

MINUTES
Central Iowa Symphony Board
November 3, 2009

Attending: Sam Wormley (presiding), Carrie Forbes, Kathleen Foster-Wendel, Noelle Fultz, Karl Gwiasda, Donita McCoy, Jane Ringwald
Ex officio: Eric McIntyre

Administrative

President Wormley called the meeting to order at 7:20 pm.

The minutes for the October 10 meeting were approved.

Treasurer Ringwald distributed copies of the budget review. The report was approved.

Music Director's report

McIntyre confirmed that the Central Iowa Brass Quintet will play as soloist with the orchestra in two pieces at the December concert and will additionally perform two other pieces by themselves. Though the CIBQ has not asked for payment, McIntyre proposed that the ensemble be paid an honorarium. By unanimous consent, the board approved a \$250 payment.

McIntyre reported that he had spoken with Pat McFarland about paying some honor to Dave Richardson, who is retiring from the orchestra at the close of the December concert after a long-term association. McFarland suggested that Richardson first be recognized by his colleagues among the lower brass and then by a representative—presumably the president—from the board. McIntyre said that the ceremony might best fit at the commencement of the concert's second half. In a past instance, the board presented a long-term player with a certificate of recognition upon the player's retirement. The board okayed doing the same for Richardson, but also, if possible, presenting him with a framed photo of the brass section or full orchestra. Wormley will check his photo file to see if it holds a suitable image.

McIntyre reminded the board of the need for a hall to carry out the final rehearsal for the December 5 concert. (The City Auditorium is not available that morning.) The hall will need to have a piano. Foster-Wendel will look into the possibility of using an orchestra room at one of the Ames schools or in the ISU Music Building.

For the December concert, McIntyre proposed holding the pre-concert conversation within the Auditorium rather than in a separate room. The board happily assented. The board expressed its pleasure as well with the concert program that McIntyre distributed (and had also sent out earlier by email). McIntyre also noted that a cello ensemble from the orchestra will perform during the intermission for those who remain in the hall.

Grants

Foster-Wendel was able to report that the CIS has received the full \$1000 of the mini-grant it sought from COTA to cover soloist and music rental costs for the May concert. She noted that COTA will be meeting on Saturday to consider applications for larger grants, including CIS's application for a grant to cover operating costs. Wormley will represent CIS at the meeting.

Publicity

Fultz distributed a "marketing checklist" that showed the status of the various avenues she has identified for publicizing CIS and its concerts. During the past two seasons of guest conductors, some avenues have been overlooked or neglected. McCoy noted, for instance, that she had in the past made visits to schools to promote the YA concert, but this practice stopped when the board became preoccupied with more pressing matters. She remarked, too, that nothing definite has come out of periodic proposals to visit retirement communities, notably Northcrest and Green Hills, to encourage concert attendance among the

residents. McIntyre stated his willingness to be part of such visits. McCoy proposed, and the board agreed, that the YA concert in March would be a good focus for presentations in schools and retirement communities.

Letter to Donors

Wormley said that he had not yet finished drafting a letter to donors but expected to have the draft ready within a week. The letter will seek to elicit interest in becoming a board member.

Concert preparations

Gwiasda brought posters advertising the December concert. To ensure that board members are not duplicating one another's efforts, each member will email Gwiasda to report the places where he or she has put up a poster.

Fultz confirmed that her husband, Aaron, will act as stage manager for the December concert. McCoy will look into getting volunteer ushers for the concert. Foster-Wendel will check out whether there may be low-income people who would be willing to usher in exchange for free admission to the concerts.

The board decided that this year's "Sounds of the Season" concert will not include a visit from Santa because of the other ancillary events already planned.

Young Artists competition

McCoy reported that Wormley has updated the Website to provide the necessary information about the Young Artists auditions. Sometime this month, she will be mailing out notifications of the auditions with instructions to consult the Website for details and an application form.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 pm.

Karl Gwiasda, secretary

NEXT MEETING:
Tuesday, December 1 at 7:15