NEWS RELEASE
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Santa Rosa Symphony Announces New Board Members for 2013-2014

(SANTA ROSA, CA) — On June 25, the Santa Rosa Symphony announced five new appointments to its board of directors. They are Linda Castiglioni of Windsor, Ronald La Bruzzo, Dora Muir and Julia Parranto of Santa Rosa, and Tamara Voyles (Orchestra Representative) of Sebastopol.

Newly-elected board president, James Hinton, said, "I am privileged to welcome these five new members to the board of directors of the Santa Rosa Symphony. They bring talent and energy and a passion for excellence. These respected leaders join 33 existing board members who are committed to operating our symphony organization with integrity and fiscal stability, and to serving our community with the highest level of orchestral music."

In addition to Hinton, the following officers will guide the implementation of the Santa Rosa Symphony’s vision and mission in the coming year: Vice-President Sara Woodfield; Treasurer Harry Rubins; and Secretary Judith Gappa.

New Board Member Biographies
Linda Castiglioni was born and raised in San Francisco. She attended San Francisco State University and majored in Medical Technology. After a year of graduate work at the University of California-San Francisco Medical Center, and working in this field for several years, in 1980 she changed her focus and joined an insurance brokerage firm in the Financial District of San Francisco. She worked there in administration for 23 years until her retirement in 2003.

Castiglioni’s first introduction to classical music came from the "Standard School Broadcasts" in the 1950s. She also studied piano as a child. Years later she began attending lecture series at the San Francisco Conservatory of Music. After moving to Windsor in 2004, Castiglioni happened to see a Santa Rosa Symphony schedule and decided she wanted to become involved. “Since then, I feel fortunate to be able enjoy and sponsor our fine Santa Rosa Symphony, as well as the Green Music Center.” Asked about her reasons for joining the Board, Castiglioni said, “I am looking forward to
serving so that I may help ensure the continuity of excellence and fiscal viability of the Santa Rosa Symphony."

A native Californian from Monterey, **Ronald La Bruzzo** lived in the Sacramento region and later moved to San Francisco for several years before moving to Santa Rosa in 1996. This was perfect for his love of music, art, fine wines, and beautiful Sonoma County. He earned his Banking Degree from the Independent Banker Association, and has been in banking and finance for over 30 years. La Bruzzo is currently a vice president of Rabobank in Santa Rosa.

He enjoys volunteering for numerous civic organizations (including Santa Rosa Chamber of Commerce, Santa Rosa Cycling Club, Sonoma Valley Vintners Grower Alliance), riding with his Cycling Team Amici Di Bici, traveling, hiking and gardening.

“Music is part of my soul and the Symphony has been such an inspiration in my life!” La Bruzzo said. “As a Board member, I want to reach out to a broad swath of the community to make them aware of this wonderful resource right here in Santa Rosa. I talk to so many people who would likely enjoy the music but have never experienced it. I also believe that my expertise in business and finance is a big part of what I can contribute.”

**Julia Parranto** is a 53-year-old trial attorney in private practice in Santa Rosa. She is a graduate of the University of Minnesota, where she studied Political Science, and Santa Clara University, where she attended law school and obtained her JD. She is originally from St. Paul, MN, where she grew up in a family with 7 children. After law school, she worked in San Jose for 3 years at Reed, Elliott, Creech & Roth, before moving to Santa Rosa, where she worked for another lawyer for 1 ½ years before opening her own practice in 1992. Parranto is married to Rose Wognum Frances, an accomplished studio artist. The couple has three daughters: Andrea, a 20-year-old student at Loyola Marymount in Los Angeles, Madeline, 12, and Emilie, 8. Julia is an active member of the Santa Rosa Rotary Club and does volunteer work for the local courts and bar, serving as a settlement conference panelist, fee arbitrator, and past board member. She has no discernable musical ability, but enjoys music of all kinds, from bluegrass to alternative rock to classical music.

About her appointment to the board, Parranto said: “The Santa Rosa Symphony is one of the best parts of our community. We are all lucky to have such an excellent, world class symphony, and I am excited to be a part of its continued growth.”
Dora Muir has been surrounded by music from an early age. Growing up in Bellevue, Washington, she took piano and flute lessons and was a member of her elementary, junior high and high school concert bands. In her award-winning high school jazz band, she played vibes. She began joining choirs as an adult and has been singing soprano with the Sonoma Bach Choir since 2005. Muir has sung with the Sonoma Valley Chorale, Napa Valley Chorale and Sonoma State University Honor Choir. Her musical interests include all genres and eras, with special focus in the Renaissance and Baroque.

Muir graduated *cum laude* from the University of Washington with a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Graphic Design. She worked in the Seattle area for many years as a graphic designer and art director primarily in book publishing. She and her husband David moved to Santa Rosa in 2002, with a detour via Kansas and Southern California in pursuit of David’s avocation: restoring vintage competition cars. She joined Wells Fargo Bank in 2004 and supports the North Bay regional community banking president and over 800 team members.

In addition to her volunteer work and board membership with Sonoma Bach, Dora Muir volunteers as the Communications Chair of Wells Fargo’s Latin Connection Bay Area, an internal team member resource network. She and her husband live in Sonoma Valley where they enjoy many diverse arts, culinary expeditions, their eclectic music collection, and touring in their vintage Citroën.

“I benefitted greatly from the music programs that were available to all in the public schools when I was growing up. It shaped my life in so many positive ways, yet I probably took it for granted. Now as a Symphony board member, I look forward to supporting the Symphony’s long tradition of providing music programs for children in Sonoma County.”

Tamara Voyles grew up in Moraga, CA. She began studying violin at the age of nine. One year later, she joined the Young People's Symphony Orchestra in Berkeley. In high school, she became a member of the Oakland Youth Symphony Orchestra, with which she toured Scotland and Germany. She earned a Bachelor of Music degree from San Francisco State, and Master of Music degree from the Manhattan School of Music. Upon graduation, she received a fellowship for the National Orchestra of New York, where she had the wonderful experience of performing in Carnegie Hall seven times.

In 1986, Voyles returned to the Bay Area and proceeded to win auditions with the Modesto, Napa Valley, Vallejo and Santa Rosa symphonies. In addition, she participated in the Lake Tahoe Music Festival for ten years, played with the Lamplighters for twenty years and also performed with the Bay Area Women's Philharmonic for ten years. Other groups she has performed with include the Berkeley Symphony, the San Francisco Chamber Orchestra, the Rohnert Park Chamber Orchestra, Monterey Symphony, Cinnabar Opera, and Santa Cruz Symphony. She is currently enjoying her
twenty sixth season with the Santa Rosa Symphony. Voyles lives in Sebastopol with her daughter, Sara, where she enjoys the wildlife, and peace and quiet.

About her new board position, Voyles said, “I hope to learn more about the other working parts of the Symphony and it is my turn to contribute what I can to its success.”

**Board Officer Biographies**

**SRS Board President James Hinton** is a graduate of Stanford University, a former Air Force officer, and a 1964 graduate of Boalt School of Law at UC Berkeley. He began his law practice in Santa Rosa in 1964 with the firm of Spridgen, Moskowitz, Barrett & Achor; in 1988 he established his own law partnership, now known as Hinton, Cochran, Borba & Beckwith. After more than 33 years in civil litigation, representing individuals, corporations, governments, and professionals in state and federal courts, Hinton retired from law practice in 1997. After retiring, he served the City of Santa Rosa for six years on the board of the Luther Burbank Home & Gardens, four years as its chairman. Hinton has been an active member of Santa Rosa West Rotary Club since 1996. In 2002-2003, he was honored as its Rotarian of the Year, and in 2004-2005 he served as its president.

**SRS Board Vice-President Sara Woodfield** has had her own architectural practice in Santa Rosa since 1991. Before that, she worked on projects in Europe, Japan and America, at the St. Louis head office of HOK, one of the largest architectural firms in the world. She has a Master’s in architecture from UCLA. During her graduate studies, she lived for three months in Rome, and visited many of the great European concert halls, including the Musikverein Saal in Vienna, the prototype of both the Green Music Center and the Zurich concert hall. After graduation, she spent six months in the Orient, studying architecture from Japan to Australia. Sara was a leader of the three-year pro bono architectural City Vision program aimed at revitalizing downtown Santa Rosa and wrote the final report. Fruits of that program are now beginning to be seen in projects at Railroad Square and the competition for future unification of Courthouse Square.

**SRS Board Treasurer Harry Rubins** was born in Indianapolis, Indiana, and received his Bachelor of Science degree in chemistry from Purdue University. An early employer transferred him to Brussels, Philadelphia and Nashville. Then Rubins decided to move to the West Coast and obtained his MBA from the University of Santa Clara. Approximately 20 years ago, he left the marketing field to establish a successful financial planning practice in Santa Rosa. Rubins is a nationally recognized speaker to attorneys, CPSs, financial planners and civic group on retirement plan distributions and inherited IRAs.
He has been on the board of the Red Cross, the Santa Rosa Opera and the Santa Rosa West Rotary Club. He has consulted with nonprofit organizations on charitable giving strategies.

**SRS Board Secretary Judith M. Gappa** spent her career as a university administrator and faculty member. She was Director of Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity at Utah State University (1973-1980); Associate Provost for Faculty at San Francisco State University (1980-1991); and Vice President for Human Relations at Purdue University (1991-1998). While at Purdue, Gappa served on the Board of the Lafayette Symphony where she was a member of the executive committee. As a professor of higher education administration at all three campuses, her research focused on faculty employment and equity issues. She is the co-author of two books: *The Invisible Faculty* and *Rethinking Faculty Work: Higher Education’s Strategic Imperative*. Gappa received her BA and MA degrees in music from George Washington University and her doctoral degree in education from Utah State University.

For a complete list of Santa Rosa Symphony board members, see the Symphony’s website [here](#).

—Photographs of Board President James Hinton and new board members Linda Castiglioni, Ronald La Bruzzo, Dora Muir, Julia Parranto and Tamara Voyles are available upon request—

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