



Symphony Notes

A publication of the Livermore-Amador Symphony and Guild, Vol. 63, No. 3, April 2026

LIVERMORE-AMADOR SYMPHONY

Lara Webber, Music Director & Conductor

Presents

Spring Awakenings

Saturday, April 11, 2026, at 7:30 p.m.

Geoffrey Gallegos, Guest Conductor

7-7:15 Inside the Music preconcert talk by Geoffrey Gallegos.

**BANKHEAD THEATER, 2400 First Street, Livermore
Livermore Valley Performing Arts Center**

Spring: A Musical Tableau for Orchestra, Op. 34

Alexander Glazunov

Appalachian Spring Suite

Aaron Copland

Symphony No. 1 in B-flat Major, "Spring"

Robert Schumann

The music will be enhanced by visual images thanks to a unique collaboration between the Symphony Association and the Livermore Art Association.

Livermore violinist and strings educator Jim Hurley will perform in the lobby at intermission.

The audience and performers are invited to enjoy a post-concert reception in the lobby hosted by the Livermore-Amador Symphony Guild.

**Tickets: <https://livermoreamadorsymphony.org/tickets.html>;
Bankhead ticket office at 2400 First St., Livermore; or 925-373-6800.
Youth under age 22 are always FREE.**

The Livermore-Amador Symphony is a Resident Company of the Bankhead Theater and a member of the Livermore Cultural Arts Council (LCAC).

Spring Awakenings

April 11,
2026
7:30 pm

A vibrant program featuring Copland's *Appalachian Spring* and music by Glazunov & Schumann, bringing the sounds of nature to life.



livermoreamadorsymphony.org



Livermore Amador Symphony

And a unique collaboration between the *Symphony* and the *Livermore Art Association!*

BANKHEAD THEATER
LIVERMORE VALLEY
arts

The symphony's music will be accompanied by original visual images, thanks to a collaboration between the **Livermore Amador Symphony Association** and the **Livermore Art Association**. A selection of original works will also be displayed in the theater lobby and at a special exhibit during the LAA Spring Art Show.

LIVERMORE VALLEY ARTS
SUPPORTED IN PART BY A GRANT FROM THE CITY OF LIVERMORE COMMISSION FOR THE ARTS

Inside the Music
7:00 pm with
Guest Conductor
Geoffrey Gallegos



Youth under 22
Tickets are **free!**

Complimentary **Livermore Valley Wines** after the concert



Spring Awakenings Art & Music

Sponsored by Livermore Amador Symphony
April 18/19 @ 11 am - 4 pm
Bothwell Art Center
2466 8th St
Livermore



Intermission Performance
Jim Hurley violin



LIVERMORE AMADOR SYMPHONY

Spring Awakenings

Saturday, April 11, Concert begins at 7:30 p.m.

Inside the Music: 7-7:15

Bankhead Theater Livermore

Geoffrey Gallegos, Guest Conductor



Geoffrey Gallegos, a San Francisco native and sixth generation Californian, has been involved in the San Francisco Bay Area music community for 40 years.

He is currently Music Director and Conductor of Kensington Symphony Orchestra (since 2004), West County Winds (since 2015), and Contra Costa Chamber Orchestra (since 2021).

He previously served as Music Director and Principal Conductor of Golden Gate Opera in San Francisco, Principal Conductor of San Francisco Concerto Orchestra, and Associate Conductor of San Francisco Chamber Players Orchestra and Peninsula Symphony Orchestra. In addition, Gallegos has guest conducted numerous ensembles and opera companies throughout the Bay Area, the US, and Europe.

Gallegos is also deeply committed to music education. In 2001, he was appointed Music Director and Conductor of the Golden Gate Philharmonic, an all-city string youth orchestra in San Francisco that offers an integrated program of orchestral and chamber music performance and music theory. He currently holds the position of Artistic & Executive Director and Principal Conductor. From 2001 to 2010, Gallegos participated in the Artist in Residence program at the Ruth Asawa School of the Arts (SOTA) in San Francisco where he served as guest conductor of the orchestra and wind ensembles. He has also led many other student orchestra programs.

Gallegos studied at the San Francisco Conservatory of Music Preparatory School and holds a Bachelor of Music degree in Instrumental Education and Conducting from San Francisco State University. He continued with advanced studies in orchestral and operatic conducting at the University of Iowa School of Music, where he received a Master of Arts. From 2005 to 2023 he served on the Board of Directors of the Community Music Center in San Francisco where he began his music journey with trumpet studies at the age of nine. Gallegos lives in San Francisco with his cat Rajah.

Annual LAS School Concert Outreach Assemblies: The symphony will present school concert assemblies at two local elementary schools on April 16. Members of the LAS Guild will host a luncheon for the performers between the morning and afternoon assemblies. LAS player and LASA Education Youth Outreach chair, Stacy Hughes, worked with school staff to make the arrangements.

A Message from LAS GUILD PRESIDENT PJ Wells



The **April 11** concert looms in front of us with the bonus of a guest conductor (**Geoffrey Gallegos**), another beautiful program of music, an expert violinist in the lobby (**Jim Hurley**), and the annual Guild presentation of a cash gift to the Association onstage after intermission. While I prepare for my 60 seconds in the spotlight presenting the gift, it's a tie as to which situation is more terrifying: passing out chocolate to um, eager patrons on Valentine's Day, or making the cash gift onstage. Oh, Valentine's Day was fun! We in the Guild so enjoyed taking patron's photos under our lovely arch, sharing a sweet moment with all who stopped by our Guild table (foraging for more chocolate), and mingling in the Founder's Room. The enthusiasm of the guy in the lobby who yelled, "There she is: the chocolate lady—GET HER!" was so exuberant 🤩! We surely found his sweet spot.

And another sweet spot came on March 20 at Cuda Ridge Winery when we hosted our *Sipping for the Symphony* spring fundraiser. We heard *The Jammies* once again, ate snacks, visited with old and new friends, and sent folks home with a few new tunes to start their weekend. Thank you so much to everyone who made gift baskets, played music, enjoyed wine, and made donations to support our wonderful Livermore-Amador Symphony.

Just a few short weeks after the concert, we will hold *April Jewels*, our Guild spring business meeting, on April 23, 6:30pm at the Bothwell Arts Center. The evening includes performances by 3 selected runners-up from the symphony's Competition for Young Musicians, a dessert reception, and a chance to mingle with the young musicians and friends. Please mark your calendars—these young people are extraordinary, and Anne Badders has this program well in-hand. You could be previewing a future soloist with our orchestra! [See also p. 6.]

We are pleased to promote our final fundraiser of the season: a partnership between the Guild and a local art studio where we have an opportunity to paint together while listening to live music. Join us as the Guild partners with Pinot's Palette in downtown Livermore on Sunday May 3 from 2–4pm. Musicians from our orchestra will play live while we paint a glorious bouquet in the impressionist style. Pinot's Palette provides the art studio, instructor, paint, and materials, while the Guild provides a dessert bar, coffee/tea, and promotional items. Both entities share in the profits of the day. And the big winners are the participants who can relax, get creative, and enjoy this brain-enhancing activity of socializing with art and music! Register today!

<https://www.pinotpalette.com/livermore/event/897712>.

Let's go out and play!

PJ Wells

2025-2026 President

Livermore-Amador Symphony Guild



MUSIC & MONET, PINOT'S PALETTE, MAY 3, 2-4PM
LIVERMORE AMADOR SYMPHONY GUILD

Letter from LASA PRESIDENT ANNE ANAYA



Our April 11 concert, *Spring Awakenings*, is taking on vivid new color, becoming one of the most **unique experiences of the season**. It wasn't originally planned that way when the repertoire was selected more than a year ago, but through a summer of creative collaboration, a dedicated team came together with one goal in mind: to make your concert experience truly unforgettable.

For the past two summers, **Tim Barry, PJ Wells, Lara Webber, Denise Leddon**, and I have met with a wide range of dedicated volunteers to explore creative possibilities for each season. Using the repertoire selected by the music committee as our starting point, we look for meaningful ways to connect each program with the broader community and its themes. Over the last two years, **we've partnered with inspiring local groups** such as Element 116, Cantabella, Tri-Valley Stargazers, and SPARC Theater—blending our music with their unique talents and perspectives. As a result, you've enjoyed everything from engaging lobby entertainment to memorable surprise performances on stage.

This spring concert is the result of a wonderful collaboration arranged by **Denise Leddon**—our marketing maestro and second violinist— between **Livermore-Amador Symphony** and the **Livermore Art Association**. Artwork inspired by spring and song will be displayed not only in the lobby but also featured in a visual presentation on stage. The program itself—Glazunov's *Spring*, Copland's *Appalachian Spring*, and Schumann's *Spring* Symphony—was selected by **our guest conductor, Geoffrey Gallegos**, who also joined us last summer as we explored ways to blend music and visual art into a richer, more immersive spring concert experience.

A heartfelt thank-you to the Livermore Art Association and the City of Livermore Commission for the Arts for helping bring this vision to life. **Invite your friends and join us for a truly unique concert** that blends the beauty of music with the inspiration of art.

With a harmonious heart,

Anne Anaya,

President, Livermore-Amador Symphony Association



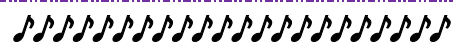
Annual Association Meeting

& Board Member Election

Tuesday, April 21, 2026, 7–7:20pm

Music Room at East Avenue MS, Livermore

All LAS Association members—volunteer LAS players, adult season ticket subscribers, Guild members, and donors of \$100 or more—**are eligible to vote in the board election.**



Annual Guild Spring Luncheon

Thursday, May 21, 2026, 12 noon

Beeb's Bar & Grill at Las Positas Golf Course

915 Clubhouse Drive, Livermore

Come & socialize with your fellow Guild members.

Guests are welcome too!

You may also renew your Guild

2026-2027 Season membership at the meeting!

Watch for a reminder email or a phone call.

♪♪♪
April Jewels: Guild Annual Spring Meeting
Thursday April 23, 6:30 p.m.
Bothwell Arts Center, 2466 8th St., Livermore

The evening begins with a short business meeting. Immediately following, attendees will be treated to a recital by 3 runners-up from the Symphony’s Competition for Young Musicians: Yuna Kang, flute; Brandon Gao, violin; and Chiara Thendean, violin. All attendees are invited to stay after the performance for refreshments and conversation.

Election Slate

The Guild’s 2025-2026 Nominating Committee

Joyce Brown, chair; Carol Beck, Sandra Hodzic, Darlene Jeffries, and Michelle Rosenberg
Presents the following slate of Officers and Nominating Committee Members

PJ Wells, President; Linda Miller, Vice President
Claudia Barry, Recording Secretary; Judy McMurry, Treasurer
Nominating Committee Members: **Carol Beck and Gail Olney (for 2026–2028)**

If elected, all will begin their terms on July 1, 2026.

Officers are elected to one-year terms.

Nominating committee members are elected to two-year terms.

The Nominating Committee has 4 elected members serving two-year terms, plus a chair who is appointed to a one-year term. For 2026-2027, Sandra Hodzic is chair; Michelle Rosenberg & Darlene Jeffries will continue their 2025–2027 terms.

January Gems!



Competition runners-up selected to perform for the Guild’s January 18 meeting:
Hiroshi Corro, piano; Claire Lin, violin; and Ivy Cui, piano—posing with
Lara Webber, LAS Music Director & Conductor, and Anne Badders, Competition Chair.



LIVERMORE AMADOR SYMPHONY

APRIL 11 LAS SPRING AWAKENINGS CONCERT

and LAA ART EXHIBIT

a UNIQUE COLLABORATION



"Spring's Overture," by local artist Wei-Ting Chuang is one of the artworks selected for the silent video. Photo courtesy of LAA.

Spring Awakenings is a first-time collaboration between the Livermore Art Association (LAA) and the Livermore-Amador Symphony (LAS). LAA sponsored a contest for artworks inspired after listening to music the LAS orchestra would perform at its April "Spring Awakenings" concert: Alexander Glazunov's "Spring: A Musical Tableau for Orchestra", Aaron Copland's *Appalachian Spring*, and Robert Schumann's Symphony No. 1 in B-flat major, known as the "Spring Symphony". Over 100 entries were received. The winners were selected for best artistic ability and best representation of the music. The winning artworks were photographed, then compiled by a videographer into a silent movie, to be shown above the orchestra on the Bankhead stage during the concert.

In addition, a selection of the original jury-selected artworks will be physically displayed in the Bankhead Theater lobby near a staffed table hosted by symphony and artist volunteers.

These artworks will also be exhibited as part of a special "Spring Awakenings" display during LAA's Spring Art Show on Saturday and Sunday, April 18 and 19, 11am to 4pm at the Bothwell Arts Center, at 8th & H Streets in Livermore. The Bothwell special exhibit will also include a reception hosted by LAS on Sunday from 3-4pm with entertainment by a string quartet.

The collaboration was proposed by Denise Leddon, LAS violin player and marketing chair. She then coordinated the effort between LAA and LAS and applied for a grant from the City of Livermore Commission for the Arts. The grant award provided vital financial support for this important collaboration by these local arts organizations.

**LIVERMORE-AMADOR SYMPHONY and GUILD
CALENDAR 2025–2026**

***Livermore-Amador Symphony Concert
Spring Awakenings***

**Saturday, April 11, 2026, 7:30 p.m. (Inside the Music, 7–7:15)
Bankhead Theater, Livermore
Featuring Guest Conductor Geoffrey Gallegos**

**Saturday-Sunday, April 18–19, 11:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m. (See page 7)
Spring Awakenings Art Exhibit
Sponsored by LAS in Collaboration with Livermore Art Association
Bothwell Arts Center, 2466 8th St. (8th & H Streets), Livermore**

**Tuesday, April 21, 2026, 7:00–7:20 p.m. (See page 5)
Association Annual Meeting–Board member election
East Avenue Middle School Music Room, 3951 East Ave., Livermore**

**Thursday, April 23, 2026, 6:30 p.m. (See pages 4 and 6)
Guild Spring Meeting with Election of Officers and Reception
7:00 Recital by selected runners-up from Competition for Young Musicians
Bothwell Arts Center, 2466 8th St. (8th & H Streets), Livermore**

**Sunday, May 3, 2:00–4:00 p.m. (See page 4)
Guild Sponsored Paint & Sip Fundraiser Event: "Music & Monet"
Pinot's Palette, 153 South L Street, Livermore**

**Thursday, May 21, 2025, 12:00 noon (See p. 5)
Guild Spring Luncheon with introduction of 2026–2027 Guild Officers
Beeb's Restaurant, 915 Clubhouse Dr., Livermore**

**Saturday, June 6, 2026, 7:30 p.m. (Inside the Music, 7–7:15)
Livermore-Amador Symphony Concert:
Dramatic Voices, featuring Steve Sanchez, clarinet and Competition winner
Charlotte Trinh, harp
Bankhead Theater, Livermore**

Symphony Notes is published four times a year for members of the Livermore-Amador Symphony Association, Orchestra, and Guild. Symphony Association President: Anne Anaya; Guild President: PJ Wells; Editor: Marcia Elchesen. PO Box 1049, Livermore, CA 94551; 925-789-5724.
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