



The Houston Symphony League extends its deepest sympathy to Julia Wells who recently lost her husband, Dr. Buford Wells. A memorial service will be held Sunday November 26 at 2 p.m. at the Houston Yacht Club.

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## **HOLIDAY PARTY**

**December 13, 2017**

**HSLBA Festive Holiday Cocktail Party**

**Carole Murphy's Home**

**15706 Craighurst Drive, Brook Forest**

**5:00 – 7:00 p.m.**

**Holiday Festive Attire**

**Heavy Hors d'oeuvres and Desserts**

**Wine, Cocktails and a Variety of Drinks**

**For Members plus a Guest**

**Admission: New Pair of Socks for Mercy Tree!**

**Important: RSVPs (will attend) are required by December 6**

**Carole Murphy – 281-480-2930 - carolemurphy@live.com**

**Vicki Buxton - 281-954-6317 - vpbuxton@gmail.com**

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## **January Performers**

**January 16, 2018**

**7:00 Program, 6:30 p.m. Social Time**

**Eric Halen**

**Scott and Sean Holshouser**

In a special night meeting, January 16 we welcome **Eric Halen** together with **Scott Holshouser** and his son, **Sean**, as guest performers. **Performance will be at Gloria Dei Lutheran Church, 18220 Upper Bay Road, Nassau Bay with welcome and reception at 6:30 and performance starting at 7:00 p.m.**

A superb violinist, **Eric Halen** is the Co-Concertmaster of the Houston Symphony Orchestra. His playing has been described by critics as "sterling" and "tenderly expressive and dramatic." A member of the Houston Symphony since 1987, Mr. Halen received his Master's degree at age 20 from the University of Illinois and became artist teacher of violin at Texas Christian University at Texas Christian University at age 23.



**Scott Holshouser** is the principal keyboardist with the Houston Symphony Orchestra and a member of the faculty at the University of Houston's Moores School of Music. A skilled and entertaining performer, Mr. Holshouser joined the Houston Symphony in 1980. He is a former staff pianist with the Houston Ballet and Houston Grand Opera and presently is the accompanist for the Houston Symphony Chorus, the Ima Hogg National Young Artist Competition and the Corpus Christi Young Artist Competition.

**Sean Holshouser** has been singing and performing for Houston audiences since the age of 9, when he joined the HITS Theater group. He has performed with the graduate students at the Morse School of Music (Harvard), the Houston Symphony, the Alley Theater and the Houston Grand Opera. Known for his exceptional ability to engage his audience and flawless performances, Sean is both an actor and vocal soloist. He favorite roles include Gavroche in Les Miserables and Jesus in Godspell. His recording of "In Dreams" is one of the most popular on YouTube with over 84,000 views.

*Mark your calendars and be certain to attend. HSLBA welcomes guests— young and old -- to hear these extraordinary performers. There is no charge.*



## *Ride to the HSO Performance*



### *Favorite Masters - Sunday Matinee*

1. *Andrés Conducts Schuman - September 24, 2017*
2. *Mozart's Jupiter Symphony - October 22, 2017*
3. *Ravel's Daphnis and Chloé - February 4, 2018*
4. *Hilary Hahn Celebrates Bernstein - February 25, 2018*
5. *Tchaikovsky's Sleeping Beauty - April 8, 2018*
6. *Emanuel Ax Plus the Rite of Spring - May 20, 2018*

*Call Houston Symphony: (713) 224-7575 to purchase your concert seats.*

*\* Bus Ride is \$100 for the 6 concert season or \$20/concert, space available*

*\* Bus departs Bay Area Park & Ride at 1 PM; arrives for lunch or pre-concert lecture.*

*Please call Jim Moore @ 281-461-3623 for more information or to make reservations*

*Mail Check to Jim Moore  
4106 Placid Stream Ct  
Houston, TX 77059*

*Make Check payable to HSLBA and in Memo write: HSO Bus Rides*



Our Treasurer Glenda Toole recently had her email hacked. If you receive an email from Glenda asking you to click on and sign a PDF document, please delete the email without opening it. This has happened to other HSLBA members as well. Please be vigilant!

## **A Musicological Moment with Martha**

December 15-17, the Houston Symphony Orchestra and Chorus will perform Handel's "Messiah." If you have never heard this work in its entirety, I encourage you to go hear this masterpiece. I have sung the choruses since I was a teenager, accompanied choirs and conducted this oratorio and every time I



am moved in a different way. Debuted in Dublin Ireland in 1742, Handel composed his massive work in only 24 days. The libretto by Jennens contains only scripture in the King James Version translation and rather than tell a story is a reflection on the Christian idea of redemption. Handel's original forces for performing this work were small - perhaps a choir of only 16 members and a small orchestra. The choir most likely was composed of men and boys' voices and that is evident for female singers - especially altos - as the vocal range and tessitura is quite demanding for the female voice. When Haydn heard "The Hallelujah Chorus" of "Messiah" being performed in London at Westminster

Abbey in 1791, he burst into tears and exclaimed "He is the master of us all." This timeless classic helps our community focus on the true meaning of Christmas. For tickets, click [here](#). PS, if the links don't automatically open, you can copy and paste in your browser.

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