

Note Worthy

A publication of The Wednesday Morning Music Club (Austin) Website: musicclubaustin.org April 19, 2017

Member Highlight - Barbara Buttrey



When I was born, Austin was still essentially a town. My parents were from southern Illinois and took my brother and me “home” every other summer to be with family. We were made aware there was a world outside of Texas. In second grade I began piano lessons with Lota M. Spell, who stressed theory and composition as much as performance. She passed us on at high school age to Verna Harder, who taught pedagogy students at UT. I appreciate the foundation these teachers provided. My parents took advantage of the String Project at UT and enrolled me in violin while I was in junior high. I took for four years but never excelled. In my junior year of high school I had the life-changing opportunity of attending an English grammar school when my father took our family to London for a year. I was at an impressionable age and have fond memories of school friends and the ten-hour treks around town on weekends, led by my father.

I stayed in Austin for college and entered Plan II at UT. I became interested in languages, especially Spanish, and spent my junior year at the University of Madrid. That led to work towards a master’s degree at UT’s Institute of Latin American Studies. Before finishing, I married a fellow student and accompanied him to the University of Florida where he worked toward his doctorate in Latin American history. The next ten years were peripatetic. With two pre-kinder children we moved from Gainesville to Cali, Columbia, where Jerry taught at the state university in a program supported by the Rockefeller Foundation. We remained in that beautiful country for three years (I could have stayed much longer), and then returned to Austin. Three years later, Jerry accepted an offer to serve as assistant headmaster at a British school in Mexico City. Two years there enabled us to explore while our children cemented their grasp of Spanish.

Back in Austin in the early seventies after years away from piano, it seemed a good idea to return to lessons. I began studying with Louise Thompson and observed her teaching. From 1978 until 2009 I taught piano. I was active in the Austin District Music Teacher’s Association, primarily with the theory committee, and served as president in 1986-1987. It was a great privilege and joy to work one on one with intelligent children, especially since I had the guidance of four wise and gracious teachers: Louise Thompson, Jeanne Maurer, Mary Betty Lathrop and Margaret Wyss. Knowing them has enriched my life. Thanks to them, I joined WMMC. I performed only occasionally but took more interest in the program and high school awards committees. I served as president in 2005-2007. In this club I have made interesting and talented friends.

I still appreciate Austin, though it has grown too big to be comfortable. I attend concerts and plays regularly. Our children are grown; our daughter Sarah is a family practice physician in Austin and our son Michael a systems analyst in Virginia, both with families of their own. Jerry gives classes with the Lifetime Learning Institute, and I have a few piano students. We travel but find plenty to do just staying here where the choices increase at a dizzying pace.



President's Message

Marcia Edwards

Our final regular meeting on May 3 is going to be **Wear a Hat Day**. If you'd like, please pull your favorite hat out of the closet or search your grandmother's trunk in the attic, borrow from a friend, or go shopping at Goodwill or Macy's--and wear the hat on May 3. This event will be a light-hearted "tip of the hat" to our WMMC predecessors who regularly wore hats to their music club meetings. We anticipate some great photo opportunities!

Update from Opera in the Ozarks: Construction on the new Rehearsal Hall Building is well underway and should be complete by the time singers and orchestra players arrive this May. Donations are still being accepted to help pay for the cost of the Rehearsal Hall Building, which will be named after the first donor contributing \$75,000. Pledges can be paid out over three years. There are also opportunities to give \$50 for a chair or \$100 for a 4" x 8" stone block in the new retaining wall which can hold up to four lines of text, 16 characters per line.

Arkansas Gives online fundraiser on April 6 raised \$45,736 for Opera in the Ozarks. Thanks very much to our WMMC members who contributed!

Be on the lookout for your invitation to our spring luncheon on Wednesday, May 17. The luncheon will feature performances by the winners of the Wilcox, Maurer, Rudd, and Putter awards.

Thoughts for the Day:

"Together with a culture of work, there must be a culture of leisure as gratification. To put it another way: people who work must take the time to relax, to be with their families, to enjoy themselves, read, listen to music, play a sport." -- Pope Francis

"All music is folk music. I ain't never heard a horse sing a song." -- Louis Armstrong



About the Performers

Marcia Edwards, piano

A farm girl from central Illinois, I began piano lessons in 2nd grade and have enjoyed music in my life ever since. My education includes a B.A. in French from the University of Illinois, an M.A. in Teaching English as a Second language from UCLA, and a Ph.D. in Linguistics from the University of Texas, Austin. My husband (a retired pediatrician) and I have been Austin residents since 1983, and our 2 children were born and raised here. They both studied piano with Felicity Coltman. I'm grateful to Felicity for her music lessons and for introducing me to Kathryn Govier, who's now my regular duet partner.

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 profession job was teacher of the handicapped. I spent 3 years in Marrakesh, Morocco, working with handicapped children as Peace Corps Volunteer (1087-1990). I love living in Austin with many wonderful cultural events to attend and participate in.

Katharine Shields, soprano

Katharine has performed in recitals, revues, opera, and Gilbert & Sullivan operettas in Boston and Austin. She has done Hit Parade Reviews with Carol Kooch and Jerry Conn, and programs with songs by George Gershwin and Cole Porter. In addition to the Wednesday Morning Music Club, she enjoys singing in the University Methodist Church Choir and Chorus Austin. She volunteers for the Settlement Club and the Austin Opera Guild.

Gena Caponi Tabery, piano

Gena is a former Associate Professor and director of the American studies at The University of Texas at San Antonio. She has published in the fields of American Literature, American music and African American Culture. She has studied piano and organ at Texas Lutheran University and Trinity University, as well as privately with Dr. Frank Speller, Mary Parse, and Gregory Eaton. She is delighted to serve as interim organist at St. Michael's Episcopal Church. She also serves on the board of Ensemble VIII, an early music vocal ensemble directed by Dr. James Morrow. For more information, see: genatabery.com

FEATURING GUEST SOLOIST PERFORMERS for this program that celebrates Opera

Rachel Lamphier, mezzo soprano

Rachel is in her 1st year of a Masters program at the Butler School of Music in Austin, Texas. Her teacher is Bill Lewis. And

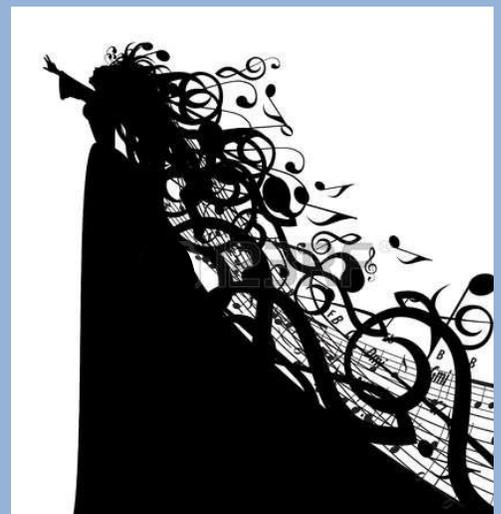
Maria Cook, soprano

Maria is in her 2nd year of a Masters Program at the Butler School of Music in Austin, Texas. Her teacher is David Small.

Accompanied by

Brian Grothues, piano

Brian is a pianist and teacher in Austin, Texas with over 35 students. He pursued music at the University of North Texas in Denton earning his Bachelor's degree Cum Laude. In 2008, Brian completed the Master's Degree in Piano Literature and Pedagogy from the University of Texas under the guidance of celebrated pianists Gregory Allen and Sophia Gilmsen. He has studied piano and music history in Vienna, Austria as a member of the IES study abroad program. Brian has collaborated with a multitude of instrumentalists and vocalists in concert, and he plays in a Queen tribute band called Magnifico.



Event Calendar

Classic Chamber Concerts – gtownfestival.org

Third Concert. The Artisan Quartet with Richard Kilmer, violin; Caleb Polacek, violin; Bruce Williams, viola; Douglas Harvey, cello and Toby Blumenthal, piano. Haydn: String Quartet In C Major, Op. 74, No. 1; Brahms: Piano Quartet in C minor, Op. 60; Debussy: String Quartet in G minor, Op. 10. Tickets: \$25. For more information 512-639-0433

April 16 – 4:00 PM – Hewlett Public library, 402 W. Eighth St., Georgetown TX.

Lola at 4th Tap - lolaaustin.org

April Opralia. Featuring opera favorites performed by pianist Karen White with violist Martha Carapetyan, opera previews from LOLA, One Ounce Opera, Spotlight on Opera and Austin Opera!

April 20 – 8:00 PM – 10615 Metric Blvd.

Balcones Orchestra – bcorchestra.net

Soloist TBA

April 23 – 4:00 PM -Episcopal Church of the Resurrection

Chorus Austin – chorusaustin.org

ESTHER. Experience a recently rediscovered oratorio by Cristiano Giuseppe Lidarti (1730-1795).

Lidarti's opera/oratorio, completed in 1774, tells the story of Queen Esther's rescue of the Jewish people. Chorus Austin Symphonic Chorus is pleased to present this rarely heard jewel in Hebrew. Tickets \$15-\$25.

April 22 – 7:30 PM – St. Matthew's Episcopal Church, 8134 Mesa Drive

April 23 – 4:00 PM – St. Matthew's Episcopal Church, 8134 Mesa Drive

Salon Concerts – salonconcerts.org

The Miro Quartet. Daniel Ching, violin; William Fedkenheuer, violin; John Largess, viola; Joshua Gindele, cello. Two String Quartets of Antonin Dvorak, Op. 34 and Op. 105

Apr. 23- 4:30 PM and April 24 – 7:00 PM - Private Homes

Conspirare – conspirare.org

Hidden Music. Craig Hella Johnson will curate an eclectic and refreshing program featuring an 18-voice Conspirare ensemble singing across a broad musical spectrum. Classical, folk and popular styles and idioms will be represented in a musical journey that explores the search for freedom and peace in the modern world. To include a workshop performance of Songs for Muska, a newly commissioned choral work for Conspirare from composer Jocelyn Hagen based on folk poetry by Pashtun women.

Apr. 25 – 6:00 PM – Old World Theatre, 3310 Bee Caves Rd.

Ensemble VIII – ensembleviii.org

My Beloved Spake – A Banquet of Love. Historically attributed to King Solomon, the Song of Songs is a feast of evocative love poetry. Set as exchanges between two lovers, these sensual texts have attracted composers of every generation. This concert features some of the finest Renaissance settings of these passionate love songs. My beloved spake, and said unto me, rise up, my love, my fair one, and come away.

Apr. 27 – 7:30 PM – Westlake Hills Presbyterian Church

Apr. 28 – 7:30 PM – St. Louis Catholic Church Chapel

Austin Chamber Ensemble – austinchamberensemble.com

Great Scott! Richard Dowling will perform *Scott Joplin's* best-known and most beloved piano masterpieces. Included on the program will be: Elite Syncopations (1902), Weeping Willow (1903), The Cascades (1904), Suite from "The Sting": The Entertainer (1902), The Easy Winners (1901), Gladiolus Rag (1907), Pine Apple Rag (1908), Solace - A Mexican Serenade (1909), The Ragtime Dance (1906) and others. Early bird tickets \$20 at <http://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/2869980> if purchased by April 21st. \$25 at the door. Students with I.D. - \$10. Ages 5-17 (FREE, limited number available). SELLOUT IS EXPECTED- GET YOUR TICKETS EARLY!

April 28 – 8:00 PM – First Presbyterian Church, 8001 Mesa Drive

Central Texas Medical Orchestra - ctmorchestra.org

Spring Concert. Soloist Michael Domjan, violist, guest artists Terri Hendrix and Lloyd Maines. Concert benefits the Epilepsy Foundation Central and South Texas.

April 29 – 7:30 PM – Westover Hills Church of Christ, 8332 Mesa Drive