

## Bonnie Cummins Fielder Vocal Career Advancement Grant

By Elisabeth Moreno



Left to Right—Kathleen Felty, Sara Kennedy, Sarah Dyer, Bree Nichols

The finals of the Bonnie Cummins Fielder Vocal Career Advancement Grant were held Wednesday, March 15, at the First Unitarian Universalist Church. Established in 2005 by Bonnie Fielder, the grant has supported more than thirty winners along their career paths in the very competitive, yet under resourced field of vocal performance. A total of \$12,000 was awarded.

This year's winners were chosen from a highly competitive field of applicants by the club's selection committee: Sue Bilich, Fran Rush, Deborah Scott Hammonds, Katharine Shields and Mollie Tower. The judges were Darlene Wiley (retired, University of Texas Austin) and Suzanne Ramo, (Texas State University). Maimy Fong accompanied all of the young artists.

First place was awarded to **KATHLEEN FELTY**, a mezzo-soprano, who holds a Master's in Vocal Performance from the A.J. Fletcher Opera Institute of UNCSA. She recently performed the role of *Mercédès* in *Carmen* with the Santa Fe Opera. She performed *Mon cœur s'ouvre à ta voix* from *Samson and Delilah* by Camille Saint-Saëns and *Mio Fernando* from Donizetti's *La Favorita*.

Second place was presented to **SARA KENNEDY**, a soprano, who holds a Graduate Artist's Certificate in Opera from the University of North Texas. This summer she will be performing the role of Donna Anna in Mozart's *Don Giovanni* with the Camerata Bardi Vocal Academy. She presented *Mercè, dilette amiche* from *I vespri siciliani* by Giuseppe Verdi and an additional selection.

Third place was a tie between **SARAH DYER** and **BREE NICHOLS**. Ms. Dyer, a mezzo-soprano is currently completing her certificate of Vocal Performance at the University of Houston. She recently performed the role of Madame Larina in *Eugene Onegin* at the Music Academy of the West. She offered *Hence Iris, Hence Away* from G.F. Handel's *Semele* and *Der Tod und das Mädchen* by Franz Schubert.

Ms. Nichols, a soprano, was a postdoctoral Fulbright grantee to the Czech Republic in 2021-22 where she prepared for the release of her debut solo album *Pure Morning*, a celebration of Czech Opera and art song. She is also the founder of Opera Arlington, an organization created to inspire the Dallas–Fort Worth area through opera while encouraging young singers. She presented *The Jewel Song* from Charles Gounod's *Faust* and an additional selection.

The audience felt very privileged to hear what were truly virtuosic performances. Music Club Austin (through the auspices of Bonnie's grant) is proud to have played a part in advancing the careers of these exceptional artists. We hope to keep in touch with them and track their future successes in the world of classical music.





# President's Musings

Angela Smith

"April is the cruellest month." So says T.S. Eliot in his epic poem "The Waste Land." Those words ring particularly true for me as I race to meet the April 15 deadline to complete my tax return. I'm normally a positive person who tries to find joy in all I do, but, frankly, figuring out business mileage or how much I paid in property taxes over the last year are not on my top ten list of favorite things to do.

I have no great love for the IRS but am smart enough to know that paying taxes helps me enjoy numerous benefits that government provides, e.g., Social Security, Medicare, interstate highways, public education, etc., etc. In fact, I look on this exercise as similar to paying dues or contributing to a group or cause that is of value to me or benefits me either personally or professionally. That's why I gladly pay my dues to Music Club Austin, why I give to my church, why I support certain political candidates, why I donate to certain causes and organizations that I believe make this a better and kinder world in which to live.

I remember being shocked in a freshman college psychology class when the professor said that nothing we do is truly altruistic. I now understand what he was saying.

There's a little bit of ego in every action we take, even when we think we're doing it for totally unselfish reasons. When I participate in this club's activities, when I go to our meetings and enjoy the many and varied talents of our members, when I write this column for Noteworthy, it's also a gift to myself in terms of self-satisfaction. But most of all paying those annual dues lets me be part of the collective joy we experience in sharing our love for music and celebrating those who make it. We'll be sending out a dues statement before our spring luncheon in May, so I'm hoping when you write that check, you'll think of it in terms of the gift you receive in return for being part of this extraordinary organization.

An interesting bit of history: in the club's early years, dues were one dollar. Because collecting dues was sometimes a problem, the club decided to impose fines for tardiness, absences, and failure to perform on programs. Failure to perform or get a substitute was deemed a one dollar fine; absence was 25 cents, and tardiness 10 cents.

We have no fines now, but we do have a membership who willingly and eagerly volunteer their talent and skills to keep this club running smoothly. So the dues we pay is also a

way we give voice to our gratitude for what they do. After the excellent coordination of the Fielder and high school awards competition in March, watching the great work of our Centennial Committee as they put together a fitting celebration for our 100<sup>th</sup> year, realizing the effort that goes into producing our monthly newsletter and maintaining our website – and that's just the beginning of long, long list -- I am thankful to be surrounded by members and club leaders who give so unselfishly of their service and time to keep this club running smoothly.

On this centennial year I am grateful for all those members who have served this club in the past, those who are serving now, and those who will continue to honor the great legacy of Music Club Austin/Wednesday Morning Music Club by serving in the future.

I've always looked on service as a way of "paying dues" to be part of this great adventure we call life. Sometimes it's as easy as voting or writing a check. Sometimes it means taking risks and stepping out of our comfort zone. Which reminds me of something else the great poet T.S. Eliot once said, 'If you aren't in over your head, how do you know how tall you are.'

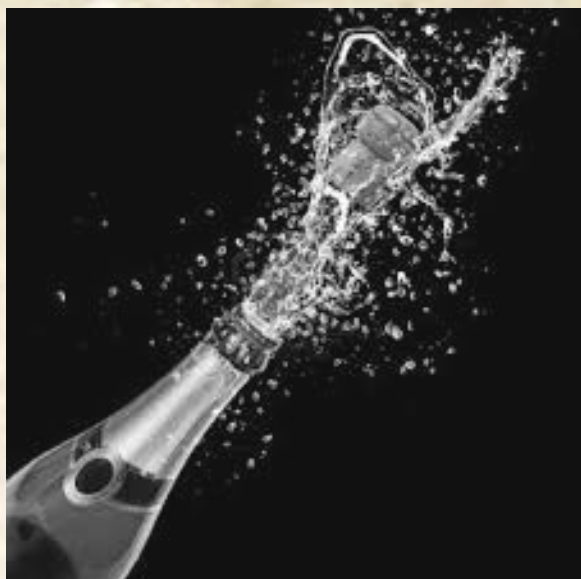
"If you want to make beautiful music, you have to play the black and white keys together."

Richard Nixon

Did you know? Our members have been sharing. . . since our founding. In the past we have also had reciprocity programs with clubs in other cities.

A book called "Symphony for Simple Simon" was written by the Durrum twins and illustrated by Betsy Warren in the 1960s. It explained the instruments of the orchestra and was sold as a fundraiser, earning \$19.15. (According to a quick search online, it is no longer available.)

A metal filing cabinet was purchased in the 1960s to hold club music. After we left the Texas Federated Women's Club building in 2017-18, the music was donated . . .



Music Club Austin  
Light/Pops  
April 5, 2023

Program

Program Leader: **Linda Tietz**

Song Leader: **Carol Brannon**

Accompanist: : **Marcia Edwards**

Song—Beautiful Dreamer page 22

♥ Mountain Greenery (1926) by Richard Rodgers (1902-1979)

You 're So Vain (1971) by Carly Simon (b. 1943)

Performed by **Sue Bilich**, vocalist, and **Adam Roberts**, guest pianist

♥ Songs by **Jerome Kern** (1885-1945)

They Didn't Believe Me (1939) lyrics by Herbert Reynolds ((1867-1933)

Smoke Gets in Your Eyes (1933) lyrics by Otto Harback (1873-1963)

The Way You Look Tonight (1936) lyrics by Dorothy Fields (1904-1974)

All the Things You Are (1939) lyrics by Oscar Hammerstein (1895-1960)

Performed by **Charles Palmer**, baritone and **Kathryn Govier**, pianist

♥ Elegie Opus 3 No 1 and Prelude in G minor, op.23, No.5 by Sergei Rachmaninoff (1873 – 1943)

Performed by Brian Grothues, pianist

♥ Allegro non assai from Symphony No.4 in E minor, op.98 for 4 hands by Johannes Brahms (1833 – 1897)

Performed by Brian Grothues, pianist, and Margarito Morales, guest pianist

Club Orientation Presentations

Carolyn McColloch, chairperson,

with help from Marcia Edwards, Pat Yingst and George Edwards



# National Poetry Month April 2023



...we  
were  
all meant  
for  
something.

Artwork by Marc Brown. Line excerpted from the poem "Carrying" by U.S. Poet Laureate Ada Limón, from *The Carrying* (Milkweed Editions, 2018). For more free poetry resources, visit [Poets.org/npm](https://Poets.org/npm).

academy of  
american poets  
[poets.org](https://poets.org)



THE  
BETSY  
BROTHERMAN



MIDLAND



little infinite  
living for life



Poets & Writers





## Celebrating National Poetry Month--Poetry matters!

Launched by the Academy of American Poets in April 1996, National Poetry Month is a special occasion that celebrates poets' integral role in our culture. . . . Over the years, it has become the largest literary celebration in the world, with tens of millions of readers, students, K–12 teachers, librarians, booksellers, literary events curators, publishers, families, and—of course—poets, marking poetry's important place in our lives. (Excerpted from [poets.org](https://poets.org))

The 2023 poster was designed by Marc Brown, creator of the popular *Arthur* book and PBS television series. The artwork incorporates an excerpted line from the poem “*Carrying*” by U.S. Poet Laureate Ada Limón. Brown was selected by Scholastic—the global children’s publishing, education, and media company—to create the artwork for this year’s poster as part of a [new National Poetry Month initiative](#) between the publisher and the Academy of American Poets. ([poets.org](https://poets.org))

### Laughing Song by William Blake (1757 - 1827)

*From A Year in Verse, 2021 - 2023,  
National Federation of Music Clubs*

When the green woods laugh with the voice of joy  
And the dimpling stream runs laughing by  
When the air does laugh with our merry wit  
And the green hill laughs with the noise of it

When the meadows laugh with lively green  
And the grasshopper laughs in the merry scene  
When Mary and Susan and Emily  
With their sweet round mouths sing "Ha, ha he!"

When the painted birds laugh in the shade  
Where our table with cherries and nuts is spread  
Come live, and be merry, and join with me  
To sing the sweet chorus of "Ha, ha, he!"



# LIVE!

*At Chateau Bellevue  
Presents*



## SIENNA STRING QUARTET

**Please Join Us!**

**Sunday, April 16, 2023**

**5:00 to 6:00 p.m.**

*(Doors open at 4:30)*

*Chateau Bellevue - 708 San Antonio St., Downtown*

The Austin Woman's Club is pleased to announce  
their newest adventure:

# LIVE!

*At Chateau Bellevue*

A monthly live event series held at the beautiful and historic Chateau Bellevue in downtown Austin. Enjoy a complimentary glass of wine and free parking all night behind the Chateau on Nueces between 7th and 8th.

Tickets are \$50

[Purchase Tickets](#)

## *Keeping Austin Preserved*

Make a Donation to Chateau Bellevue to preserve one of Austin's oldest and beloved landmarks.

*Austin Woman's Club is a tax-exempt 501(c)(3) organization.*





Central Texas  
Medical Orchestra  
Dr. Robert Radmer, Conductor

Presents

# Pamela Hart

*"Austin's First Lady of Jazz"*

**Saturday  
April 29, 2023  
7:30 PM**

**WESTOVER HILLS  
CHURCH OF CHRIST  
8332 MESA DR.**

**Tickets: \$10-\$20  
Benefitting**

Proceeds Benefitting  
 **American  
Diabetes  
Association.**  
Connected **for Life**





# Upcoming Events

**Austin Chamber Music Center** <https://austinchambermusic.org/concert-season/> Summer Vacation: Music by Brahms, Elgar and Ravel: Friday, April 21 (both live and virtual option) and Saturday, April 22 (live show).

**Austin Chamber Ensemble** <https://austinchamberensemble.org/ace-20222023-season> A celebration of WORLD PIANO DAY: Saturday, April 1.

**Austin Civic Orchestra** <https://austincivicorchestra.org/events/> Parts of the Whole, Part II - small chamber ensembles: Saturday, April 1.

**Austin Classical Guitar** <https://www.austinclassicalguitar.org/events/> Play: Moontower Duo with James Tabatta: Thursday, April 13th. Plus more events in April.

**Austin Jazz Society** [https://www.austinjazzsociety.org/content.aspx?page\\_id=4001&club\\_id=215484](https://www.austinjazzsociety.org/content.aspx?page_id=4001&club_id=215484) Austin Jazz Society Hall of Fame @ Chez Zee American Bistro, Sunday, April 2 and International Jazz Day - Tribute to Butch Miles Sunday @ The Long Center, April 30.

**Austin Opera** <https://my.austinopera.org/events> Bella Noche de Musica: Latinx music and opera at the new Moody Amphitheater at Waterloo Park: Tuesday, April 4. Bizet's luscious opera - The Pearl Fishers: Saturday April 29th and Thursday, May 4.

**Austin Symphony** <https://my.austinsymphony.org/events?view=list> Brahms X Radiohead: A Symphonic Fusion Experience that is an epic symphonic synthesis of Radiohead's album, OK Computer, and Brahms's First symphony: Thursday, April 6. "Eroica" - Ana Vidovic will perform Joaquin Rodrigo's "Fantasia para un gentilhombre" and will conclude with Beethoven's Symphony No. 3 (Eroica): Friday, April 14 and Saturday, April 15.

**Austin Women's Club** LIVE! At Chateau Bellevue presents SIENNA STRING QUARTET, Sunday, April 16, 5 - 6pm (doors at 4:30) 708 San Antonio St. <https://www.zeffy.com/en-US/ticketing/635c444c-9d09-4a0f-8e53-c9f020c5aad6>

**Ballet Austin** <https://balletaustin.org/performances/season/tickets/> LIGHT Holocaust & Humanity Project: March 31 - April 2.

**Central Texas Philharmonic** <https://www.centraltexasphilharmonic.org/> Slavic Splendor: Nathan Ryland, winner of the Texas State International Piano Competition: Sunday, April 30.

**Chorus Austin** <https://www.chorusaustin.org/events-calendar.html> With Strings Attached: Saturday, April 15.

**Conspire** <https://www.conspire.org/tickets/> The Muse Speaks: Friday, March 31 and Saturday, April 1

**KMFA 89.5** <https://www.kmfa.org/events> A great event calendar for our area including The Midday Concert Series.

**LOLA** <https://www.lolaaustin.org/current-events> Spring Song Garden featuring Liz Cass and Jayoung Hong in a program of classical arias and more at the Armstrong School of Music: Saturday, April 1.

**La Folgia** <https://www.lafolia.org/upcoming-concerts> Concertos by Haydn, with Anton Nel: Friday, April 21 and Saturday, April 2.

**The Long Center** <https://thelongcenter.org/upcoming-calendar/> Lots of fun events including Texas Millennial Orchestras and Choirs - I'm So Blessed: Friday, April 7.

**The Metropolitan Opera** On Demand: <https://www.metopera.org/season/on-demand/>

**Salon Concerts** <https://www.salonconcerts.org/> April Concert: Sunday, April 16 and Monday, April 17th. ALSO a FREE concert at the Dell Medical Center Hospital (lobby) Tuesday, April 18.

**UT Butler School of Music** <https://music.utexas.edu/concerts> MANY performances including Symphony Orchestra, wind ensembles, opera, jazz, etc!

**UT Performing Arts** <https://texasperformingarts.org/events> Ludovico Einaudi, piano - the most streamed classical artist of all time: Tuesday, April 4. Dream House Quartet: Tuesday, April 25.

**Wildflower Center** [https://www.wildflower.org/events?gclid=Cj0KCQjw2v-gBhC1ARIsAQQdKY1\\_r5Z13Obt4oAu4-3wrOdFz\\_KVzCDFssMH11ItfVw6ECblcP3C4wkaAtleEALw\\_wcB](https://www.wildflower.org/events?gclid=Cj0KCQjw2v-gBhC1ARIsAQQdKY1_r5Z13Obt4oAu4-3wrOdFz_KVzCDFssMH11ItfVw6ECblcP3C4wkaAtleEALw_wcB) Twilight Tuesdays (live music outdoors with local musicians) Tuesdays, April 21 and 28.