

# ♪♪ Notes from Symphony East ♪♪

~ Welcome, Everyone ~  
Our Season 64 continues! ♣

*“Bringing to YOU  
Musicians at their Best”*

**Monday, March 16, 2026**

**at the Lamplighter Restaurant, 6566 William Penn Hwy., Delmont, PA 15626**



**Socialize from 11:00 a.m.—Business Meeting 11:30-11:45**

**Lunch 11:45—12:50**

**Program will begin at 1:00 p.m.**

**Program: *Eight Bells Men's Octet* - from Geneva College**

The ***Eight Bells*** name comes from a sea shanty about the eight bells rung to end the night's watch. The group was founded in 1967 by Geneva College students with a love for singing.



**Benjamin H. Kennedy** serves the Geneva College Music Department as the Director of the *Eight Bells*, a men's a cappella group specializing in Barbershop Vocal Harmony. He received B.A. degrees in Music and Communication from Geneva College in 2018, followed by a M.A. degree in Higher Education in 2020.

Having performed a wide range of musical styles across the globe, as a soloist and ensemble member, Mr. Kennedy continues to seek out opportunities to practice and teach music through performance and direction as time allows in community choirs, church choirs, solo ventures, and independent projects with friends and alumni. He has a particular love and penchant for the beauty, fragility, power, and vulnerability of tight a cappella harmonies. Outside of his work directing the *Eight Bells*, he also experiments with original compositions and is excited to consider where they might be heard. With an emphasis on performance, Mr. Kennedy presents his students with opportunities to dedicate themselves to excellence in every area of their lives. Through intentionality, discipline, teamwork, and organization, students are encouraged to choose boldly and challenge themselves to achieve more than they think possible. Mr. Kennedy and his wife Elyn ('21) currently live in Beaver Falls, Pa.

The *Eight Bells* group has more than eight members. This is a list of those who may entertain the SE audience:

|                    |                  |           |                               |          |
|--------------------|------------------|-----------|-------------------------------|----------|
| Noah Barker        | Scenery Hill, PA | Sophomore | Pre-Seminary and Philosophy   | Tenor    |
| Henry Callender    | Marion, IN       | Sophomore | Political Science and History | Baritone |
| Collin Lavan       | Knox, PA         | Sophomore | Actuarial Mathematics         | Lead     |
| Thaddeus Martin    | Orrville, OH     | Junior    | Music and Student Ministry    | Lead     |
| Francisco Orellana | Savannah, GA     | Junior    | Engineering                   | Bass     |
| Dominic Panichelle | Latrobe, PA      | Freshman  | Nursing                       | Baritone |
| Avery Rebholz      | Beaver Falls, PA | Sophomore | Music Business                | Tenor    |
| Ellis Rebholz      | Beaver Falls, PA | Sophomore | Writing                       | Baritone |
| Nathaniel Spinney  | Harrisburg, PA   | Sophomore | Music Business                | Bass     |
| Richard Stoltzfoos | Burgettstown, PA | Sophomore | Music                         | Baritone |
| Elijah Valentine   | Hallstead, PA    | Freshman  | Music Business                | Baritone |



*Reservations for lunch and program:* All reservations for attendees must be received by the deadline (March 13 - King Friday's birthday). The price of the event is a flat fee of \$30.00 for members; \$35.00 for non-members which covers the luncheon and program. No walk-ins for the meal will be accepted as the exact quantity of food has to be ordered ahead of time (it will be a served meal - be sure to choose the main dish that you prefer - 3 choices this time). A person who does not want to have lunch can relax and enjoy the musical program with a \$15.00 guest admission (no food). If you reserve and can't attend, SE must still pay for the food and the performers, so thank you for your check for \$30.00 or \$35.00. If you are able to provide a ride to the meeting for those who are not able to drive, doing so would be a kind offering. If you are needing transportation, contact a member living nearby.

😊 🎵 🎵 **The March reservation form is below. Be sure to indicate your choice of entrée.**

*Thank you.* 🎵 😊 🎵 \$ 🎵 \$ 🎵 \$ 🎵 🍀

**By popular request, the 50/50 raffle will be available at regular meetings. ◀**

▶ ▶ \$ 😊 **From our Treasurer: \$ \$ \$ \$**

As of December 30, 2025, the ending balance is \$7,809.36. The remaining entertainment budget is \$1,150.00, leaving a spendable balance of \$6,659.36. **According to the by-laws, annual dues are payable at the September meeting and the deadline is December 1. Any new member who joined after the 2025 March meeting has already paid for the 2025-2026 season. Prompt payments are appreciated by the Membership Chair and the Treasurer. The membership form is below. A portion of dues is given "to financially support the Pittsburgh Symphony" - one purpose of Symphony East as an affiliate of the Pittsburgh Symphony Association.**



Symphony East offers condolences to the family of Kay Marie Fleming who died February 14, 2026, at the age of 86. She was a longtime member and an accomplished piano player, organist, and teacher who was a graduate of Muskingum College & Conservatory of Music.

Her obituary is at: <https://www.hartfuneralhomeinc.com/obituary/Kay-Fleming#tributewall>

Also, our condolences to the family of Rosemary Scala, a former longtime member, who died on January 29, 2026, at the age of 97. Her funeral will be April 7 at Mother of Sorrows. Her obituary is at: <https://www.hartfuneralhomeinc.com/obituary/Rosemary-Scala>



*President's Message:*

Thank you for your responses to the survey. I have received about 90% of the questionnaires sent out. Fantastic. The national average of responses is about 50%. 17 of you added written comments which are much appreciated. The board will meet the fourth Monday (3/23) of the month to consider your responses. Don't forget the fundraiser next month. I am sure it will be as much fun as the prior ones have been. You will hear more about it at the March meeting. Our May meeting will honor Violet Matteo's memory for her many years of devotion to Symphony East. I hope to see all of you at the March luncheon.

*Pat Frick*, President

*President's "Help Wanted" Message: (A concise listing of the duties of the elected and appointed members of the Executive Board.)*

*President is responsible for organizing and conducting board meetings. Vice president is responsible for fundraising. That committee can always use help. Recording secretary is responsible for recording the minutes of the meetings. Corresponding secretary receives and sends out correspondence. Treasurer keeps the books and keeps us informed of receipts and expenditures. Yearbook committee publishes the yearly book. Calling committee keeps us informed of activities and reminds us to make reservations. Membership committee encourages membership. Newsletter Editor publishes the newsletter. The Publicity chairperson alerts the public to our activities. Program chairperson in cooperation with Pittsburgh Symphony Association secures programs for our meetings. Reservation chairperson receives the reservations and tells the restaurant the count for the meeting. I am sure you can find a position that interests you. Tell a board member of your interest and we will welcome you. The board meets 10 times a year for about two hours. Come and join us. We are waiting for you.*

*Pat Frick*, President

***It is time for electing officers for the Executive Board.***



► Note: Normally, Election of Symphony East's officers occurs at the March meeting, in accordance with Article III of the By-laws. The nominating committee presents a slate of candidates for the offices of president, vice president, secretary, and treasurer.

**To date, volunteer candidates for the offices are: President - vacant; Vice President - vacant; Secretary - vacant; Lynn Staab for Treasurer.**

►► Therefore, you may consider being nominated as an officer if asked by the committee OR you may nominate yourself. SE has had co-presidents so that is a consideration for any office. Nominations from the floor will be accepted if the nominee gives permission. ◀◀

While considering the subject of board members, would you give thought to volunteering to be a board member other than as an elected officer, possibly as a co-chair for one of the positions. If your interest is kindled, you can discuss the possibility with anyone on the board. Thank you!

If there are not four officer nominees on March 16, the election (and installation) will be delayed until the May 18, 2026, meeting.

►► ***Symphony East notes more activities in 2026:*** 🍷 🎵 🎶

*Guests are always encouraged to attend and are welcome!*

**April 20 — SE's Spring fundraiser: *String Impressions* with Trio Granata**

**May 18 — Mikey Dee: *Remembering Violet Matteo***

~~~~~



## *String Impressions: A Fusion of Art and Music*

A Symphony East Spring Fundraiser ~ April 20, 2026

Mark your calendar and ask your friends to “save the date” for our Spring Fundraiser on April 20<sup>th</sup>! Plan to make your annual donation to the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra during this fundraiser (a brochure and donations form will soon be mailed to all members), then relax and invite your friends to enjoy a wonderful fusion of art and music as we gather to enjoy the music of the Trio Granata and a display of engaging works of art. Symphony East volunteer hostesses will welcome their guests to lavishly decorated tables reflecting the works of famous artists. Please say “yes” to be a hostess and create a tablescape for all of our guests to enjoy!

**PSO & PSA News:** <http://www.PittsburghSymphonyAssociation.org> Newsletter: *Staccato Notes*

The Pittsburgh Symphony Association is the PSO's primary volunteer fundraising Organization.

### Received 2/21/26:

“The Bruckner Society of America has announced that it will award its prestigious Julio Kilenyi Medal of Honor to Manfred Honeck, Music Director of the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra, in recognition of his exceptional contributions to the understanding and appreciation of the life and music of Anton Bruckner. The medal will be presented during Saturday’s BNY Classics performance featuring Bruckner’s Symphony No. 8.

The Society cited Honeck’s many performances and recordings of Bruckner’s works, noting that his interpretations have not only been musically compelling but have brought Bruckner’s music to life for audiences across the United States and internationally.

The honor carries special resonance in Pittsburgh: in March 1945, the Society presented the Medal of Honor to Fritz Reiner, then Music Director of the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra. In December 1950, William Steinberg, former Music Director of the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra, also received the medal. Honeck now joins this distinguished lineage of Pittsburgh music directors recognized for their dedication to Bruckner’s music.”



| Upcoming Events                                                                                          |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Symphony East Luncheon</b><br>Mon. March 16, 2026<br>11am-2pm<br>Lampighter Restaurant<br>Murrysville |
| <b>March PSA Book Club</b><br>Fri, March 27, 2026<br>10am-12pm<br>Mozart Room, Heinz Hall                |
| <b>Spring Tea</b><br>Fri. April 17, 2026<br>1-3pm<br>Duquesne Club                                       |
| <b>Jazz Event</b><br>Wed. April 15, 2026<br>Chartiers Country Club                                       |
| <b>Orchestra Appreciation</b><br>Thursday May 14, 2025<br>Heinz Hall                                     |
| <b>Spring Luncheon</b><br>Tues, May 5, 2026<br>LeMont Restaurant                                         |

Reservation/  
Registration  
forms are on the  
PSA Website

**Three Rivers Community Band Festival**  
**Date:** Saturday, April 11, 2026  
**Time:** 2:00 pm – 5:30 pm Auditorium open at 1 pm.  
**Location:** Franklin Regional Sr High School,  
3200 School road, Murrysville, PA 15668  
**Flyer:** <https://www.ewsb.org/festival>  
Free admission!

**Community news:**  
► **The fourth Thursday evening of the month is *Karaoke Sing Along Night* at the Monroeville Public Library, 7:00 - 8:30 p.m.** All ages are welcome at this informal gathering of persons who want to sing together and share songs (just listening is ok, too). All Library programs are free; no registration required.  
For more information:  
412-372-0500

**RESERVATION FORM**

for

Ck.# \_\_\_\_\_]

Date: \_\_\_\_\_]

*Season 64: Meeting, Luncheon, & Program*

In the Ballroom at the Lamplighter Restaurant, 6566 William Penn Hwy, Delmont, PA 15626 (724) 461-1031  
**Monday, March 16, 2026 - 11:00 A.M. (Social time begins) 11:45 A.M. (Dining time)**

**Deadline is Friday, MARCH 13, 2026**

I/We will Attend \_\_\_\_\_

First Name

Last Name

Indicate your choice of entrée: #1 Salmon with Guinness sauce or #2 Corned beef & cabbage  
or #3 Chicken salad

My guest(s) will be: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Choice of entrée: # \_\_\_\_\_

Choice of entrée: # \_\_\_\_\_

The lunch offerings will be a served meal and with Assorted Lamplighter Desserts

Number of SE members @ \$30.00 per meal: \_\_\_\_\_ Total payment: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of nonmembers @ \$35.00 per meal: \_\_\_\_\_ Total payment: \_\_\_\_\_

Although I cannot attend, please accept this contribution to benefit the PSO: \_\_\_\_\_

Please send this reservation form and check payable to *Symphony East* by *Friday, March 13*, to:  
Dolores Gallagher, 140 LaVale Drive, Apt. 404, Monroeville, PA 15146 (ph. 412-628-7132)



**SYMPHONY EAST MEMBERSHIP FORM 2025-2026**  
**YEARBOOK & MAILING INFORMATION:**

[Ck.# \_\_\_\_\_]

[Date: \_\_\_\_\_]

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

I prefer to receive my "Notes" by:  E-mail  Regular mail

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY/STATE/ZIP+4 \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ E-MAIL (optional) \_\_\_\_\_

General membership \$35.00

Couples membership \$65.00

If joining or renewing by mail, please send the completed membership form and your check for the dues amount made out to *Symphony East* to our Membership Chair,

**Bob Kemper, 4043 Benden Circle, Murrysville, PA 15668-1332**

(Optional) Please indicate if you would like to assist a committee chairperson and/or the person organizing an event, such as:

Fundraiser \_\_\_\_\_ Luncheon \_\_\_\_\_ Reservations \_\_\_\_\_ Membership \_\_\_\_\_ Programs \_\_\_\_\_ Publicity \_\_\_\_\_



**New year, New logo for Sweepstakes 2026!**

The entry form that will be mailed in late March to over 16,000 households.

“Now is the time to demonstrate your support for *Keeping the Music Alive* by making Sweepstakes 2026 a resounding success. Our annual goal is to have 100% of the PSA and Symphony East participate in this fundraiser. This is your chance to win \$5,000 and to sustain our cultural treasure, the world class PSO!”

**PSA SUBSCRIBER DISCOUNT**

Benefits of Becoming a Concert Subscriber to the PSO

Fantastic Savings: PSA members receive a 25% discount on BNY Classics and Pops subscriptions. Plus, subscribers also receive a 15% discount on additional ticket purchases to BNY classic, PNC Pops, Highmark Holiday Pops or Fiddlesticks family concerts and 10% on tickets to select Orchestra Specials. BNY Classic subscription packages start at 7 Concerts, up to 20 concerts.

**Guaranteed Parking**

Purchase parking in the garage across the street from Heinz Hall for just \$16 per concert, \$18 for non-subscribers.



“On February 11, Cathy Trombetta and a representative group of PSA members visited the rehearsal of the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra on the stage of Heinz Hall to share the amount of money that has been given to Heinz Hall from 2020 to 2025. The net amount was \$1,028,775.00. This was an opportunity for the PSA to acquaint the musicians with our members and to learn about the amount we donate over the years to support the Orchestra.”

