

LUIS ZUNIGA, CONDUCTOR, DEBUT YOUTH ORCHESTRA AND ASPIRANTE YOUTH ORCHESTRA



Luis has an impressive resume as reported on the Santa Rosa Symphony website, which is inclusive of the diversity of accomplishments of this conductor. However, this readily available “bio” doesn’t address his most important contribution to the Santa Rosa Symphony Education Program: his passion for teaching and learning. After the most recent concert of the two ensembles which he leads, Luis answered some of the praise and thanks that were showered on him. His response was, “I just stand in front and wave my arms, the real work is done by the youth!” He gave further explanation of this extraordinary statement: “I want to always highlight the hard work that comes from the young musicians to tell how all those hours of practice ensure success. This makes the ensemble work.”

He continues to explain his approach to leading as providing the impetus for students to internalize the credit so they can build the community of the ensemble. Players need to learn that they are active participants even when they are counting the empty measures in which they don’t actually play notes. He explains that they might not be playing, but they are being a part of the music.

Looking at his own experience, Luis remembers “I was fortunate enough to be placed in many positions in which I could be taught. I see that was preparation for me to provide a space where these young musicians have a chance to have the opportunity to enjoy music the same way I do.” He sees his role as one of inspiration, which is the best thing any teacher or leader can do. He reflects on the idea of learning how to learn, which can be nurtured, not by giving answers to students, but by showing them how to find the answer. In this way, students learn how to learn and can start on the road to being lifelong learners.

On a personal level, Luis is excited about the biggest thing in his teaching career – being a father. Watching his daughter makes brain development very clear. Teaching and learning are the interactive part of that development. He ends the conversation, “What keeps society moving is education!”

Mary Daily Lange

MISSION STATEMENT

The Santa Rosa Symphony League’s mission is to support school and community-based programs of the Santa Rosa Symphony's Institute for Music Education. As volunteers, we strive to make a difference in the lives of young people in Sonoma County by introducing them to the beauty and power of music.

**SANTA ROSA SYMPHONY LEAGUE 50 SANTA ROSA AVENUE, SUITE 410, SANTA ROSA,
CA 95404 707-522-8786 — Leave message**
Website srsymphonyleague.org / Instagram: SantaRosaSymphonyLeague

HAPPY NEW YEAR



Wishing you all a year filled with love, peace and joy.

Your board's wish for this year is to present more events for you to choose from and enjoy.

We would love

to hear your ideas for an event you would like to attend. Just send our Co-Vice Presidents Kay Oppenheimer and Liz Bippart, who are in charge of Ongoing fund raising, you can email. Kay at kplusj@gmail.com or Liz at lizbippart@gmail.com. We have an event planning committee that meets each month after the board meeting and we welcome new members.

Jackie Reinhardt, Membership VP is always happy to contact anyone who might be interested in joining the league. She can be contacted at jaclyn94901@gmail.com or 707-339-6254.

Best wishes to stay safe and healthy this winter,

Julia Wilkinson
President
SRSL President

- President
Julia Wilkinson
- Recording Secretary
Elizabeth Kern
- Corresponding Secretary
Joanne Enemark
- Treasurer
Laurie Hall
- Historian
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Liz Bippart
Kay Oppenheimer
- Friends of the League
Irene Sohm
- VP Music Education
Mary Daily Lange
- VP Support Services
Beth Holden
Lin Varrow
- Parliamentarian
Wendy Lalanne
- President-Elect
Marilyn Chiotti

MEET YOUR BOARD MEMBER MARY DAILY LANGE

GRANDMA BREAKS BOARDS



A grandma with a black belt in Taekwondo, Mary Daily Lange is a powerhouse in more ways than one. She's feisty, disciplined, and determined to help young people reach their potential both physically and musically.

Eighteen years ago, when Mary was 65, she attended a grandchild's martial arts demonstration and afterwards asked the Taekwondo master whether he could teach her to do that. His response was one question, "Do you want to learn?" And the rest is history. Now, the League's vice president of Music Education, Mary puts the same rigor into supporting all levels of music students at the Symphony's Institute for Music Education, encouraging them the way her mentors had encouraged her. "I try to attend every performance of our youth or-

chestras." It's the support Mary and her sisters, Emily and Saramay, had received from their parents, and now she believes it's her turn to pass it on.

As a child of musically-inclined parents—her father was a clarinetist and her mother a gifted soprano — Mary played piano, violin, sousaphone, baritone and organ. Her father was her first music teacher. Today she is a devotee of classical music, jazz, and occasionally blues and funk.

"As a child I was borderline sickly and suffered from asthma and allergies. At the age of seven I was subjected to four days of painful allergy scratch tests at the Cleveland Clinic. I was stoic for three days, but on the fourth day tears rolled down my cheeks. What got me through was my mother's encouragement," "You've been wonderful for three days, now you can do another one." That advice stuck with Mary.

Born in Lexington, KY, Mary's family frequently moved because of her father's position as an engineer at AT&T, and later because of her husband's work and her own choices. "I've lived in five different states, even in Fargo, North Dakota. I don't see any reason for anyone to live there," she says laughingly. "I remember saying to my husband, 'Okay, so what did I do this time?'"

Mary's education was at Ohio State University and the University of Iowa where she majored in Theater and received her B.S at Iowa State in Botany and Elementary Education, which prepared her for a career as an educational consultant in Iowa and later as a partner in her own consulting business, traveling to school districts in Illinois and Arizona.

Mary has two sons, a daughter and six grandchildren. She now lives in Petaluma with her sister, League Board Member Emily Roeder. "That was a very positive move. I lived in Des Moines for more than 20 years. When my husband, Lenny died, it wasn't easy to decide what to do next. I was firmly established in Iowa and active in United Way, and of course Taekwondo, but I accepted Emily's invitation." Emily's husband, Walter, had passed away a year earlier and it seemed like a good situation for sisters who have always been close. Their third sister in their triumvirate, Saramay, passed away in May 2022.

And, by the way, if anyway wants to see "Board-breaking Grandma Goes for Black Belt," it's all recorded on YouTube.

Elizabeth Kern

MUSIC EDUCATION

The new year brings the annual SRSYO concerto competition which will be held mid-January. The participants, all current members of SRSYO, will all have the opportunity to perform their pieces in a recital setting on Friday, January 20 at 7:30pm at the Sebastopol Center for the Arts. Accompanied by renowned Bay Area pianist Miles Graber, the nine SRSYO members get to experience a unique solo performance setting which will build on their musicianship skills in very different ways than playing in the larger orchestra. The winner of the competition will perform their piece backed by the full SRSYO on March 5th in Weill Hall. Tickets to the Showcase Recital can be purchased from the Sebastopol Center for the Arts. SRSYO & Sebarts Presents: Concerto Showcase Recital — Sebastopol Center For the Arts, California

Our annual Practice-a-Thon will run from January 7 through February 3, where students can track their practice hours and find sponsors, much like a walk-a-thon. Special categories will receive prizes,

including a big pizza party for the ensemble that collectively practices the most hours! Individual prizes will also be awarded for most hours, most sponsors, and most funds earned; we are on the search for some more special prizes such as fancy headphones by donation, so if you know of any nice items that could be donated to us to award to a student, please let us know! All participants who contribute at least 15 hours of practice during that period will receive a participation prize of a water bottle with our logo. We hope the event is a fun way for the students to compete with each other on how much they practice and that we can get a high level of involvement!

Elena Sloman
Youth Ensembles Manager
Santa Rosa Symphony

CALLING ALL ARTISTS

Remember our Painted Violin Events? Now we're painting masks to be auctioned at a special event at Weil Hall in the Spring.

Let our imagination run wild. Your creation can be elegant, whimsical, classical, modern, musical historical... the themes are endless. We'll either supply you with a blank mask, or you can make your own mask and decorate it however you like.

The array we present will reflect the spectacular creativity of our community. The masks will be perfect home decorations or inspiration for a party, perhaps even a masquerade ball.

If you or an artist friend would like to participate in this fundraiser for music education for our young people, please contact Kay Oppenheimer at kplusj@gmail.com or 707-575-3091.

Order your mask now so you have enough time to create your masterpiece.

Elizabeth Kern



Masks by Kay Oppenheimer

FRIENDS OF THE LEAGUE 2022-2023

Maestro \$1000 and above

Elizabeth Bippart
Jon & Teresita Stark

Concert Master \$500-\$999

Sharon Beckman
Brad Baker, SOMO Group
Marilyn Chiotti
Joanne Enemark
Laurie Hall
Kay Oppenheimer
Virginia Pitts
Irene Sohm
Paula Thomassen Rector
Mary-Louise Reinking

Orchestra \$300-\$499

Karen & James Ely
Laura Ford
Jackie Reinhardt
Marlene Russell
Julia Wilkinson

Audience \$100-\$299

Karen Albright
Anonymous
Leona Biddle
Gordon Blumenfeld
Claire Borges
Ellen Bowen
Patricia Clothier
Dr. Nancy Doyle
Marsha Dupre

Dan & Connie Earl
Bob & Marcia Eldredge
Sheila Einhorn
Betty Jean Ferris
Janet Gavagan
George & MaryAnn Goodman
Lucille Hynes
Christine Ingrassia
Carol Marshall
Sarah Martin
Persis McCarley
Kathryne Moore
Barbara Lee Moseley
Gwen & Jim Neary
Margaret & Eric Nielsen
Barbara Olsen
Keith & Carla Schoenthal
Barbara & Michael Shepherd
Judy Shone
Alan Silow
Ellen Stillman
Ellen Wear

Other

Marcia Anton
Joyce Baechtel
Barbara Holmes
Judy Stern Home
Barbara Insell
Carole Michel
Suzanne Nelson

FEED THE MUSICIANS

The Santa Rosa Symphony League's grand old tradition of providing simple, easily transported and served food for our symphony musicians during their rehearsals is in danger of coming to an end. For various reasons it has become difficult to schedule volunteers to participate.

As a new member when I was first approached to volunteer for this service I was skeptical... But then I signed up and found how easy it is.

1. A team of two volunteers discuss a simple menu.
2. Team prepares and delivers their contributions to the break room at the Green Music Center between 7:30 and 8 pm. There is parking by the back entrance and staff available if you need help.

3. Staff has tables with cover set up. Paper plates, napkins, cups and utensils are provided. The staff have pot of coffee and hot water for tea.
4. After you and your team arrange food, you are invited to attend the rehearsal.
5. After greeting the musicians during their 30 minute break, if you wish, you may return to the rehearsal.

The staff does the clean up. From experience I can tell you it's a wonderful way to spend an evening. The musicians, who often do not have time for dinner, are so appreciative and in some instances enjoy taking a moment for a quick chat and always have time to thank you.

To feed someone is an act of love. You might give it a try.

Lin Varrow



NEW MEMBER

The League’s newest member is Tina Green who joined as a parent member in December. Tina’s daughter, Sierra, plays violin with the Santa Rosa Youth Symphony which is why she was drawn to the League.

“The music education programs have had a profound impact on Sierra’s life and trajectory as a violinist and leader,” Tina explained. “My daughter feels support and likes and respects all of the conductors, teachers and coordinators.”

Tina added that Sierra is working towards a career as a professional violinist. “I walk alongside her on that journey and as a result, my love for classical music continually deepens.”

A transformational coach and founder of Exposing the Roots.com, Tina is passionate about helping women love themselves and their bodies. She is a former program director and chef of Ceres Community Project and managing director of BlackRock.

The mom of two teenage daughters, she is a trained chef, nature enthusiast and a big fan of theater and live music.

Below is contact information to add to your League membership book. Thanks to Mary Daily Lange, VP Music Education, who introduced Tina to the League..

FESTIVAL OF PARTIES

Is back in business. We have some exciting ideas for 2023, including Concerts at Wineries, Dinners Under the Stars, Masked Concerts, Paint Parties, Card Parties, Teas – and the list goes on. But we need some new ideas, and our members are expert at coming up with innovative ideas for fund-raising events. We need a few more members for the Festival Of Parties Committee, and you don’t have to be on the SRSL Board in order to contribute ideas. We welcome anyone who has a heart for our kids (and grandkids) and for creating and keeping music in the schools.

So please contact Kay Oppenheimer, if you can spend a couple of hours a month to meet on Zoom, or in person - to help re-vitalize our Festival Of Parties program that was so devastated by the Covid Pandemic.

Kay Oppenheimer



RESERVATION FORM

Luncheon

You are Cordially Invited to Join Us

Salt & Stone
9900 Sonoma Highway, Kenwood

Our speaker will be Conductor Francesco Lecce-Chong

11:30 am January 19, 2023

Menu

Choice of:

Lamb Burger with Fries
Shanghai Chicken Salad
1/2 Crab & Bay Shrimp Melt with Fries
Heirloom Tomato & Basil Pasta

Bread & Butter

Chocolate Torte with Butterscotch
coffee, tea

Wine, Beer & Cocktails, Non-hosted

Price \$36

For Information call Barbara Olsen, 707-539-1402

Member _____ Guest (s) _____

Choice _____ Choice _____

___ I would like a ride.

Make checks payable to: Santa Rosa Symphony League
Attention: Luncheon Reservations
50 Santa Rosa Avenue, Suite 410
Santa Rosa, CA 95404

RESERVATIONS MUST BE MADE BY FRIDAY, JANUARY 13, 2022. PLEASE!!!!

We cannot change the number on the day of the luncheon.

If you receive this by email, please print this page and send, with your check to the address above.

Santa Rosa Symphony League
50 Santa Rosa Avenue
Suite 410
Santa Rosa, CA 95404

Calendar of Events January 2023

January 5	SRS League Board meeting At the SR Symphony Office
January 7 to February 3	Practice-a-Thon All Youth players
January 20 7:30pm	Santa Rosa Symphony Youth Orchestra Soloist Accompanied by renown Bay Area pianist Miles Graber
January 21, 22 & 23	Santa Rosa Symphony concert “RACH & the Hollywood Sound” Francesco Lecce-Chong, conductor WAXMAN,STEINER, RACHMANINOFF
COMING EVENTS	
March 5	Solo winner performance at Weil Hall