtown Santa Cruz. It will be a fabulous evening.

The Woodside Garden Tour in May will include a fashion show and luncheon in a beautiful, not-to-be-missed setting. This event is a first for the League!

I'm looking forward to seeing you all soon at the next League event.

Nancy Van Natta  
President, Symphony League



**Vickie and Dan Rutan** acknowledge the volunteers who provide refreshments for the musicians when they take a break from their Friday Dress Rehearsal. Let them know which of the rehearsals you would like to assist with your food donations. It's called the red spatula award!



# Annual Meeting & Volunteer Recognition, June, 2019

## The League at Work and Play



Our Board, 2019-2020

Photos thanks to Kevin Monahan



# Jewel Theater Presentation for our 20-20 group

## The League at Work and Play



Julie James is always a hit!



Photos thanks to Kevin Monahan



Review of 'Invocations'  
Santa Cruz Symphony, Performances of April 6 & 7  
by Ann Haley

Invocations, the last concert of our 2019 season, included two important works from entirely different musical eras: Karawane (contemporary) represented the modern era's Dada movement, and Beethoven's Mass in C represented the classical era of music. The Cabrillo Symphonic Chorus led by Cheryl Anderson performed the entire program with our orchestra. It was one of the most beautifully voiced programs I have ever heard, featuring the full chorus, our orchestra, and four vocal soloists from the Metropolitan Opera.

Danny Stewart, having learned that very few of the audience had heard a live performance of the Mass in C, joked, "You are about to experience some of the most beautiful music you have never heard." We were prepared for an afternoon of brilliant human voice and instrumental collaboration. We were not in the least disappointed.

Karawane: story and text by Hugo Ball, a founder of the Dada movement and a poet upon whose work "Karawane" Salonen's music was based, began so softly as to be inaudible. The chorus whispered, strings and harp softly played, and my first reaction was to want Salonen's music on my alarm clock. Such a treasure! The work included all strings, a harp, and a piano, much percussion, with the chorus singing throughout. The tempo accelerated, and everything seemed harmonious and light, but with an underlying anxiety. Eventually the music became louder, and we discovered that Salonen often used the softest pianissimo that grew into the loudest sforzando. In his interviews (found on YouTube) he said he orchestrated music to use the expressive tolerance of musical instruments, but I suspect that he also tested the tonal tolerances of the instruments, too. I found Salonen's use of percussion fascinating. Doug Chin appeared extremely busy with xylophone and drums. The soloists played their instruments beautifully, as well: Saul Richmond-Rakerd's cello, Nigel Armstrong's violin, Chad Kaltinger's viola, and a magnificent flute soloist, who played a duet with Saul's cello. All were thanked individually by Danny Stewart at the final ovation. Throughout this performance Danny Stewart and the orchestra and chorus were in absolute synch, so much so that at their highest registers, I could not tell whether the notes were being held by humans or orchestral instruments. They

truly received the standing ovation they deserved. This music was a revelation. Dada had filled turbulent times. Beginning in Zurich and spreading to Paris where it was represented in sculpture, photography, and art, the idea was to turn all convention on its head, and to defy bourgeois logic.

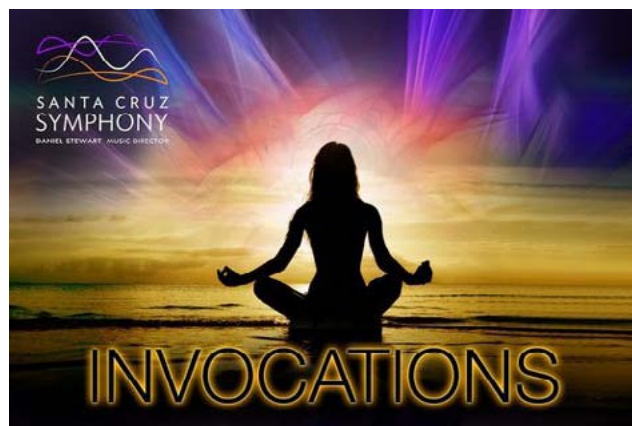
Following Intermission, the orchestra and Cabrillo chorus returned to the stage, along with soprano Lei Xu, mezzo soprano Megan Esther Grey, tenor Seungiu Mario Bahg, and baritone Patrick Guetti, of the Metropolitan Opera and the Metropolitan Opera's Lindemann Young Artist Development Program, to perform the Missa in C.

YouTube had this to say about Ludwig van Beethoven, who composed the Mass in C major, Op. 86, to a commission from Prince Nikolaus Esterházy II in 1807. The mass, scored for four vocal soloists, choir and orchestra, was premiered the same year by the Prince's musical forces in Eisenstadt. Beethoven performed parts of it in his 1808 concert featuring the premieres of four major works including his Fifth Symphony and his Sixth Symphony. The mass was published in 1812 by Breitkopf & Härtel.

The prince, upon hearing the mass at first, was horrified. He felt that Beethoven had fallen far short of his mentor, composer to the royal court, Josef Hayden. And so he had, probably with too many other works on his schedule at the time. However, the kinks had obviously been worked out by the time we heard this melodic work at our final concert of this season!

An exquisite opening hymn with the lovely soprano voice followed by a male chorus. A beautiful ritardando led to a repeat of this opening phrase. The Gloria was triumphal with the soloists holding forth. Everyone was in perfect synch with Danny, who used no score. The soloists led the story of the crucifixion, echoed by the chorus and tutti. Christ's ascension into heaven was expressed brightly and with optimism. Skipping through Sanctus and Hosanna (for lack of space) the Benedictus used all of the soloists whose voices blended beautifully. And so they blended perfectly through Pacem, the ultimate purpose of Beethoven's mass. The audience gave a standing ovation to everyone on stage, which was full.

And so we have a well-planned program to look forward to for next season, and we are certain of this: we will not be disappointed.





## William Edward Bear

After battling a lung infection and Parkinson's, Bill Bear passed peacefully at home in Aptos on August 4, 2019.

Bill was born, March 24, 1931 in Salem Oregon. He and his older sister grew up on the "Bear Farm" and he worked on the farm during his high school

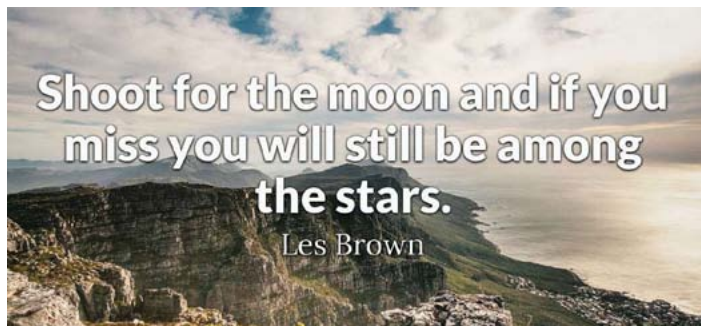
years. He graduated at the top of his class and then graduated from Oregon College of Education in 1955, earned an MA from Colorado State College, and then for two years served in the Army at Fort Ord, CA. He was then an elementary school principal for 39 years. For 44 years Bill enjoyed a full and varied life with his wife,



Joey, travelling extensively and involved in community activities such as the Santa Cruz Symphony League, Santa Cruz Grey Bears and the Kiwanis in Lincoln, CA. Joey Bear was President of the Symphony League from 1997-'98, and Bill was a constant supporter of the League's activities. They both loved the Santa Cruz Symphony and were faithful attenders.

## Lee Clark

Lee passed away quite suddenly in September of this year. Lee, and his wife, Angela, have a long and devoted history to our Symphony League. Angela was President of the League from 1998-'99 and Lee was always in the background doing whatever was needed. Very handy with his hands, Lee built decorative sets for a Gala, or just quietly did all the "stuff" that needed to be done. Lee was not one to seek "center stage" or accolades, but those of us who worked on these events know that it would not have flowed as smoothly or the room would not have looked as nice if Lee had not been there working.



# HOME TOUR

Saturday, December 7  
Sunday, December 8

Our 43rd year! The Home Tours just keep getting better and better, each year. Under the expert guidance of **Nancy Van Natta** there are five new homes, each unique and each remarkable in their own way. In some homes there may be the opportunity to chat with the owner, the architect or the contractor to get extra insights into the hopes and issues with each home.

We will offer a wonderful guided bus tour with information about the homes you are about to see.

Our Volunteer Coordinator, **Cheryl Hammond**, may be calling you to offer you the opportunity to be a docent at one of our homes.

This year we have added an exciting update to the boutique. We will offer our usual holiday items for your home or as gifts, and we will also have vendors to offer even a broader variety of items. **Sheila Vaughn, Patricia Greenway, and Mary Ann Hobbs** are organizing the Shops at the Home Tour. It will be held at the beautiful, historic Sesnon House on the Cabrillo College campus.

Watch for your tickets in the mail, and be sure to tell your family and friends about this opportunity to see some of the outstanding homes in the Santa Cruz area.



SANTA CRUZ  
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**Laguna Seca Track Tour**  
**Sunday, November 24, 2019**  
**10:00 AM 1:00 PM**  
**WeatherTech Raceway Laguna Seca**

Come drive with the Symphony League at WeatherTech's Laguna Seca Raceway in Monterey. The League is offering car enthusiasts and anyone who wishes the opportunity to experience the rush of driving his/her own car on a world-renowned race track, a once in a lifetime opportunity!

The event begins with experienced Alfa Romeo Owner's Club driving instructors imparting some basic instructions and rules for track driving. The instruction session is followed by 30 minutes of actual track driving for all participants in one's own car. During the track session, there will be multiple groups of five participant cars following an instructor car at fun but safe speeds around the track.

After the track session, lunch will be served under paddock tents where participants can relax and discuss their experiences.

Please note that this is NOT a speed event!

Drive your car in the Track Tour and have lunch - \$75

A passenger can ride along and have lunch - \$50

Come for lunch and spectating - \$25

Only 15 more spots available, so reserve  
your spot soon at:

<https://www.santacruzsymphonyleague.org/upcoming-events>

We'll see you at the Checkered Flag!

For more information call (831) 662-8908







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When first visiting AmazonSmile, customers are prompted to select a charitable organization from almost one million eligible organizations. In order to browse or shop at AmazonSmile, customers must first select a charitable organization. For eligible purchases at AmazonSmile, the AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price to the customer's selected charitable organization.

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Make a gift in honor of, or in memory of someone precious to you.



Are you looking for a way to honor a friend, or to give a memorial gift?

Please send the following information to: Santa Cruz Symphony League, Sheila Vaughn, Treasurer, 307 Church Street, Santa Cruz, CA 95060.

A donation of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ In Honor of \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ In Memory of \_\_\_\_\_

From: Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Please notify:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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## ROUND ROBIN BRIDGE

Chairperson  
Jeanne Shada

How to have fun and raise funds for our Symphony League.

Each couple plays with another couple in the section once a month from September through May. A no-host award party is held in the Spring. Prizes are presented to the winners of each section with the highest cumulative scores.

CALL JEANNE SHADA, 831-247-3253, IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO PARTICIPATE