

## Savor the Symphony April 13 at the Ritz-Carlton

### Savor the Symphony

The Dallas Symphony Orchestra League is excited to present the very popular Savor the Symphony, an evening with a live and silent auction and a seated wine dinner. The event this year will be held on Thursday, April 13 at The Ritz-Carlton, bringing together Symphony patrons and business leaders.

Mother and daughter duo **Laura Downing** and **Caroline Downing Gahm** are the event chairs. The elegant night will begin at 6:30 with a cocktail reception and silent auction for the guests to have the opportunity to bid on individual bottles of wine and other items, preview the live auction packages and to purchase wine through the Wine Pull. Guests will then be seated at 7:15 p.m. for a lavish three-course wine-paired dinner, followed by the live auction.

The wines will be presented by **Brenda** and **Clay Cockerell**. As serious wine lovers for more than three decades, Clay and Brenda have traveled extensively throughout the great appellations of Europe and sampled everything from simple, honest regional bottlings to some of the world's most celebrated wines.

Years ago, while visiting the Napa Valley, they decided the time was right to make their own wines. Coquerel was born. (The name Coquerel is an archaic French derivation of the family name - Cockerell.) In 2005, they purchased a vineyard in Calistoga



John Cain Photography

Left to right: **Laura Downing** and **Caroline Downing Gahm**, event co-chairs for Savor the Symphony.

planted to old-vine, dry-farmed Sauvignon Blanc. In 2008 they acquired the adjacent site that was planted to a handful of traditional varieties rarely found in modern-day Napa. Since then Clay and Brenda have revamped, replanted and upgraded their property to luxury-class winegrowing standards. On the winemaking front, Christine has had a dramatic impact on the quality and style of Coquerel's wines. All of our bottlings are handmade in small lots to ensure character and authenticity. The whites are bright, crisp, elegant and well structured. The reds are intense, aromatic, harmonious and lush. Complexity, concentration, balance and minerality are the hallmarks of Coquerel Family Wines. Coquerel Family Wine Estates Their estate "Walnut Wash" vineyard sits in the afternoon

shadows of the Mayacamas Mountains at the north end of Napa Valley in the Calistoga AVA. The site is warm and protected and features a mix of deep clay and stony soils. There are currently seven acres planted to Sauvignon Blanc, Verdelho, Petite Sirah and Tempranillo. In 2014 they added four acres of Cabernet Sauvignon. Under the guidance of winemaker **Christine Barbe**, the vineyard is intensely farmed for low yields and high quality.

Underwriting is available online with individual Underwriting Tickets for \$500.00 each and a Young Professional Ticket for \$225.00. Underwriting packages are available from \$3,500 to \$20,000.00. Information is online at [www.dallassymphonyleague.com](http://www.dallassymphonyleague.com).

# The President's Message



Dear DSOL members,

As we are all welcoming Spring, I want to express my gratitude to our Board, Event Chairs and committees, our many dedicated DSOL members and volunteers! Your participation and commitment supports our mission, "DSOL is an organization of volunteers who support the DSA through service, education and fund raising activities" in a very impactful way.

The 37th Presentation Ball, chaired by **Karen Cox**, and her team worked tirelessly for over a year planning and coordinating the many events leading up to the Ball held on February 11th. The Ball, honoring the 26 Debutantes, Honor Guard and their families, was spectacular - as a result of Karen and her committee. It was not only a huge success and a lovely evening, but one we can all be very proud of. Special thanks to our generous Honorary Chairs, **Lisa** and **Clay Cooley**, our underwriters, families and the DSO.

Heartfelt thanks to the JSB Chair, **Courtney Plumlee** and the 620 student Steering Committee and the over 150 volunteers and parents who made this year's event a huge success. Over 2600 students gathered at **Gilley's** on February 4th and enjoyed featured artist **Drake Milligan** and DJ, **Soulijah** and experienced a fabulous, fun and safe evening.

Our Winter Tea and Meeting, Co-chaired by **Paige Elliott** and **Maria Fewin**, on February 23rd at the Dallas Country Club was lovely and enjoyed by all. Thank you to Paige and Maria, Tea Sponsor **Kathy Crow**, **Sandy Secor** for our program, DSO guests and the guest DSO musician, **Stephanie Key**. Special thanks to those who purchased a beautiful centerpiece from **Junior Villanueva** at the Garden Gate.

A sought after "not to be missed" evening is around the corner - Savor the Symphony on April 13th at the Ritz Carlton. This popular fine wine paired seated dinner and auction is Co-chaired by mother - daughter duo, **Laura Downing** and **Caroline Downing Gahm**. We are thrilled to announce that we will be honoring **Brenda** and **Clay Cockerell** of Dallas, owners of Coquerel Family Wine Estates in Calistoga California! Join us as we raise a glass to celebrate the DSO, the Cockerell family and provide the gift of music for future generations.

The Encore Luncheon, chaired by **Carole Ann Brown** will be held on Monday, May 15th at Arlington Hall on Turtle Creek.

I look forward to seeing you at our upcoming events and send wishes for a beautiful Spring.

Best,

*Cynthia*

Cynthia Beaird, President  
DSOL 2022 - 2023

## DSOL Newsletter

The DSOL newsletter is printed 3 times per year by the DSOL. The next deadline is: August 1, 2023.  
Please send articles and photographs to **Sandy Secor**, Editor; [jwsecor@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jwsecor@sbcglobal.net)

## PLACES TO GO

### News and Notes

Condolences to **Dixey Arterburn** on the loss of her father, and to the family of **Judy Skinner**.

Please send news to Corresponding Secretary **Jennifer Olson**, je.olson@sbcglobal.net.

### Orchestra Appreciation Luncheon

The DSOL Orchestra Appreciation Luncheon is scheduled for Wednesday April 19 at the Meyerson Symphony Center and again Mesero's will be the caterer. The luncheon is for our musicians to show our appreciation for them. Last year was the first in person celebration for our DSO musicians in several years, due to COVID restrictions. We had a great buffet lunch and 40 door prizes for the musicians to win. This year we hope to have another great event. You can help the day of the event and/or donate an item for the door prize collection--bottle of wine, gift cards to a store or restaurant. Donations are welcome to support our appreciation event! Make a donation and dine with the musicians. Want to help? Contact **Susan Fisk** at Fisk4@aol.com or cell: 214-729-2166.

### Youth Concerts

We are seeking volunteers to help seat school groups at the Cecil and Ida M. Green Youth Concerts, which are performed by the Dallas Symphony Orchestra. These concerts are part of the educational outreach done by the symphony. We had over 3000 students in grades Pre-K-6th and teachers from the Dallas/Ft. Worth area attend the DSO's Youth Concerts in February. The next

concerts are on Wednesday, April 12th and Thursday, April 13th, 2023. The time commitment is from 9:15 to 11:30 am. The concert this time is called History of the Orchestra, where the Dallas Symphony will be our guide and you will be able to fit hundreds of years of history in just 45 minutes, seeing and hearing the changes that led to the orchestra as it is today. You'll hear pieces by contemporary composers Carlos Simon and Gabriela Lena Frank as well as classics by Tchaikovsky and Brahms.

We will need a lot of volunteers on these dates! On each day there are 2 concerts, at 10 am and 11:30 am, each lasting 45 minutes. Our job is to take each school to their assigned seats. Volunteers will be given a quick tour of the Meyerson before the first performance if needed, along with a color-coded map to where each school sits, so it's easy to do!

This is a wonderful way to see the results of the hard work of the league and it is fun to interact with the school children. It is also a great way to get to know other league members; there is time between the first seating and the second seating to sit and have a cup of coffee and chat. Volunteers are encouraged to stay and enjoy the music during the last performance after the students have been seated.

These are the last Youth Concerts this season so we hope you can help make it a great event for our students!

If you are interested in volunteering on one or both of these concert dates, please email one of the DSOL Youth Concert Co-chairs, **Linda Miller** at vmille@sbcglobal.net or **Margaret Wilonsky** at marshalpad@aol.com.

### CECIL AND IDA GREEN YOUTH CONCERT SERIES

*History of the Orchestra in 45 Minutes* | April 12 & 13, 2023

Wednesday, April 12 .....10:00 and 11:30

Thursday, April 13 .....10:00 and 11:30

#### Conductor: Maurice Cohn

Travel back in time for a tour through the history of the orchestra! But don't worry! With the Dallas Symphony as our guide, we will be able to fit hundreds of years of history in just 45 minutes, seeing and hearing the changes that led to the orchestra as it is today. You'll hear pieces by contemporary composers Carlos Simon and Gabriela Lena Frank as well as classics by Tchaikovsky and Brahms. Chairs: **Linda Miller**, vmille@sbcglobal.net; **Margaret Wilonsky**, marshalpad@aol.com

# Spring PEOPLE TO SEE



DSOL Winter and Spring Events - 1. **Claire Catrino, Elissa McClure, Karen Cox** - Ball Chairman, **Cynthia Beard** - DSOL President, **Rachael Black-Maier, Angela Jackson, Sarah Frazee Mills**. 2. **Clay and Lisa Cooley** - Honorary Chairs, **Jan Strimple, and Stan Gardner**. 3. **The Honor Guard** 4. **The Crow Family**. 5. **The Duvall Family**. 6. **Kathleen Marie Clark** and her father, **Eric Andrew Clark**. 7. **Karen and Kevin Cox**. Karen was the 2023 Ball Chairman. (Photos by Gittings)

## PLACES TO GO

### Lynn Harrell Concerto Competition

The DSO **Lynn Harrell** Concerto Competition is intended to identify and encourage the highest level of young musical talent in the South Central United States. Violin, viola, cello, bass and piano students between the ages of 8 to 18 on April 2, 2023, are invited to apply. Applicants must be a current resident or student in the states of Texas, Oklahoma, New Mexico, Louisiana, and Arkansas. Submitted recordings will be screened by a committee of DSO musicians, staff and/or music faculty from area universities.

Live final auditions will take place on April 2, 2023 in the Eugene McDermott Concert Hall at the Morton H. Meyerson Symphony Center. The first place winner will receive a \$5,000 scholarship and the opportunity to perform with the Dallas Symphony Orchestra. The second place winner will receive a \$3,500 scholarship. The third place winner will receive a \$2,000 scholarship. Honorable mention will receive \$500 scholarship. All other finalists will receive a \$250 scholarship. The chair is **Rebecca Vanyo**, familie\_vanyo@mac.com.

### Dallas Symphony Orchestra League Debutantes Introduced during 37th Annual Presentation Ball

Gowns and curtseys were all the rage as 26 Symphony Debutantes took their bows at the 37th Annual Dallas Symphony Orchestra League Presentation Ball on Saturday, February 11 at the Morton H. Meyerson Symphony



Photo by Gittings

#### DSOL Debutantes

Center. The Honorary Chairs for the Ball were **Lisa** and **Clay Cooley**, longtime supporters of the DSO and the Dallas community. The Presentation Ball Chair was **Karen Cox** and DSOL President is **Cynthia Beaird**. The Cooley's daughter **Ciara** made her debut in 2016 and Karen's daughter **Isabella** was presented in 2020. Cynthia was the Presentation Ball Chair in 2011 and her daughter **Jane** made her debut in 2008.

**Jan Strimple** was given recognition on the stage as this was her final year as Choreographer of the ball. Jan brought grace and sophistication to each of the presentations for the past 24 years and has taught close to a thousand girls how to do the Texas Dip with poise and confidence.

There were several legacy families who have been involved with the Presentation Ball since its founding. **Vaughn Miller's** mother **Tincy Miller** founded the event in 1987 and he was among the first Honor Guard group in the inaugural year. This year, daughter **Gigi** made her debut

and brothers **Vaughn** and **Vance** served as Honor Guards. Members of the **Averitt/Duvall** families were present for the debut of **Natalie Duvall**. Her mom **Susan Averitt Duvall** made her debut in the inaugural presentation ball and sister **Madelyn Duvall** was presented in 2020. Susan's brother **Mark Averitt** was a member of the first group of Honor Guards, and brother **Don Averitt** worked behind the scenes and graciously greeted the guests. Susan's sister-in-law **Barbara Averitt** has assisted the debutantes since the first ball and sister-in-law **Kendra Averitt** has worked with the honor guard for many years. There were numerous parents who have had debutante daughters in prior years including **Heather** and **Bill Esping**, **Megan** and **John Pigott**, and **Dawne** and **Patrick Tribolet**, along with **Michelle** and **Erik Ward**.

*Save the Date*

*May 15*

*Encore Luncheon  
Arlington Hall*

*Chair: Carole Ann Brown*

# 2023 DSOL Events

April 4  
Board Meeting  
*Aldredge House*

April 12-13  
Youth Conncerts  
*Meyerson Symphony Center*

April 13  
Savor the Symphony  
*Ritz Carlton*

April 19  
Orchestra Appreciation  
*Meyerson Symphony Center*

May 15  
Encore Luncheon  
*Location Arlington Hall*

Dallas Symphony Orchestra  
Morton H. Meyerson Symphony Center  
Schelgel Administrative Suites  
2301 Flora Street  
Dallas, TX 75201-2497

