**Course Title:** Viennese Visions: Mozart, Beethoven, and Company

**Instructor:** Betsy Schwarm
Music historian Betsy Schwarm is a familiar face and voice in the Denver performing arts world, giving pre-performance talks for the Colorado Symphony and Opera Colorado, and teaching general interest appreciation classes around the area. She is also the author of eight books on classical music and spent a dozen years on the air with the vintage KVOD-fm, “The Classical voice of Denver.”

**Course Times:** Wednesdays 9:30-11:30 (Sept 18-October 9, 2019)

**Course Location:** Ruffatto Hall, Room 401

**Course Description:**
Few cities can rival the influence that Vienna has had on classical music. Consider just a sampling of the names associated with the Austrian capital: Mozart, Beethoven, Schubert, Johann Strauss Jr., Brahms, and many, many more. What was it about Imperial Vienna that made it so important to great music, and in what ways did the masterful composers who worked there influence one another? This class with music historian Betsy Schwarm, alumna of the vintage KVOD, will examine the question with musical examples, biographical perspectives, and societal connections. We’ll have excerpts from their letters, too, so the composers will have a chance to speak for themselves. No music reading required: just an open mind and open ears, as well as an active curiosity about how great music came to be what it is. We’ll also have information about upcoming concerts in the Denver area that fit with our class theme.

- **Session #1** – Viennese composers before 1800: Mozart and More
- **Session #2** – Viennese composers of the early 19th century: Beethoven and More
- **Session #3** – Viennese composers of the late 19th century: Brahms and More
- **Session #4** – The Lighter Side of Viennese Music: operetta and dance music with Johann Strauss Jr.

**Recommended Books or Materials (note if they will be supplied by instructor)**
None required; a list of suggested supplemental materials will be provided for those who’d like follow-up reading