



Merced Symphony Association
60th Anniversary Season
2017-2018



A Message from the President

Welcome to our 60h Season! Through concerts and youth programs the MSA Board brings the highest quality classical music to our community and inspires young musicians to develop their talent to the fullest. We are quite excited to have reached and have a few special events planned.

In May the California Teachers Association (CTA) recognized MSA with an award for our many years of providing annual Children's Concerts which are free and have reached thousands of 4th graders. Quite an honor! (Please check our website for the link to the 2016 video by the award-winning METV Team.)

This year's celebratory season reflects the commitment Maestro Ming Luke and the orchestra bring to our community to perform outstanding programs. Our master musicians and vocalists work throughout northern California and are professionals of the highest quality. At the September concert you'll hear a commission piece by renowned composer Libby Larsen. The world premiere of "Dancing Man Rhapsody" features the extraordinary violin skills of Terrie Baune.

How can you help MSA celebrate this milestone? Attend our concerts and bring friends! Purchase season tickets. Contribute at one of the donor levels. Do you know that MSA is the oldest, continuously-operating non-profit arts organization in Merced County? With your support MSA can continue to thrive and grow.

I look forward to seeing you in the audience for our opening concert on Friday, September 29th!

Judy Edwina Smith

A Message from the Music Director



Photo Credit: Roger Wyan

This season, Merced Symphony marks its 60th season of symphonic concertizing in the central valley. An amazing accomplishment, the Merced Symphony will celebrate this anniversary with a season packed with grand and exciting music. From the co-commissioned World Premiere by famed composer Libby Larsen, to sweet serenades of Dvorak and Tchaikovsky, to the brilliantly vibrant works of Rimsky-Korsakov and Mussorgsky, the Merced Symphony showcases the full range of the symphonic orchestra. Please join us in this exciting season as we celebrate 60 years of great music in the valley!

Ming Luke



Photo Credit: Roger Wyan

60th Anniversary Season

Educational Programs

Providing students with the opportunity to experience live music is part of the core mission of the Merced Symphony. Our January Children's Concerts are regularly fully booked with a waiting list. Our annual Youth Auditions give talented young artists the opportunity to perform before judges and receive positive feedback. Winners can be asked to perform with the orchestra. Some of our winners have gone on to professional careers or become music teachers. We are very proud of them!

Photo Credit: Roger Wyan



2016 Youth Audition Winner
Adrian Pu

Children's Concerts (not open to the public)

Associate Concert Sponsors:



Schools/Classroom Teachers may make reservations for their 4th grade students through MCOE for the concerts in Merced on Friday, January 19, 2018. Los Baños area schools reserve through LBUSD Office of the Superintendent for the Children's Concerts at Pacheco HS Theater on Thursday, January 18, 2018. These programs are designed to be interactive with students and peek their interest in music and band.

Your contributions help us to continue providing these orchestral experiences for our local students. You can sponsor students through a specified donation. Please refer to the Order Form.



Merced Symphony Association

World Premiere Celebration

September 29, 2017 7:30 pm

the art kamangar center at the merced theatre

Concert Sponsor: The Teichert Foundation

Prometheus Overture

Dancing Man

Symphony No. 4

Ludwig van Beethoven

Libby Larsen - *World Premiere*

Terrie Baune, Violin

Piotr Tchaikovsky



Photo Credit: Ann Marsden

The Merced Symphony's 60th Anniversary Season starts off with a bang! To celebrate this anniversary, Merced Symphony has co-commissioned world-renowned award-winning composer Libby Larsen to write a violin concerto with soloist Terrie Baune.

Terrie Baune is a celebrated violinist who has served as concertmaster for orchestras throughout the bay area, including the Oakland Symphony. The season begins with Beethoven's spirited Prometheus Overture and the concert concludes with Tchaikovsky's powerful and energetic Symphony No. 4.

Serenading Strings

November 10, 2017 7:30 pm

the art kamangar center at the merced theatre

Associate Concert Sponsor: Graeme and Gigi Mitchell

Holberg Suite, Op. 40

Serenade for Strings, Op 22

Serenade for Strings, Op. 48

Edvard Grieg

Antonin Dvorak

Piotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky

Nothing can show the variety of colors possible from a string orchestra than repertoire that spans over all over Europe and Russia. The concert opens with the Norwegian fiddling of the Grieg Holberg Suite and continues to the sweet lyricism of Dvorak's Serenade. The concert ends with the passionate and rich Serenade for Strings by Tchaikovsky. Tchaikovsky himself stated he composed the Serenade "from inner conviction," and that "it is a heartfelt piece and so, I dare to think, is not lacking in real qualities."

60th Anniversary Season

American Music: Copland, Bernstein, and more!

January 19, 2018 7:30 pm

the art kamangar center at the merced theatre

Concert Sponsor: Sam and Dena Traina

Associate Concert Sponsor: Mickey Gwin and Judith Hartman

Due to popular request, the Merced Symphony presents a pops concert of American masters! From the Wild West Rodeo of Aaron Copland, to the music of Bernstein, Merced Symphony brings some of our favorite Americana works to life with this energetic concert.

Romantic Russians

April 13, 2018 7:30 pm

Season Sponsor: Pat and Roland Winston
Joanna Browning

Marche Slave, Op. 31

Piotr Tchaikovsky

Russian Easter Overture, Op. 36

Nikolai Rimsky-Korsakov

Pictures at an Exhibition

Modest Mussorgsky, orchestrated by Maurice Ravel

The season ends with grandiose and colorful music by three Russian masters. Rimsky-Korsakov was considered one of the greatest orchestrators, and his Russian Easter Overture has a full palate of orchestral colors. Tchaikovsky's grand Marche Slave brings power to this season finale concert, but nothing could be more impressive than Mussorgsky's famous Pictures at an Exhibition. Mussorgsky was inspired by Hartmann's artwork and musically depicted some of his friend's sketches and drawings in this musical masterwork. Orchestrated by Maurice Ravel, nothing could celebrate Merced Symphony's 60th anniversary season than this explosive and brilliant work!



Support Your Symphony

Donations/Fundraisers/Tickets

The Merced Symphony's artistic and educational programs would not be possible without the generous support of many individuals, foundations, and corporations. Donors receive special access to events and artists throughout the season, depending upon their donation level. For the perks within each level, check our website: www.mercedsymphony.org

The MSA will also hold fundraisers during the season—at least one in the fall and another in the spring to help meet our annual budget. The MSA Board wishes to invite you to join us for these fun-filled evenings. The 21 Tables Event, which features one of a kind accent tables designed by talented local artists, is scheduled for the evening of September 23rd at the MAC (Multicultural Arts Center). Please check our website after August 15, 2017 for more details about tickets.

Please consider supporting the Merced Symphony Association (MSA) to allow us to continue our mission of bringing to Merced the finest professional musicians for great symphonic programs. Our musicians are highly trained and sought after for performances in major orchestras. Many make solo appearances and play with well-known quartets and trios throughout northern California.

We bring the Bay Area Music Scene to Merced! No need to drive long distances to hear exceptional music. MSA provides it right here!

Thank you for supporting music in the central valley!

Note: All donations are tax deductible. [IRS Tax ID #94-1541775]

Season Sponsor: \$10,000

Concert Sponsor: \$5,000

Associate Concert Sponsor: \$2,500

Platinum Level--\$1,000+

Gold Level--\$500+

Silver Level--\$250+

Supporter: \$100+

MSA Member Minimum: \$50+

ENDOWMENT FUND: Please talk with a MSA Board Member for more information.

60th Anniversary Season

Subscriber and Donor Form



Season Tickets feature tiered pricing with reserved seats selected prior to general sale to the public. The Merced Theatre will contact you to select your seat(s) for the season, so be sure your contact information is correct.

Name(s): _____

(As you wish listed in the program)

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

E-Mail: _____

Season Tickets = \$17% savings from individual ticket prices for 4 concerts.

Tier 1: _____ @ \$153.00 each (Front Middle section, rows A-O)

Tier 2: _____ @ \$119.00 each (Front Sides to Row O)

Tier 3: _____ @ \$85 each (Side and Middle Back from Row P on)

Student/Child: _____ @ \$51.00 each (may sit with parent or guardian)

FIRST TIME Season Ticket Buyers get a 30% discount from individual tickets:

Tier 1: _____ @ \$126.00 Tier 2: _____ @ \$98.00

Tier 3: _____ @ \$70.00 Student*/Child _____ @ \$42.00

Additional, Individual concert tickets (specify concert on lines below)

Adult Tier 1 Tickets @ \$45 each for _____ \$ _____

Adult Tier 2 Tickets @ \$35 each for _____ \$ _____

Adult Tier 3 Tickets @ \$25 each for _____ \$ _____

Student*/Child Tickets @ \$15 each _____ \$ _____

*Fulltime Students 25 and under with school ID. Children under 12 do not need an ID. Total Tickets \$ _____

I will sponsor _____ students at the Children's Concerts: (Optional) \$ _____

This donation helps defray the cost of the free concert for 4th grade students in Merced County.

I wish to support the MSA Programs with my donation of: \$ _____

Paid by Check Grand Total \$ _____

Credit Card

(Specify: Amex/VISA/MC/Disc/Other: _____)

CC# _____

Exp. Date: ____ / ____ CCV# _____

(Please detach form and mail with payment to:

Merced Symphony Association

PO Box 894

Merced, CA 95341-0894

For Individual Tickets contact

Merced Theatre Box Office

301 W Main St, Merced

or call **209-381-0500**

AFTER September 1, 2017

MERCED SYMPHONY ASSOCIATION
P.O. BOX 894
MERCED, CA 95341



SUBSCRIBE AND SAVE 20%!