



**FRIENDS  
OF THE SPCO**

Great Orchestras Need Great Friends

**2018–2019  
Annual Report  
from Officers  
and Committee Chairs**

**Mission Statement**

**The Friends of the SPCO is a nonprofit organization committed to the support of The Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra through music education, community awareness, audience development and financial support.**

## **Board of Directors Position Description**

The Friends of the Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra is an independent volunteer organization whose purpose is to support and promote the Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra. It was organized from the Women's Philharmonic Association in 1977 and was incorporated in 1984.

The Board of Directors of the Friends is a working board with significant responsibilities. Board members accomplish the mission and goals of the Friends through assignments on working committees as well as serving on the full Board. The committees function continuously through individual assignments, telephone and email communications and additional small group meetings. The chairperson of each committee writes a report containing pertinent information about the event which becomes part of the whole committee report at the Annual Meeting.

Each Board member is important to the accomplishment of the Friends mission and goals. Each member serves a two-year term with a maximum of six consecutive years. Board members need to be able to devote effort and commitment to their positions on the Board, including paying their yearly dues by early September, regular attendance at Board meetings and serving on at least one committee. The areas to choose among include: Education, Membership, Special Events, Public Relations, Website and Youth Chamber Music Competition. Board members are encouraged to purchase a season ticket package to the SPCO concerts and to share their Fanfare and concert experiences with friends, as well as other events sponsored by The Friends.

The Friends website: [www.friendsofthespco.org](http://www.friendsofthespco.org)

The Competition website: [www.spc-co-ycmc.org](http://www.spc-co-ycmc.org)

## Friends of the SPCO 2018-2019 Board of Directors

Donna Ahrens - Co-President  
Ginger Bailey - Co-Recording Secretary  
Jo Bailey – Co-Chair, Education  
Lynne Beck – Nominating; Co-Chair, Special Events  
Kay Bendel - Assistant Treasurer  
Inez Bergquist – Co-Chair, Education  
Carole Boyum  
Sue Danielson Bretheim  
Lynne Bulger  
Elizabeth Buschor  
Janet Kampf  
Penny Chally - Co-Chair, Membership  
Annette Conklin - Youth Chamber Music Competition  
Mary Cunningham – Co-President  
Cass Dalglish  
Mary Frederick  
Joan Gacki - Public Relations; Website  
Karen Golden  
Mary Indritz - Co-Recording Secretary; Parliamentarian  
Carolynn Johnson  
Roberta Kagin  
Nancy Kapps  
Betty Kok  
Karen Larsen  
Patti Limbacher  
Judy McCleery  
Mary McDiarmid  
Sue Metzger  
Ann Miller – Co-Chair, Special Events  
Ruth Murphy  
Barbara Osadcky - Treasurer  
Mary Patton - Co-Chair, Daniel Freeman Classes; Corresponding Secretary  
Betty Reichert - Government Issues  
Roxanne Sands  
Katie Scarfone - Website  
Inge Schwochau - Historian  
Joy Sorich  
Sherry Spence  
Cj Suchta - Co-Chair, Membership  
Voni Swenson  
Linda van Dooijeweert

**Non-Board Committee Chairs 2018–2019**

Betty Andrews, Mailing

Ellen Lillemoen - Co-Chair, Daniel Freeman Classes

Andrea McCue – Co-Chair, Conversation with Books

Katie Berg - Director of Development, SPCO Staff Contact

## Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Friends of the SPCO 2018-19

June 4, 2019

Mendakota Country Club

Attendees: Donna Ahrens, Betty Andrews, Ginger Bailey, Jo Bailey, Lynne Beck, Kay Bendel, Rick Bendel, Inez Bergquist, Katie Berg, Sandra Browning, Elizabeth Buschor, Carole Boyum, Cecil Chally, Penny Chally, Becky Cline, Annette Conklin, Mary Cunningham, Mary Frederick, Barbara Fritz, Joan Gacki, Karen Golden, Lindsey Hansen, Mary Indritz, Carolyn Johnson, Roberta Kagin, Janet Kampf, Eric King, Sarah Kinney, Debra Koop, Gail LaFave, Ellen Lillemoen, Jon Limbacher, Patty Limbacher, Corinne McCarthy, Mary McDiarmid, Kathleen McLaughlin, Alicia McQuerrey, Brenda McQuerrey, Ann Miller, Ruth Murphy, Pat O’Gorman, Mary Orr, Barbara Osadcky, Jim Pratt, Ila June Brown-Pratt, Diane Rosenwald, Roxanne Sands, Christin Smith-Bland, Rod Smith-Bland, Joy Sorich, Sherry Spence, Michael Spence, Connie Suchta, Voni Swenson, Lola May Thompson, Chuck Ullery, Linda van Dooijeweert, Maggie Wilson

Call to Order: Donna Ahrens called the Annual Meeting of the Friends of the SPCO to order and welcomed all who were attending this luncheon. She welcomed SPCO staff members Katie Berg, Becky Cline, and Lindsey Hansen to the meeting. The minutes of the 2017-18 Annual meeting were approved as printed. Five “readers” read the minutes prior to this meeting in keeping with the concept approved at the 2017 Annual Meeting.

Donna thanked the Mendakota Club, Joy Sorich, Penny Chally, Jo Bailey, Lola May Thompson, and Linda Van Dooijeweert for their work on the Annual Meeting. Copies of the Annual Report will be available online. Committee reports are due by June 30.

### Friend Par Excellence Awards:

Penny Chally and Carolyn Johnson each received the Friend par Excellence award. Mary Cunningham noted that Penny has served in many positions on the board, including president, and is responsible for many of our current members being here. She is engaging and willing to take on difficult jobs, including working on the database for the directory. Donna Ahrens acknowledged the many roles, including president, that Carolyn Johnson has fulfilled in her 20 years as a member. She has helped with many policy decisions as the organization has evolved over the years. Most recently she has served as the Friends’ liaison with the SPCO musicians.

### Treasurer’s Report

Barbara Osadcky reported that we have done very well this year. No final numbers are available yet.

### Bylaws

Mary Indritz asked for a motion that the bylaws changes as distributed today be voted on as a package. The motion was made and seconded. The motion to accept the changes to the bylaws was seconded and passed. A motion was made and seconded to approve the policy changes as a package. The motion to accept policy changes as distributed was seconded and passed.

### Nominating Committee Report

Lynne Beck presented the Nominating Committee report and asked for nominations from the floor. Joan Gacki moved that Katie Scarfone be added to the Public Relations and website committee. The motion was seconded and passed. A motion was made, seconded, and passed to approve the slate with that one addition. New Board members are Betty Andrews, Sandra Browning, Kathryn Johnson, Mary Maguire, and Andrea McCue. Retiring Board members are Joan Gacki and Judy McCleery.

### Ultimate Friend Award

The Ultimate Friend Award Ultimate Friend honors a person, corporation, or community entity that has demonstrated exceptional support and extraordinary service to furthering the mission of the Friends. The award is given whenever an outstanding candidate emerges and is selected by the Executive Committee. Carolynn Johnson announced that this year's recipient is Alicia McQuerrey, who has been a flute and piccolo musician with the SPCO since 2001. Alicia has been instrumental in helping us find musicians to play at events we host. She has just accepted another job with the orchestra, as Orchestra Personnel Assistant. Alicia thanked us for the award and said she was thrilled to receive it.

### Special Recognition

Katie Berg will be leaving the SPCO staff in July to take a job with Carleton College, her alma mater. She has been with the SPCO since 2005 and has been our staff contact since 2012. She has been the staff person who is always available and "knows everything." Katie thanked us.

### Report from the Orchestra

Jon Limbacher, Managing Director and President of the SPCO, thanked Donna and Mary for their leadership of the Friends this year. Volunteers are the backbone of the organization and have done an outstanding job. He also praised Katie Berg for the fine work she has done for the Orchestra. Lindsey Hansen will take over Katie's position. The SPCO has had a terrific season but has been faced with some challenges due to some cuts in corporate support. He believes that the 60-year-old orchestra has never sounded better. A music library is now available enabling music lovers to enjoy the music from home. Retirement homes can now make the concerts available to residents. Free tickets are available to children. The SPCO management and board have made decisions that needed to be made, one of which is letting go of the Fanfare program. He believes the SPCO has a world-class staff and an energized base of support.

Donna Ahrens thanked Mary Cunningham for all her work this past year. Mary presented Donna with a plant and praised her for her outstanding organizational skills. Inez Bergquist was introduced as the new Co-President. Donna gave the gavel to Mary Cunningham.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:20. Chuck Ullery, retired bassoonist with the SPCO, gave an entertaining talk on the history and structure of the bassoon, followed by a brief recital.

Ginger Bailey, Co-Recording Secretary

**Friends of the SPCO**  
**Proposed Internal Audit Procedures**

The audit is done yearly. The task of the audit committee is to verify that the financial information reported to the membership and on the tax return is accurate and complete. This involves verifying the annual report information, cash and investment account balances as reported in the general ledger and the carry forward to the next year of the designated fund balances as reported in the general ledger. In addition, the audit committee should examine the accounting procedures and internal controls for weaknesses. This is accomplished using the following procedures:

- ❖ A random sampling of deposits should be selected to determine whether or not income has been reported correctly in the general ledger and that the deposits are made to the bank in a timely and accurate manner.
- ❖ Verify that the general ledger prepared by the Treasurer matches the financial statements in the Annual Report.
- ❖ All balance sheet accounts in the general ledger should be verified. For example, all bank accounts should be reconciled using the bank statements, the general ledger and the bank reconciliations prepared by the Treasurer. Investment accounts should be reconciled with the investment statements.
- ❖ Restricted Fund balances reflect the amounts of designated monies carried over from one year to the next. Any additions to the restricted funds should be verified.
- ❖ Expenditures from restricted funds should be verified. Parameters of the restricted fund should be consulted to be sure expenditures meet the qualifications of the restrictions.
- ❖ The Treasurer's Report should be compared to the approved budget and significant variances should be investigated.
- ❖ Other procedures may be performed as deemed necessary by the committee to insure accuracy and thoroughness.
- ❖ In addition to the above specific activities, the audit committee should be mindful of the processes and procedures used in the day-to-day financial dealings of the organization. These processes should be reviewed for possible inadequate separation of duties, timeliness and overall "best practices." Weaknesses or suggestions for improvement should be part of the committee's report.

**Report of the Internal Audit Committee Meeting of the Friends of the SPCO  
August 12, 2019**

**In attendance:** Donna Ahrens, Kay Bendel, Inez Bergquist, Sue Danielson Bretheim, Annette Conklin, Mary Cunningham, Barbara Osadcky, and Sherry Spence. Lynne Beck was unable to attend. Notes taken by Donna Ahrens.

Assistant Treasurer Kay Bendel called the meeting to order at 12:45.

**Description of the accounts:** Kay opened the meeting by describing the accounts. There are two bank accounts: 1) a savings account holding the restricted funds and 2) the checking account that serves the operations of both the Friends management and the Youth Chamber Music Comp Competition. In addition both PayPal and Square deposit funds into the checking account. All checks are written by Barbara. Both Barbara and Kay make deposits.

Two spreadsheets were distributed—one provided by Barbara for the operating income and expenses; and one maintained by Kay for the activities of the Competition. Two balance sheets were also distributed: one for the Friends of the SPCO (July 1, 2018–June 30, 2019), and the other, the final report for the 2019 Competition. The Competition finances should always be included in the Friends monthly financial report.

The balance sheet for the Friends notes a discrepancy of \$42.67 for the year between the bank statement and the treasurer’s records.

**Audit:** Several entry items in both the Friends and Competition spreadsheets were questioned and discussed. Several entries were questioned regarding the category in which they were placed, and committee members requested that a few of them be moved into different categories for greater clarity. (For example: Under Expenses, add a category specifically for memorials to the SPCO to honor active Friends members, past presidents, etc.; also under Expenses, include the room rental for House of Hope in the category “Freeman lecture series.”)

Annette Conklin questioned the total paid to winners of the Competition. Barbara and Annette will resolve this matter for the final financial report on the Competition.

Kay also reminded Barbara that any uncashed checks written on the Competition should be credited back to the Competition at the end of the year. Kay and Inez also discussed that a check for \$500 recently received donation may really be intended for the Competition as the donor has given that amount each year.

A final check for \$25,000 was given to the SPCO – this includes the Larsen Grant of \$6,000. \$1,300 had already been given throughout the year in memorials, bringing our **total gift to the SPCO for the 2018–19 year to \$26,300.**

The committee then turned to a discussion of seeking outside help with bookkeeping and financial reporting. Friends Co-President Inez Bergquist explained that the nonprofit she runs uses an independent bookkeeper who works with the organization’s treasurer and prepares

financial reports, sends out checks, and handles online accounting. She said that her organization pays about \$100/month for this service. Inez noted that this arrangement would also guarantee that we would have another set of eyes on income/expenses, as well as relieving the Friends' treasurer of much of the bookkeeping minutiae. Committee members had a number of questions and comments about this proposal.

**A motion was made by Inez Bergquist and seconded by Sue Danielson Bretheim to “declare the audit thorough and complete but give a qualified approval because of the discrepancy.” The motion was passed by unanimous vote.**

Random checking did not indicate any problem with paying bills and depositing funds. The concern was with the recording, reporting, and delay of the reporting. **Hence, there may well be an adjusted End-of-year spreadsheet and report.**

The Finance committee is composed of the immediate past president(s), current president(s), chairperson of the Competition committee and of the Events committee, and an at-large member of the Friends.

Before adjournment, Barbara graciously but sadly resigned as treasurer because of health reasons and the demands of her professional job.

The meeting was adjourned at 2 p.m.

Kay Bendel, Chair of the Finance Committee

**Please see the Audit Committee's recommendations below.**

1. The full Board should discuss the proposed use of a bookkeeping service to assist the treasurer and make a decision on the proposal.
2. When sending a bill to the treasurer, committee chairs should always include a requisition form and should specify the committee responsible for the bill. (Requisition forms are available at meetings and from the treasurer.) This will help ensure that expenses are entered in the correct category on the spreadsheet.
3. We need a better procedure for promptly acknowledging gifts to the Friends. It was recommended that we ask Joan Gacki to help design a card that will fit into a business envelope (or will fit on some of the abundance of note cards that we seem to have so many of) to recognize gifts to the Friends so that acknowledgments can be sent promptly. We need two cards: One to go to the donor, and another to go to the person or family of the person for whom the gift is given. It was suggested that we copy the format used by the SPCO (or another non-profit organization). Recognition letters for donations to the Competition are sent immediately upon receipt of the gift.
4. The presidents and treasurer should keep an up-to-date list of memorials donated by the Friends to the SPCO, noting the amount of the check and the date when the memorial check is mailed to the SPCO.

**Balance Sheet for the Friends of the SPCO, 7/1/18–6/30/19**

Operating balance 7/1/2018	\$ 15,585.58
Income 7/1/2018-6/30/2019	\$ 46,025.28
Expenses 7/1/2018-6/30/2019	<u>\$ (44,806.67)</u>
<b>Operating Balance, 6/30/2019</b>	<b>\$ 16,804.19</b>

Competition balance 7/1/2018	\$ 16,401.48
Income 7/1/2018-6/30/2019	\$ 15,149.00
Expenses 7/1/2018-6/30/2019	<u>\$ (16,123.78)</u>
<b>Competition Balance, 6/30/2019</b>	<b>\$ 15,426.70</b>

Savings Balance 7/1/2018	\$ 6,653.64
Interest 7/1/2018-6/30/2019	<u>\$ 5.99</u>
<b>Total 6/30/2019</b>	<b>\$ 6,659.63</b>

**Total of the above accounts 6/30/2019**      **\$ 38,890.52**

Statement balance 6/30/19	\$ 58,018.99
Uncleared checks	\$ (25,788.10)
PayPal Balance 6/30/2018	<u>\$ 6,649.63</u>
<b>Total Assets 6/30/2018</b>	<b>\$ 38,890.52</b>

**Gifts to the SPCO**

End of year gift to the SPCO	\$ 19,000.00
Larsen Grant for Fanfare	\$ 6,000.00
Memorials to the SPCO from the Friends	<u>\$ 1,300.00</u>
<b>TOTAL CASH GIFT TO THE SPCO 6/30/18</b>	<b>\$ 26,300.00</b>

Barbara Osadcky, Treasurer, 7/1/18–6/30/19

**Friends of the SPCO Co-Presidents’  
2018–2019 Annual Highlights Report  
Ending June 30, 2019**

This was a momentous year to be a Friend of the SPCO. We cheered for the Orchestra in celebration of their 60th Anniversary Season that began in September. We cheered again in early October at the welcome news that a new four-year contract had been ratified by SPCO musicians and their union. The contract agreement included a benefit concert to celebrate the Orchestra, with all proceeds going to the musicians as part of their total compensation package. The first annual Musician Appreciation Concert was held on November 15, 2018.

By early 2019, it was clear that corporate funding for the arts is declining. The SPCO faces annual losses of more than \$230,000 beginning in 2020. Immediate actions include eliminating Fanfare, the pre-concert program that has been funded by the Friends for many years with generous grants from the Larsen Foundation. The Friends are applying to renew this grant, which will now support free busing for students to CONNECT concerts, presented as part of a supplementary music education program that serves partner schools in Minneapolis and St. Paul.

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Looking back at Friends meetings and events, the first gathering was a fun August potluck for Board members and spouses at the beautiful home of Roberta Kagin. The first Board meeting was in September. Members voted to continue meeting on Third Mondays through May, except for third Tuesdays in January and February, in order to avoid Monday holidays those months. There was no meeting in December.

**WE WELCOMED THESE GUESTS TO OUR BOARD MEETINGS THIS YEAR**

September: SPCO Managing Director Jon Limbacher and SPCO Orchestra Manager Jason Piehl discussed contract negotiations with the SPCO musicians.

October: SPCO Director of Marketing Lindsey Hansen talked about the musicians’ contract ratification and the Musician Appreciation Concert.

November: SPCO Director of Education and Community Engagement Erin Jude described the many programs that SPCO offers to the Twin Cities community.

March: Cuban American Youth Orchestra Director Rena Kraut described the mission of shared music and friendship with youth in Havana and CAYO’s inaugural tour to Cuba in May 2019.

**OUR FRIENDS COMMITTEES WERE ALWAYS DILIGENT AND PURPOSEFUL**

Conversation with Books (Andrea McCue and Kay Bendel, chairs; Janet Kampf, Cass Dalglish, Sue Metzger and Carole Boyum). We were delighted with the move to Mt. Zion Temple on Summit Avenue and the well-attended program there on May 7.

Education (Inez Bergquist and Jo Bailey). Friends members volunteered at the SPCO's Start the Music, Xplorchestra, and Target Family Free concerts, as well as at the Ordway's Family Arts Blast in April.

Freeman Lectures (Mary Patton and Ellen Lillemoen). More Friends and other music lovers attended Daniel Freeman's music lecture classes than ever before.

Government Issues (Betty Reichert). We attended the state's Arts Advocacy Day on March 12, which took the message to state legislators to protect the Arts Legacy Fund and maintain the General Fund for the Minnesota State Arts Board and Regional Arts Council System.

Membership (Penny Chally and Cj Suchta). The committee was very busy with membership communications and records, the directory and an updated brochure. During the coming year, they will explore ways to improve the membership database.

Nominating Committee (Lynne Beck, chair; Ann Miller, Gail LaFave and Sherry Spence). The committee secured candidates and prepared the slate of Friends of the SPCO officers, committee chairs and new Board members.

Public Relations / Website (Joan Gacki and Katie Scarfone). The website was updated and Friends members got more training. Members and others can now pay for events online. Joan prepared beautiful posters for every Friends event. Patti Limbacher provided Facebook content.

Special Events (Lynne Beck, Ann Miller, and Betty Reichert). This was another year of fun events that drew good attendance, sometimes in spite of challenging Minnesota weather.

Bluegrass and Brews, Hacklewrappers at Summit Ratskeller, November 14

Music at the M (Minnesota Museum of American Art), February 11

Style Show with fashions from Scarborough Fair, University Club, April 11

Youth Chamber Music Competition (Annette Conklin, Chair). The eighth annual competition was held Saturday, February 23, at Sundin Hall, Hamline University, staffed by a faithful committee of volunteers. Friends sponsored a concert at the Ordway on May 18. Donna Ahrens will chair the 2020 Competition, with Roberta Kagin as Assistant Chair and Annette Conklin as Consultant.

Ad hoc Events Planning Committee (Inez Bergquist and Lynne Beck). One event per month is a good pace for fundraising. In November, the one event will be Give to the Max Day.

### **THE FRIENDS HONORED THESE FRIENDS**

\* Alicia McQuerrey was honored as Ultimate Friend "for her exceptional support and extraordinary service to furthering the mission of the Friends." Alicia has served for years as the Friends liaison with SPCO musicians, often performing for us or helping to engage other musicians for Friends events. Beginning in 2019, she will be part-time Orchestra Personnel Assistant in the Operations Department.

- \* Lynn Erickson has been appointed the new Friends liaison with SPCO musicians.
- \* Carolynn Johnson and Penny Chally were selected as Friends Par Excellence.
- \* Katie Berg, SPCO Associate Director of Development and our Friends Staff Contact and wise guide in most things SPCO, is leaving for a Development position at Carleton College, her alma mater. Lindsey Hansen will expand her role to serve as Chief Patron Development Officer, and Becky Cline will serve as Director of Development.
- \* Erin Jude was promoted from Director of Education and Community Engagement to Director of Community Value and Partnership.

### **SPCO FEATURES**

- \* Concert Library continuing to grow
- \* Tapestry 19 Festival using the language of music to explore issues in our community
- \* SPCO participation in 2019 international Casals Festival in San Juan, Puerto Rico
- \* Lincoln Center's Great Performers series with Pekka Kuusisto scheduled for May, 2020
- \* SPCO and MN Orchestra to co-host League of American Orchestras June 10-12, 2020
- \* MN State Arts Board \$100,000 grant for programming on St. Paul's West Side

SPCO musicians and staff hosted a lovely Appreciation Luncheon at Landmark Center on May 21. The Friends Annual Meeting and Luncheon was held on June 4 at the Mendakota Country Club. The Committee (Penny Chally, Lynne Beck, Joy Sorich, Jo Bailey, Donna Ahrens, Lola May Thompson) planned an exceptional luncheon and program. Chuck Ullery, who retired from SPCO 2017, engaged us with a fascinating talk about all things bassoon and then played his bassoon for us.

**Final word:** The Annual Gift to the SPCO was \$25,000, on top of \$1,000 donated to the Musician Appreciation Concert and \$300 in memorials given during the year to the SPCO.

With appreciation for the creativity, dedication, and generosity of our Friends of the St. Paul Chamber Orchestra,

Donna Ahrens and Mary Cunningham,  
Co-Presidents

**Nominating Committee Report**  
**Friends of the SPCO Officers, Committee Chairs and Directors of the Board, 2018–2019**

The members of the Nominating Committee were Ann Miller, Sherry Spence, and Mary McDiarmid, with Gail LaFave as non-board member at large and Lynne Beck, Nominating chair.

Members of the Friends Board who have served for 6 years and therefore need to rotate off the Board received a personal call. A personal letter will also be sent to each of them, thanking them for their work and dedication to our organization.

Nominations for Officer positions as well as Committee Chair positions were filled. There were five nominations for Directors to the Friends Board. Directors of the present Board were canvassed as to their willingness to continue with their terms on the Board.

The Nominating Committee prepares the slate of Officers, Committee Chairs, and new Directors to be sent out with the Annual Meeting/Luncheon Notice a month before the Annual Meeting.

The Nominating Committee of the Friends presented the following slate of Officers, Committee Chairs and New Directors to the Board for 2019-2020.

**Friends of the SPCO Officers, Committee Chairs and Directors of the Board Officers**

Co-Presidents	Mary Cunningham, Inez Bergquist
Treasurer	Barbara Osadcky
Assistant Treasurer	Sue Danielson Bretheim
Recording Secretaries	Ginger Bailey, Sandra Browning
Corresponding Secretary	Mary Patton

**Committee Chairs**

By-laws	Cass Dalglish
Daniel Freeman's Classes	Mary Patton, Ellen Lillemoen*
Education	Jo Bailey, Karen Golden
Government Issues	Betty Reichert
Membership	Penny Chally, Cj Suchta
Nominating 2020-2021	Donna Ahrens
Special Events	Lynne Beck
Assistant Chair	Ann Miller
Public Relations & Website	Joan Gacki,* Joy Sorich
Youth Music Competition	Donna Ahrens
Assistant Chair	Roberta Kagin

\* Non-Board Committee Chair

**New Directors of the Board**

Betty Andrews	Mary Maguire
Sandra Browning	Andrea McCue
Kathryn Johnson	

## Daniel Freeman Lecture Series, 2018–19

The topic for the Fall four-week series was “The Composers of Bohemia.” Average attendance for the four classes was 23.

The topic for Winter was “The Great Hungarian Showman: The Life and Music of Franz Liszt.” Average attendance was 35.

The topic for Spring was “Franz Joseph Hayden: Father of the Symphony.” Average attendance was 20.

Classes were held in the Kirk Parlor at House of Hope Presbyterian Church from 10 am to 12 noon on Wednesdays. The church staff handled the set-up for the class and provided coffee, tea and serving equipment. Jo Bailey and her crew faithfully handled clean-up tasks whenever needed. Tasty treats were provided by class members.

As always, Daniel Freeman’s lectures were interesting, informative and enjoyable. They were supported by his printed handouts. His recording library is extensive, and he gave us opportunities to improve our listening skills. Class members were encouraged to add comments and ask questions.

### Financial Summary

Expenses:

\$2,400.00	Daniel Freeman
\$ 600.00	House of Hope Church
\$ 324.50	Publicity *

Total expenses: \$3,324.50

Tuition income: \$8,790.00

Profit from the program: \$5,465.50

\*350 flyers were mailed or handed out, including the Friends of the SPCO membership brochure, the roster of SPCO musicians, and a list of the SPCO Board of Governors and the Board of Directors. Other publicity included the Friends website and email blasts from Joan Gacki, chair of Publicity.

Co-chairs,  
Mary Patton and Ellen Lillemoen

## **Education, 2018–2019**

The Friends of the St. Paul Chamber Orchestra again played an integral part in the orchestra's education outreach. An enthusiastic and dedicated group of Friends volunteers were on hand to help with two Start the Music programs and one Xplorchestra event. At these fun events, volunteers performed a variety of duties, including face painting; making an "instrument" with the children's participation; showing how various instruments are played; and, in general, making sure that the children were having a fun, informative morning as well as listening to a short, themed concert.

Start the Music is geared to children three to six years old; Xplorchestra caters to children aged six to twelve. The children were very excited to attend concerts featuring woodwinds, brass and percussion instruments. The two Start the Music events were at Ordway and Humboldt High School, and the Xplorchestra event was at the Ordway.

The second annual Family Arts Blast at the Ordway was held on April 20. The Arts Partnership (The Schubert Club, The SPCO, Minnesota Opera, and The Ordway) sponsored this free event. Families interacted with music, dance, theater and performances of all kinds; they could make or try an instrument, learn new dance moves, try their hand at costume and sound design; attend a show or concert inside the two performance spaces; and much more. It was a very popular event.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jo Bailey and Inez Bergquist  
Co-Chairs, Education Committee

## Government Issues, 2018–2019

Updated contact information for our state and national elected officials was distributed to all board members with the admonition to keep it in a very accessible location and to use it often. It works for all issues, not only Arts issues.

Mary Cunningham and Donna Ahrens attended Arts Advocacy Day at the Minnesota State Capitol on March 12. An estimated 600 people from throughout the state participated in the day's events. Participants were divided into groups that walked to the Capitol to personally thank legislators for their support of the arts and educate them about arts activities in their districts.

Prior to the visits to legislators, Sheila Smith, executive director of the Minnesota Citizens for the Arts, presented the results of the ***Creative Minnesota 2019*** report. The report includes statewide, regional and local looks at nonprofit arts and culture organizations, their audiences, artists and creative workers in 2016. New this year, it also looks at arts education in Minnesota schools. In addition, fifteen local studies show substantial economic impact from the nonprofit arts and culture sector in every corner of the state, from the Iron Range to Bird Island. Smith noted that "the report also tracks how the passage of the Legacy Amendment in Minnesota and its increased support for the arts across the state has had a big impact." The report found that Minnesotans strongly believe that arts and culture are important to their quality of life, and that Minnesotans attend and participate in the arts more than other Americans.

A summary of the report is available at <http://artsmn.org/arts-alert-creative-minnesota-2019-report-minnesotas-arts-economy-is-growing/>

MCA is the oldest and most successful state arts advocacy organization in the nation. Because of MCA, Minnesota is the only state with dedicated arts funding written into the State constitution. The Legacy Amendment, passed on Arts Advocacy Day 2008, ensures 25 years of funding for the nonprofit arts.

Respectfully submitted,  
Betty Reichert  
Chair, Government Issues

## Membership Committee, 2018–19

The yearly duties of the Membership Committee are to update and maintain a database with current members; encourage new memberships; encourage past members to rejoin; collect and record donations made for membership; send contribution acknowledgments to members; provide labels and email addresses for Friends mailings; and work with the Special Events committee on events to benefit members and increase membership. A membership directory and handbook is assembled and sent out biennially.

This fiscal year for the Friends began with “Renewal Request Letters,” at which time we alerted the Friends that we were putting together the biennial membership directory and handbook. A second letter was sent to members who had not yet renewed their membership through a donation. We continued to accept memberships online through PayPal as well as by check. The membership categories are: Individual/Household, \$60; Sponsor, \$100 and Benefactor, \$150+. While there are no specific “perks” to giving at higher levels, it is a way for members to donate a larger amount of money to support the Friends and its activities.

This year, Connie and Penny made some extra calls in the spring to lapsed members. Our total number of members is 144, including new or returning former members. We are counting each member of a family (i.e., Penny Chally and Cecil Chally) as a member rather than counting a family as one member.

The committee continues to work with Special Events on events that benefit both existing members and prospective members, such as Evenings with Musicians. These events continue to be well received.

### ***Numbers at a Glance:***

Income: \$13,195      Expenses: \$1,149.38

In the 2018/2019 calendar year, \$400 was collected in advance for 2019–2020

Respectfully submitted,  
Penny Chally and Cj Suchta  
Co-chairs, Membership

## Public Relations, 2018–2019

In the 2018-2019 season, Public Relations designed and sent hard copy and/or email invitations and reminders, published them on our website and Facebook pages, and set up payment options via Eventbrite or PayPal for the following events:

- Bluegrass and Brews
- Music at the Museum
- Eighth Annual SPCO Youth Chamber Music Competition
- Fashion, Fun and Friends!
- The 20th Annual Conversation with Books
- Reception after the Friends' sponsored concert to celebrate the YCMC Competition
- Annual Meeting and Luncheon
- Photographed all above events and used photos for our website, Facebook pages, campaigns and publicity during the season
- Created titles for the three Daniel Freeman lecture series and submitted them for publication in the *Highland Villager* newspaper
- Updated our GiveMN campaign and sent out email reminders before, during and after the event
- Designed ads for the SPCO-YCMC
- Submitted text to Katie Berg for the Friends' ads in the three SPCO concert programs

The website was maintained and updated by Katie Scarfone, who also created payment and registration pages for events.

Patty Limbacher continues to do a wonderful job of updating our Facebook page and attracting new viewers.

Respectfully submitted,  
Joan Gacki

## Special Events Report 2018–2019

Seven Friends' special events were held this year:

**September 6: Welcome Back Luncheon** for musicians and staff, held in Courtroom 317 of Landmark Center. Chaired by Lynne Beck and Ann Miller.

**November 14: Bluegrass & Blues** at the Summit Ratskeller. About 60 attendees enjoyed music by bluegrass band The Hacklewrappers, delicious food from Cossetta, and Summit beer. Chaired by Lynne Beck, Ann Miller, and Inez Bergquist.

**February 11: Music at the Museum** at the Minnesota Museum of American Art (The M). Alicia McQuerrey and Lynn Erickson were featured musicians. Chaired by Lynne Beck, Ann Miller andCarolynn Johnson. Attendance was 60.

**April 11: Style Show.** Sixty intrepid guests and models braved a spring blizzard to celebrate spring in style at the University Club of Saint Paul. Kat Menaged of Scarborough Fair presented a fashion show of clothing and accessories from her shop. Phil Anderson, Donna Ahrens's husband, provided music. Chaired by Lynne Beck and Ann Miller.

**May 7: Conversation with Books** at Mt. Zion Temple on Summit Avenue for the first time. Chaired by Kay Bendel, Andrea McCue and Janet Kampf. See the report on the following page.

**May 21: Appreciation Luncheon** to celebrate the end of the SPCO's season was held in Courtroom 317 of Landmark Center. Hosted by SPCO musicians and staff to thank the Friends for their dedication to and support of the SPCO. Betty Reichert was the event coordinator.

**June 4: Annual Luncheon** at the Mendakota Club in Mendota Heights, chaired by Lola Mae Thompson, Jo Bailey and Penny Chally. Chuck Ullery, retired bassoonist for the SPCO, gave an interesting presentation/demonstration about the bassoon.

Respectfully submitted,  
Lynne Beck and Ann Miller  
Co-Chairs, Special Events

## Special Events: Conversation with Books

The 2019 Conversation with Books (CwB) committee of Andrea McCue, Janet Kampf, Sue Metzger, Cass Dalglish, Carole Boyum, Dona Woolfrey and Kay Bendel were tremendously happy with the success of the event this year. Janet brought new ideas and the suggestion of a new venue. She saw an opportunity for growth and urged us to try Mount Zion Temple, which has a much larger meeting room with the hopes of increasing attendance. Cass Dalglish assembled an updated supplementary mailing list from names provided by Board members. We reached 90+ in attendance! Many, many thanks to all of you who responded to Cass's requests for addresses and especially to all who came and brought guests.

### **We have an incredibly supportive and generous Board.**

Andrea McCue handled the entire printing of the invitation, and she and Janet Kampf did the assembly and mailing of 224 invitations. Kay Bendel was the contact person for the panel from St. Catherine University and handled all the reservations and name tags.

Janet handled all related to Mount Zion Temple including the food. Thank you to all who brought treats!

Excelsior Bay Books provided the books for sale, offering us a 10% profit. Sue Metzger managed all the sales, including the pick-up and pricing as well as returning all the unsold books. The offering of the books for sale is important to the mission of encouraging reading even though the profit is not in proportion to the amount of work. Forty-three books were sold.

Joan Gacki is not an official member of the committee but she is so very important to the success of CwB, from designing the invitation to the wonderful reminders she posts online. This is the first year we offered registration through PayPal. Eleven people used PayPal for a total of 19 guests.

There is the ongoing confusion about the discounted price for members and price for guests. It is ambiguous and needs action by the Board to be consistent with all our events.

It must be pointed out that several expenses were picked up by generous committee members and never submitted for reimbursement.

\$2,155.00	Total 2019 CwB registrations and donations
<u>(\$ 548.50)</u>	Event expenses
\$1,606.50	
<u>\$ 86.63</u>	Profit from book sales
<b>\$1,693.13</b>	<b>Total Profit</b>

Andrea McCue and Kay Bendel, co-chairs

## 2019 SPCO Youth Chamber Music Competition

The 2019 competition had a few firsts. The Guidelines were streamlined so that each entering group had to submit just one work of 10 minutes or less, and the charge for entry for every group was \$50. This may have been the reason that there were 16 entrants, the most ever. For the first time, the Finals were held on a Saturday (February 23). We created an Audience Choice award, which was highly successful. We also instituted a Judges' Discretion prize.

There were two entering groups from out of state, one from Des Moines, IA, and the other from Cedar Falls, IA. For the first time entrants included a cello quartet and a guitar quartet. Video judges were Mina Fisher cellist; Korey Konkol, viola; and Russell Peterson, saxophone and bassoon. For the Finals we added Daria Adams, violin, and Jeffrey Stirling, director of the Saint Paul Civic Orchestra and several other ensembles.

In the Senior Division, first place and Grand Prize went to the Des Moines Symphony Academy Quartet, which played at the Ordway on Saturday, May 18, as part of their prize. Two groups, the Andreas Piano Trio and the Whipple Piano Quintet from Shattuck-St. Mary's in Faribault, MN tied for second place. Third place went to Trio Luminoso. In the Junior Division, the Elysian Quartet came in first. Quartet Spiritoso came in second and also won the Audience Choice award. The Judges Discretion Prize went to the Ascolta String Trio. The Creative category winner was the Center for Irish Music Ensemble. All agreed that the level of performances was the best ever. Chuck Ullery, former bassoonist with the SPCO and a member of the competition's Advisory Board, served again as emcee.

All went smoothly for the Finals except that the wait between the end of the performances and the winners' announcement was too long. This was largely due to problems putting the correct stickers on the participants' Finals certificates. It was decided at the wrap-up meeting of the Friends competition committee that in future some things can be mailed out after the day of the Finals so that this doesn't happen again.

Thanks to all of the friends who worked for the competition. Joan Gacki took some terrific photos and designed the Audience Choice ballots and award cards, and Karen Golden did a fine job as judges chair. Volunteers greeted entrants, stuffed ballots in program booklets, provided food for students and judges, and escorted students to practice rooms. Barbara Osadcky and her committee put on a lovely reception. The majority of our contributions come from the Friends of the SPCO. Kay Bendel has done a super job as Finance Chair. The fact that we have been able to receive approximately \$15,000 in donations each year is a credit to her.

This was my final year as coordinator of the competition. It has been my honor to serve for ten years. Planning began in late 2010 and eight competitions were held from 2012 through 2019. I am excited that Donna Ahrens and assistant Roberta Kagin have agreed to take over now. They will do a terrific job, and I wish them luck as the competition rolls on.

Respectfully,  
Annette Conklin, coordinator  
SPCO Youth Chamber Music Competition

**PRESIDENT'S COUNCIL/PAST PRESIDENTS**

<u>Years</u>	<u>President(s)</u>
1975-77	Lola May Thompson
1977-79	Ann Meyer*
1979-81	Pat Whitacre*
1981-83	Yvonne Momsen*
1983-85	Betty Zats
1985-87	Jo Bailey
1987-89	Dona Woolfrey
1989-91	Betty Reichert
1991-93	Mary Ann Okner
1993-95	Carol Damberg*
1995-97	Mary Jo Monson*
1997-99	Jean Humphries
1999-2001	Mary Frederick
2001-03	Karen Larsen and Sherry Spence
2003-05	Gwen Crabb and Debbie Koop
2005-07	Beth Thornton
2007-08	Kay Bendel and Mary Frederick
2008-10	Annette Conklin and Sherry Spence
2010-11	Carolynn Johnson
2011-12	Carolynn Johnson and Katie Scarfone
2012-13	Katie Scarfone and Inez Bergquist
2013-14	Carol Damberg*, Carolynn Johnson and Katie Scarfone
2014-16	Betty Andrews and Penny Chally
2016-17	Penny Chally and Lynne Beck
2017-18	Lynne Beck and Donna Ahrens
2018-19	Donna Ahrens and Mary Cunningham

**ULTIMATE FRIENDS – 1992–2019**

<u>Year</u>	<u>Recipient</u>
1992	Skip James
1993	Steve Fox
1995	Tim Brown
1997	Louise King
1999	Pat Whitacre* and Lola May Thompson
2000	Jo Bailey
2001	Betty Reichert
2002	Craig Olson
2003	Gail LaFave and Gail Foreman
2004	Inge Schwochau
2005	John and Karen Larsen
2006	Daniel Freeman
2007	Carm Lennon and Carolyn Collins
2008	Thomson Reuters
2009	Catherine Lupori, Ruth Brombach and Judie Flavahan
2010	Betty Zats and Kay Bendel
2012	Theresa Gienapp
2015	Carol Nimlos, Kathy and Scott Heiderich
2016	Annette Conklin, House of Hope Presbyterian Church
2017	Charles Ullery
2019	Alicia McQuerrey

**EMERITA/EMERITUS AWARDS**

<u>Year</u>	<u>Recipient</u>
2009	Louise King*
2010	Maggie Wilson, Catherine Lupori* and Peter Lupori*
2011	Lola May Thompson
2012	Betty Zats

\*deceased