

Another Magnificent Arrowhead Arts Concert with San Bernardino Symphony

Joan Moseley

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Each year since 1982 as summer ebbs into fall the Arrowhead Arts Association presents a classical concert in the magnificent setting of Our Lady of the Lake Catholic Church in Crest Park and this year's astoundingly beautiful concert was no exception. Local residents and visitors packed each and every pew in the magnificent church to hear and enjoy this annual concert that is always thrilling.

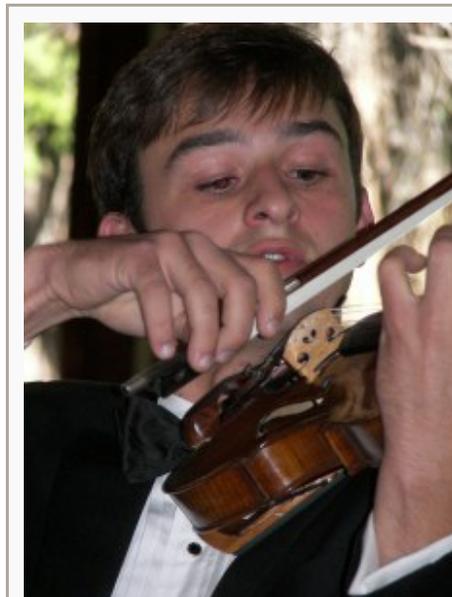
From the moment the conductor of the San Bernardino Symphony, Maestro Frank Fetta, tapped his baton and led the orchestra in the Stars Spangled Banner at the beginning of this year's program it was apparent to everyone that this was going to be a very special event. It was! But then, since the first concert in 1984, this musical afternoon "treat" has been a match made in heaven for music lovers.

I call Our Lady of the Lake Catholic Church a cathedral because it is a magnificent site and is also a sight for sore eyes. I'm not sure how many people can sit in the dark wooden carved pews but it must be at least 200. The soaring windows behind the altar and the large crucifix above the altar offer concert-goers a peaceful spiritual presence as a tranquil garden is just outside the stories-high windows. The cathedral is a perfect venue for classical music and Maestro Fetta and the talented musicians of the San Bernardino Symphony have graced the mountain communities before with uplifting, magnificent classical music concerts that draw people to this annual event.

Following his thrilling violin solo young William Hagen joined hands with Conductor Frank Fetta for a much-deserved bow. This performance by the orchestra and the soloist was extraordinary. Hagen was, to put it mildly, completely amazing. His fingers and bow simply flew across the violin's strings to a point where it was hard to keep up with them as he brilliantly played "Tchaikovsky's Violin Concert." To put it mildly, it was thrilling and the applause when he played the final note was long and thunderous.

The second portion of this lovely concert event included Dvorak's "Symphony No. 9 from the "New World." It was absolutely beautiful and the two selections for this year's program truly were remarkable.

As a special part of this event a generous Arrowhead Arts supporter is chosen to lead the singing of our national anthem and this year's honoree was longtime mountain resident and former owner of the (much missed) Royal Oak restaurant in Blue Jay, Pat Welsh. Pat has been such a supporter of the Arrowhead Arts Association and its



Extraordinary young violinist William Hagen had the audience spellbound by his talent and the sound of his exquisite violin. He (and it) were, to put it mildly, magnificent!



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programs, literally for decades and he was certainly a worthy honoree.

Throughout the years the Arrowhead Arts Association has sponsored a concert at this church the San Bernardino Symphony and the Redlands Symphony have both performed and it is always an uplifting experience for everyone...the audience and musicians alike. The Arrowhead Arts Association has brought wonderful, exciting and thrilling musical events to the mountain communities for years and we, those who partake of the opportunity to see the performances, are eternally grateful. I attended the second concert they sponsored so many years ago and it was thrilling then and it continues to be thrilling. If you love classical music you must not miss this special fall concert next year. If you have to put it on your "bucket list" make sure it's at the top of the list. Your spirit and heart will thank you!



Some of the Mountain Strings Students who are supported by the Arrowhead Arts Association. They played beautifully! Congratulations, students....you made us all so proud!

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