

The Bellingham Music Club
March 2, 2016, 10:30 am
Trinity Lutheran, 119 Texas St.



Centennial Tea & Concert

Close to 80 appreciative club members celebrated the 100th anniversary of the Bellingham Music Club at an exciting tea party on Sunday afternoon, Feb. 21, at Lairmont Manor, a grand mansion where the club met during a sustained stretch of its long history. The club first met there on Feb. 22, 1916.

Isabelle Cormier presented a slide show with highlights of club history, showing how it began as an exclusive group for mostly well-to-do women who could sing or play an instrument. Any new member had to be sponsored by three existing members. Now in 2016, anyone can join, even men, whether they are musically skilled or not.

"The club has broadened its scope in every imaginable way in its service to the community," remarked Martha Benedict, the emcee for the event.

Pianist Patricia Hiss welcomed guests with a selection of songs representing 10 decades. Before tea was served, pianist Nancy Heyer underscored the slide show with between-the-wars pieces. Other musicians on the program were: violinist Hannah Schoepe, accompanied by Heyer; vocalist Lucy Evans, also accompanied by Heyer; violinist Gaye Davis and accordionist Terhi Miikii-Broersma; tenor Ben Buchanan, accompanied by Heyer; and the Kid'Sax Ensemble, featuring Mary Clement, Nikole Zieche, Kaleb Harrison, Lhiam Herwill and Frank Youngblood, all playing saxophones.

Also present were three students from Western Washington University who are putting together a memory book about BMC's 100 years of history, as a class project. This book will become available for purchase by club members in the spring.

Our thanks to BMC members Gail Haines, Martha Benedict and Isabelle Cormier for organizing a very successful anniversary event.

Letter to the editor

Please share this with others who worked on putting the 100th anniversary tea together: Gail Haines, Isabelle Cormier, Martha Benedict, the pianists, the table arrangers, program coordinators. I know it took committee meetings and lots of planning to put this together.

It was a wonderful party! I didn't know what to expect when we arrived, but how fun to be greeted at the door by a "welcoming committee" and get name tags and a program, and sit in anticipation of what was next! The slide show was excellent. I learned some things I didn't know about the founders, and it certainly was appropriate to hold this event at Lairmont Manor (where club concerts were held many times)!

The food provided for the tea was excellent – and the variety in the program was great! First time I've ever heard a saxophone group play "Air for the G string"!!!

We sat next to Gordon and Gertrude Forbes. It was fun to visit with them, and to also find out Gordon was a BMC scholarship winner too!

Thanks to all of you for the work you put into this event! The BMC is alive and well!

And, none of us will forget Ethel Crook and the contributions she made to this club!

— Joanne Donnellan



Nancy Bussard, Jane Lund and Jack Frymire
at Lairmont Manor, Feb. 21, 2016.
Photo Courtesy: Scott Henderson



Board Notes

Au revoir

The BMC Board is most grateful to Gail Haines who has been intensively involved with the club since 2002, first as a four-year term president, and since then as Awards Committee Chair. Our competitions have expanded under her leadership and we are most thankful for her multi-faceted talents and generosity.



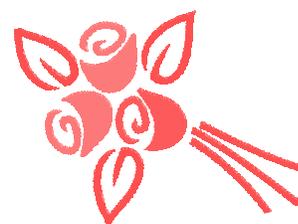
Gail Haines and Martha Benedict at Lairmont Manor, Feb. 21, 2016. Photo Courtesy: Scott Henderson

As she puts it, "*Marty and I are celebrating our good health at ages 77 & 76 by deciding to take a "sabbatical year" free of meeting obligations, email requirements, etc. We hope you understand that we still have a long personal list of things to do, people to see as well as the freedom to do nothing. Therefore, regretfully but of necessity, I need to let you know now that I cannot be awards chair or on the Board in any capacity for a year. Of course, my swan song along with your help, is our 100th Birthday Tea Celebration on Feb. 21 at Lairmont. Such a high note to start the Haines Sabbatical Year!*

I love our incredible Bellingham Music Club, its mission, wonderful concerts and dedicated, overworked Board and membership.

*Sincerely, appreciatively and affectionately,
Gail*

*Thank YOU, Gail,
for your enthusiasm
and friendship!*



Board nominees for 2016-2018

The nominees for the executive board of the Bellingham Music Club for 2016-2018 are: Kay Carr, president; Susie Seaton, vice president; Garland Richmond, secretary; Charles Way, treasurer, and Will Ellender, membership chair.

Under the club bylaws, candidates endorsed by the board are announced at the March concert, when any club member also may make nominations from the floor, with prior approval from a nominee. **The membership will vote on the candidates at the April 6 concert.**

"The nominating committee made every effort to bring new faces to the board and find members who were compatible," co-chair Addis Chapman reported at the Feb. 17 board meeting.

The nominating committee made several recommendations intended to ease the workload of officers. The committee asked the board to appoint a corresponding secretary so that Garland Richmond could focus on the duties of a recording secretary at board meetings. Judy Corliss has volunteered to assist Charlie Way with treasurer's duties, and Celeste Shipp will replace Isabelle Cormier and maintain the club's database for membership chair Will Ellender. Chapman described these arrangements as "job sharing."

Vote on amending our bylaws: Lifetime Membership

As announced last month, we seek approval for a change in our bylaws with a vote today. Article II, Section 3 (Membership and Dues) and Article III, Section 9 (Election of Officers and Duties) would see the word "Honorary" replaced by "Lifetime and Honorary."

The current 'honorary membership' shall be renamed 'lifetime membership' in order to recognize lifelong dedication to the BMC. Current honorary members will automatically become lifetime members. A new 'honorary membership' shall be created to allow BMC to recognize or thank individuals for specific contributions on a temporary basis. Both categories shall be exempt from annual dues. Creating the lifetime membership and redefining the honorary membership will give the BMC the flexibility it needs to recognize deserving individuals in the short term as well as the long term.

The Bellingham Music Club, P.O. Box 193, Bellingham, WA 98227
Information: 360-306-8580 www.bellinghammusicclub.org Find us on Facebook
Contributions or corrections? Contact the Newsletter Editor: Richard Howland at yksun@aol.com



Next month, the BMC presents winners of the WWU Competition

Daniel Chong, a piano student at Western Washington University, won the \$500 first-place award at the 2016 WWU Competition sponsored by the Bellingham Music Club in honor of Virginia Glover. Chong is a senior at WWU, where his piano instructor is Jeffrey Gilliam.

Auditions were held Saturday, Feb. 20, in Room 16 of the Performing Arts Center at WWU. Bruce Pullan, chair of the Music Department at WWU from 1975 to 1993, served as adjudicator for the WWU Awards. Pullan, a BMC member, was a professor of choral music at the University of British Columbia after leaving WWU. He also had served as music director of the Vancouver Bach Choir.

He said Chong demonstrated "fantastic technical ability" and "complete rhythmic control." Chong performed *Mephisto Waltz No. 1* by Franz Liszt, and *Pavane pour une infante défunte* by Maurice Ravel.

The other winners were: Silas Stewart, percussionist, \$300; Emily Pontén, violinist, \$200; Gabija Vaicekonis, pianist, \$100 (new Randy Sasnett Prize). Thirteen students auditioned in all.

Pullan said he was looking for musicians who could make audience members think "we're having a dialogue between the audience and the performer." He said Stewart showed "good musical sense" and "excellent control." Pontén was "very musical," Pullan said. "You didn't panic when it got difficult," Pullan told Vaicekonis.

Chong and the other award winners will perform for the club at 10:30 a.m. Wednesday, April 6, here at Trinity. A second performance by WWU award winners with a special appearance by **saxophonist David Hoogkamer** is scheduled for 7:30 p.m. Thursday, April 7, at First Congregational Church, 2401 Cornwall Ave. as part of the Night Beat series. \$15 tickets for this "Western Treasures" full-length program are on sale online on bellinghammusicclub.org and will also be available at the door. Take a teen for free (with paying adult). Free for WWU students with I.D.



Daniel Chong
Photo Courtesy:
Richard Howland

MARK THE DATES: NIGHT BEAT RETURNS IN APRIL! Spring sale: 3 Night Beat concerts for the price of 2!

Get your mini-subscription today for \$30. See Isabelle Cormier or Charlie Way in the lobby.

April 7
WWU Award Winners
and Friends

May 5
Pianist
Jeremy Deschane

June 2
Soprano
Katherine Copland

Western Treasures

COMPLIMENTARY TICKETS: DID YOU FILL YOUR STUB TO ENTER THE DRAW?

Ryan Schmidt will lead the **Bellingham Chamber Chorale** in Mozart's *Requiem* and *Ave Verum Corpus* on **Saturday, March 12, 7:30 p.m.** at First Congregational Church in Bellingham, and on Sunday, March 13, 3 p.m. at Salem Lutheran Church in Mount Vernon. Tickets \$5/\$15/\$20 on sale at Food Co-op locations, Piper Music, Village Books and Timekeepers in Lynden. Visit bccsings.org for details.

The Whatcom Chorale presents "**The Eternal Soul**" featuring a new work by ninety-years-young American composer Alice Parker, *Heavenly Hurt: Songs of Love and Loss*, set to poetry by Emily Dickinson. Additional selections by Brahms and Schubert promise lush, romantic harmonies. **Sunday, March 13, at 3 p.m.**, at First Congregational Church in Bellingham. Tickets \$5/\$15/\$20 on sale at Village Books, Piper Music, Everybody's Store, The Greenhouse, and Food Co-Op stores. More information on whatcomchorale.org.

Did you know? Thanks to blogger Deborah Anderson, we have 145 followers on Facebook!



Upcoming events

The Whatcom Symphony Orchestra will perform Weiner's Concerto for Flute, Viola, Piano and String Orchestra, plus Shostakovich's Symphony No. 5, at 3 p.m. March 6 at Mount Baker Theater. Tickets are \$34 or \$39. Call 734-6080.



Play It Forward — The 5th annual Play It Forward Chamber Residency will be March 14-19. The Bellingham Festival of Music and Whatcom Symphony Orchestra are bringing to Bellingham a group of string players from the prestigious Colburn Conservatory in Los Angeles. This year the Colburn Chamber Players will perform in many middle and high school classrooms, teaching, entertaining and having a conversation with our local students. On **Saturday, March 19, at 7: 30 p.m.** you will have an opportunity to hear them as they perform at Bellingham High School. This concert will be open to the public and free for all students.

Treble Choir — Bellingham High School's Treble Choir, Women's Ensemble, Concert Choir and Showstoppers all will grace their school stage with a free concert on Wednesday, **March 16, at 7 p.m.** The brief-but-impressive program of 12 songs (three by each group) is a preview of pieces they will sing in festival competition at WWU the following week. Directed by Linda Short, BHS choirs perform frequently throughout the school year and excel in competitions at regional and state levels. Showstoppers and Women's Ensemble recently won first place in their categories at the regional SJMEA Solo/Ensemble Contest, earning them a trip to the WMEA State Contest in Ellensburg this spring. It will be a return trip for Showstoppers, who won first-in-state for mixed large vocal ensembles at the event last year. Call 676-6575 for information.

Piano duo — The Mañalac Piano Duo will perform **Saturday, March 26, at 7:30 p.m.** at Jansen Art Center, 321 Front St., Lynden. Tickets are \$12 for students and seniors or \$15 for general admission. To purchase tickets, visit <http://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/2506606>.



Gabriel B. Mañalac II has been an active performer and music educator in Louisiana and Washington State for the past decade. He studied at Loyola University New Orleans where he earned his bachelor's degree of music in piano performance magna cum laude, and at the University of Washington where he earned his master's degree of music in piano performance. He was the pianist and celesta player for the Louisiana Philharmonic Orchestra, the Gulf Coast Symphony and the New Orleans Opera.

Rebecca Jordan Mañalac, a native of Brier, Wash., began playing the piano at age 5. Rebecca is staff accompanist at Western Washington University and choir pianist for Trinity Lutheran Church. She earned her bachelor's degree in piano performance cum laude from the University of Washington. She obtained her master's degree in piano performance from Loyola University New Orleans. Rebecca has appeared as soloist with the Academy Chamber Orchestra, the University of Puget Sound Orchestra and the Loyola Symphony Orchestra, and has performed live on KING FM 98.1 in Seattle.

Violin and piano — Violinist Nadja Salerno-Sonnenberg and pianist Anne-Marie McDermott (pictured at right) will perform at **7:30 p.m. Friday, April 1**, in the PAC at WWU, sponsored by the Bellingham Festival of Music. The program will feature works by Beethoven, Brahms, Arvo Pärt and Fauré. Tickets are \$12, \$35 or \$45. For details call (360) 650-6146 or visit bellinghamfestival.org.

As frequent collaborators, the violinist and pianist have been praised by the New York Times as musicians who "bring considerable energy and emotional rawness to the music at hand" and are "committed, expressive performers." They will also present a free lecture/demonstration focusing on an aspect of their program at 11 a.m. on the day of the concert in Room 16 of the WWU Performing Arts Center.



Met in HD Live — Barkley Regal Theaters in Bellingham will present a live simulcast of the **Metropolitan Opera** of New York's performance of **Madama Butterfly**, on **April 2, 9:55 a.m.** **Kristine Opolais** reprises her acclaimed portrayal of the title role, opposite **Roberto Alagna** as Pinkerton, the naval officer who breaks Butterfly's heart. **Dwayne Croft** is Sharpless, and **Maria Zifchak** sings the role of Suzuki. Encore on April 6, 6:30 p.m.

An Evening in Paris — Bellingham Festival of Music will hold its gala auction and dinner, "An Evening in Paris," on **April 30** in Settlemeyer Hall at Bellingham Technical College. Tickets will go on sale March 15. For details call (360) 201-6621.





Sherrie Kahn and Mark Schlichting
present the winners of the
High School Instrumental Competition in honor of Nicholas Bussard
and the High School String Competition in honor of Ethel Crook

Flute Sonata No. 4 arranged for tenor saxophone
1. Andante. Presto
2. Allegro

Johann Sebastian Bach
(1685-1750)

Mary Clement, tenor saxophone
Nancy Heyer, piano

Sonata in E minor
I: Ritornello-Largo
II: Allegro con Fuoco
III: Menuetto

Francesco Maria Veracini
(1690-1768)

Mary From, Violin
Nancy Heyer, piano

Premier Solo

Eugène Bourdeau
(1850-1925)

Alexander Harris, bassoon
Annie Scherr, piano

Violin Concerto No.1 in A minor, Op. 77
4. Burlesque: Allegro con brio

Dmitri Shostakovich
(1906-1975)

Ian Aegerter, violin
Carol Crawford, piano

Sonata Op. 19 for Alto Saxophone
1. With vigor

Paul Creston
(1906-1985)

Frank Youngblood, alto saxophone
Nancy Heyer, piano

Concerto in B minor, Op. 104
1. Allegro

Antonín Dvořák
(1841-1904)

Maya Enstad, cello
Lisa Nakahara, piano

Biographies



High School Instrumental Competition in honor of Nicholas Bussard

First Place (\$400): **Frank Youngblood**, a junior at Sehome High School, began studying piano at age ten. For the past four years, he has taken sax lessons with Mark Kelly, and joined the Bellingham Youth Jazz Band, as well as Mark Kelly's Kid'Sax, a quintet of advanced high school sax students. Frank studied jazz piano with Bill MacDonough for three years. At school he is a member of the jazz band, concert band and marching band, as well as member of the Honors Band. Frank is also a student at Whatcom Jazz Music Art Center where he plays in jazz combo classes.



Second Place (\$300): **Alexander Harris**, a senior at Sehome High School, has studied bassoon with Pat Nelson since the 6th grade. He has performed with various all-state wind ensembles and orchestras for several years, and the North Cascades Concert Band, Bethany Orchestra and Bellingham Bassoon Band. He has performed solo works at the State Solo and Ensemble Competition every year since 9th grade. As Drum Major, he leads the Sehome H. S. Varsity Band in the annual Ski to Sea Grand Parade. Alexander also enjoys skiing, playing tennis, ballroom dancing.



Third Place (\$200): **Mary Clement** began her music studies when she was 6, studying classical piano first with Vickie Hsu for 5 years, then jazz with Bill McDonough for another 3 years. While in middle school, instructor Mark Kelly recruited her to join the Bellingham Youth Jazz Band, and later, Kid's Sax Ensemble. Mary was invited to play with the Junior All-State Band and earned a superior rating at the Solo and Ensemble Contest. She also participates in the Bellingham High School marching, concert and jazz bands, and is developing an interest in composition.



Martin Kuuskmann Prize: (\$100 each)

Nikole Ziehe is a junior at Meridian High School where she is a member of the band and jazz band as well as chamber choir. She started playing saxophone five years ago. She played with the Bellingham Youth Jazz Band for 3 years and has been a member of KidSax Ensemble for the last 3 years.



Trevor Born is a 16-year old who lives in Ferndale. His hobbies include playing chess for his school team, training in muay thai (martial arts) and playing video games with his friends. He has been playing bassoon for two years, and plans to play it for many years to come.

High School String Competition in honor of Ethel Crook



First Place (\$400): **Maya Enstad** is a senior at Bellingham High School and a student of Walter Gray, a 37-year member of Seattle Symphony. She plays in her high school orchestras and in the Seattle Youth Symphony. Maya has participated in Solo and Ensemble, Junior All-State, All-Northwest, Chamber Days, and the Marrowstone Festival. She loves teaching younger cellists and feels that teaching is one of the most powerful aspects of her music experience. She hopes to pursue a degree in cello performance next fall.



Second Place (\$300): **Ian Aegerter** began violin lessons with Jane Perkins and has been a student of Grant Donnellan since 2009. He participated in the Marrowstone Music Festival for five years and performed in master classes for Stefan Jackiw and Midori. Ian is a senior at the International Connections Academy and is in his fourth year as a member of the WWU Symphony Orchestra. Also an accomplished dancer, Ian has participated in many dance camps and clinics.



Third Place (\$200): **Mary From** was born in Tampa, Florida; she has studied with Sandra Payton since moving to Bellingham when she was four years old. She joined the North Sound Youth Symphony at age 9 and played with Fairhaven Orchestras while in middle school. As a Sehome High School freshman, Mary plays in the Intermediate Orchestra and the Matia Chamber Orchestra, and is taking an accelerated math class. She studies ballet in Bellingham and Vancouver, B.C.



Joanne Donnellan Prize (\$100)

Catherine Michelutti is a freshman at Squalicum High School and Concertmaster of the school's Orchestra Nova. She began violin at age six with Jane Perkins and is now studying with Grant Donnellan. Catherine has participated in the North Sound Youth Symphony and Chamber Days Music Camp. Her musical goal is to complete the Carnegie Hall Royal Conservatory Music Achievement Curriculum before graduating high school.

To mark the BMC Centennial, Karen Berry will present a full scholarship for Marrowstone Music Festival 2016 to cellist **Maya Enstad** on behalf of the Bellingham Festival of Music.

