

Membership drive opens

Rogue Valley Symphony Association has opened its month-long drive for memberships, with announcement of a fall, winter and spring series of concerts.

The Rogue Valley Symphony Orchestra, now in its 10th season, will be directed for the second year by Roger Dickey, Grants Pass. Dickey, who received his professional training at Eastman School of Music, Rochester, N.Y., played clarinet with several orchestras and taught at the Hochstein School of Music in New York before moving to the Rogue Valley in 1969.

Dickey has been guest conductor and soloist with musical groups in Oregon, plays with the Peter Britt Gardens Music and Arts Festival Association Orchestra and was clarinetist with the Rogue Valley Symphony Orchestra before assuming the conductorship. He has been a chamber music coach-consultant at University of California in Humboldt and recently formed the Rogue Valley Chamber Players.

Opening concert for the Rogue Valley Symphony Orchestra will be Oct. 26 in Church of the Nazarene, Medford. Rogue Valley Chorale, directed by Lynn Sjolund, will share program honors, singing Benjamin Britten's "Festival Te Deum" and the Missa Sancti Nicolai by Haydn. The orchestra will play "Canzona per Sonare" No. 2 and No. 28 by Giovanni Gabrielli and Mozart's Symphony No. 38.

Winter season will bring concerts on Jan. 17 at First Baptist Church, Grants Pass, and Jan. 18 at Southern Oregon State College, Ashland. Featured performer will be concert guitarist Randall Bays, who studied music with Phillip Rosheger of Berkeley and Michael Lorimer, the protege of Andres Segovia. A resident of the area since 1972, Bays has served on the faculty of the Southern Oregon Fine Arts Center and taught guitar at Southern Oregon State College.

On the same program the orchestra will play "Saturday Night at the Firehouse," by Henry Cowell; Waltz from "Eugene Onegin," Tchaikowsky; Variations on a Theme of Haydn, Brahms.

The RVSA again will sponsor the Young Artist

Competition on Feb. 8 open to Northwest high school students, 18 or younger. Winner will receive \$250 and be soloist with the orchestra in the March 7 concert at First Baptist Church, Grants Pass, and the March 8 performance at Church of the Nazarene, Medford.

Also on the spring season are concerts May 16 in Church of the Nazarene, Medford, and May 17, SOSC, Ashland, with Cynthia Whittier, pianist, as soloist.

Ms. Whittier began her musical studies in Europe at the age of six and won five first prize awards at the London Musical Competition Festival before she was 13. Later, she attended Mannes College of Music, Oberlin Conservatory and Columbia University. Since moving to Ashland in 1973, Ms. Whittier has taught privately and through the Southern Oregon Fine Arts Center and has appeared as soloist with orchestras in Oregon and California.

Ms. Whittier will play Wagner's March from "Tannhauser" and the Rachmanioff "Rhapsody on a Theme of Paganini". The orchestra will present "The Winter's Past" by Wayne Barlow and Georges Bizet's Symphony No. 1.

Several types of memberships are available, according to William Shamberger, Rogue Valley Symphony Association president. They are:

Sponsor, \$100; sustaining member, \$50; contributing member, \$35; subscriber, \$25. All donors will be listed in the program and each will receive two season tickets. All amounts in excess of \$20 are tax deductible contributions.

For those who do not wish to join the Association as members, season tickets now are available for \$10 and may be purchased at Jackson County Federal Savings and Loan offices in Medford, Grants Pass, Ashland, Jacksonville. Memberships and season tickets may be arranged by sending check, payable to the Rogue Valley Symphony Association, to P.O. Box 1314, Medford. Tickets for individual concerts are \$3 and will be available at the door.

Sunday, September 19, 1976