

NEWS RELEASE

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Santa Rosa Symphony Announces New Board Members for 2011-12

(Santa Rosa, CA) – The Santa Rosa Symphony recently announced four new appointments to the board of directors. They are **Judith Gappa**, **David Stare** and **Richard Wilber** of Santa Rosa, and **Meg Titchener** (Orchestra representative) of Richmond.

Board president, Eric Rossin, said, “I am privileged to serve as president of the board of the Santa Rosa Symphony Association, and I look forward to the Symphony’s 84th year of service. I am eternally grateful for the tremendous support we receive from our audiences, our orchestra musicians and our staff. These four new board members bring tremendous wisdom, talent and energy to our organization and I’m pleased to warmly welcome them.”

In addition to Rossin, the following officers will guide the implementation of the Symphony’s vision and mission in the coming year: Vice-President **Charlie Schlangen**, Treasurer **Jim Hinton**, and Secretary **Peggy Elliott**.

New Board Member Biographies

Judith M. Gappa received her Bachelor’s and Master’s degrees in music from George Washington University, and an EdD from Utah State University in Educational Management. She is currently Professor Emerita at Purdue University. She served as 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). From 1998- 2006 she was a Professor of Higher Education Administration in the Department of Educational Studies at Purdue. Her research and publications have covered faculty employment and equity issues in higher education. She has co-authored two books: *The Invisible Faculty* (1993) with David Leslie, and *Rethinking Faculty Work: Higher Education’s Strategic Imperative* (2007) with Ann Austin and Andrea Trice. During her time at Purdue University, Gappa was invited to serve on the Board of the Lafayette Symphony Orchestra where she was also a member of the Executive Committee. Working with the symphony musicians she developed a handbook that included musicians’ rights and responsibilities.

“I am a big fan of Bruno Ferrandis and the Santa Rosa Symphony and I am looking forward to the transition to the Symphony’s new home at the Green Music Center,” Gappa said. “This is a very exciting time to be on the board.”

David Stare was raised and schooled in the Boston area. He is a graduate of MIT and has an MBA from Northwestern in Chicago. After working for seven years in the railroad industry and in Germany, Stare moved to Sonoma County and founded Dry Creek Vineyard. As an early pioneer in the rebirth of the Sonoma wine industry, he successfully guided Dry Creek to one on Sonoma’s best known wineries. Although he is still the principle owner, he retired 6 years ago from the active management of the winery. In retirement, he enjoys painting, traveling, working on his outdoor garden railroad, learning Italian, and sailing.

He got his love of classical music from his parents and often went to hear the Boston Symphony before moving to Sonoma County. He has been a season ticket holder of the Santa Rosa Symphony for over 30 years, and served on the Board 15 years ago. His other non-profit activities include the Healdsburg Center for the Arts, Global Partners for Development and KRCB.

“I have been a long time supporter of the SRS, and am now retired from my business so I have the time required to devote. I want to help the Santa Rosa Symphony grow to be recognized as one of the best regional symphonies in the United States.”

Richard Wilber is a physician educated at the University of California, San Francisco. After serving in Sacramento as a pathologist for 16 years, Dr. Wilber returned to Santa Rosa in 2000 to assume his duties at Santa Rosa Memorial Hospital. He has been active in Medical Staff affairs including infection control, medical education, medical oncology, and performance improvement. He is currently Medical Director of the Clinical Laboratory and Pathology departments of Santa Rosa Memorial Hospital and has served on the Santa Rosa Memorial Hospital Foundation Board of Directors since 2008.

While an undergraduate student at U.C. Santa Barbara, Dr. Wilbur developed an appreciation and love for classical music. Other interests include golf, stamp collecting, roses and needlepoint. He and his wife Annette are active Symphony supporters and have been Symphony Pops ticket holders since its inception. They are also enthusiastic advocates for the Green Music Center and are continuing donors toward its completion.

“The Santa Rosa Symphony is among the best of the many jewels in the Redwood Empire,” said Wilber. “I want to see the Symphony flourish (as it richly deserves) and continue its tradition of excellence as it transitions into the Green Music Center.”

Orchestra Representative Meg Titchener has traveled around the United States pursuing degrees as well as performing opportunities. She was fortunate to attend one of the earliest performing arts schools in Houston, and from there went to Northwestern for a Bachelor’s degree and Manhattan School of Music for a Master’s degree, both in viola performance. After a few seasons with the Sacramento Symphony, she moved to the Bay Area and began freelancing. Currently she is principal viola in Napa Valley Symphony and acting principal in Oakland. After three years as acting principal in Santa Rosa, she will be moving back to the assistant chair for 2011-2012. Titchener enjoys coaching the violists in the Napa Valley and Santa Rosa youth orchestras. She is a single mother of two sons, one of whom is finishing his second year at UCLA; the other will be a senior in high school.

“I hope to get to know this group of people who have been so important to the continued success of this orchestra, which I love,” Titchener said. “I would also like to be part of all of the exciting changes in the youth education programs and help these operations live up to their enormous potential.”

Board Officer Biographies

SRS Board President **Eric Rossin** and his wife Beth Weisburn moved to Sonoma County in 1995. They live in Sebastopol with their two children, Samuel and Alexander. Rossin was a co-founder of Alantro Communications and served as president from its inception in 1997 until it was acquired by Texas Instruments in 2000. Currently, Rossin splits his time between his family and advising technology start-up companies. He and his family share a love of music, reading and Sonoma County. Rossin holds a Ph.D., M.Eng. and B.S. degree, all in Electrical Engineering, from Cornell University.

SRS Board Vice-President **Charlie Schlangen** is currently the president of Charmar, LLC, a commercial real estate investment firm. Prior to launching a career in real estate, the Santa Rosa native was an attorney with Simpson Thacher & Bartlett, LLP, practicing in the New York, Palo Alto, and Hong Kong offices where he focused primarily on securities and capital markets work for Fortune 500 companies and international clients. Before law school, he spent two years at D.E. Shaw & Co. in their Strategic Growth department. Schlangen is also on the Board and Executive

Committee of The 1990 Institute (a Chinese economic and social policy think tank), an active volunteer for Stanford University and the University of Chicago Law School, a member of the Council of Fellows and the Young Members' Steering Committee of the Morgan Library in New York, as well as being on the board of the Clarion Music Society. His interests include singing opera, tennis, skiing, and extensive foreign travel.

SRS Board Treasurer **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 Secretary **Peggy Elliott** is a partner in the law firm of Anderson, Zeigler, Disharoon, Gallagher & Gray in Santa Rosa. Her practice areas include: Estate Planning, Probate, Business Law and Trademark. Since 1993 she has served as adjunct faculty for SSU Attorney Assistant Program and the Estate Planning and Gift Taxation faculty at Empire College School of Law.

A complete list of board members can be obtained by visiting the Santa Rosa Symphony website at www.santarosasympphony.com.

--Photos of Judith Gappa, David Stare, Richard Wilbur and Meg Titchener available upon request--