

MINUTES
Central Iowa Symphony Board
October 7, 2008

Attending: Donita McCoy (presiding), A. M. Fink, Kathleen Foster-Wendel, Noelle Fultz, Karl Gwiasda, Sara Markley, Jane Ringwald, Sam Wormley

Administrative

President McCoy called the meeting to order at 6:05 pm.

The minutes for the meeting of September 2 were approved.

Treasurer Ringwald distributed copies of the Budget Review. She noted that the CIS is entering its new season in better financial condition than was the case a year ago.

Orchestra and concerts

McCoy reviewed the checklist of preparations for the coming season and opening concert. Tickets have been printed, and subscription orders are being filled. The posters for the November concert have been printed and will be placed around town by board members who will cover specific areas that have been itemized by Ringwald. Door sales for the November concert will be covered by Foster-Wendel and Ringwald. McCoy reported that members of Town & Country Kiwanis will likely serve as ushers. Fink will again act as stage manager.

McCoy reported that all of the conductors engaged for the season have now sent in signed contracts..

Sample the Arts drawing

Board members drew six names from the entry slips submitted during the Sample the Arts event. The six winners will each receive a pair of free tickets for a concert of their choice.

Supporting the orchestra

Gala

Markley delivered a report on her preparations for the Gala. No problems have arisen. Markley asked that volunteers to help with table decorations and other final preparations come to the Country Club on Sunday at noon. Wormley will set up a slide show for the event.

Markley reported that so far about 60 people have purchased tickets to attend, about 20 fewer than attended last year. Fifteen of the ticket purchases have been at the Sponsor level. These account for 26 attendees.

Advertising

McCoy reported that so far playbill ads have been purchased by Russell Piano Service and by Re/Max agent Barb Matson Wandling. Additional advertisers are expected. Gwiasda, who will be preparing copy for the printer, asked that he be notified no later than October 17 of the ads that are to appear in the November playbills.

Fultz reported that she has been in touch with *The Tribune* concerning ads and publicity for the CIS concerts. She has learned that the CIS would be eligible to advertise two concerts through free ads, provided that the concerts do not occur in two successive months. She has also supplied Carole Horowitz with information about the November concert and the guest conductor, Arkadi Feldman. She will contact Ames 365 to have the concert listed on that Website.

Wormley has made arrangements for fall and spring displays at the Ames Public Library and will take care of putting up the displays.

Orchestra hospitality

Markley will see to having hospitality treats available to the orchestra members at the dress rehearsal on the morning of November 1. .

Because the season is starting late this year, the board cannot repeat last year's opening-day picnic for the orchestra players. Instead, the board will hold an end-of-season event.

Conductor hospitality

McCoy will speak to Jeff Prater to determine what plans he or the Music department may have for pre- or post-concert meals, receptions, or the like for conductor Feldman. She will then determine in what way the CIS Board can assist with or arrange a hospitality event.

Young Artists competition

Ringwald reported that she is preparing a letter to announce the forthcoming Young Artists competition. She will mail out the letter and entry forms in the next week or two. Wormley will post the entry form on the CIS Website for downloading.

Grants

Foster-Wendel said that she attended a meeting of the Commission on the Arts in support of the CIS application for funds to underwrite the YA concert in March. In the application, she stressed that the concert would be supplemented by outreach directed to an elementary school audience and that tickets would be distributed among music students to enable them and a companion to attend the concert for free. COTA members commended both plans.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:50 pm.

Karl Gwiasda
Secretary

NEXT MEETING: Wednesday, November 5, 7:15 pm
(Note: This date is changed from the one announced earlier in the year.)