



Students line up at the Long Center for Young People's Concert, March 1, 2022

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



Welcome to the spring edition of the Women's Symphony League's Newsletter, **Take Note**, for the 2021-2022 fiscal year! My hope is that in returning to in-person events this year,

you have been able to connect with other members and enjoy the camaraderie offered by the service and social opportunities within the WSL. I would like to express my gratitude to each and every one of you who have contributed to the WSL in various ways throughout the year. It has been an honor and a privilege to serve alongside you this year in our mission to provide service and support to the Austin Symphony Orchestra and its educational programs.

Since our most recent newsletter, the WSL has been busy. February brought us our 11th Annual **Red Haute Valentine's Party and Children's Style Show**, "Crazy Little Thing Called Love." It was a huge success, with 40 models and 262 guests participating! Through the fundraising efforts of this event, we were able to present a donation check in April to the ASO for \$45,933. A very special thank you to our **Red Haute Committee and Co-Chairs**, Tiffany Galligan and Jennifer Owens, for their vision and teamwork, and to Sue Webber for her priceless fashion show production expertise.

Our **Youth Leadership Council** graduation was in March. This program provided educational and service opportunities, as well as additional funding for the ASO's educational programs. A heartfelt thank you to our **YLC Committee and Co-Chairs**, Dana Fisher and Trish McConnico, for all their success and leadership.

Our Service and Education Committees have been hard at work as well. Gratitude goes out to our **Membership and Technology Committees and VPs**, especially Regina Munson and Olivia Derr, for sending out dues notices and transitioning to a new system. Thank you all for your patience as we work through a new and improved process. Our **Recruitment Committee and Chair**, Natalie Hudson, has brought us a new member class of 71 ladies! The **2022 New Member Committee and Coordinators**, Mary-Ellen King and Kam McCoy, planned a warm welcome and Orientation for them at the home of Stacy Toomey. Our 2021 New Member Class is getting ready to graduate to active membership, and thank you to the **2021 Coordinators**, Sinem Szygenda and Cecily Rodman. Our **Young People's Concert Committee and Co-Chairs**, Tillery Castillo and Leslie Perkins, supported the ASO with volunteers for the ASO's Spring Concerts. Our **Orchestra Relations Committee and Chairs**, Holli Hill and Lindsey Parham, have provided a much appreciated COVID-safe dessert bar for the Orchestra's rehearsals. Our April and May **General Membership Meetings** are at the homes of Rosyln

Breen and Amy Sutton. Thank you to our hostesses and the **Meetings Committee and Chairs**, Yoli Arriaga and Celeste Hubert, for organizing this opportunity to create and strengthen friendships. In the final months of the year, we are looking forward to a **Member Enrichment Event** in May, planned by Chairs Crystal Dutton and Amanda Powell, at Make It Sweet. The **Jewel Tea**, hosted by our **Past President's Council**, is where our 2022 Jewel Ball Royal Court will be announced on May 20. In early June, we will be decorating for the **Butler Pops Concerts** with our Committee and Chairs, Emily Avila and Christian Wells. I wish I could thank all of our hard working board members by name here. I look forward to seeing and thanking each of you in person at the Joint Board Meeting and dinner in May, as well as welcoming our new Board members for the upcoming year. Cheers to yet another spectacular year in the WSL, and I look forward to many more successful years ahead!

*Jennifer Bell*  
Jennifer Bell  
President, 2021-2022

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Women's Symphony League of Austin

### 2021-2022 Executive Board

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Regina Munson

VP Technology  
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### Take Note Committee

Chair  
Cat Mattingly

Writers  
Stacey Brewer  
Megan Haywood  
Laura Robinson  
Amy Sims  
Meredith Wood

## Noteworthy

  
**KEEP  
CALM  
AND  
HOST A  
MEETING**

Six WSL General Meetings are held between August and May, and we need volunteers to offer their homes for these fun lunch hours or evening gatherings. You need not lift a finger - the Meetings Committee does all the work - and your hostess generosity serves as your Service and Education Committee Placement for the entire year! Text or call the Meetings Co-Chairs to choose your favorite meeting date!

**Celeste Hubert: 512-507-8956**  
**Yoli Arriaga: 512-751-1587**



## Bravo WSL!

During the 2021-22 fiscal year, WSL has raised an impressive  
**\$423,000** to benefit the Austin Symphony Orchestra!

**Jewel Ball ~ \$370,000**  
**Red Haute ~ \$46,000**  
**YLC ~ \$7,000**

Congratulations and thank you to all our dedicated fundraisers!

### Our Mission

The Women's Symphony League of Austin provides service and financial support for the Austin Symphony Orchestra and its programs, and offers educational opportunities for children and the community to further develop an appreciation of music.

## The New Legacies

WSL MEMBERS RECRUIT THEIR MOTHERS

One of the most celebrated traditions in the Women's Symphony League is the support of the ASO and music education throughout generations of active WSL families. Our membership is filled with stories of women who followed their mothers and grandmothers into the WSL 20 years after participating as a Jewel Ball Trainbearer or after being crowned Diamond. These multigenerational stories contain decades of countless hours given in service to the WSL and ASO, and with no end in sight. One trend the Membership Committee has begun to see is active members recruiting their mothers to join them in service to the WSL. The WSL is thrilled to feature three mother-daughter pairs who will no doubt bring a willingness of service, personal expertise, and joy to our organization. We look forward to seeing what fun these women will have with each other in the coming years!

### Tara Akins & Pam Akins

Even before Tara Akins joined the WSL in 2017, her company, Roadway Productions, had assisted with the Austin Symphony Orchestra's July 4th Concert and Fireworks celebration for years. As a 2020 Red Haute Co-Chair, Tara has loved attending Red Haute and Jewel Ball with her mom, Pam, over the years, so naturally when Tara casually approached her mother about joining the WSL, Pam immediately said yes! Tara and Pam both look forward to the future of the WSL continuing to serve the ASO through fundraising and for the traditions to continue for generations. In service with her daughter, Pam reveals, "I'm looking forward to working with Tara for an organization that she believes so strongly in, and I'm excited to help in the great work that WSL does to support the Austin Symphony Orchestra." Pam also commented that she loves watching her grandchildren participate in the WSL events.



### Kim Galloway McHale & Beverly Galloway

Kim Galloway McHale joined the WSL in 2020 and has immensely enjoyed getting to know the many fabulous women in the WSL over the past two years. Kim is looking forward to serving on the Junior Royalty Committee this year and attending her favorite events, the Fashion Luncheon and Jewel Ball, with her mother, Beverly. When approaching her mother to join the WSL, Kim fondly looked back on Beverly's 40 years of volunteer experience with the Junior League of Austin and just knew that her mom would be a natural fit and asset to the WSL membership. Beverly, ready to get started this spring notes, "I am most looking forward to being in a position to serve again in the community and expand my circle of friends; and of course, doing it all with my daughter!"



### Regina Munson & Lori Munson

Regina Munson joined the WSL in 2016 and hit the ground running with her involvement, later leading her to serve as New Member Recruitment Chair and most recently as Vice President of Membership. For Regina, the highlight of the WSL has been meeting many wonderful ladies, especially from her time on the Board of Directors. During her time as the New Member Recruitment Chair, Regina felt that though her mother, Lori, had a great group of friends in their hometown of Round Rock, she encouraged her mom to expand her social network and join her in an opportunity where they can both volunteer together. Regina's advice for her mother and all members—new and seasoned—is "you get out of it what you put into it and if you want to meet more members, just show up and get involved!"





# Red Haute

FEBRUARY 13, 2022



More than 250 lucky guests were dazzled and delighted by The Women's Symphony League of Austin's 13th Annual Red Haute Valentine Party & Children's Style Show. Chaired by Tiffany Galligan and Jennifer Owens, the "Crazy Little Thing Called Love" event took place Sunday, February 13, and was the perfect mix of fun 1980s nostalgic décor and beautiful fashion. After a virtual event in 2021, attendees were thrilled to gather in person to celebrate at this light-hearted and family-friendly event.

The scene at the Hotel Van Zandt was set with gorgeous hot pink florals and retro musical touches, and the attendees participated in several entertaining activities such as a delicious chocolate fountain, an orchestral instrument "petting zoo," and a fun prop-filled photo booth.

Prior to the scrumptious seated luncheon, partygoers enjoyed Champagne and cocktails while browsing the exclusive Red Haute marketplace, a curated shopping experience featuring a tempting selection of Austin boutiques,

including Addie Rose, alexa james baby, Grove Hill ATX, Hardin Smith, Lemon Drop, Lilly Pulitzer, Monogram Lady, My Little Maria, The Pajama Princess, and Wendy Wells Jewelry.

The fun continued during the elegant plated luncheon, when WSL Board Member Celeste Hubert kicked off the event with perennial Red Haute favorite Hugs & Kisses game and the raffle. Emcee Julia Null entertained the crowd during the gorgeous runway show, produced by treasured WSL Member and First Chair Award recipient Sue Webber and her company, Sue Webber Productions. The adorable models treated the audience to a lively preview of fashion finds for Spring and beyond, and the models' sparkling collective personalities simply stole the show!

Afterwards, guests continued to shop, socialize, and soak in the chic atmosphere, all while raising funds directly for the benefit of the Austin Symphony Orchestra and its valuable educational programs for children.



# Jewel Committee

PLACEMENT SPOTLIGHT

You may have noticed the extraordinary amount of work that the Jewel Ball Committee puts into planning the Jewel Ball each year, but you may not have realized that there is another committee that helps to ensure that all functions concerning the Royal Court are carried out in grand fashion the weekend of the Ball. The Jewel Committee is that committee, and this year the chairperson is Past President, Karey Oddo.

Each member of the Jewel Committee has a special role to fill. Some may plan the Rehearsal Dinner, while others may be hosts for Visiting Jewel families, make gift baskets, select crowns and pins, and various other duties. Perhaps the most important duty of the committee is to help determine who will participate on the Royal Court and who will be crowned the Diamond Queen.

Speaking about the committee, Karey Oddo said, "Being on the Jewel Committee is a great way to serve the WSL! I have thoroughly loved getting to know the Diamond and Princess moms and getting the opportunity to volunteer with so many fabulous Past Presidents and Jewel Ball Chairs who give their time to this committee. I also enjoy the tradition of long-time WSL volunteers getting together to honor other WSL volunteers by electing their daughters and sons to the Royal Court. It's always an uplifting afternoon learning about the wonderful, dedicated volunteers that are in the ranks of the WSL who deserve this honor."



## Recipe Box



*This recipe is as sweet as its contributor! Perfect for novice and experienced bakers alike, this simple chocolate treat is a real crowd pleaser.*

### Linda's Chocolate Chess Pie

1/2 c butter  
1 oz unsweetened chocolate  
1 1/2 c sugar  
2/3 c evaporated milk  
3 eggs, beaten  
1/4 t salt  
1 t vanilla  
9 inch pie shell, unbaked

Place butter and chocolate in a saucepan; heat until melted completely. Stir in sugar, evaporated milk, eggs, salt, and vanilla. Pour into pie shell. Bake at 350° for 30 minutes.

*Courtesy of Mrs. Ernest C. Butler (Sarah)  
from WSL's 1980 cookbook, Enjoy!*



# Tuneful Tales

WSL PROGRAMS

If your summer schedule allows, ASO Tuneful Tales may be one of the best experiences you will have as a WSL volunteer! ASO Tuneful Tales, formally known as the Children's Day Art Park, is a free, fun-filled family event that runs Wednesdays from June through July at the Austin Public Library Central Library. It will be a wonderful way to spend a few hours in the morning once a week introducing music into the lives of children.

For decades, children from all over Austin gathered outside at Symphony Square once a week to learn and be enveloped by music. ASO Tuneful Tales has undergone many changes over the past few years, including name and location changes; however, the essence of the program remains the same.

Each week, the main feature is an ASO ensemble performing music to a well-known children's story. Before and after the show, youngsters visit the Instrument Zoo in the lobby of the library where they can see, touch, and play instruments, as well as talk with Symphony musicians.

Selecting ASO Tuneful Tales as your volunteer placement for the year is a wonderful opportunity to see the direct impact of music in our community. As a WSL volunteer, you select a few Wednesdays that fit within your schedule to volunteer downtown at the Austin Public Library. Parking in the garage is a breeze, and your job for the next two-to-three hours is to watch the joy on a child's face the first time they pull a bow over a cello or shake a maraca. Many WSL volunteers bring their own children to enjoy in the fun. From toddlers to elementary school children, each can find a new instrument to love or a piece of music to cherish. We hope to see you this summer at ASO Tuneful Tales!



# Welcome New Members!

71 WOMEN JOIN WSL FOR 2022-23



New Members gathered for orientation on April 12 at the home of Stacy Toomey. New Member Coordinators Mary-Ellen King and Kam McCoy are delighted to welcome a record new group of 71 dedicated women committed to raising funds for and supporting the educational programs of the Austin Symphony Orchestra. Please reach out to welcome these new sisters, ask them to attend the general membership meetings with you, and show them some WSL love!

Adriana Bowen  
Ali Rushing Martineau  
Allison Shaw  
Allison Stock  
Alyssa Muir  
Amanda Horton  
Amber Alonso  
Amelie Wilson Sanders  
Amy Hajdu  
Amy Montgomery Cooper  
Anne Lasseigne Tiedt  
Becca McMullen  
Beverly Galloway  
Brittany Blake  
Catherine Goode  
Cindy Lay  
Courtney Edwards  
Danielle Delgadillo  
Dorothy Kathleen Lawrence  
Elizabeth Doughtie  
Elizabeth Gunter  
Erin Andrus  
Fami Eaton  
Jeanette Bledsoe

Jenna Jennings  
Jenniann Woody McKnight  
Jennifer Gravenor  
Jennifer House  
Jennifer White  
Jessica B. Morrow  
Jessica Rossman  
Kelly Pesek  
Kristen Dharamsi  
Kristen Michele Murdock  
Kristin Marlow  
Kristin Parr  
Laura Batz Townsend  
Lauren Pearce  
Lauren Taylor  
Lawanna Cathleen Turner  
Leslie Anderson  
Leslie Socha  
Lisa Galloway  
Lorraine Wang  
Lucero Lopez  
Luisa Imsais  
Maggie Sayre  
Marcy Comer

Margaret Bettinger  
Maru Canizales Potoicchio  
Meagan K. Moll  
Megan Lee  
Melissa Tait  
Molly Davis  
Pam Bellin  
Pamela Akins  
Roe Thiessen  
Sarah Covey  
Sarah Williams  
Shannon Powers Flahive  
Shawna Kelso  
Shelby Goodrum  
Sonja Cortez Dieterichs  
Stephanie Stowell  
Tamara Plemmons  
Tammy Parnell  
Tara LeBlanc  
Terri Budiselich  
Tracy Barba  
Weston Lipscomb  
Whitney Eledge Withers





Women's Symphony League of Austin

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## *Final Notes*

### UPCOMING EVENTS

#### April

28-1 TASO Conference: Lubbock

#### May

1 Member Enrichment, 2pm: Make It Sweet  
16 General Membership Meeting, 11:30am  
20 Jewel Tea, 1-3pm: Home of Stacy Toomey  
20-21 ASO's Masterworks Series: *American Landscapes*  
23 Joint Board Meeting, 6pm: Santa Rita

#### June

3-4 Butler Pops Series: *Swing is the Thing*, Palmer Events Center

#### ASO Tuneful Tales

Wednesday mornings, June – July: Austin Central Public Library



We have a **new phone number!** Please update your address book to our new WSL Google Voice phone number, **(512) 265-5094**. This number can accept both **voicemail and text messages!**