

Note Worthy

A publication of The Wednesday Morning Music Club (Austin) Website: musicclubaustin.org April 5, 2017



Member Highlight – Marie White

My great grandmother made music part of her legacy to her family. All three of her daughters were given music lessons. One loved to sing and dance. One tried hard but preferred her books, and my grandmother loved to sing and play the piano. She performed into her senior years - I remember her last performance as she sang her favorite song "His Eye is on the Sparrow" when I was in my teens.

As I go through my life I find the gifts that have been bestowed on me by my parents, grandparent and great grandparents which they likely received from theirs. Music is one of those gifts.

My grandmother married a young farmer and they worked hard to provide a life on the farm. As a farming family there was not a lot of time for the arts. The chores took precedence so the next generation grew up with a love of music but no time to practice and no instruments to play on.

This was corrected in their children's families and all 6 of my brothers and sisters and I were encouraged and supported in our musical interests. Each of us took up an instrument, piano, accordion, clarinet, saxophone, trumpet, and guitar. We have group pictures of us holding our instruments looking like a stair-stepped ragtag band.

My older sister specialized on piano and with her musical encouragement she got my other sister and I to form a trio. We practiced and practiced and sang for our local church and occasionally for the church radio broadcast. We had no formal training but loved to sing. As children and then teens we performed until my older sister left home.

It was my pleasure to sing with choirs both in church and in high school where a new music program had just started at both. Although I was given music lessons on piano and accordion I preferred the more social experience of singing with groups and choirs. After many years of being away from music (except as a groupie for whatever band my trombone playing husband is in) I joined the St. Edwards Masterworks Singers and am enjoying singing again.

Thanks to my husband I met Martha Cook through her husband Carter and was invited to attend Wednesday Morning Music Club. It is such a joy to be inspired by the lifelong love of music that is shared by the members in this club. I became a member in 2014 and have had fun working on the hospitality committee, the house committee, the communications committee, the newsletter and now the year book.

It is a pleasure to get to know many of you and to find (like many before) I have met some great friends. I hope that as time goes on I have the opportunity to add many more of you to that list.



President's Message

Marcia Edwards

Undivided Attention by Taylor Mali

A grand piano wrapped in quilted pads by movers,
tied up with canvas straps—like classical music's
birthday gift to the criminally insane—
is gently nudged without its legs
out an eighth-floor window on 62nd street.

It dangles in April air from the neck of the movers' crane,
Chopin-shiny black lacquer squares
and dirty white crisscross patterns hanging like the second-to-
last note of a concerto played on the edge of the seat,
the edge of tears, the edge of eight stories up going over—
it's a piano being pushed out of a window
and lowered down onto a flatbed truck!—and
I'm trying to teach math in the building across the street.

Who can teach when there are such lessons to be learned?
All the greatest common factors are delivered by
long-necked cranes and flatbed trucks
or come through everything, even air.
Like snow.

See, snow falls for the first time every year, and every year
my students rush to the window
as if snow were more interesting than math,
which, of course, it is.

So please.

Let me teach like a Steinway,
spinning slowly in April air,
so almost-falling, so hinderingly
dangling from the neck of the movers' crane.
So on the edge of losing everything.

Let me teach like the first snow, falling.

April is **National Poetry Month**, a celebration of poetry introduced in 1996 and organized by the [Academy of American Poets](#) as a way to increase awareness and appreciation of [poetry](#) in the United States.

Reminder: Arkansas Gives

Help support Opera in the Ozarks by making a donation at [ArkansasGives.org](#) between 8 AM and 8 PM on Thursday, April 6.

Thought for the Day: "A bird doesn't sing because it has an answer, it sings because it has a song." Maya Angelou (1928 – 2014)

WMMC Bylaws Amendments (Being voted on at the April 5, 2017 meeting).

The following minor amendments to the Club's Bylaws are proposed according to Article XIV of the Bylaws.. The purpose is only to clarify the fact that the Nominating Committee is not appointed by the President, and that the Nominating Committee itself presents its nominations for the future Nominating Committee, for election. This is consistent with Article VI, Sec. 1, and Article VII, Sec. 3.

THE CHANGES PROPOSED ARE AS FOLLOWS, with added words in red. No words are proposed to be deleted. We present here only the Sections which are to be amended.

ARTICLE VII Election of Officers

Sec. 2. The Nominating Committee shall present nominations for any office vacated during the biennium. The Nominating Committee shall report nominations for all offices [and for the next Nominating Committee](#) at the first meeting in February of the second year.

ARTICLE IX Standing Committees

Sec. 1. Standing Committees necessary for the functioning of the club, [except for the Nominating Committee](#), shall be appointed by the President.

About the Performers

Elizabeth Arend Lemer, reader

Elizabeth was born in Austin in the mid-1950s, the third child and only daughter. Her paternal grandparents lived in Pflugerville and her maternal grandmother lived on Rio Grande a short distance from the Texas Federated Women's Club. She received her B.A. in Applied Art from Trinity University in San Antonio. A few months after graduating, she returned to Austin and has never left. She has worked in various administrative positions both paid and as a volunteer for the past 40 years. Currently, she is a docent at the Blanton Art Museum, a member of U.T. Forum and involved with several other groups. She is thankful to her dear friend, Sarah Harriman, for inviting her to join the WMMC.

Carol Brannon, reader

Carol's mother and siblings sang, but her sister got the piano lessons. She has sung in school and community choruses, and the occasional band, most of her life, and still keeps a piano in case it's not too late to learn. She grew up in Maryland, Wisconsin, and Florida, went to school in New Orleans and New York, but headed west at the first opportunity. She studied literature in college and practiced law before moving to Austin in 2004.

Bill Yick, reader

Bill grew up in the Philadelphia area. He joined the US Navy and attended the Naval School of Music in Washington, DC. He spent the rest of his Navy hitch in the NY Naval Band, playing bassoon, flute and piccolo. He attended college at Harding University and graduated with a BA degree in music education. Then he taught public school music for 6 years at several different schools. He went into private piano and guitar teaching and later into piano tuning and repair. He became a Registered Piano Technician with the PTG (Piano Technicians Guild) in 1977. Bill serves on the Board of Opera in the Ozarks. He is past president of the Fort Smith Musical Coterie in Fort Smith, Arkansas. He is also a past state president of the Arkansas Federation of Music Clubs. In 2014, Bill established the AFMC William Yick Collegiate Award.

Austin Bella Corda Guitar Ensemble under the direction of Kevin Taylor

Bella Corda is the premier performing group of the Childbloom Guitar Program. This award winning group performs regularly under the direction of Kevin Taylor.

Grace Huang, piano

I started playing the piano when I was 7 years old. I grew up in Taiwan and moved to Texas for college. I have a degree in molecular biology and I work as a research assistant. I have participated in piano festivals, master classes and competitions for amateur pianists since 2011 in many places including in Fort Worth, Hawaii, Houston, Malta, Colorado Springs and Washington D.C.

Janie Keys, piano

I have two degrees, both from the University of Texas: a BA in French and a MM in Piano Pedagogy (studying with Nancy Garrett.) Even though my degree in music was decades ago, I'm still studying the piano. My current teacher is Sheila Paige (see pianowellnessseminar.com.) I love all my Suzuki trained students, especially my two 4 year olds.

Angelica Lopez, piano

Angelica Lopez grew up in the Rio Grande Valley where she asked for and received the gift of piano lessons for her 8th birthday. Music-making permeated her life as she continued piano lessons, played French horn in high school band, served as an organist at her church, and accompanied fellow students for high school assemblies and UIL events. She moved to Austin to study in the Music Department at The University and fell in love with both the City of Austin and the concert-scene. Angelica and her husband, Chuck, were able to permanently relocate to Austin in 1983 and one of the first things she did was to join the Wednesday Morning Music Club. She has been a Suzuki piano teacher since 1985 when she enrolled in Suzuki teacher training.

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.



Event Calendar

Austin Chamber Music – austinchambermusic.org

Red Snapper. The concert combines poetry and music, song and images; with a playful and brilliant nod to one of the greatest-ever pieces of chamber music. Kevin Puts: Quintet for Piano and Strings; Franz Schubert: Piano Quintet in A Major, D 667, "The Trout," Allegro vivace, Andante, Scherzo: Presto, Andantino-Allegro, Allegro giusto.

April 1 – 7:30 PM – First Unitarian Church, 4700 Grover Ave.

La Follia Austin Baroque – lafollia.org

Fooled Ya! With KMFA 89.5 Suzanne Bona of the nationally syndicated radio program Sunday Baroque hosts a concert featuring La Follia performing Baroque musical forgeries and mis-attributions. Come celebrate KMFA 50th anniversary with this festive event!

April 1 – 8:00 PM - First Presbyterian Church

April 2 – 4:00 PM - First Presbyterian Church

Austin Symphony – austinsymphony.org

Surround Sound. The Austin Symphony will perform pieces by Aaron Copland, John Corigliano and Antonin Dvorák. These pieces were written because the composers were influenced by the sounds of the country they were living in at that time. ASO Principal clarinetist, Stephen Girko, performing Copland's Clarinet Concerto, will highlight the evening.

April 7 & 8 – 8:00 PM – The Long Center

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 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.

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

Balcones Orchestra – bcorchestra.org

Soloist TBA

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

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.

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, composers of every generation have been drawn to these sensual texts. 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, need a ticket). SELLOUT IS EXPECTED- GET YOUR TICKETS EARLY!