

MINUTES
Central Iowa Symphony Board
January 6, 2009

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

Administrative

President McCoy called the meeting to order at 7:20 pm. She then introduced the board's new member, Carrie Forbes.

The minutes for the meeting of December 2 were approved.

The treasurer being absent, no budget review was presented. .

Orchestra and concerts

Sounds of the Season concert

By the measure of the reactions from audience members and performers, the December *Sounds of the Season* concert was clearly a great success. Its one distinct defect—a shortage of playbills that left some listeners without a guide to the pieces played—was a consequence of another measure of success: an unexpectedly high attendance of 325 people. Undoubtedly, the attendance was bolstered by the presence of friends and family of the choristers from the Roland-Story schools. This circumstance suggests that more joint productions with local arts groups ought to be planned.

Young Artists audition

The Young Artists competition has drawn 15 entrants comprising string, wind, and brass players as well as pianists. The auditions are to be held in the Music Building at ISU on January 17. Forbes, Fultz, and Wormley will attend to represent the board.

Summer concerti

Wormley reported that several orchestra players have expressed a hope that the CIS will present a summer concert. McCoy appointed Wormley to head a committee to look into the feasibility of holding such an event. Fultz and Gwiasda will be the additional members of the committee. A crucial condition to having a summer concert will be the availability of sufficient players, but other matters—such as establishing a date and finding a conductor—will also have to be considered.

Conductor search

Fink reported that the Search committee will have its report ready for the board meeting on March 3. The interview of the last remaining applicant, Ruth Lin, will be held prior to her March 1 audition concert.

Supporting the orchestra

Grants

Foster-Wendel announced that the CIS will receive an \$8000 grant from COTA for the 2009-2010 season. She is at the moment preparing reports to the grantors for the current season.

Publicity/posters for March concert

Gwiasda will have posters for the March concert printed in time for the February board meeting. He will need to know the names of the YA winners before the end of January.

Fultz noted that February 11 is the deadline for submitting copy to *The Tribune* for the free ad promoting the March concert. She asked that the board submit photos and copy suggestions no later than the February 3 meeting.

McCoy said that she is willing to go to local schools to make a brief presentation to band and orchestra classes about the Young Artists concert. Markley will look into seeing if any local-area art teachers might like to have their classes prepare artworks to be displayed at the concert.

Web page

Wormley remarked that he will include links to other arts organizations on the CIS website, and he asked board members to let him know of groups that should be included. He also asked for suggestions of ways to include more human interest material on the site, such as supplying brief biographical information about the players. In addition, he would like to see the site, or some other means, used to establish a closer connection between the orchestra personnel and the board. The board was in agreement that it would be helpful to get a roster with e-mail addresses of all the people who play in the orchestra so that the board could be in electronic communication with them. (McCoy noted that some players may not use e-mail, but the greater majority does.) The board could, for instance, issue periodic newsletters telling of what is being done to make the concerts possible.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 pm.

Karl Gwiasda
Secretary

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, February 3, 7:15 pm