

HIGH NOTES

Orff instruments! Bucket percussion! Social change! Learn more about MusicWorks!

by Jessica Whitehill

Asheville Symphony Orchestra Guild members and friends will be treated on Thursday, December 11 to a very different monthly program. Rather than the usual meeting at St. Mark's, the Guild will gather at 11 a.m. at Hall Fletcher Elementary School in West Asheville for a performance by elementary school students involved in MusicWorks!, the ASO's new education initiative based on Venezuela's El Sistema movement for social change.

MusicWorks!, an afterschool program that uses music education as a tool to teach life skills to school-aged children in underserved populations in the city of Asheville, is funded by a gift from the Leever Foundation. MusicWorks! participants improve their academic achievement while they learn how to express themselves creatively, work together, take personal responsibility, and become engaged in their community.

Program director Brian Kellum wants Guild members to see and hear students whose self-confidence and musical acumen have grown since the program started. MusicWorks! students, who are in kindergarten and first grade with some older children serving as mentors, participate in three classes: bucket percussion (think drumsticks and construction buckets), chorus, and movement/music.

"We want to show what the kids have done in the last few months, and how far they've come with the skills they're learning," he says. "It is an intense program and we ask the kids to focus, behave and concentrate every day. But we have so much fun, too."

Students have been learning about complex musical concepts such as note reading, composition and improvisation. They have become comfortable performing in front of audiences and are learning to function as an ensemble.

"They're starting to understand the creative process and how to create their own music," Kellum says. "We have some really talented kids who have blossomed."

Typical Orff instruments



Applications for Spotlight on Young Musicians competition now being accepted

Applications are due by February 19, 2015 for this year's Spotlight on Young Musicians, formerly called the Young Artist Competition. The competition offers young area musicians an opportunity to prepare and perform a significant musical work.

The competition will be held on April 11, 2015, and winners will perform at a recital on April 26 at Grace Covenant Church.

This year, two divisions will be held: a Concerto Competition with cash prizes and a possible opportunity to perform with the Asheville Symphony in one of its concerts for young people, and a Solo Division with medals awarded to winners.

For details about eligibility requirements, the application procedure and the judging process, see the ASO website at ashevillesymphony.org/sym.

And please plan to come to the April 26 recital to see and hear our younger generation demonstrate their amazing abilities.

Looking for lunch after the Guild program?

Thanks to MusicWorks!, ASO staff members are spending a lot of time at Hall Fletcher School in West Asheville, and they've found some great neighborhood spots for lunch. Here are some staff recommendations for a bite to eat following the December 11 program:

Brian Kellum, MusicWorks! Program Director and West Asheville resident:
Universal Joint, 784 Haywood Road
The Hop, 721 Haywood Road

David Whitehill, ASO Executive Director:
Biscuithead, 733 Haywood Road
Asheville Sandwich Company, 794 Haywood Road

Deborah Sutton, Director of Development and West Asheville resident:
WALK (West Asheville Lounge and Kitchen), 401 Haywood Road
Sunny Point Café, 626 Haywood Road



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Betty Paine

2014 – 2015

Guild Executive Committee

President – *Betty Paine*

President Elect – *Beth Hunt*

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

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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*

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High Notes

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We want to thank everyone who made Guild fall events so successful. Our thanks to Pass the Hat organizer, Charlie Laiken, and all who participated in this traditional experience. It is obvious that members and concert attendees recognize the importance of providing quality programs for future musicians through their continued support of our Music Education programs.

The Gourmet Food and Wine Gala sponsored by Fresh Market was a huge success. Many friends and neighbors who attended expressed interest in becoming members.

In November, new members enjoyed lunch with Symphony musicians prior to the Young People's concert. And a lively discussion of *Clara Schuman: The Artist and the Woman* by Nancy Reich took place at the Clubhouse of the Timbers condominium.

The Musical Feast Committee has continued to surprise us with new and interesting offerings. There were more immediate sell-out events than ever, though a few openings are still available. Check your calendars and sign up for yet another great social event.

We want everyone to join us for the December 11 Guild meeting at Hall Fletcher Elementary School in West Asheville replacing our usual pot luck luncheon. This MusicWorks! program will be a highlight of your holiday season. Not only will the children play their percussion instruments but they will also compose songs and show you the joys of making music. Invite your non-member friends to experience this program and then join us informally for lunch at one of the suggested restaurants nearby.

The January program with Duncan Wickel and Akira Satake (you may know him for his pottery) will be one you don't want to miss. Your friends will enjoy them too!

Wishing you happy holidays and a fantastic new year.

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



Betty Paine

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

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

"A Symphony of Fresh Tastes" a big success!

by Beth Hunt, President Elect

On Wednesday evening, October 29th, the Asheville Symphony Guild partnered with the Fresh Market to host a wine gala on behalf of the Asheville Symphony Orchestra. It was an extraordinary event and a huge success.



Over 200 guests arrived at the store for an evening of music, gourmet food and wine pairings. As our guests entered the store, they were greeted first by a hostess and then by a delightful string trio of gifted musicians who frequently play together (and provide beautiful music) — Ginger Kowal on violin, Kara Poorbaugh on viola, and Franklin Keel on cello.

Upon signing in, the attendees were provided menus and wine glasses before they started on their journey through the store. There were 10 stations set up with delectable offerings from each of the major food departments. The samplings included shrimp, antipasti, sushi, turkey sliders with BBQ aioli sauce, crab cakes, pimento cheese biscuits, smoked salmon. The dessert table offered lemon squares and bourbon pecan squares. Each table had three wines available that were carefully selected to enhance the tempting food selections.

Guests were invited to make purchases of wine at a discount and other products as they left the store. Many took advantage of this opportunity. In addition, the last page of the menu booklet contained a coupon for a 10% discount on their next shopping trip. The coupon is valid through the end of this year.

Most importantly, our guests (musicians, symphony staff, guild members and friends and neighbors) had an opportunity to socialize and meet new people in a very pleasant environment.

Special thanks to all who helped make this a wonderful experience for everyone.



"Pass the Hat" supports the music future of our students

By Gloria Pincu, Guild Advisor

The Asheville Symphony Guild held their annual fundraiser, "Pass the Hat," on October 18 during intermission of The Asheville Symphony's Masterworks concert.

Since one of our scholarship winners, Joyner Meyers, could not attend, Betty Paine read Joyner's enthusiastic letter about her Mars Hill University's Summer Camp experience. Dr. Gordon Grant, Principal of Hall Fletcher Elementary School, spoke about the impact music has on the lives of students and teachers at his school.

Our Guild volunteers and Symphonettes passed their usual hats around and took in over \$6000 from a very generous audience for the benefit of our Music in the Schools programs.

Our Music in the Schools Program brings classical music to every 2nd, 3rd and 4th grader in Buncombe County and Asheville City elementary schools. Brass, wind and string players demonstrate their instruments, talk about what makes them so special, and answer questions. As a preview to the Amadeus Festival, every group played some Mozart!! "Pass the Hat " also supports scholarships to Mars Hill University's Summer Music Camp.

To volunteer or find out more about the Music in the Schools Program, contact Barbara Stickle at barbarastickle@me.com.

If you were unable to attend the October concert, you can still make a tax deductible contribution by sending a check made out to the Asheville Symphony Guild and designated for the "Pass the Hat" Fund to Asheville Symphony Guild at P.O.Box 18651, Asheville NC 28814. Please support our future musicians.

Pass the Hat at the October Masterworks concert. Front to back, Betty Paine, Brian Kellum, Melody McGarrahan and Dr. Gordon Grant. Children are from Hall Fletcher Elementary School.



DECEMBER

A Classical Christmas
December 14, 2014 3 p.m.

The ASO continues its tradition of Classical Christmas featuring Bach's beautiful Christmas Oratorio



Daniel Meyer, music director

Johann Sebastian Bach *Christmas Oratorio*
with the Asheville Symphony Chorus
Dr. Michael Lancaster, director

Traditional Christmas carols



ASO Christmas Concert – 2010



December Guild Program — Musicworks! program at Hall Fletcher

Thursday, December 11 at 11 a.m.
Hall Fletcher Elementary School,
60 Ridgelawn Ave., Asheville

See firsthand how the ASO's new MusicWorks! program teaches life skills through music. You'll be inspired and entertained by the students and their Director, Brian Kellum.

Directions: Exit #2 off I-240, then east on Haywood Road and right on Ridgelawn Ave.



"MusicWorks!" tee shirts will be offered for sale.

Beethoven's 5th
January 17, 2015 8 p.m.

JANUARY

Beethoven's awesome 5th Symphony and Kyung Ah Oh

Giuseppe **Verdi** Overture to
I vespri siciliani

Jean **Sibelius** Violin Concerto
Kyung Ah Oh, violin

Ludwig van **Beethoven** Symphony No. 5

Daniel Meyer, music director

Nothing will heat up a January evening in Asheville quite like the passion of three firebrands — Verdi, Sibelius, and Beethoven.

Italian Giuseppe Verdi captured the drama of an entire evening in one hyper-concentrated expression; his Overture to *I vespri siciliani* is a perfect example of Grand Opera style.

We then continue a successful tradition of presenting one of the Cleveland Institute of Music's young virtuosos, who this year will be Korean violinist Kyung Ah Oh. Kyung's maturity and sheer finger-power will make a great match for the depth of Sibelius' beloved Violin Concerto.

Then come those famous first four notes. That musical symbol of fate knocking on the door has led, in part, to our acknowledgement of Beethoven as a true musical genius.



Kyung Ah Oh

January Guild Program — Duncan Wickel and Akira Satake



Duncan Wickel and Akira Satake in concert

Thursday, January 15
Social Gathering at 10 a.m.
Program begins at 10:30 a.m.
St. Mark's Lutheran Church
10 North Liberty Street, Asheville

Akira Satake, composer and master banjo player, joins forces with world-traveled multi-genre violinist Duncan Wickel for a morning of kaleidoscopic original music combining World, Jazz, Celtic and Appalachian traditions.

Check out akirasatake.com to see Akira Satake's outstanding ceramic creations!

More about Thursday morning Guild Programs

*Guild Programs are held Thursday mornings 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.*

December 16 at 11 a.m. MusicWorks! program

Brian Kellum assumed the post of MusicWorks! Program Director in April. He comes to Asheville with 10 years experience as a public school music educator and active advocate for social change through music. A doctoral student at the University of Illinois, Brian's research on El Sistema carried him to large and small cities throughout Venezuela in order to witness how classical music can be a vehicle to teach children critical skills such as rigor, discipline, cooperation, ethics, and aesthetics. He says, "Students are using new vocabularies, proudly showing their parents their own musical compositions written in real music notation, and performing rhythms at home for their families. It is amazing to see the growth that has occurred since we began in July."

Brian credits the richness of talent and enthusiasm in the community for the quick start: "Getting MusicWorks! up and running has truly been a community effort. I am pleased with the way that we are working with our partners — the Asheville Symphony Society, including the Youth Orchestra, the Symphonettes, the Guild, and ASO board and with the support of the Hall Fletcher Elementary School community. I am also very proud of the high-caliber musicians and educators with whom our kids regularly interact. The kids recently worked with international pianist Alex Schwarzkopf as well as Hall of Fame rock-and-roll artist Little Anthony." Brian's staff of teaching artists include Ms. Melody McGarahan, Dr. David Wilken, Ms. Emily Talley, and Ms. Shambra Watkins.

January 15 at 10 a.m. Duncan Wickel and Akira Satake

Raised in Asheville, **Duncan Wickel** has returned to our city after travelling and performing around the world. A graduate of Berklee College of Music, his wide variety of styles include improvisational and bluegrass. Performance venues include the Kennedy Center in Washington DC and the Lincoln Center in New York.

Duncan's reputation has been growing quickly on a national level as a wildly diverse and highly accomplished improviser, composer and technician on the violin. He is sought after for his stylistic mastery of Jazz, Irish, Old Time and Bluegrass music, captivating audiences and fellow musicians with his creativity as well as the subtle authenticity and chameleon-like ease in which he blends and changes styles. Duncan is back from his Middle Eastern tour with the Boston Boys, including Egypt, Israel and Saudi Arabia, sponsored by the State Department for its American Music Abroad series.

Akira Satake first discovered the banjo through his older brother's Flatt and Scruggs recordings while growing up in Osaka, Japan. After relocating to New York City in his early 20s, he spent two decades honing his innovative banjo style in venues from Village clubs to Lincoln Center and Carnegie Hall. He went on to master the shamisen (Japanese banjo) in his own original style, and has made it an important part of his repertoire. Satake garnered international attention with his collection of original compositions, "Cooler Heads Prevail," and shared the 1998 German Music Critics' Award for Best World Music Recording with Nusrat Fateh Ali Khan.

American banjo virtuoso Tony Trischka calls Satake, "a brilliant banjoist with a split-level passion for the fiery breakdowns of southern Appalachia and the kaleidoscopic rhythms and melodies of World Music."

Welcome to new Symphony Guild members...

Ruth Ann Carroll
Bolling Farmer
Stanley Ingber and Laura Robbins
Robert Lane

Keith and Barbara Love
Kieta Osteen-Cochrane
Errol and Helene Stone

The Guild's fabulous Toronto trip

by Bill Roskind

"What a memory maker!" exclaimed a Toronto Trip traveler, echoing the many remarks heard from "regulars" and first-timers alike. Glowing reviews were received for the luxurious accommodations, outstanding meals (Greek, Italian, seafood), the variety of attractions to suit all tastes (an aquarium, a castle, art and science museums, shopping and much, much more). The trip was topped off with first-class music including a Broadway musical, *Wicked*, a very funny comic opera, *Falstaff*, and a personal welcome from Toronto Symphony's concertmaster and a concert performance, all in showplace performance halls. From day one, travelers were comfortably "chauffeured" by professional drivers who accommodated the group's every need.

And the bonus was hugs all around, as many new friendships emerged at trip's end. Guild travelers are always the "stars" of the show!



Toronto at night

Musical Feasts in pictures

Musical Feasts are an important Guild activity — you'll find great food and new friends — and nearly all income directly supports Music Education and similar Guild Activities. Available reservations for Feasts fill up quickly when the new season is announced, but a few are still available. Three feasts during early 2015 have not sold out: **Going, Going, Gone** on January 15th, **Deconstructing Mozart** on March 18 and **Flight of Fancy at Beaver Lake** on May 11. For more information, contact Olivia Zahler at (828) 236-2901 or oliviaz@charter.net



Frances Duff and Pat Johnston entertaining guests at A Salute to the Maestro!



Margareta and Al Koch learning to cook Italian at DOUGH



RiverLink update on the trolley

The Maestro visits with his supporters



Robin Gaiser, musician host, at historic log cabin



Hosts at the Humane Society



Yvonne Smith, Conner Fay, Carolyn Hubbard, and Ingeborg Meeke hosting Appalachian Sunset at the Beaverdam Run Log Cabin



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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.ashevillesymphony.org/guild



GUILD AND SYMPHONY EVENTS CALENDAR

December

- 9 Tuesday** *Behind the Notes* with Chip Kaufmann
Community Center, Deerfield, 4 p.m.
- 10 Wednesday** Musical Feast:
Emily Dickenson Unplugged
- 11 Thursday** Guild Program 11 a.m.
Hall Fletcher Elementary School
- 14 Sunday** ASO CONCERT — A Classical Christmas
Thomas Wolfe Auditorium, 3 p.m.

January

- 13 Tuesday** *Behind the Notes* with Chip Kaufmann
Community Center, Deerfield, 4 p.m.
- 15 Thursday** Musical Feast:
Going ... Going ... Gone!
- 15 Thursday** Guild program
St. Mark's Lutheran Church, 10 a.m.
- 16 Friday** Symphony talk with Daniel Meyer
Reuter Center, 3 p.m.
- 17 Saturday** ASO CONCERT — Beethoven's 5th
Thomas Wolfe Auditorium, 8 p.m.
- 21 Wednesday** Musical Feast:
Amadeus Uncovered

February

- 8 Sunday** Musical Feast:
Afternoon Tea at Bartok's Retreat
- 10 Tuesday** *Behind the Notes* with Chip Kaufmann
Community Center, Deerfield, 4 p.m.
- 12 Thursday** Guild program
St. Mark's Lutheran Church, 10 a.m.
- 13 Friday** Symphony talk with Daniel Meyer
Reuter Center, 3 p.m.
- 14 Saturday** ASO CONCERT — Denk plays *Asheville Concerto*
Thomas Wolfe Auditorium, 8 p.m.

Event Locations

Deerfield Community Center Blue Ridge Room
1617 Hendersonville Road, Asheville

Hall Fletcher Elementary School
60 Ridgelawn 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

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.*