

**St. Louis Symphony Volunteer Association
SVA Committee and Team Descriptions
SVA Fiscal Year 2021-22**

President – Kent McNeil | SVAPresident@SLSO.org

Education and Community Programs – VP: Debbie Dillon | SVAEducationVP@SLSO.org

Express the Music – This program is a creative essay and poetry competition for students in sixth through twelfth grades. This educational activity invites students to listen to a specific selection of symphonic music and then express their thoughts and emotions through creative writing. Committee members contact area schools, and plan and coordinate the judging and awards process.

Program Timing: Beginning of school year through April.

Contact: Patty Kaplan, Chair; Connie Wepfer, Vice Chair | SVAExpresstheMusic@SLSO.org

Instrument Playground – This program provides a hands-on experience with real instruments in a traveling format. Committee members transport instruments to schools and Powell Hall, give short presentations about instrument families, and assist students in making a sound from instruments. The ability to play an instrument is helpful, but not required as much as an affinity for working with elementary-age students.

Program Timing: This program is available at all SLSO Family Concerts and Tiny Tunes Concerts, and as part of the curriculum for the Symphony in Your School elementary program and other locations as opportunities arise.

Contact: Jim Schindler, Chair; Karen Nichols, Vice Chair | SVAlnstrumentPlayground@SLSO.org

Picture the Music – This program is a creative art competition for students in kindergarten through sixth grade. Students listen to a specific selection of symphonic music and then create their own artistic interpretation through painting, coloring, or drawing. Committee members oversee communications with area schools, plan and coordinate all aspects of a judging day, awards ceremony, and traveling display, and transport pictures to and from display locations.

Program timing: Beginning of school year through March. Traveling display March through May.

Contact: Sue Darcy, Chair; Beth Rogers, Vice Chair | SVApicturethemusic@SLSO.org

Powell Hall Opportunities – Powell Hall Opportunities is the overarching committee that includes five teams (Education Concert Hosts, Friday Coffee Concerts, Group Hosts, Powell Hall Tours, and Youth Orchestra) whose activities take place at Powell Hall. The collective purpose for PHO volunteers is to be an extension of the SLSO staff by providing a welcoming and positive experience for guests visiting Powell Hall, and to support Symphony sponsored education opportunities for area schools and the community, and the St. Louis Symphony Youth Orchestra. SVA members may volunteer for one or more teams.

Contact: Mike Grayson, Chair; Kathy Borges, Vice Chair | SVAPowellHops@SLSO.org

Coffee Concerts – Team members help advance the SLSO's goal of enhancing the audience experience by creating a welcoming atmosphere at Friday morning subscription concerts. Serving complimentary coffee and tea donated by Community Coffee, along with Krispy Kreme donuts, brings concertgoers together as a community as they prepare to enter the hall for the concert. Volunteers receive a ticket to the concert when serving.

Program Timing: Coffee Concerts begin at 10:30am on Friday morning. Coffee service begins approximately 9:15am.

Contact: Correne Murphy, Team Leader | SVACoffeeConcerts@SLSO.org

Education Concert Hosts – The program supports the Symphony’s weekday Education Concerts. Education Hosts are the friendly faces of the SLSO to area school children and teachers. Their purpose is to provide a warm welcome and assure the safety and expedient arrival and departure during education concerts. Volunteers receive a complimentary ticket to the morning’s concert.

Program Timing: Education Concerts begin at 9:30am and 11am. Volunteers arrive one hour before the concert and leave after all the buses are loaded for departure after the concert ends.

Contact: Steve Seele, Team Leader | SVAEduAmbassadors@SLSO.org

Group Hosts – This team assists groups arriving by shuttle bus for Friday morning Coffee Concerts and special holiday-season concerts. Two volunteers help at each Coffee Concert, and six at each holiday concert. The volunteers greet the patrons, assist them in exiting their shuttle, and help with entry directions to Powell Hall. Following the concert, our volunteers help the patrons find their shuttles. Volunteers receive a complimentary ticket to the concert.

Program Timing: Coffee Concerts begin at 10:30am. Volunteers arrive about one hour before the concert and leave after the shuttles are loaded for departure after the concert ends.

Contact: LaVerne Riebold and William Moseley, Team Leaders | SVAGroupHosts@SLSO.org

Powell Hall Tours – Our Powell Hall tour guides show guests the beauty and the behind-the-scenes areas of Powell Hall, educate them on the historical significance of Powell Hall and instill an appreciation of its attributes as a world class concert hall, architecturally and acoustically, and its value to the SLSO and St. Louis. The tours create a deeper appreciation of Powell Hall and the SLSO among visiting students and adults. Team members conduct tours after Tiny Tunes Concerts and Young People's Concerts and as needed for special events, including adult tours. Volunteers are trained to conduct tours and get an insider’s view of Powell Hall.

Program Timing: Tour dates occur throughout the year

Contact: Becky Brown, Team Leader | SVATours@SLSO.org

Youth Orchestra – This team supports the St. Louis Symphony Youth Orchestra, which is comprised of musicians aged 12 to 22. Team members assist with orientation, pre-concert meals for YO musicians, auditions and various performance-related activities as requested by the Youth Orchestra Manager.

Program Timing: Youth Orchestra activities occur throughout the school year

Contact: Stephanie Randall, Team Leader; Enzo DeMichelle, Co-Team Leader | SVAYouthOrchestra@SLSO.org

Philanthropy and Stewardship – VP: Martha Duchild | SVAPandSVP@SLSO.org

Advocacy – This program supports efforts by SLSO staff to ensure funding for the Arts, primarily at the Missouri state level and elsewhere, to the extent authorized by SLSO staff. In particular, committee members e-mail, call, and write their local legislators about important upcoming events and legislation regarding the Arts and may attend Citizens Day for the Arts in Jefferson City each February. Committee members are guided by and trained in advocacy by SLSO staff and partner organizations, with the staff's approval.

Program Timing: Advocacy efforts run primarily from August through May. Citizens Day for the Arts, an opportunity to meet with State Legislators, takes place on the first day in February.

Contact: Mark Mittleman, Chair | SVAAadvocacy@SLSO.org

Ambassadors – Ambassadors are experienced volunteers trained by SLSO staff to promote the St. Louis Symphony at community events such as the annual free concert on Art Hill; to welcome guests to concerts and special events at Powell Hall; to acquaint family, friends, and others with the SLSO’s immense outreach programs; to relate the joy of attending the St. Louis Symphony’s performances at Powell Hall; and to serve the St. Louis Symphony in other hospitality activities as requested — all to help the Symphony “enrich people’s lives through the power of music.”

Program Timing: Activities vary throughout the year

Contact: Bob Thompson, Chair; Mary Parks, Vice Chair | SVAAmbassadors@SLSO.org

Boutique – This program provides an opportunity for concertgoers to purchase SLSO logo items, music-related products, and CDs at Powell Hall during a concert. Committee members sell products, record sales, maintain displays and promote the SLSO and SVA by providing a friendly greeting and help as needed to SLSO patrons. Volunteers are given sales training and receive complimentary tickets to the concert for which they are scheduled to work in the Boutique.

Program Timing: The Boutique is staffed for all concerts. It opens one hour before each concert and during intermission.

Contact: Christine Henry, Chair; Margaret Lahrman, Vice Chair | SVABoutique@SLSO.org

Discovery Committee – This committee works with SLSO Staff and the SVA Leadership to recommend new and innovative activities and programs to enhance the SVA’s ability to carry out its mission, and to provide additional outlets for SVA members’ participation. Committee members speak with staff, research other organizations and opportunities, brainstorm, and recommend projects for approval to the SVA Executive Committee, ranging from fund-raising to special members events tailored towards meeting the needs of the SLSO. The Executive Committee passes approved projects to the appropriate existing or new committee for execution. ***Members are selected for this committee.*

Program Timing: Activities vary throughout the year

Contact: Janice Seele, Chair; Jim Moore, Vice Chair | SVAFriends@SLSO.org

Friends Committee – This program supports the SLSO development team to sustain and increase support for the Annual Campaign. This committee is an integral part of improving the outreach to, and stewardship of, the Friends of Symphony members. Committee members reach out to SLSO donors to thank them for their support via phone and note writing.

Program Timing: Activities vary throughout the year

Contact: Bev Cox, Chair; Sarah Fabick, Vice Chair | SVAFriends@SLSO.org

Membership – VP: Suzanne Seibel | SVAMembershipVP@SLSO.org

Communications - This committee addresses several communications projects that support internal SVA needs. In conjunction with the SVA President, Executive Committee and Director of Volunteers Activities, this team compiles information for and edits the SVA in-house publications, News & Notes, the SVA brochure, and others as needed. Team members also write articles for the Symphony Volunteer Association’s publicity in the Playbill, the Symphony’s concert program. Each article features a different SVA project. Writing skills are a prerequisite, as is the ability to work with word limitations and due dates. Some layout skills are helpful.

Program Timing: Varies throughout the year

Contact: Jeff Kaplan, Chair | SVASommunications@SLSO.org

Photography - Team members record moments in SVA history by photographing SVA-related activities and uploading them into the SVA's Flickr account for later use in publications, especially News & Notes and the SVA brochure. Digital photography is necessary and computer skills are helpful.

Program Timing: Throughout the year

Contact: Pam Belloli, Team Leader | SVAPhotography@SLSO.org

Membership Meetings and Events committee members arrange General Membership Meetings and special SVA events within budget guidelines, including choosing the venues, creating the invitations, selecting the menus, maintaining RSVPs, coordinating any needed table seating, and check-in. Committee members also work with other committee chairs to print, distribute, and collect Sign-Up Forms to be used at the General Membership Meetings.

Program Timing: Throughout the year

Contact: Linda Seibert, Chair; Terri Ciccolella, Vice Chair | SVAMembership@SLSO.org

New & Prospective Members - This committee identifies, recruits, and integrates new members into the SVA. Possible activities might include hosting New and Prospective Member events in Powell Hall or in an intimate setting in someone's home. Committee members mail new member packets, connect committee chairs with new members interested in their committees and ensure that all members of the organization feel welcome.

Program Timing: Throughout the year

Contact: Phyllis Traub, Chair; Marilyn Humiston, Vice Chair | SVANewandProspective@SLSO.org

One & Done -This committee supports various SLSO and SVA tasks on an as needed basis. It provides a variety of volunteer opportunities for its membership who have limited time to volunteer or attend meetings but may be available on short notice.

Program Timing: Throughout the year

Contact: Karen Silsby, Chair | SVAOneandDone@SLSO.org

Teams Reporting Directly to the Membership VP:

Membership Engagement Team - This team keeps members engaged when the New and Prospective Membership Committee has completed their introductory work, focusing on retention and participation of members while making membership fun and rewarding. It reaches out to the SVA membership to make sure that every member has an opportunity to engage in SVA programs and stay connected to the organization as they would like. This team also provides a good and welfare function by acknowledging SVA members in need of comfort or congratulations.

Program Timing: As needed throughout the year and especially prior to SVA Membership Meetings.

Contact: Kathryn Snodgrass, Team Leader | SVAEngagement@SLSO.org

Membership Directory- Team members compile and update member information, maintain the membership spreadsheets and produce the printed and on-line SVA membership and activity directory. Excel and other computer and editing skills are desirable. **Members are selected for this team.*

Program Timing: Ongoing

Contact: Susan Pribble, Team Leader | SVADirectory@SLSO.org