

Big entertainment, small price for Holiday concert

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The San Bernardino Symphony has big plans for its Holiday concert this year with no increase in prices. The concert is scheduled for Dec. 20.

“Students are only \$11,” said Dr. Anne Viricel, executive director of the San Bernardino Symphony as she reported on the program for the Kiwanis Club of Highland on Thursday, Nov. 20. “That’s less than it would cost to go to the movies next door (to the California Theater).”

There is also a family pack for a big family called “Six for \$60.” That’s even cheaper than the student price.

“About half of our seats are taken by season ticket holders,” Viricel said. “We also give out a lot of free tickets to some of our friends, students and sponsors. So it would be a good idea to get tickets early. In fact, we’re suggesting that if season ticket holders are not using their tickets, they turn them back in to make them available to the general public.”

And no wonder.

Bring the kids to the 6:30 p.m. program for a reading of “The Night Before Christmas,” plus Hanukkah and Kwanzaa stories.

There will be carolers out front entertaining audience members as they arrive.

At 7:30, the program switches to explanations and appreciation of the music that will be presented.

Following the concert is the after party upstairs. And all of this is included in the price of admission.

The program will include selections from “The Nutcracker.”

“But we won’t be dancing,” Viricel jokes. “These are musicians, not dancers.”



San Bernardino Symphony Executive Director Dr. Anne Viricel

San Bernardino Symphony Executive Director Dr. Anne Viricel tells the Kiwanis Club of Highland about the upcoming Symphony Holiday program.

There will be a “Festival of Carols” with many Christmas carols.

A 75-voice choir will join the orchestra for a rousing rendition of “The Messiah” in which the audience is invited to join in.

John Williams’ music from “Home Alone” will be included, plus a victorious “Ode to Joy.”

Viricel said there will be other surprises, too, “maybe even including snow.”

“It’s going to be fun,” Viricel promised. “It will be exciting.”

For ticket information or reservations, call [\(909\) 381-5388](tel:9093815388).

The Kiwanis Club of Highland meets Thursdays at 7 a.m. at Coco’s restaurant, 2442 East Highland Ave., San Bernardino.