



Merced Symphony

Ming Luke, Music Director



2016-2017 Season



A Message From The President

Welcome to our 59th Season!

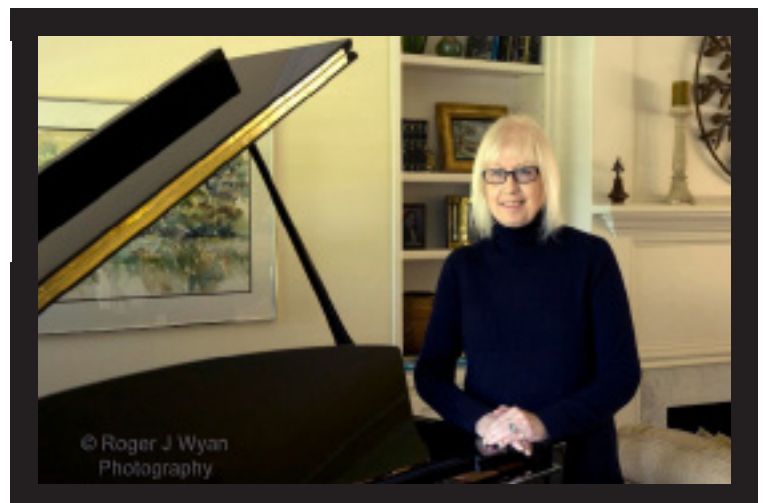
Through subscription concerts and youth programs the MSA Board brings the highest quality classical music to our community and inspires young musicians to develop their talent to the fullest. This year's five concert season reflects the commitment of Ming Luke and the orchestra bring to our community a mix of full symphonic and chamber concerts. These feature premier musicians and vocalists who live and work in Northern California.

Our Education Program includes four Children's Concerts in Merced and Los Baños for 3,000+ students. Please check our website for the link to the amazing January 2016 video produced by the METV Team. This fall we host our annual Youth Auditions.

The best ways to support the Merced Symphony are to attend our concerts and bring friends, purchase season tickets, and contribute at one of the donor levels. Do you know that MSA is the oldest continuously operating arts organization in Merced County? Because of your support, we are able to grow and thrive in our community.

I look forward to seeing you in the audience for our opening concert on October 1st and throughout the season!

Judy Edwina Smith



2016 – 2017 Season



Brilliant Beginnings

Season Opener

October 1, 2016, 7:30 pm
Merced Theatre



Overture to *Così fan tutte*

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

Cello Concerto No 1 in C Major

Joseph Haydn

Eric Sung, Cello

Symphony No 5, 'Reformation'

Felix Mendelssohn

Our new season starts with a concert full of spirited and energetic pieces under the baton of Ming Luke. Beginning with the virtuosic Mozart overture and a spritely Haydn cello concerto, this concert concludes with the powerful Mendelssohn Reformation Symphony.

Associate Concert Sponsor: Sam & Dena Traina

Merced Symphony Chamber Quartet

November 19, 2016, 7:30 pm
Multicultural Arts Center



Heather Powell, violin

Ilana Thomas, violin

Ilana Matfis, viola

Adelle-Akiko Kearns, cello

We are proud to feature four of our very own exceptionally talented musicians in a concert that will delight and enthrall you. These musicians are well-known throughout California and perform in many prestigious orchestras, as well as performing as soloists throughout the state. Concertmaster Heather Powell leads the quartet.



2016 – 2017 Season

Broadway Legends

Winter Pops Concert

January 13, 2017, 7:30 pm
Merced Theatre



Beloved tunes from Andrew Lloyd Weber, Steven Sondheim, and others will bring joyous smiles to our audience. Ming Luke will lead the orchestra with soloists Carrie Hennessey, soprano, and Omari Tau, baritone, in many legendary tunes, such as--*Don't Cry for Me Argentina*, *Music of the Night*, and many more beloved Broadway classics.

Omari Tau is delighted to be making his debut with the Merced Symphony. At home in varying genres from pop and jazz to musical theatre and opera, the baritone has proven to be a versatile performing artist, educator, director, and composer.



Carrie Hennessey returns to the Merced Symphony after previous performances with our Pops and Children's Concerts. She is excited to take the stage with the orchestra once again.

Concert Sponsor: Dignity Health, Merced Medical Center

Associate Concert Sponsor: Melbourne Gwin and Judith Hartmann

Delphi Trio Chamber Concert

Merced Symphony with Merced College Lecture & Arts Series present

April 8, 2017, 7:30 pm
Merced College Theater



Liana Bérubé, violin
Michelle Kwon, cello
Jeffrey LaDeur, piano

Piano Trio in E minor, Op. 92
Camille Saint-Saëns

Piano Trio in D minor, Op. 120
Gabriel Fauré

Piano Trio in A minor
Maurice Ravel

Returning with friends, Jeffrey LaDeur will be performing for us once again as part of the Delphi Trio. Jeffrey wowed our audience at the Fall 2015 Concert with his beautiful piano solo.

2016 – 2017 Season



Spring Finale

May 13, 2017, 7:30 pm
Merced Theatre



Tragic Overture

Johannes Brahms

Violin Concerto No 1

Sergei Prokofiev

Cordula Merks, Violin

Symphony No 2 in D Major

Johannes Brahms

We are pleased to continue our Brahms cycle with our final classical concert. Under Ming Luke's direction, the orchestra welcomes soloist Cordula Merks for the Prokofiev violin concerto which complements the two Brahms pieces.

Concert Sponsor: Roland and Pat Winston



Associate Sponsor: Graeme and Gigi Mitchell

Educational Programs

Our Children's Concerts have a waiting list every year. Providing students with the opportunity to experience live music is part of the core mission of the Merced Symphony. Our January Children's Concerts are regularly fully booked with a waiting list. Our annual Youth Auditions give talented young artists the opportunity to play before judges and receive positive feedback. Winners can be asked to perform with the orchestra. Your contributions help us to continue providing these orchestral experiences for our local students.





2016 – 2017 Season

Children’s Concerts

Concert Sponsor



Associate Concert Sponsors



Not open to the public. Schools/Classroom Teachers may make reservations for their 4th grade students through MCOE for the concerts in Merced on Friday, January 13, 2017. Los Baños area schools reserve through LBUSD Office of the Superintendent for the Children’s Concerts at Pacheco HS Theater on Thursday, January 12, 2017. These programs are designed to be interactive with students.

Support Your Symphony

The Merced Symphony’s artistic and educational programs would not be possible without the generous support of many individuals, foundations, and corporations. All donors receive special access to events and artists throughout the season. Please consider supporting the Merced Symphony and allowing us to continue our mission of bringing great performances to Merced County.

The MSA will hold at least two fundraisers during the season—one in the fall and the other in the spring. The Board wishes to invite you to join us for these fun-filled evenings. Check our website for more details at mercedsymphony.org

Thank you for supporting music in Merced County!

All donations are tax deductible (IRS Tax ID #94-1541775)

Donor Opportunity

Names are listed in programs and on the website. Gifts at any level are appreciated:

- Season Sponsor (\$10,000+)
- Concert Sponsor (\$5,000+)
- Associate Sponsor (2,500-\$4,999)
- Platinum Level (\$1,000-\$2,499)

- Gold Level (\$500-\$999)
- Silver Level (\$250-\$499)
- Patron Level (\$100-\$249)
- Supporter Level (\$50-\$99)

MSA is a proud member of



Subscriber & Donor Form



Purchase Tickets

Season tickets are \$180 for five concerts: two classical, two chamber, and one Pops. Reserved seats apply to the Merced Theatre venue only. Please note the locations for the two chamber concerts. Season ticket holders become members of the Merced Symphony Association and receive a discount on the subscription and access to exclusive events throughout the season.

To order season tickets or make a donation, please send payment to MSA, PO Box 894, Merced, CA 95341.

Name(s): _____ (as you wish listed in the program)

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

E-Mail: _____

Credit Card #: _____ CCV: _____ Exp. Date: ____/____

I wish to purchase ___ **Adult Season Subscriptions** @ \$180 each: \$ _____

I wish to purchase ___ **Student/Child Subscriptions*** @ \$60 each: \$ _____

Individual tickets can be ordered at the Merced Theatre Box Office (301 W Main St, Merced, CA 95340) or online at mercedtheatre.org.

___ Adult Tickets @ \$40 each (specify concert): _____ \$ _____

___ Student/Child Tickets* @ \$15 each (specify concert): _____ \$ _____

**Full-time Students 25 and under with school ID. Children under 12 do not need an ID.*

I wish to support the Merced Symphony with my donation of: \$ _____

I wish to sponsor 2 students* at the Children's Concerts: (optional) \$ 20

**This donation helps defray the cost of the free concert for 4th grade students in Merced Co.*

Grand Total \$ _____

All major credit cards accepted at the venues on the night of the concert. Please detach form and mail with payment to the address above.

**Five Ten Bistro Bonus: Show your ticket before each performance and receive a free appetizer with the purchase of two dinners.*



Merced Symphony Association
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