



EUGENE SYMPHONY

November 30, 2016

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Elementary students from across Eugene, Springfield, Bethel, and Albany enjoying *iCompose: The Future of Music*

Name _____
Address _____
City, State, Zip _____

Dear First Name,

Art and music are reactions to the world around us. They give us the tools beyond language to respond to our experiences. They uplift, amplify, and heal. Art breaks down barriers, builds bridges, and empowers us all. Art is a language to express our human hopes, fears, and dreams. Art unifies us.

On November 15, 2016 we witnessed the power of music to connect. That day, we welcomed over 3,000 elementary school children from Eugene, Springfield, Bethel, Albany, and beyond to the Hult Center to experience *iCompose: The Future of Music* – the Eugene Symphony’s first Youth Concert of its 51st season. For many of those children, this was their very first time hearing an orchestra.

As they wiggled in their seats, full of excitement and anticipation, they heard the early works of Bizet and Mozart, whose prolific musical careers began when they **were around the same age as our young audience** members. As they giggled and cheered along with the music, they were the first to hear *Ode to the Future*, a new piece co-created by five high school composers participating in the Oregon Young Composers Project. These talented young people wrote the piece in collaboration with graduate students at the University of Oregon under the guidance of master composer Robert Kyr. **For these kids, experiencing *iCompose* is life-changing.**

For those 3,000 elementary school children, hearing young composers’ music performed on stage was eye-opening, a glimpse at a world in which **they can be artists and makers**. For some, it revealed the power of collaboration and teamwork toward achieving a shared goal. The expressions on the faces of these children reflect the future of our community, one where **your investment enables creativity and connection**. At the 2016 League of American Orchestras conference, activist DeRay McKesson spoke to the value of art in our communities:

“We understand art to be both a mirror and a window, and we know that sometimes we have to do some clean-up on both those things. The mirror helps us think about who we are differently, helps us reflect and see ourselves in a deeper way, and the window helps us imagine what worlds can be. It helps us think about the future that we want to live in. And art pushes the boundaries of those things.”

Your contribution ensures that the Symphony is both a mirror and a window for our youth and our community. Because of your generosity, over 21,000 children and adults per year who otherwise could not attend our concerts can experience the power of art through programs both on and off stage. Your gift helps to create connections and supports the next generation of musicians, advocates, and creative citizens.

During this season of gratitude and reflection, you have the opportunity to give to a brighter, more musical future.

Make your gift today and ensure the foundation for arts in our community stays strong for generations to come.

Sincerely,

Matt Shapiro
Board President, Eugene Symphony Association

P.S. **Renew or increase your gift before January 1, 2017** and match it with support for **Oregon Cultural Trust** and receive your Oregon Cultural Trust gift back as **tax credit!** See enclosed for details.

ENRICHING LIVES THROUGH THE POWER OF MUSIC

115 West 8th Avenue, Suite 115 Eugene, Oregon 97401 P 541-687-9487 F 541-687-0527 eugenesymphony.org

☐ **YES! I'd like to renew my gift of \$1000 OR ☐ YES! I'd like to increase my gift to \$1500**
OR I'd like to give at the following level see reverse for details:

☐ \$1,000 Conductor's Circle ☐ \$2,500 Bronze Patron ☐ \$5,000 Silver Patron ☐ \$10,000 Gold Patron
☐ \$25,000 Platinum Patron ☐ Other \$ _____

Virginia Anderson
2490 Pioneer Pike
Eugene, OR 97401-5588

☐ My check is enclosed, payable to the *Eugene Symphony* **OR** ☐ I'd like a pledge reminder on (date): _____
☐ Please charge this gift to my: ☐ Visa ☐ MasterCard ☐ American Express
☐ I'd like to pay in one lump sum **OR** ☐ I'd like to pay in equal payments over _____ months

Account # _____ Exp. date _____

Signature _____ Date _____

Please recognize me as _____

☐ **YES! I would like to know about Planned Giving opportunities and joining the Encore Society**

2016/17 MAJ2-RENEW



October 5, 2017

Name

Address

City, State, Zip

Dear First Name,

As I looked out at the audience of our summer concerts – my first time conducting as your new Music Director – I saw the faces of our community. I witnessed nearly 10,000 people from Eugene, Roseburg, Cottage Grove, and beyond gather together to sit on lawns and listen to live symphonic music. Everyone who attended these free community concerts came for their own reasons, but all shared a common musical experience. They felt the force of the symphony. Standing onstage, enjoying the summer evening, **I was humbled and inspired by the power of music to connect us and your incredible support for its role in this community.**

Then to take the Silva stage at the Hult Center and open the season with the amazing Renee Fleming followed by our dynamic community partnership with Composer-in-Residence Augusta Read Thomas and piano soloist Joyce Yang, I am convinced, more than ever of the power of music. As I step into my new role and become a part of our community, I look forward to deepening and expanding the role of our Symphony as a hub of creative expression and connection.

- I will seek to create artistically excellent, engaging, interactive, community-building concerts that connect the audience to the music, the musicians, and one another.
- I will be visiting every school in our area, and will ensure all 3-5th graders enjoy our fall and spring Youth Concerts.
- I will seek to deepen our in-school and after-school teaching artists mentoring of young musicians.
- I will promote family friendly performances for the next generation.
- I will advocate, innovate, and advance the work of Symphony Connect, our chamber ensemble program that partners with a music therapist and program staff in local human service organizations to offer inclusive on-site concerts, providing healing and hope.

You are the heart of these efforts. Your support ensures we advance our mission and enhance the rich creative community in which we all want to live. Please **renew your gift of \$1000 and consider an increase to \$2500 this season** as we seek to embark together to support the **musicians, community connection, and music we all value.** Together, we can make the symphony an accessible and contagiously joyous part of everyday life for all.

Sincerely,

Francesco Lecce-Chong

Eugene Symphony Music Director & Conductor

December 6, 2017

Louise Wiprud
2860 NW Angelica Drive
Corvallis, OR 97330-3619



Dear Louise,

As Assistant Concertmaster, I am continually humbled that my work and service as a musician has the power to enrich people's lives. I feel especially thankful for this opportunity while playing for underserved neighbors through our new *Symphony Connect* program, which brings live music into human service agencies in our area. As grand as our performances are with the full orchestra on the Silva stage, my experiences with the *Symphony Connect* string quartet have been as raw and personal, as the close quarters in which we play in these intimate performances.

The impact of *Symphony Connect* is profound and far-reaching, both for us musicians and for community members alike. Designed with the guidance of a music therapist, **we give interactive performances at partner sites like affordable housing communities, an alternative high school for at-risk teens, mental health facilities, and more.** We come to the concerts wearing our everyday clothes to offer clients in these agencies an accessible and personal experience with classical music. We connect through casual conversation before, during, and after our performances, and witness and share in people's reminiscences and reflections. We share stories of the composers' struggles – and some of our own – and how music can provide comfort, healing, and hope.

These experiences ignite a spark in the participants' lives in a way that perhaps only music can. People often look back over their lives to revisit previous experiences with music, and re-integrate them into their everyday life. **The impact is clear in their eyes...** this not only offers a moment in time away from the stress of their lives, but also opens up their world to the deep and nourishing impact of music.

We are able to share the gift of live music with community members who may not otherwise get the chance to experience it. You might expect this experience to bring out a heightened sense of our differences. Instead, after these performances, **I am most reminded of our shared human experience, and how we are all essentially the same.**

This in turn strengthens my passion for the music I offer on stage at our full Eugene Symphony performances. I'm honored to be a part of this program and humbled to be able to share music in such a unique way. Being a part of *Symphony Connect* has brought more compassion to my playing and gives me a broader sense of contribution to my community as a whole.

Over →

I believe that *Symphony Connect* and our other music education and community engagement programs are essential to our role in the community. I hope you will join our efforts. When you **renew your gift of \$XXXX or consider an increase to \$XXXX this season** to our annual campaign, you support our 83 musicians who elevate audiences in Silva Concert Hall, and allow for innovative programs to help lift our most vulnerable neighbors.

Together we can ensure the power of music to heal, inspire, and connect our community.
Thank you!

Sincerely,



Lisa McWhorter
Eugene Symphony Assistant Concertmaster

Please support of the Eugene Symphony's 2017/18 season! Your gift helps support:

- **11 concerts** for nearly 25,000 audience members at the Hult Center for the Performing Arts
- **8 weeks of extended after-school music instruction** for our area's most **under-resourced neighborhoods**
- **Extended Guest Artist Residencies** which reach **hundreds of local music students** at the middle, high school, and college level
- **4 Elementary School Youth Concerts**, which together draw more than 6,000 students from throughout Lane County and beyond
- **10 on-site visits of *Symphony Connect***, ESA's new chamber music initiative, **to augment human service program** to improve clients stress, emotional regulation, and sense of shared community

✂

☐ **YES! I will renew my gift of \$1,000 OR** ☐ **I'd like to increase my gift to \$2,500**
OR I'd like to give at the following level:

☐ \$1,000 Conductor's Circle ☐ \$2,500 Bronze Patron ☐ \$5,000 Silver Patron ☐ \$10,000 Gold Patron ☐ \$25,000 Platinum Patron

AND I'd like to reserve my admission to GALA 2018: *Explore the Music!* Details eugenesymphony.org/gala

☐ \$2,500 Concierge Club Table OR ☐ \$1,200 Table for Eight OR ☐ \$175/each _____ Single tickets

Name: **Louise Wiprud**

Address: **2860 NW Angelica Drive**

City, State, Zip: **Corvallis, OR 97330-3619**

☐ My check is enclosed, payable to the *Eugene Symphony* OR ☐ I'd like a **pledge reminder** on (date): _____

☐ Please charge this gift to my: ☐ Visa ☐ MasterCard ☐ American Express

☐ I'd like to pay in one lump sum OR ☐ I'd like to pay in equal payments over _____ months

Account# _____ Exp. date _____ CVV _____

Signature _____ Date _____

Please recognize me as _____

☐ **YES! I would like to know about Planned Giving opportunities and joining the Encore Society**

Thank you for helping enrich lives through the power of music!

2017/18 MAJ2-REN