



NEWS

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Santa Rosa Symphony welcomes new Board Members

(Santa Rosa, Calif.) — The Santa Rosa Symphony (SRS), in its 95th season, announces four new appointments to its Board of Directors. The following Symphony supporters, listed in alphabetical order, begin their term today, July 1, 2022: Patrick Caskey, Robert Gleeson, Eugenia Wie and Julia Wilkinson.

SRS Chairman of the Board Corinne Byrd said, "We are excited to welcome these influential community leaders to the Santa Rosa Symphony's Board of Directors and are most grateful for their commitment to our mission. Their diverse backgrounds and breadth of experiences bring outstanding leadership qualities to the table. Our organization has been fortunate over the years to have an exceptional group of dedicated volunteer directors who understand the value of symphonic music and music education for youth. It will be a privilege to work together with the incoming slate of directors, as together we shape the future of our marvelous Santa Rosa Symphony association."

Patrick "Pat" Caskey was born in Roswell, N.M. He played piano at an early age, but eventually discovered the electric guitar. He played in several rock bands through high school and college and developed a love of music that persists to the present.

His undergraduate education was spent at the University of Utah, where he earned B.A. degrees in biology and psychology. He remained in Salt Lake City to attend medical school and after completing his M.D., he traveled to University of California, Davis, for his residency in ophthalmology. Following his residency, he relocated to Iowa City, where he completed his fellowships in disease and surgery of the retina at the University of Iowa.

After spending time in academic medicine, Caskey returned to Northern California to enter private practice. He was co-founder of North Bay Vitreoretinal Consultants, which provides specialized retinal care to Sonoma County and surrounding areas. He has participated on the board of the Earle Baum Center of the Blind and is a past board chairman. He officially retired from medical practice in October of 2020 and has been thoroughly enjoying life "not on call" since.

Caskey continues to dabble in the electric guitar and also plays the hammer dulcimer. He lives with his wife Karen, a former piano performance major, in Santa Rosa. They love living in Wine Country and enjoying all that the area has to offer, especially "the treasure that is the Santa Rosa Symphony!"

Robert Gleeson recently returned to Sonoma County after a short stint in Oregon. Gleeson retired in 2018 after working for over 30 years in educational entrepreneurship and administration at local universities, including University of San Francisco, Stanford, Dominican, and U.C. Berkeley. His experience focused on strategic planning, project design and implementation, brand management and organizational transformation.

Prior to relocating, Gleeson served on the Eugene Symphony Board. His interest in classical music began in high school, where he was a member of several choral groups and continued in college, where he minored in music. Gleeson is a strong advocate for music education, as he has seen "the power of music transform young lives as they learn to play an instrument, gaining a sense of accomplishment and pride, as well as, developing an appreciation for a genre of music they may have had no exposure to otherwise."

Gleeson's love of classical music (and Irish folk music) recently led him to become a beginning violin student. His experience as a violin student has greatly increased his appreciation of the skill and talent he sees on stage.

Eugenia Wie has been a member of the Santa Rosa Symphony (SRS) orchestra since 2010. This next season, she is excited to not only be contributing as a musician, but also as the music representative on the SRS Board of Directors and on the Artistic Review Committee.

Wie's life as a violinist began in the suburbs of Chicago at the age of 4. She continued her studies at Rice University, The New School's Mannes College of Music and the Musikhochschule in Köln. Her principal teachers include Sergiu Luca, Daniel Phillips and Josef Gingold.

Since relocating to the Bay Area in 2010, she has enjoyed a diverse career as an orchestral and chamber musician, freelancer and teacher. She is currently a member of Symphony San Jose and Monterey Symphony Orchestra, and also enjoys substituting with San Francisco Symphony, San Francisco Ballet and Opera San Jose. In December 2020, she released "Winter Wander," her first holiday album, with fellow SRS member Kathy Marshall Biggs.

In recent years, Wie has taken a great interest in musician wellness, which led her to complete her Yoga Tune-Up Teacher Training with Jill Miller in 2020. She currently leads stretching and functional movement classes at Body Temp Yoga in San Francisco. Wie lives in Noe Valley in San Francisco. Outside of her career, she enjoys hiking, snow-skiing, camping and baking. She still roots for her Chicago Cubs and Bears, and hopes to get back to international travel in 2022.

Julia Wilkinson joined the Santa Rosa Symphony League six years ago. She first served on the board as communication secretary. For the last four years, she has been Vice President of On-going Fund Raising. Starting in July, she will be League President. Wilkinson became interested in classical music and the Santa Rosa Symphony when daughter Kara played violin/viola with Santa Rosa Symphony's entry-level youth orchestra.

Born in Palo Alto, Wilkinson has lived in the Bay Area all but three years of her life. She graduated from San Jose State in 1969 with a BS in Marketing. She moved to Santa Rosa in 1976 and went back to school to earn a degree in Nursing. Wilkinson worked as a registered nurse at a Santa Rosa hospital for 26 years, the first half in cardiac nursing and then in pre-op education.

She and her husband of 32 years have two children together, and she is stepmother to his older two. They also have 11 grandchildren ranging in age from 14 to 30. Wilkinson is a master gardener and enjoys working in her drought-tolerant, English garden and observing the many birds and butterflies that frequent it. She also loves to read, play mahjong and dance.

[PHOTOS HERE](#) (DropBox)

ABOUT SANTA ROSA SYMPHONY

Santa Rosa Symphony, the Resident Orchestra of the Green Music Center, is the third-oldest professional orchestra in California, and the largest regional symphony north of Los Angeles. Francesco Lecce-Chong, the Symphony's fifth music director in its 95 years, began his tenure in 2018. Alan Silow, President & CEO, began his tenure in 2002. The Symphony is committed to core values of artistic excellence, innovative programming, comprehensive music education and community service.

The Symphony's performance schedule includes 21 Classical Series concerts (seven sets), Seven Discovery Dress Rehearsal concerts, a three-concert Family Series and a four-concert Pops Series, as well as special concerts.

Awards include an American Symphony Orchestra League MetLife Award for Community Engagement and a first-place award for adventurous programming in the 2012-2013 season from the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers (ASCAP).

The Symphony is recognized for having one of the most comprehensive music education programs in California, serving nearly 30,000 youths annually. Collaborations with schools and organizations across Sonoma County have gained the Santa Rosa Symphony national attention and support.