

Bellingham Music Club
February 7 and 9, 2024
First Congregational Church



The Newsletter of the Bellingham Music Club

Looking Good!

BMC was born on **February 22, 1916**, at Lairmont Manor, the stately residence of Mrs. C. X. Larrabee. This was no mere tea-and-cookies affair. The ladies were emboldened by the success of the Federated Women's Clubs movement, which spearheaded statewide adoption of Women's Suffrage in 1910, and Prohibition in 1916.



Bellingham, February 1916

Over the years, BMC has evolved into a dynamic, inclusive group that offers exceptional musical events to the community, and supports talented youth with its awards. BMC is continually adapting, innovating and thriving! For example, in our effort to make music more accessible, we implemented a '**no ticket purchase required**' policy for Night Beat, convinced that a voluntary offering is the greatest equalizer!

Thanks to your generosity, BMC can be bold in its programming and even consider expanding its philanthropy. We are already looking ahead and planning the **2024-2025 season!** Would like to share ideas? Do you know musicians new to our area? Or some you would like to hear again? Let Isabelle Cormier know; the Program Committee will meet this month and welcomes suggestions!



BMC doesn't run itself, and while your financial support is essential and appreciated, we invite you to participate in the 'thinking' and the 'doing'! Dreams of being bigger and better will become reality with your involvement. Share your interests and skills with President Joan Youngquist; she will be happy to talk with you about volunteering opportunities!

We said farewell to 2023 with **Clearbrook Dixie Band**, a group that has defined jazz in Whatcom County for 40 years! Ken Keleman, Rob Queisser, Mark Lindenbaum, Barry Ulman, Mark Schlichting, Millie Johnson, Lou Lippman and Pete Kirkman offered a generous program that left everyone on the edge of their seat, humming and clapping! Thank you for your comments: *"That program was brilliant!" "They are so upbeat!" "You have to invite them again!" "What a wonderful concert we heard today! And what a large audience, too!"*



Next up: BMC continues its Awards Program with the **H.S. Winds and Percussion Competition** in honor of Nicholas Bussard, **Monday, Feb. 12, starting at 4pm** at First Congregational. Come and hear the best, as they receive constructive comments from a professional adjudicator!



Join us in March!

Our first of three student showcases will feature exceptional talent from our H.S. String Competition and H.S. Winds & Percussion Competition. Expect a program of outstanding caliber! **Wednesday, March 6, 10:30am** at **First Congregational**. Free! All are welcome!

"To foster and encourage the development of music appreciation and performance in the community"

Upcoming Events



The **Salish Sea Early Music Festival** upcoming programs will delight the most discerning Baroque aficionado! On Friday, **February 16, 7pm**, **Simphonie Nouvelle: France & Bach** presents Stephen Stubbs, baroque guitar, Susie Napper, viola da gamba, and Jeffrey Cohan, baroque flute. On **March 1, 7pm**, enjoy **Telemann Paris Quartets** featuring David Greenberg, baroque violin, Elisabeth Wright, harpsichord, Susie Napper, viola da gamba, and baroque flutist Jeffrey Cohan. Performances take place at First Presbyterian Church, 1031 N. Garden Street in Bellingham. All are welcome. Students 18 and under are always free. Suggested donation \$20-\$30 for others. More on salishseafestival.org/bellingham.

The **Bellingham Symphony Orchestra** “In Bloom” concert features pianist **Einav Yarden**. Get ready to welcome spring with a lush, romantic program of works by Gustav Mahler, Viktor Ullmann, and Johannes Brahms. **Sunday, February 25, 3pm** at Mount Baker Theatre with a pre-concert lecture at 2:15pm in the Walton Theatre. More on bellinghamsymphony.org or call MBT Box Office at 360-734-6080.



BMC award winners go places!

You will want to drive a few extra miles to hear **soprano Ibdunni Okijutu** (BMC H.S. Voice Competition winner, 1997) with the Seattle Opera in the upcoming production of **X: The Life & Times of Malcolm X**, on February 24 & 25, March 1, 3, 6, & 9. On a score by Pulitzer Prize-winning American composer Anthony Davis (The Central Park Five), biographical vignettes present “an exceptional night at the opera, both musically and historically.” Ibdunni last performed for BMC with pianist Rebecca Mañalac in October 2022. Many will remember a dramatic and powerful experience! Brava!!!



The **Calidore String Quartet** (with BMC H.S. String Competition winner, **violist Jeremy Berry**, 2001-2003) is one of three ensembles nominated for the **BBC Music Magazine Awards – the equivalent of Grammys in the UK!** Voting is open to the public!!! Visit classical-music.com/awards and scroll down to see the Chamber Music Nominees. You will have a chance to read glowing reviews, and hear an excerpt from the Calidore “Beethoven Late Quartets” recording!

New to BMC?

Sign up to receive announcements for upcoming programs via email! We have a clipboard in the lobby for your convenience, or you can visit our website and sign up there too!

*You like what BMC does and want to support its endeavors?
See us in the lobby; we have pre-addressed envelopes
to make it easy to put a check in the mail — or go online!*

ABOUT BMC: Since 1916, the Bellingham Music supports music in the community with live performances, and encourages the next generation of musicians with its philanthropy. BMC sets the highest musical standards in all its endeavors: free matinees, evening concerts, and student competitions.

2023-2024 season
Sounds Sublime



BellinghamMusicClub.org

Contributions and comments? Write to us at bellinghammusicclub@gmail.com or BMC, P.O. Box 193, Bellingham, WA 98227

Musical Stories

Judith Widrig, piano – Carolyn Canfield, violin

- * *D'un matin de printemps*
Assez animé Lili Boulanger
(1893-1918)
- * *Midsommer Moon*
Poco andante Rebecca Clarke
(1880-1979)
- * Sonata for Violin and Piano in A
Allegretto ben moderato César Franck
Allegro (1822-1890)
Recitativo-Fantasia
Allegretto poco mosso

Intermission (for Night Beat only)

Please remain silent during the second half of the program.

No applause. Thank you.

*In memory of those who have lost their lives from the Chernobyl disaster,
for those who lost their lives during the apocalyptic day of September 11, 2001,
and for those who continue to struggle.*

- In Memoriam to the Victims of Chernobyl* Larysa Kuzmenko
(b. 1956)
- Sonate No. 2 for Violin and Piano, Op. 63 Lera Auerbach
"September 11" (b. 1973)
- Spiegel im Spiegel* Arvo Pärt
(b. 1935)

Bellingham Music Club

* **Matinee Preview**
Wednesday, February 7, 10:30am

Night Beat Program
Friday, February 9, 7:30pm

Biographies

Born in Seattle, **Carolyn Canfield** was educated in the U.S, Europe, and Canada. Vancouver, B.C., was home for her 36-year career as a symphony and opera violinist, music educator, festival adjudicator, and chamber music player. Carolyn played 25 years with the Vancouver Symphony Orchestra and 10 years with the Vancouver Opera.

In 2018, life changes took Carolyn from Canada back to the U.S., moving to New York City for new performance experiences: New Haven Symphony Orchestra; Cayuga Chamber Orchestra Ithaca; Pitstop Players; Christchurch Festival Chorus/Orchestra; Harmonia Chamber Players New Jersey; New York Symphonic Arts Ensemble; Brooklyn Metro Orchestra; Canterbury Choral Society; OMNI Ensemble; Broadway with Phantom, amongst others. She is a former faculty member at Bronx House Performing Arts Center, Bronx, NYC.

Carolyn, now living on the West Coast, re-designed her career when covid hit. For two seasons, she worked as caption artist for the Bellingham Symphony Orchestra concerts on Zoom. She is now also on the coaching staff for the Bellingham Youth Chamber Players, and has transitioned to teaching again in person at her studio. She enjoys playing chamber music with new and old artist friends, and continues to play on both coasts and in Canada as Concertmaster for Vancouver Metropolitan Orchestra; Assistant Principal Second for Bellingham Festival of Music, and the East Hampton Arts Festival, Long Island, NYC.



Pianist Judith Widrig is a native of Syracuse, NY, and currently teaches on the piano faculty at Western Washington University. She received a Doctorate in Piano Performance from the University of Colorado, and Piano Performance degrees from The Hartt School of Music and The University of Minnesota. Prior to her doctoral work, Judith was collaborative pianist for the Oberlin Conservatory of Music. She has also studied at the Banff Centre for the Arts, the Schweitzer Institute, and the Holzhausen Music Festival in Germany. Judith has taught private and class piano at the Universities of Colorado and Minnesota.

Judith maintains a private piano studio; many of her students have been prize winners on the local and state level. Former students now study piano performance at The New England Conservatory, Oberlin Conservatory, The University of Washington, and the University of Colorado. She is an avid performer of new music and chamber music, and frequently performs with fellow faculty members from WWU. She has performed with orchestras on both coasts, including appearances as concerto soloist with the Whatcom and Skagit Symphonies. She recently performed Bernstein's Age of Anxiety with the Western Washington University Symphony. In her spare time, Judith enjoys hiking, reading, biking, yoga, gardening, and international travel.

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Sounds Sublime
