



Quarter Notes

FASO'S Quarterly Newsletter

Published by and for Friends of the Annapolis Symphony Orchestra
JUNE 2018

STEPHEN'S CORNER

It sure was a packed Spring. From our Concert of Tastes in April to our Champagne Sunday in May to our recently completed music tour of Spain, we had remarkable events that brought us together to support our outstanding Annapolis Symphony Orchestra (ASO).

Our 2018 Concert of Tastes (COT) was a huge success with over 180 attending and raised over \$15,000. Thank you to Michael Kurtz and Paula Abernethy for co-chairing the event and to all who attended and contributed to the success. On May 6th, 64 of us attended our annual Champagne Sunday at the home of Lou and Laurie Berman. Not only was it an opportunity for socializing with friends and great food, but we had the pleasure of hearing our concertmaster, Nati Draiblate, and Laurie, on piano, share their musical talents with us. What a treat! Thank you to Lou and Laurie for opening their home as well as co-chairs Renee Ehler and Thelma Blass and all of you who made the event a success. Finally, I can't say enough about our recently completed music tour of Spain. Thank you to Michael Kurtz for organizing the tour as well as Maestro Novo for selecting the wonderful concerts and sharing his expertise with us throughout the tour!

When I think about these events as well as all of the events over the past year, to me, there is one thing that stands out, and that is all of you! It is all of you who make the events a success, and I'm proud to be part of this organization.

FASO now has 251 members, an increase of 10% over last year. The driving force behind the increase is word-of-mouth. The energy at our 2017-18 events was evident with many of you bringing your friends to events and creating a desire for those attending to want to return and join FASO. Thank you and keep spreading the news!

As the ASO launches its Annapolis Symphony Academy (ASA) and we look forward to the 2018-19 season, the timing is right for two new FASO programs, the Ambassador Program and the Painted Violin fundraiser. The Ambassador Program (commencing in July - watch for information on date/place/time!) will give FASO members an opportunity to hear the latest ASO news and information directly from Patrick Nugent, ASO Executive Director, Maestro Novo and others, and then help spread that news in their local communities. The painted violin fundraiser is FASO's contribution to the new ASA. With all funds raised going to the ASA, the fundraiser will help ensure the ASA launch is successful, and the ASA reaches its sustainability goal. You will see and hear more on both efforts in the coming weeks, and I hope that you will volunteer and be part of one or both. Please feel free to reach out to me with questions or for more information.

Finally, I want to welcome our new Quarter Notes editor, Mary McKiel, and thank our outgoing editor, Carol Richards. Carol has done an outstanding job for many years and consistently produced one of the best newsletters I've seen. Thank you, Carol!

Stephen A. Sotack
President, FASO

“ANNAPOLIS ORCHESTRA TACKLES DIVERSITY.”

That’s the headline on a story that ran on CBS News and its affiliates about our Annapolis Symphony Academy, the ASO’s new program to bring classical training to schoolchildren of diverse ethnicity. CBS came to Maryland Hall and interviewed Netanel (Nati) Draiblate, our concertmaster, who is spearheading the academy, as well as young hopefuls who were auditioning. Nati posted the CBS video on FaceBook, where you can probably still find it.



Also check out www.tunedtoyouth.org for the CBS clip and other cool info about the academy. Across the U.S., anyone watching CBS news would have heard Nati saying “ There is a void in the music education world and we are trying to fill it.

IF IT’S CHAMPAGNE, IT MUST BE SUNDAY!

Thank you to Lou and Laurie Berman for hosting a fun-filled and music inspiring Champagne Sunday.



Photo by Mary McKiel

(Appreciation to Ozzie the dog as well!)



Thank you to Don Dement for the wonderful photographs.

DONATION BY INNOVATION!

FASO Board member Joe Minieri will donate 5 percent of his earnings to FASO for any Real Estate Transaction referred to him by a FASO member. Joe has already made good on his offer for at least one such transaction. Take advantage of Joe’s innovative offer! He can be reached at jminieri@cbmove.com or by calling 410-507-0091.

CHEESAPEAKE BAY FOUNDATION - GREAT PLACE FOR CONCERT OF TASTES!

As President Sotack described in his message above, this year's Concert of Tastes was a huge success. Thanks to Renee Ehler, Adele Baron, Stephen Holt, Len Michard and his musical bandmates, and all who contributed to the event. Appreciation to Don Dement for the photographic memories!



THE VIOLINS ARE COMING!!



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FASO'S Painted Violins initiative is now in production! Violins have been secured and distributed to artists*, each one turning an instrument into a unique work of art. Starting in September, the violins and the accompanying raffle tickets, will be displayed at various locations around Annapolis. Stay tuned to learn how to buy raffle tickets online and in person. Winners of the painted violins will be announced in 2019. If you'd like to be a part of this exciting project, get in touch with Stephen Sotack, President of FASO, at stephen_sotack@comcast.net,

*The Artists

Sandy Cohen, Abigail McBride
Sally Compart, Nancy McCarra
Melissa Gryder, Phyllis Saroff
Neil Harpe, Andree Tullier
Joan Machinchick,
Sarah Wardell



2018 MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Carroll's Creek Restaurant was the scene for the FASO Annual Membership Meeting on May 16. Guests enjoyed a three-course lunch while hearing from FASO President Stephen Sotack about the accomplishments of the past year and what is upcoming for the next.

The Membership Meeting is also the occasion when new Board members are introduced and departing Board members are thanked for their work. Renee Ehler and Carol Richards are leaving the Board after 8 years of service. Renee has been a very active member, filling many positions and chairing several events. Carol has been the editor of the Quarter Notes for the past 8 years, as well as serving as chair for the Concert of Tastes and the VP for Membership. We thank them both for their valuable contributions.

We welcomed these new Board members: Fred Lehr, Marilyn Lyons, Kathleen McInnis, Mary McKiel, and Rick Sullivan. Former Board members returning this year are Paula Abernethy and Carol Lee.

WELL, HOW DO YOU DUES!

Wondering how to keep your FASO membership up to date? The subscription year is June 1 through May 31, so it's time to renew. It's 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. To learn more about FASO, check out: <http://www.annapolissymphony.org/friends-aso>

FASO REIGNED IN SPAIN!

From authentic flamenco to fabulous tapas, FASO's 2018 Music Tour to Spain was a trip to remember! Music Director Jose-Luis Novo and 28 others visited Barcelona, Madrid, Granada, Cordoba and Sevilla. In his pre-concert talks, Maestro Novo outdid himself as a superb music educator - particularly when it came to explaining the plot of the opera!



NUMBERS TO KNOW



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Save these Dates

June 21, 6 – 9 pm - ASO Summer Solstice Cruise with the Brass Quintet - Tickets available from What's Up Ticketing, see annapolissymphony.org for more information

July 25 - FASO Wine Tasting and Party at Dodon Vineyards in Davidsonville.

Ice Cream Week (date TBD) at Annapolis Ice Cream Co. Visit either the Main Street or Mall locations, order your favorite frozen treat, mention FASO, and we get a percentage of the sales.

August 15 - Italian Night at the home of Joan Russell. FASO fundraiser featuring Italian wines and dinner.

September 2 - ASO Pops at Quiet Waters Park

September 20 – Membership Appreciation Night on the rooftop of Stephen Holt's office on West Street.

Watch your email for more information on these events!