

## Savor the Symphony Wine Dinner & Auction

*The Dallas Symphony Orchestra League Presents Savor the Symphony Wine Dinner & Auction Night of Elegance and Philanthropy*

The Dallas Symphony Orchestra League is pleased to present Savor the Symphony, an evening celebrating food, wine, music and friends. Since the founding of Savor the Symphony event in the fall of 2000, more than a million dollars have been raised benefiting the DSO Education and Outreach programs. The evening is set for Friday, April 12th at Lakewood Country Club.

"We are beyond thrilled to have **Susan** and **Mark Geyer**, along with **Katherine** and **Steven Smethie**, as our Honorary Chairs," said event chairs **Joanie Stephens** and **Nikki Beneke**. "Their enduring support for the Dallas Symphony has been instrumental in shaping the cultural landscape of our community. We are planning a magical evening with delicious food, fabulous wine and wonderful friends!"

The festivities for the evening begin at 6:30 with a cocktail reception. Guests will have the opportunity to bid on individual bottles of wine, preview the auction packages and participate in the Wine Pull. Three wines from Hall Wines will be available for tasting during the reception. Guests will then be seated at 7:15 p.m. for a lavish three-course wine dinner.



Underwriting opportunities are available at various levels. Patron tickets are priced at \$1,500 and \$500. For additional details, visit [www.dallassymphonyleague.com](http://www.dallassymphonyleague.com).

The proceeds from the evening will benefit the Dallas Symphony Association and its education and outreach programs including:

- Young Strings, Kim Noltemy Young Musicians and the Cecil and Ida Green Youth Concert Series impact over 20,000 students and are vital as they promote brain development, opening doors to a brighter future and more opportunities.

- DSO On the Go brings the orchestra outside the Meyerson Symphony Center and into neighborhoods and communities around North Texas.

- MyDSO Concerts are specially designed for children and adults on the autism spectrum and with developmental disabilities, and their families, friends and caregivers.



Savor Event Chairs **Joanie Stephens** (top) and **Nikki Beneke** (bottom).

# The President's Message



Dear DSOL Members,

As we near the end of our year of service, we have so much to celebrate and still more to do! I welcome your participation in both!

I loved seeing you all at our last membership meeting and tea, beautifully presented by Chairs **Barbara Bigham** and **Anne Stodghill** and sponsored by **Dr. Linda Burk**, and what a treat to hear from two of our favorite musicians: **Gary Levinson** and **Lucas Aleman**.

Two of our major fundraisers successfully debuted just 2 weeks apart from each other: Junior Symphony Ball and the Presentation Ball. What an amazing job well-done by **Suzanne Austin** and her army of volunteers who pulled off the biggest party for high schoolers in the city! It's always been a party with a purpose, and we are so grateful for their dedication to bringing funds for the Dallas Symphony education and outreach programs and for bringing so many families closer to the DSO!

February 10th was the night that our 44 debutantes made their bows before their families and friends ( an audience of nearly 1,200 ) on the stage of the Eugene McDermott Concert Hall. Ball Chair **Kristin Cordiak** marshaled a fabulous team to create one of the smoothest running balls in recent memory. The whole thing was beautiful and meaningful and filled with purpose. The beautiful photos by **James French** tell the story of a season of friendships built from across the city.

Our able Youth Concert Chairs **Linda Miller** and **Margaret Wilonsky** led us through the last concerts of the season. One of my favorite volunteer opportunities is ushering these children to their seats in our fabulous concert hall to hear our fabulous orchestra. Don't miss volunteering next year!

Now we turn our attention to the reason for our being: our unparalleled orchestra. The Orchestra Appreciation Luncheon is April 10. Here is where we show our orchestra members that we know how important their contribution is to the cultural growth of Dallas. Join me and chairs **Sharon Ballew** and **Mari Epperson** in celebrating these world class musicians!

Our final fundraiser is only 2 days later. Get ready for a new take on our annual Savor the Symphony on April 12. Our chairs **Nikki Beneke** and **Joanie Stephens** have put together a big, beautiful experience for us all! Through underwriting efforts of **Donna Weitzman**, we are nearing capacity so hurry to get your tickets right away! I want to express my appreciation to **Cynthia Beaird** and **Meredy McClure** for organizing and hosting our first Travel with the DSOL. What a great way to build friendships through the organization.

We will wrap up our year with our Finale Membership Tea and Awards on May 15! Come celebrate our accomplishments, honor our volunteer award winners and offer your service to our incoming President **Dixey Arterburn**, our Officers and Board for 2024-25.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve,

Nancy Labadie, DSOL President

## DSOL Newsletter

The DSOL newsletter is printed 3 times per year by the DSOL.

The next deadline is: May 1, 2024.

Please send articles and photographs to Sandy Secor, Editor; sandrasecor@icloud.com

## PLACES TO GO

## Juanita Miller Concerto Competition

Texas Association of Symphony Orchestras (TASO) held the 27th Annual Juanita Miller Concerto Competition at the Meadows School of the Arts on the campus of Southern Methodist University. Students in grades 9-12 from throughout the state of Texas competed in three divisions: strings, winds/brass, and piano. The three first place winners received cash awards and the Grand Prize winner will have the opportunity to perform with a Texas orchestra. Judges selected from 16 piano contestants, 14 string contestants, and 10 the winds-brass division contestants.

The 2024 winners of the Juanita Miller Concert Competition are:  
Grand Prize

**Stephen Chang**, Southlake - 12th  
*First Place Winners*

1st Place Viola - **Stephen Chang**,  
Southlake - 12th

1st Place Piano - **Emma Oba**,  
McKinney - 10th

1st Place - Flute - **Joseph Park**,  
Allen - 11th

The competition chairman was  
**Venise Stuart** from the Dallas  
Symphony Orchestra League.

In attendance was **Patsy Donosky**, daughter of the late **Juanita Miller**. In 1997, **Juanita** and **Henry S. Miller** provided the initial underwriting and subsequent gifts to fund this youth competition.

## 2024 Janet Friedlander Young Strings Competition

The 2024 Janet Friedlander Young Strings Competition was held Saturday, February 24,



**Patsy Donosky**, daughter of **Juanita Miller**; 1st place and 2024 Grand Prize winner **Stephen Chang**, viola. 1st place winners: **Emma Oba**, piano; **Joseph Park**, flute.

2024, in Horchow Hall of the Meyerson Symphony Center. This competition provides scholarships for Young Strings students to pay for lessons, attend music camps or for college. The contestants play a movement of a piece. The judges are 2 to 3 Dallas Symphony musicians. This year, those judges were **Jeff Hood**, DSO cellist and **Filip Fenrych**, DSO violinist.

The winners were: 1st place **Kaira Rasa**, Violin, 9th grade at Booker T. Washington High School *Vieux temps, Violin Concerto No. 4, Op. 31 in D-minor 1st Movement. Introduction (Andante)*

2nd place: **Camila Lizcano**, viola Camila, 7th grade at Greiner MS *Vivaldi, Concerto in D minor (Transcribed from Concerto in A minor, Op. 3-6 for Violin) 1st Movement. Allegro*

3rd place: **Aissatou Rasa**, violin, 11th grade at BTWHS *Haydn, Violin Concerto No. 1 in C major, 1st Movement. Allegro Moderato*  
Honorable Mention: **Morgan Lee**,

bass, 12th grade at Bishop Dunne HS.

**Janet Friedlander** graduated from Oberlin Conservatory in 1975 and was hired by the Dallas Symphony Orchestra upon graduation in 1975. She died of cancer at the age of 33 in 1989. She was beloved by all who knew her. The DSO established this competition and scholarship fund in memory and honor of her. **Rebecca Todd** is the 2024 Janet Friedlander Competition Chair.

## Orchestra Appreciation Luncheon

The Dallas Symphony Orchestra Appreciation Luncheon will be held on April 10, 2024 at The Meyerson Symphony Center. A delicious lunch has been generously donated by **Mesero**. Chairs of this event are **Sharon Ballew** and **Mari Epperson**. They are collecting \$25 gift cards as a gift of appreciation for each musician and these can be to any restaurant in Dallas or can be gift cards to Central Market or Whole Foods. They are willing to pick them up. [mariepper@aol.com](mailto:mariepper@aol.com) or [sharoncallew@gmail.com](mailto:sharoncallew@gmail.com).

# Spring PEOPLE TO SEE



James French Photography



Top left: 2024 DSOL Presentation Ball Debutantes with **Kristin Cordiak**, DSOL Presentation Ball Chair and **Nancy Labadie**, DSOL President. Top right: **Clarence Anderson**, **Lauren Watkins** and **Annette Anderson**. Center left: Miss **Electra Wallace Ford** with **Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Joe Ford** and family Center right: **Caroline Teegarden** Bow. Bottom row left: DSOL Presentation Ball Chair **Kristin** and **Bob Cordiak**. Center bottom row: **Mina Hiranmayee Raj** with her parents, **Drs. Shikha** and **Ganesh Venkataraman Raj**. Bottom right: **Paul** and **Nancy Labadie**, DSOL President.

# Spring PEOPLE TO SEE



**Top left:** Katherine and Steven Smethie, Susan and Mark Geyer Honorary Chairs for Savor the Symphony. **Top right:** Children's Concert Volunteers. **Middle left:** DSO Endowed Concert: **Roberta Corbett, Nigel Brown, Gerald Moore MD, Heather Moore, Larry Stuart, Venise Stuart, Paul Labadie, Nancy Labadie, DSOL President, Deborah Brown, Kristin and Bob Cordiak.** **Middle right:** Participants in the Cleveland DSOL Tour. **Meredy McClure, Karen Cox, Margaret Wilonsky.** **Back: Kathryn Murphy, Ann Wood, Brad Todd, Cynthia Beard, Susan Center.** **Bottom right:** Front row: **Becky Todd, Maestro Fabio Luisi, Margaret Wilonsky, Meredy McClure, Cynthia Beard, Hudson Smith.** Back row: **Brad Todd, Susan Center, Kathryn Murphy, Ann Wood, Debbie Smith.**



**Like Us  
on Facebook**

# 2024 DSOL Calendar of Events

## APRIL

Wednesday, April 10- Orchestra Appreciation Luncheon, Meyerson

Friday, April 12 – Savor the Symphony, Lakewood Country Club

## MAY

Wednesday, May 14 Finale Tea and Awards

Don't forget to renew your DSOL membership  
[dallassymphonyleague.com](http://dallassymphonyleague.com)

Dallas Symphony Orchestra  
Morton H. Meyerson Symphony Center  
Schelgel Administrative Suites  
2301 Flora Street  
Dallas, TX 75201-2497



The logo for the Dallas Symphony Orchestra League Presentation Ball. It features a large, ornate, calligraphic letter 'L' at the top. Below it, the words "Dallas Symphony Orchestra League" are written in a flowing, cursive script. At the bottom, the words "Presentation Ball" are also written in the same cursive script, with a decorative flourish underneath.

Dear Friends of the Dallas Symphony Orchestra,

The Dallas Symphony Orchestra League and Presentation Ball Committee 2025 encourage you to nominate Debutante and Honor Guard candidates for the upcoming season. The year will again be filled with events celebrating music and family in celebration of the 38th annual Presentation Ball to be held, Saturday, February 15, 2025, at the Morton H. Meyerson Symphony Center.

Please submit your nominations for debutante and Honor Guard to [dsolnominations@gmail.com](mailto:dsolnominations@gmail.com) as soon as possible to ensure priority consideration of your candidates. Include the following: name of candidate, address of parents, parent names, telephone, high school/graduation, college if applicable. As a reminder, a debutante must be 19 years of age up to 22 years of age in the year in which she is presented and/or completed minimum one year of college as equivalent. Please contact Ginger Sager at [ginsager@gmail.com](mailto:ginsager@gmail.com) with any questions.

We look forward to receiving your nominations of candidates for the Dallas Symphony Orchestra League Presentation Ball 2025.

Warmly,

Dixey Arterburn  
President  
Dallas Symphony Orchestra League

Ginger Sager  
Presentation Ball Chairman, 2025