



Syracuse Sounds of Music Association, Inc.

Winter 2025

PRESIDENT'S REMARKS

Greetings for a healthy and happy new year that lies ahead!

SSMA continues to fulfill our mission and purpose of promoting music in Central New York through fundraising, education and public relations activities!

Each year we continue to flourish in providing increased funding through grants and sponsorships to worthy CNY musically related organizations. Thanks to the generosity of our members and the community, our fundraising efforts continue. Since its inception in 2011, I am proud to say SSMA has awarded close to \$600,000 to the CNY music community.

Last October, The Encore Shop moved to a new location. Encore is now at 118 Mill Street, just south of Fayetteville's Limestone Plaza in the rear of the Fred Astaire Dance building. We reopened quickly, and a Ribbon Cutting took place in February. Our customers have easily found us and continue to support us with their purchases and donations. We thank all who participated in the move!

Keep in touch with us by visiting www.syracusesoundsofmusic.org, by following us on Facebook, by attending our events, and by stopping by Encore Thrift Shop to browse, buy or donate. Tell your friends and encourage them to join and attend our events.

It is through the combined efforts of our Board of Directors, volunteers and members that we are able to do what we do. THANK YOU for being a part of this wonderful organization.



We look forward to celebrating the power of music with you and to keeping the music arts alive in our community. As I once read, "Music is Life... That's why our hearts have beats!"

Now read on in the newsletter about all the details of our 2024 activities and accomplishments and what is planned for 2025.

All the best in 2025,
Barbara Barnell, President

Stay-up-to-date with SSMA events and activities

syracusesoundsofmusic.org

THE NEW ENCORE SHOP

After 15 years at our beloved Brooklea Drive location, the Encore Thrift Shop relocated due to the sale of the building. After diligent searching, we were fortunate to find the perfect spot, almost within eyeshot, just blocks away at 118 Mill Street in the rear of the Fred Astaire Dance Studio! Thanks to the hard work of Meg Aufmuth, Sandy Rosenfeld, Barbara Barnell, and many dedicated volunteers, the move went smoothly and quickly.

The new location is a change in atmosphere from a comfy familiar house to a smart, boutique feel. It is smaller and more easily browsed through. We no longer accept donations of less profitable items, but we continue to flourish beyond our hopes and aspirations. As in the past, Encore continues to be the largest funding source for SSMA, and each year we have been able to continue our mission thanks to proceeds from this unique second-hand store.

Encore is managed by SSMA Board Members, with many duties shared with our dedicated volunteers. Our wonderful volunteer staff has seen an increase of new recruits! We always welcome new volunteers; our shifts are 2 ½ hours long. Volunteers can sign up for a regular schedule or fill in where needed. All efforts are appreciated.

Encore is open for business Tuesdays through Fridays from 11:00 to 4:00 and Saturdays from 11:00 to 2:00. We always welcome donations, no appointment necessary!



Out with the old . . .



THE NEW ENCORE SHOP



In with the new!



MUSIC MATTERS



For many years, Music Matters has been our preeminent fall fundraiser, and most recently we celebrated this event on October 9, 2024. Traditions at the Links sparkled with light and music as SSMA held its signature event, honoring Dr. John Warren, Professor and Director of Choral Activities at Syracuse University with the Ovation Award.

About 120 guests enjoyed a scrumptious buffet of hors d'oeuvres, dinner, and delectable desserts. Creative red and white centerpieces with musical decorations adorned the room thanks to Front Row Players.

The evening began with entertainment by Jeff Welcher on keyboard during the cocktail hour. After dinner, entertainment was provided by soprano Julianne Stein in an inspiring performance accompanied by Anne Spink on the keyboard.

The silent auction offered items from many local merchants as well as donations from our grant recipients and raffle baskets from our Board Members—THANKS to all who donated.

Dr. Warren was introduced by his Syracuse University colleague, Dr. José Peppie Calvar. He shared touching details about the life and accomplishments of Dr. Warren, and illustrated that this was a well-deserved award for Dr. Warren. John has done so much for the Syracuse community over the years. The Syracuse Orchestra Music Director, Larry Loh, last year's Ovation Award winner, also spoke admirably about his friend, Dr. John Warren.



The Syracuse University Oratorio Society members, led by Dr. Calvar, expressed their gratitude with a heartfelt singing of "The Lord Bless You and Keep You!" Their rendition moved us to tears.

Congratulations to Dr. John Warren! A big THANK YOU to the Music Matters Committee—Pam Baran, Susan Bodley, Alice Borning, Barbara Brown, Deb Cavanagh, Lou Anne Colaneri, Nancy Finnigan, Stephanie Ladd, Donna Miller, Carol Terry, Mary Thompson and Chair, Barbara Barnell.



INTERMEZZO



The annual Intermezzo Holiday Luncheon was held at the Bellevue Country Club on December 3, 2024. Many guests wore red and silver holiday outfits and festive jewelry. The Club's spaces were adorned with charming holiday decor. The event kicked off with an opportunity to socialize and shop while enjoying the company of fellow guests.

The Encore Thrift Shop volunteers created a pop-up store of holiday items, jewelry, clothing and accessories. The extensive display was like an upscale boutique.

Indeed, the shoppers seemed to really appreciate what was offered, and sale proceeds benefitted the mission of SSMA. Thanks to Sandy Rosenfeld, Meg Aufmuth and Pam Baran who managed the sale.

The menu consisted of a salad followed by a choice of chicken marsala with rice and broccoli or eggplant parmesan over angel hair pasta. Dessert was a chocolate cake decorated with holiday symbols. Jane Roller and Jean Edminister sold raffle tickets for a 50/50 cash prize along with lovely gift baskets that had been donated by the Board.

President Barbara Barnell spoke to the approximately 100 attendees about SSMA's mission and accomplishments. She then introduced The Syracuse Orchestra Wind Quintet, which played a medley of holiday pieces. The sun shining on the snow behind the windows was a beautiful sight to accompany the music.

The winners of the raffle were drawn at the end of the event. As people departed, numerous compliments were given, while some stayed for a bit of last-minute Christmas shopping at the Encore Boutique!

Thanks to Lou Anne Colaneri and the Intermezzo committee for all they did!

EVERSON MUSEUM FESTIVAL OF TREES AND LIGHTS

While the SSMA does not raise funds for the Everson Museum, we contribute an item for their major fundraiser, the Festival of Trees.

So at Christmas 2024, as in past years, Meg Aufmuth did her usual great presentation, this year a mini tree with decorations!

Of course, it sold out on the first day! Thank you, Meg!



MISSION

The mission of the Syracuse Sounds of Music Association is to promote and support the performance, teaching, and creation of diverse forms of music in Central New York.

FULFILLING OUR MISSION

The Syracuse Sounds of Music Association, Inc. is an advocate for the promotion and support of music throughout Central New York's six counties: Cayuga, Cortland, Madison, Onondaga, Oneida, and Oswego. We do this through fundraising activities and events. Proceeds from these efforts go toward our Grants in Music program to Central New York non-profit organizations that offer music programming, music education, or community support through music. Funding is also allocated toward a major sponsorship of The Syracuse Orchestra.



Syracuse Sounds of
Music Association, Inc.

“

THIS GRANT WILL BE USED TO SUPPORT OUR STUDENTS WITH WEEKLY MUSIC LESSON TUITION AND SUMMER MUSIC CAMP TUITION FOR NEEDY FAMILIES.

-Kim Farrell, CNY Assoc. of Music Teachers

“

WE APPRECIATE SSMA'S SUPPORT FOR ORGANIZATIONS THAT MAKE MUSIC IN CNY!

-Lara Mosby, Director of Community Engagement for The Syracuse Orchestra

February 2025 GRANT AWARDS

21 RECIPIENT ORGANIZATIONS
RECEIVED A TOTAL OF \$40,000 IN
GRANT FUNDING FOR 24 PROJECTS

1. Baldwinsville Theatre Guild
2. Clinton Symphony Orchestra
3. CNY Association of Music Teachers
4. CNY Jazz Arts Foundation
5. Encore Youth Productions
6. Everson Museum of Art
7. Festival of Music
8. Front Row Players
9. The KEYS Program
10. Onondaga Civic Symphony Orchestra
11. Redhouse Arts Center
12. REV Theatre Company
13. Rome Community Band:
Classical Alliance
Youth Chamber Music Festival
14. Schola Cantorum
15. Society for New Music
16. Syracuse Children's Theatre
17. Syracuse Chorale
18. Syracuse Friends of Chamber Music
19. Syracuse Community Choir
20. Syracuse Vocal Ensemble
21. The Syracuse Orchestra:
K - 6th Grade Literacy
Healing Harmonies
Syracuse Youth Orchestras

MEMBERSHIP

We are actively seeking new members to join the SSMA! We offer three membership levels: Pianissimo at \$40, Forte at \$75, and Maestro at \$100. As an SSMA member, you will enjoy the following benefits:

- invitations to all SSMA events. Please bring friends and newcomers.
- the UPBEAT Newsletter
- one 50% off coupon to the Encore Thrift Shop
- the opportunity to get to know music lovers and musicians

MEMBERSHIP APPRECIATION RECEPTION

As a thank you for our members of SSMA, a Membership Appreciation Reception was held at the home of Barbara Brown, SSMA Member Chair and Vice President on April 17, 2024. This was a time for orientation and to encourage members to remain as members.

President Barbara Barnell gave an overview of SSMA, Sandy Rosenfeld spoke about Encore and its great importance and opportunity to volunteer. Pam Murchison, Managing Director of the Syracuse Orchestra, thanked us for our generous support. Barbara Brown was thanked for hosting the event.



THE SYRACUSE ORCHESTRA SPONSORSHIP

The Syracuse Sounds of Music Association gave a \$25,000 sponsorship to The Syracuse Orchestra for the 2024-25 Season. This sponsorship underwrites the Holiday Pops concerts. The President of SSMA, Barbara Barnell, presented the check to the orchestra at the evening performance.

We also serve as the title sponsor for the Kids Concert Series and sponsor a Casual series concert.



ANNUAL MEETING JUNE 2024



Cazenovia's Lincklaen House was the setting for the 2024 Annual Meeting. About 50 SSMA members and guests were in attendance. After lunch was served, those gathered enjoyed entertainment by the Sylvan Beach Singers. The members also elected our Board of Directors and Slate of Officers.



Directed by SSMA member Linda Verni Williams, the singers offered a short set of songs. The Sylvan Beach Singers were recipients of an SSMA grant in 2024.

Barbara Barnell, President and Treasurer, Barbara Brown, Vice-President, Cathy Winger, Assistant Treasurer, and Jean Edminister, Secretary were elected as officers. To serve a three year term as Board members, the following were elected: Susan Bodley, Alice Borning, Deborah Cavanagh, and Steve Pekich.



Others completing their Board term were thanked for their service: (from left to right) Ruth Perkins, Stephanie Macklin-Macero, Maria Miller, Michele Mider, Janet Mallan, and Sheila Sostrin.

President Barbara Barnell expressed gratitude to everyone who contributed to the success of the meeting. It marked the largest gathering for a business meeting in the history of SSMA.

-Barbara S. Brown, chair and co-chair Mary Thompson

**Save the date for SSMA's 2025 Annual Meeting
on Monday, June 2nd at the Lincklaen House.**





Syracuse Sounds of Music Association, Inc.

SUPPORTING MUSIC IN CENTRAL NEW YORK

P.O. Box 85 · Fayetteville, NY 13066

www.syracusesoundsofmusic.org

HISTORY

In 1957, a dedicated group of women who believed that Syracuse should have an orchestra formed the Syracuse Symphony Guild. In 1960, the Syracuse Symphony Orchestra was established, and the Syracuse Symphony Association (the Guild's successor) was founded to help support it financially through various means of fundraising.

In the Spring of 2011, the SSO began the transition to a new business model, and officially became Symphor!a in December of 2012. The SSA reorganized, as well, becoming the **Syracuse Sounds of Music Association, Inc.** (SSMA) in the Fall of 2011.

Since then, the SSMA has successfully raised funds to support not only the orchestra, but many CNY non-profit organizations that present music programming or offer music education.

2024-25 BOARD AND OFFICERS

PRESIDENT AND TREASURER	Barbara Barnell
VICE PRESIDENT	Barbara Brown
ASSISTANT TREASURER	Cathy Winger
SECRETARY	Jean Edminster
ENCORE SHOP MANAGERS	Sandy Rosenfeld and Meg Aufmuth

DIRECTORS: Meg Aufmuth, Pam Baran, Susan Bodley, Alice Borning, Deborah Cavanagh, Lou Anne Colaneri, Stephanie Ladd, Jennifer Loh, Donna Miller, Steve Pekich, Jane Roller, Sandy Rosenfeld, Mary Thompson