



Our 2018-19 season is shaping up to be a memorable one! In fact, it has already started with two wonderful events. On July 25th, more than 60 of us gathered at The Vineyards at Dodon for a wonderful wine tasting dinner and conversation with friends. In August, 50 of us gathered at the home of Joan Russell for an Italian Night celebration. Thanks to Joan and Joe Minieri for planning and hosting the event!

As we look forward, see the [Save The Dates](#) reminder below, and mark your calendars for the many upcoming events starting with our Membership Appreciation evening on September 20th. It is always a fun gathering with food & drink and a chance to rub elbows with ASO Music Director, José-Luis Novo and Executive Director, Patrick Nugent. Then, in November, based on the enthusiastic reception of FASO's first Music and Poetry Night last season, we are pleased to reprise the event on November 9th with inspiring music from the SONOS chamber ensemble and thoughtful poetry from two local and well published poets. You'll find more information below, and we hope to see many of you there! FASO's Dine to Donate at Brio Tuscan Grille on December 16th is another opportunity to share food and conversation with fellow ASO enthusiasts. In 2019, some old favorites will return and information on those events will be forthcoming in December's Quarter Notes as well as on the ASO/FASO website. <https://www.anapolissymphony.org>

But that's not all! Our painted violins are done - and look amazing! They will be revealed to the public on September 23rd at the McBride Gallery and be on display in Annapolis at various locations through the end of the year. Please come out and see the violins and purchase your raffle tickets. I promise you will not be disappointed! Our painted violins raffle will conclude with an event at Brio Tuscan Grille on January 13th that will include performances by students of the Annapolis Symphony Academy and selection of the winning raffle tickets. All proceeds from the painted violins raffle will go to support the Annapolis Symphony Academy. Interested in helping? Please, let me know!

Another success this year is the kick off of the Ambassador Program. Our inaugural meeting on August 16th made for an in-depth discussion on the upcoming 2018-19 ASO season and some exciting new plans for the symphony under the musical direction of Maestro Novo. This year's ASO season will celebrate the power that music lends to film, and promises to be unforgettable! If you are interested in becoming an ambassador, to share information about ASO, please reach out to me or Mary McKiel.

Finally, we have our third Music Tour to look forward to next May. Our next tour's exciting destination is Italy and will include Florence, Bologna, Mantova, and Milan. More information on this will be upcoming. Thanks to Michael Kurtz for once again leading the effort to plan and coordinate the tour.

I look forward to seeing all of you this year as we support our amazing Annapolis Symphony Orchestra.

Stephen A. Sotack
President

IN VINO VERITAS ET MOSICA!!



Dodon Vineyards was the setting on July 25 for a festive wine tasting, dinner and tour for FASO members. Over 60 people enjoyed the wines and grilled dinner-- followed by a tour of the processing areas. During the meal, the owners informed guests about the history and current operations of the vineyard. A portion of the ticket price was donated to the ASO.

Located in Davidsonville, Dodon is a historic 16 acre working farm and vineyard, which has been in the same family for generations. Their focus is to produce high quality wines which express the local soil and weather conditions. They currently grow 6 types of grapes which produce balanced, aromatic wines with striking mentality. Tours and tastings are available upon appointment.

Thanks to Paula Abernethy for the article!

A MURDER OF CROWS, A CLOWDER OF CATS... BUT A GROUP OF AMBASSADORS??

They're an AMAXING, of course! Maximizing Amazing outreach. The initial FASO/ASO Ambassador Program meeting was held on August 16th at the Eastport Yacht Club. ASO Executive Director Patrick Nugent and FASO President Stephen Sotack welcomed seven of the 11 new Ambassadors - Paula Abernethy, Don and Keren Dement, Norman Lerner, William and Rose Lovelace and Mary McKiel. Each participant received a binder chock full of information and resources designed to help them spread the good word about ASO and FASO. Ambassadors are front line FASO members who get early information on what's new and upcoming. Stephen provided information on the program, and Patrick spoke about the extensive offerings of ASO including the 2018-19 season, the recently established ASO Academy, and the exciting new ASO Chamber Ensemble. Stephen also brought the Ambassadors up to speed on FASO events including the September inauguration of the Painted Violins. All FASO members are encouraged to join the Ambassadors. For information contact Stephen Sotack (stephen_sotack@comcast.net) or Mary McKiel (mmac684@gmail.com).

SAVE THE DATES!
September 20, FASO membership appreciation

September 23, grand opening Painted Violins at McBride Gallery

October 5 & 6, ASO opening night concert and gala

November 9th, Music and Poetry night at the Berman's

November 16 & 17, ASO concert

December 14, ASO holiday concert

December 16, Dine to Donate at Brio

EVERYONE NEEDS TO FEEL APPRECIATED! All FASO members are invited to Member Appreciation Night on September 20th at the offices of Premier Planning Group in Annapolis. Watch for your email invite and come have high quality snacks, beverages and conversations with fellow FASO members. Meet ASO Maestro Novo and Executive Director Patrick Nugent!

BEAUTIFULLY PAINTED VIOLINS!

Painted Violins Raffle Schedule

September 23-October 7: Grand Opening and reveal of violins at McBride Gallery

October 5-6: ASO Concert, Maryland Hall, Prelude and Encore receptions

October 7: First Sunday Arts, downtown Annapolis

October 8-19: Quiet Waters Arts @ The Park

November 3-9: Benfield Gallery

November 16-17: ASO Concert, Maryland Hall

Mid-November: What's Up Gallery

December Thursdays Main Street Gallery (1 or more): Midnight Madness

December 14: ASO Holiday Pops Concert

January 13: Raffle Drawing at Brio with ASA Students

TBD: AACC Galleries

Local artists Sandy Cohen, Sally Wern Comport, Melissa Gryder, Neil Harpe, Joan Machinchick, Abigail McBride, Nancy McCarra, Phyllis Saroff, Andree Tullier and Sarah Wardell communed with their muses to produce unique visual masterpieces celebrating art and music. FASO will display the violins around Anne Arundel County- *see the schedule on the left* - from September thru December so the public can view the instruments in person. Violins will be raffled off in January 2019 to lucky winners.

Raffle tickets will be available at each location with the violins, and also through the dedicated Painted Violin website. To purchase tickets and learn more about the artists, visit:

<https://annapolis-painted-violins.godaddysites.com/the-painted-violins>

Proceeds from the raffle tickets go to support Annapolis' next generation of classical musicians. Learn about the Annapolis Symphony Academy at www.tunedtoyouth.org



Roses are Red Violets are Blue
An Evening of music ... And poetry too!

Come join the celebration of musical and written art on November 9th, from 6pm to 9pm at the home of Lou and Laurie Berman. ASO's very own lecturer Dr. Rachel Franklin and her renowned SONOS trio will lift you up with stirring musical compositions. Two Maryland poets, Jessica Beyer and Joelle Biele, will make you think and laugh and maybe even shed a tear with their own meaningful and captivating poetry.

In between two sets of musical and poetry selections, there will be beverages, hors d'oeuvres and lively conversation. Watch for further information and directions via email, and on the FASO website. In the meantime, get ready for a great evening! To learn more about the artists visit:

www.rachelfranklin.com/id23html

<https://www.jessicabeyer.com/about-me/>

<https://www.poetryfoundation.org/poets/joelle-biele>



THEY POPPED IT OUT OF THE PARK!

On Sunday, September 2nd, Maestro José-Luis Novo and the Annapolis Symphony Orchestra members regaled crowds gathered at Quiet Waters Park with a free concert. From Wagner's Ride of the Valkyries to Williams' Superman, music selections prefigured the coming ASO season that will explore classical and modern compositions found in movies. Did you know that Bugs Bunny was accompanied by Rossini? So much to learn!



They played music

They danced

They held hands

They loved it all!

CHECK THIS OUT: If you have been waiting to renew your FASO membership for the 2018-2019 season, NOW'S THE TIME. Easy! Mail a check (\$50/person; \$75/couple) to: FASO, P.O. Box 1974, Annapolis, MD 21404. Or, renew by credit card by calling the ASO office at 410-269-1132.

Numbers to remember....

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