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# Just in Showcase

October 2023

## General Meeting October 11, 2023

### President's Message

#### Suzanne Hart

Welcome to the 2023-2024 Pasadena Showcase House for the Arts New Year! And what a year we have in store for everyone! As I write this note to you, it's raining; with so much to look forward to in the coming year, the rain feels reinvigorating, like a fresh start.



The Board of Directors has already held its first meeting to kick-start the year and make plans to build on our success from this past Spring. Thank you to those who have stepped up to contribute to our organization this year. Whether as a board

**Suzanne Hart**

President

**Matt McIntyre**

First Vice President

**Dotty Ewing**

Second Vice President

Benefit

**Undine Schwarz**

Third Vice President

Finance

**Lisa Loeffler**

Fourth Vice President

Gifts & Grants

member, a committee member, or an ever-important volunteer member-at-large, I sincerely appreciate the part each of you will play in our efforts this year, and I am eager to see the wonderful ideas and positive energy you all will bring in the coming months.

We have an exciting new approach to Youth Concert this year; stay tuned for an update from Stephanie Johnson with all the thrilling details. Preparations for our Instrumental Competition are already underway, with Colleen Robertson and her team digging in deep and leading the charge to ensure its growth. With Pasadena Conservatory of Music in step as our partner, Marsha Seyferth continues to move Music Mobile forward and is spearheading its highly anticipated re-imagination. Over in our Gifts & Grants Program, Lisa Loeffler has already jumped in and is swimming smoothly ahead, along with her committee. I believe we will be blessed with another impressive year of gifting and granting!

Just as a conductor would pull great musicians together to create an orchestra, Dotty Ewing has taken on the vital role of Benefit Chair and formed a solid gold Benefit Committee. She is presently working hard with her committee to secure a wonderful house for our 2024 Benefit Fundraiser—music to our ears! If you haven't yet signed up for a Benefit position, please contact Dotty, she will find the perfect place for you in her orchestra.

Speaking of orchestras, we have another great season of music ahead of us from the Los Angeles Philharmonic for members who signed up to enjoy. The past summer season at the

**Cindy Bengtson**  
Membership

**Charlotte Lacey**  
Secretary

**Vikki Sung**  
Advisor /  
Parliamentarian

**Shari Domenghini**  
Hospitality

**Colleen Robertson**  
Instrumental  
Competition

**Marsha Seyffert**  
Music Mobile™

**Stephanie Johnson**  
Youth Concert

**Ani Manjikian**  
Provisional

**Danielle Takata**  
Public Relations /  
Marketing

Hollywood Bowl this year was, as expected, fabulous. Thank you, Lani Moore, for organizing Season Tickets for us. The LA Phil is a world-class orchestra and right in our backyard. They have been a significant gift recipient of ours and therefore, a big fan of Pasadena Showcase House for the Arts, too.

We are a group of hard-working, smart, and gifted individuals. We can move mountains as a team and have demonstrated so in the success of our activities and in our ability to survive and prosper in good times and bad. So, let's all support each other and be kind and gracious. We count on everyone to do their part and to call on others when in need. Most importantly, let's have fun together. When caring human connection and compassion are at the forefront of our minds, we can make magic.

Thank you for honoring me with the position of President this year. Your confidence in me means a lot, and I will do my best to support you all and keep our organization securely on its mission.

**Cathy Hilton**  
Publications

**Lani Moore**  
Season Tickets

**Jenny Chiang**  
Treasurer

### **Honorary Members**

**Debra Qurtman**  
Archivist / Historian

**Erin Dundee &  
Marybeth Rehman-  
Dittu**  
Associate  
Representatives





## 2nd VP Benefit

### Dotty Ewing

#### The Lightness of Being the 2024 Benefit Committee

The 2023 Showcase House of Design, under Matt McIntyre's leadership, was an extraordinary triumph. A tough act to follow? Yes. But we can do this!

It will be different, with new surprises, hurdles (no brick walls), and steep but exhilarating learning curves for many of us. Hopefully, new experiences for all of us!

The 59th Pasadena Showcase House of Design will be a success because we have one of the most extensive, energetic, and experienced Benefit Teams. Led by enthusiastic Chairs (2/3 of whom are already activated), the Benefit Committee has, altogether, 86 members. These include Actives, Business, and Associates and I am grateful to you all for your ready assistance. And Provisionals, we have plans for you too!

Plus, we have a new category of volunteers, *Advisors*. These 16 members hold the "crystalized knowledge" of Pasadena Showcase to blend with the "fluid intelligence" of new chairs and members. They will share their learnings, streamlining our progress and offering their collective intelligence on what worked, did not work, could work, and more.

And throughout the upcoming year, let's be sure and have fun, buoyed with humor, friendships, and a sense of accomplishment.

But for the tough moments, here is a quote from Leonard Cohen, one of my

favorite poets/songwriters. Perhaps keeping this in mind will spark new thinking and get us all through the inevitable hurdles ahead.

*There is a crack in everything. That is how the light comes in.*

Dedication to Pasadena Showcase and our stewardship of music in our communities is our *raison d'être* and I so admire all of you for your ardor in supporting our mission.

But right now and most of all, I am thankful to have such a wonderful team to find, create, support, and celebrate the 59th Pasadena Showcase House of Design. Thank you!

## Membership

### Cindy Bengtson

#### **We are off to a great start!**

Fall is an exciting time for Pasadena Showcase, as we begin another year of planning, working side-by-side, renewing our friendships, and making new ones!

And there are exciting new friendships to be made! Nineteen new members have already joined Showcase. You can learn more about these exciting individuals on our website soon and meet many at our October 11 General Meeting.

#### **Thank you!**

Fourteen of these Provisionals came in based on great referrals from our membership. Our thanks to Matt McIntyre, Stephanie Johnson, Cindy Bengtson, Colleen Robertson, Jan Suter, Gohar Ohanian, Susan Pickering, Charlotte Lacey, Jackie Jones, and Mary Lou Kearney for referring new members to us. Two came in from our excellent website; thanks, Cathy Hilton. One from Garrett Collin's great Instagram posts. And the other two came in because they visited the House and were so impressed they asked for more info!

#### **Bring 'em on til December 31**

We are still accepting applications for membership until December 31, so feel

free to reach out to friends and family and send along their info to me at [pshamembershipchair@gmail.com](mailto:pshamembershipchair@gmail.com). Your Membership Committee will be thankful, and will graciously follow up and keep you informed. Plus, Staffing will be delighted to have more hands on deck!

### **The More We Get Together...**

COVID and heat postponed our scheduled August Summer Salad Soiree. We will show our thanks to our new Provisionals and First Year Actives instead in November with a Fall potluck lunch! The Board of Directors and the Membership Committee will also attend to kick off these new relationships! Paperless Post invites will be sent to the Provisionals and First Year Actives in October.

On August 29, Pasadena Showcase participated in the San Marino Motor Classic, thanks to the generosity of great Showcase friends, Motor Classic founders Aaron and Valerie Weiss. Many visitors stopped by, thrilled about our 2023 House and looking forward to our work in 2024. Thanks to Mary Jarrett and Danielle Takata-Herring for working at the event and Danielle for handling social posting about our involvement.

In the works...monthly Coffee Chats for new and existing members at Associate member Miraya Jones' renowned Jones Coffee Roster on Raymond Avenue in Pasadena.

### **Paperwork...we need your help**

Finally, a "housekeeping" note. All Board members and those of us who participate on the **Benefit Committee** must submit a Conflict of Interest form. To be safe, this means all Active, Business, and Provisional members and any Associates who voluntarily lend a hand to serve on a Benefit Committee must complete the COI form. Physical forms will be available for you to complete at the October 11 General Meeting when you check in. If you want to read the form ahead of time you will find it [here](#).

If you miss the October 11 General Meeting, Barbara Lyle on the Membership Committee will be in contact with you to get the form signed.

## **Advisor/Parliamentarian**

## Vikki Sung

As Advisor/Parliamentarian, I am looking forward to staying in the background and offering advice as needed...well, sometimes unsolicited.

## Instrumental Competition

### Colleen Robertson

Preparations for the 37th Pasadena Showcase Instrumental Competition are underway! The date for the live finals is Sunday, March 3, 2024, to be held at the Pasadena Conservatory of Music. The contract has been signed and payment made for the venue.

Applications open November 15, 2023, and the deadline for receiving applications is January 15, 2024. I have worked with staff at the Get Accepted Website, which is the portal through which the students apply and submit videos, to update our Landing Page with correct dates and information. Students can access our page now to see the required repertoire and begin preparation, but cannot submit their applications until November 15.

Our Head Judge is Michelle Tseng, a highly accomplished violinist for the L.A. Philharmonic, who has served as a judge for our competition in the past. She is currently soliciting the other two judges for each category.

Our first email went out Monday, Sept 25, to an extensive list announcing the competition, giving links to the [pasadenashowcase.org](https://pasadenashowcase.org) website as well as to the Get Accepted website, where students and teachers can find information on the process, rules, and qualifications, and has a link to our revised Flyer, which can be printed and posted in schools or other appropriate locations.

I'm excited to tell you that we have reached a woman who is the Admin Coordinator for K-12 Arts for L.A. Unified School District, and she is willing to send our information out to her email lists of all high school music instructors as well as other suitable groups who may be interested.

In addition, we are working on a professional organization for Southern California private music teachers and hopefully can get their cooperation to disseminate our flyer, or if not, we may consider an ad in their newsletter. I

would so appreciate your help with any contacts of students or music teachers who might be interested or who could help spread the word about our coming competition.

Lastly, I am hoping to schedule visits to area youth orchestras at their rehearsals, including Yola, in late October and early November, to speak to the students and distribute our flyers. Again, any contacts you may have that could be helpful, please do not hesitate to contact me at [ColleenS.Robertson@fundrecovery.net](mailto:ColleenS.Robertson@fundrecovery.net).

## **Music Mobile™**

### **Marsha Seyffert**

Our beloved Music Mobile has endured the test of time! We recently verified and renewed our Music Mobile trademark for another five years with help from member Eileen Reilly and our legal advisors. In this process, we learned that we may use the trademark in the entire state of California, minus Orange County, which has been using the name almost as long as we have and certainly before we trademarked it. This gives us lots of room to roam and we are friendly with our neighbors to the south in any event.

We have been working diligently to reinvent our Music Mobile program in partnership with the Pasadena Conservatory of Music. We plan to transform MM to today's creative standards using a modern delivery system and yet continue to remain mobile for schools. The script is in the final stages and is delightful! It will include a visual, auditory, and participatory explanation of the four building blocks common to music everywhere, as described by famous composer, Aaron Copeland: rhythm, melody, harmony, and texture or color. The multi-media show will emphasize commonalities and differences across music traditions. Each section of the show has live narration, animation, and documentary clips and will include participatory elements for students to enjoy. The redesign is expected to be completed sometime in 2025/2026. Something good is on its way to us!



## Youth Concert

### Stephanie Johnson

The PSHA sponsored Youth Concert will take place this year as part of the Los Angeles Philharmonic Symphonies for Schools 2024 series. The performances of *Swan Lake: Reimagined* will be held on Tuesday, February 27, 2024, and Wednesday, February 28, 2024. Students from 3rd, 4th, and 5th grades are invited to attend. We are one of the presenting sponsors for the February 27 performance. PSHA members will participate in the concert logistics as before. This year all PSHA volunteers must have completed a background check done by the LA Philharmonic. More details on this later. We are thrilled to participate in this wonderful event for elementary school children.

## Provisionals

### Ani Manjikian

Welcome to the 19 provisional members of 2024! I'm so excited that you have all joined and am looking forward to seeing you at our very first general meeting. As you know we had to cancel our summer get-together, but we are planning a new date so that you can all meet each other and be introduced to the exciting activities and happenings at PSHA for 2024!

## Public Relations

### Danielle Takata

I want to give a special thanks to my wonderful committee consisting of Garrett Collins, Natalie Farrow, Michele Lembo, Ying Ying Lin, and Christine Upton. I appreciate you guys very much.

The PR/Marketing Committee and I are so excited to be back in action for 2023/24. We've been ramping up our social media presence again. If you haven't already, please follow us on Instagram and Facebook for access to our latest content. Your support means the world to us.

We announced Gifts and Grants applications on Oct 2 and we'll be highlighting

our amazing program on social media throughout the next couple of months.

We anticipate announcing the 2024 Pasadena Showcase House of Design soon followed by Golden Tickets available to the public and Gift Certificates available to members. More will be shared when we make that formal announcement.

We're looking forward to another successful Showcase year!

## Publications

### Cathy Hilton

Rosters will be available for pickup at the October General Meeting for all members. We will begin to mail rosters to Associates who are unable to attend the meeting starting with those who live outside of California later in the month.

Susan Pickering has generously volunteered to continue to publish the Just In Showcase Newsletter. Don't forget that you can always find current and past issues of JIS when you log in to the member's page of our [pasadenashowcase.org](https://pasadenashowcase.org) website.

While on our website, you can access our Events Calendar, view the latest member updates in our Member Directories, and update your contact information. If you are unsure how to log in, please contact us. Cathy Hilton at [hilton.cathy@gmail.com](mailto:hilton.cathy@gmail.com) for assistance.

## Season Tickets

### Lani Moore

I hope everyone participating in the 2023 season at the Hollywood Bowl had a wonderful time, either by purchasing a box or enjoying the complimentary bench seats to some really wonderful concerts! It seemed like so many of our members wanted to attend this year. I know plans sometimes change so I really appreciated those members who turned in tickets they were not able to use. That allowed me to give them to other members that were on a waiting list!

Now we can look forward to our Walt Disney Concert Hall subscription which

has already begun with an October concert and the season will continue through May 2024. We have 24 members participating in the season tickets program.

The LA Philharmonic will also be giving us tickets to two sponsored concerts at Walt Disney Concert Hall and more information on those selections will be coming soon. These will be complimentary tickets and all members will have an opportunity to sign up for them.

Very special thanks must go out to Michele Lembo and Cathy Hilton for all of their help, support, and expertise!

Please feel free to email or call me if you have any Season Tickets questions.



**Archivist / Historian**  
**Debra Qurtman**

As the Archivist/Historian, I'm the keeper of the keys to our SoCal Storage on Colorado in Pasadena. I also work with Publications to maintain the history of Board and Benefit reports on our Dropbox. If you have not yet submitted your 2022/23 Report, please send it to [emailadmin@pasadenashowcase.org](mailto:emailadmin@pasadenashowcase.org) as soon as possible.

## Associates

Erin Dundee & Marybeth Rehman-Dittu



We are off to the races....By now you should have received your invitation to our first event of the year scheduled for **Sunday, October 22 - Associate Oktoberfest** from 11:3 am - 3:30pm. A *wonderbar* day is planned at the Santa Anita Race Track. You all be treated to treats, eats, beer, live entertainment, costume contest, horse racing, and more! Tickets may be purchased at this link:

[Purchase Tickets](#)

We are continuing our Associate Newsletter. If you are not receiving the monthly Associates' Newsletter or the Fall Event invitation, please let Erin or Marybeth know as soon as possible. The newsletter has a list of upcoming events and volunteer opportunities. As always we encourage you to stay involved with PSHA. Upcoming in October is our first General meeting at the Walt Disney Concert Hall and Designer Walk-Thru (more info to come).

We are looking forward to a wonderful year of Showcase as your Associate Representatives.

### Important Dates

**Tuesday, October 3 at 9am** – Lydia's Lacy Park Walk

**Wednesday, October 11 at 10am** – General Meeting with Luncheon Following, Walt Disney Concert Hall

**Sunday, October 22 at 11:30am** – Associates Octoberfest Event, Santa Anita Racetrack

**Thursday, October 26 at 4pm** – Board Meeting



- |       |                   |       |                           |
|-------|-------------------|-------|---------------------------|
| 10/01 | Sally Holt        | 10/20 | Alicia Schmitz            |
| 10/03 | Rebecca Ebershoff | 10/21 | Bernadette DeMesme-Anders |
| 10/06 | Judy Tsai         | 10/24 | Garrett Collins           |
| 10/07 | Carolyn Fox       | 10/26 | Gary Kearney              |
| 10/08 | Kim Covey         | 10/26 | Marjorie Lindbeck         |
| 10/12 | Gretchen McNally  | 10/26 | Louise Strnad             |
| 10/14 | Valeska Frueholz  |       |                           |

10/15 Fran Biles  
10/15 Karen Daroca  
10/16 Charlotte Lacey

10/28 Wende Lee  
10/30 Hilda Hacobian  
10/31 Mary Jarrett





**Congratulations to Charlotte Lacey on the birth of her new baby boy Declan, born in September!**



**Not getting PSHA emails?**

**Please be sure these are included in your email contacts:**

president@pasadenashowcase.org  
psha@pasadenashowcase.org  
emailadmin@pasadenashowcase.org

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