

NOTEWORTHY NEWS

SYMPHONY LEAGUE OF BEAUMONT

April 2010

President's Notes

What a wonderful and exciting year the Symphony League has had! As I think back over my year as President I am honored to have had the opportunity to work with the hundreds of dedicated League volunteers, League Board members, and Symphony Board members. It is truly through their efforts that the real work of the League gets accomplished! As a result of the work of the 400 plus League members we have shepherded 20 young women through the Debutante program, hosted 24 young men in the Junior Escort program, utilized our Youth Guild to assist with League and Symphony activities, fed musicians in the orchestra, and assisted at concerts and youth concerts. We have provided news and information to our members via the newsletter and the yearbook, recruited new members, introduced 36 Belles to the joy of symphonic music and various entertainments throughout their Belle season, held a fabulous ball to raise money for the Symphony, and conducted a String Competition for area youth.

Michele Smith and Tonya Touns and their committee chased away the winter doldrums with the red hot "Tango Argentina" Ball in February. This event is the major fundraising event of the League and these talented ladies exceeded all expectations. This event along with the Debutante Program enables the League to make a substantial donation to the Symphony of Southeast Texas.

The League's 21st Annual String Competition was held on March 6, 2010. Susan Bruyn, String Competition chair, along with chair-elect Kathleen Smith, produced a well organized and highly successful event.

In April the League and its Board will be represented in the Neches River Festival by Kate Broussard, Jessica Ellis, Hannah Fierce, Allison Funchess, Ellen Perkins, Catharine Scheurich and Lauren Truncale. These young ladies will be honored at a party on April 18th.

Last but not least, I invite you all to attend our Annual Meeting May 5th, from 11:30 to 1:00 P.M. at the Beaumont Country Club. Thank you to all of you who have supported the League through your time, talent and labor this season. It has been a wonderful year.

Priscilla Craft

*President, Symphony League of Beaumont
2009-2010*





Tango Argentina Symphony Ball 2010

The Tango Argentina Symphony Ball was held at the Civic Center Saturday, February 6. The evening was truly elegant, vibrant and memorable.

Every inch of the Civic Center was transformed to reflect the passion of Argentina. From the rich hues of red, the stunning chandelier in the center of the room, the many entertainment stations featuring elements of Argentina culture, and the authentic cuisine- each guest was given the opportunity to experience an evening as a portenos- or “one who lives around the port”- of the romantic city of Buenos Aires.

The highlight of the evening was naturally the presentation of the Symphony Belles- 36 beautiful 8th grade girls who were radiant as they were presented by their fathers. After the presentation, the young ladies, along with the remaining ball attendees, enjoyed dancing to the music of Doppelganger, having their portraits done by the various street artists, and making flowers for barrettes or headbands.

The success of this year’s Symphony Ball could only be achieved with the hard work of its committee: Beautiful invitations resulted from the work of Alison Kiker and Julie Wilson, while the daunting job of mailing was easily performed by Jean Moncla and Ann Figuerias. The program was compiled by Shari Brewer, and Annie Green and JoEllyn Jowers publicized the ball. Incredible entertainment in the form of tango dancers and lessons, street artists, hair adornments, and cigar rolling were the creative ideas of Elizabeth Waddill, Jenny McKay and Jennifer Swantner. Julie Funchess, Eve Anderson and Casey Winslow came up with the delicious menu, while Nicole Saba and Gillian Jenkins’ talented vision culminated in rich and vibrant decorations that transported us to Argentina. Mitzi Burns and Stephanie Daleo seamlessly organized the hostesses and high school volunteers.

Corporations were contacted and turned out in support due to the direct efforts of Shawn Hickman as the underwriting chairman; and the indispensable Steering Committee was assembled due to the hard work of Johnnie Broussard and Monica Broussard. Karen Robbins was a dedicated treasurer and tracked all income and expenses. Melanie Hall did a fantastic job managing reservations and assisting in table layout.

Both the silent and live auctions were hugely successful because of the immense amount of work undertaken by Kelly Henry and Amy Mayo.

And the Belle program was ably and effortlessly led by Kathryn Grace Meadows and Sue Golias. A sincere thank you to each person who served on this committee and contributed to a successful Ball!

The purpose of the ball - to raise funds to support the Symphony of Southeast Texas - was most definitely achieved. When the “books are closed” we anticipate the ball will have raised approximately \$90,000.

All in all, Tango Argentina was a beautiful, memorable and successful event! Thank you to everyone who contributed!

Annual Meeting and Luncheon

The Symphony League of Beaumont cordially invites you to our Annual Meeting and Luncheon on Wednesday, May 5, 2010 from 11:30-1:00 at the Beaumont Country Club. Look for reservation information in the invitation coming out in April.





Neches River Festival Princesses



Princess Katherine Grace Broussard

Daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Eloi Broussard IV, will represent the Symphony League of Beaumont in this year's Neches River Festival. In addition to working in the Symphony Youth Guild for four years, Katherine was a 2009 Symphony League Debutante. She is currently serving as the Division 10 Key Club Lieutenant Governor, Varsity Head Cheerleader, Anchor Club Vice-President, and Student Council Class Representative at Monsignor Kelly Catholic High School. She is also a member of National Honor Society, Retreat Team, and Varsity Choir. Katherine was elected Homecoming Queen earlier this year. She has received the American Citizenship Award, is a member of the National Youth Leadership Conference Alumni, a member of Who's Who American High School

Students of Academic Excellence, and a member of the National Society of High School Scholars. She will be attending A&M or the University of Notre Dame in the fall.

Princess Jessica Morgan Ellis

Daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Brian G. Ellis, will represent the Symphony of Southeast Texas in this year's Neches River Festival. Jessica served as a four-year member of the Symphony Youth Guild. She was a 2009 Debutante for the Symphony League of Beaumont. Jessica is currently attending Monsignor Kelly Catholic High School where she has served as Freshman Class Representative, and has remained on the Honor Roll. She is currently a second grade teacher's assistant at St. Anne Catholic School, and enjoys giving back to her alma mater by working the St. Anne Halloween Carnival, and assists with the St. Anne's summer basketball camp. Jessica has volunteered and served in the Anchor Club, Pink Club, and the Yellow Ribbon Club. She has also been active in the Students Against Destructive Decisions, and The Club, which inspires school spirit. Jessica believes in Community Service and is active in her church as altar server, and by volunteering to teach St. Anne Vacation Bible School for the past four years. She has also worked with the YMBL Rodeo for Disabled Children, Relay for Life, and painted homes for Habitat for Humanity. Jessica is a captain and a varsity four-year letterman in basketball. She has received numerous awards for her ability, such as the prestigious Wendy's Outstanding Athlete, and the Girl's Basketball Athletic Award. She was chosen as the TAPPS Offensive Player of the Year, and Varsity Offensive Player in many tournaments. She has been awarded TAPPS 2 Team All District the past two years. She has played for AAU teams and received The Sportsmanship Award chosen by her peers and coaches. Jessica works part time as receptionist at Golden Triangle Power Sports. In the fall, Jessica will attend St. Edward's University in Austin, Texas.



Princess Hannah Elyse Fierce

Miss Hannah Elyse Fierce, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Edward Fierce, will represent the Symphony League of Beaumont-Past Presidents in this year's Neches River Festival. Hannah was a 2009 Symphony League Debutante and has served in the Youth Guild for four years. She currently attends Monsignor Kelly Catholic High School and is involved in many clubs. She serves in leadership roles as the President of Key Club, the Editor of the Yearbook, and the Senior Class Treasurer. In addition to these roles Hannah has excelled academically and is a member of National Honor Society and Mu Alpha Theta. Hannah has been significantly involved in Young Life all four years of high school. She plans to continue being involved with Young Life next year in Austin, where she will attend the University of Texas at Austin in the Red McCombs School of Business.





Princess Allison Nicole Funches

Miss Allison Nicole Funchess is honored to be representing the Symphony of Southeast Texas Board of Directors in the 2010 Neches River Festival. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Richard Bascom Funchess and attends Monsignor Kelly Catholic High School. Allison has been on the Honor Roll in all of her four years at Kelly and is a member of the National Honor Society and Secretary of Mu Alpha Theta, an honors math organization. Allison also serves as Historian for Key Club, Representative for Student Council and participates in other organizations such as Retreat Team, Student Recruiters, and Peer Counselors. Allison has attended various leadership organizations such as National Youth Leadership Conference in Washington D.C. and the John Mattingly Leadership Conference here in

Beaumont. Allison is very active in Southeast Texas Young Life. She is a member of the Young Life Crew and participated as a server on Work Crew at Crooked Creek Young Life camp during the summer of 2009. She has also attended Camp Mystic for Girls in Hunt, Texas since the summer of 2002. She received many honors at Camp Mystic including M Girl, Honor Roll, and Honorable Mention Best Kiowa. Allison plans to return to Camp Mystic this summer and be a counselor. Allison works part time at For Heaven's Sake and plans to attend the University of Texas at Austin in the fall and study Sports Management.

Princess Ellen Elizabeth Perkins

Miss Ellen Elizabeth Perkins, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. David Wayne Perkins, will represent the Symphony League of Beaumont – Board of Directors in this year's Neches River Festival. Ellen was a 2009 Symphony League Debutante as well as a four-year member of the Symphony Youth Guild. She currently attends Kelly High School where she is the Historian of the Anchor Club, a Senior Class Representative on the Student Council and Vice-President of the Christmas Club. She has also been recognized as a Princess on the Homecoming Court and as Student of the Month. Ellen has been a camper at Camp Olympia for 6 years and is looking forward to returning to camp this summer as a Junior Counselor. In the fall, Ellen will attend the University of Texas at Austin.



Princess Catharine Lorraine Scheurich

Miss Catharine Lorraine Scheurich, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Paul Anthony Scheurich, will represent the Symphony League of Beaumont-Executive Board in this year's Neches River Festival. Catharine was a 2009 Symphony League Debutante and four year member of the Symphony Youth Guild. She currently attends Monsignor Kelly Catholic High School where she has been a member of the Varsity Volleyball Team for two years, earning All District Honorable Mention as a Junior and serving the team as Co-Captain her Senior year. Academically, she has remained on the Blue Honor Roll for four years, as well as Sports Editor for the Kelly Yearbook her Senior year. Outside of school, she served on St. Jude Catholic Church Youth Group as well as donating her time

helping hurricane victims rebuild after Hurricane Ike. In the fall, Catharine will attend Texas A & M University in College Station, Texas.





Princess Lauren Alexandra Truncale

Miss Lauren Alexandra Truncale, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Michael Joseph Truncale, will represent the Past Presidents of the Symphony of Southeast Texas in this year's Neches River Festival. Lauren was the captain of the Freshmen Cheerleaders, Sophomore Class President and the Sophomore Class Representative on the Stars Drill Team while a student at West Brook High School. She currently attends Monsignor Kelly Catholic High School where she is a member of the National Honor Society, the Key Club and she is an All-American Varsity Cheerleader. Lauren was a 2006 Symphony Belle, a 2009 Symphony Debutante and a season ticket holder for most of her life. She was a leader at Camp Waldemar, and a student volunteer at Baptist Hospital. After graduation, Lauren will attend either Texas A&M in College Station or Texas State University in San Marcos.



Notes from Our President Elect

Believe it or not, our Symphony League is already working on next season's events! We are all looking forward to the 2010-2011 season. Maestro Chelsea Tipton II led our Symphony through a wonderful first season! His energy and knowledge of music are infectious. If you have not had the opportunity to attend a concert, you can still enjoy the April Performance, which will occur on April 10, 2010.

For the 2010-2011 year we are pleased to have 22 Debutantes under the leadership of Mrs. Mary Jane Benning and Mrs. Gina Crenshaw. These very capable ladies already have a number of parties on the calendar as well as the Debutante Ball which will be held on November 6, 2010, and will be chaired by Mrs. Nicole Saba and her wonderful committee! Season tickets for next season are on sale! The schedule for next year's performances are:

Master Series 1 Brahms Symphony No. 1 September 25, 2010

Master Series 2 Haydn: Symphony No. 101, "The Clock" November 20, 2010

Symphony Pops Concert The Movie Music of John Williams & Harry Potter January 22, 2010

Master Series 3 Tchaikovsky: Piano Concerto No. 1 February 26, 2011

Master Series 4 Gershwin (arr. Bennett): Porgy & Bess Suite April 2, 2011

You will not want to miss these performances! Season tickets are a treat, not only for yourself, but make wonderful presents for friends and family.

I am honored to be President-Elect of the Symphony League of Beaumont. We are looking forward to a wonderful year. Our League is able to contribute over \$60,000 each year to the Symphony of Southeast Texas! Our Debutante Ball and the annual Symphony Ball are major social events as well as fundraising for our Symphony. Please join us! We would love to have new members, who become new friends. We look forward to seeing you!

Anna Scheurich

*President Elect, Symphony League of Southeast Texas
2009-2010*





21st ANNUAL STRING COMPETITION

On March 6th, 2010 the Symphony League of Beaumont hosted the Annual String Competition at Lamar University. Seventy three students from kindergarten to 12th grade registered to compete in violin, viola, cello, and bass.

The Overall Performer Award was won by 15 year old Daniel Gibson. Daniel is in his 7th year of study under the tutelage of Aggie In. He played Lalo's "Symphonie Espagnole". Daniel's younger brother, Travis, won the Overall Young Performer Award playing Bach's "Minuet No.2". Daniel is only six years old, in his third year of study and one of Mrs. In's students.

The winners are awarded \$200.00 music scholarships given by the Symphony League in memory of Sandra Hawthorne Mason who chaired the String competition for many years. Her son, Ryan Mason travels from Houston every year to present the awards.

Thank you to the teachers and parents who teach and encourage the students to take part in the competition. We appreciate Dr. Robert Culberston, Lamar University's Music Department Head, for generously accommodating us in the temporary music building.

Many thanks go to the accompanists, out of town judges and to the numerous Symphony League volunteers who participated. Committee Chairmen Elizabeth Miller, A.J. Saldana, and Julie Theobald were among the 30 who volunteered their time and talents.

I would like to give special thanks and recognition to Kathleen Smith, - Co-chair, and Victoria Zizmont- Advisor, for their enormous time commitment to this event that promotes the musical talents of our youth. Feedback from the public school teachers indicate that the competition is the highlight of their students' year.

Susan Bruyn

String Competition Chairman 2010

TASO Report

Marilyn Adams has been asked to chair the 2012 Juanita Miller Competition for TASO, the Texas Association for Symphony Orchestras. TASO is composed of some 30 member organizations representing Leagues and Symphony Orchestras of all sizes in the state of Texas. It is a wonderful opportunity for the Leagues to brainstorm creative opportunities to promote the Symphony. The most significant activity of the association at the State level is the Juanita Miller Competition. The participants are selected from talented youth who audition for an opportunity to compete. The venue is held at the Dedman school of Music at Southern Methodist University. Symphony Leagues of Irving, Dallas, and Fort Worth are very supportive of the event and contribute many hours planning a successful event with selection of professional judges, and organizing hospitality for participants and judges.

In 1997, Juanita and Henry S. Miller provided the initial underwriting and subsequent gifts to fund this youth competition. It was Mr. and Mrs. Miller's dedication, vision, generosity and devotion to music that led to the establishment of a statewide youth competition for outstanding high school musicians.

In hosting this competition, TASO continues to employ a professional approach for selecting the winners by choosing outstanding judges from across the country as well as warm hospitality for all participants and judges.





SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

APRIL - MAY 2010

Board Meeting

Wednesday, April 14
11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
McFaddin-Ward
Visitor Center

Party Honoring Neches River Festival Princesses

Sunday, April 18
At the home of
Mr. and Mrs. Burnice Wilson
2390 Wellington Place

Annual Meeting and Luncheon

Wednesday, May 5
11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Beaumont Country Club

Debutante Update

It was a wonderful year for our 20 lovely Debutantes! Ann Clary Old, our 2009 Debutante Chair, did a fabulous job of directing our beautiful young women through the Debutante season, and Nancy McGrade, our Debutante Ball Chair, created a beautiful Ball that will be remembered by everyone. We are pleased to report that this year's Debutante Program will contribute \$30,000 to the Symphony League of Beaumont. What a successful year!

Mary Jane Benning and Gina Crenshaw, our 2010 Debutante Chairs, are already organizing our 22 Debutantes for next year. These beautiful young ladies will participate in several events before being presented at the Debutante Ball on November 6, 2010, chaired by Nicole Saba. We know the upcoming year will be another huge success, full of memories!

Oops-We Made a Mistake

We apologize for inadvertently leaving out one of our Symphony Belles in January's newsletter. Madison Amelia Cansler, Daughter of Paige Logsdon and Jason Lloyd Cansler. We sincerely regret this omission. The Symphony League looks forward annually to honoring these 8th grade girls during the Symphony Ball.

The Symphony of Beaumont Proudly Presents

The 2010 Symphony Belles





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OF *B*EAUMONT

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