

EMSO Artistic Advisory Committee

The East Metro Symphony Orchestra's Artistic Advisory Committee supports the orchestra's Music Director/Conductor in developing concert repertoire. Possible musical selections are first researched for sheet music availability and associated costs, and other factors that may influence programming decisions, e.g., orchestration. Suggestions are submitted to the Music Director/Conductor by filling out a form which details information to be considered in her selection of concert repertoire (see below); possible concert themes, season themes, and collaborative opportunities with artistic partners may also be submitted. All final programming decisions are made by the Music Director/Conductor. The committee will select its own chairperson, and an EMSO Board member will sit on the committee to provide a liaison with the Board for matters such as possible financial expenditures and committee activity in general.

Specifically, the Artistic Advisory Committee will:

- Solicit and take programming suggestions from orchestra members;
- Review availability and approximate expenses involved in providing sheet music by reviewing selections available from the various sources of music – EMSO's own music library, loans from local and regional music consortia, music rental and music purchase. The committee will have access to information concerning each possible source;
- Make suggestions for artistic partners;
- Respond to any requests from the Conductor/Music Director and the Concertmaster concerning additional research that would be helpful to them in programming matters.

Items on Suggestion Form:

- Name of selection and composer (plus arranger if appropriate)
- Best source for acquiring music
- Cost
- Orchestration
- How the selection might fit into a concert theme;
- Possible artistic partner;
- Possible season themes

2018-2019 EMSO Season Opportunities for Artistic Advisory Committee Input

Following is a brief description of concerts for which Elizabeth seeks input:

- Date: Sunday, October 28, 2018

Location: King of King's Lutheran Church, Woodbury

Partners: King of King's musical ensembles (if like this past season this would include adult choir, brass ensemble, and handbell choir)

Repertoire: To be determined. Looking at festive, celebratory repertoire to mark the beginning of EMSO's 10th season, while including music for choir and orchestra that is accessible by the amateur choir and ideally would be able to be used by them for the upcoming Advent season.

Initial repertoire ideas:

Shostakovich: Festival Overture (EMSO)

Beethoven: Ode to Joy from Symphony No. 9 (EMSO, choir, high-level vocal soloists)

Schubert: Symphony No. 9 "Great"

Gabrieli: brass ensemble that could be played antiphonally

- Date(s) weekend of December 16 or 23, 2018 -- 12/16 weekend is strongest preference.

Location: East Ridge High School Loft Theater OR Stillwater Middle or High School Auditoriums (this depends on ultimate constitution of this program and availability of any of the local school auditoriums).

Partners: Woodbury Dance Center (definitely) and possibly group from Merrill Community Arts -- NOT Woodbury Community Theater.

Whether we partner with Merrill depends on what is deemed feasible to meet each group's goals and capacity. I am currently in communication with Barbe Marshall Hansen (new Executive Director for Merrill) to work through a variety of complicated situations. Barbe is very committed to partnering as Merrill rather than WCT to gain the most flexibility and accommodations to the needs for this program.

Repertoire: Mostly to be determined, but definitely including movements from The Nutcracker. Other components to be determined whether we are part of a big joint program with Merrill.

- Date: Saturday, February 9, 2019

Location: TBD -- annual Valentine's Day Pops Cabaret

Partners: To be determined, but likely including soprano Lisa Butcher and other of her singing colleagues. This program will also include guest conductor who won this past season's silent auction item. It is likely we will also use Jim Barnes as narrator and jazz pianist Dave Miller. Other guest artists/partners are certainly possible.

Repertoire: Completely to be determined

- Seniors Residence Concerts: All elements to be determined.
- Final concert of season -- likely in mid-May, 2019: All elements to be determined.

The past several years we have done "Origins" concerts. I would be happy to do another one *if* that is the desire of the orchestra.

Possibilities in that regard might be:

- Norwegian concert to celebrate Syttende Mai (May 17 national holiday). Such a program was EMSO's first "Origins" concert in May, 2003. It included a hardanger fiddler and was a great success.
- Chinese concert featuring local pipa expert Gao Hong and perhaps one of her student Chinese music ensembles
- Native American music and dance program featuring Minnesota-based fancy dancer Larry Yazzie and colleagues from his Native Pride Dancers.