

GRAND RAPIDS SYMPHONY WOMEN'S COMMITTEE

KEYNOTES

SPRING 2016

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

This year is the 75th anniversary of the founding of the Grand Rapids Symphony Women's Committee. HAPPY BIRTHDAY! This spring, the Women's Committee will focus on several things: our spring and summer fundraisers, membership, and a new name that will take us into the next 75 years.

It is estimated that our organization has donated over a million dollars to the Grand Rapids Symphony since its founding. Since the year 2000, over \$600,000 has been given. That is amazing! Our Women's Committee has been a powerful and creative force in the Grand Rapids community and in our support of the Grand Rapids Symphony.

Today, we need your help. We need to grow and revitalize our ACTIVE and SUSTAINING membership. Recognizing many of our prospective members are in the workforce and have less time, we need to continue to make changes to our organization. Do we need fewer meetings or a regular meeting place instead of varying community locations? Please respond to the enclosed survey and give us your opinion, as well as your ideas for a name that better suits "who we are and what we do."

Our June FUNdraiser is The Rumsey Street Bazaar which will be a "marketplace" showcasing music, artists' booths, and a huge sale of unusual used items donated by supporters of the symphony. This will be a unique and successful fundraiser. The Picnic Pops Luxury Raffle is back for its 10th year! See inside for more details.

I look forward to working with all of you this spring as we create another outstanding community event.

Sincerely,
Bonnie

SPRING LUNCHEON MENU



Lemon Quinoa Salad with Grilled Chicken Breast.
It is lemon olive oil herb tossed quinoa salad, served on a nest of Bibb lettuce with warm grilled chicken, vegetable sticks, lemon evoo drizzle.

To celebrate our birthday, we will have cake for dessert!

Member Luncheon

May 12, 2016

11:30 Social, 12:00
Meeting

Cascade Country Club

RSVP to Suellen Bandyk

suziban@comcast.net

Bring a friend!!



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FREE NIGHT OUT!!

For the past couple of years we have sponsored a Women's Night Out event to share out appreciating of the GRS with our friends. This year the Symphony is doing it for us and it's FREE!

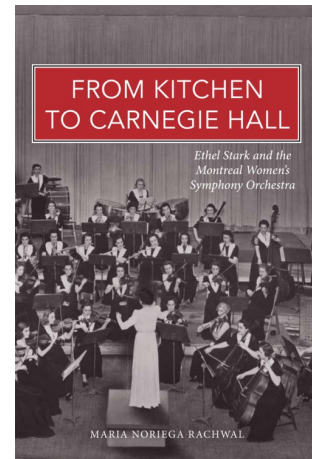
On April 7th at 7:30 PM there will be a 30-minute concert at the Jenison Fine Arts Center featuring Music Director Candidate Rune Bergmann and your GRS. The program will include Mozart's Overture to *The Marriage of Figaro* and Suite from *The Firebird*. A reception will follow this concert.

Please come and invite friends who will appreciate this perk of the Women's Committee membership. Seating is limited. RSVP by March 25. Go to grsymphony.org/Rune or call 616-454-9451 x165.

BOOK NEWS

From Kitchen to Carnegie Hall

For nearly thirty years the women of the Montreal Women's Symphony Orchestra – French, English, Jewish, Catholic, Protestant, black, white, socialite and domestic – responded to the fierce passion and relentless work ethic of their leader for the sheer love of making music together. They did all of this at a time when society was heavily stratified based on race, class and language. In the process they became the first Canadian orchestra to perform in New York's prestigious Carnegie Hall to rave reviews. One of its members also became the first Canadian black musician to play in a symphony in Carnegie Hall. Ethel Stark and the MWSO opened doors of equal opportunity for marginalized groups and played an important role in breaking down the gender stereotypes of the classical music world.



Check out their website at: fromkitchentocarnegiehall.com

BEHIND THE SCENES...FIFTH GRADE CONCERTS

In the last week of February, the Grand Rapids Symphony once again performed for thousands of fifth-graders at DeVos Hall. Led by John Varineau, the concerts were energetic and interactive. These young audience members responded immediately and audibly to the drama and excitement of the music – during the *Firebird*, the whole auditorium seemed to jump and gasp in unison.



The Women's Committee once again offered wonderful hospitality to the musicians (thanks to Suellen Bandyk's tireless efforts, as well as her volunteers) and hosted community leaders who came to view this educational outreach experience. This year we hosted school board members from a wide variety of districts, and Dr. Dan Jonker, superintendent of Allendale Public Schools. We missed out on a couple of our visitors when the Thursday concerts were canceled due to weather. Many musicians remarked that they had never experienced a canceled concert in

over 30 years of fifth grade concerts!

BROOKBY ENCHANTED FOLLOW UP



ATTENTION FAIRY HOUSE VOLUNTEERS:

Thanks again to all who participated in the Brookby Enchanted House Tour and Fairy Garden Walk last year. Our next Fairy Garden Walk will occur in the spring of 2017. Plans are already in the works to set up our enchanting gardens at Blandford Environmental Center. We hope you will join us!



RUMSEY STREET BAZAAR—SPRING FUNDRAISER

This spring the Women's Committee is working with the Rumsey Street ArtPrize SiTE:LAB to set up a marketplace extravaganza on June 9-12, 2016. We expect a wide range of music and performance styles in a street fair atmosphere. There will be family activities and booths with interesting artists, vintage clothing and linens, food, and upscale resale items in uniquely curated stalls.

Admission is free to both the market and music in the church building. Funds will be raised through underwriting, sponsorships, booth fees and commissions, sales of donated items and ticketed evening events. Tickets will be sold for participation in select activities. Our goal is to raise funds to support the educational programs of the Grand Rapids Symphony and engage with the community in a variety of musical and family-centered activities. Our profit goal is \$20,000.

We hope you are interested in participating! The theme is "the old made new" or "old with a twist." We will need many volunteers, participants, and attendees to make a successful event. We are also seeking donations of interesting "of-value" items for resale. We will pick up and store items donated. Tax donation forms will be available.

Donation Suggestions:

Art
Books, DVDs, Vinyl Records
Antiques
Furniture
Vintage Clothing
Hats, Shoes, Jewelry
Travel Souvenirs & exotica
Pop Culture Collectibles
Musical Instruments
Sheet Music
Garden & Outdoor items
Oddities

Contact Julie Connors at 957-8144
or Bonnie Monhart at 682-5048
or email: rumseystbazaar@gmail.com



GRAND FINALE LUXURY RAFFLE 2016

GRAND RAPIDS SYMPHONY WOMEN'S COMMITTEE

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Grand Rapids, MI 49503
616-454-9451

We are on the web:

www.grswomenscommittee.org

Facebook/[grswomenscommittee](https://www.facebook.com/grswomenscommittee)



The 2016 D&W Fresh Market Picnic Pops is Thursday and Friday evenings July 7-July 29, 2016. With winter nearly behind us, and summer just around the corner, it's time to start thinking of picnics, relaxing evenings and music under the stars!

We have an outstanding set of prizes with many past donors as well as several new donors. At the May 12th Spring Luncheon you will have the opportunity to donate to the cash prize which the Women's Committee provides.

Our goal this year is to donate \$25,000 to the Grand Rapids Symphony. Please sell, sell, sell!! You will receive a letter and 10 tickets (\$5 each) to sell or buy yourself at the Spring Luncheon. If you're unable to attend, it will be mailed to you. Please send the \$50.00 and ticket stubs back to us.

We will need several volunteers to help sell tickets at the remaining Spring Concerts at DeVos Hall on May 6, 7, 8 as well as May 13 & 14. Please sign up by calling or emailing Penny or Jean.

Penny: 219-363-8842 mamapanache@gmail.com

Jean: 616-676-4034 KVande6233@aol.com

We are off to a great start – let's make this 10th year the best year yet!

IMPORTANT DATES:

April 7—Rune Bergmann conducts special concert at Jenison High School

April 22-23—Marcelo Leninger conducts Pines of Rome

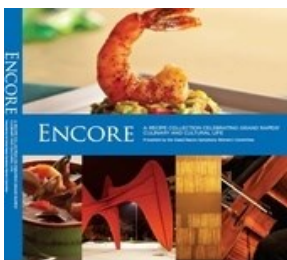
April 29-30—GRS plays Romeo and Juliet with Opera Grand Rapids

May 4— GRS plays a concert for the Gilmore Festival

May 6-8—John Williams Pops Concert conducted by Bob Bernhardt

May 12—Spring Luncheon at Cascade Country Club

May 13-14—Final Classical Concert of the season conducted by Larry Rachleff



Reminder! Cookbooks are still available for purchase—special pricing below:

One cookbook for \$20, Two for \$30, Three for \$40 and Four for \$50

Please contact Kim Roy to get yours today! kpbmroy@comcast.net or 616-818-9348