



ARTS OF SOUTHERN KENTUCKY'S ELM STREET SOCIETY CELEBRATES MOMENTUM FOR NEW SEASON

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BOWLING GREEN, KY – Arts of Southern Kentucky's Elm Street Society held an event this past Saturday, April 17th, at the Southern Kentucky Performing Arts Center (SKyPAC) for its members. The event was a "Spring Fling Soiree" exclusive to Elm Street Society members. Hosted by Rita and Jim Scott, the party included cocktails and hors d'oeuvres, entertainment, awards, and a tour of SKyPAC with a viewing of available naming opportunities within the building. The Scotts hosted the event as an opportunity for fellowship among the members and to celebrate the launch of an exciting season for the premiere arts organization in South Central Kentucky.

The Elm Street Society recently reached a record, hitting over 100 members. Elm Street Society members are Arts of Southern Kentucky donors who have made pledges of one-thousand-dollars or more to the organization with a commitment to continue those pledges for at least five years. Benefits to members include priority seating, discounted pre-concert cocktails onsite at SKyPAC, invitations to private annual parties, invitations to special trips, special parking privileges, and more. The main benefit to the members, however, is knowing that they are helping to ensure that our community has access to high-quality performing arts presentations.

During the event, the following were recognized as new members of the Society and were awarded a bust of the great composer, Ludwig van Beethoven: Nancy D. Baird, Dr. Donna J. Boden, Jessica & John Carver, Gerri Combs, Robert W. Hankins, Betsy & Jeff Harned, Tom Harned, Sherry Howell, Drs. Harold & Cassandra Little, Donna & Gaines Penn, Julie & Gary Ransdell, Kenwyn & Jimmy Riddle, Deidre & Randy Schumaker, Sheila & Tony Scott, Beth & Chris Sigler, Jennifer & John Simms, and Deborah & Christopher Thorn. A complete list of Elm Street Society members may be found online at www.TheSKyPAC.com. Those who are interested in joining the Society should contact Denise Lubey at 574-220-3332 or dlubey@artsofsky.org.

"I continue to be humbled by the generosity of the members of the Arts of Southern Kentucky Elm Street Society," says Jeff Reed, President & CEO of Arts of Southern Kentucky. "This group is truly helping to set the stage for an exciting upcoming season for performing arts in our community. I greatly enjoyed the opportunity to celebrate with each member in attendance at the soiree, while also welcoming several new members to this impressive society. Our community is blessed to have so many who understand the vision for a brighter Southern Kentucky."

The event comes on the heels of two recent announcements regarding donations made to the organization. On April 1st, ASK announced that Rita and Jim Scott would be making a one-million-dollar

gift. Fittingly, the primary performance space in SKyPAC is now named the Rita and Jim Scott Concert Hall. It was also announced that Sherry and Jeff Reed would be making a \$50,000 gift to name a star dressing room and an anonymous donor would be making a \$25,000 gift in honor of ASK Finance Director Shea Mahoney. The Finance Office at SKyPAC will now bear Ms. Mahoney's name.

In addition to these donations, the organization continues to receive extensive community support, including funds totaling more than \$102,000, which were donated by 20-21 Orchestra Kentucky season ticket holders from canceled shows to help support organizational operating expenses during the pandemic. Also, more than \$65,000 has been transferred by 20-21 Orchestra Kentucky subscription holders to season ticket packages for the 21-22 concert season.

"The recent gifts have created significant momentum for our organization, building upon the legacy of prior contributors, who we remain grateful to, such as the Laura Goad Turner Charitable Trust and the Haskins Foundation among many others, which have long shaped the Arts in our Community with their generosity," says Arts of Southern Kentucky Board Chair Beth Sigler. "Their history of benevolence in the formation and operation of SKyPAC and Orchestra Kentucky has enabled us to reach this point, where, after the formation of Arts of Southern Kentucky, Inc. we are able to instill confidence in the community. We truly appreciate the generosity of the Scotts, Reeds, the anonymous donor, and Elm Street Society members for their support, especially as we plan to emerge from the pandemic. While there is no doubt the COVID-19 pandemic negatively impacted the Arts, it is remarkable how this community came together to create a lasting, sustainable, new organization that will bring Artistic Performances to the community for years to come."

Additional opportunities are available for those who would like to support the arts in Southern Kentucky, including numerous naming opportunities within the SKyPAC building. Supporters are also encouraged to consider subscribing to the upcoming 21-22 Orchestra Kentucky and SKyPAC mainstage events. Details of the 21-22 Orchestra Kentucky season, sponsored by the Haskins Foundation, may be found at OrchestraKentucky.com and packages may be purchased by calling the SKyPAC box office at (270) 904-1880, open 9am to 5pm, weekdays. The SKyPAC main stage performances will be released in the beginning of May 2021.

Arts of Southern Kentucky - Orchestra Kentucky merged into Arts of Southern Kentucky, Inc. to oversee the management of the Southern Kentucky Performing Arts Center (SKyPAC) in late 2020 to serve a common mission: providing access to the Arts to the community, through performances, shared experiences, and education. The restructuring was approved by the unanimous vote of both organizations' boards of directors, with the assistance of the Warren County Fiscal Court and Judge Michael O. Buchanan. As a result of the restructuring Arts of Southern Kentucky is poised to overcome the challenges posed by the current global pandemic and to ensure access to arts, arts education, and entertainment for future audiences. The new organization is led administratively and artistically by Jeffrey Reed.

Orchestra Kentucky - Founded in 2000, Orchestra Kentucky of Bowling Green quickly became south central Kentucky's professional orchestra. Its members have performed with ensembles such as the Cincinnati, St. Louis, Dallas, Nashville, Charleston and Louisville orchestras. With more than 1,000 subscribers in a community of approximately 60,000, the orchestra attributes its success to innovative programming, designed to appeal to a variety of audiences. Orchestra Kentucky has backed legendary entertainers, including Neil Sedaka, Glen Campbell, Kenny Rogers, Paul Williams and The 5th Dimension. It is involved in commissioning new works by popular performers, premiering compositions by Neil

Sedaka, Keith Emerson, Peter Tork, Jimmy Webb, and PDQ Bach.

Southern Kentucky Performing Arts Center - A premier entertainment center, SKyPAC is a multi-use facility located in downtown Bowling Green, KY. SKyPAC is owned by the Southern Kentucky Performing Arts Center, Inc. and was previously managed by the Southern Kentucky Performing Arts Foundation, Inc., which dissolved in late 2020. The facility includes an 1,800-seat state-of-the-art auditorium including The Renshaw Education Center, which houses the Carol Wedge Studio Theater - a flexible 2,600 sq. ft. space for intimate productions and gatherings; several multi-functional rehearsal halls/classrooms; a children's art gallery and a main gallery. The Capitol Arts Center provides a 750-seat auditorium and two art galleries, the Houchens Gallery and Mezzanine Gallery.

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