



THE ASSOCIATES

Maestro Christopher Lees Visits

The Associates' Board and visitors were treated to their third visit in three years from Christopher James Lees, Music Director of the UNCSA Symphony Orchestra. His energy and enthusiasm for the work he does for our students have not changed. He gave us a behind the scenes look at the March 16th Behind the Scenes evening being planned for The Associates and at the program being planned for the next concert.

Lees said that the coming orchestra performances are the first to be held in the Gerald Freedman Theater. He talked about how students learn how to adjust their playing to different acoustic needs in different spaces. When he takes the orchestra on tour to different cities, they have to accommodate those venues. This training, he said, makes them readier for their professional lives after UNCSA.

Lees announced that Fletcher Opera Director Nicholas Muni is working with him on the Antonin Dvorak Eighth Symphony, "enhancing abstract reflection of abstract music" by lighting design. Their collaboration will help us "*see* a piece of music." Like Lees' "Collage" work, this piece promises to stretch both the students and the audience.

Dvorak's Eighth Symphony, Lees said, is often compared to Beethoven's *Sixth Symphony* and to Mahler's *Fourth Symphony*. It will follow the first half of the program which will feature Hector Berlioz's "Le Carnaval Romain" and Ernest Bloch's "Schelomo: Hebraic Rhapsody." Lees described the entire music at the concert as "music of springtime."

The concert will be presented twice: Saturday, March 18 at 7:30 and Sunday, March 19 at 3:00—both at Freedman Theater. Our Behind the Scenes event will feature Maestro Lees and the orchestra putting it all together for us. We are deeply grateful for his work.

March Board Meeting

When President Susan Melville called on Host Family Team Chair Clare Jordan for her report at the March Board Meeting, Claire reported that the Host Families were “just cruising along.” Her description typified the reports from the various teams at the meeting.

Karen Robertson reported that there are now 338 Associates. Linda Bettis and her team will be at work at the next Behind the Scenes to encourage visitors to swell our ranks even more. That Behind the Scenes will feature Christopher Lees and the up-coming symphony performances in Freedman Theatre. Anne Sessions and Mary Allen Martin have worked hard to arrange this evening for us. Janet Rodie and the Hospitality Team are preparing refreshments for the event.

Carolyn Bailey and her team reported that the next Salon@Six is being planned. You will receive more information about it soon.

Bob McNair said that the Helpmates have contributed 145 hours to the school, and the Board members have given 186.5 hours, making a total, then, of nearly 332 hours.

Nancy Gwyn, Historian, asked for pictures from Associates’ activities for the scrapbook and archives.

Film Liaison Howard Skillington said that attendance at the February 10th “Best of Filmmaking Winter Screening” was good. He continues to facilitate matching us with the needs of the School of Filmmaking.

Vice President Linda Bettis announced that Corey Madden from the Kenan Institute will be the speaker at our April 4th meeting

CALENDAR

Thursday, March 16	Behind the Scenes. UNCSA Orchestra. Freedman Theatre. 7:00
Tuesday, April 4	Board Meeting. 11:30. Corey Madden, Kenan Institute Director, speaker. Location TBA

General Information—Important Links

The Associates Website: <http://www.uncsa.edu/giving/volunteer-opportunities.aspx>.

At our website, you will find the Board members listed, the calendar of Associates events and Associates-sponsored events, and other general information.

Email Address: uncsaassociates@gmail.com

The Performance Calendar Website:
<http://www.uncsa.edu/performances/>

Our Facebook page:
<http://www.facebook.com/uncsaassociates>

Newsletter: beckybrown65@gmail.com