

WARREN SYMPHONY SOCIETY, INC. ANNUAL MEETING

**SATURDAY, JUNE 21, 2014
ANDIAMO – WARREN**

MISSION STATEMENT

To support and advance an orchestra of professional quality for cultural enrichment, entertainment, and youth education."

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE 2013-2014 SEASON

The 2013-2014 Season marked another year of change for both the Warren Symphony Society, Inc. and the Warren Symphony Orchestra. This season saw another year of projects organized and operated by the members of the Board of Directors and many other volunteers. It is to all of the untiring individuals who believe that orchestral music is important to us that we express extreme thanks and sincere appreciation for everything that has been accomplished.

So much has occurred during the course of the season that it is simply impossible to list everything. The following is hopefully a brief synopsis of the 2013-2014 season.

2013-2014 CONCERT SERIES – 41ST SEASON

Sunday, September 22, 2013 – “*Something Wonderful*” – Music of Rodgers & Hammerstein
Macomb Center for the Performing Arts
Guest Artists – Jennifer Goode, Alta Dantzler, Drake Dantzler and Sean Cooper

Thanks to the generosity of Francis M. Scriptor, our first Subscription Concert of the 41st Season was a true success!!

Sunday, October 13, 2013 – “*Poignancy & Charm*”
Macomb Center for the Performing Arts
Guest Artists – Jeffery Zook & Kerstin Allvin

Le tombeau de Couperin
Concerto in C Major for Flute & Harp
Symphony No. 3 in Eb Major

Maurice Ravel
Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart
Robert Schumann

Sunday, December 15, 2013 – “*The Joy of the Season*”

Warren Woods Community Auditorium

Guest Artists – Cantata Academy Chorale, under the direction of Susan Cantanese

Polonaise from “Eugene Onegin”

Piotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky

Fantasia on “Greensleeves”

Ralph Vaughan Williams

Gloria

Karl Jenkins

Holy Night Medley

arr. Raymond Schnurr

Sleigh Ride

Leroy Anderson

Wandering

John Jacob Niles

A Musicological Journey Through the Twelve Days of Christmas

Craig Courtney

We Wish You a Merry Christmas

arr. Chris Ridenhour

Sunday, March 9, 2014 – “Accenting WSO’s Own”

St. Faustina Church

Guest Artists – Elizabeth Rowin & Judith Teasdale, Violins & Barbara Bland, Mezzo-Soprano

Eleven Studies for Eleven Players

Ned Rorem

Concerto for Two Violins in D minor, BWV 1043

Johann Sebastian Bach

Folk Songs for Mezzo-Soprano & Seven Instruments

Luciano Berio

SEASON SUMMARY

Unfortunately, due to the ongoing problems of the economy, the 5th and final concert of the 41st Season was cancelled due to a lack of funds. However, our four (4) concert series has been successful in many ways, bringing the sounds of wonderful symphonic orchestral music to the greater Warren area. Over the course of the season, many people enjoyed the sights and sounds of our most wonderful Warren Symphony Orchestra.

Our 41st Season brochure was designed by *Kathi Olekowski* at Printmasters Printing Company. These colorful brochures were mailed and distributed to thousands of individuals in the southeast Michigan area!!

Members of the Board of Directors and various volunteers helped to achieve success for each one of our concerts. *Joyce Lajack* assisted with the maintenance of our website, while *Marty Habalewsky* prepared and sent out the press releases for each of our performances. In addition, the wonderful Program Notes prepared by *Kingsley Sears* appeared in every edition of our Concert Program. Our Box Office and Concert Ushers at the Warren Woods Community Auditorium & St. Faustina Church functioned smoothly with the assistance of *Eleanor Bates*, *Jeff Cutter*, *Rose Gattari*, *Marion Muschong*, *Dick Palmer*, *Keri Pruse*, and *Jessica Trepton!!* Behind the scenes at the Warren Woods Community Auditorium was former Board of Directors Member *Jim Higginbottom* making sure that all stage details were complete!!

ADDITIONAL PROGRAMS

Our annual Youth Concerts series brought exciting symphonic orchestral music to almost 2000 elementary students in various schools in southeast Michigan. Two performances were held in the Warren Woods Community Auditorium.

We would like to thank various members of the Board of Directors and past members who served as volunteer parking attendants, ushers and guides in making these Youth Concerts a true success!! (*especially Myrle Hughes, Bill Christen, and Glenna Jo Christen!!*)

In addition, two Classical Palooza programs were held at Holden Elementary School in the Warren Consolidated Schools on April 1st and were funded by the *Target Corporation!!*

FUND-RAISING AND THE LIKE

As you may already know, income for our annual budget is raised through various grants, corporate and individual donations and the like. Without the hardwork and dedication of various members of our board of Directors and others, we would never have the funds to adequately support the activities of the Warren Symphony Orchestra!!

GRANTS

Through the able leadership and talents of *Lois Jackman*, we were granted \$14,000 from the Michigan Council for the Arts and Cultural Affairs. These funds assisted us in producing our Subscription & Youth Concert series.

ENDOWMENT

Francis Scrip, alias “*Scrip*,” continues to amaze us with his financial ingenuity and dedication. Our endowment funds continue to grow and prosper under his most able direction as we move forward to the goal of financial stability!!

PROGRAM ADVERTISING

Once again, under the leadership of *Rose Gattari*, we provided advertising in our concert program book. The funds solicited for this project contributed significantly to our overall operating budget.

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

Held during the months of April, May, September, October, December, and February, contributions still continue to be sent to our office from loyal members and supporters of the Warren Symphony Society, Inc.

STATE OF THE OFFICE

The Administration of the Warren Symphony Orchestra is located at 4504 E. Nine Mile Road in Warren. A part-time Executive Director is responsible for the operation of this office and provides the expertise required. *Jessica Trepton* has done a wonderful job this year managing the daily operations of the Warren Symphony Orchestra.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Meetings were once again held at the Warren Community Center on a bimonthly basis and were first lead by President *Lois Jackman*, then Acting President *Richard L. Palmer*, and finally by Acting President *Jeff Cutter* - Board of Directors meetings and activities are chronicled and published by *Susan Metalski*, secretary.

CONTRACTUAL STAFF

The Warren Symphony Society, Inc. is most fortunate to have *Dr. Gregory Cunningham* as our Music Director and artistic leader for the past four (4) years.

As mentioned earlier, the Executive Director operating our office is the most capable *Jessica Trepton*. Jessica has done a most remarkable job for us in a short period of time and we hope to have her in this capacity of many years to come!!

Sherri Marttila continues in the role of Personnel Manager for the Warren Symphony Orchestra, maintaining the excellent caliber of musicians in our orchestra!!

Maintaining the equipment of the Warren Symphony Orchestra and setting up for rehearsals and concerts is *Laura Kroesche*, who also is a trombonist in the orchestra and is also our Music Librarian!!

AWARDS

City of Warren Volunteer Nominees – Marion Muschong & Connie Musial

Macomb County Volunteer Nominee – Myrle H. Hughes

Detroit Music Awards – Elected “Outstanding Community Orchestra of the Year!!!”

THE FUTURE

The quest and thirst for funds for the Warren Symphony Orchestra never ceases!! Grant applications are constantly being submitted and we are awaiting responses. The “Roast” Committee under the direction of *Dick Palmer* has been diligently planning for the September roast of Warren City Council President *Cecil St. Pierre, Jr.*, while the Program Advertising Committee continues on its charge and mission. Through our combined efforts, all of us contribute in our own way to the financial security of the Warren Symphony Orchestra!!

CONCLUSION

Although this overview appears to be quite lengthy, it only begins to tell the tale of the 2013-2014 season of the Warren Symphony Society, Inc. and the Warren Symphony Orchestra. We wish to thank all of the members of the Board of Directors, the various volunteers, and others for their many hours of unselfish volunteerism to the cause of bringing great symphonic orchestral music to the greater Warren area. We would also like to thank our contractual staff for their many hours of work in making the Warren Symphony Orchestra, a truly “first class” musical ensemble!!

In spite of all of the “twists and turns” during the course of this season, the 41st season has proved to be as successful as the previous 40 seasons and the future looks bright for the Warren Symphony Orchestra. I have been honored to serve as the Acting President & Treasurer during this brief period of time!!

Respectfully submitted,



Jeffrey S. Cutter
Acting President & Treasurer
Warren Symphony Society, Inc.