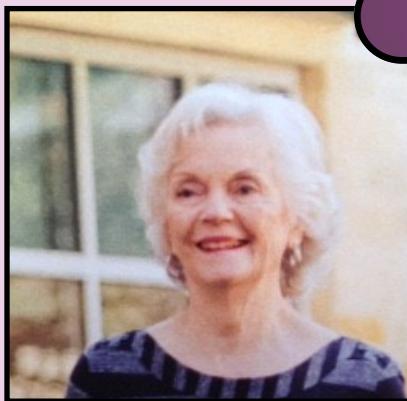


Noteeworthy

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

April 17, 2019



MEMBER HIGHLIGHT

Carol Kooock

This will not be your usual biography. I have no degrees in piano, but I do have stories I hope you enjoy.

My principal instrument is oboe, and I was the first student in my Houston high school to reach All-State. My band director accompanied me to the 4-day TMEA convention. Six oboists from Texas auditioned for 3 chairs in the Performing Band; the others would be in the Reading Band, which was akin to losing the Super Bowl.

A senior girl from Amarillo was best--we could hear the auditions from the hallway. A Brownsville boy was next best. The remaining 4 of us were all on a par. The judges awarded the first two and then asked us, "Does anyone play English horn?" Two facts were immediately apparent: the person who played English horn would get the coveted 3rd chair, and obviously none of us did. In one of the most daring moments of my life I hollered "I do!" and was thereupon named 3rd chair. The 3 losers looked at me with daggers, knowing I had no experience with English horn, as I had known they did not either.

I quickly found my band director in a meeting. I frantically asked him, "What's an English horn and where can we get one?" I'll never forget the look on his face!

I won 2nd chair All-State my junior year. In senior year I was 1st chair – legitimately.

I tell this story because this was the proudest achievement of my musical life.

I attended UT on a full oboe scholarship. When I left, I realized that oboe was in the rearview mirror, as I had no instrument of my own, having relied on my high school and then the University to loan me instruments.

Piano came into the picture. With little money and no furniture, one day on my lunch hour I walked into a piano store and left owning a piano, to be delivered the next day. I was astounded. I went into the restroom at work and threw up.

This was the start of 60 years of playing: for a western band, a dance band, melodramas, and countless singers and parties. I've provided appropriate music for a juggler, as well as for a magician at the Dickens Festival in Galveston at Christmas. I never knew when the juggler might drop a flaming torch while riding around the stage on a unicycle or when the magician might prolong a trick that involved an audience participant. These were entirely creative performances, my "thing," and so much fun.

I've been blessed with perfect pitch and a good ear, which have enabled me to do a lot, but they cost me my sight-reading skills. I can't seem to get past Every Good Boy Does Fine.

When I hear all of the accomplished pianists in WMMC, I enjoy it so much and think WOW. I couldn't play like that in a thousand years – I so appreciate your talent and your discipline. I feel feeble in comparison, but I console myself by wondering how many people could play for a juggler riding a unicycle? I truly hope it takes all kinds. I thank all of you for making me part of the club.



President's Message

Janie Keys

The lighter side of music and life. The Pops Program took us back to a time when life was simpler and safer, a time not laden with the social issues of today. The Silver Strings Orchestra set the upbeat tone (so many puns are possible with music) with "I Whistle a Happy Tune" from the 1951 musical *The King and I*. The fun times continued with performances of show tunes from musicals *Pins and Needles* and *On the Town*. *Pins and Needles*, written in 1937 by Harold Rome, has been described as a lighthearted and pro-labor depiction of workers in a changing society. The show was cast with actual union workers who rehearsed after work and performed Friday and Saturday nights at the Princess Theatre on West 39th Street. The show's popularity was so great that the cast eventually abandoned their day jobs to take on a full performance schedule of eight shows per week, marking the only time in history that regular workers, and not trained actors, were able to bring a successful musical to Broadway. Sung by Fran Rush, many of the lyrics of "Nobody Makes a Pass at Me" elicited appreciative laughter:

Nobody comes knocking at my front door
What do they think my knocker's for?
.....

I want attention and things I can't mention
And I want them all before I get too old.

"I Can Cook Too," sung by Suzy Gallagher, who gamely donned an apron, is one of the classic songs from the musical *On the Town*. Written in 1944, the music is Leonard Bernstein's with lyrics by Betty Comden and Adolph Green, although Bernstein wrote the lyrics for this song. Here is a glimpse into the creative mind of the 26-year-old Bernstein and his flair for lyrics:

Oh, I'm a gumdrop,
A sweet lollipop,
A brook trout right out of the brook,
And what's more, baby, I can cook!

An interlude in the singing brought us back to the present with the reading of the charming poem, "To a Tea," written by Linda Mae Dennis. A graphic artist by profession, Ms. Dennis writes poetry among many other avocations including teaching Scottish dancing, gardening, fiber arts, and playing tenor drum in a bagpipe band. Her poem, read by Marcia Edwards and Sarah Harriman, was followed by a touching tribute to Irving Berlin (he lived to be 101) performed by Charles Palmer. It was a story of his life and loves through his songs. The singing and the program ended with Frank Sinatra's original recording of "Young at Heart," a pop standard written in 1953, performed by a puppet. (You had to be there to see this!) The Pops Program was truly an entertaining stroll down memory lane. Can't you just hear Frank singing?

You can go to extremes with impossible schemes
You can laugh when your dreams fall apart at the seams
And life gets more exciting with each passing day
And love is either in your heart or on its way

And if you should survive to a hundred and five
Look at all you'll derive out of bein' alive
And here is the best part, you have a head start
If you are among the very young at heart.

Onward with Opera. The guest artist for the April 17th program is soprano Myrna Peralez. Ms. Peralez has a Master of Music from Baylor University and will have the lead role this summer in OIO's production of *La Bohème*. This program is always a treat. I hope to see you there.

Members News:

What Happens in Lubbock Does Not Always Stay In Lubbock!

The 104th Annual Convention of the Texas Federation of Music Clubs took place in Lubbock, Texas from Thursday afternoon, March 28, through lunch on Saturday, March 30. Attendees from our club played important roles at the convention. These included **Judge Phil and Carla Johnson** (Convention Co-Chair), **Carlie and Tom Burdett, Sue Breuer, Lee Meyer, Bill and Laresa Yick, and Marcia Edwards** (WMMC-elected delegate). In her position as Texas Representative on the NFMC Board of Directors, Sue Breuer escorted and introduced the National Guest Lavonna Whitesell, who serves as the South Central Region Vice-President. Two of our members were elected as state officers for 2019 – 2021: Bill Yick is the new 3rd VP, and Sue Breuer will continue to serve as TFMC Historian.

The business meeting on Friday consisted mainly of Committee Chair reports. Sue Breuer gave the Historian's report, Carla Johnson reported for Parade of American Music, and Bill Yick reported for Together We Sing and Sacred Music. State Insignia Chair Marcia Edwards spoke briefly about what was available at the Insignia table. Carla Johnson announced the winner of the TFMC Leake J. Ward Music Therapy Scholarship, Sierra Belmares from San Antonio. Lee Myer updated the group on OIO news, and Sue Breuer gave an OIO Membership report. Also on Friday, Marque McKay, TFMC Music in Poetry Chair, announced that Carlie Burdett is the winner of this year's challenge to compose music for the poem "In the Evening," by Fenton Johnson.

Lee Meyer as the TFMC Young Artist Presentations Chair had the pleasure of welcoming and spending time with the Happy Dog Duo of Eric Tran and Nathan Cheung, who won the 2017 Annie Ellis Duo-Piano Competition hosted by NFMC and who performed following the formal banquet Friday night. This same evening, TFMC President Lois Armor presented the TFMC Distinguished Service Award to Judge Phil Johnson.

Several of our members also performed during the convention. Carlie Burdett played her beautiful "Adagio—Peace Medley" for the Memorial Service for deceased TFMC members. Carlie also accompanied Carla Johnson and Rhonda Stege for their memorable performance in costume of "Duetto Buffo di due gatti" ("humorous duet for two cats") by Rossini. The lyrics consist entirely of the repeated word "miau" ("meow").

A buffet luncheon "Hats Off to TFMC" with hat centerpieces created by Marie White completed the successful 2017 state convention.

TFMC Calendar Change Announcement

TFMC is considering permanently changing the calendar to combine the annual state convention (traditionally held in March) with the state Board meeting (traditionally held in August). The result will be one state meeting per year held in August or September in Dallas. Each District has been assigned to a Region and will be asked to help with the arrangements for these meetings according to the schedule below. WMMC is in District 6. After a 3-year trial run, a final decision will be made about whether to make the change permanent.

| | | |
|----------|-------------------|----------------------------------|
| Region 1 | Districts 1, 8, 9 | Convention/Board meeting in 2022 |
| Region 2 | Districts 2, 3, 5 | Convention/Board meeting in 2020 |
| Region 3 | Districts 4, 6, 7 | Convention/Board meeting in 2021 |

Factoid

Risotto

Rossini wrote the aria "Di tanti palpiti" while waiting for some risotto in a Venice restaurant.

Fiddler Jones

By Edgar Lee Masters, 1868 –1950

The earth keeps some vibration going
 There in your heart, and that is you.
 And if the people find you can fiddle,
 Why, fiddle you must, for all your life.
 What do you see, a harvest of clover?
 Or a meadow to walk through to the river?
 The wind's in the corn; you rub your hands
 For beeves hereafter ready for market;
 Or else you hear the rustle of skirts
 Like the girls when dancing at Little Grove.
 To Cooney Potter a pillar of dust
 Or whirling leaves meant ruinous drouth;
 They looked to me like Red-Head Sammy
 Stepping it off, to "Toor-a-Loor."
 How could I till my forty acres

Not to speak of getting more,
 With a medley of horns, bassoons and piccolos
 Stirred in my brain by crows and robins
 And the creak of a windmill—only these?
 And I never started to plow in my life
 That some one did not stop in the road
 And take me away to a dance or picnic.
 I ended up with forty acres;
 I ended up with a broken fiddle—
 And a broken laugh, and a thousand memories,
 And not a single regret.

(Born in Kansas in 1868, Masters wrote several collections of verse, including the *Spoon River Anthology* in 1915. This poem is in the public domain.)

ABOUT OUR PERFORMERS

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 Knoch and Jerry Conn, and programs with songs by George Gershwin and Cole Porter. In addition to performances at 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.

Gregory Shields, violin

Greg Shields started violin at age eight and has played in a variety of school and community orchestras and musical productions. He currently plays in the Balcones Community Orchestra and studies fiddle with Ruby Jane Smith.

Gena Caponi Tabery, piano

Gena is a former Associate Professor and Director of 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.

Elise Ragland, voice

What a delight it has been to share the songs I have been studying during my recent years of voice lessons. In January, 2019, I did my first-ever voice recital thanks, in part, to the enthusiastic response by WMMC members to my offerings at meetings during my first year as a member.

Maxine Gomes, piano

Maxine Gomes earned piano performance degrees from the New England Conservatory of Music in Boston and New York University where she received her Ph.D. She pursued a dual career in New York for many years as a music teacher and solo pianist doing numerous recitals and FM radio broadcasts on Long Island and New York City. After earning a Professional Diploma in Administration, Maxine took a hiatus from music and had a career in school administration on Long Island, New York. Maxine, again, is enjoying performing in the metropolitan Austin area.

Myrna Peralaz, soprano

Not available at time of distribution.

Events Calendar



Austin Symphony – austinsymphony.org

Apr. 12 & 13, 8:00 PM - The Long Center, 701 W. Riverside Drive
Worlds Apart.

Worlds collide as Mozart from Austria and Dvořák from the Czech Republic complement each other on this exciting program! The Austin Symphony will perform Dvořák's popular *New World Symphony* and Mozart's spirited *Violin Concerto No. 4* performed by William Hagen on his 1732 "Arkwright Lady Rebecca Sylvan" Antonio Stradivari. Hailed as a brilliant virtuoso, Haven is sure to make his Austin Symphony debut one you won't forget. The evening will open with Gioachino Rossini's fan favorite, the *William Tell Overture*.

Salon Concerts – salonconcerts.org

Apr. 21, 4:30 PM & Apr. 22, 7:00 PM – private homes

Apr. 23, Noon – University Presbyterian Church, 2203 San Antonio Street
Special Centennial Celebration Concert.

This concert will celebrate Robert Rudie's Centennial by reprising Tchaikovsky's *Souvenir de Florence, Op. 70* for String Sextet, with the same performers he played it with on a Salon concert in 2007. We are delighted to have Sandy Yamamoto taking the first violin part. Also on the program are Kodaly's delightful *Serenade For Two Violins And Viola*; Prokofiev's *Overture on a Hebrew Theme* featuring Stephen Girko playing clarinet joined by string quartet and piano; and a new trio for viola, cello and piano, written by Kathryn Mishell, remembering her husband, Robert Rudie. Performers: Sandy Yamamoto, violin; Elise Winters, violin; Bruce Williams, viola; Martha Carapetyan, viola; Douglas Harvey, cello; Sara Nelson, cello; Stephen Girko, clarinet; and Kathryn Mishell, piano.

La Follia Austin Baroque – lafollia.org

Apr. 26th, 7:00 PM & Apr. 27, 3:00 PM – Redeemer

Presbyterian Church, 2111 Alexander Avenue

A Herd of Harpsichords!

La Follia performs the complete concertos for two and three harpsichords by J. S. Bach. Featured are the international superstar Anton Nel, joined by Director Keith Womer and Donald Livingston with the La Follia strings.

Austin Chamber Music – austinchambermusic.org

Apr. 27, 7:30 PM – First Unitarian Church, 1700 Grover Avenue

The Melting Pot.

Program: Turina's *La oracion del torero*; Hamlisch's "Suite from Sweet Smell of Success" and "Suite from Sophie's Choice"; Schumann's *String Quartet No. 3, Op. 41, No. 3*. Kasa Quartet performers include Andy Liang and Aaron Schwartz, violin; Stephanie Price-Wong, viola; and Kyle Price, cello.

Central Texas Medical Orchestra – ctmorchestra.org

Apr. 27, 7:30 PM – Westover Hills Church of Christ, 8332 Mesa Drive

Season Finale.

The Central Texas Medical Orchestra under the direction of Dr. Robert Radmer will perform a concert to support Health Alliance for Austin Musicians. Guest virtuoso will be Francesco Mastromatteo, cello. Special guests will be Terri Hendrix and Lloyd Maines closing out the concert with several of Hendrix's songs performed with the Orchestra.

Austin Opera - austinopera.org

Apr. 27, 7:30 PM, May 2, 7:30 PM – The Long Center

May 5, 2:30 PM – The Long Center

La bohème by Giacomo Puccini.

Puccini's sweeping story of young bohemians struggling to fulfill their dreams and find true love contains some of the most beloved music in all of opera. *La bohème* is frequently referenced in popular culture, from the Academy Award-winning film *Moonstruck* to the Tony-winning musical *Rent*, making the story and its music instantly recognizable to even newcomers to opera.

<http://music.utexas.edu/> - check all events online

Gomes Piano Trio

Apr. 28, 4:00 – 5:00 PM – Lakeway Activity Center, 105 Cross Creek, Lakeway 78734

The Piano Trio unites in a rare recital bringing their extraordinary talents together to entertain the greater Lakeway listening audience. Performers: Maxine Gomes, piano; Pat Yingst, flute; and Dr. Andrew Ross, oboe. Free.

Ensemble VIII – ensembleviii.org

May 2, 7:30 PM – Westlake Hills Presbyterian Church, 7121 Bee Caves Road

May 3, 7:30 PM – St. Louis Catholic Church Chapel, 7601 Burnet Road
When Heaven is Wedded to Earth: Franco-Flemish Music of Springtime. A contemporary of the legendary Josquin des Prez, Antoine Brumel is one of the most influential composers of the Franco-Flemish school of composition. Bridging the gap of the rhythmic complexity of medieval period to the smooth imitative style of the late Renaissance, Brumel's 12-voice *Earthquake Mass* transports the listener to another realm with sounds that wed heaven to earth. Additional music by early and late Franco-Flemish composers Dufay, Ockeghem and Josquin.

Chorus Austin – chorusaustin.org

May 4, 8:00 PM – University Presbyterian Church, 2203 San Antonio Street

May 5, 4:00 PM – Scottish Rite Theater, 207 W. 18th Street
Southwest Voices Festival.

Our Chamber Ensemble highlights new music of choral composers from Texas and the Southwest. We'll feature the winning choral work from our 6th Annual Young Composers Competition.

Austin Girls Choir – www.girlschoir.com

May 5, 3:00 & 4:00 PM – The Weeks Center, Seminary of the Southwest, 501 E. 32nd Street

Annual Spring Tea.

Repertoire ranges from madrigals to contemporary classical. The high tea features specialties from several wonderful bakeries, restaurants and caterers.

Georgetown Symphony Society - gsstx.org

May 5, 4:00 PM – Georgetown High School, Klett Center for the Performing Arts, 2211 N. Austin Avenue

Season Finale. The Round Rock Symphony, Stefan Sanders, conducting. Program: Wojciech Kilar: *Orawa*; J. S. Bach: *Brandenburg Concerto No. 3*; Igor Stravinsky: *Concerto in C-Flat "Dumbarton Oaks"*; W. A. Mozart: *Symphony No. 41, C Major*, K.551.

Austin Chamber Music – Austinchambermusic.org

May 11, 11:AM, 1:00 & 3:00 PM – Westlake United Methodist Church, 4610 Redbud Trail

Collaborative Chamber Music Concerts.

These chamber music concerts feature musicians from our ChamberFlex, Young Artists Academy and In-School coaching programs. Free .

May 11, 6:00 PM – Westlake United Methodist Church, 4610 Redbud Trail

Adult Academy Concert. Free.

May 12, 2:00 PM – McCallum High School – Performing Arts Center, 5600 Sunshine Drive

In-School Program Collaborative Concert. Free.

Featuring students from the McCallum Fine Arts Academy and Lamar Middle School.

Free

2018-2019 Met Live in HD Season LIVE PERFORMANCES

| DATE - SAT | COMPOSER | Opera |
|---------------------------------|-----------------|---------------------------------|
| MAY 11—11:00 AM CENTRAL TIME | FRANCIS POULENC | <i>Dialogues des Carmélites</i> |