



★ Country By Candlelight Gala ★



**Santa Cruz Symphony League's
Annual Gala Not To Be Missed!**
*Join us for a down-home
evening to remember!*

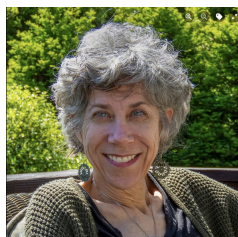
**At the Beautiful and Historic
Cowell Ranch Hay Barn at the UCSC Campus**
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 2025
5:00 P.M. - 9:00 P.M.

Tickets: \$150 Per Person

Special Guest Appearances:

★ **Acclaimed Entertainer Julie James**
★ **Lorne Dechtenberg of Shakespeare SC**
Live Country Music

Line Dancing
Live and Silent Auction
Locally Inspired Culinary Feast
Open Beer and Wine Bar



We Look Forward to Seeing You All There

★ Tickets: [https://www.santacruzsymphonyleague.org/
events/2025-country-by-candlelight-gala](https://www.santacruzsymphonyleague.org/events/2025-country-by-candlelight-gala) ★

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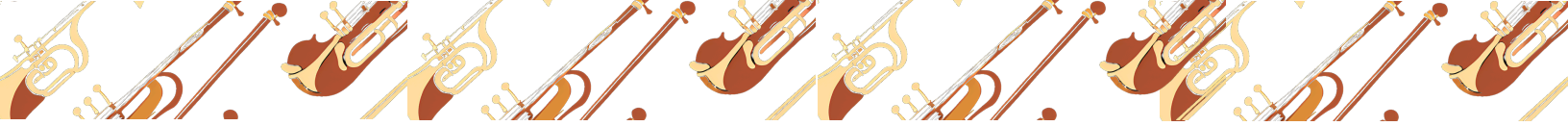
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Spring 2025 Concert and Recital Schedule

Family Concert: Peter and the Wolf
Guest Artist: Omari Tau
Sunday, March 2, 2025
2:00 p.m.
Santa Cruz Civic Auditorium



Classical Series Concert 3
Symphonic Shakespeare
Guest Artist: Charles Pasternac
March 29, 2025: 7:30 p.m.
Santa Cruz Civic Auditorium
March 30, 2025: 2:00 p.m.
Henry J. Mello Center, Watsonville



Symphonic Musician Series
Danny and Friends
Sunday, April 13, 2025
Samper Hall at
Cabrillo College



Classical Series Concert 4
Mozart's Requiem
May 3, 2025: 7:30 p.m.
Santa Cruz Civic Auditorium
May 4, 2025: 2:00 p.m.
Henry J. Mello Center, Watsonville



Symphonic Musician Series
Omari and Friends
Sunday, May 18, 2025
Samper Hall at
Cabrillo College



Spring Pops Concert
John Williams Encore
Saturday, June 7, 2025
7:300 p.m.
Santa Cruz Civic Auditorium
Pre-Concert Street Party:
6:00 p.m. Church Street
Food Trucks and Music





A Proud Partner of the
Santa Cruz Certified Green Business/
Nonprofit Program

ECHOING SUSTAINABILITY THROUGH EVERY NOTE

The Santa Cruz Symphony League goes Green!!!

This month, the Santa Cruz Symphony League joined over 80 businesses and nonprofits to become an official Green Business/Nonprofit. At a ceremony, the Board of Supervisors recognized the League as one of its new members. As a Green Business/Nonprofit we are recognized for emphasizing recycling at our events, minimizing single-use water bottles, composting any waste, encouraging carpooling, and wherever possible making sure we are emphasizing "Green". As such we are one of the few artistic organizations to go green and we look forward to opportunities the County offers to network with other like-minded folks. Look for our green banner on our website and at our events. It's a great way to go!

In Memoriam: Mary Ann Hobbs



Mary Ann Hobbs said her final good-byes on November 4, 2024. She had a very big heart and the gift of making everyone feel like they were her best friend. She had a strong belief in God and knew where she was going when her body gave out. Mary Ann joined the Symphony League in 2008, serving on the board from 2019-2023. She served on various committees for many of our fundraisers, especially at the annual gala where she was instrumental in creating all the incredible themed table decorations. She also hosted sales events in her own home garden to benefit the Santa Cruz Symphony League. Mary Ann would gather League members to help her create beautiful items for the Symphony League boutique, and always donated her items, her time and her talent. Mary Ann's home was a gathering place for all her craft making – wreaths, decorative pumpkins, holiday baskets, and event decor. Even when she traveled with her husband, Russ, in their motor home, Mary Ann loved visiting antique and second hand stores, looking for just the right decorative addition for a particular basket or holiday item at a bargain price! Mary Ann was instrumental in a Tea and Fashion show in the fall of 2022 which was a huge success for the Symphony League and The Daisy Auxiliary. Unfortunately she became ill, and was not able to attend to see the results of all her hard work. According to League Members, "Her creative skills were amazing, and we will miss her wonderful talents and her charmingly unwavering personality." Mary Ann taught us that with imagination, various materials, and a glue gun, we could make anything. . She was thoughtful and kind, and will be very much missed.

Recent Events



Sparkles & Spirits Soiree



On Saturday, December 14, the Santa Cruz Symphony League began its season of fundraising events with a fabulous “Sparkles and Spirits Soiree” at Calvary Episcopal Church. A sold out community of guests enjoyed an evening of signature cocktails, an amazing gourmet dinner, and a wonderful homemade apple crisp dessert. No stranger to the Santa Cruz music community, Soprano Lori Schulman performed a selection of holiday arias accompanied by Keifer Taylor. The venue was beautifully decorated in the holiday spirit and featured a surprise visit from Santa – complete with gifts. There are too many people to thank. – everyone who planned, cooked, decorate, cleaned up, etc. But many, many thanks to Mary Ann Orr and Rachel Sabajo who organized this amazing event.



Holiday Concert



The first of its kind holiday concerts took place at the Civic Auditorium on December 14 and 15, and it was very well received and enjoyed by all.

Membership



Happy New Year to All

Welcome to our newest Member!

Mary Maier

Welcome to the League Family. We look forward to greeting you at a League gathering very soon.

League Membership Committee

Your membership committee is putting together ideas for promoting the League and membership. We welcome your input. Please direct your thoughts to me and I will take them to the committee.

Until We Meet Again

Mary Ann Hobbs

Mary Blanchard

Both Mary Ann and Mary were long time, enthusiastic League members.

Please remember them and their families in your thoughts and prayers.

In Conclusion:

As your Director of Membership, "Thank You" for your participation and support of the League. I welcome your referrals, ideas, and suggestions: 831-475-4939 /

rutandan@comcast.net

Sending you Best Wishes for a Healthy, Content and Safe 2025!

Dan

Member Profile: Dan Rutan

Dan grew up in a small town in Illinois and attended Eastern Illinois University where he earned a degree in Botany, Fine Arts and Business. In high school he enjoyed hobbies of gardening, singing, and playing saxophone in marching band.

After graduating, he enlisted in the Air Force and trained in Amarillo Texas. He was stationed at Edwards Air Force base in California and then served 18 months on Okinawa during the Viet Nam war.

After 4 years in the Air Force Dan moved to Santa Cruz and interviewed as a management trainee at JC Penny on Pacific Avenue. They were happy to hire him with the only condition being that he shave off his mustache! In spite of Santa Cruz (1969) being home to many hairy hippies at the time, he acquiesced in order to obtain the position.

Dan's next jobs were with his brother's construction company, then with the Credit Bureau of Santa Cruz where he worked in management for 24 years. He moved on to Granite Rock, starting as Credit manager, moved over to Worker's Compensation Administrator, and ultimately retired in 2009.

Dan married Vickie in 2001 and they have a blended family of 4 children and 5 grandchildren. Through Vickie and her mother Joey Bear, who had been a past president of the League, he became involved in the Symphony and the Symphony League. He had always loved classical music and with his background in Business management became an important asset to the League. As Membership director for the League, he keeps records and contact information of members.

A pet project of Dan and Vickie's is organizing food for the Orchestra to eat during the break in the rehearsal before the evening performance. This is understandably very popular with the musicians and fosters conversation and camaraderie between them that they would not have otherwise.

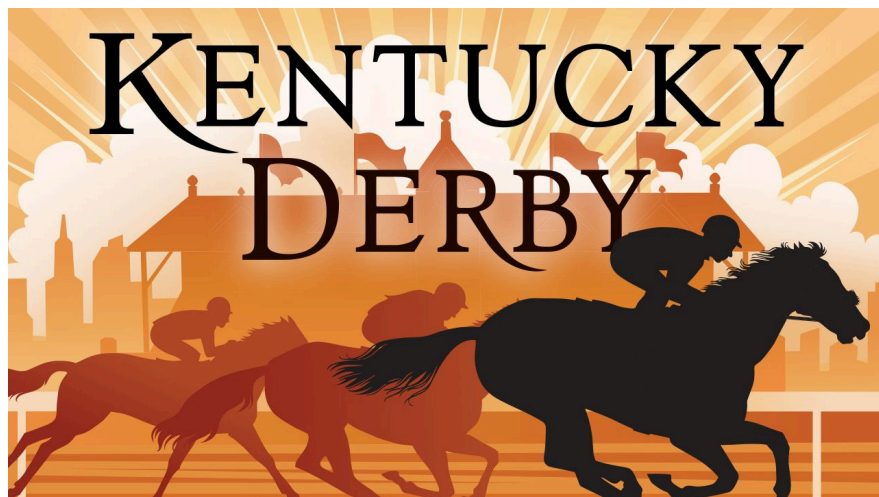
When not attending to League activities Dan serves on the Board of Directors of the Family Service Agency of the Central Coast, a non-profit organization providing affordable mental health services to people of all backgrounds and identities throughout Central California. He also volunteers to drive 2 ailing friends to medical appointments and errands.

Dan has been a familiar face at most League events now for 22 years and with his affable, good natured personality is the "go to guy" for information about all things Symphony League.

Upcoming Events 2025



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Cowell Ranch Hay Barn at the
UCSC Campus
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5:00 P.M. - 9:00 P.M.
Tickets: \$150 Per Person*



*2025 Kentucky Derby Party
SUNDAY, MAY 3, 2025
Save the Date
Details Coming Soon*



*2025 Home & Garden Tour
SATURDAY & SUNDAY
June 14-15, 2025
Save the Date
Details Coming Soon*

*Tickets at: Santa Cruz Symphony
League.org/events*