



## LIMA SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

Your Professional Regional Symphony

# Prelude

A Quarterly Newsletter for Lovers of Music

### PRELUDE TO 2010-11 SEASON BY MAESTRO CRAFTON BECK

All of my colleagues and I look very forward to beginning the LSO's 57<sup>th</sup> season on October 2 with a gala opening concert that presents a line-up of orchestral favorites for the season opener. The big feature will be Beethoven's *Violin Concerto*, which is on everyone's list of top three concertos ever written for the violin, and one which is often ranked number one. Violin soloist Kurt Nikkanen is a musician of international stature, performing this season with the likes of the Oregon Symphony and the St Louis Symphony, and I am so pleased to get to work with him again and with our orchestra to present one of the world's greatest masterworks.

Two other big-time favorites will make up our opening concert: Benjamin Britten's *Young Person's Guide to the Orchestra* -- which is a colorful, tuneful, powerful introduction to every instrument in the orchestra -- and Rimsky-Korsakov's *Capriccio Espagnol*, which besides being full of famous melodies, is a real tour de force for the orchestra's musicians.

In November, it will be a true joy for us to team up with The Ohio State University at Lima to help celebrate its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary in the Lima community. Even if you're not a Buckeye fan, you simply are not going to want to miss the chance to hear our orchestra on stage with 36 members of the OSU Marching Band, members of the OSU Lima Chorus and Pep Band, and the Lima Symphony Chorus in presenting all the Buckeye

musical favorites: *Across the Field*, *Buckeye Battle Cry*, *Carmen Ohio* and, of course, *Hang On Sloop*y. The orchestra feature at the November concert will be the fun, exciting, powerful, over-the-top *Symphony Fantastique* by Hector Berlioz.

December will bring our holiday favorite, "Bells Brass and Bows," and another amazing New Years Eve Concert, which will present music of the Eagles and will be the usual early-evening concert that you can catch on the way to or from other New Year's activities with family or just a loved one.

January finds the LSO presenting our mid-winter magical treat Mozart by Candlelight in three cities: Lima, Delphos and Sidney. Last season's all-Tchaikovsky concert was a tremendous favorite, and in February, we try to respond to the many comments and requests by presenting Tchaikovsky's final great work, his last will and testament, his *Sixth Symphony*. March brings giant puppets to the stage as the orchestra presents "Four Fables:" *The Sorcerer's Apprentice*, *The Firebird*, *The Legend of Sleepy Hollow*, and Dr. Seuss's *Green Eggs and Ham!* For our grand finale, it will be a pleasure to introduce to

Lima a good friend and remarkable percussionist, Lisa Pegher -- along with a stage full of percussion instruments in a presentation of a fantastic *Concerto for Percussion and Orchestra*.

The orchestra and I very much look forward to digging in and fulfilling our promise of bringing the world's greatest music and art to Lima.



Join us before the November 6<sup>th</sup> Buckeyes and Berlioz concert for a tailgate party at 5:30 p.m. in front of the Civic Center, featuring members of the University Marching Band, the Pep Band, and, of course, Brutus.

### Kurt Nikkanen, Violin Soloist

Kurt Nikkanen was born in Hartford, Connecticut, and began his violin studies at the age of three. At twelve, he gave his Carnegie Hall debut, performing with the New York Symphony; two years later he was invited by Zubin Mehta to perform the *Paganini Concerto No. 1* with the New York Philharmonic for a Young People's Concert. He studied with Dorothy DeLay at the Juilliard School. In a distinguished international career, he regularly receives invitations from the leading orchestras in the United States and

Europe, and has toured Japan and the Far East. An enthusiastic advocate of contemporary music, he has given numerous performances of the John Adams *Violin Concerto* and other contemporary projects, including Aaron Jay Kernis's *Concerto for violin and guitar*, which he performed at the 1998 Aspen Festival, HK Gruber's violin concerto *Nebelsteinmusik* and the world premiere of John Zorn's *Contes de Fées*. Steven R. Gerber's *Violin Concerto* was written especially for him.



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## Director's Notes...

Welcome to **The Power of Music**, our 2010-2011 season!

We appreciated your comments on our recent questionnaire! Overwhelmingly you asked for an **earlier start time** for our concerts. Beginning this fall, our concerts will now start at **7:30 p.m.** It may be interesting for you to know that most orchestras across the country are now opting for a 7:30 p.m. start time.

**Our Wine Tasting Event is back!** Last year's event was so successful we are doing it again! **Leo and Arlene Hawk will be our hosts** for this year's event on October 6th. We will feature an interesting collection of wines, superb hors d'oeuvres from local restaurants, and of course music performed by our Lima Symphony Orchestra musicians. This special event is **limited to the first 100 people** with tickets priced at \$100 each. Call the office at 419-222-5701 and reserve your place today!

As I write this, we are printing the first tickets on our new ticketing system. You can **visit our web site** and not only read about the concerts we offer this year but also **hear some of the music we will perform.** **You will also be able to purchase tickets on line.** Please visit our web site and explore the possibilities. [www.limasymphony.com](http://www.limasymphony.com)

Our opening concert **filled with music that is both timeless and fun** will feature **Kurt Nikkanen**, a fabulously electrifying young violinist. Special guest **Linda Burkhalter** will lead the orchestra performing the *Thunder and Lightning Polka*. We wish to thank **Virginia Crouse** for underwriting Kurt Nikkanen's solo performance and **Superior Federal Credit Union** as major underwriter of this exceptional concert.

In November, we enter into an **exceptional partnership with The Ohio State University at Lima.** Our *Buckeyes and Berlioz* concert will pay special tribute to the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of The Ohio State University at Lima. We will **perform all your favorite Ohio State music and Berlioz' Symphony Fantastique.** Join us at 5:30 PM for a tail gate party with the Ohio State Band outside the performance hall. Also in partnership with Ohio State/Lima, on October 16<sup>th</sup> we are hosting a **5K Fun Run.** Runners and walkers are welcome to come to the campus and enjoy a truly unique event. Registration forms will be available at our first concert and also by calling our office at 419-222-5701. **HCF, Touchstone CPN/Tuttle Construction Co. and Dr. Jim and Chris O'Neill** deserve our appreciation for making this concert a reality.

I wish to recognize and thank our underwriters and sponsors as well as each of you who contribute so generously to our annual fund. We look forward to seeing you at our concerts and special events this year!

*Maria Owen*  
Executive Director

## Third Annual Wine Tasting

Wednesday, October 6, 2010 ~ 7 p.m.

At the home of Leo and Arlene Hawk, 2636 Shoreline Drive

\$100 per person

Toast the beginning of the symphony season at our Third Annual Wine Tasting party on October 6<sup>th</sup>! Join us for a sparkling glass of champagne and fine boutique wines as you sample the finest fare from approximately ten local restaurants. Don't miss our experience-of-a-lifetime live auction items, including the opportunity to perform the Toy Symphony this season with our orchestra and play actual toys, from a rattle to a cuckoo, on stage!

This spirited evening is limited to 100 people, so call our office at (419) 222-5701 to make your reservation today.



# A Back-Stage Look at your LSO

By Dr. Bev Bletstein, Stage Manager

This will be another remarkable season of programming for the Lima Symphony Orchestra and for you, the audience. Variety, versatility and virtuosity will come together to bring the best of music from all genres to all ages, and most importantly, for all palates. What unfolds throughout the LSO season comes to fruition through the teamwork of a dedicated myriad of diverse individuals with the artistic, technical, logistical and practical expertise needed to “produce” a series. The beauty of the non-profit organization is that it belongs to everyone and can celebrate the culture and history of the community in all its glory, and that basic principle is at the forefront of the LSO operations. Almost like a family tree, a chain is formed with the symphony staff at the helm as they form partnerships throughout the community. From Britten to Beethoven and Buckeyes to Berlioz, it is expressed through music, the core of it all.

So what really takes place before the curtain rises? This is a question we are asked repeatedly. As with all artistic endeavors, we start with an artistic vision: a plan or map set by our Music/Artistic Director, Crafton Beck. Like a carefully “orchestrated” dance, the musicians painstakingly work through the phrasing, articulation and dynamics of each piece at the stroke of the Maestro’s baton until it reflects the intent of the composer. Most of this is straightforward, but occasionally, as with our “Buckeyes and Berlioz” concert, designed, in part, as a partnership to celebrate the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of The Ohio State University at Lima, we are asking the brass-based Ohio State Marching and Pep Bands to perform with the string and woodwind section of the orchestra. Parts are matched and adapted based on

basic commonalities in melodic range and register. For example, the cello section is able to play the tenor horn parts due to their ability to duplicate similar pitches.

Our next step is to make it pleasing to the eye as well as the ear. Classical concerts, although often of a high level of musical difficulty, are relatively easy technically—lights up and down, along with an occasional microphone or DVD of the season highlights. For our pops concerts that require more theatrics, we add color gels, sometimes enhanced with motion lights, at New Year’s Eve, for example. To add to the ambiance, a hazer is programmed to spew mist across the stage. This makes the light pop, so to speak, in a way that adds depth and breadth to the viewer’s experience. All of the many effects available are carefully chosen based on what we hope, as an artistic team, will stimulate or compliment the music, script and visual aspects of a given theme, whether it be “Star Wars,” the twinkle lights reminiscent of a Christmas setting or the magic of Harry Potter.

This is all offered to you, the devoted patrons of the Lima Symphony Orchestra, through the administrative staff under the leadership of our Executive Director, Marie Drum, and Board of Directors. They keep you informed and continue to be your listening ear. The many volunteers that complete the community partnership are not to be forgotten: Our Lima Symphony Chorus, the additional backstage crew, ticket-takers and Christmas decorators all add something to the final product that we hope you will continue to enjoy!

## Catch Brutus with the Lima Symphony Orchestra



**5K Fun Run/Walk**  
The Ohio State University at Lima  
October 16, 2010  
8:30 a.m.



Celebrate the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of OSU/Lima and support the LSO by Catching Brutus with us. Whether you are an accomplished runner or prefer a leisurely stroll, you will enjoy this flat and scenic course through the campus of The Ohio State University at Lima.

Pre-registration is just \$15 and includes an event t-shirt.

Prizes will be awarded to the top 3 male and to the top 3 female overall runners, and will include a bow tie signed by Gordon Gee, tickets for 2 to our New Year’s Eve Music of the Eagles concert, and tickets for 2 to our Buckeyes and Berlioz concert. The top runner

within each age group will also be awarded a buckeye necklace made for the event by the Apollo Career Center.

Dress for the occasion and win even more! Special prizes will also be awarded for the best OSU costume and for the best representation of a musical instrument.

Proceeds will support LSO youth education programs and OSU/Lima music scholarships.

Sign up today by calling our office or print out a registration form from our website at [www.limasymphony.com](http://www.limasymphony.com).



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## 2010-2011 KIDSTUFF CLUB

Four Saturdays a year, something magical happens at the  
Lima Public Library.

Small ensemble groups of talented musicians from our orchestra  
present fun, free programs for area preschool and elementary school  
children and introduce them to the joy of classical music.

Children listen, dance, touch the instruments and, best of all, delight in what they have learned.



Join us for KidStuff presented free of charge at the Lima Public Library at 10 a.m. on the following Saturdays:

### **September 25, 2010 – Crayola Blues with Crafton Beck**

Take a look at musical color – bright colors, dark colors, and, of course, a little blues.

### **October 30, 2010 – A Halloween Spooktacular with Crafton Beck**

The fun and imaginative side of classical music's spookiest melodies.

### **January 29, 2011 – Space Ships, Aliens and Other Weird Creatures with Erin Grim**

Explore music that is out of this world.

### **March 5, 2011 – Four Fables: A Family Concert preview with Erin Grim**

Make your own instrument to perform with our orchestra at our annual family concert on March 6.