

**St. Louis Symphony Volunteer Association
SVA Committee and Team Descriptions
SVA Fiscal Year 2023-24**

President – Debbie Dillon | SVAPresident@SLSO.org

Education and Community Programs – VP: Suzanne Seibel
SVAEducationVP@SLSO.org

Express the Music – This program is currently being re-imagined and is on a two-year hiatus.

Contact: Lynda Lieberman, Chair; Paula Hertel, 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 has been 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: Karen Nichols, Chair; Jim Schindler, Vice Chair |
SVInstrumentPlayground@SLSO.org

Picture the Music – This award-winning 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: Beth Rogers, Chair; Sue Darcy, 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 have traditionally taken 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 concert guests, 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: Sherry Moschner, Chair; Debbie Eldridge Miali, 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 and Saturday morning subscription concerts. Serving complimentary coffee and tea donated by Community Coffee, along with donuts from Eddie's Southtown 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 10:30 am on Friday mornings. Coffee service begins approximately 9:15 am.

Contact: Millie Neff and Doug Neff, Co-Team Leaders | 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 9:30 am and 11 am. 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 and Saturday 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. 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 10:30 am. Volunteers arrive about one hour before the concert and leave after the shuttles are loaded for departure after the concert ends.

Contact: Susanne Mertens, Team Leader | SVAGroupHosts@SLSO.org

Powell Hall Tours – This program is currently on hold during our transition.

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 | SVAYouthOrchestra@SLSO.org

Philanthropy and Stewardship – VP: Jim Moore | 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: Citizens Day for the Arts in Jefferson City in February. There are opportunities to contact legislators throughout the year.

Contact: Mike Grayson, Chair; LaVerne Moseley, Vice Chair | SVAAadvocacy@SLSO.org

Ambassadors – The Ambassadors welcome and promote new and current guests to Symphony events. The primary role for this season is to organize shuttle hosts for the concerts scheduled for Stifel and Touhill. At venues and special events there will be volunteers to greet guests. At the free annual concert at Art Hill the Ambassadors play a key role in welcoming and promoting the Symphony. There may be other hospitality activities that may be requested. The Ambassadors are available to make concert going a more pleasurable experience.

Contact Sharongay Pearline, Chair; Donald Pearline, Vice-Chair | SVAAmbassadors@SLSO.org

Boutique – This program is in transition. Traditionally it provided 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 was traditionally staffed for all concerts. It opened one hour before each concert and during intermission.

Contact: Karen Silsby, Chair; Christine Henry, 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: Kent McNeil, Chair; Janice Seele, 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: Glenna Schindler, Chair; Marjorie Smith, Vice Chair | SVAFriends@SLSO.org

Membership – VP: Martha Duchild | SVAMembershipVP@SLSO.org

Communications - This team addresses several communications projects that support SVA needs. In conjunction with the SVA President, Executive Committee and Director of Volunteers Activities, this team compiles information for and edits SVA in-house publications, including 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) and the SVA's web page. Writing skills are a prerequisite, as is the ability to work with word limitations and due dates. Some layout skills are helpful.

Internal Communications - Sub-team members produce and distribute all internal SVA communication, including group emails and forwarded SLSO announcements.

Program Timing: Varies throughout the year

Contact: Jeff Kaplan, Team Lead | SVACommunications@SLSO.org

Photography - Sub-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 Lead | SVAPhotography@SLSO.org

Publicity - Sub-team members work with SLSO staff to design and produce material that will be accessible by the general public, such as the SVA web page (within the SLSO website), brochures and other digital media. Digital photography and computer skills are highly desirable.

Program Timing: Throughout the year

Contact: (TBD) Team Lead | SVAPublicity@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: Kathy Norwood, Chair; Dianna Barron, Vice Chair | SVAMembership@SLSO.org

Cocktails & Conversation - This team curates a fun, interactive hour-long Zoom event for SVA members and prospective members. It's held several times throughout the year and is a wonderful way to stay connected, meet, and get to know SLSO musicians and staff members in an informal setting. Past guests have included David Halen, Concertmaster; Stephanie Childress, Assistant Conductor; and Amy Kaiser, retired SLSO Chorus Director - just to name a few. Each Zoom meeting begins with a celebratory toast, and we supply our guest's favorite cocktail recipe so all can share in the "spirit" of the event.

Program timing: Throughout the year

Contact: Marilyn Humiston or Phyllis Traub, Co-Leads

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. Chairs are also responsible for managing the SVA Mentor program, which pairs N&P volunteers with new members.

Program Timing: Throughout the year

Contact: Elizabeth Hahn, Chair; Connie Wepfer, Vice Chair | SVANewandProspective@SLSO.org

Pick & Choose - 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: Sue Propper, Chair | SVAAoneandDone@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

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

Team Reporting Directly to the President:

Data Research and Analysis - The Data Research & Analysis team is a group of members who are comfortable with computer research and/or manipulation and analyses of data. This team is tasked with various activities as needed and approved by the Executive Committee, either stemming from the Executive Committee itself or from individual committees who may forward their research and analysis needs through the Executive Committee for approval.

Program Timing: As needed throughout the year

Contact: Jim Moore, Team Leader | SVAPandSVP@SLSO.org