



# The Score

Volume 36 Issue 4

March/April 2026

[www.toledosymphonyleague.org](http://www.toledosymphonyleague.org)

[www.toledosymphony.com](http://www.toledosymphony.com)

Hello, everyone:

After the last several days of bitter cold, ice, and snow, it is wonderful to be writing this letter while squinting at the computer screen, temporarily blinded by beautiful sunlight. Spring is just around the corner, my friends!

Many thanks to Buckeye State Bank in Perrysburg for hosting TSL board meeting for the past three years. Bank staff members have been very welcoming and have stated we are welcome to utilize the bank's community room in the future, should we have the need. Going forward, the TSL Board of Directors meetings will be held at Toledo Center for Live Arts in the American Interiors Conference Room.

Over the past few months, Toledo Symphony League members have been very busy with planning events to entertain and educate our members. Kudos to **Kathy Scheer** and **Kimberly Danes** for spearheading the annual Young Artists' Competition and Remembrance Fund Scholarship auditions. These special ladies and their dedicated volunteers are determined and fearless in the pursuit of upcoming musicians.

A cold, snowy, and blustery day did not deter several volunteers from meeting **Beth Bowman** on January 20 at the Center for Live Arts to prepare Valentine greetings for TSL members. Hint: If you provide caffeine and sugar, volunteers will come. February 10 marked the date of the Center for Live Arts staff luncheon.

**Marlene Uhler** will host Leaguers Who Lunch on March 11 at Cooper's Hawk on Talmadge Road. LWL members will receive updates from Marlene.

Tune In Tuesday is scheduled for Tuesday, March 17, at Belmont Country Club. Toledo Symphony violinists Merwin Siu and Cheryl Trace will be entertaining us with lively Irish music. Please consider inviting a friend to join you for lunch. Reservations can be made with **Mary Beaber**.

Under the leadership of **Mary Beaber**, preparations are being finalized for Rite of Spring, scheduled for April 23 at Toledo Country Club. Vendors are being secured and raffle baskets and Lunches In The Garden are being planned. Invitations will be in your mailbox soon.

I am always amazed by the amount of time and effort made by TSL volunteers to achieve our goals. In recognition of volunteer efforts, Membership VPs **Marlene Uhler** and **Sheri Robarge** are planning the annual volunteer recognition breakfast for April 16.

The Toledo Symphony League members continue our mission to provide financial, educational, and volunteer support to the Toledo Symphony Orchestra. This mission is accomplished by the hard work and dedication of many volunteers. Fortunately, we always have a good time doing good work.

I hope to see you soon at a TSL event,

*JoAnn Phipps*

JoAnn Phipps  
TSL President





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## The Toledo Symphony League supporting the Toledo Symphony Orchestra for 74 Years!

The mission of the Toledo Symphony League is to provide financial, educational, and volunteer support to the Toledo Symphony Orchestra so that it may provide quality musical performances for the entire community.

### THE TOLEDO SYMPHONY LEAGUE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

2025-2026

#### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

President

JoAnn Phipps

Treasurer

Janna LaZelle-Lake

Corresponding Secretary

Emma Oravec

Recording Secretary

Mary Beaber

Vice Presidents of Membership

Marlene Uhler & Sherie Robarge

Vice President of Scholarships, Awards & Grants

Beth Bowman

Vice President of Symphony Activities

Beverly Wolcott

## TUNE IN TUESDAY

**Beth Bowman & Mary Beaber**

The next Tune In Tuesday will be  
**March 17**  
at Belmont Country Club.

Cheryl Trace and Merwin Siu are scheduled  
to entertain with Irish airs and reels.

**The cost is \$45 per person**

Enjoy a great Irish-inspired lunch and  
St. Paddy's Day themed raffle baskets.

There will be a very special presentation  
to the Toledo Symphony.

Bring your spouse, friends, and/or neighbors  
for this St. Patrick's Day event.

See flyer attached to the Score

For reservations, send your check  
made out to **TSL** to:

**Mary Beaber**

4533 Blackstone Dr. E  
Maumee, OH 43537

If you use Venmo, pay for your reservation to the  
**Toledo Symphony League** account and make sure you  
say it is for Tune In Tuesday. Let Mary know you paid  
with Venmo when you send in your reservation.





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## Rite of Spring - Mary Beaber

Rite of Spring is **Thursday, April 23**, at Toledo Country Club. **Mary Beaber**, event chair, is happy to announce the return of this special event.

The doors will open at 10:30 a.m. Lunch will be served at noon with our speaker after lunch. We need help with baking for the Flour Garden, Raffle Baskets, Raffle ticket sellers, set up, and people to help at tables. Please bring cash for the Flour Garden. We will have 10 vendors with a variety of goods.

If any of you have gift cards that you won't be using and miscellaneous items that you don't need, we could use them to put in raffle baskets.

Ticket prices will be \$60, \$75, or \$100. The \$75 and \$100 reservation names will be put into a drawing for a special gift. More details to follow.

We look forward to seeing you all on April 23 at the Toledo Country Club. Invitations will be sent soon. Questions or if you would like to help in any way, call **Mary Beaber** at 419-266-1003.

### General Board Meetings

#### March 19

9:30 a.m.—Social

10:00 a.m.—Meeting

Toledo Center for Live Arts

4747 Heatherdowns Blvd.; Toledo, OH

**All TSL members are welcome to attend  
TSL General Board Meetings.**

#### April 16

### Volunteer Appreciation Breakfast

9:00 a.m. Breakfast

10:00 a.m. Meeting

Toledo Club

235 14th St., Toledo, OH

Volunteers will receive invitations by mail.



Rite of Spring committee members are planning for the big event. Front row from the left is **Beth Bowman**, **Marlene Uhler**, and **JoAnn Phipps**. The back row from the left is **Marcia Helman**, Rite of Spring Chair **Mary Beaber**, and **Kathy Traynor**.

## Valentine Project - Beth Bowman

The Toledo Symphony League celebrates Valentine's Day with several projects. A big THANK YOU to the many members who braved the cold weather to help address Valentines for fellow TSL members. The Valentine addressers included **Cookie Westmeyer, Helen Patton, Jean Ryan, Joanne Champion, Sue Pokorney, Judi Uhrman, Mary Beaber, Judith Helm, JoAnn Phipps, and Kathy Scheer.**

The second TSL Valentine's Day project is a two-part Live Arts Toledo THANK YOU. Each of the 70 staff members received a Valentine treat bag containing a \$10 Starbucks gift card and holiday candies. Thanks to all of the treat donors including **Joan Tobias, Kathy Scheer, Marcia Helman, Jane Wurth, Kris Young, JoAnn Phipps, Jean Ryan, Sue Porkorney, Judith Helm, Judy Goren, DeAnn Baker, Beverly Wolcott,** and others.

Part two of the staff thank you was a lunch at the Toledo Center for Live Arts on Tuesday, February 10. Over 30 staff members accepted our invitation to lunch. The menu included soups, salads, mini sandwiches, mac & cheese, a mashed potato bar, and desserts! Cooks, bakers, donors, and servers included **Mary Beaber, Phyllis Wadley, Helen Patton, JoAnn Phipps, Sue Porkorney, Sheri Robarge, Marlene Uhler, Bev Zielinski, Cookie Westmeyer, Jane Wurth, Jean Ryan, Judy Goren, DeAnn Baker,** and **Beth Bowman.**

The Valentine projects are a bright spot on the winter calendar for our members and the Live Arts Toledo staff members. Brava and thank you to each person who helped the projects come to life.



On a cold Tuesday morning in January, at the Toledo Center for Live Arts, these dedicated TSL members addressed Valentine cards for their fellow TSL members. From left to right in the front row we have **Cookie Westmeyer, Judi Uhrman, Mary Beaber, JoAnn Phipps, and Jean Ryan.** In the back row we have **Beth Bowman, Helen Patton, Judith Helm, Sue Pokorney, and Joanne Champion.**

The volunteers for the Valentine Luncheon for the Live Arts Toledo staff on February 10 are pictured to the right. They are **Jean Ryan, Cookie Westmeyer, Marcia Helman, Sue Pokorney, Phyllis Wadley, Helen Patton, Mary Beaber, Beth Bowman, JoAnn Phipps, Beverly Wolcott, Joann Champion, Marlene Uhler, Beverly Zielinski, and DeAnn Baker.**





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On **April 29**, the Toledo Symphony invites our community to come together for their **Day of Giving** – a celebration of the power and magic of symphonic music in Toledo. This special day (and the time leading up to it) is about rallying support, sharing our passion, and raising vital funds to ensure that symphonic music continues to inspire generations to come.

**All Toledo Symphony patrons are encouraged to support the Day of Giving in two ways:**

- 1) Tell your friends!
- 2) Give a gift!

Gifts can be made online at [LiveArtsToledo.com/donate](http://LiveArtsToledo.com/donate)  
Checks can be made out to Live Arts Toledo and sent to  
4747 Heatherdowns Blvd. Toledo, OH 43614

If you have any questions or would like more information, please contact Live Arts Toledo's Director of Individual Giving and Toledo Symphony League Liaison, **Karly DeGroot** at 419-418-0028 or [kdegroot@LiveArtsToledo.com](mailto:kdegroot@LiveArtsToledo.com)



## SAVE THE DATE

**Closing Luncheon**

**May 21**

**Cost - \$40/each**

Belmont Country Club

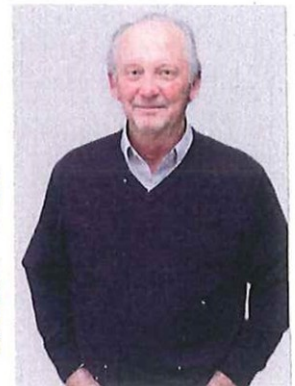
Invitations coming in mail soon.



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## Remembrance Fund Scholarships

Kimberly Danes

Auditions for scholarships will take place on Saturday, March 7 (1:30 - 6:00 p.m.) and Sunday, March 8 (1:30 - 6:00 p.m.) at the Toledo Center for Live Arts located at 4747 Heatherdowns Blvd.; Toledo, OH. If you have not already volunteered to assist, contact **Kimberly Danes** at 419-261-8697 right away.

Scholarships will be awarded at the Toledo Symphony Youth Orchestra concert on May 11 at BGSU.

## Leaguers Who Lunch

Marlene Uhler

Leaguers Who Lunch will be meeting again on

**March 11 at 11:30 a.m.**

Cooper's Hawk Winery & Restaurant

4705 Talmadge Rd., Toledo

**April 8 at noon**

Palacio Maya Mexican Restaurant

5125 Monroe St.; Toledo

If you would like to attend, contact

**Marlene Uhler** - [maruhler@hotmail.com](mailto:maruhler@hotmail.com) or call at 419-260-3872

To join the group, it is a \$50 donation to TSL.

## TSL Young Artists' Competition -

**Kathy Scheer**

The Young Artists' Competition took place on January 10 at the Toledo Center for Live Arts in the Robert Bell Studio. We had 20 applicants competing.

The three judges were:

Alexandria Ott (TSO Violin)

Lesli McCage (Live Arts Toledo Educator Clarinetist)

Jaewoo Lee (TSO Trombone)

We have three winners:

**Eddie Kruse (Cello)**

**Isabella Wang (Piano)**

**Esther Sohn (Cello)**

We had a wonderful group of volunteers who helped the event run smoothly. They were **Beverly Wolcott, Helen Patton, Marcia Helman, Sheri Robarge, and Beth Bowman.** **Helen Patton** graciously provided the giant Hershey Symphony chocolate candy bars given to each competitor. This is a tradition started by our former YAC chairman, **Claudia Trombla.**

The winners will play in an afternoon concert with the Toledo Symphony Orchestra on Sunday, March 1 at 3:00 p.m. at the Toledo Museum of Art Peristyle along with Toledo Public School students. We are planning to have a small reception following the concert for the winners and their guests. I will need several volunteers to help with this.

**Hopefully many TSL members will attend this special free concert and awards ceremony. Make sure you secure a free ticket before the concert.**

(See the winners bios are on the next page.)



## YOUNG ARTISTS' COMPETITION 2025-26 WINNERS

### Eddie Kruse - Cello

Eddie Kruse has studied the cello for four years under the instruction of Toledo Symphony cellist Damon Coleman. He is also the finalist of the 2026 Sylvania Community Orchestra Competition and is a recipient of various other awards. Other than cello, Eddie has been self-studying piano for two years, as well as being a vocalist in Northview's most advanced vocal ensemble, Harmony Roadshow. This year, he is the President of Northview's Tri-M Honors Society. He also enjoys performing as a cast member in theatre productions/musicals, as well as being a pit orchestra musician. Throughout his high school career, Eddie has been selected for advanced festivals and ensembles, such as OMEA Northwest Region Orchestra, District 1 Honors Orchestra, and TSYO Philharmonic Orchestra, where this year he has held positions as Principal Cellist for every ensemble. He also has been selected for OMEA's All-State Orchestra, two consecutive years. Eddie is a Senior at Northview High School.



### Isabella Wang - Piano

Pianist, Isabella Wang, is a 15-year-old sophomore at Sylvania Northview High School. She began her piano studies at the age of seven and continues to learn under the guidance of Esther Chiu. Her proficiency and dedication to piano are evident, as she is an active member of the Junior Monday Musicale and has earned numerous scholarships to reward her extraordinary talent. In addition, she has won multiple competitions, such as the Gene Marcus Competition, Marilyn Walter Young Musicians Piano Competition, and the Pre-College State Buckeye Competition, and is also a cellist for the Northview Academy Orchestra. She started her cello journey at the age of 11, with Anna Davis being her main instructor. Outside of her musical performance, Bella enjoys playing tennis and caddying at the Inverness Golf Club in the summer.



### Esther Sohn - Cello

Esther Sohn is a junior at Notre Dame Academy and has been playing cello for nine years. She currently studies with Amy Chang and previously studied with Aaron Keaster. Esther is a fifth-year member of the Toledo Symphony Youth Philharmonic Orchestra and has been a recipient of the Toledo Symphony League Remembrance Fund Scholarships. Outside of music, she enjoys running, cross-country, and track.





Leaguers Who Lunch chair, **Marlene Uhler**, with **Bonnie Wrobel** and **Cindy Niggemyer** at P.F. Chang's On February 11.



Leaguers Who Lunch enjoyed by **Mary Decker**, **Beth Bowman**, and **Sharon Slusarski**.



**Mary Triplett** and **Beverly Zielinski** to the left, plus **Barbara Bettinger**, **Mary Triplett**, and **Sherrie Darah** to the right enjoying Leaguers Who Lunch.



**Jean Ryan**, **JoAnn Phipps**, and **Janet McClure** to the left, and **Emma Oravec** along with **Sharon Slusarski** to the right enjoying Leaguers Who Lunch at P.F. Chang's on February 11.





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## TUNE IN TUESDAY

**March 17**

Social Hour 11:00 a.m. to Noon

Luncheon at noon

Program to follow

**Merwin Siu and Cheryl Trace**

TSO Violinists, performing *Airs and Reels*  
for St. Patrick's Day

Invite your friends & spouses to this special event.

**Cost - \$45/person**

Pay by check made out to TSL or

Venmo designated for Tune in Tuesday.

**Belmont Country Club;**

29601 Bates Rd.; Perrysburg, OH

## TWILIGHT TUESDAY

Information coming soon.

SEND RESERVATIONS TO TNT - Mary Beaber: 4533 Blackstone Dr. E; Maumee, OH 43537

\_\_\_\_\_ will attend (Please indicate number of seats to be purchased)

March 17 \_\_\_\_\_

Venmo pay to **Toledo Symphony League**  
for Tune in Tuesday

Total Paid \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (Make checks payable to TSL)      Paid to Venmo \$ \_\_\_\_\_