



Bravo!

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

April 2016

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Letter From Our President

As this 52nd year draws to a close, I am very happy to report that your Rochester Music Guild is thriving, with a great deal to celebrate. This past year RMG has been able to sustain, and indeed expand, high quality programs.

The annual **Scholarship Competition** was the largest ever with 82 contestant registrations, and some truly remarkable performances.

Lunch & Learn programs were terrific, with growing attendance.

A **new Education Series** was launched this spring providing young and old opportunities to both hear outstanding musicians, and then participate in a workshop setting. We were thrilled to have the Compass Rose Brass Ensemble, and a Woodwind Quintet from the Minnesota Orchestra help us launch these first programs.

Rochester Music Guild has provided support to nine area performance organizations in addition to the RSOC. The guild had the **financial resources** to make this possible. We had strong membership numbers, with record levels of member contributions. Excellent fund raising took place this past year with both the Spring and Fall fund raising events exceeding previous results.



Additional energy was put into pursuing **grant funding**. This proved successful. We are grateful, this past year, to be a recipient of grants from the South East Minnesota Arts Council, IBM and Community Education Citizen's Advisory Council.

We enjoy a large group of **committed volunteers** who make this all happen. The Guild has a talented, hard working board, including both long time and relatively new members, all focused to ensure the work of the Guild carried out successfully.

Over the past year a broader group of committee members, workers, and coordinators have cheerfully given their time and talents.

On behalf of the Guild Board, I thank each member for your continued support of the Guild's part in supporting our arts community in Rochester.

Alan Hansen, *RMG President*

Board of Directors*President*

Alan Hansen

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Linda Edd

Arts Advocate

Vacant

Garden of Note

April Horne

Ginny Amundson

Herberger's Sale

Carol Thompson

Barbara Eakins

Lunch & Learn

Corey Henke

Membership

Katie Livingood

Communications

Margo Stich

Scholarship

Sharon Schmoll

Julianne Hagan

Ushers

Nancy Slocumb

Webmaster

DeAnn Spencer

RMG Annual Meeting –

The upcoming Annual Meeting of the Rochester Music Guild. Please join us, prior to the scholarship winners' recital, on **Friday, May 6, at 5:45 p.m. at Christ United Methodist Church ECC**. Appetizers, dessert, and beverages will be provided prior to the business meeting which will be held begin at 6:00 p.m. **Reservations** are requested by **Monday May 2nd** to Judy Kereakos at 288-9138 or e-mail: jkereakos@charter.net. There is a suggested donation of \$5.00 to help cover the cost of the food.

**Garden of Note**

Indeed, it looks like Spring has arrived! The Rochester Music Guild "Garden of Note" Sargeants vouchers are now available. Vouchers are \$25 which the bearer uses to purchase \$25 worth of "Spring" at either of the Sargeants stores. In turn Sargeants donates 20% of all the sales to the Rochester Music Guild. This is a significant fundraiser for us which allows us to continue to support the Rochester Symphony Orchestra, the Scholarship competition, and many other music groups in the area. A form can be found on the last page here for you to order a voucher(s) or by calling Ginny Amundson at 289-2357 or email to garden@rochestermusicguild.org

(As in years past, Music Guild members will also be selling the vouchers directly to friends/family. Contact April Horne at 288-0991 if you would like to help sell.) Think Spring!

RMG Ongoing News

Once again DeAnn Spencer has done a stellar job continuing to maintain the Guild's website. If you are not a frequent visitor to the website it is never too later to become one.

See <http://rochestermusicguild.org/>

Viewers will find great photography along with a reminder of our mission:

**Dedicated to Music Appreciation,
Education and Performance
Today and Tomorrow**

Tool bars are easy to navigate! There is a lot of information available which often times a revisit serves as a reminder of things if not insight into something new and forthcoming.

Indeed, music opportunities abound in our community. Remember to reference the **online calendar** for a complete listing, which exceeds what we have room to publish in the newsletter, and ongoing updates, or tab on Lunch and Learn to review details of those upcoming programs. Finally under the media tab you can find past newsletters, going back to 2006, as well as news article which have appeared in public media.

Facebook users: if you haven't done so "friend" Rochester Music Guild.

Kudos to Corey Henke & others for postings.



2016 Scholarship Competition winners

We are pleased to announce the winners of the 52nd Annual Rochester Music Guild Scholarship Competition held on April 16-17. Eighty two students were registered. Outstanding musicianship was displayed. The 16 judges who came from many different universities and college settings were extremely impressed with the musicians they heard over the weekend. Thank you to everyone who competed and to all the volunteers who made this event possible. **Plan to attend the winners recital on Friday, May 6 at 7 pm at Christ United Methodist Church. A reception will follow.**

SR. PIANO Division**Douglas Family Memorial Scholarship**

1st Place: Anna Chopp
2nd Place: Grace Cheng
3rd Place: Mary Hagan

JR. PIANO Division**Dr. Howard & Peggy Andersen Scholarship**

1st Place: Michelle Mai
2nd Place: Tracy Zhang
3rd Place: Clara Xu

SR. STRINGS Division**Georgia Daniel Memorial Scholarship**

1st Place: Nicholas Scheel (cello)
2nd Place: Natalie Tran (cello)
3rd Place: Sophie Le Deley (cello)

JR. STRINGS Division**Tom & Sue Spackman Scholarship**

1st Place: Catherine Carson (violin)
2nd Place: Breanna Shen (violin)
3rd Place: Enoch Kim (cello)

SR. WINDS Division**Dr. Robert & Gloria Swanson Scholarship**

1st Place: Annika Johnson (French horn)
2nd Place: Jiwon Kim (flute)
3rd Place: Christopher O'Driscoll (French horn)

JR. WINDS Division**Karsell Family Scholarship**

1st Place: Sue Simha (flute)
2nd Place: Sidney Clarke (flute)
3rd Place: Stella Schram (clarinet)

SR. VOICE Division**Sally Duffy Memorial Scholarship****Dr. John Hamilton Edmonson Scholarship**

1st Place: Isabel Kramlinger
2nd Place: Calli McCartan
3rd Place: Abigail Schneekloth

Music Camp Scholarship**Carl Schroedel Memorial****- established by the Judy & Jim Sloan Foundation**

Winner: Anna Chopp (piano)

Education Report 2015-16

The guild has expanded its educational offerings this year to include two inaugural events aimed at young musicians, their teachers, professional musicians and hobbyists. This was offered in addition to our traditional Lunch and Learn programs, a total of 7 drew an average of 50 attendees. The guild is grateful to Carol Benson who joined us during the year, volunteering to coordinate meals for these programs. Additional appreciation goes out to Phillip and Kay Karsell who sponsored our Lunch & Learn program with Benjamin Gateno. The guild also wishes to recognize Rochester Community Education for awarding us a \$1000 CECAC grant to fund our April 30th event. Over 100 people were in the audience on April 10th for our first "educational event" featuring the Compass Rose Brass.

Mark your calendars for **Saturday, April 30th**! Plan to attend the **Woodwind and Horn Master Class** which will be held at **Century High School at 10 am (coffee and donuts at 9:30 am)**. See page 5 for details. This is co-hosted by Southeastern Minnesota Youth Orchestras (SEMYO) and funded by a Community Education Citizens Advisory Council Grant.

Meet Board Member April Horne

Garden of Note Co-chair!

April was born on Chanute AFB in Rantoul, IL. She attended the University of Illinois, receiving an undergraduate degree in engineering. She went onto the University of Minnesota for graduate school where she obtained a degree in business. Growing up she recalls that her parents were very frugal. However they made sure that their three children (April, another daughter and a son) all got music lessons. For April this played out to be piano lessons, followed by cello, then flute, then tuba. She participated in her school band and orchestra, besides singing in her high school choir. Graduation came with the gift of a guitar, from her parents, so she could take her music with her.

April came to Rochester after college graduation to work at IBM where she was employed for 20 years before transitioning to the Mayo Clinic. She is currently the Associate Director of Operations for the Mayo Clinic Neural Engineering Laboratories. After high school she no longer found herself participating in a musical group. Looking back she reflects that, could she live her life over again she would have done differently. "I would have kept music performance as part of my life." Things did change three years ago when she joined the Sweet Adelines.

Her sons were involved in music in high school, including participating in the Honors Choirs of SE MN. She strongly encouraged them to keep music in their lives after high school. Her oldest is currently working on his PhD in music theory. Her youngest has stayed active in his university choruses, while pursuing a PhD in biochemistry. Her husband appreciates music as well, having played cello in high school and college, and electric bass in a rock and roll band in college.

April loves the Sweet Adelines. "The harmonies give me Goosebumps. The ladies quickly became some of my best friends." She also is a member of "The Lady Slippers" quartet which has been visiting area high schools, this Spring, to encourage participation in "A Summer of Harmony" for 8-12th grade girls. April is program director for the SE MN a Cappella festival, held the first weekend of November. Over 300 singers from 7-10 high school choirs, a couple college choirs, and a community and professional choirs participate. (visit www.SEMNacappella.org for more on the visits & festival) April also established the Dover Eyota Music Association.

April describes herself as an "a-cappella-holic", with related activities including travel to Washington DC, Oregon, California, Tennessee, and Chicago to attend various festivals. April remains amazed by what a positive effect the performance of music had on my life and now can't imagine life without a healthy portion of music. She strives to encourage all young people to not give up music performance after high school; to understand that their lives will be richer, regardless of their chosen profession, if they maintain an active musical life.

Meet Board Member Nancy Slocumb

Outgoing coordinator of ushers

Nancy is a born and raised "Rochestersite." She and her sibs (her mother, as well) were all born here at Saint Marys Hospital. I played piano, not very well, in spite of lessons from Orvis Ross and the violin somewhat better. I enjoyed playing in school orchestras. My mother played viola in the Rochester Symphony for many years. She grew up hearing a lot of classical music from my mother's collection as well as her string quartet, when they practiced at home. Her siblings (all older) brought home folk and a lot of jazz.

Graduating from public education came at John Marshall "In a class of 724" Nancy is quick to add. Though never receiving a BA, she went on to study in a variety of areas: music theory and harmony, marine ecology for scuba divers, group & individual counseling, Ham radio, celestial navigation, clinical neurophysiology technology, and clinical research coordination.

Over the years she maintained her interest in music, especially through the specialties of the places I lived. The jazz night clubs of San Francisco with a DJ from KJAZ radio, Janis Joplin was across the hall for a while, Hawaiian slack key guitar beats Don Ho any evening (since he serenaded the shop where she worked in Waikiki - "Aaaack"). She still listens to Mexican radio from time to time.

She spent 16 years living on a sailboat most of it at anchor in Mexico and Central America. Unfortunately, there wasn't much room for instruments. Following the death of her husband from brain cancer, she returned to Rochester in 1994 to spend time with my 90+ father. She went to work at, and retired from, Mayo Clinic, ushered for the symphony, and played percussion with a small salsa group for Alzheimer's patients.

She worked part time at the Co-op and SNG Research before having hip tendon surgery this past January and recuperating ever since. She graduated from a body cast (a 6 week ordeal) to a single crutch as of just this week (April 25), so she is slowly but surely making her way back to more activity. Though her schedule didn't allow her to attend board meetings, she was faithful recruiting and coordinating ushers for RSOC concerts.

Heartfelt thanks and best wishes go out to Nancy at this time.



Educational Opportunity

This is the guild's second event in our *new education series* that will feature five musicians from the Minnesota Orchestra including Gregory Williams (clarinet), Wendy Williams (flute), Julie Gramolini Williams (oboe), J. Christopher Marshall (bassoon), and Ellen Dinwiddie Smith (horn).

The event begins at **10:00 am Saturday, April 30th** with a free woodwind concert and demonstration, followed by master classes on clarinet, flute, oboe, bassoon, and horn. This will take place at Century High School (2525 Viola Rd NE) in the auditorium.

9:30 am reception - anyone who likes free coffee and doughnuts!

10:00 am concert/demonstration - anyone who wants to hear and learn from world-class musicians, music lovers of all ages, and families (should be very kid friendly).

11:00 am master class - anyone who plays, teaches, or wants to learn more about the woodwind instruments and french horn.

Lunch and Learn

May 6, noon – Charter House (Edwards Hall) - pianist Mark Ochu playing Chopin and Gershwin. Listeners will discover parallels between the two composers lives and their music while enjoying familiar repertoire. Mark combines informal yet informative commentary based in history, mythology, and philosophy which has brought an enlightening musical experience to thousands of concert goers. Lunch (11:30 am) can be purchased for \$10 or bring your own.

For the latest information on the activities of the Rochester Music Guild, check out our website:
rochestermusicguild.org

Webmaster: DeAnn Spencer

Sponsored by MLT

Upcoming Events (Rochester, unless noted)

Sat, May 7, 7:30 pm – Century High School, Choral Arts Ensemble: *Diverse Voices* – celebrate our vibrant cultural tapestry with music inspired by these farflung countries of origin and more recent interweavings

Sat, May 7, 7:30 pm – State Theatre, Zumbrota (free, supported by a grant from the Southeastern Minnesota Arts Council) **Crossings Concert:** *“Sonatas and Interludes”* for prepared piano by *John Cage* – pianist *David Shaffer-Gottschalk* performs on a piano altered by placing objects between the strings.

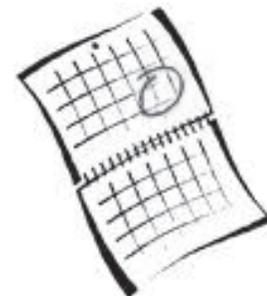
Sun, May 8 2:00 pm – Century High School, SEMYO: *Spring Concert* featuring all ensembles, Concerto Competition winners, orchestral music

Fri, May 6, 7:00 pm – Christ United Methodist Church (free) - Rochester Music Guild: *Winners Recital for Music Scholarship Competition.*

Fri, May 13, 8:00 pm – Crossings at Carnegie, Zumbrota – Crossings Concert: *Lucy Kaplansky* – emotionally charged Americana.

Sun, May 15, 4:00 pm. – Lourdes Chapel, Assisi Heights – Honors Choirs of SE MN: *Ovation* – featuring Honors Concert Choir

Sat, May 21, 8:00 pm – State Theatre, Zumbrota - Crossings Concert: *Peter Mayer* – breath-taking guitar work and intelligent lyrics to match, richly layered songs about interconnectedness and the human journey.



Bravo!

Rochester Music Guild
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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, music, music.

Garden of Note Vouchers Order Form

Name:

Address:

Phone:

Email:

I would like to buy ____ at \$25 each (\$5 of each voucher goes to RMG)

Make check payable to Rochester Music Guild and mail to:

April Horne
2099 Silver Creek Ct NE
Rochester, MN 55906

Your vouchers will be mailed to you and can be used immediately.

