

Note Worthy

A publication of The Wednesday Morning Music Club (Austin) Website: musicclubaustin.org May 4, 2016

WMMC Member Highlight Martha MacDonald



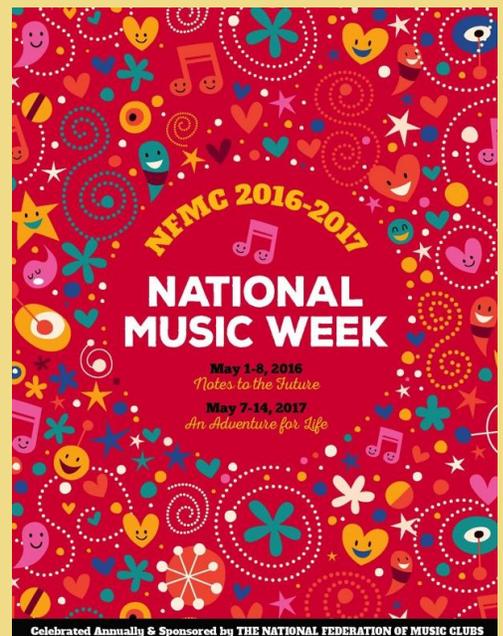
I spent my early years until the 4th grade in Corpus Christi and started piano lessons there when I was six. When I moved to Waco I sang in the North Waco Elementary school choir conducted by Miss Louise Daly. We were frequently featured on the Mary Holliday radio show. She was the first woman radio announcer in Texas. I started clarinet in the seventh grade. When I majored in music at Baylor, one of my practice teaching jobs was with my Waco High School band director, Lyle Skinner. In addition to my music experiences in Waco, I worked for seven years as a nurse's aide at Hillcrest Hospital in the maternity section, helping to deliver a lot of babies. I was offered a nursing scholarship but went with the music one instead. I would have taken both if it had been possible.

Following Baylor graduation I went to the University of Michigan for my master's degree in wind instruments. There I met my husband Bob who was from Royal Oak, Michigan. He played trumpet in the Michigan marching band and was a summer youth director at the Y. My mother, not realizing it was a YW/YMCA, insisted I stay at the Y when I first went to Ann Arbor, thinking it would be a safe haven for a Texas southern girl. Playing in the Michigan Symphonic Band under William Revelli was an exciting experience, and I have my own Revelli stories to add to all of those from everyone else who ever played under Revelli's leadership.

My two sons, Robert and Richard, were both born in Royal Oak, Michigan, and my husband worked for Michigan Consolidated Gas Company as an engineer. When we moved so that he could attend the University of Texas for his doctorate in petroleum engineering, I worked in the Physics Department at UT as an administrative assistant and started work toward a DMA.

We returned to Bloomfield Hills, Michigan for a year, and I taught general music in the Clawson Public Schools. Then we moved to Houston for three years where I started a band program in the Dairy Ashford elementary school and taught privately. We lived the following three years in The Hague, Netherlands. There I taught privately and at the American School of The Hague. I also performed with the Thirlway Orkest, Musica Orkest, and Haagse Harmonie Orkest. In 1978 we moved back to Austin, where I completed my doctorate in clarinet performance. I was instrumental in developing various chamber ensembles: the Austin Chamber Ensemble, the Austin Chamber Music Center, Chanté Duo (harp and clarinet), Cantilena Chamber Soloists (soprano, clarinet and piano), and Trio Contraste, (violin, clarinet and piano).

One son, Richard, a television producer, lives in LA, and the other son Robert, a computer software engineer, lives in Austin with his family including my two grandchildren Kate and Tom. My husband Bob passed away June 2014, and I am currently still teaching privately, performing and playing piano for St. Andrews Episcopal School as well as working on the cello at least once a week.





President's Message

Marcia Edwards

As our club year draws to a close, I wish to thank all the members for the opportunity to serve as your president. It has been a gift to get to know many of you with whom I previously had only a passing acquaintance. Thank you for sharing your musical talents, your time, and your friendship.

Spring Luncheon, Wednesday, May 18, 11 AM. By now, you should have received your invitation in the mail. Please RSVP by May 12 to Gena Tabery, 1300 Crystal Creek, Austin 78746. The luncheon is \$25, and you may include your dues of \$50 for 2016-2017 with your luncheon reservation if you'd like. Our luncheon program will feature this year's winners of the Wilcox, Maurer, Putter, and Rudd Awards. I hope to see you there!

At this week's program, we will be recognizing National Music Week. The theme is "Music. . .Notes to the Future."

THOUGHTS FOR TODAY:

"Because things are the way they are, things will not stay the way they are." — **Bertolt Brecht**

"Too often we underestimate the power of a touch, a smile, a kind word, a listening ear, an honest compliment, or the smallest act of caring, all of which have the potential to turn a life around." — **Leo Buscaglia**

"Be kind, for everyone you meet is fighting a harder battle." — **Plato**

MEMBER NEWS

From the Program Committee: Do you have any ideas that you think would add to or improve the quality of our programs? Let us know if you have any suggestions, which might include possible book reviews or program themes. We welcome ideas from our creative membership. E-mail Program Committee Co-Chair Janie Keys jkeys_austin@yahoo.com or phone her at 512 527-0248 by May 21.

About the Performers



Mary Parse, piano

Mary began playing hymns for Sunday school in the fourth grade, and she was full-time organist at her church from eighth grade through high school. During undergraduate school at Austin College, she was the pianist for the vocal studio and the college choir. She has continued to play for churches, singers and instrumentalists ever since, and she loves collaborative music-making.

Rachel May, viola

An unknown fact about California girl, Rachel May: when she was 15 she toured Europe with "America's Youth in Concert." Before leaving for Europe, the group performed in Carnegie Hall and at the White House for President Nixon where she was a witness to the signing of the 26th amendment allowing 18 year olds to vote.

Terri Freeland, cello

Terri started playing cello at age 11. She originally wanted to play violin or drums, but chose cello because the school orchestra director had a free loaner cello she could use. She later studied clarinet and tenor saxophone, but cello remained her favorite instrument. Terri went on to attain a BM and MM in cello performance from Truman University and UT Austin.

Continued on page 3

Robert Centeno, piano

Robert Centeno has taught piano privately in the Austin area for almost 20 years and is the organist for the Burnet Presbyterian Church. He received his Bachelor's Degree in Piano Performance at Texas State University, San Marcos. Lately his energies have been devoted to developing a unique 12-volume music theory series which features interactive capability. By swiping QR codes found in the books with a smart phone or pad, students can access ear training web apps which drill them on intervals, scales, chords, and melodic and rhythmic dictation. Also included in this series are extensive and progressive solo drills designed to develop sight-singing and dictation skills. When he is not working Robert enjoys reading, biking and website development.

Charles Palmer, baritone

Charles is a native Austinite, former Peace Corps Volunteer and retired government employee. He holds a BA and MA degree from the University of Texas and a PhD in Latin American Geography from the University of Florida. He has lived for extended periods of time in Bolivia, Colombia, Haiti and the Dominican Republic. Charles' musical experience includes singing in church choirs and in several civic choruses in Austin. He studies voice with Professor David Small of the University of Texas Butler school of Music and performs regularly with his pianist friend and colleague, Kathryn Govier, at retirement homes and similar venues in the Austin area.

Kathryn Govier, piano

I started music lessons at age 4 and "cut my eye-teeth on Bach." I was lucky to have a piano teacher who stressed the classics. I earned a Bachelor of Music, piano major (1971), and I've used my skills as accompanist and collaborator, as well as soloist. I work with Charles Palmer through the Butler School of Music Outreach program giving retirement home programs. My professional job was teacher of the handicapped. I spent 3 years in Marrakesh, Morocco, working with handicapped children as Peace Corps Volunteer (1987-1990). I love living in Austin with many wonderful cultural events to attend and participate in.

Martha MacDonald, clarinet

My first exposure to music was from my mother who played piano and my dad who played trumpet, and both sang in the church choir. Our family holidays included singing around the piano with any added instruments that were handy. Chamber music has always been my first love, and I've followed it through my Bachelor of Music Ed from Baylor, MM from the University of Michigan, and DMA from The University of Texas. I've enjoyed performing chamber music on a professional basis with the Austin Chamber Ensemble, Cantilena Chamber Soloists, Chante Duo, and Trio Contraste. I've also enjoyed teaching piano and flute in addition to clarinet and working with students in chamber music groups.

Martha Carapetyan, violin

Martha grew up in a musical family. In high school she attended Interlochen Arts Academy in Michigan. She earned BA and Master's of Music degrees at Indiana University. She won a position in the New World Symphony in Miami and has performed with the Houston and San Antonio Symphonies and the Austin Opera. She is currently a tenured member of the Austin Symphony. She co-founded the Central Texas Viola Society and helps organize many event in the areas of both teaching and performing. She enjoys engaging her students in her viola studio.

Betty Mallard, piano

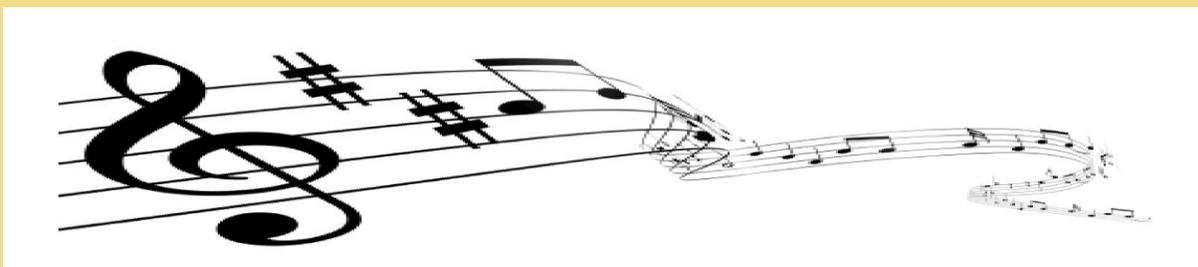
Dr. Betty Mallard is an Associate Professor Emeritus of the Butler School of Music Keyboard Division where she was a faculty member for 31 years and served as Chair of the Keyboard Division for 7 years. Betty holds degrees in piano performance, a BM and a DMA degree from The University of Texas and an MM from USC. She retired from UT in the fall of 2011. She soon found life without teaching quite pointless. Now she enjoys teaching children and adults of all ages at her home, and she performs whenever the opportunity presents itself. She most recently is enjoying performing four-hand piano music with Dr. Angelica Lopez, a member of WMMC.

Usha Akella, poet

Usha Akella has authored 4 books and scripted and produced one musical. She was selected as a creative ambassador for Austin in 2014-15. She has been invited to many international poetry festivals. She will join a group of eminent South Asian poets to read at the House of Lords in June 2016. She is founder of the Poetry Caravan and begins her Master's in Creative Writing at Cambridge University, UK in the fall of 2016.

Susan Groves, piano

Susan Groves holds a doctorate in piano performance from UT and was a prizewinner in national competitions. She has appeared as soloist with the Austin Symphony and Amarillo Symphony as a child, the UT Symphony, and most recently with the Ft. Worth Symphony as a winner of the Piano Texas Concerto Competition. Susan and her father, the late William Race, performed as the Race-Groves Duo for many years. Susan has a large award-winning private studio and her students have gone on to study piano at Juilliard, UT and Baylor and have been featured on NPR's From the Top.



Austin Opera, Gioachino Rossini: *The Barber of Seville*, featuring Jennifer Rivera, Troy Cook, Patrick Carfizzi, and Jamie Offenbach.

Apr. 28 7:30 PM, The Long Center, 701 W. Riverside Dr., www.austinopera.org

May 1 3:00 PM, The Long Center, 701 W. Riverside Dr., www.austinopera.org

Lady Bird, First Lady of the Land.

Apr. 28, 29, 30 7:30 PM in Performing Arts Center's RECITAL HALL, San Marcos

May 1 2:00 PM in Performing Arts Center's RECITAL HALL, txstatepresents@txstate.edu

Ensemble VIII, *Voices in Celebration*, works by Palestrina, Byrd and Gibbons, excerpts from Josquin: **Missa de Beata Virgine**; Robert Parson: **Ave Maria**.

Apr. 29 7:30 PM, St. Louis Catholic Church Chapel, 7601 Burnet Rd., www.ensembleviii.org

Conspirare, *Conspirare Youth Choirs, Enchanted*.

Apr. 29 & 30 7:30, St. Martin's Lutheran Church, 606 W. 15th St., <http://conspirare.org>

Central Texas Medical Orchestra, Francesco Mastromatteo, soloist, Sara Hickman, guest artist. Concert benefitting National Alliance on Mental Health.

Apr. 30 7:30 PM, Westover Hills Church of Christ, 8332 Mesa Dr., <http://ctmorchestra.org>

Chorus Austin, *Southwest Voices*, featuring music from contemporary composers in Austin and neighboring regions. Winner and premier of the Young Composers Competition.

Apr. 30 8 PM, St. Matthew's Episcopal Church, <http://gsstx.org>

May 1 4 PM, St. Paul Lutheran Church, <http://gsstx.org>

Salon Concerts, *Una Noche Caliente*. Fundraiser with Silent Auction; tapas and sangria served by El Sol Y La Luna. Concert of Spanish music featuring Danielle Belen, violin; Daniel Leichuk, cello; Leah Nelson, viola; and Toby Blumenthal, piano. Compositions of Manuel de Falla, Joaquin Turina, Ravel & others.

May 7 5:30 - 7 PM Silent Auction, 7 - 8:30 PM Concert, Mexic-Arte Museum, 419 Congress Ave.

<http://salonconcerts.org>

Texas Early Music Project, *Paris City Limits: Chansons, Dances and The Birds*. Guests Mary Springfels, viola da gamba; Peter Maund, percussion; and Ryland Angel, countertenor performing mid-16th century music.

May 7 8 PM, First English Lutheran Church, 3001 Whitis Ave., www.early-music.org

May 8 3 PM, First Presbyterian Church, 8001 Mesa Dr., www.early-music.org

Austin Philharmonic Orchestra, David Oertel, conductor. Brahms: movements from **First Symphony**; Leroy Anderson: **Promenade**. Free.

May 11 7:30 PM, Congregation Beth Israel Sanctuary, 3901 Shoal Creek Blvd.,

www.austinphilharmonic.org

Conspirare, *Stephen Paulus: A Lyrical Life*. A tribute to America's most beloved choral composer.

May 12 & 13 8 PM, St. Martin's Lutheran Church, <http://conspirare.org>

Austin Symphony Orchestra, *Spring*. Vivaldi, Sibelius, Mozart and Beethoven. Ilya Gringolts, violin.

May 13 & 14 8 PM, The Long Center, 701 W. Riverside Dr., <http://www.austinsymphony.org>

Austin Civic Orchestra, *The French Connection*. Faure: **Pavane**; Ibert: **Concertina da Camera for Saxophone and Orchestra**, Harvey Pittel, saxophone; Berlioz: **Symphonie Fantastique**.

May 14 7:30, Austin ISD Performing Arts Ctr., <http://www.austincivicorchestra.org>