



Palos Verdes/South Bay Chapter

Newsletter - May 2020

*Finding Friendship
and Harmony through Music*

FROM THE PRESIDENT, Lenita McCallum

Do the days all sort of melt into each other for you? Without the signposts of meetings, concerts, church services, parties, lessons etc. to delineate days and weeks, things get fuzzy in both my past and the future. Sadly I noted on our calendar this AM that we should be traveling to the Music Center tonight to hear *Pelleas and Melisande*, an opera I've been looking forward to hearing all season. Sniff....



Witherspoons (David, Lenita, and Alyson) and Allegra Dittmann on Easter

Only the annual report due by June 15th is on my Mu Phi Epsilon calendar once I turn this newsletter over to Debra.

Online lessons do offer some order on the days I have students. I'm finding some things helpful about working online, e.g. the ability to really work on polishing small sections of songs, focusing on technical issues that can be addressed without the pressure of performance preparation, interpretations that can take time to develop have the necessary space to do so. But some issues of tone and overall ensemble (piano and voice) are not particularly satisfactory and will have to wait for some date in the future. Repertoire can be learned and set aside for later polishing. Not a

bad thing. The fellowship of working with my students nurtures me and I'm grateful for them.

On a personal note, no one will question what kind of music I really like since now I am officially a "long haired" person!!!! Hopefully I won't have to fly anywhere before I can get my hair cut.

Convention – The latest we have heard is that the convention is still pending. Stay tuned and keep the dates open (or put it on your 2021 calendar, just to be sure you don't miss it!!) for an official announcement one way or the other.

Chapter News

Exciting news from our Schools Liaison Chairman, Pat Harpole (assisted by Pat Maki). At our April board meeting we voted to grant a maximum of \$500 to all the following schools and their music programs. (Two requests were for less.) Funded by the receipts from our Musical Mosaic these dollars will go far and wide in our area making possible music programs that struggle for funds and recognition of their value to education in general. I hope this warms your heart as it does mine. Made possible by the hard work of everyone who gave time and funds to the Musical Mosaic we have turned these efforts into dollars which in turn will be turned into devices, instruments, music and curricula to assist music teachers in our area in fulfilling their hopes for a successful music program.

Grant Recipients:

Amy Wolff – Arnold Elementary School, Torrance

To purchase additional instruments to follow up on a successful reentry towards a band program

Jeffrey Andersen(Gamma Sigma) – Carson High School (Carson)

Purchase mutes for HS band instrumental program.

Heather White – Cornerstone Elementary School (RPV)

Purchase a webcam to assist with online teaching

Ismael Pineda (CSUDH grad) – Children of Promise Prep School (Inglewood)

Purchase of a midi keyboard as an aid to online teaching

Julie Corallo – Crestwood Elementary School (San Pedro)

Purchase a portable PA system for classroom and aid in online teaching

Eda Villegas (Gamma Sigma) – Helen Whittmann Elementary School (Cerritos)

Purchased an electronic keyboard and additional rhythm sticks for her 600 students

Amanda Chavez (Gamma Sigma) – Joan Rodriguez Cabrillo High School (Long Beach)

Purchase band and orchestra music that is more up to date

Micelle Castillo (CSUDH grad) - L A Academy Middle School (Los Angeles)

Assist in taking her students to Disneyland for one of their workshops

Debra Shrader – Mira Catalina Elementary School (RPV)

Purchase two tubano drums for her music classes

Weili Kang – Montemalaga Elementary School (PVE)

Purchase an online digital music curriculum for her school

Heather Leppard – Point Vincente Elementary School (RPV)

Purchase a tenor/alto xylophone for music classes

Heather White – PVPUSD Chorus Accompanist

Provide funds for an accompanist for a district wide choral concert (2021)

Jacquie Lewis-Wang - Ridgecrest Intermediate School – (RPV)

Purchase of a headset and additional music for the music program

Laura Savitz – Riviera, Hickory, & Carr Elementary Schools

Purchase subscriptions to music educators magazines

Perry Hayes (CSUDH grad)– Watts Learning Center Middle School (Los Angeles)

Purchase additional music stands and music

Gabriel Perez – Calle Mayor Middle School (Torrance)

Purchase of a new bell set and a concert bass drum

Karen Lopez (Gamma Sigma) – Rancho Dominguez Prep School (part of LAUSD in Long Beach)

Purchase music for an original field show

Debbie Wastling – Arts Alive, after school music program in South Bay area +

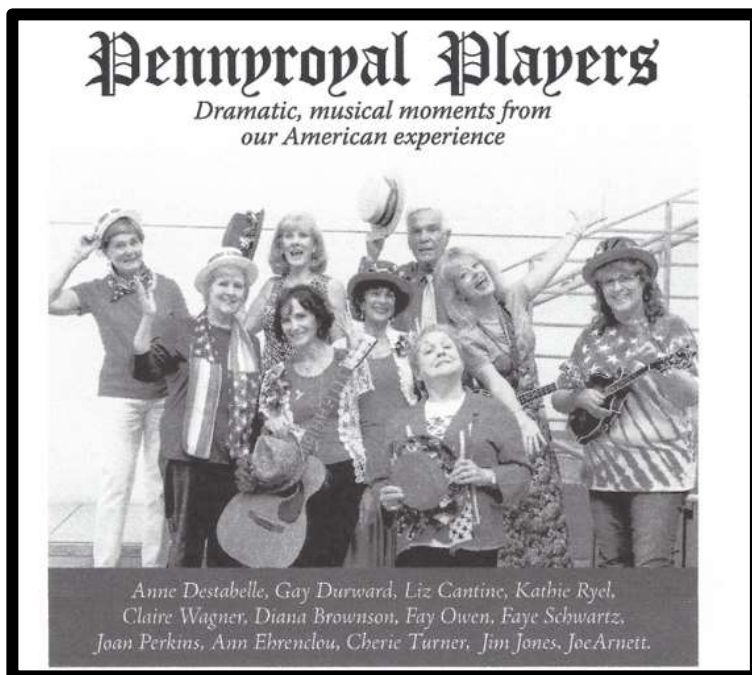
Fund to expand after school programs to underfunded areas with an emphasis upon middle school students.

In other Chapter News, the board made the following decisions at the April virtual board meeting:

- Cancel the Patron Potluck
- Arrange the Scholarship Auditions for the fall some time
- Postpone the June Benefit Concert to a time in the fall
- Wait to see if it will be possible to have an installation luncheon in June where the new board would officially take over their responsibilities.

Member and Patron News

Hearty Congratulations and richly deserved to Patron **Anne Destabelle** and her Pennyroyal Players for being chosen the Community Service Award for 2020 by the Palos Verdes Peninsula Coordinating Council! The award ceremony, originally scheduled from May 20, 2020, will be postponed, but we can celebrate their accomplishment now.



In memoriam: Harold Hall recently passed away. He was the husband of **Phyllis Hall**, a long-time member until she moved to AZ about 15 years ago. Her address for condolence cards is: 17714 N. Stone Haven Dr., Surprise, AZ 85374-6319

Adapting to Changing Circumstances...

Walking at the South Coast Botanic Gardens has been one way to find beauty in this time.

Mona Gifford dressed to match the floral displays! It's wonderful to find good friends willing to walk in a socially distant manner!



Composer **Carla Sedlacek** reports that she started writing more music shortly before the pandemic. She has written three new songs since January! She sent along this picture of a portion of one of her songs:

Piping Down the Valleys Wild

Liam Blake Carla Sedlacek

piano *pp*

mezzo

Pi-ping down the val -

She claims that she won't soon catch up to Mozart who wrote whole symphonies in his dreams!

In other news, Carla's soprano performer, Tiffany Ho, who appears on her album, is helping other singers with a fundraiser: <https://www.gofundme.com/f/socal-vocalist-relief-fund>.

The **Joanna Medawar Nacheff Singers** sang Handel's "Hallelujah Chorus" on YouTube: https://youtu.be/Heg_9cSRH5Y



Joanna Nacheff is also rehearsing with her EICamino's Women's chorus on Zoom:



Jennifer Holly Cannon is finding ways to practice music and saving time for picnicking in the park with a friend.

Musically appropriate masks, Jennifer!



Teaching via Zoom fills much of every day. However, I have started doing a little gardening and have had some time to relax a bit, both new and enjoyable activities which I hope will continue into the non-pandemic future. Miss seeing all of you, though.

Darlene Vlasek   

Shanice Aaron, one of Anli Tong's students, created a unique concert for your pleasure:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pzEGvvtMi4>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YOhWLzL8LtQ>



[Beethoven Moonlight Sonata Op.27 No.14](#) [#Stayhome #SaveLives \(Piano and Double Bass\)](#)

Ludwig Beethoven Moonlight Piano Sonata op.27 No.14 "Quasi una fantasia" I. Adagio sostenuto Pianist: Shanice Aaron Classical Double Bassist: John Mietus With this performance of "Beethoven Moonlight Sonata" we musicians around the world want to send a message of gratitude healthcare workers on the front lines of the COVID-19 crisis. We want to ...

www.youtube.com



Anli Tong will perform Rachmaninoff on Wednesday, May 6: 12:15 PM - 12:45 PM Go to this link for the concert:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0orL74cpxhQ&feature=youtu.be&fbclid=IwAR2uhLApAKrZPkTyQy0rFyt-fB_yXqSbEcJHQwzt2p8F9Kpy8bLfoIh9p0

DATES FOR YOUR CALENDAR

All events from the 2019-2020 Yearbook Calendar will be postponed until further notice.

June 1st -- SERV hours to Mika at mika.y.voice@gmail.com

Patrons and members may submit hours for three categories: Service and Education, Resource and Volunteering, Financial or In Kind Gifts.

You may use these form links or any format that fits your needs:

1. SERV Record Sheet (by Calendar)

https://drive.google.com/file/d/15vrcbscw43_fqrVeLxt0giaGLaZtPpXL/view?usp=sharing

2. SERV Record Sheet (by Organizations)

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1n9lq6ZJlAxOaC2kVYMzPKWhQW5Vd91B/view?usp=sharing>

