

The Newsletter of the Bellingham Music Club

What a way to Elevate Your Spirit!

I hope you were in the Trinity audience May 6th for the last of our three Student Awards Showcases. The collective sigh of the listeners as each performer concluded and before the applause began was priceless! What talent we have among our young musicians, giving us pleasure now and hope for the future. As we gather today to hear over 20 percussionists led by WWU Professor Dr. Patrick Roulet, we also look forward to seeing you on June 25th at the Whatcom Museum for a jazz concert at 7:30pm with **cellist Ben Shirley and saxophonist Jeff Crompton**. These programs cap another extraordinary year!



Photo credit: Joan Youngquist

Bellingham Music Club is known for its wide-ranging span of musicians and instruments, as this season demonstrated yet again. From Bellissima Brass (five wind-performing women playing selections composed by women), to twin pianos (Echoes and Departures evoking tender interweaving parts), to Vocal Extravaganza (voice virtuosos from WWU and the opera community), to Romantic Cello (duets between deep, mellow tones and a dancing treble of piano), to a Musical Travelogue celebrating American composers – all combining to create a magical array of experiences for our audience.

We were delighted to see many of our members at the five auditions arranged to select the award winners for the High School and WWU concerts in March, April and May. In all 40 students participated in auditions for Strings, Winds and Percussion, Piano, and Voice. In addition to the showcase concerts, these adjudicated events provide delightful music afternoons and a broader view of local young talent.

Profound thanks to you, our BMC members (263 strong!) and many donors, who have made the BMC solvent and ready to embark on a spectacular 2026-2027 season. We are grateful to our Program Committee volunteers Darlene Mathias, Mary Passmore, Carla Rutschman, Ed Rutschman, Celie Thomas and Joan Youngquist, led by Isabelle Cormier, Committee Chair, and the student awards Coordinators – Celie Thomas, Mark Schlichting, Jami Templeton, and Lisa McCarthy. Our Board members (Isabelle Cormier, Joan Youngquist, Carol Reppun, Celie Thomas, Anne Hendrickson, and Rollanda O'Connor) cheerfully work hours every month, often in their areas of expertise, but also jumping in on any and all work that needs to be done to ensure the concerts and awards programs run smoothly. We thank our hosts Trinity Lutheran and First Congregational Churches, and are exceedingly grateful for the additional talents and contributions of volunteers Scott Henderson, Judy Corliss, and Lee Cole.

We are giving you a sneak peek of the season to come, under the theme *Classical Crossroads*. Look for communications from us over the summer, along with an invitation to support BMC endeavors.


Rollanda O'Connor, BMC President

2026-2027 Opening Program

We launch our 111th season after Labor Day with **Shu-Hsin Ko, violin, Yuko Watanabe, viola, and Coral Marchant, cello**, all celebrated musicians from our own Bellingham Symphony Orchestra!

Join us for **Welcome Coffee Hour** at 9:30am on **Wednesday, September 9, in the atrium at Trinity Lutheran Church** followed by our daytime program at 10:30am. Full-length Night Beat is on **Friday, September 11, 7:30pm at First Congregational Church**.

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

Board Notes



Can you take a few minutes and give us feedback? Please answer our short survey and put it in designated baskets. It will help us figure out our next steps!

We extend our most sincere gratitude to all who have attended BMC events this past year. By last count—and before our June programs—our attendance topped 1200, not including those who came to the five adjudications! Below, we thank our patrons, who so generously support our endeavors.



Jan Adams, Kathryn & Lawrence Allen, Linda Allen, Kevin Allen-Schmid, Evelyn Ames, Minda Rae Amiran, Deborah & Mike Anderson, Paul Campbell & Helen Arnston, Michelle Ballou, Stephanie Belanger, Martha Benedict, Marie & Duane Bennewitz, Stuart & Judy Berman, Karen & Don Berry, Margo Berry, Vern Berry, Jerry & Beth Biagini, Margaret Bikman, Jane Blume, Catherine Brand, Scott Henderson & Martin Bray, Tim Buckley, Maureen Burr, Yolanda C., Susan & Mike Callahan, Elaine Casperson, Eleanore Chamberlain, Jack Champagne, Emily Citron, Roger Clark, Patricia Claus, Leora Cole, Judy Coons, Judy Corliss, Paul Oprysek & Isabelle Cormier, Chet Cory, Jerry & Julia Couchman, Becky Curtis, Karen Dalenius, Charli Daniels, Jane & Leslie DeBrock, Barbara DeFreytas, Kathleen & Ron Delbecq, Nora Alexander Demmert, Joanne Donnellan, Wayne & Rebecca Dorcas, David Elledge,

Albert Filosa, John F. & Charlotte A. Forgette, Lois Forrestal, Elizabeth Gabay, Nancy & George Gale, Emily Gantt, Karolyn Labes & Marc Geisler, Christine Genuit, Martha Giffen, Nancy Goldfogel, Julie Gorrell, Nona Groesbeck, Leslie Guelker-Cone, Kathleen McQuaide & Kirk Gulden, Gail & Marty Haines, Judy Halbakken, John & Marcia Harter, Margaret Hayes, Denis Hayner, Ruth Heft, Anne Hendrickson, Ford Hill, Robert & Sandy Hiorns, Eric Hirst, Patricia Hiss, Marie Hitchman, Elizabeth Hjelmseth, Radu Sava & Rebekah Hood, David & Patricia Horst, Eric Sun & Richard Howland, Richard Tran & Michelle Hsu, Georgianna Huddle, Barbara Hudson, Sheri & Stephen Hunter, Judith Ingles, Mary LeDonne & Michael Jay, Vonnie Jenkins, Doraine Jensen, Jennifer Johnson, Judy Johnson, Marvin A Johnson, Sara Johnson, Laine Johnston, Patricia Jorgensen, Robert Judd, Sherrie & Mitchell Kahn, Karen Kaufmann, Ruth Kihm, Kimberly King, Bruce Kraig, Peter & Gisele Krippner, Lauren Lamont, Mike Langey, Jean LaValley, Martha Lazich, John Moffat & Karen Lerner, Margaret Jahn & Mark Lindenbaum, Dick & Cherie Little, Richard Lovaas, Sarah Ludwigson, Melinda Lunsford, Rachel Lynch, Barbara Manering, Katherine Marsh, Darlene Mathias, Sharon and Joseph McCarty, Lisa McCarthy, Seong Noh and James McClelland, Karen McCormick, Dale & Sarah McKechnie, Michael Overton & Michèle Menzies, Kenneth Meyer, Eleanor F. Mischaikow, Karleen Monroe, Donna Fields Moore, Donna Hamer Moore, Faye Moore, Andrew Moquin, Helen Moran, Douglas Clark & Tonja Myers, Bob Kandiko & Karen Neubauer, Amy & Dirk Nielsen, Amy & Brian Norman, Diane Norman, Molly O'Connor, Dan & Rollanda O'Connor, Michael O'Neal, William Padden, Mary Passmore, Sandra Payton, Cheryl Peach, Cecile Pendleton, Susan & Bob Plumb, Martha Price, Karl & Eveline Raab, Kay Reeder, Hope Rendleman, Carol & Jeff Reppun, Susan Richardson, Christopher Ricks, Sally Riggers, Harry & Marian Ritter, Patricia Roberts, Susan & Ron Roberts, Maureen Romain, Jon Roney, Patrick & Rachel Roulet, Denise Rousseau, Carla & Edward Rutschman, Barbara & Michael Ryan, Christopher & Emily Sasnett, Mark & Erin Schlichting, Bette Ann Schwede, Phyllis & Charles Self, Nancy Sheng, Celeste Shipp, Vicki Short, Mary Siren, Carole Slesnick, Eunice Smith, Alta Stauffer, Rick & Nancy Steele, Nick & Michelle Strobel, Randi Lee Sulkin, Tim Surratt, Gloria Taylor, Kent Stoddard & Megan Taylor, Celie Thomas, Rachel Throolin, Lisa Toner, Virginia Tucker, Robert & Betty Tull, Friedrich & Rita Ulrich, Kristian & Susan Ungern, Margaret Fast-von Boer & Bertil von Boer, Peggy VanderYacht, Patricia VanZandt, Lindsey & Jan Vereen, Larry & Avalea Watts, Marvin and Joan Wayne, Andrew Wheeler, Richard R. & Annette Whitaker, John & Kathryn Whitmer, Lee Willis, David and Patricia Wilson, Janice Wilson, Margaret Woll, Rosemary Woodyard, Joan & Wayne Youngquist.

In Memoriam: We were sorry to hear about BMC friend Deborah Anderson's passing, and offer heartfelt condolences to husband Mike and sons Devin and Cole. A celebration of Deborah's life will take place at Lairmont Manor on **Friday, June 12, starting at 6pm.**



Mark your calendar for a special event that BMC is sponsoring! Celebrated jazz musicians **saxophonist Jeff Crompton and cellist Benjamin Shirley** perform for the first time on the West Coast after using Atlanta as their home base for many years, and releasing an album, *Eastern Continental*, in 2023. Crompton and Shirley combine composition and improvisation to create richly-textured music poised between contemporary chamber music and jazz. Hear them on **Thursday, June 25, 7:30pm in the Museum Rotunda.** BMC is happily sponsoring this event. We suggest a \$20 donation; all proceeds will go directly to the performers!



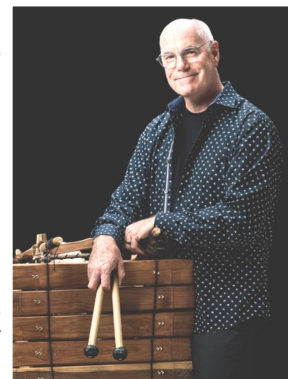
WWU Department of Music and Bellingham Music Club present

The Wood that Sings

Patrick Roulet

Teaching Artist, Patrick Roulet is the percussion professor and Percussion Area Coordinator at Western Washington University. He has published Intermediate Studies for Developing Artists on Keyboard Percussion and 11 collections of music arranged for vibraphone and marimba including music from Ghana, Disney, the Beatles, Christmas songs, church hymns, and fiddle tunes. His profound curiosity for global music inspired him to study percussion in Ghana, West Africa, where he also experienced the joyful and powerful connection between music and community.

A classically-trained orchestral percussionist, he served for five seasons as the principal timpanist of the Bellingham Festival of Music and performed as an extra/substitute percussionist with the Seattle Symphony and the Pacific Northwest Ballet Orchestra. His life's passion is mentoring and teaching musicians as they embark on a life as music teachers and performers.



WWU Percussion Ensemble

Jayden Alonso Jacob Anderson Deno Durant Mary Fejer
Elias Gardner Charlie Gingold Kit Johnson Aiden Kimball
Rik Mason-Zollfrank Isaac Morris Quill Pulliam Mason Schut
Katherine Selby Luke Shannon Olivia Wright

Western Washington University's Percussion Ensemble is a uniquely collaborative, welcoming, and supportive group. As a non-audition ensemble, it isn't solely made up of music majors. Musicians come from all over campus, and from different focuses within the music department to share a space for music making. The environment that is created from this inclusivity is one that focuses on community with a joint effort to make beautiful music.

Global Dimension Ensemble

Toby Bruce Mica Kishaba Daniel Furry Asa Morris Eli Porter

Patrick Roulet founded the Global Dimension Ensemble to create and perform music that blends global music, jazz, and contemporary music. Roulet's inspiration for the ensemble came from his teacher and mentor, Aaron Bebe Sukura, who co-founded the Local Dimension Band at the University of Ghana. The ensemble is comprised of Western percussion alumni who performed together at the Edeta Arts International Percussion Festival in Valencia, Spain.

BMC thanks Celie Thomas for her outstanding work with the Program and Award Committees.



Bellingham Music Club

Matinee Preview
Wednesday, June 3, 10:30am
Trinity Lutheran Church



BMC Night Beat
Thursday, June 4, 7:30pm
First Congregational Church

On the calendar

Head up to campus this weekend and enjoy Stephen Sondheim's *Into the Woods* directed by **Heather Dudenbostel!** **June 5, 7:30pm, June 6, 2pm and 7:30pm, and June 7, 2pm** on the PAC Mainstage. Find more information and purchase tickets on cfpa.wvu.edu/event/into-the-woods

Illustration by Audrey di Girolamo of WWU Design



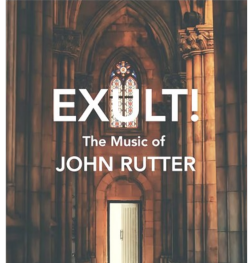
Featured Performers:
George Nigh
Stephen Nigh
Tara Weaver-Viola
Sharyn Peterson-Viola
Cello, Sharyn Peterson-Viola
Malcolm Peterson-
Trumpet & George Nigh-
Harp

Trinity Lutheran Church begins a fundraising campaign for a new grand piano with a concert featuring pianist **Gabriel Mañalac** and the *Starry Night Chamber Players*: **Tara Weaver, viola, Sharyn Peterson, violin, Matt Rehfeldt, cello, and Malcolm Peterson, trumpet.** Enjoy works by Purcell, Brahms and Franck on **Saturday, June 13 at 2pm.** Your free will offering is for a good cause!



Trinity Music Concert Series
June 13, 2026
2:00 PM
Trinity Lutheran Church
119 Texas Street
Bellingham, WA

Bellingham Chamber Chorale presents "EXULT! The Music of John Rutter" on **Saturday, June 13 at 12:00pm & Sunday, June 14 at 5:00 pm** at the Church of the Assumption in Bellingham. Visit bellinghamchamberchorale.org/ for details and tickets.



We have one more chance to applaud our friends at the **Bayshore Symphony Spring Concert** on **Sunday, June 14, at 3:00pm** at Our Saviour's Lutheran Church, 1720 Harris Avenue in Bellingham.

We thank the following organizations (at right) for offering comp tickets to our daytime audiences, and supporting BMC with free or discounted ad space and publicity.



And last but not least... it gives us great pleasure to announce our roster for the upcoming season!!!

Classical Crossroads

*Shu-Hsin Ko violin Yuko Watanabe viola Coral Marchant cello
Milica Jovanovic piano Millie (Johnson) and the Mentshm Klezmer
Jami Templeton jazz Judith Widrig piano Carolyn Canfield violin*

*plus showcase concerts featuring winners of BMC
High School Awards and WWU Awards*

ABOUT BMC: Non-profit volunteer-led Bellingham Music Club 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: daytime and evening concerts, and award program.



BellinghamMusicClub.org

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



**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!**