

MU PHI EPSILON NEWSLETTER

Cast a Wider Net

CALENDAR

Musical Mosaic

Friday, February 2nd, 2018
@ 7:30 PM

Rolling Hills United Methodist Church
Chair: Darlene Vlasek Co-Chair: Beth Howell
Reception Chair: Kris Basua
Helpers: Bebra Shrader, Mary Feyk,
Teddy Greenwald, Marjorie McConnell

Board Meeting

Monday, February 19th, 2018
@10:00 AM
Home of Pat Maki

Newsletter Deadline

Thursday, March 1st, 2018

Potluck Luncheon

“Catching Collegiate in the Net”

Sunday, March 18th, 2018
@ 12:30 PM

Collegiate Perform (Music in our Schools Month)
Home of Mary Feyk
Musical Program: Collegiate
MPE Foundation Presentation: Lenee Bilski
Co Hostess: Kathy Kerstein & Leslie Sharp

Newsletter Deadline

Sunday, March 18th, 2018

Board Meeting

Tuesday, March 20th, 2018
@10:00 AM
Home of Pat Maki

President's Message

Just before Christmas I had the occasion to hear the most heavenly music I have heard in a long time. At a memorial service for a friend at Mary, Star of the Sea RC church in San Pedro, members of the Los Angeles Master Chorale sang the *Salve Regina* of Paul Gibson and *How Lovely is thy Dwelling Place* of Johannes Brahms in sounds so beautiful they brought tears to my eyes and heart. These offerings served to gird me for the hustle and bustle of the holiday season and, to this day, warm me all over. Simultaneously, this memory also saddens me because so few seem to value the role that music plays in our communal life and so I offer the following.

Now, more than ever the world needs music to calm us down, cheer us up, to bring warring peoples together and to be a bridge in families, which doesn't even acknowledge its place in bringing beauty to our lives. Now, more than ever, what we do is supremely important.

Now, more than ever, we must let our music speak through us and on to others whose lives are impoverished by its lack. Now more than ever, we must find the courage to defend what we know is good and right and speak the truth lovingly to those who espouse false ways of living and being and we must support those brave enough to stand against the wrong. We must somehow bolster those school music teachers who daily face squirrely and surly students and receive little or no support from administrations intent on moving students “on” because that’s how the school will be graded. We must help parents who want students to “win” music awards to understand that there is more to music than competition *a la* soccer teams and baseball teams. None of us can do this alone. Music brings us together for enjoyment and it brings us together to give us voice and strength to stand for loveliness, melody, and harmony. Music teaches us how to work together, to bring order out of discord, to be productive rather than destructive, to love and be loved. I am grateful for all that our members do to foster music in our community. Where would we be without music?

Loyally,

Lenita McCallum

Service Project Recap

Palos Verdes/South Bay Alums did its first chapter service project in many years on Monday, January 16th. We brought a musical program to the residents of Harbor Terrace in San Pedro. About 30 adults and parents thoroughly enjoyed the program of piano and vocal music provided by members, patrons and students of all ages. The grateful audience would have stayed for even more offerings if we had them. So.... A huge thank you to Pearl Kim, Mary Feyk, Mie Shirai, Jin Yoo, Maurice Suhre, Lenita McCallum and Dorothy Ingebretsen (patron). In true Martin Luther King fashion we used the gifts of music to bring peace and love to those whose lives have become narrower.

5th Night Party Recap

Just three weeks ago we celebrated our 5th **Night Party** at the Witherspoon’s. Featuring a program of “oldies but goodies” performed by Annette Smith, our 95-year strong singer stylist, accompanied beautifully by Leslie Sharp, “pianist most adaptive”, led us into the New Year. A brief Sing-Along of holiday favorites was heartily sung by those present, giving sound to the words and longings of the season. LaVerne McCoy and Carla Sedlacek read poems (one serious, one a parody) that tickled our funny bones and fed our souls. Serious food kept the diet thoughts at bay for another time. As you might surmise a good time was had by all.

Reminder: Application deadlines for Foundation Awards and the Musicological Research Contests are coming up. March 1st is the deadline for them. You can find more information on the fraternity and foundation websites. Give it a try.

Memorial Concert Plans:

The board is working on putting together a Memorial Concert to honor our deceased members, Helen Freeborn and Ruth Cuccia. The tentative date is set for June 2nd at St. Luke's Presbyterian Church here in Rolling Hills Estates. The concert would also be a fundraiser to enable us to continue our support of music in the South Bay area. A committee will be working on the details, hopefully including vocal, cello and other disciplines. Anyone who would like to work on this effort is welcome.

Musical Mosaic . . . is on its way!

Attention!! All Mu Phi Members who love great music and recognize the need to support music education:

Friday, Feb. 2, is our annual Musical Mosaic at 7:30 PM at the Rolling Hills United Methodist Church. We need your support. The attached flyer will be helpful in inviting friends, neighbors and family to attend. Please sell the five tickets you received in the mail. If you need more, please let me know and I will get them to you. Tickets can also be held at will call. The concert is a bargain: \$25 for adults, \$10 for high school students and elementary age students are free. Checks should be made out to "Mu Phi Epsilon." All the proceeds will fund the grants we provide for public school music education. The future of classical music lies with these school programs. We must do all we can to support them. The performers are donating their services. We owe them a packed house!

This year's program will continue our tradition of presenting highly achieving professionals, outstanding Mu Phi members and youth performers. Two of our own members, Beth Nam and Gail Mellert, will be featured along with a prize-winning student of Jan Bunker. We will have winners of the very prestigious Beverly Hills Auditions and the program will conclude with the rousing jazzy rhythms of the acclaimed Peninsula High School Advanced Jazz Band.

Following the concert, meet and greet the performers and enjoy the refreshments arranged by Kris Basua and her team.

We look forward to seeing you Friday, the 2nd, at 7:30.

Darlene Vlasek and Beth Howell, co Chairs

Musical Mosaic Refreshments

We are once again contacting our members in order to have a more accurate idea of the refreshments available for the 2018 Musical Mosaic. To help us have enough goodies for the Mosaic reception, would you please let us know, via email, if you plan to attend the Mosaic and would be willing to bring cookies, brownies/cake pieces, fruit, nuts, veggies, or some other "reception appropriate" goodies. If possible, please give us an estimate of the number of cookies or brownies you would be likely to bring.

We will contact people who email us to let them know if we need more or less than their estimated amount. It's not a perfect system, but it does help us at the end of the reception. Thank you so much for your support!

Kris Basua, Reception Chair

kbasua@gmail.com

Future Activities:

Feb 2nd - *Musical Mosaic* at 7:30 PM, RHUM Church

Feb 19th - 10 AM Board meeting

March 18th - *Potluck luncheon* and Program by Collegiate Members at 12:30 PM at the home of Mary Feyk.

March 20th - 10 AM Board meeting

April 14th - *Cocktail Hour Meeting* at 6:30 PM at the home of Beth Howell.

Pianos from Heaven:

This is the second time a piano that needs a new home has fallen into our hands lately and this one could help us realize some funds for our chapter. Ramona has been able to procure for us a Yamaha upright U-1 model, mahogany finish in excellent condition. This would be a great piano for a serious beginning to intermediate piano student. Piano is available locally. Contact Ramona Gifford at 310.377.7711 for more information on how to view and try it out. Priced at \$3,000 this is a good buy.



Minutiae:

Our raffle of the Torrance Memorial Hospital Holiday Luncheon ticket will be used as seed money for the District Conference to be held this fall. Sale of Christmas earrings generously fashioned and donated by Christine Combs netted more funds for our music projects in this area. Donations in memory of Helen Freeborn and Ruth Cuccia will help our scholarship offerings to be as generous as possible.

Special Opportunities:

Aaron Larget-Caplan, guitarist and Mu Phi member from Boston, is making a national concert tour and will be in the Los Angeles area early in April. He will give a concert at the home of David and Lenita Witherspoon on Wednesday, April 4th at 7:00 PM. Donation requested \$25, reservations taken, contact Lenita

St. Peters by the Sea Presbyterian Church, 6410 Palos Verdes Drive S, will be presenting the musical “Kids Under Construction” on February 11th at 3 PM. The intergenerational cast will explore how the world began and try to discover their place in it in through the fun and jazzy score that will remain in your ears as you leave. Suitable for all ages, 5 and above, the performance is free. An offering will be taken. Several of our members are involved in this fun event.



The Peninsula Symphony Association
Gary Berkson, Music Director
cordially invites you
to the 2nd concert of their 51st season



Animal Farm

February 18, 2018

Overture to *The Bronze Horse* Daniel Auber
"Sheep may safely graze" J. S. Bach (arr. L. Stokowski)
The Lark Ascending Ralph Vaughan Williams
Intermission
And God Created Great Whales, Opus 229 Alan Hovhaness
Carnival of the Animals Camille Saint-Saëns



Sam Fischer
Violin



Elizabeth and
Sonya Schumann
Duo Pianos



David Selby
Narrator

Pre-Concert Lecture at 6:15 for Members; 7:00 Concert

Redondo Union High School Auditorium
222 N. Pacific Coast Hwy. (corner PCH & Diamond), Redondo Beach
Free admission & parking. No RSVP required.
No RSVP required.
For more information, call 310.544-0320 or
visit our website at www.pensym.org

Need Service Hours?

It's never too late to start racking up service hours for the year. There are still spots for co-hostess or chairpersons for events. Please consider signing up for any position by contacting Teddy at

Tired of Being Bored at Home

Perhaps your schedule is opening up or need an excuse to be out of the house, consider signing up for hosting a meeting, leading a committee for the 2017-2018 year. If interested any of the above contact Teddy Greenwald. ALSO: Bring a friend to a meeting and help us cast a wider net! For next month's newsletters please send submissions to Deadline for submissions is March 1st, 2018

Email webmaster

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Alumni Chapter
www.muphipvsouthbay.org

