



BACAHS celebrates another dynamic year in the harp community. We almost let the time go by without reviewing the ways the chapter has supported our members, both individually and as a whole. Thanks to the extended deadline offered by AHS, it gave just the time needed to step back and recognize that this chapter has had a banner year. We hope that you will agree that BACAHS deserves the distinction of Chapter of the Year for a second year in a row.

In asking ourselves what makes our chapter worthy this time, we hearken back to the two mission statements we use as our guidelines.

First, the American Harp Society mission:

- A. Celebrate our legacy
- B. Inspire excellence
- C. Empower the next generation of harpists

And the Bay Area Chapter mission:

- A. To share information
- B. To promote and foster an appreciation of the harp as a musical instrument in the Bay Area
- C. To further harp education at all levels

We **celebrate our legacy** by identifying ourselves as a chapter of the American Harp Society. Our comprehensive website, BACHARP.org, and informative newsletters offer both national and local harp news, member news, event announcements, resources for harpists and classified ads. Our June 2016 newsletter went directly to a source of the AHS legacy and featured long-time member, performer, teacher, composer, and arranger, Ellis Schuman. Well into his senior years, Ellis still attends events and contributes to the ongoing evolution and education of our chapter members. In January 2017, long-time member, former chapter president, harpist, technician and educator, Karen Gottlieb contributed “Contracts for Free-Lance Harpists”, an incredible resource for **empowering the current and next generation of harpists** that is a must-read for all performers. The list goes on...

Our communications with the Bay Area music-loving community bring new people to harp events—many from outside the harp community—thus facilitating the mission to **share information** and **promote and foster the appreciation of the harp**, and **inspiring excellence** for all. Our blog and annual calendar are current and dynamic, announcing harp recitals, both by our members and other visiting artists, as well as workshops and master classes. These **serve to further harp education at all levels**, as well as continue to **empower the next generation**.

Chapter membership swelled to 111 members with the inclusion of 39 applicants for participation in the biennial Yvonne LaMothe Schwager Competition for Young Harpists that

took place on May 21, 2017. The mailing list for the newsletter numbers 300 harpists and friends in or from the area. The current Board of Directors, all of whom have served at least two terms, will step down in June after having recruited a dynamic group of harpists to continue to lead the chapter, bringing new ideas and currency to the organization. Already, the new members have embraced their new positions by adding active social media presence and surveying the membership to insure the chapter continues to meet its needs.

Please read on to see how we have partnered with other chapters, community organizations and individuals to provide instruction, exposure and enjoyment through enriching events. The final event of our season is a Master Class with AHS Concert Artist Katherine Siochi. On the heels of the biennial Yvonne LaMothe Schwager Competition, Katherine's visit is not only timely, but offers students who have competitions and auditions on the brain, the opportunity to work with and listen to the performance of this accomplished young harpist.

Following are highlights of the year:

- ▶ In June 2016, after the May 15 deadline for last year's Chapter of the Year submission, the winner of the 19th International Harp Contest in Israel, Yuying Chen, came to the Bay Area and performed a solo recital and master class. The events were produced in conjunction with Silicon Valley Chapter of AHS. The recital was so popular that it was standing room only and the master class enabled 8 young harpists to hone their craft under the tutelage of a proven master.
- ▶ In October BACAHS kicked off the 2016-17 year by presenting the Sarah Voynow Jazz Trio in concert. In order to promote the event, we reached out to local media outlets including KCSM, the local Jazz radio station. Listeners of KCSM were able to call in to the station and win free tickets to attend the concert. And the efforts paid off handsomely for Sarah and her trio—the station played tracks from her album, *I Am Just a Lucky So and So*, and added her music to their play list. Way to go, Sarah!
- ▶ In November, the chapter received the news that it had been approved for a grant from AHS in the amount of \$500.00 to fund a Master Class with Emmanuel Ceysson. Due to scheduling and other commitments, the visit by Mr. Ceysson for master class and recital will be delayed and therefore another grant request will be submitted next year. Members Lynn Taffin and Karen Gottlieb are instrumental in putting together this program.
- ▶ January brought the annual Winter Potluck in San Francisco. This event is always well attended since members love to get together after the busy holiday season and share ideas and experiences for furthering their musical careers, or just to meet new harp friends. This year, Jennifer Ellis's Admiral Launch duo, with Jonathan Hulting-Cohen, introduced us to the symbiotic relationship between harp and saxophone. And the very successful Music Swap returned for a second year in a row.
- ▶ In February, legendary harpist Susann McDonald visited the Bay Area for two master classes and a special luncheon entitled "Recharging Your Passion" for professional harpists, teachers and adult amateurs. Both Master Classes sold out quickly and the luncheon brought harpists from far and wide to hear the sage advice of Miss McDonald. This was another event co-sponsored with Silicon Valley Chapter and enhanced the camaraderie between the two groups. Brian Swager reported on the incredible weekend in the March issue of the Newsletter.

- ▶ Then in March, Amelia Romano and her group All That Bad digitally released their new album, “New Perspectives” at the Center for New Music in San Francisco. BACAHS was there to sponsor the event through its membership at the Center and to host a reception for the sold-out crowd.
- ▶ May brought the biennial Yvonne LaMothe Schwager Competition for Young Harpists. Thirty-nine students applied—37 students performed—for the judging panel comprised of Celia Chan-Valero, Karen Gottlieb and Madeline Jarzembak. Repertoire included pieces required for the American Harp Society Competition, as well as works from Harpiana and MusicWorks Publications. In addition to Gold, Silver and Bronze medal prizes, students were able to compete for special awards from these noted harp music publishers.
- ▶ The Winners’ Recital was held one week later in conjunction with community partner Harps Etc., at its International Harp Festival. The chapter helped to sponsor the festival through a contribution that entitled a few lucky BACAHS members to attend free education days and concerts. Madeline Jarzembak, principal harpist for the Santa Cruz Symphony, inspired the young performers with her performance of Die Moldau, Symphonic Poem by Smetana, Hans Trneček transcribed for harp, op. 43, and Variations sur un Thème dans le Style Ancien by Carlos Salzedo.
- ▶ And there is yet one more event planned before we head off for the summer, turning the reins of the chapter over to the new board of directors. Kathryn Siochi, AHS Concert Artist for a few more weeks, visits San Francisco on June 11 for a Master Class and Solo Recital. The Bay Area Chapter is enthusiastic and abuzz about her recent accomplishments and will be coming out in force to learn from her and hear her perform.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit this application for Chapter of the Year and to highlight the members of BACAHS. Please enjoy perusing the attached newsletters, flyers and photos, and visit BACHARP.org for the details of the opportunities and successes of the chapter and the individual members who have benefitted from the chapter activities. From this you will see that BACAHS has had another outstanding year and we hope you will agree that this puts us in the running for the distinction of Chapter of the Year for 2016-17!



Thank you very much for your consideration.

June 2016



Dear BACAHS Members and Friends,

It's soon to be summer and things are winding down for the harp year. Don't forget about us, though, and continue to send us any harp happenings that we can post to the [calendar](#) and share with the harp community.

We're coming off of a fantastic year which culminated in our being named "American Harp Society Chapter of the Year for 2015-2016"! We'll be officially recognized at the 2016 AHS National Conference this month in Atlanta, Georgia. If you're coming, please join us at the Annual Membership Meeting on June 30 and show your support as BACAHS is awarded a \$300 check to be used for future programming.

If you missed our first ever Spring Social in May, you shouldn't have! In addition to great food and fellowship, we enjoyed a recital by Naomi Hoffmeyer, who played for us pieces she's prepared for the USA International Harp Competition in Bloomington, IN that starts tomorrow, June 8. Naomi will chronicle her experience on her [blog](#) for those who want updates. Good luck Naomi!

Our last event of the season will be a recital by Yuying Chen, winner of the 2015 Israel Harp Contest -- the most prestigious competition in the world -- coming up June 14. And there are auditor positions still available for the Master Class she will be presenting the following day in Hillsborough. Please see [coming events](#) for ticket details for both events.

Our Member Spotlight this month features Ellis Schuman, much lauded teacher, composer and arranger of harp and piano music, and longtime associate of our chapter, whose works have been published and widely performed for many years.

Thank you to all who helped make this an exemplary year. And consider joining us on the board as we plan for the next start-studded season!

Until then, have a great summer!

Happy Harping,

Alice Yothers and Susie Spiwak



Alice Yothers, Naomi Hoffmeyer,
Susie Spiwak Henry Heines

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT: Ellis Schuman—reprinted with permission

Versatility has highlighted the long music career of Ellis Schuman. Now retired from teaching, he continues to create a legacy of original compositions and harp arrangements, many of which are published and widely performed. Major performances of his chamber music and choral works were included in concerts at the Tanglewood Music Center, WNYC-FM in New York City and by the New Century Chamber Orchestra of San Francisco.

Born in Chicago in 1931, he received his early education there and continued his studies earning degrees in music with honors from Roosevelt University and Ohio University. He studied composition with the Czech composer Karel Bareslav Jirak and the noted Hungarian composer Ernst von Dohnanyi. Advanced piano study included master classes with Rudolph Ganz, Maurice Dumesnil and Rosalyn Tureck. His harp teachers include Marie Ludwig Giordano of Chicago, Mildred Dilling at the University of California, Los Angeles and Lynne Wainwright Palmer of Seattle.



Ellis Schuman was harpist/pianist with the Musica Viva Quintet of Chicago and harpsichordist with

the touring Baroque Repertory Ensemble. The first active Chicago Chapter of the American Harp Society was organized by Mr. Schuman and elected him its president in 1969. The chapter sponsored student recitals and enjoyed a large membership. The chapter soon honored the eminent and active Chicago area harp teachers Marie Ludwig Giordano and Alberto Salvi on a special program of tribute at Lyon & Healy.

Mr. Schuman developed the first music major course of study for the Chicago Board of Education and was chairman of the Advanced Placement Music Committee for the Gifted Program. He was recipient of the Kate Maremont Teacher Award in 1978 for his innovative accomplishments. He returned to Roosevelt University for several years as lecturer in harp at the prestigious Chicago College of Performing Arts.

In 1984 Mr. Schuman moved to San Francisco and became associated with the Music Center of San Francisco as a teacher of harp, piano and composition. He was elected Vice President of the Bay Area Chapter of the American Harp Society soon after his move.

Ellis Schuman's life and work was the subject of an interview in the Summer 2005 issue of the American Harp Journal. In 2008 he received the Harold Washington Professional Achievement Alumni Award presented by Roosevelt University. His *Prelude for the Harp* is scheduled for publication by the Lyra Music Company. Editions are distributed by [Vanderbilt Music Company](#) of Bloomington, Indiana.

MEET THE ARTIST: YuYing Chen, who will perform at the Peninsula JCC on June 14 (see *Upcoming Events* for details), is the Principal Harpist of the Shanghai Philharmonic and was born in Shanghai, China. She started playing piano at three and at the age of 9 she began her studies with Li Duo Zhang at the middle school affiliated to Shanghai Conservatory of Music and later with Professor Xiao Jie Zhang (Jason Chang) at Shanghai Conservatory of Music. She also took classes with Willi Postma, Isabelle Perrin, Carrol McLaughlin, Xavier de Maistre, Jana Bouskova, Helga Stork and Elisabeth Fontan-Binoche during her study at the Conservatory. In 2005 she was featured on the "Focus on Youth" program at World Harp Congress in Dublin. YuYing was the winner of the 'Concours International de Harpe 2006, an International Harp competition hosted at the Ville de Lille in France as well as the First Prize Winner of the 19th Israel International Harp Contest.



Read the interview with Yuying Chen in [Harp Column](#).

UPCOMING EVENTS: On June 14 and 15, the Northern California harp community is honored to welcome **Yuying Chen**, 2015 First Prize Winner of the most prestigious harp competition in the world, the 19th **Israel International Harp Contest**. Ms. Chen will perform a recital at the Peninsula Jewish Community Center in Foster City and master class in a private home in Hillsborough. These performances are presented by the Bay Area and Silicon Valley Chapters of the American Harp Society.

Attend one or both events to experience internationally acclaimed harp performance and teaching. Space is limited so sign up now. Participation in the master class is already sold out although there is still room for auditors.

Join us for this special one-night-only concert, followed by a "meet the artist" dessert reception.

Date:	Tuesday, June 14
Time:	7:00 pm
Location:	Peninsula Jewish Community Center Board Room
Fee:	\$20 PJCC and AHS Members, \$25 Public
Code:	47268

To purchase tickets, visit the PJCC Welcome Center, www.pjcc.org/arts, or call 650.378.2703.

Master Class with Yuying Chen on Wednesday, June 15, 6pm-8:30pm at a private home in Hillsborough. Open to auditors—participant registrations are sold out. For more information and to register visit [coming events](http://bacharp.org/coming-events) at bacharp.org.

MEMBER NEWS

Welcome new member **Amelia Romano**, who takes the path less travelled. Her newest album, "New Perspectives," is a testament to that. This album offers a fresh take on the electric harp, featuring her compositions and arrangements of Latin and contemporary music, drawing from her time living in Cape Town, South Africa, her passion for social and environmental justice, and the people and events that inspire her creative process. The album includes several tracks with vocals and features over a dozen Bay Area musicians.

For a Compact Disc, click on "New Perspectives" below and you'll be directed to PayPal. Include your address in the note portion and you'll receive the CD in the mail.

New Perspectives (<http://paypal.me/ameliaromano/22>)

CALENDAR

Carla Fabris is performing Harp/Flute/Soprano concert if you'd like to check it out!

Tuesday, June 7th, 8 pm @ San Francisco Conservatory of Music

Sunday, June 12th, 5 pm @ Westside Art House, 540 Balboa at 7th Avenue, San Francisco

Program includes: Ariel's Hail - Kaija Saariaho; **Belief - Elliott James-Ginn Encarnación;

Elegie - Jules Massenet; **une ariette oubliée - Elliott James-Ginn Encarnación;

A Gershwin Sampler - George & Ira Gershwin

**world premieres



Save the Date—November 11-13, 2016: The Camac Harp Festival will be in Pasadena, CA. All events are free subject to registration. For more information and to reserve your space, contact Carolyn Sykes, owner, Pacific Harps; 626-791-6262; carolyn@pacificharps.com; www.pacificharps.com

CLASSIFIED ADS: Check out the great harps for rent and sale recently added to the [Classified Ads](#) page including:

Harps for rent available now:

L&H 15 natural- \$150 monthly and \$200 security deposit.

L&H 23 gold- \$175 monthly and \$300 security deposit.

Contact: Karen Gottlieb, kgharp@aol.com, 415-386-0702, or cell 415-244-1864

Harps for Sale:

2 Lyon & Healy Concert Grands, Style 23, natural and bronze

Wurlitzer Grand Pedal Harp

Lyon & Healy Ogden Lever Harp

Lyon & Healy Style 11, Gold

Lyon & Healy Style 22, Gold

Camac Clio, 44 strings, Cherry

And more...

MEMBERSHIP Thank you to all who have joined the chapter or renewed your membership in BACAHS. Please join or renew now for 2016-2017. The membership year begins September 1 and goes through August 2016. Although you may be a member of the American Harp Society at the National level, we hope you will join the Bay Area Chapter as well. The Chapter serves to meet the need to share information, promote and foster an appreciation of the harp as a musical instrument in the Bay Area, and further harp education at all levels. Your support enables continued sponsorship of harp programs and master classes. Visit BACHARP.org/membership. The Bay Area Chapter of the American Harp Society is a 501(c)3 corporation and, as such, both membership dues and all donations are tax-deductible, to the full extent allowed by law.

Harpist Yuying Chen

The Bay Area and Silicon Valley chapters of the American Harp Society in partnership with PJCC present:

Yuying Chen, the 2015 First Prize Winner of the most prestigious harp competition in the world, the 19th **Israel International Harp Contest**, performs works by Renié, Grandjany, de Falla, Tchaikovsky, Liszt and Bach.

Join us for this **special one-night-only concert**, followed by a “meet the artist” dessert reception.



Date: Tuesday, June 14
Time: 7:00 pm
Location: Peninsula Jewish Community Center Board Room
Fee: \$20 PJCC and American Harp Society Members, \$25 Public
Code: 47268

To purchase tickets, visit the PJCC Welcome center, www.pjcc.org/arts, or call 650.378.2703.

Master Class with Yuying Chen on Wednesday, June 15, 6pm-8:30pm at a private home in Hillsborough. Open to participants and auditors. For more information and to register visit universe.com/yuyingmasterclass



SPECIAL THANKS !!

Armida and Salvatore Giglio

Kimberly Gordon

Gwen Halterman

Tamara Mead

Peninsula JCC

Debbi Ricks

Linda Rollo

Alexandra Perdew

Susie Spiwak

Alice Yothers

Sonya Yu

Do you want to hear more?

Attend the **Master Class with Yuying Chen**

tomorrow, Wednesday, June 15, 6pm-

8:30pm at a private home in Hillsborough.

Space is still available for auditors. For more information and to register visit <http://bacharp.org/coming-events/>



Peninsula Jewish Community Center
Bay Area & Silicon Valley Chapters
of the American Harp Society



Winner of the 19th International
Harp Contest in Israel

Yuying Chen

Recital



Tuesday, June 14, 2016

7:00 PM

Peninsula Jewish Community Center
Foster City, CA

陳妤穎

中國著名豎琴演奏家陳妤穎三歲半起學習鋼琴，九歲開始學習豎琴並以豎琴專業考入上海音樂學院附小。2005年畢業於上海音樂學院本科。2012年獲上海音樂學院西洋表演豎琴專業碩士學位。曾經師從張麗多及張小傑教授。在校期間，曾經受到多位世界知名豎琴演奏家及教授的精心教導並獲盛讚。目前是上海交響樂團的首席豎琴手。

2005年代表中國參加了愛爾蘭都柏林世界豎琴年會“聚焦青年”獨奏演出。2008年受邀荷蘭阿姆斯特丹世界豎琴年會“獲獎者獨奏音樂會”的演出。曾在2006-2007年 兩次受邀赴德國參加石荷州音樂節，隨艾森巴赫，伊萬費舍爾指揮大師巡演於德國各大城市及立陶宛和巴西。在獲得2009年聖彼得堡比賽金獎後，2010年受邀回到聖彼得堡舉在市政廳舉辦個人獨奏音樂會。2014年12月在杭州及蘇州成功演繹了譚盾為豎琴獨奏微電影及交響樂創作的《女書》。2015年1月受邀在智利聖地亞哥的“一千”音樂節上演奏及2月受邀在新加坡“華藝”藝術節上演奏《女書》。

曾經合作過的樂團有聖地亞哥愛樂樂團，新加坡大都會節日管弦樂團，聖彼得堡愛樂樂團，中國愛樂樂團，杭州愛樂樂團。

獎項:

2006年第三屆法國里爾國際豎琴比賽金獎，新作品特別獎；2009年在俄羅斯聖彼得堡舉行的第一屆伊麗莎白金豎琴國際比賽中憑藉雄厚實力摘得桂冠以及三個特別獎項，包括柴可夫斯基作品最佳演繹獎、伊茨梅洛夫作品最佳演繹獎和諾瑪主題變奏曲最佳演奏獎；並且在2013年世界最高級別美國第九屆國際豎琴比賽中獲得第四名的好成績。2016年獲得以色列國際豎琴比賽冠軍。

曾獲上海市委宣傳部頒發的2009年“優秀文藝工作者”；上海市委宣傳部頒發的“粉墨嘉年華”優秀青年藝術家年度之星稱號；並獲文藝人才基金獎勵；2011-2012年度上海市三八紅旗手榮譽稱號等。2014年6月，十分榮幸的受邀參加中央電視台舉辦的《光榮綻放——十大青年豎琴演奏家音樂會》。

Program

Toccat and Fugue in D minor, BWV 565	J. S. Bach
Etude de Concert	Franz Liszt
June: Barcarolle	Pyotr Tchaikovsky
October: Autumn Song from The Seasons Op 37a	
Spanish Dance	Manuel de Falla
Children's Hour	Marcel Grandjany
Pièce Symphonique en trois episodes	Henriette Renié

Yuying Chen is the first prize winner of the 19th Israel International Harp Contest (2015) as well as winner of its French music category. She has also won the Lille Harp Competition in Lille France, The Goldenharp International Harp Competition in St. Petersburg, Russia and she won fourth prize at the USA International Harp Competition in 2013.

Yuying is the Principal Harpist of the Shanghai Philharmonic was born in Shanghai, China. She started playing piano at three and at the age of 9 she began her studies with Li Duo Zhang at the middle school affiliated to Shanghai Conservatory of Music and later with Professor Xiao Jie Zhang (Jason Chang) at Shanghai Conservatory of Music. She also took classes with Willy Postma, Isabelle Perrin, Carrol McLaughlin, Xavier de Maistre, Jana Bouskova, Helga Stork and Elisabeth Fontan-Binoche during her study at Shanghai Conservatory. In 2005 she was featured on “Focus on Youth” program at World Harp Congress in Dublin.

Yuying Chen Solo Recital



D. Piana, J. Ortega, L. Agee, D. Rieth
among harpists who attended



With Dominique Piana



Yuying with Tiffany Wong



With Emily Twu



Master Class with Yuying Chen at the beautiful
home of Armida and Salvatore Giglio

September 2016



Dear BACAHS Members and Friends,

Fall is coming fast upon us as we begin our 2016-2017 Harp Year, following such a busy past year, culminating in achieving the status of American Harp Society Chapter of the Year.

Thank you to all the members who participated in our chapter planning meeting in August and offered great ideas and feedback. Stay tuned as more of these come to fruition. In the meantime, the chapter and its membership are chock-a-block with performances and events. Check out our member news and coming events sections and don't miss the Member Spotlight, featuring Diana Rowan.

First on the docket in October (date TBA) is our Fall Kickoff Event with Sarah Voynow and her Jazz Trio at the Center for New Music in San Francisco. Then before you know it, it will be time for our ever popular annual Winter Potluck in January, where we'll be entertained by Jennifer Ellis and her Admiral Launch Duo. February will feature master classes by Susann McDonald, in conjunction with the Silicon Valley Chapter, and finally in May we will present our fourth bi-annual Yvonne La Mothe Schwager Harp Competition, with Winners' Recital to follow the next week.

Stay tuned as we continue to announce more details and added events as the year unfolds. And as always . . .

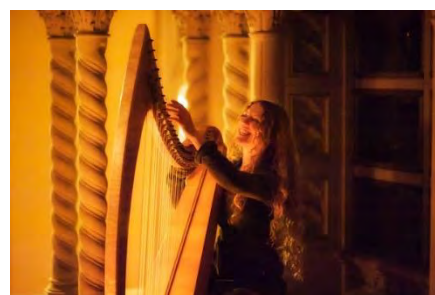
Happy Harping!

Alice Yothers and Susie Spiwak

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT: DIANA ROWAN by Suki Russack

In light of Diana Rowan's upcoming Virtual Harp Summit taking place September 14 through 20, I sat down with her to explore her genesis with the harp and her inspiration for the first ever on-line summit.

Diana has been a world traveler since she first left her native Ireland at age five. Her father was in the Irish diplomatic service and took postings all over the world, bringing his family with him.



Diana lived with a Greek family on the island of Cyprus during her high school years. Here she was exposed to the music of Greece, Turkey, the Balkans and the Middle East. She was trained in classical piano, eventually earning a Master's in Piano Performance, but became entranced by the harp after hearing a concert of Kitka, an Eastern European women's vocal ensemble, accompanied by Ensemble Alcatraz, which featured harp and other medieval instruments. She told one of her piano students how much she was moved by the concert and discovered that the student owned a tiny William Rees harp. Diana borrowed the harp and began to play. From there, Diana says, "Voila! An obsession was born".

As Diana became more proficient on the harp, she realized that in order to master this complex instrument and produce the sounds that she dreamed of hearing, she had to have better harp technique. She heard Alice Giles perform in concert at an American Harp Society conference and knew that Alice had the tools that she needed to progress. She spent intensive periods over two years with Alice, taking daily lessons, discovering the intertwining connection between harp interpretation and technique. Without technique, there would be no vehicle for art, and without art, all the technique in the world wouldn't give her the creative expression she desired.

Along with her study came the discovery that the harp is present in almost all kinds of world music. It forms a bridge between different musical cultures and eras. In fact, this subject became the basis for her Doctoral thesis in Music Theory, which she completed at the National Academy of Music, Bulgaria, in 2014.

When I asked Diana how she had come upon the idea for a Virtual Harp Summit (VHS), which showcases more than 20 master harpists from all over the world, she said that several reasons were the inspiration. First, it was an organic outgrowth of her extensive on-line teaching. Also, she has given many concert tours all over the world, and gathered students from remote areas who want to study harp but who are living in places where there are no opportunities for fulfilling their harp dreams. Having attended and taught at many harp conferences and seeing how rich and valuable such conferences can be for those who can attend, Diana wanted to bring a harp conference to harpists wherever they may live. Because Diana has given concerts all over the world, she has met many wonderful harpists who aren't able to travel to the US, but deserve a broader audience.

VHS is a first-of-its-kind online harp festival. Its theme, "Playing with Expression and Creativity" offers to spark each harpist's individual creative impulse. VHS takes place from September 14-20 and is free. Participants must register online to attend (please click the link below) and is available for subscription holders after those dates.

Best of luck, Diana, for a great summit and thank you for your generous offering to the harp community.

Links:

Virtual Harp Summit registration: <http://virtualharpsummit.com>

Facebook Virtual Harp Summit Page: <https://www.facebook.com/virtualharpsummit>

Diana's harp performance page: <http://dianarowan.com>

Diana's harp teaching page: <http://brightknowledgeacademy.com>

CHAPTER NEWS:



BACAHS awarded **Chapter of the Year for 2015-16** from American Harp Society: Many of you already know BACAHS was selected as Chapter of the Year for 2015-2016 by the Executive Committee of the American Harp Society! (read the full story [here](#))

The Bay Area Chapter was recognized at the AHS Annual Membership Meeting in Atlanta at the National Conference. Alice Yothers, BACAHS Board President, accepted the award check from Ann Yeung, President AHS, in the amount of \$300.00 to be used for future programming for the Chapter. Our winning application will be showcased in the Members Only section of the [website](#).

Thank you to all the chapter members who helped to make last year so rich and vibrant.

A harp ensemble for BACAHS members is in the first stages of formation and slated to begin this fall. **Natalie Cox and Janice Oretga** will be providing leadership and repertoire suitable for both pedal and lever harps. The group will meet once each month. Several likely locations in San Francisco are being considered that can accommodate easy load in and close parking. A few lever harps may be available for borrowing. Details such as the day of the week and nominal fee are still being worked out.

Anyone who is interested in joining, please contact Natalie Cox at musicians@lmi.net or 510-778-0737. Please let us know if you have preferred day(s) of the week and if you will bring your own harp or be in need of a loaner.

Dates and locations are now announced for the **Yvonne LaMothe Schwager Competition for Young Harpists** and resultant **Winners' Recital**. The Competition will be held on Sunday, May 21, 2017 at the San Francisco Conservatory of Music and the Winners' Recital will take place on Sunday, May 28, 2017 at the San Damiano Retreat in conjunction with the 2017 International Harp Festival. Madeline Jarzembak, new Principal Harp with the Santa Cruz Symphony, will be the featured performer in addition to the student competition winners. Repertoire, Guidelines and Registration are available at <http://bacharp.org/competitions/>

New Benefit for BACAHS members: BACAHS joined the Center for New Music (C4NM) at 55 Taylor Street in San Francisco. C4NM offers rehearsal, meeting and performance space to its members at reduced rates. If you are interested in learning more about renting the space, contact Susie Spiwak at bacahs@gmail.com.

MEMBER NEWS:

Karen Gottlieb and **Laura Simpson** will present a very entertaining and informative program: **A Harpist's Tips for Freelancing Success** at the fall kickoff event for SVCAHS on Sunday September 11th. Check out the coming events for more details.

Dominique Piana gave a lecture-recital at the AHS national harp conference in Atlanta entitled *Romantic Miniatures*, demonstrating the evolution of the romantic "fragment" from expression piece to impressionistic sketch. In the Exhibits Hall, she was approached by Rebecca Squire, who had commissioned Thomas Duffy, a Yale Professor of Composition, to write a holiday-inspired work for her harp ensemble through an AHS grant. It became *Three Sparkles for the Season*, three short pieces for 3-part harp ensemble and 2-part treble choir (boys or girls or female choir). The words are secular, which allows the work to be performed anywhere, including public schools. Dominique will make this music available to any interested harp ensemble. The harp parts are intermediate in difficulty.

Last May, Dominique premiered a song cycle based on folk poetry for tenor & harp by David Finko, entitled *Passages in the Wind*, with her son Greg Allen Friedman, at a concert with the Pleasanton Chamber Players at the Firehouse Arts Center. She also performed the Golubev Quintet with the ensemble. The Finko set was published in time for the conference, along with other works for voice & harp by Schumann, Dvorák, and Oberthür. Among other new publications are Dizi works for flute & harp, more Krumpholtz Sonatas, and also romantic solo works by Hasselmans, Holý, Oberthür, Posse, Schüecker and Steibelt. The American composer Paul Creston's Lydian Song is now back in print, and particular care has been given to PASTELS, a new collection of transcriptions of descriptive music, from Beethoven to Sibelius.

Diana Rowan announces her first-ever Virtual Harp Summit, running September 14-20. It's a harp conference-festival that comes straight to your living room. Learn directly from 25+ master harpists, listen to gorgeous harp performances, meet other harpists worldwide, all in your PJs! Virtual Harp Summit is 100% online and FREE. Register here to attend: <http://virtualharpsummit.com>

Still basking in the success of her first ever 2016 International Harp Festival, **Jessica Siegel** asks that we Save the Date for the 2017 International Harp Festival, planned for May 25-28, 2017, at the San Damiano Retreat Center in Danville, CA. And be sure to read Gaylene Sukanuma's report on the 2016 festival in this newsletter.

Diana Stork invites you to check this newsletter's Events section for details on performances planned by her Bay Area Youth Harp Ensemble in October and December. She also invites us in December to walk the labyrinth at Grace Cathedral with music by Portia Diwa and Diana, and with Diana, later, at Community Congregational Church in Tiburon.

Lynn Taffin spent the summer collaborating with harpists and other musicians and composers from Paris, Zurich and even closer to home in Oregon for upcoming concert projects.

She asks that we look in the upcoming American Harp Society Journal for an article by her student Audrey Kost. Audrey chronicled her science project of building a laser harp. What a great way to merge her passion for music and science!

In Memoriam: Barbara Imhoff passed away on June 23, 2016 after a three year struggle to overcome ovarian cancer.



Barbara was a classical harpist who played with numerous Bay Area orchestras including the Napa Symphony, Vallejo Symphony and Oakland Symphony. In the early 1990's, Barbara branched out to compose music for the harp. She created a fusion of world sounds using harp and other instruments. The pieces weave sinuous melodies, lush textures and hypnotic rhythms together for an original sound. Barbara and her bands produced many CDs, the most recent of which is The Bindi Society.

Barbara was a dedicated teacher who worked at Harps Etc. and her home in Montclair. She is survived by her mother, Evelyn Smart of Carmel, CA.

A celebration of life will take place on Saturday, October 1st from 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Please contact Jessica Siegel at harpsetc@pacbell.net for further information.

FESTIVAL REVIEW: 2016 International Harp Festival by Gaylene Sukanuma

One of the most unique and enriching experiences of my life has been participating in the 2016 International Harp Festival held at the San Damiano Retreat Center in Danville, CA from May 26-29, 2016. Participants came from all over the world making it a truly international experience. The San Damiano Retreat Center, nestled in the quiet hills overlooking the old-town charm of Danville provided a soothing and inspiring venue. There are garden paths ablaze with flowers and short hiking trails. The onsite accommodations included simple but wholesome and flavorful meals prepared in a clean and well-maintained kitchen. The many fine restaurants of Danville were also just a short drive away.

As a serious amateur harpist with only two years of lessons, I was apprehensive about fitting in amongst seasoned professional musicians and more experienced amateurs. However, the participants spanned the entire spectrum of skill and experience. I found wonderful camaraderie and support inspired by mutual love of this mysterious and angelic musical instrument.

There were over 40 workshops covering topics on different musical styles, improvisation, music theory, improvisational techniques and more. My favorite workshops included learning how to maintain and do simple repairs on the harp, how to overcome stage fright and Deborah Henson Conant's workshop on amplifying the harp.

There were nightly social hours and performances by the many presenters that spanned everything from Renaissance music, World Music, Celtic and Contemporary Jazz. A small army of energetic volunteers kept the event running smoothly. Some attendees brought their own harps, while others rented a harp for the Festival. There was a well-stocked exhibit hall offering pedal and non-pedal harps, accessories, parts, CDs and an impressive selection of sheet music.

I thoroughly enjoyed myself at the 2016 International Harp Festival and am looking forward to the 2017 International Harp Festival from May 25 – 28, 2017. The 2016 event website is still up, and the curious can visit <http://www.harpfestival.org> to get an idea of what they might experience at next year's festival. I will definitely be in attendance.

COMING EVENTS

Sunday, September 11, 3pm. SVCAHS fall kickoff event features a very entertaining and informative program: **A Harpist's Tips for Success**, presented by Karen Gottlieb and Laura Simpson at the home of Jennifer Hurley, 17250 Buena Vista Ave, Los Gatos. The SVCAHS board will provide refreshments, and swimming will be available for children. Please RSVP to Jennifer Hurley at 408-354-5609, or jenniferhurley@mac.com.

BACAHS Fall Kickoff October date TBA. **Sarah Voynow's Jazz Trio** plays works by Dorothy Ashby, Keith Jarrett, Bruce Springsteen and more. [Center for New Music](http://www.centerfornewmusic.org), 55 Taylor Street, San Francisco. Watch your email for date and more information.

Sunday, October 23, 10am - 3pm. Annual Community Music Day, Crowden Music Center, 1475 Rose (at Sacramento), Berkeley. **Diana Stork** and members of the Bay Area Youth Harp Ensemble teaching harp in the Harp Room. Community Music Day is Crowden's largest outreach event, attracting thousands of individuals each year. FREE. www.crowden.org

Sunday, November 13, 3pm to 4:30pm. **Destiny Muhammad's** Annual Concert Celebration Malonga Casquelord Center for the Arts, 1428 Alice Street, Oakland, CA 94612 \$15 Early bird | \$25 Door <http://www.destinymuhammadproject.com/>

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Sunday, December 11, 10am-4pm. **Bay Area Youth Harp Ensemble's** annual program of holiday music at the annual San Francisco Dickens Faire. Location: Cow Palace, South San Francisco. www.dickensfair.org

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Co-author **Laura Simpson** arranged the score to showcase the harp's versatility and the contrasting cultural and musical backgrounds of the three protagonists. The score includes classical, pop, jazz, and Latin selections from traditional and contemporary sources. Graton Community Center in downtown Graton CA 95444. \$5 discount for tickets to AHS members.

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Sunday, May 28, 2017, 3:00pm. Yvonne LaMothe Schwager Competition Winners' Recital. San Damiano Retreat Center, Danville, CA.

CLASSIFIED ADS

Check out the great harps for rent and sale recently added to the [Classified Ads](#) page including:

Harps for Sale:

- Thormahlen Swan 36 Strings with Camac Levers
- Lyon & Healy Silhouette Electric Harp
- Webster Cecelia folk harp
- Lyon & Healy 85P
- Lyon & Healy Style 22
- Wurlitzer Grand Pedal Harp
- And many more...*

Let us know if you have items for sale or rent. Fill out the form on the [Classified Ads](#) page and we'll get the word out for you.

MEMBERSHIP It is time to join or renew your membership in BACAHS. Thank you to all who have joined the chapter or renewed your membership for 2016-17. If you have not done so already, please do so now. The membership year begins September 1 and goes through August 2016. Although you may be a member of the American Harp Society at the National level, we hope you will join the Bay Area Chapter as well. Benefits of membership include:

- 📌 **Community:** Join a community of people who love to play the harp, some professionally, others for recreation and enrichment.
 - Meet visiting harpists at concerts, master classes and receptions
 - Stay informed of concerts and activities by Bay Area harpists
 - Connect with local harpists
 - Find friends for playing ensemble works and networking
 - Get involved with local events of interest to harpists

- 📌 **Visibility:** With community comes visibility. Performing harpists create demand and new opportunities for our beautiful instrument at special occasions and within daily life.
- 📌 **Support:** As a member, your dues, talents and efforts contribute to the overall vitality of the harp community. Dues help to:
 - Fund Continuing Education, Student Competitions and local events making it affordable for members and families to attend
 - Host world class harpists of all styles from around the world for concerts, master classes and workshops
 - Continuing Education: Concerts, master classes and informal salons provide opportunities to learn from other professional harpists.
- 📌 **Additional benefits:**
 - Regional harp news
 - Bay Area Classifieds: Harps for sale and rent, services and accessories
 - Reduced rates on harp-related events, also extended to your family
 - Access to performance and rehearsal space at reasonable cost, schedules permitting
 - Regional competition offers students and teachers an opportunity to organize and achieve yearly goals.
 - National Conferences and Competitions, as well as access to low-cost insurance for your harp and other musical instruments through your concurrent membership with the national AHS (www.harpsociety.org)

Visit BACHARP.org/membership. The Bay Area Chapter of the American Harp Society is a 501(c)3 corporation and, as such, both membership dues and all donations are tax-deductible, to the full extent allowed by law.

October 2016



Dear BACAHS Members and Friends,

Welcome new members and greetings veterans! We hope you have recently joined or renewed your chapter membership for 2016-2017. If not yet, please consider doing so at our upcoming Fall Kickoff event, featuring **Sarah Voynow's Jazz Trio** (see information below). We're offering a special rate for those paying for dues and tickets at the event. Don't miss Suki Russack's **Member Spotlight** on Sarah below.

We have exciting **Chapter News**, introducing guidelines for the bi-annual Yvonne La Mothe Schwager Competition for Young Harpists, announcing our new member-partnership with Center for New Music in San Francisco, and spreading the word about a newly forming BACAHS Harp Ensemble. **Member News** needs your news! See who is sharing their harp doings with us. Did someone say National Harp Day?

Our **Coming Events** feature brims with calendar items you'll want to plan for. Save the date! for our ever popular Winter Potluck January 15, as Jennifer Ellis introduces to us her Admiral Launch Duo. And **Classified Ads** is ready for your visit as you hunt for your next harp!

Now that your appetite is duly whetted, please read on!

Happy Harping!

Alice Yothers and Susie Spiwak

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT: Sarah Voynow by Suki Russack

As I was reading Sarah Voynow's biography, I thought, how could one person have done so much with so many different kinds of music? Unbeknownst to many of us who know her, she is an incredibly accomplished harpist, able to perform in all types of classical and popular music traditions.

Sarah began playing the harp at age six and by 11 was honing her ear training and improvisation while playing afternoon tea at Sun Valley Lodge in Idaho, accepting requests at the hum of a tune.



After receiving BA, MA and DMA degrees from Juilliard, she started touring and recording with the likes of clarinetist Richard Stoltzman, and Woody Herman's Thundering Herd, and playing and recording with the Metropolitan Opera Orchestra, among other orchestras of note, as well as various Broadway shows. Her accolades include first prize at the Lyon and Healy International Jazz/Pop Harp Competition in 1990.

When I asked Sarah about her experience with jazz improvisation, she told me that it is necessary to get beyond the "fear factor". The more she plays with other great jazz musicians, the better she understands jazz harmony. She explained that an understanding of music theory is necessary in order to be able to improvise within popular music genres. She noted that to get around the complexities of some jazz harmony, the use of enharmonics, careful voicing of chords and, when necessary, playing the melodic line can help, instead of trying to play all the harmonies. As a result, a harpist needs an almost instinctive knowledge of the mechanics of the harp pedals in order to play the harmonic progressions with any facility. Wow, that's an earful!

Sarah's upcoming concert, October 23, will serve to introduce or further acquaint musicians and music lovers with jazz on the harp and the music of harpist/composer Dorothy Ashby (1930-1986). Ashby extended the popularization of jazz harp past a novelty, showing how the instrument can be utilized seamlessly, as much a bebop instrument as the saxophone. She also contributed music and

arrangements for many pop music greats, including Stevie Wonder. Sarah became inspired by Ashby's music while doing research for her doctoral dissertation at Juilliard on the History of Jazz Performance. Although Sarah never met Ashby, she had the opportunity to interview Ashby's husband to get a flavor for the soul of this groundbreaking musician.

Sarah's jazz trio includes notable Bay Area musicians Pat Klobas on bass and David Rokeach on drums/percussion. Tickets are available at centerfornewmusic.com. For a small taste of Sarah's work, you can listen to two tunes from the album titled "I'm Just a Lucky So and So" on [Soundcloud](https://soundcloud.com).

CHAPTER NEWS:

Students up to age 25, start preparing for the **Yvonne LaMothe Schwager Competition for Young Harpists** to be held on Sunday, May 21, 2017 at the San Francisco Conservatory of Music. The Winners' Recital will take place on Sunday, May 28, 2017 at the San Damiano Retreat Center in conjunction with the 2017 International Harp Festival. Madeline Jarzembak, new Principal Harp with the Santa Cruz Symphony, will be the featured performer in addition to the student competition winners. Repertoire, Guidelines and Registration are available at <http://bacharp.org/competitions/>

Benefit for BACAHS members: BACAHS joined the Center for New Music (C4NM) at 55 Taylor Street in San Francisco. C4NM offers rehearsal, meeting and performance space to its members at reduced rates. If you are interested in learning more about renting the space, contact Susie Spiwak at bacahs@gmail.com.

A harp ensemble for BACAHS members is in the first stages of formation and slated to begin this fall. **Natalie Cox and Janice Oretga** will be providing leadership and repertoire suitable for both pedal and lever harps. The group will meet once each month. Several likely locations in San Francisco are being considered that can accommodate easy load in and close parking. A few lever harps may be available for borrowing. Details such as the day of the week and nominal fee are still being worked out.

Anyone who is interested in joining, please contact Natalie Cox at musicians@lmi.net or 510-778-0737. Please let us know if you have preferred day(s) of the week and if you will bring your own harp or will need a loaner.

MEMBER NEWS:

Welcome New Members in 2016-17! Sarah Goss, Safina Kajani, Jasmine Low, Sarah Thompson

Erica Messer presented a proposal to the AHS to advocate for a new national holiday: National Harp Day. They will be voting on whether to proceed with the proposal next week.

Erica is also asking for donations of harps to her public school harp program at North Shoreview Montessori School in San Mateo. As the Artist in Residence, she has received eight harp donations so far, but is eager to grow the program. Contact her at harpisteri@gmail.com for more information or to donate.

North Shoreview Montessori ensemble will perform at Filoli Holiday Traditions November 29 at 11:30 am-12 noon. Erica's private students will perform at Hillsdale Mall (Nordstrom Court) in San Mateo, December 3, at 5pm-6pm.

Destiny Muhammad was busy in September with performances at the Yerba Buena Gardens Festival and sharing music with Kaiser Permanente Bay Area Health Professionals at the San Ramon Marriott. Her October is gearing up performing at UCSF, the Heart and Soul Center of Light in Oakland, the BayView Grand Opening and an interview by Melannie Green of station KPOO. destinymuhammadproject.com

Joffria Whitfield will be performing as Principal Harp with the Contra Costa Chamber Orchestra in a program called Sound Worlds, featuring music by Antonin Dvorak, Alberto Ginastera, John Knowles Paine and Martin Rokeach. November 6, 2:00 p.m., Hoffman Theater, Leshar Center for the Arts, Walnut Creek—[more info](#) and November 12, 2:00 p.m., El Campanil Theater, Antioch—[more info](#)

COMING EVENTS

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Lyon & Healy Style 30, mahogany, built 2004, \$19,500 obo
Salvi Daphne 47Ex, built 2006, \$18,000
Thormahlen Swan 36 Strings with Camac Levers, asking \$6,000
Wurlitzer Grand Pedal Harp, Gold, built in the 1930's, \$14,200 obo
And many more...

Harps for rent:

Salvi Diana 47 Strings, \$175/month

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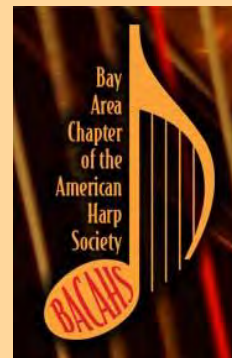
The Chapter serves to meet the need to share information, promote and foster an appreciation of the harp as a musical instrument in the Bay Area, and further harp education at all levels. Your support enables continued sponsorship of harp programs and master classes.

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Bay Area Chapter of the American Harp Society

Presents

**Sarah Voynow Jazz Trio
plays Dorothy Ashby**



Sunday, October 23, 2016, 4:00PM

Center for New Music, 55 Taylor Street, San Francisco



Acclaimed harpist, Sarah Voynow, accompanied by Pat Klobas, bass, and David Rokeach, drums/percussion, plays the music of the great jazz harpist, Dorothy Ashby (1930-1986), and other notable jazz and popular musicians including Freddie Hubbard, Billy Cobham, Cole Porter, and Bruce Springsteen. Meet the artists reception to follow.

*“Sarah Voynow is a hidden gem among
Bay Area Musicians”*

*“Ashby extended the popularization of jazz harp past a novelty,
showing how the instrument can be utilized seamlessly as much a
bebop instrument as the saxophone.”*

For tickets and information visit bacharp.org

BACAHS Members bring your family & friends at
the AHS member ticket price



www.centerfornewmusic.com

December 2016



Dear BACAHS Members and Friends,

Before we launch forth to tell you about the exciting events we have planned for the duration of the harp year, **we want to issue a special invitation to YOU to consider joining our BACAHS Board team.** The current board's tenure will be up the end of May and slots on the Executive Board including President and Vice President will be available to assume. Please help keep up the momentum that brought us to be acknowledged as AHS Chapter of the Year 2015-16, while having the freedom to put your own imprint on the position.

Right on the heels of Happy New Year! comes our crowd-pleasing **Winter Potluck** once again. Don't miss our special guest entertainers as well as our second annual **Music Swap!**

February brings a venerated icon of the harp world to the area for **Bay Area Weekend with Susann McDonald**, including master classes and a special event for teachers and adult learners. And read about the second annual **International Harp Festival**, and BACAHS's sponsorship, including a drawing for two free scholarships for lucky chapter members.

This month's **Member Spotlight** features **Laura Simpson**, master of "popular improvised styling". Explore her unique background and learn of her upcoming stage presentation of "The Telltale Harp".

New this issue is a **CD review by Karen Gottlieb**: Sarah Voynow's "I'm Just a Lucky So and So" is critiqued.

It's all in this issue, and more!

Happy Harping Holidays!

Alice Yothers and Susie Spiwak

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT: Laura Simpson by Suki Russack

Interviewing Laura Simpson, I was struck by her clear understanding of her own capabilities and talents. She knows that her incredible ear for tunes and harmonic structure allows her to work with ease in the challenging field of popular improvised styling. To be able to make a living as Laura does, working almost every day as the harpist in the main lobby at the U.C. Medical Center, she takes the harp far beyond the expectations of many harpists and listeners alike. People from all different backgrounds approach her to play their special requests as they deal with the trauma and fears associated with injury, illness, or concern for loved ones receiving treatment. Laura provides this vulnerable segment of our population with comfort and relaxation through her music and her outgoing, caring nature. Search the internet for "Laura Simpson harp" and you'll find [videos](#) posted by people whose lives she has touched through her hospital work.



Laura's education is quite diverse. She studied anthropology as an undergraduate at University of California, Santa Barbara, then music (voice and harp) at Trinity College of Music in London, University of Southern California, Los Angeles, London University, and the Froebel Institute in London. She holds a Licentiate degree in Dalcroze Eurhythmics, and a California Single Subject (Music) teaching credential. Her worldwide residencies include the Four Seasons Hotel, London; the Intercontinental Hotel in Bahrain; Four Seasons Hotel in Newport Beach; the Biltmore Hotel in Los Angeles; and the Fairmont and Ritz Carlton Hotels in San Francisco. She currently performs for Afternoon Tea during the Christmas holiday season as the resident harpist year-round at both The Palace and The Ritz in San Francisco. Laura has produced two CD's: "Tea Time" and "Laura," which can be purchased at the UCSF Gift Shop or by contacting her at lauras6@prodigy.net.

Laura was instrumental in transforming BACAHS into the society it is today. In 2006 Laura and Karen Gottlieb energized a small, mostly social chapter by organizing the very successful American Harp Society National Conference in San Francisco, along with Elaine Coombs and Celeste Misfeldt. Since that time, BACAHS has become an important resource for students, teachers and harp professionals. Laura has been a member of the American Harp Society since she was 22 years old, and continues to be an active participant in Chapter activities.

Laura will present a staged reading of "The Telltale Harp", performed by the Pegasus Theater Company at the Graton Community Club, Graton, CA on January 29, 2017. It is a comedy based on true tales from harpists across America. The story follows three harpists as they compete for a part on a TV wedding reality show. As co-author, Laura arranged the score to showcase the harp's versatility. Chapter member Sarah Voynow will be featured on harp. Check it out on Facebook under "The Telltale Harp". Please also find details on our [Calendar](#) and come on out to enjoy the show!

CHAPTER NEWS:

You are invited to the **BACAHS Annual Winter Potluck**. In addition to great food and camaraderie, we will be entertained at the harp compliments of member Jennifer Ellis with her [Admiral Launch Duo](#), including Jonathan Hulting-Cohen, saxophone.



Remember the music swap! Bring sheet music and books you no longer need and take home music from others that you always wanted to play.

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For Location and Registration information visit bacharp.org or <http://siliconvalleyharp.org/>. The Master Classes are quite popular. There are only limited spaces left for participants and plenty of room still for auditors. Presented by Silicon Valley and Bay Area Chapters of the American Harp Society.

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If you wish your name to be placed into the drawing pool for one of the scholarships, please contact Alice Yothers, ayothers@yahoo.com, by February 28, 2017, and let her know of your interest. The winners will be notified during the first week of March 2017. You must be a BACAHS member to be eligible.

Guest artists and presenters for the Festival include Kim Robertson, Julie Ann Smith, Frank Voltz, Jennifer Ellis, Johathan Hulting-Cohen, Jessica Siegel, Felice Pomeranz, and the winners of the Yvonne Lamothe Schwager Competition for Young Harpists, together with guest artist Madeline Jarzembak. Workshop topics will include Teaching Tactics, Preparing for your Career, Jazz Improvisation for Lever and Pedal Harps, Celtic Music, Editing and Arranging Music, Basic Composition, Healing Harps, Intro to Chamber Music, plus many more. Visit <http://www.harpfestival.org> for full information.

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CD Review: "I'm Just A Lucky So And So" Sarah Voynow, Harp, with bass & drums.
All arrangements by Sarah Voynow.
By Karen Gottlieb

If you're a jazz fan or new to that genre, you're in for a special treat. Sarah Voynow has just released her jazz album for harp with bass and drums, 'I'm Just A Lucky So And So'. Always interested in jazz and improvisation, Sarah has put together a truly special recording with depth and breadth of styles, accompanied by Pat Klobas on bass, David Rokeach on drums/percussion and David Phillips on lap steel guitar. It includes the music of the great jazz harpist Dorothy Ashby, and other notable jazz and popular musicians, including Freddie Hubbard, Cole Porter, Duke Ellington, Billie Holiday, Jacques Brel, Robert Johnson and Sarah's own composition. Brilliantly produced, arranged and spectacularly performed with exactness and an 'easy going style', this recording is a joy to listen to time and again.

Having performed for many years with the San Francisco Ballet and Opera and many other Bay Area arts organizations, Sarah has been known locally as a classical harpist. But, think again and re-imagine her as a stellar, unique, super talented and engaging jazz harpist. She has studied under Susann McDonald, Nancy Allen and Lucile Lawrence. She received her Bachelors, Masters and Doctor of Musical Arts Degree from The Juilliard School - her thesis was An Analysis of Jazz Harp Performance. She has received many awards including 1st prize at the Lyon and Healy International Jazz/Pop Competition in 1991.

Sarah and her trio recently gave an engaging and entertaining performance at the Center for New Music in San Francisco. Lucky for us in the Bay Area, Sarah is an inspiration for harpists and other musicians, displaying the diversity of the harp in both the classical realm and jazz scene.

Her CD can be purchased thru SarahVoynow.com and on [iTunes](#). The music can also be streamed on [Apple Music](#).

MEMBER NEWS:

Welcome New Members in 2016-17! Viviana Alfaro, Sarah Comfort, Hannah Lam, Molly Langr, Margaret Larsen, Matthew Verona

Stephanie Janowski announces two other events, in addition to her annual "20 Harps for the Holidays" concert December 3 (see Coming Events). She will play harp Sunday, December 4, 3:00 pm, with the San Jose Wind Symphony in "The Night Before Christmas", a holiday concert with the choirs of San Jose State University and Saratoga High School. This family-friendly show also features a silent auction. McAfee Performing Arts Center, 20300 Herriman Ave, Saratoga. www.sjws.org. And Christmas Eve, 9:00 pm and 11:00 pm, Stephanie will play her harp in duet with Paul Rosas (organ) for services at Los Altos United Methodist Church.

Dominique Piana's harpiana.com website, featuring Harpiana Publications, is finally up and running, listing all existing and presently available publications (almost 250!). More work needs to be done in adding commentary, but all the basics are there for your "window shopping". There will also be more new music coming before the end of the year, fleshing out repertoire by composers such as Posse and Snoer, and presenting more chamber music, such as a trio by Poenitz, and an Italian song by Parish Alvars, and much more.

Linda Rollo has informed us of a date change for the Silicon Valley Chapter's String Fever Concert from April 29 to April 22nd, at the Villages in San Jose. She welcomes any interested member of the Bay Area Chapter to join them. The only required rehearsal is on the morning of the concert (Apr. 22 from 10-1). The concert will be at 2:30. Small optional rehearsals will take place at various homes during February, March and April. Anyone interested in playing with them should contact Linda at lwrollo@gmail.com.

Diana Stork writes: "I'm happy to announce that my CD with harpist Portia Diwa "Music from the Labyrinth" has just been released. Thanks to wonderful San Francisco Bay Area musicians Shira Kammen on vielle, Dan Reiter on cello, Peter Maund on percussion and Elaine Coombs also on cello - who added so much to our harp tracks. If you want to check it out, listen to some clips and/ or purchase it, you can go to:

<http://harpdancer.com/online-books-music-store/> or
<https://www.cdbaby.com/cd/dianastork14> or

Available soon on iTunes

And if you'd like to hear Portia and me playing music from our new CD, we will be having our CD Release along with a Labyrinth Walk this coming Friday, December 2nd, from 6 – 8:00 pm at Grace Cathedral. Grace Cathedral is located at the top of Nob Hill. Parking is available underneath the cathedral, or across the street at the Masonic auditorium. The closest BART stop is Powell with a bit of a hike up the hill.

You can walk the beautiful indoor labyrinth as you listen, or listen as you sit quietly by the labyrinth. Come and go as you like. Entrance is by donation at the door, and CD's will be available to purchase. With the cathedral glowing with hundreds of white candles, we will also be performing some seasonal music to get you in the holiday mood. Please invite your family and friends. We hope to see you at this very special event."

Lynn Taffin's students are busy preparing for a holiday performance later in December, as well as for a studio ensemble class in the New Year.

Joffria Whitfield has shared her full December schedule with us. She'll be playing viola at the Messiah Sing-Along December 3, 7:30 pm, El Campanil Theater, Antioch. And on the fourth, she'll perform harp and violin with the Ashmolean Singers Christmas Concert, at Rossmoor, Walnut Creek.

December 9th she'll perform harp with the choir for Ceremony of Carols at Clayton Valley Charter High School, Concord, at 7 pm. And on the 10th at 6:30 pm and on the 11th at 3 pm she performs in "Siegfried" at City College of San Francisco. She plays harp with the Cantata at St. Isidore's Catholic Church on the 18th, Danville, 4 pm.

She finishes off the season playing harp and other instruments at the Christmas Eve Service of Walnut Creek Presbyterian Church, and Midnight Mass at St. Isidore's Catholic Church, followed by the Christmas Day Service at Walnut Creek Presbyterian Church, at 10:30 am.

COMING EVENTS

Friday, December 2, 6-8pm. 2016 Sacred Music at Grace Cathedral, **Diana Stork** and Portia Diwa, Celtic Harps at the Labyrinth. A program of music written especially for Walking the Labyrinth. By candlelight. 1100 California Street (at Taylor Street); San Francisco, CA 94108. More info: www.gracecathedral.org; 415-749-6300.

Saturday, December 3, 4pm. 20 Harps for the Holidays Concert, the annual holiday harp concert by Harpeggio Music studios. Los Altos United Methodist Church, 655 Magdalena Ave, Los Altos, CA The program features the Harpeggio studio ensemble of more than 20 harps playing a festive selection of music, including traditional carols and popular holiday music. This year's guest artist will be the talented, engaging and entertaining harpist, composer and improviser, Motoshi Kosako. For more information and tickets, please call Stephanie at (408) 366-8810 or email events@harpeggio.com. Proceeds go to Harpeggio Music to help support studio activities, including this concert.

Sunday, December 11, 10am-4pm. Bay Area Youth Harp Ensemble's annual program of holiday music at the annual San Francisco Dickens Faire. Location: Cow Palace, South San Francisco. www.dickensfair.org

Saturday, December 17, 7pm. Bay Area Youth Harp Ensemble performs a Winter Solstice Harp Concert at Isis Oasis Theatre, 20889 Geyserville Avenue, Geyserville, CA. Isis Oasis is also a B&B, so consider a special weekend out of town at this unique and magical "Oasis". Info and Reservations: www.isisoasis.org; 707-857-4747.

Sunday, December 18, 4pm "The Littlest Angel" by Charles Tazewell. Brian Swager, Harp, Flutist Kathy McDonald and guitarist Pat Bianculli join in a new musical production. Program also includes two "atmospheric" French Christmas selections for harp solo: Conte de Noël by Alphonse Hasselmans, and three "Noëls" by Marcel Tournier. The Church of the Advent of Christ the King, 261 Fell Street - San Francisco. Suggested donation of \$20.

Wednesday, December 21, Solstice Labyrinth Walk - Harp music by **Diana Stork** beside a beautiful indoor of sweet-smelling evergreen boughs, and lit by hundreds of white candles. Free and open to the public. Community Congregational Church - 145 Rock Hill Drive, Tiburon, CA 94920. Information: 415-435-9108; www.ccctiburon.org

Saturday, January 7, 2017, 2:30 to 5pm, 2017 San Francisco Interlochen Center for the Arts Auditions. Interlochen auditions are coming to San Francisco. Students From Grade 3 through High School are invited to try out for Summer Arts Camp 2017 and/or the 2017-18 Arts Academy year. [Register](#) today! If you have questions, please contact the Office of Admission and Financial Aid at 231.276.7472 or admission@interlochen.org.



Saturday, January 7, 2017 - 8pm, Sunday, January 8, 2017 - 3pm, Monday, January 9, 2017 - 8pm Santa Rosa Symphony Presents *Heavenly Harp*, Marie-Pierre Langlamet, harp. Program includes: ROSSINI: Overture to The Thieving Magpie | GINASTERA: Harp Concerto | DEBUSSY: Dances Sacred and Profane | RAVEL: Daphnis and Chloé, Suites 1 & 2. www.srsymphony.org.

Sunday, January 15, 2017 4pm to 7pm. BACAHS Annual Winter Potluck, featuring the [Admiral Launch Duo](#)—**Jennifer Ellis**, harp, and Jonathan Hulting-Cohen, saxophone. At the home of Malcolm McAfee and the late Marcella DeCray, 30 Commonwealth Avenue, San Francisco.

Friday, January 27, 2017 8pm-9:30pm. **Destiny Muhammad** plays Alice Coltrane's *Journey in Satchidananda* at SFJAZZ Center, Joe Henderson Lab <https://www.sfjazz.org/events/2016-17/0127/hotplate>

Sunday, January 29, 2017 2pm. Pegasus Theater Company presents a staged reading of *The Telltale Harp*, a backstage comedy exploring the crazy, challenging, and competitive world of wedding harpists. Based on true tales from harpists across America, "Telltale" follows a wedding harpist, a church harpist, and a symphony harpist as they compete for a part on TV wedding reality show "About the Music". The play features live on-stage harp music performed by Sarah Voynow and occasional audience participation.

Co-author **Laura Simpson** arranged the score to showcase the harp's versatility and the contrasting cultural and musical backgrounds of the three protagonists. The score includes classical, pop, jazz, and Latin selections from traditional and contemporary sources. Graton Community Center in downtown Graton CA 95444. \$5 discount for tickets to AHS members.

February 25 and 26, 2017 Susann McDonald Master Classes in partnership with Silicon Valley Chapter of the American Harp Society. Space for participants is limited. [Sign up](#) now!

February 28, 2017, Recharging Your Passion—a conversation and potluck luncheon for Teachers and Adult Students with Ms. McDonald and Linda Rollo in San Jose. [Reservations](#) required.

Friday, March 17, 2017, Amelia Romano's World Sync Digital Release of "New Perspectives" Album and Tour at the Center for New Music. More info coming soon.

Sunday, May 21, 2017 Yvonne LaMothe Schwager Competition for Young Harpists at the San Francisco Conservatory of Music. The competition is open to harp students up to and including the age of 25 as of June 1, 2017. Repertoire, Guidelines and Registration are available at <http://bacharp.org/competitions/>

May 25-28, 2017 International Harp Festival, San Damiano Retreat Center, Danville, CA
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Sunday, May 28, 2017, 3pm. Yvonne LaMothe Schwager Competition Winners' Recital with Guest Artist, **Madeline Jarzembak**. San Damiano Retreat Center, Danville, CA.

CLASSIFIED ADS Check out the great harps for rent and sale recently added to the [Classified Ads](#) page including:

Harps for Sale:

Salvi Diana, Walnut, Serial number 3254, built 1980, \$18,000 obo
Lyon & Healy Concert Grand Style 30, black, built 1985, \$18,000 obo
Gorgeous Salvi Daphne 47 EX for sale, mahogany, bought in 2006, one owner, \$18,000
Lyon & Healy Style 30, mahogany, built 2004, \$19,500 obo
Salvi Daphne 47Ex, built 2006, \$18,000
Thormahlen Swan 36 Strings with Camac Levers, asking \$6,000
Wurlitzer Grand Pedal Harp, Gold, built in the 1930's, \$14,200 obo
And many more...

Harps for rent:

Salvi Diana 47 Strings, \$175/month

Let us know if you have items for sale or rent. Fill out the form on the [Classified Ads](#) page and we'll get the word out for you.

MEMBERSHIP Thank you to all who have joined the chapter or renewed your membership in BACAHS. If you have not done so already, please join or renew now. The membership year begins September 1 and goes through August 2017. Although you may be a member of the American Harp Society at the National level, we hope you will join the Bay Area Chapter as well.

The Chapter serves to meet the need to share information, promote and foster an appreciation of the harp as a musical instrument in the Bay Area, and further harp education at all levels. Your support enables continued sponsorship of harp programs and master classes.

Visit BACHARP.org/membership. The Bay Area Chapter of the American Harp Society is a 501(c)3 corporation and, as such, both membership dues and all donations are tax-deductible, to the full extent allowed by law.

January 2017



Dear BACAHS Members and Friends,

We hope to see many of you at the upcoming **Winter Potluck** this Sunday January 15 at 4 pm! If you haven't already contacted Alice with your dish choice, please do so soon. We're looking forward to great food and fellowship, as well as our second annual Music Swap, and a great program of harp and saxophone with the Admiral Launch Duo (see **Member Spotlight** to meet Jennifer Ellis). Don't miss it!

Hot on its heels is the **Bay Area Weekend with Susann McDonald**, February 25, 26 and 28. There are still some auditor slots open for the master classes, as well as seats for Recharging your Passion, for professionals and adult students. Please RSVP!

Karen Gottlieb is at it again with great tips for harpists. Be sure to check out **Contracts for Free-Lance Harpists** this issue.

And read on to find out about the **International Harp Festival** scholarships we're awarding some lucky BACAHS members. Please let us know if you want your name in the drawing.

Karen Gottlieb is spearheading a recruitment drive for BACAHS board positions for the 2017-2019 tenure. If you would like to find out how you can be a part of this vibrant board, please contact Karen at kgharp@pacbell.net or Susie Spiwak at bacahs@gmail.com.

We hope you enjoy this issue!

Happy Harping!

Alice and Susie

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT: Jennifer Ellis

by Suki Russack

Jennifer Ellis, harpist, performer, teacher, arranger, and all around nice person, is in the member spotlight because her Admiral Launch Duo will perform at the BACAHS annual Holiday Potluck on January 15. Jennifer, who loves non-traditional musical collaboration and teaching, graciously shared her evolution in music that led to her collaboration for the duo with saxophonist, Jonathan Hulting-Cohen.



If you think loading a harp in a car is difficult, try fitting a harp, dolly, bench, luggage for two, mics and electronics equipment, and three saxophones in their hard cases! Touring with such a cavalcade of instruments and equipment is always an adventure, but they both agree that the challenges are more than worth it. Jennifer and Jonathan met while in graduate school at the University of Michigan. They were both enrolled in a large ensemble improvisation class. In those large group improvisations, they were fascinated by the sound of harp and saxophone together. At the same time, they were enrolled in a music

pedagogy course and discovered they shared similar philosophies of music and teaching. It was then that the musical duo was formed. They both saw the duo as a partnership of equals, not harp as accompaniment and saxophone as melody.



With harp and saxophone duos cropping up and commissioning pieces across Britain and the United States, Jennifer sees this instrumentation as a vibrantly growing genre of harp chamber music. Both the sax and the double action harp were developed in France during a similar period and there are pre-existing pieces for the combination. However, in order to bring about a more contemporary sound, Jennifer and Jonathan have been actively commissioning composers, from Stephen Rush to Angelica Negron to Natalie Moller to Christine Hedden and others. The duo has been touring with this repertoire and will release their debut album in late 2017. The album is being funded by a FRG-Healy grant out of the University of Massachusetts. Jennifer states “we’re always looking ahead to the next project and are always interested in new commissions from composers. Both with the Admiral Launch Duo as well as in other settings, I really enjoy collaborating with composers to premiere new works for harp.” Jennifer has given over fifty premieres.

This past fall, Jennifer was selected to participate in OneBeat, an initiative of the U.S. Department of State’s Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, & produced by Bang on a Can’s Found Sound Nation. OneBeat brings musicians (ages 19-35) from around the world to the U.S. for one month each fall to collaboratively write, produce, and perform original music, and develop strategies for arts-based social engagement. Check out [OneBeat’s website](#) to learn more about the program. Talk about making an impact with your music...Great work, Jennifer!

Jennifer is very grateful to her wonderful teachers who encouraged her in her career. She began her studies with BACAHS member Jessica Siegel, who gave her endless encouragement and a strong musical and technical foundation. She continued her studies with Yolanda Kondonassis, both at Oberlin for her undergraduate degree as well as the Cleveland Institute of Music for her Masters of Music degree. She earned her Doctorate of Musical Arts in harp with additional certificates in musicology and teaching at the University of Michigan studying with Joan Holland.

Jennifer says she is grateful for the vibrant Bay Area Chapter of the AHS. “I benefitted immensely by growing up in such a thriving and active AHS chapter. BACAHS gave me access to unforgettable masterclasses with artists like Susann McDonald and Alice Giles. And from a young age I was able to attend live concerts by world-class artists sponsored by the American Harp Society, including Isabelle Moretti and Dan Yu. Finally, I was a frequent participant in our annual competition, which gave me valuable performance experience. These concerts, masterclasses, and competitions inspired me to always strive for the next level of harp playing.”

PRACTICAL TIPS FOR HARPISTS



Contracts for the Freelance Harpist: Their Importance and What to Include

By Karen Gottlieb, Harpist and Harp Technician, 2017, with input from Meredith Clark, Jennifer Ellis, Constance Koo, Lynn Michel-Taffin, Diana Rowan, Jessica Schaeffer, Laura Simpson and Sarah Voynow.

Harpists spend many hours learning to play the harp...BUT...of equal importance as a performer is running a business. It is also an art learned over the years from successes but also from mistakes. A well written contract is critical to the running of any business and is beneficial for both parties, insuring a satisfied client and a 'happy harpist'. This article combines input from successful professional harpists in the San Francisco Bay Area that I polled to make the information as complete as possible. Below are the recommendations regarding CONTRACTS for freelance harpists.

Before accepting any job, ask yourself - "Do I want this job?" The following are my personal criteria for accepting a job:

- 1) *Does it pay well enough?*
- 2) *Is it music that I want to play, do I want this experience and/or do I want to work with these musicians?*
- 3) *Do I believe in and support the people/organization who have asked me to play?*

To accept the work, I require at least one and ideally two of the above.

Everyone should consider a contract as a necessary document regarding services rendered, whether for a wedding, party, funeral or other freelance jobs. It is an empowering statement that sets a level of professionalism. It can also cover studio teaching policies. The contract (or agreement) clarifies and lowers any risk of misunderstandings, clearly stating expectations for both the client and the harpist. It serves to protect both parties, including guarantee of fees, reimbursement and compensation, details of venue and time, attire, music, etc. Contracts can be either written, printed, or in email format (which is now legally binding). However, all harpists polled agreed that a 'signed' document is most effective and easily understood. Generally, the event booking becomes official only upon receiving a signed contract and deposit to secure the time and date.

Many clients (especially regarding weddings or funerals) have not worked with contracts, so it's important that all the details are spelled out. A 'generic' contract offered by the client may not meet the particular needs of a harpist. Consider adding your own contract-addendum. It is amazing how many clients have not thought about a harpist's special needs—e.g. a solid and level place to play, convenient parking and load-in for the event, and potential weather issues, including sun protection at outdoor venues.

An initial conversation with the client is always helpful to clarify needs and contract requirements. Your job can often be to guide and help clients understand exactly what they want. Because all clients have slightly different needs, computers and word processing will allow variations in wording of the written document.

For specific contract details, [download the rest of this comprehensive article](#) that provides the information to include in any contract, questions to ask yourself, as well as sample letters/contracts and forms that may be helpful. It is a major subject that deserves much attention and thought. I wish to thank my colleagues for sharing their expertise and experiences - truly an 'ensemble' effort. A special thanks to Alice Yothers, Susie Spiwak and David Klein for their editorial assistance.

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Are you interested in joining the board of your Chapter? The 2016-2017 term for the current officers will end May 30, 2017. There will be openings for many of the Executive Board offices including President and Vice President. Please get involved and keep the momentum of the chapter going. For more information and to express your interest please contact Alice at ayothers@yahoo.com or Susie at bacahs@gmail.com.

MEMBER NEWS:

Dr. Diana Rowan's Bright Knowledge Harp Circle opens for registration Jan 8-15. Members learn the 5-Step Bright Knowledge System, which teaches harpists how to connect with their harp purpose and make consistent progress in practice. This 100% online program works either with your current teacher or even if you're a pro, and features both learning and community aspects. Visit <https://harpcircle.brightknowledgeacademy.com/> to find out more.

Just since **Sarah Voynow's** fabulous Fall Kickoff Concert for BACAHS, pieces from her CD "I'm Just a Lucky So and So" have started being heard on KCSM FM Jazz 91.1. Listen for Billy Holiday's God Bless the Child (duet with bass), and Dorothy Ashby's Essence of Sapphire and Flighty, as well as The Peacocks, So In Love, Love in Vain and I'm Just a Lucky So and So. Search "Sarah Voynow" in the KCSM playlist at http://kcsfm.org/playlist/pub_artist_search.php. Way to go, Sarah!

Congratulations to member **Meredith Clark**, who was recently awarded the position of Principal Harp for the Oakland Symphony. In addition to that she has a number of performances coming up, starting with February 3 when she's playing Ravel's Introduction and Allegro with One Found Sound (a conductor-less chamber orchestra, although they're playing the Ravel with the original septet). The concert is at 8pm at Heron Arts (7 Heron St, SF). <http://www.onefoundsound.org/concerts/>

She's also playing with Earplay March 20 at 7:30 pm. Jason Federmeier: new work (2016) for flute, viola, and harp, world premiere; Earplay commission: Toru Takemitsu: And Then I Knew 'Twas the Wind (1992) for flute, viola, and harp. Preconcert talk at 6:45 p.m.
<http://earplay.org/www/season.php>

And several Lou Harrison works this spring for Other Minds festival and at Mills College, including:

Other Minds Festival - February 18, 7:30pm, Mission Dolores Basilica
Lou Harrison's Suite for Violin, Piano and Small Orchestra
Concert Info: <http://otherminds.org/shtml/om22-info.shtml>
Tickets available here: <http://om22concertone.brownpapertickets.com/>

Mills College - Saturday April 15, 8pm, Littlefield Concert Hall, Lou Harrison's Suite for Violin, Piano and Small Orchestra, <https://musicnow.mills.edu/calendar.php>

Other Minds Festival - May 20, 7:30pm, Mission Dolores Basilica, playing the following by Lou Harrison: Suite for Cello and Harp (with Emil Miland), Threnody for Oliver Daniel (harp solo), La Koro Sutro (scored for mixed chorus, gamelan, organ and harp).

Then she travels to San Luis Obispo to Festival Mosaic, Saturday July 29, 8pm - playing **Copland Clarinet Concerto**; Chamber Concert on Sunday July 30, 3pm - playing **Ravel Sonatine** (chamber version for flute, viola and harp)
<http://www.festivalmozaic.com/>

In Memoriam: **Adele Hanson**, 1930-2016. Thank you to Kristin and William Martin for their donation to BACAHS in memory of early childhood educator and Berkeley harpist, Adele Hanson. It is the first we heard of Adele's passing and are very sorry for the loss to her family, friends and the harp community.
<http://www.legacy.com/obituaries/eastbaytimes/obituary.aspx?pid=182434481>

COMING EVENTS/CALENDAR—please post your events to the BACAHS gmail calendar viewed at <http://bacharp.org/calendar-2/>. If you do not already have access to post and would like to do so, contact us at bacahs@gmail.com

Saturday, January 14, 2017 7pm to 11pm You are cordially invited to Boris' Monthly Salon & Potluck celebrating 2017 THE YEAR OF THE HARP presented by member **Boris Goldmund** and featuring members **Erica Messer**, **Amelia Romano**, and more. In the home of Ken Funk and Basil Chidi at the Millennium Tower, San Francisco. RSVP Themonthlysalon.com

Sunday, January 15, 2017 4pm to 7pm. BACAHS Annual Winter Potluck, featuring the [Admiral Launch Duo](#)—**Jennifer Ellis**, harp, and Jonathan Hulting-Cohen, saxophone. At the home of Malcolm McAfee and the late Marcella DeCray, 30 Commonwealth Avenue, San Francisco. RSVP ayothers@yahoo.com

Sunday, January 22, 2017 • 7:00–8:30 PM AN EVENING OF SACRED HEBREW CHANT
Peninsula Jewish Community Center Board Room; 800 Foster City Blvd. Foster City, CA
Free for Center and Community Members • \$5 Public

An evening of sacred musical call-and-response chant. All are welcome for this uplifting experience that brings clarity to the mind and expansiveness to the heart. Featuring Jeannette Ferber, a prayer leader and singer at Chochmat HaLav in Berkeley, **Diana Rowan** on harp, Craig Miller on percussion, and Bon Singer on vocals. No Hebrew knowledge required. Pre-registration required:
<https://webreg.pjcc.org/econnect/Activities/ActivitiesDetails.asp?aid=2158>

Friday, January 27, 2017 8pm-9:30pm. Destiny Muhammad plays Alice Coltrane's *Journey in Satchidananda* at SFJAZZ Center, Joe Henderson Lab
<https://www.sfjazz.org/events/2016-17/0127/hotplate>

Sunday, January 29, 2017 2pm. Pegasus Theater Company presents a staged reading of *The Telltale Harp*, a backstage comedy exploring the crazy, challenging, and competitive world of wedding harpists. Based on true tales from harpists across America, "*Telltale*" follows a wedding harpist, a church harpist, and a symphony harpist as they compete for a part on TV wedding reality show "*About the Music*". The play features live on-stage harp music performed by Sarah Voynow and occasional audience participation.

Co-author **Laura Simpson** arranged the score to showcase the harp's versatility and the contrasting cultural and musical backgrounds of the three protagonists. The score includes classical, pop, jazz, and Latin selections from traditional and contemporary sources. Graton Community Center in downtown Graton CA 95444. \$5 discount for tickets to AHS members.

February 25 and 26, 2017 Susann McDonald Master Classes in partnership with Silicon Valley Chapter of the American Harp Society. Space still available for auditors. [Sign up](#) now!

February 28, 2017, Recharging Your Passion—a conversation and potluck luncheon for Teachers and Adult Students with Ms. McDonald and Linda Rollo in San Jose. [Reservations](#) required.

Friday, March 17, 2017, Amelia Romano's World Sync Digital Release of "New Perspectives" Album and Tour at the Center for New Music. More info coming soon.

Sunday, May 21, 2017 Yvonne LaMothe Schwager Competition for Young Harpists at the San Francisco Conservatory of Music. The competition is open to harp students up to and including the age of 25 as of June 1, 2017. Repertoire, Guidelines and Registration are available at <http://bacharp.org/competitions/>

May 25-28, 2017 International Harp Festival, San Damiano Retreat Center, Danville, CA
<http://www.harpfestival.org>

Sunday, May 28, 2017, 2:00pm. Yvonne LaMothe Schwager Competition Winners' Recital with Guest Artist, **Madeline Jarzembak**. San Damiano Retreat Center, Danville, CA. Tickets available at <http://www.harpfestival.org>

CLASSIFIED ADS Check out the great harps and accessories for rent and sale recently added to the [Classified Ads](#) page. If you need to list your harp or accessories, fill out the form on the classifieds page. If you have a listing that is no longer current, please let us know at bacahs@gmail.com

MEMBERSHIP Thank you to all who have joined the chapter or renewed your membership in BACAHS. If you have not done so already, please join or renew now. The membership year begins September 1 and goes through August 2017. Although you may be a member of the American Harp Society at the National level, we hope you will join the Bay Area Chapter as well.

The Chapter serves to meet the need to share information, promote and foster an appreciation of the harp as a musical instrument in the Bay Area, and further harp education at all levels. Your support enables continued sponsorship of harp programs and master classes.

Visit BACHARP.org/membership. The Bay Area Chapter of the American Harp Society is a 501(c)3 corporation and, as such, both membership dues and all donations are tax-deductible, to the full extent allowed by law.



**BAY AREA CHAPTER OF THE
AMERICAN HARP SOCIETY
INVITES YOU TO THE
ANNUAL WINTER POTLUCK!!!**



**HELP US RING IN THE NEW YEAR WITH
GREAT FOOD, DRINK, MUSIC AND FRIENDS!**

WHEN: SUNDAY, JANUARY 15, 4:00-7:00 PM

**WHERE: HOME OF MALCOLM MCAFEE
30 COMMONWEALTH AVENUE
SAN FRANCISCO**

IN ADDITION TO GREAT FOOD AND CAMARADERIE, WE WILL
BE ENTERTAINED AT THE HARP COMPLIMENTS OF MEMBER
[JENNIFER ELLIS](#) WITH HER ADMIRAL LAUNCH DUO INCLUDING
JONATHAN HULTING-COHEN, SAXOPHONE.

REMEMBER THE MUSIC SWAP! BRING SHEET MUSIC YOU
NO LONGER NEED AND TAKE HOME MUSIC FROM OTHERS
THAT YOU ALWAYS WANTED TO PLAY

PLEASE RSVP AND INDICATE WHAT DISH YOU WILL BRING:
Alice Yothers 510-305-9438 or ayothers@yahoo.com



BACAHS Potluck 2017-Clockwise from top left: Host Malcolm McAfee, Jennifer Ellis, Admiral Launch Duo, Sarah Goss, Suki Russack, Emily Laurence, Karen Gottlieb, Helen Vjak, Jonathan Hulting-Cohen, Susie Spiwak, Alice Yothers, Claudia Boutote, Diana Rowan



Bay Area Weekend with **Susann McDonald**

San Jose Master Class, Saturday, February 25, 2017

San Francisco Master Class, Sunday February 26, 2017

Recharging Your Passion—a conversation and luncheon for Teachers and Adult Students with Ms. McDonald and Linda Rollo in San Jose—Tuesday, February 28, 2017



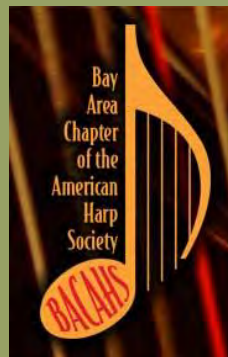
Susann McDonald, renowned harpist, recording artist, and teacher, is coming to the Bay Area for three spectacular events taking place February 25, 26 and 28, 2017. [Sign up](#) now to attend Master Classes with this trailblazing artist who has elevated the harp and inspired harp students around the world through a performing and teaching career that spans more than five decades.

For Location and Registration information visit bacharp.org or siliconvalleyharp.org



Presented by Silicon Valley and
Bay Area Chapters of the
American Harp Society

Silicon Valley Chapter
of the AMERICAN HARP SOCIETY



Susann McDonald Master Class in San Jose

Saturday, February 25, 2017

2:00PM

Foothill Center – The Villages Golf and Country Club



Program

Au Bord du Ruisseau – H. Renié	Hannah Lam
Two Guitars – L. Wood-Rollo	Julianna Owyang
Sonatina #5 – J. Dussek	Tiffany Jia
Automne – M. Grandjany	Katherine Healzer
Sonatina #4 – J. Dussek	Judy Liu
Chanson de Mai – A. Hasselmans	Naomi Sun
Siciliana – Respighi/Grandjany	Alanna O'Neill
Au Matin – M. Tournier	Brian Swager
Gitana – A. Hasselmans	Danielle Nam
Impromptu – H. Reinhold	Tiffany Wong
Fantasy (Eugene Onegin) – Tchaikovsky/Küne	Janice Hur

Please join us for a reception in honor of Miss McDonald and the performers.

World-renowned harpist, Susann McDonald studied at the Paris Conservatory and was the first American to receive the prestigious Premier Prix de Harpe. Her teachers included Henriette Renié and Lily Laskine. She has been Chairman of the Harp Departments at the Juilliard School, the University of Southern California, the University of Arizona, California State University at Los Angeles and most recently as Distinguished Professor of Harp at the Jacobs School of Music, Indiana University. She has served as Artistic Director of the World Harp Congress and the USA International Harp Competition since each organization's inception, and she frequently serves as adjudicator of international harp competitions. After more than forty years of vibrant performing and a continually increasing list of students, it can truly be said that Susann McDonald has provided a gift to the harp world that will keep on giving well into the future.



Presented by Silicon Valley and Bay Area Chapters, American Harp Society



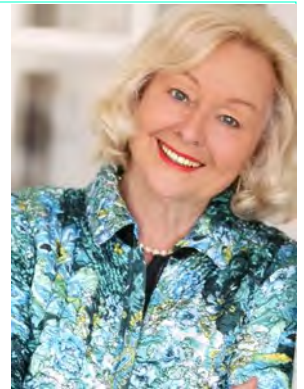
Susann McDonald Master Class in San Francisco

Sunday, February 26, 2017

2:00PM

Davies Symphony Hall Green Room

Program



Au Bord du Ruisseau – H. Renié	Charis Woo
Sonatina # 2 – J. Dussek	Nathania Said
Two Guitars – L. Wood-Rollo	Viviana Alfaro
Romance Without Words – F. Godefroid	Sarah Comfort
Pavane et Bransles -Francisque/Grandjany	Shannon Zheng
Le Papillon – Oberthür	Matthew Verona
Hymne a la paix – F. Godefroid	Meg Larson
Au Matin – M. Tournier	Alanna O'Neill
Fantaisie on a Theme of Haydn – Grandjany	Janice Hur
Spanish Dance #5 – M. de Falla	Molly Langr
Impromptu – H. Reinhold	Elizabeth Vo
The Moldau – Fr. Smetana	Madeline Jarzembak

Please join us for a reception in honor of Miss McDonald and the performers.

World-renowned harpist, Susann McDonald studied at the Paris Conservatory and was the first American to receive the prestigious Premier Prix de Harpe. Her teachers included Henriette Renié and Lily Laskine. She has been Chairman of the Harp Departments at the Juilliard School, the University of Southern California, the University of Arizona, California State University at Los Angeles and most recently as Distinguished Professor of Harp at the Jacobs School of Music, Indiana University. She has served as Artistic Director of the World Harp Congress and the USA International Harp Competition since each organization's inception, and she frequently serves as adjudicator of international harp competitions. After more than forty years of vibrant performing and a continually increasing list of students, it can truly be said that Susann McDonald has provided a gift to the harp world that will keep on giving well into the future.



Presented by Bay Area and Silicon Valley Chapters, American Harp Society



March 2017



Dear BACAHS Members and Friends,

Our harp community is vibrant! With so many things going on, it's hard to keep up and speaks to the talent we have among us. To keep you better informed, BACAHS has embraced social media. Follow and Like us on Instagram and Facebook. Post your events and musings and contribute to our dynamic community!

Did you participate in the fun and informative weekend with Susann McDonald? In conjunction with the Silicon Valley Chapter, 23 Students performed under Miss McDonald's tutelage and over 40 auditors, some coming from as far away as Arizona, observed and learned from this revered teacher. The weekend culminated with an intimate luncheon where she shared her passion for the harp and teaching. Check out Brian Swager's article.

Member Spotlight is on Amelia Romano, who with her trio All That Bad, releases their digital album, "New Perspectives" on March 17 with a concert at Center For New Music. We'll be there, sponsoring a reception afterwards, to get to know this innovative and talented harpist.

*Don't forget to let us know if you are interested in submitting your name for a drawing toward two commuter scholarships to the **International Harp Festival** at San Damiano Conference Center during Memorial Day Weekend. The scholarship is transferrable, so if you win but can't attend all days, you may share extra days with friends. Email bacahs@gmail.com if you want your name in the drawing that will be held during the last week of March.*

2017 is the celebration of the 100th birthday of great American composer, artist, writer, activist Lou Harrison (1917 - 2003). Many of the local arts organizations are celebrating and we would be remiss if we did not join in the festivities. Read Mitch Landy's review of the recent Other Minds Festival 22 concert featuring his work in which Meredith Clark performed. And plan to attend upcoming performances from this same group in which Meredith again will perform and from SFCMP where Karen Gottlieb will perform Harrison's works. Check out the calendar for more information!

And huge thank you to all who contributed to this newsletter—especially Suki, Brian, and Mitch—great work!! Thank you also to Ellis Schuman for sharing photo memories of harp greats, past and present!

We hope you enjoy this jam-packed issue!

Happy Harping!

Alice and Susie

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT: Amelia Romano

by Suki Russack



If you want to be among those who can say “I knew her when...”, then come to hear Amelia Romano's show, Friday, March 17th, at 7:30pm, at the [Center for New Music](#). Joined by her trio, "All That Bad," she will be celebrating the digital release of her album, “New Perspectives.” She is among the new generation of dynamite singer/songwriter/ harpists who live and perform in the Bay Area. Her work is lively and interesting and will open your ears to new and vital harp sounds and rhythms and an invitation to see and hear the harp in a different light.

Amelia began her studies when she was in fourth grade with Diana Stork and was a founding member of the Bay Area Youth Harp Ensemble. Locally born and bred, she attended San Francisco School of the Arts High School (SOTA).

While earning her BA at UC Berkeley, Amelia studied harp privately with Cheryl Ann Fulton. Upon completing her degree, she headed to Cape Town, South Africa, in the summer of 2010 to work on behalf of the Playing for Change Foundation at a township music school. Armed with several harpsicle harps, she set out to share her passion for music with young people living in post-apartheid South Africa. Amelia explained, “Music is part of the environment there but there is limited opportunity for the children to receive any formal training.” During her stay she wrote a blog detailing her work with the school community. Her time spent in South Africa deeply informed and shaped her new work featured on “New Perspectives”. The songs tell a story of her journey to maturity.

Since returning to the states, she formed StringQuake in 2012 with cellist Misha Khalikulov, a SOTA alumnus: www.stringquake.com. She will be featuring her newest collaboration at the Center for New Music, "All That Bad" with another SOTA alumnus, trumpeter Matt Ebisuzaki, and bassist Tim Renner.

Amelia is grateful to be a member of BACAHS. “BACAHS keeps myself and other harpists connected to the diverse network of talent active in the Bay Area harp community, while creating a platform to hear independent voices like my own.”

Amelia plays a Camac Electric Lever Harp which has a pick-up on each string. The tones and textures of her instrument differ from either traditional pedal harp or folk harp. Amelia plays her instrument standing so she can sing with power and conviction. She has an astonishing command of pitch and vocal color. Her new album is a wonderful collection of work, both vocal and instrumental. It will be digitally available on March 17 at [Amazon](#), [Bandcamp](#), and www.ameliaromano.com.

Concert tickets are available at [Center for New Music](#). Plan to stay after the concert and visit with Amelia and her group. BACAHS is hosting a Meet the Artists reception in their honor.

CHAPTER NEWS:

Teachers, work with your Students up to age 25 to get ready for the **Yvonne LaMothe Schwager Competition for Young Harpists** to be held on Sunday, May 21, 2017 at the San Francisco Conservatory of Music. This is a great opportunity for young people to practice their performance and competition techniques and earn cash prizes. The winners of each age group and special prize will perform at the Winners' Recital that will take place on Sunday, May 28, 2017 at the San Damiano Retreat Center at 2:00pm. Madeline Jarzembak, new Principal Harp with the Santa Cruz Symphony, will be the featured performer, in addition to the student competition winners. Repertoire, Guidelines and Registration are available at <http://bacharp.org/competitions/> Entries must be received by May 1, 2017.

The Bay Area Chapter of the American Harp Society has agreed to be a sponsor of the 2017 **International Harp Festival**, May 25-28, 2017, at the San Damiano Retreat Center in Danville, CA. As a benefit to our membership, **scholarships will be awarded to two BACAHS members**, to be determined in a random drawing by the chapter board. Each scholarship is for the full registration fee of the IHF, which allows the winner entry to all of the workshops and concerts at the Festival (a \$450 value). Lodging and food may be purchased separately at <http://www.harpfestival.org>.

The deadline has been extended, so if you wish your name to be placed into the drawing pool for one of the scholarships, please email bacahs@gmail.com, by March 15, 2017, and let us know of your interest. The winners will be notified during the last week of March 2017. You must be a BACAHS member to be eligible.

Guest artists and presenters for the Festival include Kim Robertson, Julie Ann Smith, Frank Voltz, Jennifer Ellis, Johathan Hulting-Cohen, Jessica Siegel, Felice Pomeranz, and the winners of the Yvonne Lamothe Schwager Competition for Young Harpists, together with guest artist Madeline Jarzembak. Workshop topics will include Teaching Tactics, Preparing for your Career, Jazz Improvisation for Lever and Pedal Harps, Celtic Music, Editing and Arranging Music, Basic Composition, Healing Harps, Intro to Chamber Music, plus many more. Visit <http://www.harpfestival.org> for full information.

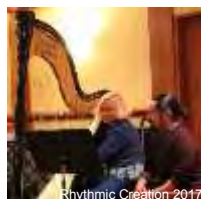
Let's Get Social! BACAHS is upping its social media presence! Check out our new [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#) pages, and help us post up a storm. We'll be posting photos and events, but want to hear from you about what you're doing! From concert hall photos, to harpist sightings, and home practice photos, tag us in your IG photos and use the hashtags #shareyourharp #bacahs #harp and whatever else suits the photo! Can't wait to share all the likes and #harplove <3

Are you interested in getting more involved in your Chapter? The 2016-2017 term for the current officers will end May 30, 2017. The new board is in formation. There are many opportunities to get involved, whether on the Board, as Committee Head or solely as a volunteer on an ad hoc basis. Please get involved and keep the momentum of the chapter going. For more information and to express your interest, please contact Alice at aeyothers@gmail.com (note new address) or Susie at bacahs@gmail.com.

Benefit for BACAHS members: BACAHS joined the Center for New Music (C4NM) at 55 Taylor Street in San Francisco. C4NM offers rehearsal, meeting and performance space to its members at reduced rates. If you are interested in learning more about renting the space, contact Susie Spiwak at bacahs@gmail.com. You can check out the space when you attend Amelia's concert on March 17!

Inspiring Bay Area Weekend with Susann McDonald by Brian Swager

The Bay Area was fortunate to welcome America's premier harp teacher, Susann McDonald, for a weekend of events at the end of February. During two master classes, in San Jose and San Francisco, 22 harpists played a wide variety of music, and numerous auditors benefitted as well from Miss McDonald's informative teaching and the inspiring performances. Many adult harpists and teachers from all over the Bay Area and beyond gathered for an informal "Recharging Your Passion" conversation and luncheon where Susann McDonald and Linda Rollo spoke about the creation of their teaching materials and answered questions on a wide range of topics.



Several themes emerged from the sessions. Miss McDonald stressed the importance of rhythmic accuracy and encouraged students to count and subdivide often rather than trusting their inner sense of rhythm. She mentioned that a rhythmic foundation is also important in ritards. The topic of playing from memory came up repeatedly in all sessions. She believes that it is essential to get in the habit of playing solo literature from memory and encouraged beginning that process as soon as possible, for example, within a week of starting to learn a new piece. She believes that, especially with the harp, the score is a distraction both for the player—as it takes our eyes away from the strings which brings many pitfalls, from getting lost to buzzing—and for the audience, as the music stand usually hides our hands from them. In order to give your full artistic sense, your heart and soul, playing from memory allows us to be at one with the music and connect better with the audience. Regarding harmonics, she told of how her teacher Henriette Renié taught her to make a graph of harmonics to provide a visual image of where on the strings to find the sweetest spot, lower or higher depending on whether the string is flat, sharp, or natural. She talked of maintaining the space between the thumb and index finger (RH), and that the thicker the string is, the more pressure that is necessary with the palm (LH). She encouraged several students to make more substantial bass sound since it often doesn't carry well, and she recalled that Mademoiselle Renié loved bass and would often say, "give me a good bass." She also related that Renié only knew one word in English which she would shriek often: "Relax!!!"



Regarding tone quality, she reminded us to remember to ask ourselves often: "Is it a pretty, beautiful sound?" She also said that we always need to be thinking: "Are we singing?" She encouraged us to think of ourselves not as instrumentalists, merely playing notes and plucking strings, but rather, seeking a vocal, singing, graceful quality. Jessica Siegel commented after one of the classes that Susann McDonald "has an uncanny way of changing the tone of a single note to make the phrase more beautiful and expressive. Her musicianship is outstanding, and she can convey her ideas in a way that the student can respond to play more musically." Miss McDonald's joyful, supportive, and encouraging energy was palpable, and Linda Rollo remarked that she has a way of always focusing on the strong points of students. Two harpists who had studied with McDonald at the Juilliard School, Maria Casale and Sarah Voynow, voiced their great appreciation for her constant positive energy which they found invaluable as students.



Several in attendance commented on the variety of repertoire heard, which included several lesser-known pieces published by Dominique Piana's Harpiana Publications. Many thanks to the boards and members of both the Silicon Valley and the Bay Area chapters who helped make the event so successful, and especially to Linda Rollo who played an integral role.



MEMBER NEWS:

Do you ever wonder what to wear for lessons, recitals, and everything in between? Read **Carla Fabris'** article, [***Fashion Forward***](#) in the March/April 2017 issue of Harp Column. She unfolds the mystery (or quandary) of "What is appropriate generally and in an overall sense for the modern harpist?" Congratulations, Carla, on the publication of this informative and relevant article!

Karen Gottlieb wants to let you know that the article, [***Contracts for the Freelance Harpist: Their Importance and What to Include***](#), originally published in BACAHS Newsletter, January 2017, has been accepted for publication by the American Harp Society Journal. The Journal board loved the idea that it was a collaborative effort by many members of BACAHS--so kudos to all of us. Many thanks for your contributions. Karen will let us know when to anticipate seeing the article in this national magazine since the publication date is not yet confirmed.

Dr. Diana Rowan's Virtual Harp Summit 2 runs FREE March 9-15. Get your free invitation here (necessary for logging in): <http://virtualharpsummit.com/> Learn from 25+ master harpists from all over the world, right in your living room. Virtual Harp Summit 2's theme is "Technique!" Visit <http://virtualharpsummit.com/> to view the teaching and performing roster, plus get your invitation.

Diana Rowan also has many upcoming performances - please visit <https://dianarowan.com/events> to view

Jessica Schaeffer performs "Songs of Isaiah" with Bay Choral Guild this weekend, March 3-5. Check out the [***calendar***](#) for additional details.

CONCERT REVIEW: Other Minds Festival 22 Celebrates Lou Harrison's Centennial by Mitch Landy

First I must say that I don't think I'm qualified to review this concert of the Other Minds Festival 22 that took place on February 18 at Mission Dolores in San Francisco. I am a musician, but so is Mick Jagger. However, I am a fan of Lou Harrison. Before I moved to Berkeley in 1969 I had never heard of him. Then I heard his "Suite for Violin, Piano and Small Orchestra," and I was smitten. This was a new musical world for me. And when I read that the suite would be on the program (and so would harpist Meredith Clarke), I knew I had to attend.

The program included three other Harrison pieces unfamiliar to me, and three pieces by Isang Yun, a Korean composer I had never heard of. It seems that the one thing he had in common with Harrison was that both were born in 1917. His pieces - for solo violin, violin and piano, and piano solo - had a lyricism, but were not always easy on the ears. That said, the solo violin piece, "Kontraste" (Yun lived and taught in Berlin at the time) was played with marvelous sensitivity and control by Yumi Hwang-Williams, and was absolutely riveting. On the other two Yun works, Dennis Russell Davies, formerly known to me only as an orchestral conductor, played the piano. These two also played two movements from Harrison's "Grand Duo for Violin and Piano."

Now, of the four Lou Harrison works, the first – Sonata #3 for piano – was the only one on the program about which I can offer no praise. It dates from 1938, utilizing serial principles learned from Schoenberg; and I felt as though he was trying to make music in spite of the twelve-tone system. Fortunately, he moved on.

The "Air" and "Stampede" from Harrison's "Grand Duo" (1988) had some attributes familiar to me from his other works: the piano at times suggestive of gamelan, and his lyrical voice in the Air, a powerful, shifting rhythm in the Stampede, with sparse accompaniment at times of single notes and double octaves in the piano. By the way, for those not familiar with Harrison's work, he derived the term "stampede" from medieval dance forms called "estampie." I suspect it was also a bit of a joke.

The intermission seemed way too long; but apparently, if you were waiting to use the inadequate toilet facilities, not long enough. Be warned, if you attend the second Lou Harrison concert on May 20. That program will include much more of our harpist Meredith Clarke, who played in the "Suite for Violin, Piano and Small Orchestra," which, disappointingly, did not display her virtuoso abilities to their fullest. The suite was, however, magnificent. One element of which I had been unaware was the use of a "tack" piano (with tacks inserted in the hammers), which provided a metallic pulse suggestive (again) of gamelan.

I must mention "Canticle No. 3," an early work (1941) for percussion with the addition of ocarina and guitar. The guitar did not play a melodic solo role, as one might expect. Along with the ocarina, it provided more of structural punctuation. Incidentally, this was perhaps the first time I have heard a good use for ocarina – more sound effect than melody. One of the things I like about Harrison's music is the rhythms – acrobatic, complex, and stimulating. I had never heard this piece before, and am glad to have done so.

I went with a composer friend who has had little regard for Harrison. His interests range from Morton Feldman to Karlheinz Stockhausen, and don't generally include anything easy to listen to. He was delighted with the concert, and so was I. I look forward to May 20, and to hearing more of Ms. Clarke. I will try to attend in a state of semi-dehydration. (I shall also bring a seat cushion. The pews are all wood.)

Editor's Note: **Karen Gottlieb** will be involved in the [Lou Harrison 2-day Festival with San Francisco Contemporary Music Players at Z Space](#). She is playing and speaking on April 22nd. The Movie about Lou's Life, "A World of Music" will be featured on April 21st. Many of Lou's pieces that Karen recorded are used in the sound track. Everything from the *Koro Sutra Symphony #3 & 4* to *Music for Harp* and more. It also includes his building of the "straw bale composers cave" on the edge of Joshua Tree National Park as his home in the desert. Karen's mother, the architect Lois Davidson Gottlieb, later did a number of remodels and additions to it.

HARP LEGACIES:

Do you recognize these harpists? Answers at the end of this newsletter!



COMING EVENTS/CALENDAR—please post your events to the BACAHS Gmail calendar viewed at <http://bacharp.org/calendar-2/>. If you do not already have access to post and would like to have it, contact us at bacahs@gmail.com.

Friday, March 17, 2017, 7:30pm Amelia Romano's World Sync Digital Release of "New Perspectives" Album and Tour at the Center for New Music. [Tickets and Info](#) Meet the Artists reception to follow sponsored by BACAHS.

The Cafe Concert Series at Harps Etc. presents [Lisa Lynne and Aryeh Frankfurter](#), **Saturday, March 18th Workshop 2-5 pm & Concert 7:30pm**. For more information visit <http://www.harpsetc.com/lisa-lynne-and-aryeh-frankfurter-workshop.html>

Mills College - **Saturday April 15, 8pm**, Littlefield Concert Hall, Lou Harrison's Suite for Violin, Piano and Small Orchestra, Meredith Clark, harp. <https://musicnow.mills.edu/calendar.phpm>

Friday and Saturday, April 21-22, LOU HARRISON : A CENTENARY CELEBRATION, A Weekend Festival at Z Space 450 Florida St, San Francisco, presented by San Francisco Contemporary Music Players, **Karen Gottlieb**, harp. <http://sfcmp.org/category/upcoming-events/>

Other Minds Festival - May 20, 7:30pm, Mission Dolores Basilica, playing the following by Lou Harrison: Suite for Cello and Harp (Meredith Clark with Emil Miland), Threnody for Oliver Daniel (harp solo), La Koro Sutro (scored for mixed chorus, gamelan, organ and harp).

Festival Mosaic, Saturday July 29, 8pm - Copland Clarinet Concerto; Chamber Concert on Sunday July 30, 3pm - playing **Ravel Sonatine** (chamber version for flute, viola and harp) <http://www.festivalmozaic.com/>

Sunday, May 21, 2017 Yvonne LaMothe Schwager Competition for Young Harpists at the San Francisco Conservatory of Music. The competition is open to harp students up to and including the age of 25 as of June 1, 2017. Repertoire, Guidelines and Registration are available at <http://bacharp.org/competitions/>

May 25-28, 2017 International Harp Festival, San Damiano Retreat Center, Danville, CA <http://www.harpfestival.org>

Sunday, May 28, 2017, 2:00pm. Yvonne LaMothe Schwager Competition Winners' Recital with Guest Artist, **Madeline Jarzembak**. San Damiano Retreat Center, Danville, CA. Tickets available at <http://www.harpfestival.org>

CLASSIFIED ADS Check out the great harps and accessories for rent and sale recently added to the [Classified Ads](#) page. If you need to list your harp or accessories, fill out the form on the Classifieds page. If you have a listing that is no longer current, please let us know at bacahs@gmail.com

MEMBERSHIP Thank you to all who have joined the chapter or renewed your membership in BACAHS. If you have not done so already, please join or renew now. The membership year begins September 1 and goes through August 2017. Although you may be a member of the American Harp Society at the National level, we hope you will join the Bay Area Chapter as well.

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Visit BACHARP.org/membership. The Bay Area Chapter of the American Harp Society is a 501(c)3 corporation and, as such, both membership dues and all donations are tax-deductible, to the full extent allowed by law.

Legacy photo answers:

Photo on Left: Honoring Alice Chalifoux, Master Class and Luncheon, March 1986. Left to right: Karen Gottlieb, Ellis Schuman, Miss Chalifoux, Elvira Cassell, Doug Rioth, Roberta Peek, Michelle Sell, Faith Carman, Anne Adams

Photo on Right: Harpo Marx with his teacher, Mlle. Renie

Thank you Ellis for sharing these great memories!

Amelia Romano and All That Bad
“New Perspectives” Digital Release Concert
March 17, 2017 Center for New Music



Bay Area Chapter American Harp Society

From: Bay Area Chapter American Harp Society <bacahs@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, February 19, 2017 9:36 PM
To: 'Bay Area Chapter American Harp Society'
Cc: harpnhorse@sonic.net
Subject: Harps to Highlands Project from Cheryl Ann Fulton

This message is sent on behalf of Cheryl Ann Fulton.

Dear BACAHS Friends,

I am thrilled to be part of an exciting new film my music group Angelorum and I are creating in Scotland in April. You can see our short video and read all about the project on our website:

<https://www.angelorumharps.org/scotland-documentary/>

If you are inspired I hope you will make a donation to our fund raising campaign!

Here's how:

First, you can choose the celestial sphere of your favorite Angels for your donation amount.

Seraphim: \$1000
Cherubim: \$500
Thrones: \$250
Virtues: \$150
Powers: \$100
Principalities: \$75
Archangels: \$50
Angels: \$25

Then you can donate either using our Indiegogo online campaign or by sending a check.

Our online Indiegogo campaign will run from Valentine's Day (February 14th) until Saint Patrick's Day (March 17th). Indiegogo donations can be made by credit card.

You can access the Indiegogo site here:

<https://www.indiegogo.com/projects/harps-to-the-highlands-music-nature/x/16074445#/>

Or you can send a check made out to **Angelorum Harps** to:

Cheryl Ann Fulton
5670 Nottingham Court
El Sobrante, CA 94803

Along with your check please be sure to include your email address and let us know how you want your name to appear in the film credits.

All donors will be included in the film credits and get a free download of the film. Donors contributing \$100 or more will also be able to download a special scanned piece of artwork created during our trip in Scotland by our member Flory Nye-Clement.

Local donors will get two free admissions to our concerts in the Bay Area. (see below)

Please forward this news to anyone you know who would be interested.

Thank you!

Heavenly Harping,
Cheryl

Cheryl Ann Fulton Celtic Harp and Angelorum Medieval Harp Choir in Concert
with special guest Susan Rode Morris, Soprano

Performing the music they will play in the Edinburgh Harp Festival

Sunday, March 19th, 2017 at 4:00PM
Davis Community Church
412 C Street, Davis, CA 95616

and

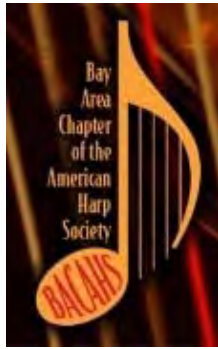
Saturday, March 25th at 7:30PM
Saint Mary Magdalen Church
2005 Berryman St, Berkeley, CA 94709

Bay Area Chapter American Harp Society

From: Bay Area Chapter American Harp Society <bacahs@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 22, 2017 8:47 AM
To: 'Bay Area Chapter American Harp Society'
Subject: Madeline Jarzembak Blood Master's Harp Recital, Tuesday, March 28

BACAHS member, Doug Rioth, invites you to attend San Francisco Conservatory of Music student and BACAHS member, Madeline Blood Jarzembak's, first Master's Harp Recital next Tuesday evening, March 28, at 8:00PM in Osher Salon at the San Francisco Conservatory of Music. She is playing Lou Harrison Cello and Harp Suite, Flagello Sonata, The Moldua, and Variations on a Theme in Ancient Style of Salzedo. The performance is free and no tickets are required. Make plans to attend and hear this impressive harpist perform in San Francisco. <http://sfcu.edu/events/madeline-jarzembak-harp>

May 2017



Dear BACAHS Members and Friends,

Well, our prolific harp year is winding down, but not yet over! We're gearing up for our biennial Yvonne LaMothe Schwager Competition for Young Harpists, Sunday, May 21, at a new location, the Peninsula Jewish Community Center (PJCC). **Volunteers are needed, so please consider signing up.** Then the Winners' Recital will follow a week later at the San Damiano Retreat Center in Danville. The final event of the year will be a master class and concert by Katherine Siochi, AHS Concert Artist, and Gold Medal Winner of the 10th International Harp Competition. Don't miss it!

We are also announcing the term-end of our present slate of board members. Don't worry, you're not being left in the lurch! We've managed to assemble a stellar group of newcomers to the board - but not to the harp! Read on to see who will be taking over the reins and leading the 2017-2019 season. And thank you to our faithful colleagues on the present executive board as well as those who have served throughout the term who join us in welcoming our successors: Secretary Henry Heines, and Treasurer Melinda Chin, Suki Russack, Alexandra Perdew, Erica Messer, David Trapp, and Mitch Landy and Jim Ward who will both stay on to help the new crew. It's been a great ride, with many highlights, not the least of which was being recognized by AHS as "Chapter of the Year 2015-2016". Thank you to all who made this possible!

Please read on to see what's happening in Member News and our Calendar of Events and don't forget to follow and like us on Facebook and Instagram!

Happy Harping!

Alice and Susie

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT: Alice Yothers

by Jennifer Ellis

Author's note: Hello! My name is Jennifer Ellis and I am inheriting our Member Spotlight column from Suki Russak. I want to give a huge thank you to Suki for founding the column! It's a wonderful way to learn about the multitalented people that make up our chapter. I'm honored to have the opportunity to learn more of our members' stories. This issue, we feature our out-going chapter president, Alice Yothers.

Thank you, Madam President!



Alice Yothers is finishing her term as our indomitable BACAHS president. She is a two-term president of our chapter and BACAHS has thrived under her leadership. She wrote a short note for the Members Spotlight column about her journey to becoming BACAHS President which is included in full below. It's followed by an interview focusing on her experience as president.

In Alice's own words: My mother was a piano teacher, and I began piano lessons with her at age six. I quickly learned to read music, but I took any correction by her so personally that I dropped out of formal instruction not long after starting. I continued to listen to her as she taught other children and then I would take

the same music and learn it on my own. That makes for a strong reader with no technique! I spent many years playing on my own with her gentle corrections in the background (play slowly and COUNT!) I briefly took lessons from a very accomplished pianist while in grade school but he wasn't much of a teacher and basically let me do whatever I wanted to. I took up flute in junior high school and had fun with it but never took it very seriously, letting other interests compete for practice time.

Fast forward far into the future to my (ahem) middle years. My brother had married a lovely woman whom I heard played the "folk harp" - whatever that was! We planned a visit with them over Christmas one year and she said to bring my flute so that we could play Christmas carols together. Well, that was the first time I had even seen a small harp and after getting my hands on it, any intimidation was gone. I ended up buying it from her since she was moving on to a larger one. Armed with Sylvia Woods's *Teach Yourself To Play the Folk Harp* book and video, I ventured forth. The video lasted one session and then I shelved it and just started reading the pieces from the book and limping along. This lasted a year. During that time I heard of a conference called Beginning in the Middle, which was coming to Santa Rosa. I signed up for it and braved it by myself, sensing that I was to meet up with some inspiration. Well, I DID. Although I felt very unworthy and insecure about why I was there, I found some women who welcomed me into their group and encouraged me. This began my journey into harp study and discovering that I was "falling in love" with my harp! I first became involved with Harpers Hall folk harp group but soon realized pedal harp repertoire was more appealing to me. I bought a gorgeous sounding Camac Clio, which I enjoyed for 11 years before replacing it with my equally gorgeous sounding Camac Atlantide.

Over the subsequent years, I have studied with several wonderful teachers, including Janice Ortega, Jessica Siegel and Dominique Piana, and been inspired by many others through concerts and master classes. I have Janice, Jessica and Karen Gottlieb to thank for twisting my arm to become involved with BACAHS, where I have served in various capacities over the past 11 years. During this involvement I have enjoyed organizing concerts and master classes, creating and editing newsletters, and promoting the harp to the community.

Many times I've wondered how things would have been different had I discovered the harp as a child. Or even if I had had it when my children were small. I could have used that outlet and fulfillment a lot earlier! But I truly appreciate what I have now and how the harp has shaped my life in so many positive ways and brought me so many valued friendships and enriched my very being. I know it will be an integral part of me for the rest of my life. Having begun harp study as a mature adult, there are so many pieces yet to learn. It's an exciting prospect!

Advice for our Members: A Conversation with Alice

When I asked Alice what she most enjoyed about being the BACAHS president, she responded, "I loved being involved in everything." She loved engaging in the full gamut of activities, explaining that she liked "just making things happen: hosting artists, planning get-togethers, just being involved in it all." Reflecting back on her presidency, she describes it as "rewarding, and fun, and very worthwhile."

Discussing what most surprised her in her time as president, she remarked that, as a "late-comer" to the harp and someone who identified as an amateur, she wasn't initially sure how the chapter would receive her as a president. In the midst of a chapter with so many

accomplished members, Alice recalled, “From the very beginning, I felt very unworthy, of course.” But she was happily surprised that amateur and professional harpists alike gave her “the respect for the position and gratitude.” She reflected, “Whatever I was doing was appreciated...whatever I was doing was being recognized.”

Alice notes that the biggest challenge of being president is getting the member support and volunteers to do the work this chapter needs to function. To offer the services the chapter offers, it needs people who are willing to donate their time. In particular, she praised Vice President Susie Spiwak, citing the way she stepped up to the plate: “We have just worked so well together and she was just—her strengths were my weaknesses,” Alice said. “[Susie] has fueled my energy.”

Our new board for 2017-2018 is largely made up of first-time board members. When I asked what advice she has for this and future boards, Alice advocated for boards to draw upon their own sense of inspiration and unique strengths to keep promoting the membership. She noted that professional harpists have to work collaboratively and avoid the pitfalls of self-promotion. So long as the promotion and support of the full breadth of the chapter is the primary overriding goal, the chapter will be in good hands.

If you are considering joining our local board, Alice recommended letting the current board know of your interest and to start attending events! She said there’s nothing to be intimidated by, just dive in and start talking to current board members. Expect to put in your own efforts, she insists, especially for any pet project that you want the board to take on; ideas don’t turn into reality without people willing to do the work to actually implement them. But, if you are willing to help, the board is a very accessible place.

Finally, I asked her to share some of the things she’s listening to these days. She admits her listening is pretty “eclectic” and that no one genre represents all sides of her. She has no interest in being “rigid” about her tastes and likes exploring. Recently, she’s been on an unexpected Credence Clearwater Revival kick (her new house is up in the Lodi area and she discovered they have a song called Lodi). She’s been enjoying listening to some oldies and some of the more mellow Christian contemporary songs like those by Fernando Ortega. She also talked about the effect the chapter has had on her listening habits. For example, initially, she didn’t gravitate towards jazz—and recounted even telling harpist Park Stickney, “I don’t like jazz!” But, through her involvement with the chapter, her perspective has changed. As she’s gone to more and more jazz harp concerts of our members, she’s found herself enjoying jazz works that she wouldn’t have listened to in the past. The jazz harpists in our membership have inspired her and she now approaches jazz with a fresh perspective. For Alice, regardless of the genre, the key thing is melody. Whether Christian contemporary or classical or jazz, Alice says “It has to have melody... I have to have something to hang my hat on!”

Alice, we thank you for your hard work, dedication, and years of service. We wish you all the best!

CHAPTER NEWS:

New Board formed for BACAHS: As the current Board of Directors term comes to an end June 1, a number of members have stepped up to steer the chapter in the coming years. It's a great group who are eager for your input and with that will plan to bring diverse programming to meet the needs of the chapter and its members.

The new board is comprised of the following people:

Meredith Clark, President
Krista Strader, Co-Vice President and Secretary
Kristin Lloyd, Co-Vice President
Constance Koo, Treasurer
Sarah Goss, Membership
Jennifer Ellis, Newsletter Editor including Member Spotlight column
Dana Wallace, Marketing/Website Administrator.
Jim Ward, Web Master
Brian Swager, Member-at-large
Mitch Landy, voice of reason and Facebook support

Out-going board members will become part of the Advisory Board to support and assist in the transition and as needed going forward. In addition, the Board welcomes the involvement of members through committees, events planning, volunteering, etc.

BACAHS Survey: In order to better plan programming for the chapter, the Board needs your input. They have developed a short survey to seek your opinions, expectations and ways you want to participate in the chapter. Please complete the survey as soon as you can. We'd like to start calculating the results within a week and we'll report back to you in the next newsletter. Get started by clicking here: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/WYRG6W7>

PLEASE NOTE--THERE IS A NEW LOCATION FOR THE YVONNE LAMOTHE SCHWAGER COMPETITION: Because the Bay-to-Breakers road race is happening in San Francisco on Sunday, May 21, the bi-annual Yvonne LaMothe Schwager Competition for Young Harpists is moved and will take place at the Peninsula Jewish Community Center (PJCC). PJCC is located at 800 Foster City Blvd in Foster City. There are a record number of students participating in the competition—39 people signed up from under age 9 through 25. Come out and listen to the students play—or better yet, volunteer to help out during the day. If you are interested, please email bacahs@gmail.com

The **Winners' Recital** follows on Sunday, May 28, at 2pm. It is being held in conjunction with the **International Harp Festival** at San Damiano Retreat in Danville. Come for the recital and stay for the concert by Deborah Henson-Conant that evening. Information and tickets are available at <http://www.harpfestival.org/register>



There are also still **full-day commuter scholarships and 3 free concert tickets** at IHF available to members of BACAHS. Concert performances include The Admiral Launch Duo; Felice Pomeranz and Frank Voltz; Barbary Grant and Kim Robertson; and Deborah Henson-Conant. Email bacahs@gmail.com to reserve your free ticket on a first-come, first-served basis.

American Harp Society Concert Artist and Gold Medal Winner of the 10th International Harp Competition, Katherine Siochi, visits the Bay Area on Sunday, June 11, for a Master Class and Solo Recital. Katherine is presenting recitals and masterclasses in over 20 cities across the US, and joins us before her time as AHS Concert Artist comes to an end in late June.

Other honors include first prize in the junior division of the American String Teachers Association, winner of the Anne Adams Awards, winner of the Aspen Music Festival harp competition, and first prize in the Advanced Division of the American Harp Society. Her performances have been featured twice on NPR's radio program "From The Top," on New York Public Radio for WQXR's "Young Artist Showcase," and on "Performance Today." Please join us in hosting her master class and what's sure to be an incredible solo performance. Visit bacharp.org/coming-events/ for tickets and information.

Let's Get Social! Internet users! Are you on Facebook? If so, please like our page www.facebook.com/bayareaharp! We'll post upcoming events, photos, news, and all things related to you, our fellow bay area harpists! We want to see all things harp that are happening in the area, and this gives you the opportunity to share and interact with us without waiting for the next newsletter. Thanks for the likes!



MEMBER NEWS:

Jennifer R. Ellis has an upcoming performance at the Starline Social Club in Oakland, CA at 7:30 p.m. on May 13th where she will be playing works by Elliot Cole, Doug Balliett, and Brad Balliett as part of the Mainline Music Concert Series with Oracle Hysterical. Beautiful genre-crossing music, the works will include Babinagar, a song cycle based on an Afghani folktale.

She also has upcoming residencies with Admiral Launch Duo and Seen/Heard Trio at Avaloch and she will be an artist-in-residence working with the composition department at UC Davis next season.

Jennifer will also perform at **Boris Goldmund's** The Monthly Salon on Sunday, May 14, at the Forest Hill district home of Peter Grunberg and John Wyatt Nelson. For more information visit <http://themothlysalon.com/>.

Jessica Siegel and Harps Etc. welcome students participating the Yvonne LaMothe Schwager Harp Competition to attend the International Harp Festival on May 27 and 28 as their guest! Many workshops on these days focus on the student harpist. Visit harpfestival.org for the full schedule of workshops and concerts including "Taming your Butterflies: Managing performance anxiety" and "Working for a Living: How to make a living as a harpist workshops"; and concerts by Deborah Henson-Conant and Barbary Grant and Kim Robertson. To make your reservation, please contact Harps Etc. at info@harpsetc.com or call 800-836-5559.

Anna Maria Mendieta is performing a multimedia concert-show featuring Harp, Strings, Percussion, and Dance (Tango & Flamenco). They tour all over the United States and will be touring China later this year. This is the first time it will be performed in San Francisco. With one concert only, she would love to invite our wonderful harp community to attend.



"Tango Del Cielo"

Concert-Show

Sunday, June 4th - 3:00pm

Marines Memorial Theater

609 Sutter Street, San Francisco

Tickets: www.CityBoxOffice.com/TangoDelCielo

(415) 392-4400

Anna Maria says: The program is a fun and entertaining program with music and dance (tango and flamenco) and a tribute to the silent movies, since it was through the silent movies that tango was brought to the United States...and on a side note since you're

harpists, my great aunt Nita Naldi was Rudolf Valentino's co-star for many movies - and she played the HARP too!! (See photo above from one of her movies with Valentino.)

All revolves around the harp as the main instrument in this concert. So, it is especially apropos to invite the harp community.

The concert, a fundraiser to finish the recording project being recorded at Skywalker Ranch, features Argentine tangos arranged for Anna-Maria for harp and orchestra by Piazzolla's friends and musicians. Most of them are multi Grammy Award winners in their own right and the music promises to be amazing! The project has been more than a year in the making...and they are very excited to be finishing the project this fall.

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Sunday, May 21, Yvonne LaMothe Schwager Competition for Young Harpists at PJCC, 800 Foster City Blvd. Foster City, CA 94404. PLEASE NOTE THE NEW LOCATION! The competition is open to harp students up to and including the age of 25 as of June 1, 2017.

May 25-28, International Harp Festival, San Damiano Retreat Center, Danville, CA
<http://www.harpfestival.org>

Sunday, May 28, 2:00pm, Yvonne LaMothe Schwager Competition Winners' Recital with Guest Artist, **Madeline Jarzembak**. San Damiano Retreat Center, Danville, CA. Tickets available at <http://www.harpfestival.org>

Sunday, June 4, 3:00pm "Tango Del Cielo" Concert-Show
Tickets: www.CityBoxOffice.com/TangoDelCielo (415) 392-4400

Music in our Community: Presented by the PJCC in partnership with Music at Kohl Mansion



A Musical Conversation with Amit Peled

Thursday, June 8, 2017 | 8:00 pm | Kohl Mansion, Burlingame

\$30 650.378.2703, pjcc.org/arts

World-renowned cellist, Amit Peled's musical selections, passionate performance, and personal story will take you on an emotionally stimulating ride through his Jewish journey. Peled performs with the historic Goffriller cello (1733) that belonged to the legendary musician Pablo Casals. Joined by Elizabeth Borowsky, piano.

Sunday, June 11, 2pm Master Class with AHS Concert Artist, Katherine Siochi. Congregation Beth Sholom, 301 14th Avenue, San Francisco. <http://bacharp.org/coming-events/>

Sunday, June 11, 6:30pm AHS Concert Artist, Katherine Siochi Solo Recital. Congregation Beth Sholom, 301 14th Avenue, San Francisco. <http://bacharp.org/coming-events/>

Saturday July 29, 8pm and Sunday, July 30, 3pm Meredith Clark performs with Festival Mozaic. Saturday program includes Copland Clarinet Concerto; Sunday Chamber Concert features Ravel Sonatine (chamber version for flute, viola and harp).
<http://www.festivalmozaic.com/>

CLASSIFIED ADS Check out the great harps and accessories for rent and sale recently added to the [Classified Ads](#) page. If you need to list your harp or accessories, fill out the form on the Classifieds page. If you have a listing that is no longer current, please let us know at bacahs@gmail.com

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The 2017 Yvonne La Mothe Schwager Competition for Young Harpists Presented by the Bay Area Chapter of the American Harp Society

The Yvonne La Mothe Schwager Competition will be held on Sunday, May 21, 2017 at the San Francisco Conservatory of Music. The Winners' Recital will be held on Sunday, May 28, 2017 at 3:00pm at the San Damiano Retreat in Danville, CA.

To qualify you must:

1. be 25 years of age or under as of June 1, 2017
2. reside in the Western Region (Northern California and Nevada zip codes 93600 through 96199)
3. be a member of the American Harp Society (AHS)—join or renew at harp society.org
4. be a member of the Bay Area Chapter of the American Harp Society (BACAHS)—join or renew at bacharp.org/membership
5. Submit your completed application on or before May 1, 2017

The application process requires:

- payment a \$40 application fee
- submission of a letter of recommendation from a teacher or professional harpist
- submission of a one paragraph student bio

Apply online at bacharp.org/competitions

Participants will perform two or three pieces each by memory. A full explanation with the repertoire list follows on page 2.

Participants must:

- bring their own harp to the competition and to the winners' recital
- bring three copies of their chosen music for the judges

No substitutions will be accepted for the required pieces.

The decisions of the jury will be final.

Directions and other audition details will be provided closer to the Competition date. If you have any other questions, contact [Alice Yothers](mailto:aeyothers@gmail.com) at aeyothers@gmail.com.

General Prizes:

Preliminary: Gold \$100 – Silver \$75 – Bronze \$50

Level 1: Gold \$150 – Silver \$100 – Bronze \$75

Level 2: Gold \$200 – Silver \$150 – Bronze \$100

Level 3: Gold \$250 – Silver \$200 – Bronze \$150

Level 4: Gold \$300 – Silver \$250 – Bronze \$200

Special MusicWorks-Harp Editions Prize:

Preliminary division: \$50

Level 1: \$50

Level 2: \$75

Level 3: \$75

Level 4: \$100

Special Harpiana Prize:

Preliminary division: \$50

Level 1: \$50

Level 2: \$75

Level 3: \$75

Level 4: \$100

CATEGORIES/REPERTOIRE: according to maximum age on **June 1, 2017**

Please refer to the explanations below in regards to the symbols used. Five prizes can be won at each level: three general prizes (Gold, Silver and Bronze), as well as the special MusicWorks-Harp Editions and Harpiana Prizes.

The contestant may play two or three pieces. One or two pieces must come from Category 1 and one must be a free choice selection (see Category 2). Any of the pieces in Category 1 may be used for the free choice if desired.

Preliminary division: up to and including age 9

1. Choose one from the following (all playable on lever harp):
 - The See-Saw by Grandjany, from *Little Harp Book*
 - ○ Rêverie by Susann McDonald from *Graded Recital Pieces, Harp Solos Vol. 1*
 - *Wiegenliedchen by Poenitz, from *Drei leichte Stücke*, no. 3 (Harpiana)
2. One free choice, max. length 3 minutes

Level 1: up to and including age 12

1. Choose one or two from the following:
 - + Au bord du ruisseau by Henriette Renié for pedal harp, from *Six Pieces* (First Suite), or Ground in F with Variations by Purcell (L. Thomson - Salvi ed.) for non-pedal harp
 - ○ Two Guitars by Linda Wood Rollo, from *Graded Recital Pieces: Harp Solos Vol. 4*
 - *Morceau facile in F, op. 10, no. 2 by Alfred Kastner, for pedal or non-pedal harp (Harpiana)
2. One free choice, max. 5 minutes

Level 2: up to and including age 15

1. Choose one or two from the following:
 - + Any one Sonatina from Six Sonatinas by Dussek (any edition)
 - ○ Romance Without Words (Bois solitaire) by Godefroid (S. McDonald edition)
 - *Pensée mélodique by Sibelius, ed. D. Piana, from *Pastels* (Harpiana)
2. One free choice, max. 5 minutes

Level 3: up to and including age 18

1. Choose one or two from the following:
 - + Pavane et Bransles by Francisque/Grandjany
 - ○ Malagueña (Recuerdos de Viaje) by Albeniz, from *Spanish Music for the Harp, Vol. 2*, McDonald/Wood
 - *Berceuse (first version) by Liszt, from vol. 3 of Liszt collection, *Lyric Reflections* (Harpiana)
2. One free choice, max. 8 minutes

Level 4: up to and including age 25

1. Choose one or two of the following:
 - + One Sonata by Haydn, from Hob. XVI, either in D major (24) or C major (35) or A-flat major (43) or G minor (44)
 - ○ Nocturne by Pittaluga, from *Spanish Music for the Harp, Vol. 4*, ed. by S. McDonald and L. Wood Rollo
 - * Le Sylphe by Oberthür (Harpiana)
2. One free choice, max. 10 minutes

+ Selection from the repertoire for the AHS National Competition

○ Special MusicWorks-Harp Editions Prize donated by Linda Wood Rollo & Susann McDonald

* Special Harpiana Prize donated by Dominique Piana

All music available from Harps, Etc. www.harpsetc.com; Harpiana repertoire also available from harpiana.com

Bay Area Chapter American Harp Society

From: Bay Area Chapter American Harp Society <bacahs@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, May 22, 2017 2:31 PM
To: 'Bay Area Chapter American Harp Society'
Subject: For immediate release: Yvonne LaMothe Schwager Harp Competition Winners Announced!
Attachments: 2017 Harp Competition flyer.pdf



On Sunday, May 21, 2017, 37 harpists between the ages of 6 and 18, converged upon the Peninsula Jewish Community Center (PJCC) in Foster City, California, with harps and benches in tow to compete in the biennial Yvonne LaMothe Schwager Competition for Young Harpists. An esteemed panel of judges, **Celia Chan-Valero, Karen Gottlieb, and Madeline Jarzembek**, listened thoughtfully, provided positive feedback and identified awards for these high-achieving young people.

The winners by division and their teachers are:

Preliminary Division-up to and including age 9		
Gold	Charlotte Trinh	Dominique Piana
Silver-tie	Emilie Campbell	Jacqueline Venter
Silver-tie	Anton Taffin	Lynn Taffin
Harpiana Prize	Emilie Campbell	Jacqueline Venter
MusicWorks Prize	Charlotte Trinh	Dominique Piana
Level 1-up to and including age 12		
Gold	Sophia Shan	Linda Rollo
Silver	Aden Eva Barbuta	Jacquelyn Venter
Bronze	David Lin	Dan Levitan
Harpiana Prize	David Lin	Dan Levitan
MusicWorks Prize	Aden Eva Barbuta	Jacquelyn Venter
Level 2-up to and including age 15		
Gold	Danielle Nam	Linda Rollo & Sonya Yu
Silver	Judy Liu	Linda Wood Rollo
Bronze-tie	Hannah Ewell	Kristal Schwartz Barlaan
Bronze-tie	Kartika Santoso	Sonya Yu
Harpiana Prize	Margaret (Meg) Larsen	Dominique Piana
MusicWorks Prize	Judy Liu	Linda Wood Rollo
MusicWorks Prize-Honorable Mention	Hannah Ewell	Kristal Schwartz Barlaan
Level 3-up to and including age 18		
Gold	Tiffany Wong	Linda Wood Rollo

Silver	Elizabeth Vo - Phamhi	Doug Rieth
Bronze	Karissa Yau	Sonya Yu
Harpiana Prize	Shannon Zheng	Dominique Piana
MusicWorks Prize	Tiffany Wong	Linda Wood Rollo

Congratulations to all who participated!

Many thanks go out to the teachers who worked so hard with their students to help them prepare for the competition.

Also THANK YOU to our team of volunteers: Aruna Bhasker, Constance Koo, Daphanie Lin, Janice Ortega, Krista Strader, Melinda Chinn, Sarah Goss, Silvia Pratt, Sonya Yu, and Suki Russack. This competition could not happen without you!

And finally, gratitude goes to the Competition Committee: Dominique Piana, Artistic Director and Chairperson, Alice Yothers and Susie Spiwak.

Come out and celebrate the achievements of the young harpists and hear beautiful music next Sunday, May 28, 2017 at 2:00pm, when the Bay Area Chapter of the American Harp Society will present the winners of the biennial Yvonne LaMothe Schwager Harp Competition in recital at the San Damiano Retreat Center in Danville.

This concert, "Romancing the Harp" will be featured as part of the International Harp Festival sponsored by Diablo Valley Arts Academy at San Damiano Retreat, located at 710 Highland Drive, in Danville, CA 94526. General admission is \$20 and \$12 for students up to age 18. Tickets can be ordered in advance at harpfestival.org/register or purchased at the door.

Participants will perform compositions by harp pedagogues Susann McDonald and Linda Wood Rollo, harpists-composers Andr s, Godefroid, Grandjany, Hasselmans, Pratt, Ren   and Salzedo, as well as composers such as Albeniz, Dussek, Liszt, Purcell and others.

Guest artist Madeline Jarzembak will crown the recital with two brilliant virtuoso works, *Die Moldau* by Smetana, as arranged for harp by Hans Trne ek, and Carlos Salzedo's *Variations sur un th  me dans le style ancien*. A graduate of the Curtis Institute of Music, Madeline is Principal Harp of the Santa Cruz Symphony, and studies currently at the San Francisco Conservatory with Doug Rieth of the San Francisco Symphony.

Yvonne LaMothe Schwager Competition Preliminary Division



Back row L-R: Anton Taffin, Celia Chan-Valero, Madeline Jarzembak, Karen Gottlieb; Second Row L-R: Naomi Hsu, Emilie Campbell, Amber Nguyen, Kristen Ho; Front: Charlotte Trinh

Yvonne LaMothe Schwager Competition Level 1



Back row L-R: Clarence Tang, Celia Chan-Valero, David Lin, Aden Eva Barbuta, Madeline Jarzembak, Sophia Shan, Karen Gottlieb, Hannah Lam; Front row L-R: Charis Woo, Viviana Alfaro, Daniel Cho, Hailey Tan, Anais Taffin, Hannah Chen, Juliana Owyang; (Alice Yothers in doorway)

Yvonne LaMothe Schwager Competition Level 2



L-R: Genevieve Nguyen, Daniel Nam, Tiffany Jia, Meg Larsen, Celia Chan-Valero, Naomi Sun, Karen Gottlieb, Hannah Ewell, Madeline Jarzembak, Carter Williams, Isabella Vega, Nathania Said, Judy Liu, Karitka Santoso, Haejin Lee

Yvonne LaMothe Schwager Competition Level 3



L-R: Tiffany Wong, Emily Twu, Karissa Yau, Shannon Zheng, Hannah Schiek, Lydia Yi, Elizabeth Vo-Phamhi

Yvonne LaMothe Schwager Competition Devoted Volunteers



Clockwise L-R: Krista Strader, Dominique Piana, Artistic Director and Chairperson; Suki Russack, Alice Yothers, Janice Ortega, Sonya Yu, Silvia Pratt, Daphanie Lin, Alice Yothers, Aruna Bhasker. Not Shown: Sarah Goss, Melinda Chinn, Constance Koo



Schwager Competition and Recital Participants and attendees

Romancing the Harp
YLMS Competition
WINNERS RECITAL



Hannah Ewell, a 14-year old from Saratoga, has been studying harp with Kristal Schwartz Barlaan for six years. She plays with the San Jose Youth Symphony's harp ensemble and San Jose Youth Chamber Senior Orchestra. She has previously won Gold, Silver and the Harpiana Prize at previous YLS competitions.

Kartika Santoso is a seventh grader at Saint Andrew's Episcopal School. She has been studying harp with Sonya Yu for four years and is a member of the Silicon Valley Youth Harp Ensemble. She also plays piano.

Margaret (Meg) Larsen, age 14, from Moraga, has been homeschooled her whole life. She started harp lessons with Dominique Piana two years ago, fulfilling a lifelong dream. She also plays piano and enjoys creating beautiful things with her hands.

Danielle Nam is a sophomore at Mountain View High School. She has studied harp for 10 years with Sonya Yu and Linda Wood Rollo. She has won many top prizes at various competitions, including this one, and has been the principal harp of the California Youth Symphony since 2015. This summer she will perform at the 2017 World Harp Congress in Hong Kong in the Focus on Youth program.

Shannon Zheng is a junior at San Ramon Valley High School who began plucking harp strings in the autumn of 2012 as a student of Dominique Piana. She has performed with various youth orchestras in Berkeley, Oakland and Livermore. Last year, she successfully completed Level 10 in the Certificate of Merit program through MTAC.

Elizabeth Vo-Phamhi has studied harp for over eight years with Doug Rieth in San Francisco and has twice won the gold medal in our competition. She also plays piano and dances with the South San Francisco Civic Ballet. She performs with the San Francisco Symphony Youth Orchestra and last summer she was awarded a full scholarship to the Tanglewood Institute in Boston.

Karissa Yau is currently a high school junior and has been studying with Sonya Yu for seven years. She is the harpist for the El Camino Youth Symphony. Her favorite style of harp music is romantic.

Tiffany Wong is a sophomore at the Harker Upper School in San Jose. She began playing piano at age five, and harp at age eight with Linda Wood Rollo. She is a member of the San Jose Youth Symphony and performed the Boieldieu Concerto with them in 2015. Tiffany has won prizes and honors at many competitions, including this one, as well as the AHS National Competition.

Madeline Jarzembak is the Principal Harp of the Santa Cruz Symphony. A graduate of the Curtis Institute of Music, Madeline has performed as a member of the Philadelphia Orchestra and the San Francisco Symphony, among others. As a soloist, she performed with members of the Philadelphia Orchestra, Delaware Symphony, Symphony in C, Orchestra 2001, Philadelphia Classical Symphony and Independence Sinfonia. In 2009 Madeline was a finalist and awarded the "Jury's Diplome" at the International Harp Competition "Golden Harp" in St. Petersburg, Russia. Madeline won prizes at American Harp Society Competitions both national and local. She performed at the Focus on Youth concerts at the World Harp Congress and on NPR's "From the Top". Madeline is currently studying at the San Francisco Conservatory of Music with Doug Rieth.

ROMANCING THE HARP

A concert featuring the winners of the

2017 YVONNE LAMOTHE SCHWAGER HARP COMPETITION



and presenting guest artist

MADELINE JARZEMBAK

Sunday May 28, 2017 at 2:00pm

as part of the International Harp Festival

San Damiano Retreat Center
Danville California



Diablo Valley Arts Academy

Sponsored by
the Bay Area Chapter of
the American Harp Society



ROMANCING THE HARP

Winners Recital 2017 Program

The Seesaw, from *Little Harp Book* Marcel Grandjany (1891-1975)
Wiegenliedchen, from *Drei leichte Stücke*, no. 3 Franz Poenitz (1850-1912)
Emilie Campbell, *Preliminary Division, Silver (tied) & Harpiana Prize Winner*

The Bell Buoy, from *Three Sea Sketches* Betty Paret (1923-2011)
Anton Taffin, *Preliminary Division, Silver Winner (tied)*

Morceau facile in F, op. 10, no. 2 Alfred Kastner (1870-1948)
Meditation from the opera *Thaïs*, arr. S. McDonald Jules Massenet (1842-1912)
David Lin, *Level 1 Harpiana Prize & Bronze Winner*

Two Guitars, from *Harp Solos vol. 4* Linda Wood Rollo
Au bord du ruisseau, from *Six Pièces (First Suite)* Henriette Renié (1875-1956)
Aden Eva Barbuta, *Level 1 Silver (tied) & MusicWorks Prize Winner*

Ten Past Two, from *Around the Clock Suite* Pearl Chertok (1918-1981)
Sophia Shan, *Level 1 Gold Winner*

The Harmonious Blacksmith, tr. C. Salzedo G.F. Handel (1685-1759)
Romance Without Words, ed. McDonald Félix Godefroid (1818-1897)
Hannah Ewell, *Level 2 Bronze Winner (tied)*
and Honorable Mention for MusicWorks Prize Winner

Petite Valse, op. 25 Alphonse Hasselmans (1845-1912)
Kartika Santoso, *Bronze Winner (tied)*

Pensée mélodique, from *Pastels*, tr. D. Piana Jean Sibelius (1865-1957)
Meg Larsen, *Level 2 Harpiana Prize Winner*

Gitana, op. 21 Alphonse Hasselmans (1845-1912)
Danielle Nam, *Level 2 Gold Winner*

~ INTERMISSION ~

Berceuse (first version) Franz Liszt (1811-1886)
tr. D. Piana, from *Lyric Reflections*
Shannon Zheng, *Level 3 Harpiana Prize Winner*

Concerto in B flat op. 4, no. 6, G.F. Handel (1685-1759)
Andante Allegro, arr. C. Salzedo
Elizabeth Vo-Phamhi, *Level 3 Silver Winner*

Impromptu op. 28, no. 3, ed. E. Hainen Hugo Reinhold (1854-1935)
Karissa Yau, *Level 3 Bronze Winner*

Pavane et Bransles Anthoine Francisque (1575-1605)
from *Le Trésor d'Orphée*, arr. M. Grandjany
Malagueña (Recuerdos de Viaje) Isaac Albeniz (1860-1909)
tr. McDonald/Wood Rollo
Tiffany Wong, *Gold and MusicWorks Prize Winner*

Moldau, Symphonic Poem by Smetana Hans Trneček (1858-1914)
transcr. for harp, op. 43
Variations sur un thème dans le style ancien Carlos Salzedo (1885-1961)
Madeline Jarzembak, *guest artist*

The Performers

Emilie Campbell is a third grader who has taken Suzuki piano since age six, and started taking harp lessons with Jacquelyn Venter a little over a year ago. She also performs in the harp ensemble of the Sacramento Youth Symphony.

Anton Taffin from San Francisco has been playing harp with the help of his mom, Lynn Michel Taffin, from a young age. He likes discovering special rhythms and sound effects on the harp, and is also into soccer and fencing.

David Lin, a sixth grader at Mission Valley in Fremont, has studied harp with Dan Levitan for two years. He also plays piano and practices fencing.

Aden Eva Barbuta is in fifth grade as a homeschooler through Pinnacle Academy in Sacramento. She has studied piano for over four years, and harp for over two years with Jacquelyn Venter. She plays with the Sacramento Youth Symphony.

Sophia Shan is 11 years old and attends Harker Middle School in San Jose. She has been studying harp with Linda Wood Rollo for three years and also plays the piano.

American Harp Society Concert Artist

Katherine Siochi

Solo Recital

Sunday, June 11, 2017

6:30pm

Master Class 2pm-5pm



Praised by the New York Times as “excellent,” Katherine Siochi is an award-winning classical harpist residing in New York City. Katherine is the 2016 gold medalist of the 10th USA International Harp Competition, one of the world's most prestigious harp contests. As American Harp Society Concert Artist, Katherine is presenting recitals and masterclasses in over 20 cities across the US. Her performances have been featured on NPR’s radio program “From The Top,” on New York Public Radio.

www.katherinesiochi.com

Program includes music by Debussy, Chopin, Parish-Alvars, Ravel, Salzedo, and others. Meet-the-artist reception follows the recital.

Presented by Bay Area Chapter American Harp Society

Purchase tickets and for more information visit

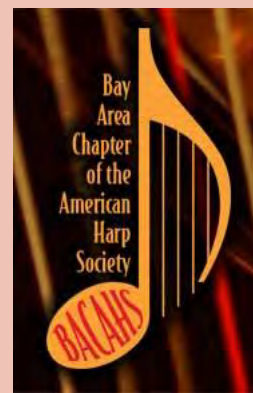
www.universe.com/katherinesiochisf

Events take place at:

Congregation Beth Sholom
301 14th Avenue at Clement
San Francisco, CA

Easy on street parking plus parking lot located in the Presidio on
[Wedemeyer north of Lake Street between 14th and 15th Avenues](#)

bacharp.org



Bay Area Chapter American Harp Society

From: Bay Area Chapter American Harp Society <bacahs@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 24, 2017 9:53 PM
To: 'Bay Area Chapter American Harp Society'
Subject: Katherine Siochi joins Sarasota Orchestra--After she visits San Francisco on June 11!
Attachments: siochi flyer bacahs.pdf



The word is out, Katherine Siochi is a rock star in the world of Classical Harp! In addition to being American Harp Society Concert Artist and winning the gold medal in the 10th Annual International Harp Competition in 2016, she won the position of Principal Harp for the Sarasota Orchestra within a few weeks of receiving her Master of Music degree at The Julliard School. <https://www.harpcolumn.com/katherine-siochi-joins-sarasota-orchestra/> This young woman knows how to audition, compete and perform.

The Bay Area Harp community has the distinct honor of welcoming Katherine on June 11, 2017 for a Master Class and Recital. There are still 2 positions available in the Master Class—students with an eye toward advancing their mastery of the harp should not miss the opportunity to be coached by this accomplished musician. The Master Class runs from 2:00pm until 5:00pm. Then at 6:30 in the evening, sit back and relax and enjoy listening to the sounds of the harp played by this wonderful performer.

All the details are included in the attached flyer and can be found at <http://bacharp.org/coming-events/>

Hope to see you on June 11!