

# 'Treasures of the Americas' brought families together

**By Deb Karalun**

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The San Bernardino Symphony Orchestra brought families a little closer to the music this past Sunday afternoon at "Treasures of the Americas."

The popular Family Music Fair, reprised from last year's matinee event, was held prior to the performance. Patrons of all ages were invited to listen to performances from a string ensemble from Rialto's Kucera Middle School, the Redlands Christian School Jazz Ensemble, the CKC Music String Ensemble, and Haley Manutai, a piano student of Dr. Lily Diehl.

Young music lovers also made crafts, decorating musical notes and making jewelry.

As in 2012, a hands-on instrument petting zoo was also offered. Here both young and old were able to handle and even attempt to play some of the familiar and unfamiliar instruments.

The Symphony Guild's Debs and Red Tie Guys – high school students who assist at performance, Guild events, etc. – played hosts to the events at the Family Music Fair.

Highland resident and San Geronio High School senior Courtney Wilkins shared, "The Debs and Red Tie Guys recruit some of their members through band programs in the area. Once I became a member I was able to share the information of all the fun we have I was able to get more students interested in joining the program."

At 2:30 p.m., attendees were ushered to their seats in the concert hall where the Symphony, lead by conductor Frank Fetta, took the audience on a musical journey through North and South America highlighting composers Aaron Copeland and his Rodeo Selections, Genaro Codina with his spirited The March of the Zacatecas, and Silvestre Revueltas' Homage to Garcia Lorca.

During Copland's composition of Appalachian Spring, the audience was treated to a video montage of footage of the beauty of the Appalachian region

Following intermission Fetta introduced the audience to the somber and haunting sounds of Silvestre Revueltas' Homage to Garcia Lorca which takes the listener into Revueltas' sadness for the murdered Spanish poet, playwright and artist Federico Garcia Lorca.

The afternoon was wrapped up with the familiar sounds of Copland's Hoe-Down and filled the audience with a sense of adventure and thoughts of the old west, cowboys, and a day out on the range.

Parts of Hoe-Down are based from the American folk song "Bonaparte's Retreat" and the piece is recognizable to those who have seen the American Beef Producers commercials "Beef. It's what's for dinner."

The San Bernardino Symphony's next performance will be March 19 and will feature both orchestral and operatic selections from the works of Verdi and Wagner to celebrate their 100th birthdays.



Photo by Deb Karalun - Symphony Guild's Deb Courtney Wilkins

