



Shoshone County Community Concert Association
a 501(c)(3) organization -- directed by volunteers
www.shoshoneconcerts.org
July 18, 2017
2016-17 ANNUAL REPORT

OVERVIEW:

The 2016-17 season continued as the previous few seasons, with all Officers continuing and most Directors returning. There were two new Directors in 2016-17 and two more new in 2017-18. Membership is smaller than we would prefer but stable. However concert attendance is disturbingly low, especially for anything remotely classical. Those who attend approve of our selections, variety, and quality and of our providing outreaches. We maintain a financial cushion sufficient to produce a season without outside support, though outside support is vital for our continued production of quality outreach, public, and member concerts. The upcoming 2017-18 season is planned, with most contracts completed and our season brochure being distributed.

LOSSES, RETIREMENTS, and DISAPPOINTMENTS:

Pierina Lucille Truant Miller and Evelyn Fisher Ferguson each passed away this spring. Each attended the first concert in 1942 produced by the organization that became SCCCA. Each gave many hundreds of hours of their time securing members, selecting concerts, and handling other tasks as Directors. We offer our condolences to their families and other friends.

Ruby Hill retired from the Board of Directors, saying 50 years [of volunteering with SCCCA] is enough; however, she has agreed to mentor whenever requested. Vonda Schuld also retired from the Board, as she has moved back to southern Idaho. Two other long-time SCCCA-ers—Hermia Crosby and Archie Hulsizer—retired in 2016.

We have relied on the *Shoshone News Press* as an important part of our advertising. They recently reduced their schedule and changed their distribution system, limiting our advertising options, especially for those concerts with short lead-times. We are exploring additional marketing methods.

2016-17 SEASON – REGULAR CONCERTS and OUTREACHES:

There were 4 subscriber concerts, 9 school outreaches, and 2 free concerts for the community. We added the Mullan School District to our outreach recipients. One of the free concerts was from a US Air Force ensemble supporting the Air Force Academy. Most attendees at the subscriber concerts held season memberships – still \$40/adult – though a few people chose to pay a single-concert admission fee of \$20/concert. We continue to admit students without charge.

The season began Sunday afternoon, October 16, 2016, with a return engagement of the *Richter Uzur Duo* performing at the United Church of Christ Congregational in Wallace, with a reception following, catered by the Corinthian Circle. On Monday morning Brad Richter (from Arizona) and Viktor Uzur (from Utah now, originally from Serbia) gave outreach concerts to the students of Silver Hills Elementary School and Wallace Jr-Sr High School, both at the WHS Commons; in the afternoon they performed for the students of Kellogg Middle School. There were 77 attending the Subscriber concert, 255 students and 30 staff from Silver Hills and 250 students and 23 staff from Wallace High School, and 250 students and 20 staff from Kellogg Middle School.

The Portatos is an eleven-member accordion ensemble from Spokane, mostly teenage-to-young-adult students of internationally known Patricia Bartell. They performed for a subscriber audience of 95 at Kellogg Sr High School on Sunday, November 13, 2016. Selections included the expected polkas and a variety of genres, from classical to South American favorites.

A flurry of spring concerts began with the *Horse Crazy Cowgirls*, a trio from Washington's Methow Valley. While having won numerous awards, including "2015 Western Music Association Group of the Year" during their 18-year collaboration, our concerts were their last as a trio. They told cowboy stories, yodeled, and played and sang traditional cowboy songs. 104 attended the subscriber concert on Sunday, March 12, 2017, at Kellogg Sr High School. On Monday they gave an outreach concert for 250 students and 15 staff at Kellogg Middle School, then traveled to Mullan to perform for their entire student body of 100 students plus 20 staff.

The US Air Force Academy support team asked if we would sponsor a concert by the *Academy Winds* as part of their Idaho tour; we gladly accepted and held an afternoon outreach at Kellogg Middle School for 250 students and most staff. In the evening there was an open concert for the community at KMS, with an estimated 110 attending. They traveled with a large truck, carrying sound equipment and about 20 instruments. Their concerts were free to us, with the exception of about \$300 of expenses for publicity and programs. This kind of expense was larger than typical because they required the use of tickets, albeit complementary, which were available at 6 community businesses. The six musicians came from all parts of the US, with varied backgrounds in music and personal lives. The quality of the music was excellent and the messages they conveyed—in words and by personal and ensemble example—were encouraging and inspirational.

The *Academy Winds*, on April 10, 2017, was the first of three Monday evening concerts—all beginning at 7:00 pm—a departure from our usual Sunday matinees.

The second was a long-scheduled subscriber concert on April 18, 2017, by the Fitzgerald family of Ontario, Canada. The 6 members of *Everything Fitz* played string instruments, sang, drummed, joked a bit with one another and the audience; however they mostly did Ottawa-Valley step-dancing, a high-energy form of clogging. Even after the 2 school outreaches, they gave quite a show for 100 attendees. The morning outreach was for 250 Silver Hills Elementary School students and 40 staff; in the afternoon, they performed for 241 Wallace Jr-Sr High students and 20 staff. Each performance was age-oriented and included some material unique to that performance.

Having school outreaches in advance of an evening concert did result in a few students bringing parents or others to the evening performance. While we intend to honor our attendees' requests to continue matinees, we will be looking for ways to precede some concerts with outreaches in hopes of reaching new attendees.

The April 25, 2017, Piatigorsky Foundation concert was at the Wallace Congregational Church as planned, though the performance was unexpected. Violinist Qing Li missed a flight. Pianist Paolo André Gualdi gave 43 attendees a wonderful solo program of Chopin compositions he had recently performed. Again, there was a reception by the Corinthian Circle. Mr. Gualdi then drove to Missoula to bring Ms. Li to Wallace. The following day, they gave the planned program to the 33 music students and 3 staff of Kellogg Sr High School and 12 attendees from the previous evening.

GRANTS and OTHER FINANCIAL DETAILS:

Membership fees and local supporters' contributions cover about half our expenses each season. Artists' fees continue to increase. Live on Stage (LOS) has few low-cost offerings and we have not received much benefit in the past from their "value-added" services. LOS and other large agencies do bring artists into the region that would not otherwise be available to our community. To continue providing high quality live performances, we apply for support from local, regional and national foundations.

General support for the 2016-17 season was received from private foundations: Callahan-Zeller Foundation, Mr. and Mrs. Henry B. Kingsbury Foundation, Magnuson Family Foundation, Hecla Charitable Foundation, the Region's Greatest Need Fund in the Idaho Community Foundation, and the Community Strategies Fund in the Inland Northwest Community Foundation. Support was also received from government funds through WESTAF's TourWest and the Idaho Commission on the Arts (ICA); these grants are in support of specific concerts and must be matched by private funds. TourWest funds provided partial support of the *Richter Uzur Duo* and *Everything Fitz* events. ICA funds provided partial support of the *Portatos*.

COLLABORATION:

Block-booking strengthens grant applications and brings additional ensembles to our attention. It helps the artists with transportation times and costs, and can reduce the artists' fees that we pay. To promote block-booking, we share information with a network of regional arts associations, including the Mineral County Performing Arts Council, Sanders County Council for the Arts, and other western Montana groups. We also exchange information with the Clearwater Community Concert Association of Orofino, Idaho.

Locally we have ongoing successful collaborations with the churches that have provided venues for us (United Church of Christ Congregational in Wallace, and St. Rita's Catholic Church and the American Lutheran Church in Kellogg) and their volunteers who have assisted with access and publicity and sometimes provided refreshments. Whenever possible we coordinate with other community organizations, such as the Staff House Museum, Kellogg, and Sixth Street Theatre and NPRR Museum, both in Wallace. Local grocers and some other businesses served as suppliers for the (free) tickets required by *Academy Winds*. We have long

worked with the Kellogg and Wallace School Districts for venues and more recently for school outreaches. We have recently included the Mullan School District among outreach recipients.

2017-18 SEASON PLANS:

We will offer a new membership plan, *SCCCA Lite*. For \$25 an adult may choose any 2 of the subscriber concerts. Other membership and support plans remain as the last several years.

Our Sunday concerts will begin at 2:00 pm, following requests from attendees and conforming to the practice of other Silver Valley organizations. The following concerts and outreaches have been contracted and venues have been arranged. Support services, such as a Sound Technician, a Piano Technician, and piano moving, have not yet been arranged.

- October 15, 2017 – Trio Voronezh will give a subscriber concert at Wallace High School.
- October 16, 2017 - Trio Voronezh will give 3 outreaches – Silver Hills Elementary and Wallace Jr-Sr HS students at WHS Commons, and at Mullan Schools.
- November 5, 2017 - The Gothard Sisters will give a subscriber concert at Kellogg Sr HS.
- November 6, 2017 - The Gothard Sisters will give an outreach at Kellogg Middle School.
- March 11, 2018 - Coeur d’Alene Big Band will give a subscriber concert at Wallace HS.
- April 22, 2018 - Two on Tap will give a subscriber concert at Kellogg Senior High School. This will be preceded by a Master Class for dance students from the area.
- April 23, 2018 - Two on Tap will give an outreach at Mullan Schools.

We expect to give a free-to-the-community concert by one or two musicians through the Piatigorsky Foundation in the spring, probably in late April or very early May, 2018. If possible we will also provide one or more school outreaches by these musicians.

All Officers are also members of the Board of Directors; the date is initial tenure on the Board.

President	Marcella Hanson (6-2010)	Medimont
Vice President	Lisa Hardy (6-2010)	Kellogg
Membership Chair	Carol Gerard (2-2011)	Kingston
Membership Secretary	Jackie Fields (6-2010)	Pinehurst
Treasurer	Dennis O’Brien (8-2010)	Wallace
Publicity Chair	Janet Feiler (2-2012)	Wallace
Board Member	Bill Becker (3-2014)	Wallace
Board Member	Mickey Becker (3-2014)	Wallace
Board Member	Robert Hanson (6-2010)	Medimont
Board Member	Carol Griffin (5-2016)	Rose Lake (Cataldo)
Board Member	Joni Bartel (9-2016)	Osburn
Board Member	Judy Dinger (5-2017)	Kingston
Board Member	Kathie Vang (5-2017; 6-2010 prev)	Silverton

Respectfully submitted,
Marcella Hanson, President