



Bryan Symphony Orchestra

AT TENNESSEE TECHNOLOGICAL UNIVERSITY

Notes and Notices

Vol. 9

No. 1

P.O. Box 185, Cookeville, Tennessee 38503

September, 2003

www.bryansymphony.org

From The Board President

I am excited and honored to be the President of the Board of Directors of the Bryan Symphony Orchestra for the 2003-04 season. Over the past 41 years, the orchestra has seen many changes, both within the orchestra and its supporting staff and within the context of the community.

We are undergoing changes again this year. As we face these changes and the future, however, we are aware of the opportunities that change presents. Our new Music Director, Dan Allcott has a warm and engaging personality and brings fresh and exciting ideas from his experience and position with the Atlanta Ballet Orchestra. The programming for this season is refreshing and should entice everyone to experience the privilege of spending two hours on a Sunday afternoon listening to world class music close to home.

Another change is the decision of our Executive Director, Gail Luna, to leave that position this fall after three years. Gail will be missed by me personally and by all of you who have been recipients of the grace and charm with which she has proficiently handled the job of Executive Director. On behalf of the board, I would like to express our sincere thanks for all that Gail has done in her role as Executive Director to build a strong foundation for the management and development of the orchestra that will carry the organization into the next stage of its evolution.

Our Board of Directors has been structured and carefully chosen to bring in a wide variety of talented people from various disciplines to help us make decisions that will be carefully thought out and visionary. Our plans include continuing events that have been a success in the past as well as branching out and using community leaders and volunteers to guide and support some new projects that will help to expand the scope of the organization and successfully carry us into the future.

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From The Executive Director

Dear Friends:

This is an exciting time in the history of the Bryan Symphony Orchestra as we welcome our new Music Director, Mr. Dan Allcott. I look forward to the "Celebration of Friendship and Music" that he has planned for us and especially the semi-staged production of the most popular opera ever, Puccini's *La Boheme* with which we'll finish our season—a Bryan Symphony first! Many of you enjoyed scenes from this opera of romance & friendship in Bohemian Paris when you saw the movie Academy Award-winning *Moonstruck* with Cher and Nicolas Cage in the late 80's.

Because of my excitement for the BSO's season and immediate future, it is a bit harder to tell you that I will be leaving my position as Executive Director in October. I have been considering this for a long time, and made a commitment this summer to Maestro Allcott that I would stay on through the transition of his leadership. Now that he is here, and that we've all seen what he can do as an artist, and how enthusiastically he has been embraced by the board, I know that great things are in store for me as a concertgoer, and an enthusiastic volunteer for the Symphony (see page 2 for an interview that I conducted with Dan after his Dogwood Park Pavilion concert).

I want to thank the board and the community for the support you have given to me and to the orchestra. I look forward to a continuing relationship with you as a fellow supporter and fan of the Bryan Symphony Orchestra.

Fondly,
Gail Luna

MEET THE CONDUCTOR

Executive Director, Gail Luna, caught Maestro Dan Allcott in his office recently for a quick interview to allow our patrons to get to know him in a bit more detail.

GL: Dan, you and your family have lived in Atlanta for 3 years, and you've been Music Director for an organization with a budget of over 6 million dollars. How did you decide to come to Cookeville, and how do you like it here?

DA: Well, first of all, the music line item in the budget for Atlanta Ballet was only \$350,000 of the over-all budget. Of that, most was dedicated to orchestra musicians' salaries for the 45 performances we performed each year. I love my orchestra, and will return to Atlanta Ballet this year for about half of their season this year. As for the second part of your question, I came to Cookeville because I saw a unique opportunity for my family. The pace of living more closely fits our desires, and the chance to lead the Bryan Symphony Orchestra, teach at Tech, and perform as a cellist, was a great match for my skills and experience.

GL: Tell us something about your family.

DA: Well, if you come to Ralph's Donuts on a Saturday morning, or visit the Farmer's Market, you'll probably meet us! We like to get out in the community and explore so that we can be a part of the local culture. It makes it easier for me as a Music Director to then reflect local color in ways that are unique for a symphony orchestra. My family is: my wife Susan, my son Carter (7 years old) and my daughter Jacqueline (15 months old)

GL: I know that you have lived in Atlanta these past three years. Where are you originally from, and how did you become interested in music?

DA: My wife and I are both Midwesterners. I grew up in Moline, Illinois, which is the location of the international headquarters for John Deere Tractors. John Deere underwrote a visiting artist series in the community. If the artist were a musician, he or she would come in and give recitals and visit schools and teach aspiring musicians. I

had started cello lessons in our public school system and my teacher was very entrepreneurial. He put my cello in his Volkswagen van and we basically followed one of these visiting artists around to a bunch of his concerts and kept asking him if I could play for him. Finally, he invited me as a special guest to play in a master class for him at the local college. I was the youngest performer, by several years, and he treated me as a fellow artist and recognized that I had a hunger to make music. I think that his encouragement and my response to it also gave my parents, who are non-musicians, the confidence to help me follow my dream.

GL: I read in your bio that you did your graduate work at Indiana University. Is that where you studied conducting?

DA: Yes, I also received my Masters degree in cello performance there. Indiana is the largest school of music in the world, with over 2,000 music majors, which makes it a great place to learn and practice the art of conducting. Years ago, the Dean at Indiana had a dream to build one of the world's great music schools in the cornfields of Indiana. You never know what can happen.

GL: You've planned a season celebrating friendship and music. What can we expect this season from you and the Bryan Symphony?

DA: Well, the programs fit together in a way that is unique, because many of the composers on any given concert were linked together as friends, teachers, mentors, etc... It provides a nice historical context for each concert. I am also pleased to have a "friend" of mine on our season opener. Mark Kosower is a cellist that I have known since he was about 18. His career has really taken off, and I am happy that we were able to bring him in from New York for this concert.

GL: Is there anything else you'd like to share with our concert-goers?

DA: I look forward to the first down-beat and seeing them after the concert!

October 5th Concert Program

Brahms	Symphony No. 2 in D
Dvorak	Slavonic Dances
Schumann	Cello Concerto
	Mark Kosower, cello

Concert begins at 3:00
at the Bryan Fine Arts Building.
For ticket information,
call 372-6088.

From The Board President continued

The Symphony Socials will continue this year thanks to Brenda Smith, our wonderful volunteer, coordinator and her committee. Brenda and her committee have a marvelous way of always getting the job done while seemingly having a great time doing it. Thanks to Brenda for everything that you have done and continue to do for the orchestra.

Mark your calendars for April 24, at the Towne Centre for the Orchestra Gala. The Gala will once again be dinner, dancing and an auction. Plans are underway and committees are being formed. If you would like to volunteer to help in any way with the Gala or to help with other projects, please contact me directly, (931) 520-0931 or inducer93@yahoo.com.

It is an exciting time to get involved; we are off to a great year!

Sandy Landry
President

**BRYAN SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
2003-2004**

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Advisory members

Dan Allcott, Music Director
Wei Tsun Chang, Orchestra Representative
Gail Luna, Executive Director

**Greetings Patrons & Friends of the BSO
From the Volunteer Council!**

The BSO is again blessed to have many members of the Volunteer Council last year return as committee members. The committee is: Evelyn Breyer, Myrna Estes, Nina Lunn, Donna Quillen, Laurie Sewell, Brenda Smith, and a new member, Jo Ann Wilbourn. We are looking so forward to planning all the Socials on Friday evenings prior to the Sunday concerts! I've had the pleasure of meeting Dan Allcott, our new Music Director and his wife, Susan Capron, at a BSO Board meeting, and I promise you - exciting things are happening for the BSO!

For some time, we have tried so hard to think of a way we could include our Crossville and Pleasant Hill patrons at our Socials, and I think we've succeeded. We're moving East for them! Our first Symphony Social on Friday, October 3, 2003 is at the lovely Garden Inn in Monterey. This quaint bed and breakfast is under new ownership of Mike and Mirtha Kopec who come to Tennessee from New Jersey, and operated a bed & breakfast there. Crossville and Pleasant Hill patrons - take Exit 300 off of I-40 going West to Nashville - cross bridge, and first left at the sign, turn on Bee Rock Road, go to end of road and take last left. Cookeville patrons - also take Exit 300 - go right and take first left which is Bee Rock Road. Mike has a delicious menu of appetizers planned for us, and you'll want to be there to also receive his new dinner selections which will be given to everyone for future reference! Come and meet Dan Allcott and Susan Capron, hear about the upcoming concert, and have fun with us! Crossville - Pleasant Hill patrons, we need to see you there!

Thank you Budweiser for again agreeing to be one of our corporate Social sponsors!

Brenda Smith, Volunteer
Council Chairman and
BSO Board Member

SYMPHONY SOCIAL

**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 3RD
7:00 - 8:30**

**GARDEN INN
MONTEREY**

**\$15 for Association members
\$30 for non-members
Reservations: 372-6088**

CONCERT PREVIEW

with
Dr. Catherine Godes
October 5th at 2:00
(Immediately preceding concert)
Room 223
Bryan Fine Arts Building
Free



PRELUDE & COFFEE: Conversations with the Conductor

Wednesday, October 1st 7:00pm
Saturday, October 4th 9:30 pm

WCTE-TV Channel 10



PREVIEW LUNCHEON

with Music Director, Dan Allcott
Friday, October 3rd
11:30
AmSouth Bank
105 South Willow Ave.
2nd Floor Conference Room

\$10.00 per person
Food by Grade-A Catering

Reservations required by Wednesday, October
1st. Call 372-6088



FACULTY VOICE RECITAL

FREDERICK KENNEDY

Assisted by Henri Venanzi

POSTPONED
OCTOBER 2ND
8:00

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Bryan Symphony Orchestra
at Tennessee Technological University
Department of Music and Art
TTU Box 5045
Cookeville, TN 38505

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

*The October 5th concert is
sponsored by*

*Robert and Sandy Landry
and
Upper Cumberland Anesthesia Associates*

*and by
Jim and Karla McKinney
and
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