



You are receiving this newsletter because you have elected to receive a hardcopy of the Rochester Music Guild Newsletter. If you would prefer to receive the newsletter electronically, please send an email to communications@rochestermusicguild.org

This newsletter contains a Letter from the Guild President, a note from the Communications Chair, information about "Dose of Choral Beauty," a Garden of Note update, Annual Meeting update, Call for Grant proposals, and news about upcoming events. Other information can be found at rochestermusicguild.org



You can find a link to last year's Scholarship competition winners on the Music Guild webpage.

Rochester Music Guild e-Newsletter - April, 2020

Letter from the Guild President

As I write this, our world is in the midst of a global crisis. It is a very difficult, challenging time, filled with anxiety and stress. The COVID-19 pandemic has radically changed the way we live.

In times of trouble we often turn to music for solace, peace and comfort. Music can transport us to other places, happier times, and help us momentarily forget about the world we live in. Confucius said, "Music produces a kind of pleasure which human nature cannot do without." Unfortunately, at a time when we so greatly need music, concerts of all kinds have been cancelled across our country.

Sadly, we had to cancel our annual RMG's Scholarship Competition in March. The April and May Lunch and Learn sessions were cancelled but we hope to be able to reschedule them. Our annual meeting, usually held in May, will also be held at a later date.

Our community is fortunate to have an abundance of very talented musicians and therefore, many opportunities to hear fine, quality, uplifting music that nourishes our souls. We all look forward to hearing them again!

Stay positive and stay safe!
Sharon Schmoll, President

Music to #stayathome with

I'm not a huge fan of post-apocalyptic fiction, but I've read a few of the classics. I don't remember any of them talking about musicians and artists playing a major role in keeping spirits up. And yet, lately I find myself hungrily consuming online poetry readings, art museum virtual tours, and of course the many concerts streamed from artists' living rooms. Last night, my sister in Texas and I participated in a video sing-along with over 9,000 others.

While artists around the world are sharing generously of their gifts, many of them were heavily impacted when all public performances were cancelled. As a Music Guild member, you have already shown your commitment to supporting local artists and arts organizations. The current situation demonstrates why your support is so very important. Thank you very much.

This newsletter contains information about how to support local artists and a resource to help you enjoy music from home.

April Horne, Communications



Rochester's Choral Arts Ensemble is providing a "Dose of Choral Beauty" through emails from artistic director, Rick Kvam. He includes a link to beautiful choral music along with a short, always interesting description of the piece. A recent email was a "happy birthday" tribute to Dale Warland (who turned 88 on April 14) and included a link a Dale Warland Singers performance of "Not One Sparrow is Forgotten" by William Hawley. You can sign up to receive the emails at ChoralArtsEnsemble.org – scroll down and click on "subscribe." Thank you, Rick, and Choral Arts Ensemble.

Garden of Note

This garden season will be like no other! We all need flowers and greenery in our lives right now. Since 1981, the Guild's Garden of Note sale has been the major fundraiser for the guild, supporting the scholarship competition, Lunch and Learn programs, and grants to Rochester Symphony and several other music organizations. We are grateful to Sargent's Garden for again partnering with us in 2020. Please thank them when shopping. (Call them at 507-289-6068 to shop via phone and to arrange curbside pickup) Vouchers may be purchased for \$25: 1) from Guild member sellers; 2) online at <https://rochestermusicguild.org/garden-of-note/>; or 3) by completing and mailing in a form, attached here. They can be redeemed at either Rochester Sargent's locations and used for floral arrangements, trees, shrubs, annuals, perennials, and other products. \$5 from each voucher is retained for the Music Guild and supports local music. Because of the statewide shutdown, voucher use is being extended to June 15th, 2020. Check the Rochester Music Guild for further updates.

Contact: garden@rochestermusicguild.org
Jolene & Alan Hansen, Garden of Note Co-chairs
507-993-2987 or 261-8175

Other Guild Business

Annual Meeting? Stay Tuned!

Our bylaws require the Guild to hold an Annual Meeting each year for the election of officers, the presentation of annual reports on the activities and financial condition of the organization, and the transaction of other necessary business items. So far this year, the COVID-19 pandemic has made it impossible for us to schedule an annual meeting date. Stay tuned for an announcement regarding the annual meeting via email or postal mail coming later this Spring or Summer.

Beth Nienow, President Elect

Call for Grant Proposals

The Board of the Rochester Music Guild has again authorized limited funds to offer grants up to \$500 to area nonprofit musical organizations who wish to apply.

Our purpose in granting these funds is to extend support and advocacy within the broader musical arts community. Grant requests will be evaluated based primarily on community impact in promoting music appreciation through education and performance. The application deadline is June 15th, 2020.

Forms for the proposals are available from the Guild by emailing artsadvocate@rochestermusicguild.org.

Beth Nienow, President Elect, Grants Committee

Upcoming Events

As organizations prepare to resume their performances, please remember to include the Music Guild in your publicity plans. We have a (normally) extensive events calendar. Of course, in light of the many closures and cancellations, check with the organization before planning to attend an event.

Bravo! is the official newsletter of the Rochester Music Guild. It is published to inform members and friends about our activities, which support and encourage music. Our membership year runs from July 1 through June 30. Visit RochesterMusicGuild.org for more information, include a list of board members and membership information.

This activity is made possible by the voters of Minnesota through a grant from the Southeastern Minnesota Arts Council thanks to a legislative appropriation from the arts & cultural heritage fund.



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E-Mail

Your e-mail address is kept confidential and used only for periodic notices of special music events.
 Check here if you need a mailed (rather than an electronic copy of our *Bravo!* Newsletter.

Membership (tax deductible) _____ \$5 Student
_____ \$35 Basic _____ \$60 Contributor _____ \$100 Sustainer _____ \$250+ Patron

Your membership dues directly support Rochester Music Guild Scholarships, Rochester Symphony and Chorale, *Lunch & Learn*, and community educational programs.

I may be able to assist with a Rochester Music Guild activity:

Mailings Events Ushering Board Committees Any/Other

Indicate if you would prefer to make a gift of stock instead of writing a check.

Check if your current or former employer offers matching grants for cultural nonprofits

Please return this form with your check payable to:

Rochester Music Guild P.O. Box 5802 Rochester, MN 55903-5802

Rochester Music Guild
PO Box 5802
Rochester, MN 55903-5802

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