Note Worthy News

Kansas City Symphony Guild

July 2026

Happy 4th of July

Kudos:

1. Judy Nelson for completing over 800 volunteer hours as an usher at the Kaufman Center. Well done, Judy!!
2. Uta Cross for joining the Board of the AMSOV national organization as Membership Chairman.
3. Madeline Johnson for organizing the July socials. Thanks!
4. Katie Jenkins, Symphony Liaison for organizing the Contributor's Concert
5. Marilyn Lewis for organizing an Event of Note for Oct 15 at Kendra Scott and Laraine Walters for volunteering to co-chair. (Details coming later)

Notes from the last Board Meeting:

1. Thanks to all of your time and effort, we were able to present the KC Symphony with a check for $88,000 this year, up from $70,000 last year. This was presented at the Contributor's Concert on June 3. Photos on page 4-8.
2. The new Board and Chairs met for a Board Retreat on June 17. We reviewed plans and budget for the coming year.
3. We have a Strategic Planning committee this year. We are in our final stages of completion with determining upcoming goals and projects for the year.
4. Cabaret Committee met with Embassy Suites to recap our event and suggestions for the upcoming year. Themes are being requested by members. Contact Kathy Leibrand if you have a suggestion ASAP.

Membership Recruitment:

If you have someone that you would like to invite to a membership meeting, they are welcome to attend at any time or any event. Please let Sandi Schmude, Nancy Kole and Cheryl Rittman know prior to the meeting. We welcome new members all year long.

Event of Note:

The purpose, as with our Guild mission, is to support and promote awareness of the Symphony via having fund raising events. Our goal is to have at least one Event of Note per year. Last year's Elvis was very successful, in part due to sponsorship of the committee members.

At this point, we do not have any major Event of Note planned for the 2026-27 year. If you have any ideas for an event or have a group that would like to plan an event, please contact Linda Sipes. There are written guidelines, if you are interested in reviewing.

Additional Notes:

New Hospitality Seating will be in the August newsletter. We need to know who are "snowbirds" are so that we do not assign you to a winter month. Let Sandi Schmude, Nancy Kole or Kathy Handley know ASAP.

New Membership Directory will be posted in August on the Website.

New Members

Gerri Fennell Hesketh

Gerri was born St. Louis, MO and is the youngest of five (four surviving) siblings scattered across the USA. Gerri's husband Rick and she have been married for 38 years. Their only child, a 33-year-old son, has a degree in Biology with an emphasis in Botany. After working in conservation for a few years in the Southwest he works as an arborist here in Kansas City,
After college graduation Gerri taught in Kansas City, Kansas. Then she worked in Sales and Sales Management for a Fortune 100 company for 15 years. After their son was born, Gerri worked for non-profits, was an active School district, PTA and Community volunteer. After volunteering for their annual Children's Literature Festival at Park University, Gerri was hired to work in their Literacy Center. She returned to teaching after helping care for her mother in St. Louis and retired from North Kansas City Schools.
Although Gerri does not have a history with music, she appreciates all music genres and is supportive of all music and art education.
Mentor: Cheryl Rittman

Heather Mathewson

Our "3rd" member named Heather has been married for 25 years and has a grown son and young adult twin girls. Heather is a part time receptionist and grew up in Chicago and KC.
She found out about KCSG via Sandi Schmude.
When asked about her music background, Heather shared that her dad played the piano and she plays "a bit".

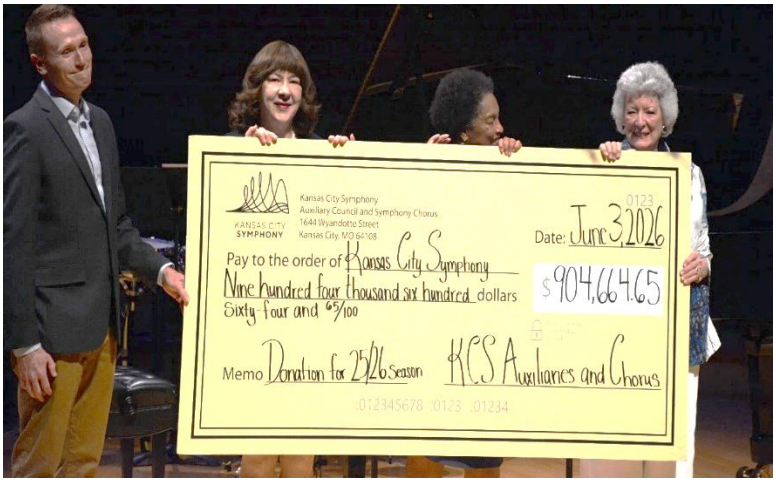
Heather George and Jane Brown – will be featured next month.

May Luncheon Photos

Prima Facie Bistro
12 E St Suite B, Parkville, MO 64152

Contributor's Concert, June 13.

Donation from all three Alliances.



Are you reading the Newsletter?

So that Board has a sense of who is reading our newsletter, please send me your name and I will add your name to a raffle gift to be presented at the September meeting. Happy Summer! Cheryl Rittman