Letter from the President

Dear Members and Friends,

This amazing Peoria Symphony Guild, of which you are a part, was founded in 1951 by a group of very forwardthinking women. Their statement of purpose was and remains today, "To provide music education to all age groups, to support and promote the Peoria Symphony Orchestra and to elevate the standard of this art in the community."

Musical Mondays are an opportunity for adults to enjoy a combination of what is a lecture-recital and a musical appreciation class. Delicious treats and beverages are served. Mark your calendars—Musical Mondays are a wonderful opportunity to invite friends along. The first Musical Monday, *Music of Paris – 1920's and 1930's*, will take place at 9:30 AM on September 23rd at the PSO Cube. It features our own Pei-yeh Tsai, PSO principal pianist, and Maestro George Stelluto.

You are also invited to join us on Monday, November 11, at 7:00 PM at The Life Together Center at First Federated Church. We will preview the November concert *Unforgettable* with vocalist Judy Page, pianist Derel Monteith, and Maestro George Stelluto. As always, please invite neighbors, friends, and family to join you in enjoying this evening of music. Learn about the three remaining interesting and entertaining Musical Mondays in the Guild's directory or on the PSO website.

We all take pride in our Symphony Guild and each of you are a part of our success over the past 68 years. Thank you to all of you who have nurtured our musical programming and to all who continue to volunteer on event committees. Your dedication keeps us successful today. Additionally, your membership fees, donations, and participation in raffles and silent auctions assists us in our funding for the following musical outreach opportunities:

Three Signature Educational Outreach Programs for Youth:

- 1. Young Artist Competition: Saturday, February 29, 2020
- 2. Student Concert: Music of the Movies: Star Wars and Harry Potter, May 1, 2020
- 3. Puppet Troupe: Reaching approximately 18,000 area children last year alone

The Guild will sponsor the November 16th, 2019, PSO concert, *Unforgettable*, where we will also provide donated baked goodies prepared by Guild Members. **These musical programs make a difference in our** communities—not only today, but they help ensure the ongoing presence of orchestral and classical music for future audiences.

This is **your** Guild—and being a member of any committee or volunteer activity is absolutely what makes our programs successful. It is gratifying to volunteer for a cause that impacts the lives of so many young people. Again, please invite others to attend our wonderful Musical Mondays, our Holiday and Spring Luncheons, and the PSO Concerts; share in the enjoyment of wonderful music, great food, and good company. I also invite you to contribute with your donations and volunteering—even if you only have a little time available. Please share your ideas with the officers and directors listed in our "Directory and Events" booklet. Your participation smile and enthusiasm can impact many.

Julie Kofena

Julie Kotewa, President PSO Guild