



DEAR BELOVED BSO COMMUNITY,

The mission of the Bozeman Symphony is to present live performances of orchestral music to the people of Bozeman and Southwest Montana. In the face of the COVID-19 crisis, our first priority is to ensure the health and safety of our musicians and our audience. Accordingly, the Symphony's COVID-19 Task Force consisting of administrative staff, board members, community representation and musicians has been exploring a variety of strategies and alternative venues that would allow us safely to continue with live performances throughout 2020-2021.

When I discovered that the Symphony was looking for an orchestra member to be a part of the Task Force, I immediately volunteered, as I am (unfortunately) a musician who is considered a high-risk candidate. I am passionate about learning as much information regarding the risk factors of our hopeful return – a return that is so important to me and what live symphonic music brings to our community.

For the moment, it is our sincere hope that we will be able to proceed as planned with the exciting series of concerts which will soon be presented to you as part of our 2020-2021 season brochure. Included in the brochure you'll see that I will make my solo debut with the orchestra in January, 2021!

The Task Force is concerned for the safety of every member of the orchestra during rehearsals and concerts, as well as the safety and comfort level of our supportive audience. I am so impressed with the tiniest details that are being considered in this thoughtful group and the guiding principles crafted for our organization during this difficult time.

You are a valued audience member, and I am asking you to please participate in our audience survey, addressing your concerns as we look forward to September. We would like to know your intent regarding attendance, and possible alternatives to concert presentations, as we navigate through this uncertain time together. Our audience survey is available online by visiting: bozemansymphony.org/covid-19-patron-survey.

Focusing on all that we have accomplished together, we have in Norman Huynh a talented and creative new Music Director; we have a professional orchestra and choir comprised primarily of residents of the greater Bozeman area - your friends and neighbors. All of us are in it for the long run. Please bear with us as we try to find a way forward. We welcome your continued support in these difficult times through renewal of your 2020-2021 season subscription, which remain as important this year as your renewal is every year, and through your thoughtful consideration of a special gift to the Bozeman Symphony at this time (please visit bozemansymphony.org/donate or call 406-585-9774).

I can't wait for you to meet our new Music Director, Norman Huynh, and to once again fill the Willson Auditorium with live symphonic music!

Optimistically yours,



Sue Makeever
Principal Flute, Bozeman Symphony

Charles Rinker
Chair, COVID-19 Task Force Committee

Stephen Schachman
Chair, Board of Directors

Emily Paris-Martin
Executive Director

Norman Huynh
Music Director