



**BERKSHIRES' COMMUNITY ORCHESTRA**  
**Tracy Wilson, Music Director**  
**Christine Singer, President**

## **Welcome to the Stockbridge Sinfonia's 2023 Season!**

Board of Directors: Christine Singer, President; John Davies, Vice President; Mary Lee Ledbetter, Secretary/Clerk; Gerold Mohn, Treasurer; Nathan Cracolici, Bailey Forfa, Ashley Jackowski, Lynne Latini, Bill Loeb, Juan Manrique, Diana Richman, Jeff Ross, Bob Salzman, Tracy Wilson (ex-officio).

**Welcome to all who enjoy classical music for the love and fun of it!** We hope you are ready to (re)join us in preparing the first season of our second half century.

**We are** a 51-year-old community orchestra of some 65 players--amateurs, semiprofessionals, and professionals from teenage to the nineties--who get together in the summer to rehearse and perform classical music. Our Conductor and Music Director, in her sixth season with us, is Tracy Wilson.

**We meet** Saturday mornings from 9:15 **from May 27 through August 19** at Zion Lutheran Church, 74 First St., Pittsfield. Parking is right across the street. Be warmed up and **ready to start playing at 9:30**. Volunteers are always needed to help set up and put away chairs. Bring a stand.

**COVID Policy:** Adopted by the Board of Directors of the Stockbridge Sinfonia on March 3, 2023 and modified by the Executive Committee of the Board on May 22, 2023.

- DO NOT come to a rehearsal or performance if you have tested positive for Covid within the previous ten days or are currently experiencing any cold, flu, Covid, achy feeling, sore throat, or other symptoms.
- DO NOT come to a rehearsal or performance if you know you have been closely exposed to someone who has Covid in the last several days before the rehearsal or performance.
- Everyone has personal responsibility to avoid spreading Covid and other communicable diseases that may be circulating such as RSV, flu, and colds, and anyone who has respiratory symptoms that may indicate that they have such diseases should stay home.
- If you need to miss a rehearsal or performance, for whatever reason, please notify Ashley Jackowski ([ashleyjackowski93@gmail.com](mailto:ashleyjackowski93@gmail.com)).
- Players must be fully vaccinated against Covid. This means at least two initial shots and at least one booster shot. Recovery from a Covid infection is not a substitute for vaccination. The only exception to the fully-vaccination requirement is that non-vaccinated players with a medical

condition that prevents them from being vaccinated may participate if they bring to their first rehearsal a doctor's note stating that they cannot be vaccinated for medical reasons.

- Masks are no longer required for fully vaccinated players or audience members, but masks may be worn if desired. String players who normally share music stands are free to do so, but you should feel free to use your own stand if you prefer not to share.
- If you have tested positive for Covid, whether or not you feel ill, be sure you are not contagious before returning to Sinfonia. This means at least ten days from the earlier of the positive test or the onset of symptoms. See CDC website: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/>
- These rules were approved by the Sinfonia Board of Directors in 2022 and modified, effective May 22, 2023, by the Executive Committee of the Board after consulting with other Berkshire performing organizations and in light of the most recent CDC guidelines. The rules are subject to change as conditions dictate. We trust that all players will abide by these rules in a spirit of cooperation and goodwill.

**Music:** The program theme is Salute to Women Composers, featuring the premier of the complete Berkshire Triptych (River, City, Mountain) by Alice Spatz; Symphony #1 by Amy Beach; one movement of the Nonette for winds and strings by Louise Farrenc, to feature the student string players; and a brand new piece by our own Gerald Elias, Overture in the Classical Style.

**Three concerts** are scheduled: Saturday, August 5, at 3:00 p.m. in the Duffin Theatre at Lenox Memorial High School, 197 East Street, Lenox; Saturday, August 12 at 3:00 p.m. at Zion Lutheran Church, 74 First Street, Pittsfield; and August 13 at 6:00 p.m. at St. James Place, 352 Main Street, Great Barrington. Concerts are free to all. We welcome contributions to support our operating expenses and student award funds. Please note that we have a separate document with a schedule of rehearsals and concerts organized chronologically by date, so make sure to keep it handy throughout the season.

**Music is available** on our website, [stockbridgesinfonia.org](http://stockbridgesinfonia.org) and we ask everyone to go online, print out your part and bring it to rehearsals in a black binder, marked with your name. Individual parts for each instrument will be available at each rehearsal for one-time use, and Juan Manrique will photocopy the part in an emergency.

**Bowings for String Players:** Christine will have bowings marked for the first violins online by May 24th. Each principal leader in the string section will then need to work on bowings for your section. It is understood that bowings frequently change as the season goes on and all players must make changes as we go along so that we have consistent bowing markings in our music before the dress rehearsal.

**Sectionals:** Sectional rehearsals will take place periodically during regular rehearsal times. In addition, voluntary group practice sessions for strings are available for anyone wanting to work on difficult passages or ensemble. Christine Singer will lead them with dates chosen from those who wish to participate.

**Regular attendance and practice** are essential to your success and that of our entire ensemble. Please try not to miss more than three (3) rehearsals throughout the season, and let us know of planned absences in advance. Our dress rehearsal for all three concerts is on July 22<sup>nd</sup> at Lenox Memorial High School; this rehearsal is required. Please email or text Ashley Jackowski ([ashleyjackowski93@gmail.com](mailto:ashleyjackowski93@gmail.com); 413-259-5834) if you must unexpectedly be absent.

**Registration:** Each musician will be asked to complete a registration form, available at the first rehearsal you attend, so that new musicians can be added to our roster and returning musicians' information can be updated. For students under the age of 18, a permission slip will also need to be returned from a parent or guardian. The last date to join is June 10.

**A \$25 fee (for nonstudents only)** helps cover operating costs. Please pay the fee at the first rehearsal to Gerold Mohn, our treasurer. If you are unable to pay \$25, please give what you can. You may also make an additional contribution at this time to help us raise funds to support our summer music program.

**Student awards** honor the memory of longtime Sinfonia members Al Ludwig, Bernice Black, and Simeon Loring (our Emeritus Conductor). The Black Awards are given to players of upper strings; The Albert, Adele and Gordon Ludwig and Loring Awards are unrestricted. Awards are based on a system of faithful attendance, participation in concerts, ability, a positive attitude, recruitment of other musicians to the Sinfonia, and completion of a written application (forms available June 17, due by July 22). A student award committee and the Music Director make the award determinations.

**Questions can be addressed to** Christine Singer, President; 413-822-1318; [workshopsforsuccess@gmail.com](mailto:workshopsforsuccess@gmail.com)

**The Stockbridge Sinfonia: classical music for the love of it!**