

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE SAN FRANCISCO LEAGUE

# IN TUNE

APRIL 2022



# THE SAN FRANCISCO LEAGUE

*The mission of the League is to provide volunteer service and financial assistance to the San Francisco Symphony as well as to encourage audience development and educational opportunities.*

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Orchestra Lunch: [Misty Tyree](#)  
Youth Orchestra: [Sharon L. Litsky](#)



IN TUNE is a quarterly publication published by and for the members of The San Francisco League.

ISSUE	SUBMISSION DEADLINE
FALL	November 15
WINTER	February 15
SPRING	May 15
SUMMER	August 15

Submission questions, omissions, or corrections?  
Contact Amanda Sargisson: [amandasargisson@yahoo.com](mailto:amandasargisson@yahoo.com)



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## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

MAY 2022

### Board and Chair Meeting

Wednesday, May 4, 2022, 2:00 -3:30 pm  
Zoom

### Volunteer Appreciation

### \*\*Annual Meeting and Marketplace

Monday, May 9, 2022, 10:30 am to 3:00 pm  
Top of the Mark, San Francisco

### Youth Orchestra Concert

Sunday, May 29, 2022, 7:30 pm  
Davies Symphony Hall

*You should receive specific information on each event, including how to RSVP, by email or by mailed notices from the symphony. Please send any additions or corrections to [Judyshulman@hotmail.com](mailto:Judyshulman@hotmail.com).*

*Events with \*\* qualify for SFSL events required prior to induction into membership and count toward the expected four events attended per year for active members.*

## A LETTER FROM OUR PRESIDENT, JANET CHAPMAN

Dear SFL members,

It's Spring and we are getting close to our exciting Annual Meeting and Marketplace at the incomparable Top of the Mark! Co-Chairs Kathleen Kelley and JR Nuerge are preparing a fabulous event with amazing views, delicious food, specially-curated vendors and bubbly of course!

Tickets are selling fast so please purchase yours as soon as possible and help us celebrate the return of this wonderful tradition!

I hope to see you there.

In gratitude,  
Janet F. Chapman,  
President, San Francisco League 2021-22



## YOUTH ORCHESTRA SUNDAY, MAY 29 AT 7:30 PM

If you missed the Youth Orchestra's March 6 matinee with their execution of Mason Bates's Mothership and Gustav Hols's The Planets, you missed an outstanding performance, made even more heart-warming because our young musicians voted to start the concert with Ukraine's national anthem. Everyone stood and it was quite emotional. One last opportunity to attend a YO concert is Sunday, May 29 at 7:30 PM. I especially recommend this to our newer members if they haven't experienced our amazing YO concerts before. General admission tickets are \$20 (\$15 for subscribers). No better deal in town. What a great way to spend a spring Sunday evening!

The May 29 program includes the following:

- Entr'acte by Caroline Shaw
- Nyx by Esas-Pekka Salonen
- Symphony No. 2 by Johannes Brahms

## MTT UPDATE

In a recent letter, Michael Tilson Thomas shared a health update along with his upcoming artistic plans. MTT revealed that he had undergone treatment for Glioblastoma Multiforme, a type of aggressive brain cancer. He has also shifted some of his artistic responsibilities, stepping down as Artistic Director of the New World Symphony, which he co-founded in 1987. In looking ahead, MTT says, "Creating and collaborating to make great music is what it's all about for me. Every moment on stage with my colleagues is memorable. I want to thank all who have been supportive during this time, especially my husband Joshua Robison. He has always been by my side and is, as ever, my hero."

Read MTT's full statement [HERE](#).

MTT photo by Brigitte Lacombe



Janet Chapman, Sharon Litsky, Judy Shulman, Betty Taisch



KATHLEEN KELLEY & JR NUERGE  
2022 CO-CHAIRS

The SF League of the San Francisco Symphony invites you to a Celebration of our Resilience, Community & Mission At Our Annual Meeting, Luncheon & Marketplace

Monday, May 9th, 2022

Join us at 10:30 AM for a Champagne Reception and Shopping with our curated Marketplace of Vendors.

Bring Guests and prospective members and join us for a delightful Luncheon served at Noon and a Celebratory Reunion of Friends and Shopping until 3PM.

Intercontinental Mark Hopkins Hotel  
Top of the Mark  
999 California Street, San Francisco  
Valet Parking Special Rate \$20

Below is information to purchase tickets early including elevated levels which will appear in the Program.

Click on the Link below to purchase  
or call the  
Volunteer Council Office (415) 503-5500

Member Individual \$150  
Patron Individual \$ 250  
Benefactor Individual \$500

[PURCHASE TICKETS](#)

*Please be prepared to show proof of vaccination and booster upon arrival and bring a mask to wear when not eating or drinking.*





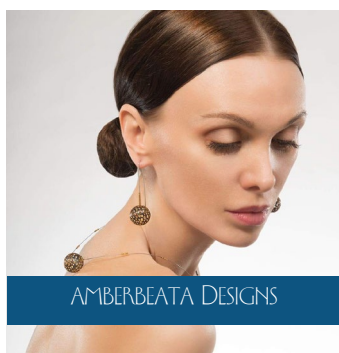
## MUSIC PROGRAM

Pianist and San Francisco Symphony Youth Orchestra Alumni, Elizabeth Dorman

Praised by Joshua Kosman of the San Francisco Chronicle for her “elegance and verve,” pianist Elizabeth Dorman enjoys performing music both new and old as a soloist and chamber musician. A finalist of the 2018 Leipzig International Bach Competition, Elizabeth has been widely recognized as a leading performer for her inquisitive interpretations of Bach’s music on the modern piano. [READ MORE](#)

## CURATED MARKETPLACE VENDORS

We are grateful for our Marketplace Vendors! Preview the following stores and find more information on each of the participating businesses online.



AMBERBEATA DESIGNS



ANNA MONET JEWELRY



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THALIA STRATTON FINE ART



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MOONLITE COUTURE



OLIVE THIS OLIVE THAT



PROVENCE INSPIRATION



SK DESIGNS

## VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION MONTH

It's Volunteer Appreciation Month at the San Francisco Symphony, a special time to recognize and extend our heartfelt thanks to the more than 1,200 dedicated individuals who make up our San Francisco Symphony volunteer family—and that includes you!

We are profoundly grateful for the dedication of all the volunteers that have continued to meet and support us both in person and virtually through the past year. Your commitment has made a tremendous impact on our organization's ability to return to live concerts, continue our work in the community, and support education programs. For that, we cannot thank you enough.

We hope you enjoy this special message of gratitude from Music Director Esa-Pekka Salonen, SF Symphony Interim CEO Matthew Spivey, and Volunteer Council Chair Andrea Palmer.

On behalf of all of us at the San Francisco Symphony,  
THANK YOU!

## VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION AWARDS

The Volunteer Council enthusiastically thanks and congratulates this year's winners for their achievements in the following categories:

**Innovator** — **Maria Hemphill** is a member of the Junior Committee and was the 2021 Deck the Hall Chair. Maria was challenged this year with making Deck the Hall as special as 2020's remote Zoom gift-box experience but safe enough for young families to attend. She rallied the members of the League for innovative ideas to create a magical Deck the Hall at the Drive -In, making her truly deserving of the Innovator Award.

**Collaborator** — **Betsey Schneider** served as President of the Silicon Valley League in 2019-20. Betsey continues to actively serve as Fundraising Chair, Game Day 2022 chair, and she served on multiple Committees.

**Distinguished Service** — **Gloria Leitstein**, a member of the Silicon Valley League since its inception in 2001, is an active volunteer and has held many positions of leadership. Her work with the League volunteers earned her the Distinguished Service Award.

**Distinguished Service** — **Betty Schlaepfer** member of the Upper Peninsula League and now Distinguished Volunteer Awardee. She understands the importance of music and has an unfailing commitment to experiences and events that foster support for the San Francisco Symphony.

**Rising Star** — **Irena Matijas** is the former President of the Metropolitan League. Irena was awarded Rising Star for her leadership of the Metropolitan League with virtual meetings and several successful online fundraising projects.

## SF SYMPHONY VOLUNTEER AWARDS CELEBRATION

Please join us on May 5, 2022 to honor the 21-22 Volunteer Recognition Awardees and to celebrate your contribution as a volunteer of the San Francisco Symphony.

The evening includes a wine and light bites reception followed by a private San Francisco Symphony Chorus rehearsal of Carmina Burana.

6:00pm Reception | 7:30pm Rehearsal





# MEETING/TEA AT THE METROPOLITAN CLUB

MARCH 23, 2022



Marilu Donnici, SuZan McCloskey, Maureen Buick, Christy McCampbell, Lina Pritchard, and JR Nuerge



Lina Pritchard, Eve Wertz, Kathleen Anderson



Elizabeth Suzuki, Kathy Paul, Patrica Pendergast



Judy Shulman and Helga Justman



Sue Kanke and SuZan McClosky



Ruthie Conway and Marie Berggren



JR Nuerge, Kathleen Kelley, Christy McCampbell,





Past Día de los Muertos Chairs: Jacqueline Jacoby, Sharon Seto, Pamela Rummage Culp, Robin Guistina, and Nicole Cooper

## EVENT RECAP DÍA DE LOS MUERTOS: BY SHARON SETO, CHAIR

It was pure joy for me to see all the bright spirited attendees, many in festive attire, coming into San Francisco Symphony's 14th annual Día de Los Muertos event on November 6th. As co-founder of the SF Symphony's Lunar New Year Concert and Banquet, I am incredibly delighted and honored for the opportunity to be involved in celebrating many cultures. The SF Symphony believes in an inclusive approach, and the amazing Día de los Muertos committee supports this value, as do I. We were thrilled that both the Día de los Muertos concert and Fiesta dinner sold out!

The event, presented in partnership with the San Francisco Arts Commission, commenced with a street procession. Concertgoers then headed inside Davies to be welcomed by festive sounds of traditional Latin Music, stilt walkers, and colorful catrines y catrinas throughout its halls. Guests can view the placing of photo offerings of the dearly departed atop installations and vibrant interactive altars created by local artists and curated by Martha Rodríguez-Salazar. A sold-out

concert of Latin American compositions — led by Enluis Montes Olivar, a 24-year-old Venezuelan conductor phenom in his SFS debut — starred Mexican vocalist Flor Amargo (aka La Reina del Barrio) and SFS concertmaster Alexander Barantschik.

As the event chair, we made a few changes to this wonderful, traditional event! I'm so pleased we successfully transformed a daytime event into an evening event, and had non-member community leaders join the Día de los Muertos Fiesta committee for the first time! This SF Symphony League fete marked the inaugural VIP ¡Fiesta! dinner — featuring an Aroma Buena Catering feast — which enhanced financial support for the Symphony's myriad artistic, education and community programs. As a result, I'm so happy and grateful to share that the SOLD OUT Dinner and auction obtained record-breaking results! The Silent Auction brought in over \$20,000, surpassing goal! Big gratitude to our talented and skillful Día de los Muertos Fiesta committee and our angelic sponsors. It took a village to make this event successful!









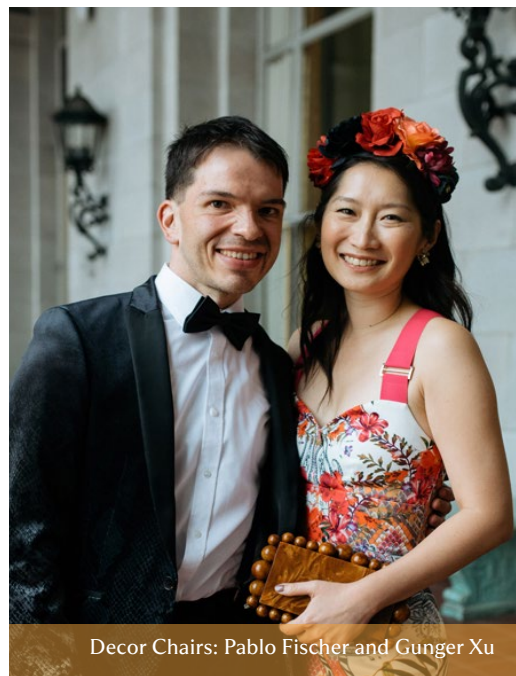
Event Chair, Sharon Seto, Conductor Enluis Montes Olivar, and Past Event Chair, Pamela Rummage Culp



Members of Casa Circulo Cultural



SFL President, Janet Chapman



Decor Chairs: Pablo Fischer and Gunger Xu



Mexican Vocalist Flor Amargo



Lina Pritchard, Jacqueline Jacoby, Marty Tunnell



Auction Chair: Amanda Sargisson



Martha Rodríguez-Salazar





Steve Seto, Navid Armstrong, Sharon Seto, and Guests



Courtney Risman-Jones and Kaffe Colendich



Lina Pritchard, Dawn Mittleman Longoria JR Nuerge, Thalia Stratton, Christy McCampbell, Marty Tunnell



Pamela Culp and Jacqueline Jacoby



Orkut Buyukkoten, Stephen Seto, Adam Swig, and Pablo Fischer



The Honorable Sid Espinosa



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**David & Sharon Seto and Pamela Culp**

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**FIESTA! DÍA DE LOS MUERTOS COMMITTEE**

**Sharon Seto**  
Chair

**Janet Chapman**  
San Francisco League President

**Amanda Sargisson and Lindsay Ward**  
Auction Co-Chairs

**Albert Pedrazza**  
Communications Chair

**Pablo Fischer and Ginger Xu, MD**  
Decor Co-Chairs

**Nicole Cooper and The Honorable Sid Espinosa,**  
Entertainment Co-Chairs

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# SAN FRANCISCO LEAGUE MEMBERS SPONSOR ICA CRISTO REY STUDENTS

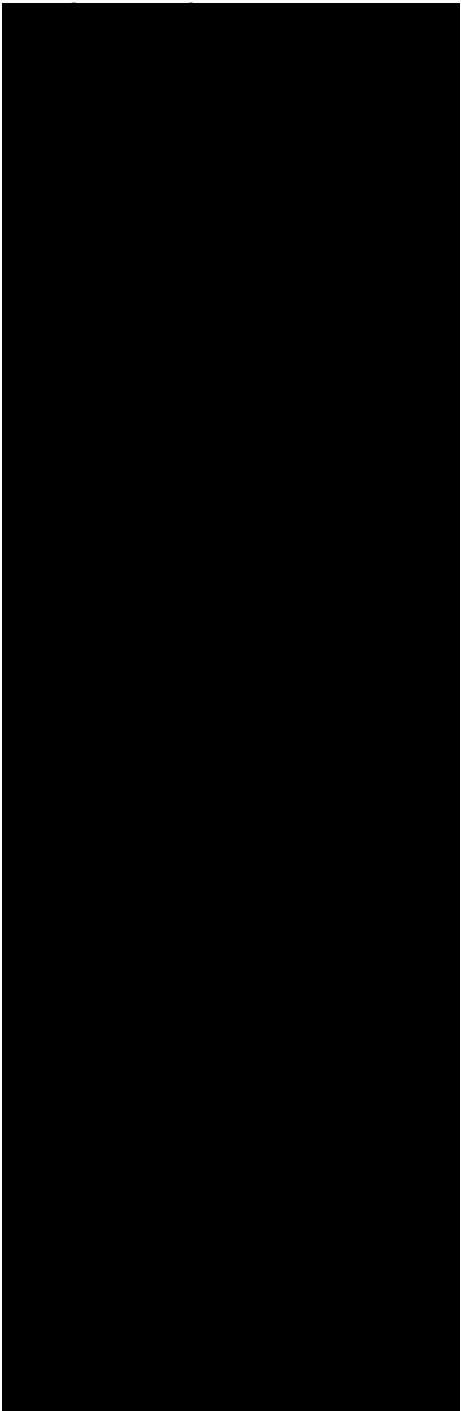
Dear Sharon,

On behalf of thirty excited ICA Cristo Rey students and staff members, thank you very much for the San Francisco League’s generous donation of San Francisco Dia de los Muertos San Francisco Symphony tickets. The League has been a wonderful supporter and benefactor of ICA Cristo Rey—I believe this connection has existed long before my tenure began in 2018.

Two quotations come to mind as I write this note. The first is from the Book of Genesis (Genesis 30:27): “The Lord has blessed me because of you” Indeed, all of us at ICA Cristo Rey have been blessed by your generosity. You have afforded us opportunities that otherwise would not be available to our school.

The other quotation is from former President John F Kennedy who wrote “We must find time to stop and thank the people who make a difference in our lives. Please know that the league definitely makes a difference in the lives of ICA Cristo Rey students and staff members. For this I am truly grateful.

Sincerely,  
Dr. George V Fornero, Principal





“Music has a power of forming the character and should therefore be introduced into the education of the young”

- Aristotle

