Project: Concert Chats
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The Illinois Symphony Orchestra is a Group 6 orchestra that regularly performs in two Illinois cities – Bloomington-Normal and Springfield.

Concert Chats is an education project of the Illinois Symphony Orchestra Guild of Bloomington-Normal. The Tuesday before each symphony concert in Bloomington, IL, a musician of the orchestra gives a luncheon talk about the music to be performed on the upcoming concert, the composer, and a little about their own life as a professional musician and their orchestra section.

The series has just completed its second year and has had approximately 20-25 attendees for each session. Regular attendees enjoy getting to know the members of the orchestra as well as learning about the music to be performed.

In the first year of the program, all talks were presented by the orchestra’s Teaching Artist. In the second year, talks were presented by the Music Director and different members of the orchestra. Musicians volunteer to become a speaker and are selected by the orchestra’s Executive Director. Musicians are paid an honorarium of $100.00 and enjoy lunch as a guest of the Guild.

While not designed to be a fund raiser, we typically net approximately $60.00-$100.00 at each luncheon.

Planning (1 volunteer) is as simple as meeting once with the restaurant to plan the luncheon menus for the year, sending out an announcement with the orchestra’s season renewal mailing, sending out reminder emails, sending an announcement to the local newspaper, adding information about the luncheons to the Guild’s website with a link for online payment, checking in guests, and introducing the speaker.

Concert Chats
with Alastair Willis & musicians of the Illinois Symphony Orchestra
Baxter’s American Grille in Bloomington
Tuesdays | 11:30am-1:00pm
$20.00 per session (includes the cost of lunch)

Join Maestro Willis and musicians of the Illinois Symphony Orchestra for a preview of the next Illinois Symphony Orchestra concert. Go behind the scenes with them to learn more about the music, the composers, and the musicians of the ISO.

October 8, 2013
November 19, 2013
February 18, 2014
March 18, 2014
April 29, 2014

RSVP by going to the Guild’s website at isoguildbn.org
or by sending a check payable to ISO Guild of Bloomington-Normal:
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1 Alder Court
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