

A crowd of about 180 people attended the Hartford Symphony’s first Musical Dialogues of the 2004-2005 season on Halloween Sunday at Faith Congregational Church, the third-oldest African American Congregational church in the U.S. and the oldest established Black Congregational church in Connecticut. Arriving guests were greeted by Pastor Barbara Headley and HSO Music Director Edward Cumming. Among those in attendance were HSO board member Eric Turner and the newly elected Deputy Commissioner of Community and Economic Development, Jennifer Smith.



Pianist Evelyn Ulex, Violist Kaila Potts, Clarinetist Miriam Adam, and Composer Valerie Coleman

Sharon Steinle, Manager of Special Events and Community Programs, introduced Maestro Cumming who hosted the afternoon and was delighted about the good turnout for this free community outreach event.

Kaila Potts, the First Place Senior Division Laureate of the 7th national Sphinx Competition, opened the program with an inspiring and joyful interpretation of Johann Sebastian Bach’s *Chaconne* from Partita No. 2 in D minor. With her flowing movements and agility she makes playing the viola look simple and Bach’s music was a perfect match for her crystal clear and tone. Her heart-wrenching rendition of *Sweet Low, Sweet Chariot* was the perfect way to close with the sunlight breaking through the stained glass windows of Faith Congregational Church.

Potts’ performance was followed by Valerie Coleman’s Sonatine for Clarinet and Piano, which was performed by clarinetist Miriam Adam and German-born pianist Evelyn Ulex. Coleman’s Sonatine is

tonal and features both instrument as equals participating in a dialogue. The performers presented a masterful rendition of the difficult piece and were able to bring out the glowing melodies, which contrasted the wild and restless lines in the virtuoso clarinet part. It was fascinating to witness Ms. Adam’s technical capacity on the clarinet. Coleman was invited to take part in Musical Dialogues because she has been commissioned by the HSO to compose a new piece for the upcoming “I Have A Dream” concert in January.



Pianist Evelyn Ulex and Violist Kaila Potts with young audience member

Maestro Cumming invited the performers to join him for an open dialogue with the audience during which the artists gave insight into their personal lives. Ms. Potts commented: “I love this format, because it gives us musicians

the opportunity to interact with the audience in a way that we normally can’t.”

Musical Dialogues programs are always followed by a reception with the artists to further encourage the dialogue between artists and audience. The young trumpeter Josh Evans, a Hartford native, and his trio did an excellent job in setting the mood for a laid back fall afternoon of fellowship.

Capriccio! is published for the friends of the Hartford Symphony Orchestra

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Holiday 2004

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HARTFORD
SYMPHONY
ORCHESTRA

EDWARD CUMMING
MUSIC DIRECTOR

228 Farmington Avenue
Hartford, CT 06105
www.hartfordsymphony.org

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Hartford Symphony’s Holiday Gifts of Music and Dance

As Bach approached his 50th birthday, following the composition of his great Passions, he created one of the most cheerful and beautiful of all his works, a cycle of six cantatas to be performed between December 25 and January 6. The *Christmas Oratorio* borrowed many of the best movements from some of Bach’s earlier secular cantatas, refitting them with sacred texts. As much a holiday tradition in Europe as Handel’s *Messiah* is in English-speaking countries, Bach’s *Christmas Oratorio* is a moving and unforgettable musical experience.

On **Saturday, December 11 at 8:00 p.m.** and **Sunday, December 12 at 3:00 p.m.**, the Hartford Symphony Orchestra begins its celebration

of the holiday season with Johann Sebastian Bach’s *Christmas Oratorio, Part I* in the Belding Theater at The Bushnell

Coffey, will feature CONCORA, The Hartford Chorale, the Hartford Symphony, and Jack Anthony Pott as the Evangelist.



HSO and dancers, at Symphony Hall, 2004

Salute to Vienna
10th Anniversary 1995-2005

Center for the Performing Arts. This inspiring holiday celebration, conducted by CONCORA’s Artistic Director, Richard

The Bushnell Center for the Performing Arts. *Salute to Vienna*, the only performance modeled carefully after the Viennese original, also will be presented with the HSO at Boston’s Symphony Hall on January 2nd at 2:30 p.m. With a wonderful new cast and a brand new program, the

On **Friday, December 31 at 7:30 p.m.** the holiday festivities continue with the World’s Greatest New Year’s Concert, **Salute to Vienna**. The performance in Hartford is for one night only and will take place in Mortensen Hall at

The Dream Continues

For the sixth straight year the Hartford Symphony Orchestra honors the legacy of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. with a concert at The First Cathedral in Bloomfield. Entitled “**I Have A Dream**,” the event, will take place on **Sunday, January 16th at 7 p.m.** Classical and Gospel traditions merge in this joyous program featuring Beethoven’s “Hallelujah Chorus,” Joseph Schwantner’s “New Morning for the World (Daybreak of Freedom)” and the world premiere of “The Painted Lady,”

I HAVE A DREAM!

a newly commissioned work for soprano and orchestra, underwritten by a generous grant from Saint Paul Travelers. “I Have A Dream” is presented by ING. On Tuesday, January 18th at 10:30 a.m. the HSO will perform an abbreviated version of the concert at The First Cathedral as part of the Hoffman Discovery Concerts for school Groups.



Adina Aaron

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Capriccio!

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magnificent live celebration will showcase the best of Johann Strauss waltzes, polkas and marches and light opera classics featuring soprano Ingrid Mankhof, tenor Thomas Piffka, members of the Hungarian National Ballet and the Hartford Symphony Orchestra conducted by guest conductor Sascha Goetzel.



First trained as a violinist, guest conductor Sascha Goetzel joined the Vienna Philharmonic upon graduating from the University of Graz in Austria. He has studied conducting privately with Zubin Mehta, Riccardo Muti, Seiji Ozawa, Sir Simon Rattle, Bernard Haitink and André Previn. Goetzel has conducted at the Vienna State Opera, the Vienna Volksopera, the Tonkünstler Orchestra, the Vienna Chamber Orchestra, the Vienna Mozart Orchestra in Vienna’s Musikverein and Konzerthaus. He has appeared as guest conductor with the City of Birmingham Symphony, the Berlin Symphony, and the Shanghai Symphony orchestras and has worked with world-renowned vocalists including José Carreras, José Cura, Thomas Hampson, Ramón Vargas and Eva Lind.

Lyric soprano Ingrid Mankhof is a graduate of McGill University in Montreal. She participated in the apprenticeship program at L’Opera de Montreal during which she sang roles such as Musetta in *La Boheme*, Pamina in *Die Zauberflöte*, Liu in *Turandot*, and as soloist in Orff’s *Carmina Burana*. In her European stage debut, Ms. Mankhof performed to acclaim in the title role of Kalman’s *The Gypsy Princess* in Klagenfurt, Austria. Throughout Europe, she has sung many leading lady roles in the operetta genre including Lisa in *Land of Smiles*, Mrs. Ford in *The Merry Wives of Windsor* and the title role in Offenbach’s *La Belle Helene*. She triumphed at the Frankfurt Alte Oper in Strauss’ *Vienna Blood*, where she was described as “brilliant” and also garnered rave reviews as a sparkling and mesmerizing widow in *The Merry Widow*.

A special **Jazz Dinner and New Year’s Eve Party** will begin immediately following the concert in the beautiful Autorino Great Hall. Enjoy an elegant sit-down dinner catered by Max at The Bushnell, mingle with the guest artists from the program and ring in the New Year with noise makers, a champagne toast and dancing to the smooth sounds of the Classical Jazz Quartet.

**JAZZ DINNER
&
NEW YEAR’S
EVE PARTY**

To purchase tickets please call
HSO Ticket Services at
(860) 244-2999.



“Dream” continued from page one



Led by Music Director Edward Cumming, the Hartford Symphony Orchestra will be joined by soprano Adina Aaron, the Rev. Dr. Alvan N. Johnson of AME Bethel Church in Bloomfield as narrator, The Hartford Chorale, the Connecticut Children’s Chorus and choirs from First Cathedral Praises of Zion, Metropolitan AME Zion Church, Union Baptist Church, First Church of Christ of Simsbury, Mt. Olive Ministries and Hopewell Baptist Church. The concert will also feature the winner of the 2004 Sphinx Competition, violinist Trevor Ochieng, who will perform the first movement of Mozart’s Violin Concerto in G.

The HSO’s celebration of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. begins on **Saturday, January 15th at 6:30 p.m.** with the second annual **Celebrate the Dream Gala** at the Bond Ballroom. The evening includes special performances by Ms. Aaron, Mr. Ochieng and Ms. Coleman, as well as a dinner of Southern cuisine and dancing to the Motown music of Souled Out.

To purchase tickets to the “I Have A Dream” concert, please call HSO Ticket Services at (860) 244-2999. For more information on the Gala and to reserve a place, call (860) 246-8742, ext. 306.



2004 Sphinx Competition winner violinist Trevor Ochieng

United Technologies Celebrates 25 Years of Symphony On Ice

United Technologies Corporation continues its family holiday tradition this year with the 25th annual *United Technologies Symphony on Ice* show on Saturday, **December 11 at 1 p.m.** to benefit the U.S. Marine Corps Reserves Toys for Tots campaign.

“United Technologies Symphony on Ice is a wonderful way to celebrate the spirit of the holiday season and bring smiles to Connecticut youngsters,” says Krista Pilot, UTC’s director, contributions and community affairs. “We’re proud to be celebrating our 25th anniversary, and grateful for the support of our partners: the Hartford Symphony Orchestra, the Greater Hartford Arts Council and the Symphony Skaters.”



In exchange for a free ticket to the show, the public is asked to donate a new, unwrapped toy when they come to the performance. Ticket distribution was held on November 13, and as usual, they went quickly. However, a limited number of tickets are available the day of the event at the Civic Center.

This year’s show will include performances by Olympic champion Alexei Yagudin, 2004 U.S. National Champion Johnny Weir, Canadian Champion Shae Lynn Bourne and comedian on ice Dan Hollander.

Considered one of the nation’s most successful single-day Toys for Tots events, *United Technologies Symphony on Ice* collects thousands of toys for children throughout Greater Hartford while providing a spectacular ice-skating show for families. Since its inception, *United Technologies Symphony on Ice* has collected more than 300,000 toys that were given to nonprofit agencies for distribution to low-income families in Connecticut.

United Technologies Corp., based in Hartford, Connecticut, is a diversified company that provides a broad range of high technology products and support services to the building systems and aerospace industries. *Fortune Magazine* has ranked UTC as a “Most Admired” company every year since 2001 based on criteria including social responsibility, innovation and financial performance.

Hartford Symphony Holds Annual Meeting United Technologies Corporation Honored as Donor of the Year

At the Hartford Symphony Orchestra's Annual Meeting at the Pond House Café on September 9, nearly 100 HSO board members, musicians, and staff took a look back at the Orchestra's memorable 60th Anniversary Season. The second successful season with HSO Music Director Edward Cumming featured record-breaking ticket sales, sold out houses for the Beethoven Fifth Symphony concerts in April, a second tour with famed Italian tenor Andrea Bocelli, the HSO's first performance at Boston

musical experiences to our community." Pilot, upon receiving the award, noted that "[UTC is] continually inspired by [its] close partnership with the Hartford Symphony Orchestra. The HSO symbolizes excellence in the arts, community involvement, and what's great about the City of Hartford."

Keith Powell, HSO Orchestra Manager, presented the 25-Year Service Award to violinist **Perry Elliot**, who teaches at Wesleyan University, is a founding member of New

World Consort, and regularly performs at the Goodspeed Opera House. Violist **Ann Drinan** and bass trombonist **Edward Foster** both received the 2004 Outstanding Service by a Musician Award. Powell recognized Drinan for her

contributions to the HSO musicians' web site, the HSO newsletter *Capriccio!* and her commitment as a board member. Foster recently retired from the HSO and was commended for his 43 years of outstanding and loyal

service to the organization. Outgoing HSO Board President Thom Wildman presented the 2004 Major Achievement Award to **Anita Mielert** and **Linda Steiner**, the co-chairs of the most successful gala in the history of the HSO—The Diamond Anniversary Gala—which raised nearly \$270,000.

John Maier and **Nicholas Buccarella** received the 2004 Outstanding Volunteer Service Award presented by Charlie Owens. John Maier has worked tirelessly on the conversion of the HSO's antiquated development database into the state-of-the-art fundraising software Raiser's Edge. Buccarella was recognized for his four years



Executive Director Charles Owens and UTC's Krista Pilot

of service in the Talcott Mountain volunteer organization, where he has filled a crucial part of the volunteer structure as the HSO's Director of Medical Services and has become an active member of the Production Services Team.

HSO Board Member Coleman Casey concluded the awards presentation with the 2004 Lifetime Achievement Award, which he presented to the recently retired **Muriel Fleischmann** in recognition of her extraordinary achievements at the Hartford Symphony. Fleischmann, who first joined the HSO board in 1981, spearheaded the development of the Hartford Courant Arts Center on Farmington Avenue, served on several board committees and joined the HSO staff after leaving her post as Director of Development at the Wadsworth Atheneum Museum of Art. Mr. Casey emphasized her contributions to the endowment campaign *Fanfare for the Future*, the inception of The Maestro's Society and her outstanding effort to broaden the base of support.

Susan Rottner, chair of the nominating committee, led the election of officers for a two-year term, including the HSO's new Board President, David M. Roth. Other officers elected are: Millard H. Pryor, Jr., Chairman; Anita Mielert, Vice President – Development; James S. Remis, Vice President – Finance; Joyce Willis, Vice President – Marketing; John H. Beers, Esq., Vice President – Administration; and Kenneth A. Jacobson, Esq., Secretary. Directors re-elected were Stephen Bayer, Coleman Casey, Hermine Drezner, Robinson Grover, Lawrence Harris, Henry B.C. Low, Anita Mielert, Malcolm Morrison, Mary Sargent, Eric Turner, H. Alex Vance, Dara Varano, Mary-Ellen Whinnem, and Joyce Willis. Morton E. Handel and Charles B. Milliken were elected Directors Emeritus.



New Board President David Roth and Board members Thomas Wildman and Charles Milliken



Orchestra Manager Keith Powell and Edward Foster

Symphony Hall, the Governor's Arts Award and the MetLife Award for Excellence in Community Engagement and a record-setting Annual Fund. The meeting agenda included the presentation of six awards, as well as the nomination and election of officers of the Board of Directors.

Executive Director Charles H. Owens presented Krista Pilot, Director of Community Affairs, **United Technologies Corporation**, with the 2004 Donor of the Year Award. Mr. Owens noted that "United Technologies Corporation has been the most consistent corporate supporter of the Hartford Symphony for the past quarter century, and the HSO's largest corporate contributor as well. Through their sponsorships and other financial assistance, United Technologies has brought hundreds of hours of memorable

The Hartford Symphony on the Road

Not only will there be many performances for the musicians of the Hartford Symphony in January, but on top of that a number of performances are taking the Orchestra out on New England's wintry roads.

The New Year will only be one day old when the Orchestra travels to Boston for a performance of *Salute to Vienna* – The World's Greatest New Year's Concert – in Boston's famed Symphony Hall. This will be the second time that the Hartford Symphony will perform Johann Strauss's celebrated waltzes, marches and polkas in this acoustically superb and beautiful hall, in which many of the world's most famous classical artists

have performed. Tickets to *Salute to Vienna* on January 2nd at

Boston Symphony Hall are available through SymphonyCharge at (888) 266-1200.

In its 61-year history, the Hartford Symphony has made occasional trips to Huskyland for performances. Beginning with the January 21st *Romantic Chopin* concert at the Jorgensen Center for the Performing Arts the Orchestra will commence regular excursions to Storrs as the Hartford Symphony has been named the Resident Orchestra at the University of Connecticut. *Romantic Chopin*, featuring piano virtuoso Cecile Licad performing, will open the HSO's first season in residence on Friday, January 21, 8:00 pm at Jorgensen Center for the Performing Arts.



Piano virtuoso Cecile Licad

Salute to Vienna
10th Anniversary 1995-2005



This concert is part of *Classics Close to Home*, the inaugural two-concert series that will conclude with *Mozart and the Symphony* on Valentine's Day. Subscriptions to this wonderful mini-series are just \$45 for both concerts and are available through HSO Ticket Services at (860) 244-2999.

Capriccio! hopes that you will join the Orchestra for some of its concerts away from home and wishes you and the musicians safe travels!

Hartford Symphony Orchestra at Symphony Hall, 2004



“There is no art when one does something without intention”

The Hartford Symphony Orchestra announces the establishment of a new donor program, The Duke Ellington Society. Named in honor of the legendary jazz musician and composer, the program’s goal is to strengthen HSO’s connection to members of the black and Latino communities of the Greater Hartford region and to encourage greater audience participation by these groups at HSO performances.

An inaugural reception was held at the home of Aetna Foundation President Marilda Gandara on Thursday, December 2. The HSO’s

jazz trio provided the music of Duke Ellington and Music Director Edward Cumming provided commentary on the composer’s relationship to classical music.

Charter members of The Duke Ellington Society include Joyce Willis, HSO Vice President of Marketing; Jim Burney, Co-chair, Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration Committee; Sharon Steinle, HSO Manager of Special Events and Community Programs; and Marilda Gandara.

Your gift of \$500 will help launch this new initiative. For more information, please contact Sharon Steinle at (860) 246-8742, ext. 306 or by email at ssteinle@hartfordsymphony.org.

THE Duke Ellington Society
HARTFORD SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA



HSO Welcomes its Newest Musicians and Staff

Dan Alan Danielson, first violin, of Bloomfield is a 1992 graduate of the Yale School of Music. Dan has appeared as a soloist with the Cordoba Symphony and Cordoba Chamber Orchestra in Argentina. He has performed in recitals at Alice Tully Hall at Lincoln Center, Reed College in Portland, Maine, and The Longy School of Music in Cambridge, Massachusetts.

Krzysztof Gadawski, second violin, of East Longmeadow, Mass., has substituted frequently for the HSO during the last three years. He has been a member of the Syracuse Symphony Orchestra since 1995 and was a member of the HSO from 1991 to 1995 and also a member of the Springfield and Rhode Island symphony orchestras during that time. He received his music training at the Conservatoire de la Musique in Switzerland and The Hartt School of Music.

Julie Jung, cello, of New Haven was a permanent substitute with the HSO during the 2003-2004 season. She is a member of the New Haven Symphony Orchestra and has performed recently with the New England Conservatory of Music Chamber Orchestra, the Yale Philharmonia and the Waterbury Symphony Orchestra. She received a Master of Music from the New England Conservatory of Music in Boston and an Artist Diploma from Yale.

Yuri Kharenko, first violin, of Simsbury has been a frequent substitute for the HSO. He has appeared in solo, chamber recitals and master classes in the U.S. and around the world, including the Newport, Rhode Island, Music Festival, the Texas Music Festival in Houston, the Beethoven

Festival in New York City, the Kiev Music Fest of the Ukraine and the Sao Paulo International Music Festival of Brazil, among others. He graduated from the Kiev State Tchaikovsky Conservatory in the Ukraine.

Adda Kridler, second violin, of Hartford received a Master of Music from the New England Conservatory in Boston and an Artist Diploma from The Hartt School. She has worked with the Boston Modern Orchestra Project, The ProMusic Chamber Orchestra of Columbus, Ohio, and the New Hampshire and Portland, Maine, symphonies among others.

Sun Young Lee, second violin, of Poughkeepsie, New York, received a Master’s degree from the Manhattan School of Music. She has appeared at the Tanglewood Music Festival, the Music Masters Course in Kazusa, Japan and the Aspen Music Festival. She was Concertmaster for the Tanglewood Music Festival Orchestra this past summer and appeared in Seiji Ozawa Hall as part of a string quartet. She was also Principal Second Violin for the New Jersey Philharmonic in 2003 and 2004.

Boris Tonkov, viola, of New Haven has been a Hartford Symphony Orchestra substitute violist since last year. He is Assistant Principal for the Eastern Connecticut Symphony Orchestra and has performed with symphony orchestras in Connecticut, Louisiana, Arkansas, Brazil and Austria.

Kimberly Becnel, Ticket Services Assistant, recently moved to Connecticut from Houston, Texas. While in Texas she worked with the Houston Symphony

Orchestra during Hans Graf’s inaugural season as Music Director. Kimberly is very pleased to be a part of the Hartford Symphony family.

Karen DeGrace, Executive Assistant, comes to the HSO after working twelve years as an Editor, Office Manager and, most recently, Director of Communications at South Congregational Church in Hartford. She is thrilled to be able to combine her administrative skills with her love for the performing arts. Karen replaces Joan Hedman, a much-loved and 11-year member of the HSO staff.

Clare Meade, Manager of Major Donor Relations, has recently worked with heritage organizations and historical societies. She enjoys gardening, bird watching and hiking. Clare lives with her husband, Paul, and their three children in Wethersfield.

Jesse Vanek, Development Assistant, comes to the HSO following a recent development internship with Connecticut Opera. Jesse graduated from University of Maryland in 2000 with a degree in Communications Studies. An avid film buff, he also enjoys bird watching and photography. He lives in Southwick, Massachusetts, with his wife, Melissa.

Erin Vivero, Education Ensemble Coordinator/Payroll Assistant, graduated in 2002 from the University of California at Santa Barbara with degrees in flute performance and film studies. She performed at the Adriatic Chamber Music Festival in Italy in 2000 and currently studies with HSO Principal Flute Greig Shearer. Erin was born and raised in Connecticut and lives in Colchester.

Season’s Greetings

From WNPR/
Connecticut Public Radio

WPKT 90.5FM Hartford/New Haven; WNPR 89.1FM Norwich/New London;
WEDW 88.5FM Stamford/Greenwich; W258AC 99.5FM Storrs/Mansfield; WRLI 91.3FM Southampton, New York

Celebrate the holiday season this December with WNPR. The public radio broadcaster is slated to air a festive lineup of special programs highlighting celebrations of the season including:

Welcome Christmas!

Airs Sunday, December 12 from 8 p.m. to 9 p.m. (Repeats Friday, December 24 at 1 p.m.)

Welcome Christmas! features the VocalEssence vocal ensemble led by Philip Brunelle. This holiday concert from Minnesota Public Radio welcomes Christmas with music for the season new and old. Featured performers, VocalEssence, have been revered in Minnesota and around the world as a premier producer of innovative choral music for over three decades. *Welcome Christmas!* also features world premiere musical arrangements including *Make We Merry*, written for the VocalEssence 35th anniversary season by Stephen Paulus. Paulus has become one of America’s most successful composers. His popular choral work *Pilgrims’ Hymn* was selected for performance during funeral services for the late President Ronald Reagan at the National Cathedral in Washington, D.C.

Christmas With the King’s College Choir

Airs Sunday, December 19 from 8 p.m. to 9 p.m. (Repeats Friday December 24 at noon)

The world-famous Choir of King’s College Cambridge is visiting North America during the 2004 holiday season, and American Public Media is catching the singers in concert at the Cathedral of St. Paul, St. Paul, Minnesota. Stephen Cleobury directs a stunning program that will culminate in the lovely *Fantasia on Christmas Carols* by Ralph Vaughan Williams.

A Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols

Airs Friday, December 24 from 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

The sound of one child’s voice rings out each Christmas Eve at the Chapel of King’s College in Cambridge, England, beginning *A Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols*. Join WNPR on Christmas Eve Day from 10 to 11:30 a.m. for a service that has been broadcast around the world for decades, and which for many people marks the beginning of Christmas.

Christmas From Washington With The Choral Arts Society

Airs Friday, December 24 from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.

Featuring a rich array of traditional carols and special holiday favorites from a wide variety of nations in as many contrasting styles, The Choral Arts Society of Washington, D.C., performs with members of the National Symphony Orchestra, soprano Ying Huang, the Carol Ringers of Washington’s St. Matthew’s United Methodist Church and organist William Neil.



Members of The Maestro’s Society, the HSO’s major donor group, enjoyed a

fabulous Spanish Sampler at the home of Francine and Stephan Christiansen on October 17. Guests enjoyed classic tapas and tapitas donated by Costa del Sol, paired with a sophisticated offering of wines from different regions of Spain provided by Province Wines. After a memorable performance by classical guitarist Daniel Salazar, Artistic Director of the Connecticut Classical Guitar Society, the evening continued with a Spanish buffet of a variety of paellas by Costa del Sol.

The Maestro’s Society is the HSO’s membership group for upper level donors whose contributions account for an



Clockwise: Chris DeGraff, Sue Fisher, Sandy DeGraff, Bob Fisher, Ken Jacobson, and Ruth Jacobson

astonishing 61% of all individual contributions to the Annual Fund. In recognition of this leadership, the HSO offers Maestro’s Society members special benefits tailored to their passion for music. There are always intimate musical events in private homes like the Christiansen’s, chances to meet and mingle with key members of the HSO family, two “stand buddies” nights on stage at an Orchestra rehearsal, and a spring travel opportunity. For information on joining this important group of supporters, please call Clare Meade, 860-246-8742, ext. 367.