

On with the show

BY PATRICK RUCKER

Examiner Staff Writer

In some ways, the National Symphony Orchestra show house is truly inspired by the cause it supports.

The 24 specially designed rooms and other features of this McLean home each hit a different note.

Some are as soothing as a piccolo. Others are as jarring as a cymbal.

But they will all be playing together for the month of October — an attraction where many talented local designers will showcase their talents.

For 33 years now, the women's committee of the NSO has been using this event to raise funds and awareness of its activities. In that time, the show house has become one of the most enduring events of the fall season.

"It looks just like something out of a magazine," said Michael Pusateri, the homeowner, raving

HIDDEN BROOK MANOR

Where: 8295 Alvord Street, McLean

Cost: Tour tickets are \$15 in advance and \$20 at the door

When: Hours are Monday through Friday 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday 12:00 Noon to 5:00 p.m.

For info: Call 202-416-8149

about a ground floor washroom on a recent preview tour.

There, the builder's cabinetry was replaced with a hand-carved chest and glass basin; recessed and decorative lighting brighten the small space.

"It has all the features that you would want a guest to see," Pusateri said with satisfaction.

Every room in the house, which Pusateri bought this summer,

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Photo by James Pittman

Loggia, designed by DeZahra of Washington

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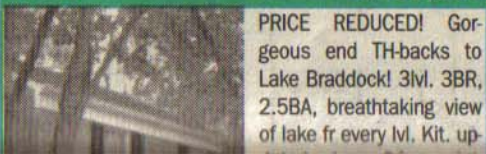
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