

The Las Vegas Symphony Announces 1988-89 Season

The Las Vegas Symphony, celebrating its ninth year, announced the schedule for the 1988-89 season. Kenneth E. Miller, President of the Board of Trustees of the Las Vegas Symphony and Virko Baley, Music Director and Conductor unveiled plans which in Miller's words "will enrich our community's cultural experience."

Virko Baley will open the symphony's season with two picnic pops concerts sponsored by Valley Bank of Nevada, scheduled for late September and early October. "These outdoor performances have become increasingly popular," said Baley. "By offering these informal presentations the Las Vegas Symphony Board of Directors' goal of providing quality symphonic concerts for everyone in the Southern Nevada Community can be achieved," he added.

The Las Vegas Symphony has presented young people's concerts since 1985. Historically underwritten by a corporate sponsor, these concerts have been performed free to area fifth graders at Artemus Ham Concert Hall and heartily supported by the public and private schools in the district. The concerts are designed to educate and entertain as well as insure future audiences. The scheduling of these concerts is pending upon sponsorship funding during the 1988-89 season. "The symphony is a major cultural asset of our state," stated Judith Markham, Executive Director. "One of our goals this year is to find a corporate sponsor for the young people's concerts to allow us to continue offering our youth this invaluable service," she added.

The major symphony series will consist of six subscription concerts at Artemus Ham Hall, with the opening concert scheduled on October 23. This year an emphasis on the standard repertoire of the masters has been chosen by Maestro Baley, including works such as Beethoven's Ninth Symphony and Concerto No. 4, Brahms' Symphony No. 3, Dvorak's Symphony No. 9,

"From The New World," and Bruckner's Symphony No. 9. "This year's programming achieves an artistic blend of recognized works which will be interspersed with a few selected new pieces, offering our patrons and subscribers one of the most balanced programs ever performed by the Las Vegas Symphony" Conductor Baley mentioned.

Virko Baley, Artist-in-Residence at UNLV, is one of the foremost experts in Soviet/Ukrainian music. A sought-after guest conductor, speaker, author and composer he was a founder of the Las Vegas Symphony and Chamber Music Society in 1980, directing some of the most talented and dedicated musicians anywhere.

The Las Vegas Symphony, like almost all non-profit organizations, depends heavily upon the generosity of good corporate citizens and individual supporters for most of its funding. This year, several fund raising events are being implemented, beginning with the Annual Spring Fund Drive by the symphony's trustees to raise \$100,000 of the projected \$360,100 budgeted. Additionally, through a well-orchestrated marketing and advertising program, a goal of sell-out performances achieved by vigorous advance ticket sales to small businesses, corporations and individuals should be reached, helping the Las Vegas Symphony improve its financial position. In the past, many trustees have had to personally shoulder a big part of the financial burden. "This year, we are making a more concerted effort to achieve our fund-raising goals, with minimum related expenses," said Kenneth Miller, President. "We are also going all-out to introduce as many Las Vegans as possible to our rich musical heritage. The Las Vegas Symphony will continue to flourish and prosper through the efforts and sacrifices of its orchestra and the untiring direction and dedication of its conductor, staff and trustees. The 1988-89 season will bear this out," Miller added.

For more information about the symphony or season tickets call the symphony office at 739-3420.

Benefit For Homeless Planned For April

A benefit to raise funds for community projects to help the homeless is planned for Sunday, April 10, by members of People to People of Southern Nevada.

People to People of Southern Nevada is the local name for members of the People to People Initiative, which grew out of the Hunger Project. The Hunger Project, which started in 1977, is now a global network of 5.3 million people working to end the persistence of hunger by the turn of the century.

The mandate of the People to People Initiative is for Americans in their own community to take care of their own. The commitment of the participants in People to People of Southern Nevada is to end hunger, homelessness and other problems that do not support quality of life for everyone in this area.

The group's April 10 fund-raiser will take place from 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. at Celebrations, a new banquet facility donated for the event by owners Bob and Candace DePrez. Celebrations is located at 2655 South Maryland Parkway, behind the former Von Tobel building. Tickets are \$10.00 per person and are tax deductible. Reservations can be made by calling 438-7910.

Some of the entertainers who will be appearing are singer Marc Eden, the rock group Painted Tears, and Jim Wood and Company, a country and western group.

Food and refreshments will also be sold during the benefit.

Locally, People to People of Southern Nevada has also begun monthly town meetings to give citizens interested in working on community issues a chance to meet and discuss solutions. Anyone who is interested in making an impact in any area of community concern is welcome to attend.

The next scheduled meetings are Thursday, April 7, 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m., and Friday, April 8, 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. in the Clark County Public Library auditorium at 1401 E. Flamingo Road.

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