

The Newsletter of the Bellingham Music Club

December 4, 2013

Clyde Hiss presents Bellingham High School

Showstoppers

under the direction of Linda Short

Bellingham High School Showstoppers is a 20 member group auditioned out of the BHS Concert Choir. The group first entered the *Regional Ensemble Contest* 13 years ago, winning and representing our region at the State Contest every year since, and while receiving high scores, it is usually bested by much larger schools with choral music programs which start in the first years of elementary school. Our current feeder schools do not offer middle school choir so most student's choral experience begins their freshman year in high school. Nevertheless, in 2008, the Showstoppers did win 2nd place at the State Contest and to this day, students strive to be in the top three at State! The Showstoppers, as the name implies, really entertain audiences of all kinds. In addition to more serious music for the small ensemble, they perform a variety of music including a different choreographed medley every year. This year's medley, called "Rock with you," features songs by the King of Pop, Michael Jackson. This group is in high demand all year and performs numerous times in extremely different settings. Students are taught to lead and assess themselves in preparation for college and beyond.

Linda Short is the Vocal Music Director at Bellingham High School. She received her Bachelor of Music Education from Western Washington University (WWU) in 1980 and her Master's of Music in 1986. A native of Bellingham, Mrs. Short loves teaching at her Alma Mater.

The program will be announced from the stage and will include a selection of Holiday favorites.



Board Notes

Warm welcome to new members Laurie Bomstad Heck, Patricia Hicks and Marjorie Moench. We will publish a **membership update** in February; please tell us of any corrections or changes needed. It's always a good time to join; \$25 for the season is the best deal in town!

Call for volunteers! Would you like to share your talents and volunteer on the Board for the upcoming term? Or maybe help on the **Nominating Committee**? Let us know! The **Program Committee** needs two more members to put the 2014-2015 season together. Have performers in mind? That's the place to make it happen! For that matter, expanding the **Night Beat Committee** is in order too! How about an **Operations/Logistics Team**? Everything depends on your generosity; talk with any Board member about what you can do for YOUR club!

The last **Night Beat at the Firehouse** featuring Nick Strobel and other WSO musicians sold out! The overwhelming success of this series prompts some adjustments, and we will implement a ticketing system when Night Beat resumes in the spring. We are learning as we go; thank you for your interest, patience and support.

No concert in January, but we cordially invite you to encourage young Whatcom County musicians by attending the **auditions for high school students** here at Trinity Lutheran.

Enid Carrick High School Piano Awards

Friday, January 17, 5 to 8 pm

Jack & Ginny Frymire High School Vocal Awards

Thursday, January 23, 5 to 8 pm

Nicholas Bussard High School Instrumental Awards

Friday, January 31, 5 to 8 pm

Applications and audition guidelines for all competitions can be found on www.bellinghammusicclub.org

To mark our 98th birthday, we will serve coffee and special treats in the atrium at 9:30 am on **February 5** and unveil our **Centennial Fund display**. Come early and be among the first donors to autograph it! Then, at 10:30, hear the winners of the **Enid Carrick High School Piano** and **Jack & Ginny Frymire Vocal Awards**.



CENTENNIAL CORNER – MAKING ¢s OF THE CENTENNIAL

As Addis warned last month, the 2015-16 season—our Centennial—is bearing down on us. Centennials do have a way of shaking things up and pointing us in new directions. Take the nation's Bicentennial in 1976, which led to the founding of WSO, organized to give a single concert on the Fourth of July. Thirty-eight years on, it's become a regional power.

The first reaction of the BMC Centennial committee to our own looming anniversary was, Hey! We're getting older! Our second thought: Who's gonna take our place? And that led us to the Baby Boomers, now in the full flood of retirement. So where are they?

Well, they're at the WSO, BFM, House Concerts, chorales and chamber music programs. All of those worthy outfits charge admission. BMC presents top-flight regional artists at a price you can't beat: Zero. Plus sometimes free dessert. The difference? Those other programs are offered in the evening or on weekends. Boomers have barely gotten used to retirement; what do they know about the doings of the leisure class on a Wednesday morning?

So the first business of the Centennial Committee was to ask the Board to set up a Night Beat committee, to present a series of evening concerts at the Firehouse, our equivalent of the Salvation Army. And it's working, albeit with some shakedown glitches! We also decided to launch our Anniversary season in June 2015 with a Centennial Homecoming Gala. This event will showcase winners of our award competitions who have gone on to bigger things in music as pianists, string and wind players, singers and teachers. They're scattered all over the country and the world; we're going to fly some of them back for this occasion, to demonstrate the soundness of our investment in young artists to the public-at-large.

That will require modest funding, from members, non-members and the wider arts community. Which brings me to the Centennial Fund display—but that's another story. It will be unveiled and explained at our February program. Stay tuned.

Jack Frymire

Trivia: December 5, 1917 — The President was Woodrow Wilson, Boeing had been founded 1½ years ago, and Americans were 8 months into WWI, *but* the Music Club carried on with 100 members present for the Christmas program.

Elaine Walsh

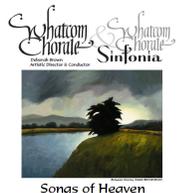
Upcoming Events Complimentary Tickets — Did you fill out your entry stub?

The Bellingham Chamber Chorale has two performances this weekend. First, enjoy the choral music of BCC alone in the program **Christmas with the Bellingham Chamber Chorale, Saturday, Dec. 7, 3:00 pm**, at First Congregational Church, 2401 Cornwall Ave. Tickets available at Community Food Co-op, Piper Music, Village Books and through the website www.bccsings.org (\$20 adults, \$15 seniors/students 18 & over, \$5 for under 18). On **Sunday, Dec. 8, 3:00 pm** at MBT, the BCC, the Whatcom Symphony Orchestra and the Bellingham Children's Choir **Celebrate The Season** with orchestral and choral favorites. Please call 360-756-6752 or visit www.whatcomsymphony.com for information and tickets.

The Met in HD Live 2013-2014 season continues with *Falstaff*, on **Saturday, December 14, 9:55 am** (Encore: Wednesday, December 18 at 6:30 pm). Music Director James Levine conducts Verdi's opera for the first time at the Met since 2005; Ambrogio Maestri sings the title role. On Saturday, December 21, on the radio only, alas!, Britten *Midsummer Night's Dream*, featuring **Erin Wall**. Summer solstice, aired on Winter solstice!

A treasured tale of fairies, spells, and storybook romance, **The Sleeping Beauty** is the ultimate classical ballet. **Sunday, December 15, 11 am** at the Pickford Film Cinema. \$20 members/\$16 non-members. So successful is this Opera and Ballet in Cinema series, that the PFC is launching another one on Thursday nights at the Limelight!

Debbie Brown leads the **Whatcom Chorale** in sacred antiphonal works for choir, brass and organ on **Sunday, December 15, 3 pm** at Assumption Church on Cornwall Avenue. Featured are works by Gabrieli, Monteverdi, Schütz, Rachmaninoff and Mendelssohn. Tickets are available at the Food Co-op, the Greenhouse, Piper Music, Village Books, Everybody's Store, and at the door. \$20 adults, \$15 seniors/students, \$5 under 18. Concert information: www.whatcomchorale.org



The 4th Annual Bellingham Festival of Music Welcome Home Concert features **violinist Roman Yearian** on **Saturday, Jan. 4, 7:30 pm** at Christ the Servant Lutheran Church on Lakeway Dr.; Roman, a graduate of Bellingham High School and recipient of a BMC Nicholas Bussard Scholarship, studied locally with Alice Volwiler, Sandra Payton and Walter Schwede, performed with the WSO and the North Sound Symphony, and went on to study violin with Elmar Oliveira at Lynn Conservatory in Florida; he is currently pursuing a degree in violin performance with Brian Lewis at University of Texas in Austin. Don't miss this exciting concert! Free for students. Adults: \$15 suggested donation to support BFM Music in the Schools Programs.

Happy Holidays And Best Wishes for the New Year!

