

Note Worthy

A publication of the Wednesday Morning Music Club (Austin)

May 20, 2015



President's Message

Carolyn McColloch

On May 20th you won't want to miss the exceptional performances of four talented high school students, winners of the Wilcox, Maurer, Putter and Rudd Awards, at Austin Woman's Club. The March 22nd competition was held at and sponsored by the Steinway Gallery. The competition was chaired by Mary Parse with the help of members Barbara BATTERY, Martha Cook, Marcia Edwards, Gloria Hooper, Virginia Kniesner and Angelica Lopez.

GREAT NEWS! Our new Honorary Member ANTON NEL will be performing for us at our President's Day opening luncheon. Because of his busy schedule, the opening luncheon has been scheduled on SEPT. 16, 2015, the third Wednesday in September, at the Austin Woman's Club.

The outreach of WMMC is amazingly broad. Members are involved with our Junior Clubs, District and State Festivals, High School awards, the Bonnie Cummins Fielder Vocal competition, Opera in the Ozarks, Austin Opera, Austin Symphony, churches, several symphonic orchestras, and more. Our outreach programs have members performing for state hospital patients and retirement homes. Members have founded and grown other music organizations and continue to spread the joy of music.

Our club has been described as the best kept secret in Austin. Let's let the secret out and encourage some new members to join us!

Maria Putter

Maria Putter loves music. She can't remember a time in her life she wasn't at least listening to it. Even in the dark days when war was leaving a horrible mark on her life, music was there.

Her very discerning musical ear was developed by several important activities. The first was her time in school in the Netherlands where she was required to attend the ballet, symphony and opera as part of the school curriculum. The second was her brief exposure to the piano both through lessons and then playing by ear which encouraged her to take up voice. The third was her employment at a music store where she "learned everything at the store," furthering her exposure to a variety of music.

At 16, Maria joined a small band as their singer. When she was 21, she joined a larger band touring in Germany, France and Libya at US bases and nightclubs. Her fluency in 5 languages has helped her to sing songs from many cultures.

As a singer in Europe she recorded with some of her bands and was heard on the radio. She unfortunately does not have any of her own recordings. This however does not stop her from enjoying her extensive library of records and CDs collected over the years. Some she has generously given to Austin Symphony Orchestra Director Peter Bay and to others she feels would appreciate them.

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Born in Breda, Holland, Maria moved at a very young age to Amsterdam where she was raised. She married her 1st husband in France in 1956 and moved to Augusta, Georgia. Following her 1st husband's untimely death in 1957, she returned to work in a music store and eventually moved to Houston, Texas. There she began singing professionally again. While she was visiting a club in Houston, the Dutch maître d' encouraged her to do an impromptu audition and she was hired on the spot. She performed at the club for a year until her marriage to Bud Putter.

Bud and Maria lived in Houston until 1979 when Bud wanted to move to Austin to be closer to a golf course. After 10 years on the golf course they moved to a new location in the Hills where Maria currently resides.

Maria was introduced to the WMMC in 1984 by Edith Knauer, and she joined the club in 1986. She is a Life Member of the Texas Federation of Music Clubs/National Federation of Music Clubs. She has performed many times for WMMC both as a soloist and in several singing groups.

Austin has been greatly blessed by Maria's willingness to support the arts. She is a benefactor of the WMMC, a generous contributor to the Austin Symphony, and a contributor to the U. T. Music Scholarship in honor of Anton Nel's mother. She is the benefactor of two annual scholarships for young musicians--one for 2nd place in the WMMC 12th grade competition, and one for singers in training at the Opera in the Ozarks summer program. Her generosity does not end in Austin. She is a life member, a diamond benefactor, of Opera in the Ozarks. She also sponsors a Night of Opera there as an endowment in the WMMC's name. Maria's generosity reflects her great interest in aspiring young musicians.

Calendar of Events

WMMC

May 20 11 AM Spring Luncheon,
Austin Woman's Club Building, 708 San Antonio at 8th Street.

Austin Baroque Ensemble

May 23 8 PM G.F. Handel's *Esther*. First Presbyterian Church, Austin TX

Balcones Orchestra

May 31 4 PM New Work by Austin Composer, Cy Young. "*The Children's Crusade*."
St. Matthew's Episcopal Church, 8134 Mesa Dr.

Georgetown Festival of the Arts

May 29 – June 1 Most events will take place at Southwestern University, Alma Thomas Theatre. This year's event celebrates romance featuring the music of Robert and Clara Schumann. Complete festival information can be found at www.gtownfestival.org.

The Gilbert and Sullivan Society of Austin

June 18 - 28 9 performances of "*The Sorcerer*".
Worley Barton Theater at Brentwood Christian School. 11908 N. Lamar.
Visit www.gilbertsullivan.org for more information.



The Performers for May 20th

*Winners of the Wilcox and Maurer Awards,
Maria de Waal Putter Award, and
Sally Strawn Rudd Supplemental Award*

Wilcox Award – Second Place

Ju Hee Suh, Violin

Sung-eun Park, Piano

Isolde's Liebestod
Gargoyles, Op. 29
IV. Presto feroce

Wagner/Liszt
Lowell Liebermann

Wilcox Award – First Place

Eunice Lee, Piano

Nocturne in F-Sharp Major, Op. 15, No. 2
Sonata in E-Flat Minor, Opus 26
IV. Fuga: Allegro con spirito

Frederic Chopin
Samuel Barber

Putter Award for Maurer Second Place

Edward Wang, Piano

Violin Concerto in D Minor, Op. 47
I. Allegro moderato

Jean Sibelius

Maurer Award – First Place

Grace Song, Violin

Youree Chung, Piano

Rudd Supplemental Award

Grace Song

Thank You

Our sincere thanks go to all who participated in the May 6 program. We also wish to acknowledge the volunteers from the Courtesy Committee: Judy Trejo and Marie White. Thanks for all your work.

Tenth Year of the Georgetown Festival of the Arts

Dr. Ellsworth Peterson would like to invite everyone to come and enjoy this year's celebration of *Romance* featuring the music of Robert and Clara Schumann. Most of this four day event (May 29th – June 1st) will be held at Southwestern University's Alma Thomas Theatre. Performers include Jonathan Biss (who will open the Festival with a piano recital on Thursday evening, May 29), WMMC member Toby Blumenthal-piano, Rebecca Ansel- violin, Hai Zheng- cello and Rebecca Fairweather- Hastings- oboe. Toby will be performing in several of the concerts, with solo piano pieces by Clara Schumann, *Three Romances* for violin and piano, and *The Trio* for piano, violin, and cello, and *Three Romances* for oboe and piano by Robert Schumann. Complete festival information can be found at www.gtownfestival.org