



Bravo!

Dedicated to Music Appreciation, Education, Performance—Today & Tomorrow

Jan 2017

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Letter From Our President

Winter greetings to all!

I was recently asked why I decided to volunteer as President-Elect and now President of the Rochester Music Guild. There are actually several answers. The first that comes to mind is that I love music! I can honestly say that I was a “band geek” in high school and college and proud of it! Another reason is my joy of singing. I am an active member of the Zumbro Lutheran Church choir and the Rochester Symphony Chorale. And most importantly, I have always been impressed with the Rochester Music Guild and its many contributions to our community.

Along with attending music events over the years, I also experienced the excitement of being a proud mom at a RMG Scholarship Winners Recital after our daughter won a scholarship.

I am honored to be a part of this wonderful organization and see first-hand all the thoughtful care and hard work of our Board members. I am confident that we are continuing the fine work and true meaning of the Guild that was started over 50 years ago.

I want to thank you for your continued support of the Rochester Music Guild. It is through your membership, donations, and fundraiser participation that we are able to accomplish our mission.



Be well and create a joyful noise!

Linda Edd
Rochester Music Guild President

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Laura Matern, who is serving her first year on the board as co-chair of the scholarship committee, offers this reflection. “As a parent, a voice teacher and now as a new RMG board member, it has been a delight to work along side other board members on the upcoming scholarship competition. In addition, it is inspirational to see young musicians accomplish so much through their dedication and hard work.”

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Looking ahead, the board will have five vacant positions for the 2017-18 year. A brief description of each position can be found on page 2. We invite those interested to attend an upcoming board meeting to experience how these are run—3rd Thursdays monthly at 11:30 am at Zumbro Lutheran Church (624 3rd Ave SE). For those ready to fill a board position, there is also time for you to work with or shadow the person currently in that position before fully assuming the responsibilities. Contact Linda at pres@rochestermusicguild.org.

Board of Directors

President
Linda Edd

Past President
Allan Hansen

Secretary
Susanna Stone

Treasurer
Guy Vig

Financial Advisor
Rick Kiscaden

President-Elect
Andrew (Andy) Good

Arts Advocate
Marie Maher

Garden of Note
April Horne
Ginny Amundson

Grants
Open position

Herberger's Sale
Brock Besse
Ella Van Laningham
Joyce Lewis, database

Education Co-Chairs
Corey Henke
Scott Kruse

Membership
Katie Livingood

Communications
Margo Stich

Scholarship
Tessa Sawchuk
Laura Matern

Historian
Alan Hansen

Webmaster
DeAnn Spencer

Open Board Positions for 2017-2018

Arts Advocate

Serves as an Auxiliary Board Member or on the Board of Directors, if wishes; monitors arts-related information from specified sources; sends appropriate information to RMG's Webmaster for posting on the website, rochestermusicguild.org ; contacts the Webmaster with information as appropriate; attends at least one Board meeting a year, or on request, to report on activities.

Is responsible for internal communications of the Guild, through the newsletter, Bravo; determines newsletter dates (3-4 issues per year); edits, formats, and proofs the newsletter from submissions then sends document electronically to all members with e-mails; mails a printed version to members requesting such.

Garden of Note Chair

Is responsible for all aspects of the Garden of Note Sale in the spring; along with said committee, recruits volunteers to carry out the event; maintains records of participating sellers and financial data; will record income from the sale of vouchers and make deposits to the Rochester Music Guild bank account.

Grants Committee Chair

Prepares a grant application form and establishes a deadline for applications, if to be awarded. Reviews all applications and makes a recommendation to the Board as to awards to be granted in the forthcoming program year, generally September 1 through June 30 of the following year.

Membership Chair

Is responsible for production and mailing of annual membership brochure and renewal forms generally in April; is responsible for membership renewals and recruitment of new members; maintains spreadsheet pages to generate mailing labels for guild events; in consultation with the Board, organizes an annual recognition for members and prospects; serves on the Nominating Committee.

Treasurer's Update

2016 proved another solid year financially for Rochester Music Guild (RMG). On the income side, RMG was helped by being awarded an IBM Community Grant for \$2,000 and a grant from the Southeastern Minnesota Arts Council (SEMAC) for \$10,000. We also had great work from our Garden of Note and Herberger's fundraising teams which combined to bring in over \$9,000. RMG had another strong year for membership donations as well.

On the expense side, RMG continued its tradition of holding the premier music scholarship competition in southeastern Minnesota, with a record number of participants who were awarded a total of \$7,800 in scholarships and a camp scholarship of \$1,500. Lunch & Learn events presented artists, including Midori Gato, who performed and educated. Concerts with workshops and master classes by jazz and classical musicians also were highlights of 2016. RMG also supported many musical organizations in Rochester with major grants to Rochester Symphony Orchestra & Chorale and smaller grants to nine other organizations.



RMG is (still) eligible for IBM matching grants!

There was some confusion (on IBM's part) about Rochester Music Guild's eligibility for participation in the IBM Matching Grants Program. If you received a letter from IBM indicating that you made a donation to RMG that was not eligible, you can ignore it. The confusion was resolved and RMG is definitely eligible for matching grants from active and retired IBM-ers. The IBM matching grant program will be changing to an online submission (from the traditional paper form) in 2017. Watch for a future newsletter with more details once the new process is finalized by IBM. Thanks to all RMG members who submitted matching grant forms in 2016.

~ Respectfully Submitted by Guy Vig, treasurer

Garden of Note

~ **Supporting local music while making our homes and neighborhoods more beautiful!**

We are so grateful to Sargents Nursery for their ongoing support of the Rochester Music Guild's Garden of Note event. 20% of the face value of \$25 vouchers is returned back to the Guild to support local music.

In 2016, twenty-one dedicated sellers sold over 1200 vouchers with resulting sale proceeds and donations of over \$6,500. This goes right back into the community to support local music. Thank you to Sargeants, everyone who purchased vouchers and/or donated, and especially to our sellers.

In 2017, the **sale will begin on March 11**. The success of this fundraiser is limited only by the number of sellers. At that time of the year, most of SE MN is anxious to start working in their gardens and flower beds, and music lovers are certainly no exception! The purchasers of the vouchers can use them for face value to purchase seeds, plants, or even Mother's Day bouquets. If you think you might be able to sell 5, 10, or even a hundred vouchers, please email garden@rochestermusicguild.org so we can add you to our list of sellers.

Let's make 2017 the best year ever, for the Garden of Note sale, and for great music in SE MN!

April Horne and Ginny Amundson, Co-Chairs

Scholarship

Registration for the 53rd Annual Rochester Music Guild Scholarship Competition is well underway and the **Saturday, February 4th, deadline** (February 18th, late registration) **is approaching**. Once again RMG is the grateful recipient of a SEMAC Grant and the generosity of Christ United Methodist Church, where the competition will be held on the weekend of March 25/26.

Winners will perform on Friday, May 5th.

Laura Matern and Tessa Sawchuk, Co-Chairs

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Reflection from board member Tessa Sawchuk:

“What an honor to co-chair the RMG Scholarship Competition! Encouraging students to share their talents and grow through their education is what we are all about... and as a piano teacher of 30+ years and mother of four, music and life go hand-in-hand.”



Perks for RMG Members

(Visit www.rochestermusicguild.org for ongoing information)

Members enjoy the satisfaction of knowing their donations are helping to support music education and performance through its own educational and scholarship offerings as well as the Guild’s support of area nonprofit music organizations.

Member benefits include the following:

- ~ free admission to Lyra Baroque concerts,
- ~ discounts for Rochester Symphony Orchestra and Chorale,
- ~ discounts to Southeastern Minnesota Youth Orchestras performances,
- ~ discount on accessories at Welhaven Music,
- ~ updates from the guild board on programs offered by the RMG and other area music organizations,
- ~ educational programs including Lunch ‘n Learn

Rochester Symphony Orchestra & Chorale Upcoming Concerts

Saturday Feb. 4 at 7:30 pm and Sunday, Feb. 5 at 2 pm

Lourdes High School

Rochester Symphony Orchestra & Chorale presents *From Death to Life*. Programming will explore the triumphant and tragic pathways between life and death as pianist Andrew Staupe joins the orchestra for an unconventional program filled with life’s deepest emotions. Works by Liszt, Strauss and Beethoven express chants of death, celebrations of life and reflections on heavenly encounters. Andrew Staupe returns to play not one but two virtuoso showpieces by Franz Liszt.

Saturday Mar. 11 at 7:30 pm and Sunday, Mar. 12 at 2 pm

Lourdes High School

Rochester Symphony Orchestra & Chorale presents *An Opera Affair*. Every heart will be pounding as the most dramatic moments of opera pour out one after another: the greatest wedding, grandest coronation, holiest hymn, rowdiest barn dance, and wildest party. Top area soloists will join the Chorale. This promises a memorable night featuring Mozart, Verdi, Wagner, Copland and more of that music that is best at telling a story.



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Lunch & Learn

Thursday, February 2, noon – Charter House (Edwards Hall), Rochester – FREE

From Death to Life: A musical Discussion **with Maestro Jere Lantz**, President/CEO and Artistic Director of the Rochester Symphony. Maestro Lantz returns for his popular symphony preview to discuss works of music from the Romantic period relating to life and death. An optional \$10 catered lunch is available at 11:30 am and must be reserved by e-mailing lunch@rochestermusicguild.org.

Mark you calendars and watch for additional information, which will follow, on upcoming Lunch and Learns:

Music Therapist Jenny Kruse

Friday, March 31, 2017 - Zumbro Lutheran Church

Journey Through Space with Maestro Jere Lantz

Friday, April 21, 2017 - Charter House (Northview Room)

Andrea Een Performs Hardanger Fiddle

Friday, May 5, 2017 - Christ United Methodist Church

All programs are at noon with lunch at 11:30 am.



Mark Your Calendar for the final **Rochester Symphony Orchestra and Chorale (RSOC) concert** in the 2016-17 season. More information to follow:

The season closes on **April 21 & 22** with **Journey Through Space**, with a 100th anniversary performance of Holst's *The Planets*, a 40th birthday offering of John Williams' immortal score from *Star Wars*, and music of Nielson (*Helios Overture*) and Debussy (*Clair de Lune*).

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**New location:** as of this past July the **Rochester Symphony Orchestra and Chorale office** is located at *1530 Greenview Dr SW, Suite 120, Rochester*

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Rochester Music Guild
Young Musicians' Scholarship Program

Since its founding in 1964, the Rochester Music Guild has sponsored an annual Young Musicians Scholarship Competition which has been a source of motivation and inspiration for countless musicians from the SE Minnesota area and awards approximately \$10,000 annually to young musicians. Jr. and Sr. Division preliminary competitions for piano, strings, woodwinds/brass, and voice will run throughout the day, March 25, in the Preliminary Competition.

Winners will advance to the Finals Competition on March 26. For questions, please contact Tessa Sawchuk at 507-884-7534.

2017 Winners' Recital

Friday, May 5, 2017

7:00 pm

Christ United Methodist Church – **FREE**

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**Website** - Visit [rochestermusicguild.org](http://rochestermusicguild.org)

Our online website provides a great resource for our members and the community. Again, thank you MLT Group which has sponsored our website, donating the server space to host it.



**Upcoming Events (in Rochester unless noted)**

**Sat, Feb 4, 7:30 pm and Sun, Feb 5, 2 pm** – Lourdes High School – Rochester Symphony Orchestra & Chorale: *From Death to Life* with pianist Andrew Staupé, see details p.

**Sat, Feb 11, 6 pm** – Rochester International Event Center - Choral Arts Ensemble: *A SINGING VALENTINE ANNUAL BENEFIT*

**Thurs, Feb 16, 7 pm** – Christ United Methodist Church (400 5th Ave. SW) – RAACHE Choirs: *Winter Serenade Concert* - audience sing-along and special performances by students - **free**

**Sat, Feb 25, 7:30 pm** – Christ United Methodist Church (400 5th Ave. SW) - Rochester Chamber Music Society: *Black History Month Tribute to the Pianist - Composers* – Jazz ensemble plays music of great African-American composer-pianists from 19th-century ragtime through 20th-century fusion - **free**

**Sun, Feb 26, 4 pm**, Bethel Lutheran Church (810 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave SE) - Honors Choirs: *Voices – Celebrating Minnesota*. Featuring performances by four Honors Choirs ensembles.

**Sat, Mar 4, 2 pm** – Congregational Church (974 Skyline Dr SW) - SE MN Suzuki Assoc: *Honors Recital* - **free**

**Sat, Mar 4, 7:30 pm** – Assisi Heights, Lourdes Chapel, High School Choral Festival

**Sat, Mar 11, 7:30 pm and Sun, Mar 12, 2 pm** - Lourdes High School – Rochester Symphony Orchestra & Chorale: *An Opera Affair*, see details p.

**Sun, Mar 12, 4 pm**, Honors Choirs: *Singsation Children's Choral Festival*

**Sat, Mar 18, 7:30 pm and Sun, Mar 19, 4 pm** – Assisi Heights, Lourdes Chapel – Choral Arts Ensemble: *MESSIAH, PARTS II & III*.

**Sun, Mar 19, 4 pm** – Christ United Methodist Church, Lyra Baroque Orch: *The Passion of Christ*

**Sat and Sun, Mar 18 and 19**, RMG's *Young Musicians' Scholarship Program*. Winners **recital May 5th**, 7 pm at Christ United Methodist Church—more details to the left!

See [rochestermusicguild.org](http://rochestermusicguild.org) for more events and more details on those listed above.