



# The Score

Volume 35 Issue 5

May 2025 Annual Report

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

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

Dear Friends:

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. Three cheers and bravo to our TSL members and friends for their hard work and dedication in once again fulfilling this mission.

Congratulations and thank you to Kathy Scheer and Kimberly Danes for spearheading the annual Young Artists' Competition and Remembrance Fund Scholarship events. I am proud to say TSL was able to award a total of \$3,000 to three Young Artists' Competition winners. A total of \$23,800 in awards went to Remembrance Fund Scholarship winners, bringing our total awards budget to a whopping \$26,800 for the 2024-2025 season. The final TSYO Concert will be performed on Sunday, May 11, at 3:00 p.m., at Bowling Green State University's Kobacker Hall. Tickets are provided at no cost through the TAPA website: [www.artstoledo.com](http://www.artstoledo.com).

The Volunteer Appreciation Breakfast and board meeting was held April 17 at the Toledo Club. Many thanks to Marlene Uhler and Sherie Robarge, who did an excellent job of facilitating this yearly event. TSL volunteer opportunities come in all shapes and sizes. One of them could be the perfect fit for you!

Invitations have been sent for TSL's Annual Meeting and Closing Luncheon at Belmont Country Club on May 15. Please be sure to mail your reservations to Mary Beaber at your first opportunity.

The final Tune In Tuesday event for the season will be May 20 at Belmont Country Club. Twilight Tuesday is a wonderful evening event with heavy appetizers. Music will be provided by Toledo Jazz Orchestra members.

The success of the 2024-2025 TSL season comes down to the hard work and enthusiasm of our volunteers and friends. It is absolutely my honor and pleasure to serve as TSL president. Thanks, as always, for your support! I hope to see you soon at a TSL event.

*JoAnn Phipps*

JoAnn Phipps  
TSL President



JoAnn Phipps presenting TAPA CEO, Zac Vassar, a check for \$5000 as part of our pledge to TSO at Volunteer Appreciation Breakfast.



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## The Toledo Symphony League supporting the Toledo Symphony Orchestra for 73 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

2024-2025

#### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

**President**

**JoAnn Phipps**

**Treasurer**

**Janna LaZelle-Lake**

**Corresponding Secretary**

**Kathy Scheer**

**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**

**Linda Varga**

## TWILIGHT TUESDAY May 20

Belmont Country Club

6:00 p.m.

Heavy Appetizers

Cash Bar

Live Music

Featuring the Toledo Jazz Orchestra Trio

**Cost - \$60**

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

**Mary Beaber**

4533 Blackstone Dr. E

Maumee, OH 43537

See flyer attached to the Score



**JIM MCGOWAN**

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## Rite of Spring

### Mary Beaber

Over 100 guests attended Rite of Spring, Thursday, April 24, 2025. Belmont Country Club was decked out in blooms beginning at the front porch ending with show-stopping live floral arrangements in the foyer and grill entrance. A vibrant SPRING mood permeated the Club.

Guests enjoyed finding treasures offered by eight vendors. Vendors included Gifts of Glass, The Paper Garden by Min, Bayerwood Works, and Ragazza. **Helen Patton** was the vendor coordinator. The full list of vendors can be found on the next page.

The living room was full of 20 beautiful raffle baskets. Many guests bought tickets to “try their luck” and take home their pick. Basket winners included **Denise Colturi, Kim Danes**, and guests Clare Ackerman and Carolyn Eldredge.

The Lunches in the Garden silent auction table featured four parties ranging from “Old Fashions in the Old West End” to “Christmas in July.” Each party sold out to excited partygoers to be!

The Flour Garden, ably helmed by **Emma Oravec** and **Sharon Slusarski**, featured cookies, brownies, mini breads and cakes. New this year was a cake raffle that was a rousing success.

Guests enjoyed a light salad and red pepper bisque lunch at noon. Our guest speaker for the event was Theresa Hoen from Hoen’s Garden Center. She demonstrated a “non-backbreaking” way to garden by using container planting. Theresa led a lively Q&A session and shared her compelling personal story.

Toledo Symphony League President, **JoAnn Phipps**, presented Brett Loney, TAPA VP of Development, with a check for \$10,000 which completes our \$25,000 pledge to the Toledo Symphony Orchestra.

Condessa Croninger, local gallery owner and millinery expert, judged the hat contest. There were three winners. **Kim Danes** won for best vintage hat, **Joan Tobias** won for most beautiful ensemble, and **Helen Patton** won for most fun and original hat.

**Mary Beaber** was the event chair. **Kathy Traynor** was in charge of reservations and seating. **Shelli Jacobs** provided event space decor. Committee members included **Beverly Wolcott, Judi Uhrman, Cookie Westmeyer, Marlene Uhler, JoAnn Phipps, Beth Bowman**, and **Kathy Scheer**. Special thanks to the Lunches in the Garden sponsors **JoAnn** and **Mike Phipps, Marcia Helman, MJ Hill**, and **Beth Bowman**.



TAPA vice president of development, Brett Loney, receiving a check for \$10,000 from TSL president, **JoAnn Phipps**, to complete our \$25,000 pledge to the TSO at the Rite of Spring event.



Hat Contest winners - **Joan Tobias** - Most Beautiful, **Helen Patton** - Most Fun & Original, Condessa Croninger - Judge, and **Kimberly Danes** - Vintage Hat.



Rite of Spring featured speaker, Theresa Hoen, and **Beth Bowman** with examples of container gardening.



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## Rite of Spring 2025 Vendors

Helen Patton

**MICHAEL BAYER:** Baywood Turners

Wooden birdhouses, plates, bowls, wine stoppers

**DEB CASH:** Connecting People and Places

Specialty nutritional dog treats

**SHARON CONNORS:** Willowvale InkNPaper

All-occasion greeting cards, notepads, gift card holders

**SANDRA LANGHALS:** Gifts of Glass

Hand-painted glassware

**PAMELA ROHRBACHER:** Elegance de Stile

Sewn purses, wallets, glass cases

**MARY WILLETS:** The Paper Garden by Min

Sculpted paper flowers

**JANE WURTH:** Ragazza Boutique

Designer clothing and accessories

**MYKEL ZWAYER:** Tastefully Simple

Spices and packaged prepared foods



Sharon Slusarski, Emma Oravec, and Phyllis Wadley selling baked goods at the Rite of Spring Flour Garden.



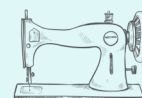
Judi Uhrman and Kathy Traynor signing in the guests at the Rite of Spring event. Everyone received a tote bag like the one they are holding.



Cookie Westmeyer, JoAnn Phipps, Mary Beaber, Joan Tobias, and Marlene Uhler enjoying the Rite of Spring event at Belmont Country Club on April 24, 2025.

*Sew On*  
**& Sew Forth**  
Alterations

3450 Central Ave  
Suite 132  
Toledo, Ohio  
419-724-5645



Repairs - Alterations - Bridal



TSL Young Artists' Competition winners, Isaac Weese, LyAnn Samkari, and Elsa Klaas, with TSO Music Director, Alain Trudel, TSL President, **JoAnn Phipps**, and YAC Chair, **Kathy Scheer**, presenting the awards at the March 15 concert at the Peristyle.

## Closing Luncheon

May 15

Cost - \$40/each

Belmont Country Club

RSVP - Mary Beaber  
4533 Blackstone Dr. E  
Maumee, OH 43537

## Young Artists' Competition

Kathy Scheer

The Young Artists' Competition took place on January 11, 2025 at the University of Toledo Center for Performing Arts.

The three judges were:

Michele Tosser-Smith (TSO oboe)

Robert Clemens (TSO cello)

Dr. Hannah Levinson (BGSU assistant professor of viola)

We had three winners:

**Elsa Klaas (piano)**

**Isaac Weese (violin)**

**LyAnn Samkari (violin)**

We had a wonderful group of volunteers who helped the event run smoothly. They were **Beverly Wolcott**, **Helen Patton**, and **Beth Bowman**.

The winners played in an afternoon concert with the Toledo Symphony Orchestra on Saturday, March 15, 2025 at 2:00 p.m. in the Toledo Museum of Art Peristyle along with Toledo Public School students' side by side concert. We were able to have a small reception following the concert for the winners and their guests. Several volunteers helped with this. They were **Cookie Westmeyer**, **Kimberly Danes**, **JoAnn Phipps**, and **Randy Lake**. A Big **THANK YOU** to Ellie Lee (TAPA Community Engagement Coordinator) for all her help and support. Thank you to **Randy Lake** for taking many wonderful pictures.

## CHIMERS—Barbara Brown - Chairman

Thank you to Toledo Symphony League Chimers, **Kate Adams-Nameche**, **Judy Helm**, **Sherie Robarge**, **Pam Shoffner**, **Janet Spencer**, **Jennifer Sponsler**, and **Joan Tobias** for sharing information with our members who do not use email. You keep the lines of communication open.

This year, our Chimers have made calls to inform members of TUNE IN TUESDAY, CHICK FLICK, and RITE OF SPRING event details and updates.



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## Musician Survival Bags

Helen Patton & Phyllis Wadley

Thanks to the many folks who contributed to our annual Musician Survival Bag Project. The orchestra travels in the winter months sharing their holiday music throughout Toledo and neighboring communities. TSL shows its appreciation for this extra work by gifting stuffed totes to orchestra members. It's our pleasure to give, and they love to receive! We stuffed the totes after the 10:00 a.m. General Board Meeting on November 21, 2024 at Buckeye State Bank in Perrysburg. **Marlene Uhler, Kathy Scheer, Beverly Wolcott, Phyllis Wadley, Helen Patton, Kris Young, Cookie Westmeyer, Mary Beaber, and JoAnn Phipps** helped to stuff the totes.

Sturdy, canvas zippered bags were delivered at the 3:00 p.m. rehearsal at St. Joseph Catholic Church in Sylvania on Wednesday, December 4, 2024. Chairs **Helen Patton** and **Phyllis Wadley** were there along with **JoAnn Phipps** and **Kathy Scheer** to distribute the totes.

## TUNE IN TUESDAY

Beth Bowman & Mary Beaber

The Toledo Symphony League's social/education program, Tune in Tuesday, is a favorite feature of "League Life."

The first Tune in Tuesday was Tuesday, October 22, 2024 at Belmont Country Club. Alice Petersen, TSO violinist, was the speaker. She shared (and demonstrated!) early medieval instruments.

Jim Hartley, TAPA special operations, spoke to us on Tuesday, March 18, 2025. Jim gave us a timeline and update on the Toledo Center for Live Arts which is the new home for the Toledo Symphony Orchestra.

Tuesday, May 20, is Twilight Tuesday, the annual Jazz Night with live music and heavy grazing at Belmont Country Club.

## Membership

Marlene Uhler & Sherie Robarge

### New Members Welcome - Barbara Brown

Mr. Ford Cauffiel

Mrs. Cheri Copeland-Shull

Ms. Georgeann Kohn

Ms. Theresa Ryan

Mr. David Silvas

Ms. Mary Triplett

Ms. Jessica Whittaker

### Volunteer Appreciation Breakfast

Many TSL volunteers enjoyed a delicious breakfast at the Toledo Club on April 17, 2025. They joined the General Board meeting after the breakfast. Our volunteers are the heart of our organization. We couldn't do it without YOU. THANKS!

## Valentine Project

Beth Bowman

A big THANK YOU to the many members who participated in the TSL Valentine Projects. Valentine addressers included **Marcia Helman, Helen Patton, Joan Tobias, Joanne Champion, Phyllis Wadley, Beverly Wolcott, and JoAnn Phipps**.

**Phyllis Wadley, Helen Patton, Kathy Scheer, Susan Burwell, Kris Young, and Beth Bowman** contributed POUNDS of candy and other treats along with Jane Wurth's pashminas to fill 75+ Valentine bags for the staff of TAPA, including TSO, TSSM, Toledo Ballet, and TSYO conductors.

The TSO staff Valentine Luncheon was cancelled in February. So the Toledo Symphony League will treat the TAPA staff to an "End of the Season" lunch in early June.



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## Remembrance Fund Scholarships

Kimberly Danes, Chair

Auditions were held March 21-23, 2025 at the Toledo Center for Live Arts. Fifty-six students auditioned this year: 11 from Concert Strings; 10 from Symphonic, 24 from Philharmonic, and 11 Seniors. Several schools had spring break during audition time on Saturday and Sunday, so we allowed video recordings (for the first time) for those students, but they were recorded at the Center by Symphony staff instead of being submitted by the student. The judges then viewed the recordings during the available time slots on Saturday.

The scholarship awards will be presented on May 11 (yes, it's also Mother's Day!) at 3:00 p.m. at Kobacker Hall on the BGSU Campus. **This is a free concert, so please join us for this fabulous concert!**

Thirty-six students were chosen to receive varied amounts for a grand total of \$23,800 to be awarded. Students were numerically evaluated in seven categories by each judge; the averages of those scores were ranked and used to determine the award recipients.

Concert Strings: Abigail Wong, Anna Julien, Kaden Nicholson, Annie Lim, Anna Xie

Symphonic: Jamie Chung, Tanya Mittal, Sophie Fournier, Eden Foster, Sungjoo Park, Sophia Ploeger, Emily Chen, Jackson Shortridge

Philharmonic: Esther Sohn, Isaac Weese, Mitchell Meyers, Joanna Kim, Hunter Pikus, Annette Kim, Henry Shao, Dalton Cole, LyAnn Samkari, Laine Shinaberry, Mariko Weese, Kalista McPherson

Seniors: Miranda Li, Trevor Achtyes, Vic McPherson, Brandon Williams, Matthew Meyers, Jacob Hennon, Priscilla Bloomer, Lucy McMaster, Ilya Prytup, Wonu Kim, Sydney Abercrombie

In over 73 years, the Toledo Symphony League has awarded over \$358,000 to over 1400 students. Thank you to all those who made donations to this fund in order to allow us to continue the legacies of those who have gone before us.

Adjudicators this year were: Dr. Alan M. Smith (BGSU Professor Emeritus of Cello), Diana Dyer Anderson (TSO), and Zack Thomas (TSO). Thanks to each judge for spending the weekend with us!

Thank you to League members who assisted during the two-day process in a new venue: **Helen Patton, Ruth Moeller, Kathy Scheer, Judi Uhrman, Beth Williams, and Beverly Wolcott**. Special thanks to Sarah and Ellie, TAPA staff, for helping coordinate the logistics and audition process. It flowed smoothly as a result of teamwork!



**Judi Uhrman, Beverly Wolcott, Mary Decker, and Margaret Doresco** enjoying the Volunteer Appreciation Breakfast at the Toledo Club on April 17.



**Ruth Moeller, Helen Patton, and Beth Williams** checking in the TSYO musicians for the Remembrance Fund Scholarship auditions at the new Toledo Center for Live Arts.



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## Scholarships, Awards and Grants

Beth Bowman

The Toledo Symphony League acts upon its mission of support to music education through its several scholarship and grant competitions.

### TSL Young Artists' Competition

Kathy Scheer

See the article on page 5 of this Score.

### Remembrance Fund Scholarships

Kimberly Danes

See article on page 7 of this Score.

### Summer Study Grants

Marcia Helman & Susan Brandon

Summer Study Grants are available to Toledo Symphony Orchestra musicians to help fund continuing education studies over the summer. \$3000 is available to be awarded. The awarded musicians are announced at the Closing Luncheon.



Kimberly Danes receiving the President's Medallion from president, JoAnn Phipps, for her hard work and dedication to the TSL last year.



Judi Uhrman, Marlene Uhler, Kimberly Danes, JoAnn Phipps, Janna LaZelle-Lake, Mary Beaber, Joan Tobias, Emma Oravec, and Cookie Westmeyer at Volunteer Appreciation Breakfast.



Janna LaZelle-Lake, JoAnn Phipps, Marlene Uhler, Ruth Moeller, and Mary Beaber at the Volunteer Appreciation Breakfast at the Toledo Club.



Helen Patton, JoAnn Phipps, Emma Oravec, and Sharon Slusarski enjoying the Volunteer Appreciation Breakfast on April 17, 2025.

## Celebrity Wait Night

**Joyce Stenberg & Barbara Bettinger**

This event took place on

**Thursday, September 26, 2024**

at Belmont Country Club

The theme was "The Age of Aquarius."

The evening was a huge success.

The total funds raised were over

**\$11,000**

Thank You to our celebrity waiters :

**Marlene Uhler, Beth Bowman, Pam Pilz, Janna LaZelle-Lake, Brett Loney, Zak Vassar, Barbara Bettinger, Joyce Stenberg, Linda Varga, and Chris Murphy.**



**Phyllis Wadley and Terri Sutton** enjoying the Volunteer Appreciation Breakfast at the Toledo Club.

**Margaret Doresco and Joan Tobias** enjoying the Rite of Spring event at Belmont Country Club.



## Chick Flick

**Marcia Helman**

On October 24, 2024, the curtain fell on Chick Flick with a room full of laughter as fifty attendees watched Arsenic and Old Lace while dining on KFC chicken, **Beth's** Mashed Potatoes, Mac & Cheese, and delicious peach cobbler. **Sharon** and **Emma's** cookie display was picture perfect and were gobbled up quickly. Thank you to all who attended this Party of Note!

No League event is successful without the help of League members like **JoAnn Phipps, Beth Bowman, Joan Tobias, Sharon Slusarski, Emma Oravec, Linda Varga, Mary Beaber, and Marlene Uhler** who contributed raffle baskets, wine, and sold raffle tickets.

A very special shout out to **Liz Villarreal-Rowe** for securing the main dish, KFC chicken! With the sale of raffle tickets and reservations, this event made over \$2800 to help support the League's efforts.

## TSL Holiday Party

**Marlene Uhler**

The holiday party was held on December 12, 2024 at the Toledo Club and cost \$50 per person.

This was a fun event with lunch, a gift exchange, and Santa.

We viewed the many beautiful trees and decorations in the club. It was a fun way to get into the Christmas spirit and we made over \$750.

## Family Concert Activities

**Kris Young**

The Legend of Sleepy Hollow was the concert/ballet for this year on October 26, 2024 held at the Valentine. Goodie bags were filled at the October 17, 2024 General Board meeting. These bags were used for game prizes during the children's activities before the concert. Volunteers that day were **Terri Sutton, JoAnn Phipps, Phyllis Wadley, Sharon Slusarski, Irene Brooks, and Marlene Uhler**. Unfortunately, this event was poorly attended due to lack of publicity so it may not be held next year.



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## TSYO Liaison – 2024-2025 Annual Report

**Beth Williams, TSYO Liaison**

Toledo Symphony Youth Orchestras (“TSYO”) will close the 2024 -2025 season with their Spring Concert on Sunday, May 11, starting at 3 p.m. at Kobacker Hall within the Moore Musical Arts Center at Bowling Green State University. The Toledo Symphony Youth Orchestra concerts were presented FREE to the public through a generous gift from Joseph and Judith Conda.

TSYO consists of three orchestral ensembles: Philharmonic Orchestra and Symphonic Orchestra as full orchestras, and Concert Strings ensemble as a string orchestra. The Toledo Symphony Youth Orchestra’s staff conductors are Wasim Hawary (Artistic Director), Kathleen Schnerer, Chad Hutchinson, and Betsy Cranston. Sarah Schaefer, Education Manager at TAPA, oversees the Toledo Symphony Youth Orchestras and is assisted by Ellie Lee, Community Engagement Manager. During 2024-2025 season, Toledo Symphony League Liaison, **Beth Williams**, and TSYO parent volunteer(s) supported the TSYO by guiding new orchestra members and their parents for dress rehearsals, and for stage changes during four concerts.



Leaguers Who Lunch group at Tea Tree Asian Bistro on April 8.

## In Memoriam

**Myrna Bryan**

**Druscilla Griffin**

**Ann Lieder**

**Susan Mason**

**Helen Rogge**

## Pink Book Update - New Member

**Ms. Jessica Whittaker** (Brian Powell) (9/4)

7149 Springfield Hills Dr. S

Holland, OH 43528

419-418-0035(w) 937-266-6283(c)

[jwhittaker@artstoledo.com](mailto:jwhittaker@artstoledo.com)

## Leaguers Who Lunch

**Joyce Stenberg & Barbara Bettinger**

We had a very successful year. Each month we visited a different restaurant. Each member was required to make a \$50 donation to TSL to join the group. This group made over \$2,000.

September 10, 2024 - Fire Pit Grill

October 8, 2024 - Sidelines Italian

November 12, 2024 - Ameera Mediterranean Bistro

February 11, 2025 - Carrabba’s Italian Grill

March 11, 2025 - Byblos

April 8, 2025 - Tea Tree Asian Bistro

May 2025 - Cancelled



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## TWILIGHT TUESDAY

**May 20**

6:00 p.m.

**Cost - \$60/person**

Heavy appetizers

Cash bar

Live music

Featuring the

**Toledo Jazz Orchestra Trio**

**Belmont Country Club**

**29601 Bates Rd.**

**Perrysburg, OH**

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

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

May 20 \_\_\_\_\_

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