

Winter 2022

To: COPW Members

Happy Holidays. I hope you are getting through this busy time of year with high spirits and a good heart and no covid or flu! I am sending you this little newsletter to remind you of COPW and hopefully bring good thoughts to you about our coming musical year with the LA Phil.

**GALA** The LA Phil held a lovely gala to honor John Williams on his 90th birthday on September 27. Featuring a violin concerto written by Williams and some of his most famous movie music, the concert was full of optimistic tunes and reminded us of why we loved Star Wars and Superman and Jaws. Following the concert at WDCH there was a dinner on Grand Avenue and then dancing at the new hotel across the street. Several members of COPW attended the pre-cocktail party and concert. Everyone seemed to enjoy the evening. A good way to kick off the new season.

**DOCUMENTARY** about Gustavo Dudamel and El Sistema entitled "Viva Maestro". It is an inspiring story about Dudamel's youth in Venezuela and his progress via the youth orchestras of El Sistema. I saw the documentary on United Airlines (!) but it is streaming on a number of media outlets. Although it is a little difficult to track down, this inspiring story is well worth the effort as it documents Dudamel's commitment to bringing music to the youth of all sectors of society.

**WDCH** Covid Restrictions have been eased at the concert hall. Although it is suggested that masks be worn, they are not required at this time. Proof of vaccination is not required either. At a recent concert about 30-40% of the patrons were wearing masks.

**Affiliates begin work on membership and Diversity** The LA Phil Affiliates have lost membership over the last few years and it is a concern to the organization. LAPA Chair, Marian Hall has begun to organize an initiative that will plan and implement strategies to increase the volunteer membership of the Affiliate Committees. In addition there is strong interest in broadening the diversity of our membership. New ways to promote inclusion will be developed. This is an important effort that is beginning and COPW will participate. Ten years ago, COPW had 105 members - today we are at 54. So this is a very timely initiative for us.

**Meeting places for COPW** The executive board of COPW has been endeavoring to find suitable places for meetings of the full COPW board and for general meetings of all COPW members. Due to the high cost of catering at restaurants and clubs,, suitable locations have not been found as of this date. President Inez Lopez spoke to our LA Phil liaison Morgan Walton about the problem. Ms. Walton said we could use the volunteer cottage for our required meetings. We just have to clear the meetings in advance. Although we will have to bring in our own food, we have a solution for the immediate future.

**COPW at Beckman YOLA center** Rea Crane arranged for COPW to tour the new Beckman Yola Center. On November 30, a group of COPW members led by Rea were treated to a tour led by Lorenzo Johnson, the center Program Director. Designed by Frank Gehry pro bono and opened a year ago, the center now has 160 1st through 5th graders with a waiting list of 500!. Eventually the center will accept enough children at these grade levels so the program will go all the way through 12th grade. Rea noted that of the four (?)Yola centers, this is the only one owned by the LA Phil. It has state of the art technology and a huge performance space. Family members are able to attend concerts and eventually other persons including affiliates may be able to come to performances.

I wish you good health, happy times with your family, and the best of music listening for the remainder of 2022!

Stephanie Klopffleisch, Editor  
COPW Newsnotes