

Beginnings

Warm welcomes at the start of this new season to Ruben Valenzuela, our new choral director, and Stephanie Weaver, our new executive director. Stephanie, who has been in her new role a little more than a month, shares her first impressions.



Dear Friends and Colleagues,

It is with great pleasure that I take the reins as Executive Director of the La Jolla Symphony & Chorus.

The La Jolla Symphony & Chorus is devoted to promoting the richness, diversity and beauty of music and the performing arts to the La Jolla community and beyond, but in my short time here, I have found it to be so much more. Not only do the ensembles and your directors delight in programming and performing new and groundbreaking works, you also perform familiar and traditional works in such new and exciting ways. The unique blend of students, community players and professional musicians is a combination seldom, if ever found anywhere else in the country. The dynamic is truly wonderful!

After Diane Salisbury's highly successful tenure with the organization, I know I certainly have big shoes to fill. I am both honored and inspired to be offered this opportunity and look forward to sharing my vision of community, access and collaboration with all of you. —Stephanie Weaver

Where's Vince?

Pat Finn catches up with missing chorus member Vince Tedjasaputra.

That's Vince on the far left, with fellow Fellows in Washington DC. His colleagues are serving in the U.S. Department of State, U.S. Department of Agriculture and NASA.

Learn more about what Vince is doing on the next page.



Where's Vince?

By Pat Finn

I last saw Vince Tedjasaputra after the final concert of the 2018-2019 season. He was standing outside Mandeville with fellow bass Bill Miller, waiting for transportation and telling me he was moving to Washington D.C.

Not exactly what I wanted to hear.

But as his cross-country move was on account of his landing a fellowship with the American Association for the Advancement of Science, I was, of course, happy for him. Not so much for the La Jolla Symphony and Chorus.

These fellowships are a big deal. The 2019 Science and Technology Policy Fellowships were awarded to 180 PhDs in science, technology, engineering and math. AAAS Fellows are serving in every branch of government, and Vince was placed in the National Science Foundation, Office of Legislative and Public Affairs. Among his challenges: helping scientists become better communicators when they tell Congress what they've been doing with the NSF's money or testify on the Hill about global warming, artificial intelligence or any other crucial scientific issue.

Communication is an art that many scientific types don't master. For Vince, it comes easily. "I attribute my public-speaking skills to my time singing in LJSC," he says. "My ability to connect and communicate complex concepts with large audiences prepared me for my placement." So what he's saying here is that singing with the LJS&C helped prepare him to leave the LJS&C.

Our loss may be America's gain. "My hope," Vince says, "is to combat the growing trend of anti-intellectualism across America today and help restore trust in our academic institutions as authorities on science." Let's all cross our fingers here.

Vince is not sure where he will go after his fellowship is over. He may take this communications gig a bit further, perhaps eventually become a press secretary. Politics is not out of the question, either. But where? He says about half the Fellows wind up staying in Washington. There is at least one thing in our favor out here on the West Coast, however. Vince has not yet found a choir to sing with.



Young Artist Competition

Do you coach a young artist who would like to solo with the symphony? Or does that describe you?

Our annual competition for instrumentalists aged 14-26 and singers aged 18-30 will be held January 25, 2020.

December 13 is the deadline to enter. The ensemble's web site has all the information.

<https://lajollasympphony.com/2020-yac/>

Music in the News

Legends

Roger Reynolds, composer and "whirlwind of music," according to the San Diego Union-Tribune, cites music director Steven Schick as a "future legend." We might say he's a legend right now. (hat tip: Barbara Peisch)

<https://tinyurl.com/reynoldslegends>

Lost and found

In 2009, Vicki and Darrell Gatwood, of St. Anne, Illinois, were preparing to renovate an abandoned house on the outskirts of town. The structure was in poor condition: vandals had ransacked it, and a fallen tree had torn a hole in the roof. In a part of the house that had remained dry, the Gatwoods made a curious discovery piles of musical manuscripts, books, personal papers, and other documents. The name that kept appearing in the materials was that of Florence Price. Alex Ross describes the rediscovery of Price's violin concertos, which our co-concertmasters performed this season and last. Read the rest in the New Yorker here:

<https://tinyurl.com/price-found>



This year's gala raised more than \$58,000 and honored "Arts Angel" Mary Beebe, director of UC San Diego's Stuart Collection. The campus-wide assemblage of public art includes The Wind Garden, a sound installation by John Luther Adams whose work we've often performed.



Rhapsody
in Blue
GALA 2019





A Visit to The Wind Garden

No signs point the way, but you'll begin to hear low tones mixed with ambient sounds of voices and traffic as you approach the eucalyptus grove in front of the theaters at the edge of campus.

Wind Garden responds to the environment. Its frequencies and volume shift continuously with changes in the wind and light. Adams chose different harmonic sequences, "choirs" for night and day, that ring in an ever changing mix of sound.

I've found it most intriguing at sunset. As fog drifts over the bluffs, wind abates and day turns to night, traffic calms and clear individual voices of people making their way home-ward emerge from the hum of campus crowds. And the sounds of the wind garden slow, quiet and darken as well.

It's a nice place for transitions, to rest for a moment on the simple wooden benches and listen as you shift from one realm of your life to another. I recommend a stop on your way to rehearsal one evening, which is about sunset this time of year, to set aside the cares of your day to focus on repending to one another as you join together to make interesting music. --Susan Brown



Contributions

If you have news to share with the ensemble or know of a member you think we should feature, get in touch. The best way to reach me is email: susandbrown@gmail.com

Transitions

About six months ago when I volunteered to edit Tutti, I thought I would be playing and that I would be in the San Diego region for the whole season. Neither is true, and I will need to hand off the newsletter to someone else by May. Raise your hand if you'd be willing take it on. --SB