

HIGH NOTES

Fifty and Forward

Help us begin to celebrate our very special year.

Our 50th Anniversary Celebration will begin with the May 7th Luncheon at the Country Club of Asheville when we honor our past Guild presidents. We begin a year recognizing traditions but emphasis will be on our transitions as we move into the future.

In 1965, Mrs. Charlotte (Lewis) Lunsford and Mrs. Mimi (William) Cecil co-chaired a committee to form the Asheville Symphony Guild. Charlotte Lunsford became the first Guild president for the 1965–66 season. She will attend our Kick-off Luncheon along with many of our past presidents. These are thoughts she shared with us:

"I am filled with memories of the past and excited about even greater things to come. In 1965 Mimi Cecil and I were approached to host an event which would introduce the idea of a Guild to support the Asheville Symphony. We were fortunate to have the National Orchestra Society send a delightful ambassador to talk to our group about the many benefits such an organization would offer to not only the cultural endeavors, but to the community at large. Many friends attended this event and that day created a formally structured Guild.

"I congratulate all of you as you look forward to exciting educational opportunities for students and inspiring events for patrons and the community. I am truly overwhelmed with your outstanding leadership and what you have become in fifty years!"

Charlotte Lunsford Berry

Save the Date for the Guild's Annual Luncheon

50-Year Anniversary Kick-off Honoring Past Presidents

Make your reservation for this very special event as we honor past and present participants who have worked in so many capacities to build and expand this organization into what it has become.

May 7th 11:30 a.m.

Country Club of Asheville

Piano performance by Kiffen Loomis

Watch for your invitation in the mail.



Spotlight on Young Musicians — free recital

by Margery Kowal

At 3 p.m. on Sunday, April 26 in the sanctuary of Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church, the top performers in the 2015 Asheville Symphony Orchestra's Spotlight on Young Musicians will present a free recital for the public. You will have an opportunity to hear the best young musicians under the age of 19 from the twenty-four counties of Western North Carolina.

Eighteen semi-finalists will be heard by three distinguished judges on Saturday, April 11. The judges will select the very best students to perform in the Spotlight Recital. The first place winner will receive a cash prize of \$600 and will be invited to play with the Asheville Symphony at their Young Peoples Concert next season. You won't want to miss this amazing event! We hope to see you there!

Asheville Amadeus week!

Nearly 20,000 people attended almost two dozen different programs celebrating Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart during March. Pianist Emanuel Ax thrilled audiences during several performances and other events were filled with enthusiastic attendees.

Emanuel Ax and Orion Weiss discuss Mozart with Daniel Meyer and Chip Kaufmann

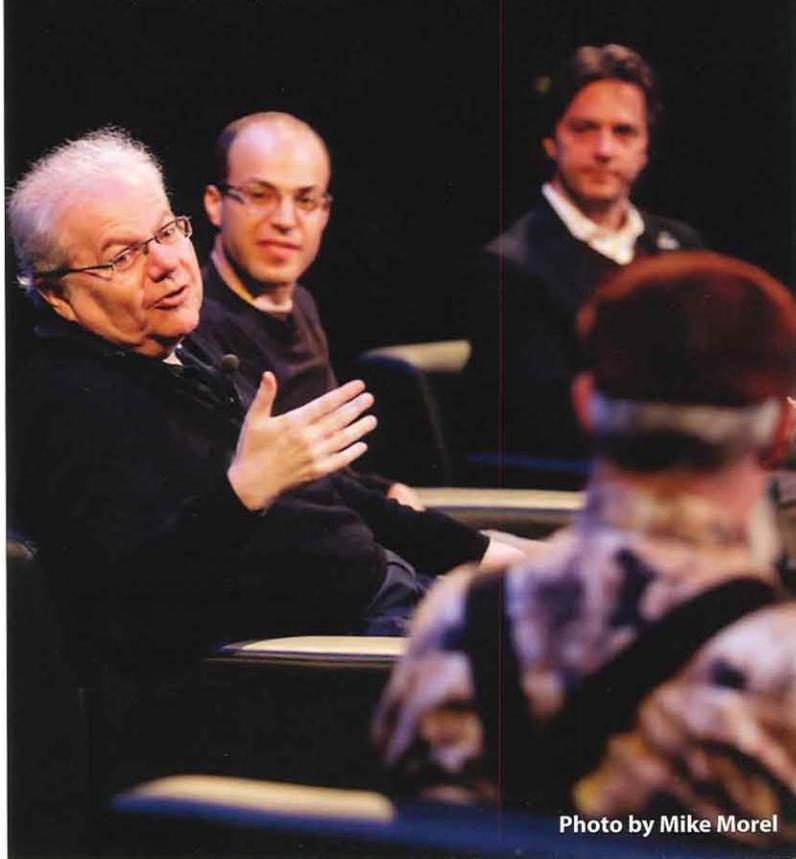


Photo by Mike Morel



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Betty Paine

2014 – 2015

Guild Executive Committee

President – *Betty Paine*

President Elect –

1st Vice President – *Betty Snyder*

2nd Vice President – *Lucy Borland*

Treasurer – *BA Schenk*

Recording Secretary – *Sandy Teach*

Corresponding Secretary – *Ellen Nutter*

Advisor – *Gloria Pincu*

Asheville Symphony

David Whitehill, Executive Director

Guild Committee Chairs

High Notes – *Otis Philbrick*

Hospitality – *Ann McLellan*

Libretto – *Betty Paine and Otis Philbrick*

Membership/database – *Dawn and Heinz Grohs*

Music Education – *Barbara Stickle, Charlie Laiken*

Musical Feasts – *Olivia Zahler*

Publicity – *Karen O'Hara*

Travel – *Linda Sokalski and Bill Roskind*

Volunteers – *Nancy Young*

Symphony Office — (828) 254-7046

Asheville Symphony Guild

PO Box 18651, Asheville NC 28814

www.ashevillesymphony.org/guild

We continue to hear fabulous praise for the Amadeus Festival. How exciting to experience the many joint projects with other community organizations. Kudos to David, Daniel and the ASO staff for making this happen. A very special thank you to Emanuel Ax who so graciously donated his time and talent for this unforgettable Mozart happening in Asheville.

Now we prepare for another celebration as the Guild celebrates its 50th Anniversary Year with the slogan, 50 AND FORWARD. We will honor traditions and develop transitions. Past presidents will be our guests at the May 7th luncheon at the Country Club of Asheville.

The committee is working hard on plans for many new activities but volunteers are always welcome. Let us know if you would like to be involved as we embrace the future.

The Mozart biography book discussion was another success and the Music library is taking shape with contributions ranging from single items to entire collections. This can become a real source of information for musicians as well as general readers.

Don't forget to make your reservation for the May Luncheon and program. Kiffen Loomis, an extremely talented 17-year-old pianist will entertain us with a not-to-be missed program.

If you haven't renewed your membership for the coming year, please do so now using the form below, or download a form from ashevillesymphony.org/guild/membership/



Betty Paine

High Notes

Chair *Otis Philbrick*
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Editing *Ginny Hayes and Axel Graumann*

Design/layout *Sarah Philbrick Kelly and Laurence Kelly*

Printing *Advantage Printing*

Published 6 times a year, in February, April, June, August, October and December

Don't miss Chip Kaufmann's entertaining talks "Behind the Notes" at 4 p.m. on the second Tuesday of each month at Deerfield.

Asheville Symphony Guild Membership

New member Renewal **Annual Dues: July 1 to June 30: \$50 per household**

(please print)

Name _____

Spouse/partner's name _____

Address _____

Preferred phone number _____

Email address _____

Mail form and check to Asheville Symphony Guild, PO Box 18651, Asheville, NC 28814

GUILD NEWS

2015-16 Guild Executive Committee Slate

The following slate of officers will be presented by the nominating committee for election at the April Guild meeting. Nominations may be made from the floor with prior approval of the candidate.

President	Carolyn Hubbard
1st Vice President	Katie Osborn
2nd Vice President	Lucy Borland
Treasurer	BA Schenk
Recording Secretary	Olivia Zahler
Corresponding Secretary	Ellen Nutter
Advisor	Betty Paine
Asheville Symphony	David Whitehill

Did you miss out on the Guild's Nashville trips?

by Bill Roskind

Recently, several folks have approached me to say they were interested in another trip to Nashville, and asked if one was being planned. Until now, I've said "Not really." But I'm beginning to wonder if there really might be strong interest in a Nashville City trip. As you may know, the Guild has offered several trips there and they were all very well received by Guild members and Symphony subscribers. If you are interested, please read the brief description below and send me a reply message. If there appears to be enough interest, we'll start working on a trip, which will include several new features.

Help bring music to our children

by Barbara Stickle

We are looking for new members for the Guild's Music Education Committee. If you have attended one of the Music in the Schools programs, have a background in education or music, or just have an interest in bringing the joys of classical music to our local children, please consider joining us.

We're hoping that new members will bring new ideas for improving and expanding our programs of school performances and music camp scholarships. We also have many short-term tasks for volunteers with limited time. If you would like more details, please call Barbara Stickle at (828) 484-8426, or cell (828) 273-9044, or send an email to barbarastickle@me.com.

Whether or not you are able to join the Committee, all Guild members are welcome to attend a Music in the Schools program this spring. Our team of five symphony brass players will perform in local schools on April 7, 8 and 9. They are great fun to watch! Please call or email if you would like more information. Thanks for your interest and support.

The Nashville (Music City USA) trip typically consists of three evenings of eclectic music: jazz, Symphony, and the Grand Old Opry. There are several museums that have fresh exhibits each time we visit and several historic sites which are always interesting. We might include another wonderful historic site that we haven't previously visited. All meals, including a private cocktail party at the Schermerhorn Center before the concert, are included in the trip price. Our own coach will take us to all of our destinations in Nashville. If we do go forward with the planning of a trip, a very detailed itinerary will be provided before anyone signs up.

If you have any interest in considering this trip in the spring of 2016, or have questions, please contact Bill Roskind at (828) 253-2580.

Welcome to new Symphony Guild members

Clint & Fran Dederick
Jenefer McArthur and Jim Francis
Brian Kellum
Margery Kowal
Bill Moses
Kathy Quinlan and Marc Parham
Martin and Joanne Swenson
Frieda Weiss
Warren & Bonnie Wheeler

Ron Clearfield conducting the ABYO



ABYO concert

The Asheville-Buncombe Youth Orchestra directed by Ron Clearfield will perform a concert of Orchestral Pops music on Sunday, May 17, 2015 at 3 p.m. in the Folk Arts Center Auditorium on the Blue Ridge Parkway. This annual concert will feature music from the great American composers Duke Ellington, Morton Gould, Leroy Anderson, John Williams, and more!

Like these composers, the Blue Ridge Parkway is also a great American treasure. The Folk Art Center, where the concert will be held, showcases the finest in traditional and contemporary

craft of the Southern Appalachians. It is home to the museum of American Folk Art and History, a wonderful craft shop, a library and an auditorium. Located on the scenic Parkway at milepost 382, the Folk Art Center opened in 1980 as a cooperative effort between the Southern Appalachian Guild, the National Park Service and the Appalachian Regional Commission. The Folk Art Center is the most popular attraction on the Blue Ridge Parkway, welcoming 250,000 visitors each year. Come on Sunday, May 17th at 3 p.m. to hear our fine Youth Orchestra perform in an interesting venue with lots to see and hear!

APRIL

Handel's *Alexander's Feast*

April 18, 2015 8 p.m.

George Fridric **Handel** *Alexander's Feast*

Kerrie Caldwell, soprano
William Ferguson, tenor
Adam Fry, bass-baritone

Asheville Symphony Chorus
Western Carolina University
Concert Choir
Michael Lancaster, Director

Daniel Meyer, music director



William Ferguson

Kerrie Caldwell



Adam Fry

In April we assemble a big cast and bring Handel's sumptuous musical banquet to life on the Thomas Wolfe stage.

A dramatic cantata which is part opera, part oratorio, *Alexander's Feast* starts with a musical party thrown by none other than Alexander the Great, and features the bravura of mighty warriors enjoying copious food and drink and telling their stories in proper Handelian fashion.

Dr. Michael Lancaster invites his top voices from Western Carolina University to join forces with the Asheville Symphony Chorus and soloists from the Pittsburgh Opera. Join us for this rare musical event.

Kerrie Caldwell won First Place in Voice and the Trovillo-Graham Award at the Musical Merit Foundation of Greater San Diego's 2011 annual competition. She then premiered the Robert and Leonore Nottorf Memorial Voice Recital Series for the foundation. Ms. Caldwell received both her Bachelor and Master of Music degree in Vocal Performance from the College-Conservatory of Music at the University of Cincinnati (CCM).

William Ferguson has appeared with major orchestras in the U.S. and Europe. He received several awards include First Place in the Oratorio Society of New York Solo Competition, The Elihu Hyndman Career Grant from Opera Theater of St. Louis, The Judges Award in the Opera Index Competition, a Bagby Foundation Career Grant, and the Alan Weiler Award for Excellence.

Adam Fry recently completed his tenure in Pittsburgh Opera's Resident Artist Program. A winner of Astral Artists' 2013 National Auditions, Mr. Fry was also a prizewinner in the Annapolis Opera Vocal Competition, District Winner of the Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions, and a finalist in the Lotte Lenya Competition.

April Guild Program — Bill Gerhardt and Manny Medeiros

Thursday, April 16

Social Gathering at 10 a.m.
Program begins at 10:30 a.m.

St. Mark's Lutheran Church
10 North Liberty Street,
Asheville

The April program features composer and pianist Bill Gerhardt, along with well-known Asheville vocalist Manny Medeiros who together will perform a variety of Bill's works.

The program is free of charge and open to all. Don't miss it!

Bill Gerhardt



Ravel and the Duke

May 9, 2015 8 p.m.

MAY

Claude **Debussy** *Rhapsodie for Alto Saxophone and Orchestra*
Joe Luloff, saxophone

Edward Kennedy "Duke" **Ellington** *Black, Brown and Beige Suite*
Joe Luloff, saxophone

Darius **Milhaud** *Scaramouche*
Joe Luloff, saxophone

Maurice **Ravel** *Daphnis et Chloé – Suites 1 and 2*

Daniel Meyer, music director

Our season finale in May features a spectacle of sound, contrasting the brilliance of composers who traveled freely between New York and Paris in the twentieth century and absorbed the best of those musical traditions. Virtuoso saxophonist Joe Luloff will straddle both American and French musical worlds with solo features that exemplify his instrument's ability to swing, groove, stomp and sing.

Legendary band leader and pianist Duke Ellington, in his *Black, Brown, and Beige*, created a vibrant jazz symphony inspired by African-American history. From honoring people at work and prayer in the first movement to a tribute to the masterful artists that emerged from the Harlem Renaissance in the finale, it is a work that cast Ellington's talent in a whole new light.

French composer Maurice Ravel reveals the sensual and dynamic ebb and flow of human emotion in his amazing ballet *Daphnis et Chloé*. We will perform two suites from the complete ballet which feature the finest music from this watershed work.



Joseph Luloff

Saxophonist **Joseph Luloff** is one of today's most sought-after performers and clinicians, acclaimed internationally for his innovative style and unparalleled virtuosity. Branford Marsalis described Mr. Luloff as "a marvelous musician" whose "knowledge of music, along with his ability to embrace music normally outside the sphere, makes him a joy to listen to." Mr. Luloff performs regularly with symphony orchestras through the United States and as soloist in many of the most prestigious concert venues in the Americas, Europe, Southeast Asia and Japan.

Mr. Luloff is a member of the summer artist faculty at Brevard Music Center in Brevard, NC, and is past president of the North American Saxophone Alliance.

Joe Luloff is a Yamaha Performing Artist and resides in Okemos, Michigan, with his wife Janet and son Jordan.

Annual Guild Luncheon — Celebrating the Guild's 50th Anniversary

Join fellow Guild members and guests for an elegant luncheon with entertainment by Kiffen Loomis, piano. Many of our past Guild presidents will attend and be honored for their service. Be sure to reserve your space by returning the response card with your luncheon choice mailed to all Guild members.



Thursday, May 7, 11:30 a.m.
Country Club of Asheville
170 Windsor Rd, Asheville

More about Thursday morning Guild Programs

April 16 at 10 a.m. — Bill Gerhardt and Manny Medeiros

Bill Gerhardt — Pianist / Composer

Born March 10th 1962 in Cape Girardeau, Missouri, and surrounded by a family of artists, writers and musicians, it was natural that Bill Gerhardt would devote his life to music. At age nine he began studying with Mary Travis before he began lessons with Herb Drury in Saint Louis. He attended the University of North Texas but left after one-and-a-half years to perform on the road.

Gerhardt's travels eventually led him to Amsterdam where he became an expatriate for a decade. He has performed on four continents with some of the most gifted musicians on the planet. Upon returning to the USA, he lived in New York City for five years before relocating to Asheville.

Gerhardt has composed from childhood. It wasn't until he was involved with a steady band in Charlotte, NC, that he became a prolific writer. In 1988 he was awarded prizes at Down Beat Magazine's Musicfest.

His work is available on many independent labels which include four releases for SteepleChase in Copenhagen, Denmark. Most recently, he writes "chamber" music for string trio, flute, flugelhorn and jazz trio.

Manuel Valeiro Medeiros (Manny)

Born in Fall River, Massachusetts — US Air Force 1953 – 1957

Education: PMC Voice New England Conservatory of Music, Boston (NEC), BM Ed NEC, MM Choral Conducting NEC. Advanced degree School Administration and Supervision, SUNY Cortland.

Positions: Director of Music Education. Old Town, Maine City Schools, and Cortland Enlarged City School District, NY

Assistant Director of Field Studies Office, SUNY Cortland, Adjunct professor at Department of Performing Arts, SUNY Cortland

Graduate Assistant Conductor, NEC Choral Department.

Performance: Directed Choirs, Bands and Orchestras, major vocal leads Broadway, jazz, oratorio and concert stage, member of the professional Syracuse Vocal Ensemble, Jazz night club in Cape Cod, MA.

Moved to Asheville in June 2006.

Guild programs are held Thursday mornings at 10 a.m. on the weeks of Symphony concerts.

Most are free and open to the public as a gift to the community. Please come and bring your friends.

May 7 at 11:30 a.m. — Kiffen Loomis

Kiffen Loomis, age 16, is from Asheville, North Carolina. He has studied piano with Choong Mo Kang, John O'Connor, Douglas Weeks, and Suzan Fehr, his current teacher. As a solo and chamber musician, Kiffen has performed on NPR stations in North Carolina and Colorado. He is the president of "Notes from the Soul," an educational student music outreach group that performs for children in WNC.

Kiffen was the junior division Grand Prize Winner of the Charlotte Symphony Guild's 2013 Young Artist Competition. He performed the Schumann Piano Concerto with the Charlotte Youth Symphony. The following year, he won the junior division of the North Carolina Symphony's Kathleen Price and Joseph M. Bryan Youth Concerto Competition. During the summer of 2014, Kiffen was one of twenty pianists selected internationally to compete in the Arthur Frasier International Piano Competition. This year, he won the senior division of the

2015 Peter Perret Youth Talent Search, and performed Rachmaninoff's Rhapsody on a Theme of Paganini with the Winston-Salem Symphony Orchestra. Also performing the Rhapsody, Kiffen won the senior division of the Charlotte Symphony Guild's 2015 Young Artist Competition, and performed with the Charlotte Symphony Orchestra. He won the Hendersonville Symphony's 2015 Young Artist Concerto Competition, and performed with the orchestra. In the statewide competitions hosted by the North Carolina Federation of Music Clubs, he has been awarded first prize eight times.

Kiffen has participated in master classes with artists Veda Kaplinsky, Alon Goldstein, Ilena Vered, and Stephen Hough. In 2012, he attended the Brevard Music Center, and in 2013 and 2014, he studied at the Aspen Music Festival and School. During the summer of 2014, Kiffen attended the Southeastern Piano Festival.



Kiffen Loomis

MUSICAL FEASTS

by Paul Jelenchick

In 1965, America went to the movies to see and hear *The Sound of Music* and *Beach Blanket Bingo*. President Johnson signed Medicare and Medicaid into law at the Truman Library in Independence, Missouri. The Beatles filled Shea Stadium in New York City, an initial stop on their world tour. People were reading *Thirteen Stories* by Eudora Welty and *Unsafe at Any Speed* by Ralph Nader. On television, The Pillsbury Dough Boy was rolled out for the first time.

In Asheville, people still shopped downtown. The Asheville Symphony Guild did not exist, but that would soon change. As the Asheville Symphony was performing for a 5th season, a dynamic duo of Mrs. Charlotte Lunsford-Berry and Mrs. William (Mimi) Cecil set about to establish an Asheville

Symphony Guild to support to the work of the Orchestra through fundraising, promoting concert attendance and encouraging an interest in music. Their efforts have spanned the ensuing 50 years. It took another 20 years, in 1985, through the efforts of Virginia (Ginger) Mallard and dedicated others to establish the Musical Feast tradition of food and music to support the ASO.

Your Musical Feast Committee is laying plans for the coming season, our 50th, to reflect our best efforts over the last half century. We are looking into (literally) a star gazing feast to view the heavens before enjoying an elegant repast. A 50's theme party has been suggested, along with a Musical Feast featuring the traditional music of Western North Carolina. An arts-and-crafts themed feast would show off Asheville's talented craft community. The Musical Feast

Committee will be offering fine French cuisine and the finest selection of wines available in Western North Carolina for the tasting.

A Musical Feast is the finest combination of the arts — be it music, visual or cultural — and food that we can put together for the Symphony Community.

Does anyone have any suggestions for a Feast? You are our support. Please give us your ideas. Everything we do is a reflection of your support in making each Feast a success both in bringing us together socially to support the Orchestra and in raising the funds to enhance its mission. We look forward to hearing your idea as we plan for another new year of feasts during the 2015–2016 season.

Andrew Brunk evaluates a family map owned by Ann & Jerry McLellan



Chip Kaufmann discussing the unknown Mozart with Emmet Hayes

Irene & Michael Stoll at Brunk Auction House



Asheville Symphony Society, Inc.
 P.O. Box 2852
 Asheville NC 28802

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REMINDER :

Please turn in your tickets if you are not going to be able to attend a performance — other people are waiting for them!

Please keep the Guild informed of your contact information. Send your changes to: guild@symphonyguildasheville.org.

Check us out! Latest news at www.asheillesymphony.org/guild



GUILD AND SYMPHONY EVENTS CALENDAR

April		May		June	
8 Wednesday	Musical Feast: An Invitation to the Past	1 Friday	Musical Feast: An Evening at the Cliffs at Walnut Cove	9 Tuesday	<i>Behind the Notes</i> with Chip Kaufmann Community Center, Deerfield, 4 p.m.
14 Tuesday	<i>Behind the Notes</i> with Chip Kaufmann Community Center, Deerfield, 4 p.m.	6 Wednesday	Musical Feast: What goes around comes around	13 Saturday	Musical Feast: Springtime in the French Countryside
16 Thursday	Guild Program Bill Gearhardt and Manny Medeiros	7 Thursday	Guild Luncheon Country Club of Asheville, 11:30 a.m.		
17 Friday	Symphony talk with Daniel Meyer Reuter Center, 3 p.m.	8 Friday	Symphony talk with Daniel Meyer Reuter Center, 3 p.m.		
18 Saturday	ASO CONCERT — Handel's <i>Alexander's Feast</i> Thomas Wolfe Auditorium, 8 p.m.	9 Saturday	ASO CONCERT— <i>Ravel and The Duke</i> Thomas Wolfe Auditorium, 8 p.m.		
26 Sunday	Musical Feast: Classics in the Cottage	11 Monday	Musical Feast: Flight of Fancy at Beaver Lake		
28 Tuesday	Musical Feast: Waltzing through Wein(land) Austria	12 Tuesday	<i>Behind the Notes</i> with Chip Kaufmann Community Center, Deerfield, 4 p.m.		
		17 Sunday	Musical Feast: A Lakeside Picnic in Kenilworth		

Event Locations:
Deerfield Community Center Blue Ridge Room
 1617 Hendersonville Road, Asheville
Reuter Center, UNCA from Broadway,
 follow Campus Drive to STOP sign; turn left
St. Mark's Lutheran Church
 10 North Liberty Street, Asheville
Country Club of Asheville
 170 Windsor Road, Asheville
Thomas Wolfe Auditorium
 US Cellular Center, 87 Haywood Street

Guild programs will be canceled only if the Asheville City Schools CLOSE due to the weather.