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AHS SOUTHERN REGIONAL NEWSLETTER 2010

PATRICE FISHER, Southern Regional Director, ecoslatinos@gmail.com

We had a great time at the **AHS NATIONAL CONFERENCE** in Tacoma, Washington, last July. We heard performances by Latin harpists, **Celso Duarte, Mercedes Gomez and Janet Paulus**. There were performances by jazz harpists, **Ellie Choate, Christa Grix and Deborah Henson Conant**. There was a concert for Harp and Dance, featuring **María Luisa Rayan-Forero**. The opening recital featured French harpist, **Catherine Michel**. The theme of the Conference was Diversity of the Harp and there were plenty of different types of harps and styles of music. **Pat Wooster** was the conference Chair and the conference included a tribute to her teacher, Washington harpist and composer, **Lynne Palmer**. There was a recreation of the Camden Maine Summer Harp Colony studio of **Carlos Salzedo**. A panel of his former students shared their memories of this legendary harpist and composer. A Celtic harp Concert featured Washington harpists, **Harper Tasche and Beth Kolle**.

...Mark your calendars for **9th AHS SUMMER INSTITUTE** and 19th National Competition, University of North Texas in Denton, 6/19/2011 - 6/23/2011. The Summer Institute and National Competitions will be held on the campus of the University of North Texas, which is on the perimeter of the Dallas-Fort Worth metropolitan area. The programs will offer a taste of the rich history of harpists from the Southwest, and will feature elements of world music. For more information, go to [www. http://harp society.org](http://harp society.org). The first¹ 50 applicants, 18 years or under, get free registration.

...The **New Orleans Chapter** received a grant from the National Board of the American Harp Society to produce a series of **RADIO INTERVIEWS** with harpists, for broadcast on the Harpestry program of KRVS public radio and other public radio stations. The first 4 programs can be heard on the national web site at [www. http://www.harp society.org](http://www.harp society.org) and the series is also podcast at [www. http://www.harptalk/podomatic.com](http://www.harptalk/podomatic.com). The first 4 programs feature: **Cecile Corbel, Barbara Belew, Ann Yeung and Mary Radspinner**.

...The American Harp Society now has a **new GRANT PROGRAM**, to help support projects that promote the harp. Applications can be found at [www. http://www.harp society.org](http://www.harp society.org). Look under the "About Us" link for the Grants Program link to the online application.

REGIONAL NEWS:

KENTUCKY, LEXINGTON, submitted by **Elaine Cook**, harpline@qx.net

Harpists in Lexington perform three times a year for residents and visitors at assisted living centers. This activity provides benefits from many points of view: It can serve to satisfy community service requirements for high school students. Residents enjoy the hearing the music and seeing the harpists; their guests are happy to share an event they can experience together, since residents can not often go out to concerts. Students have the opportunity to perform their music together which builds tone and confidence. They play the pieces they know and hear other pieces that will soon be their new pieces. It helps to experience the music flowing in sequence. In Suzuki programs, this is called a "Playthrough"

...On Sunday, November 14th, **Joelle Toews, Ashley Su, Janna Young, Mary Deicher, and Elaine Cook** performed for residents and guests at Homewood Assisted Living Ctr ...On Sunday, August 22nd, **Kylah Rymond, Fiona Mowbray and Elaine Cook** performed outside patients' rooms at the Children's Hospital on the 4th Floor of the UK Chandler Hospital. After playing in four different locations we then moved through a maize of pedways to the Markey Cancer Center where we meet up with **Jennifer Creech, Melissa Brown, Joelle Toews, Janna Young, Tiana The, and Mary Deicher** to perform in the Lobby. Passers by appreciated the activity in the lobby as our music wafted up through the mezzanine to patient rooms on the 2nd floor.

...On April 11th **Melissa Brown, Joelle Toews, Ashley Su, Janna Young, Tiana The, Fiona Mowbray, Mary Deicher, and Elaine Cook** performed at Northpoint Healthcare Ctr
...**Elaine Humphreys Cook** teaches harp and violin with the Lexington Talent Education Association (LTEA) which hosts student recitals every month.

...On the January 24th, LTEA Monthly Recital **Joelle Toews** performed Cricket Song by Waddington, Janna Young Allegro by Haydn and Ashley Su Rustic Dance by Haydn.

...On November 22nd **Ashley Su** will perform Seguidilla by Salzedo and Tiana The will perform Happy Farmer by Schumann for a bi-annual LTEA Honors Recital - students qualify for this opportunity having played their selection for at least six months and having performed it once previously.

...On April 9th **Ashley Su, Joelle Toews, and Elaine Cook** participated in the LTEA Annual Ensemble Concert.

...**Elaine Humphreys Cook** is Lexington Philharmonic principal harpist, teaches at the University of Kentucky in Lexington and at Bellarmine University in Louisville. This season has been unusually full already because of the World Equestrian Games that was hosted as the "Alltech Fortnight Festival" and "Spotlight Lexington" September 25th through October 10th. Every artist in Lexington who wanted to, had a part in this celebration including "Orchestra Week" during which UK Orchestra, UK Opera Theater, Lexington Philharmonic and the Vienna Philharmonic all had special performances.

Elaine received the 2010 Lexington Philharmonic Summer Study Grant and studied orchestral repertoire for the coming season with Gillian Sella in Cincinnati. As the Lexington Philharmonic and Louisville Orchestra 2010-2011 seasons continue, Elaine will perform La Vita Breve by De Falla, Liebestod by Wagner, Romeo and Juliet by Tchaikowsky, Symphonic Dances from Westside Story by Bernstein, Les Preludes by Liszt, Le Tombeau de Couperin by Ravel, Scheherazade by Ravel, Barber Scene from Shelley, op.7, Davis Book Songs Visions, La Mer by Debussy, Respighi Fountains of Rome by Respighi. Elaine also performs with the UK Chinese Ensemble, a Thai Ensemble, and a Javanese Gamelan.

...**Mary Deicher** has performed this semester the UK Symphony: "The Butterfly Lovers" Violin Concerto by Chen Gang; Kol Nidrei by Bloch and last semester she performed Clarinet Concerto by Copland, Alto Rhapsody by Debussy, Symphony No. 5 by Shostakovich, Meistersinger Overture by Wagner, High Flight by Turin and works by Mark O'Conner.

...In October at Tates Creek Christian Church, **Janna Young** (harp) and her brother, Jared (piano), played a harp and piano duet version of "How He loves" by David Crowder for the Offertory. During Communion they played solos including "Revelation Song" by Phillips.

...**Tiana The** performs in the Christmas concert at Christ the King every year and at Saturday and Sunday masses throughout the year.

...**Fiona Mowbray** performs in Drama, Ballet and Musical Theater productions in Lexington and attends summer apprenticeship programs in New York City.

2. **KENTUCKY**, submitted by **Nancy Bick Clark**, lionsbrd@one.net

Nancy Bick Clark performed with her husband **Frank Clark** on bodhran and percussion on October 29, 2010 at the Southeastern Harp Weekend in Asheville, NC. They performed mainly Nancy's compositions for harp with accompaniment by bodhran, triangle or tambourine. Also in the mix were some traditional seasonal songs of the British Isles and one East European medley. Nancy taught four workshops: Appalachian Fiddle Tunes for Harp, Sacred Harp for Many Harps, Welsh Music and Medieval Music. Frank taught a bodhran class. On October 3, Nancy and Frank performed at the Cincinnati Celtic Festival.

...On November 7, **Nancy** gave a retreat at St. George Church in Georgetown, OH, using original harp compositions poetry, as well as prayers, stories and readings.

...**Nancy, Frank and fiddler Jude Jones** will be performing the Third Annual Winter Solstice Concert at the Church of the Redeemer in Cincinnati on December 19 at 3:00 p.m. The trio will be busy performing at area libraries, churches and retirement communities in December.

...On February 26, 2011, **Nancy and Frank** will be performing at the Northeast Florida Scottish

Games near Jacksonville, where Nancy will also be teaching a workshop and judging the Scottish harp competition. Frank will teach a bodhran workshop. The Clark's have been teaching and performing there annually since 2004.

...On June 4, 2011 **Nancy** will be judging at the Glasgow, KY Scottish Games,

...She will be teaching at the Spanish Peaks International Celtic Music Festival Harp Retreat on September 24, 2011. Her workshops will include Appalachian Fiddle Tunes, Sacred Harp for Many Harps, and Welsh music

LOUISIANA

1. LAKE CHARLES, LA., submitted by **Barbara Belew**,

The Louisiana Chapter is pleased to have grown a bit, as we now have 12 members, and we are hoping to be able to sponsor or assist in sponsoring some special events in the coming months.

...Since our dear **Jeanne Thomson**, secretary-treasurer for many years, died last year, we elected **Lynette Babineaux** to that post during a business meeting (combined with an "indoor picnic") this Fall.

...Although the number of participants in the annual McNeese State University Harp Camp was down a bit, the entire event was very successful, notes chapter president **Patricia (Patty) Horvath**, who serves as Assistant Director of the camp.

...Camp Director **Barbara Belew**, chapter vice-president, was very happy to welcome **Rebecca Pippin** of Baton Rouge to the staff as Guest Artist, whose performance enhanced the camp's closing program.

...**Rebecca and Barbara** both are members of the Lake Charles Symphony and each has performed in symphony concerts this year. **Rebecca** also serves as harpist with the Rapides Symphony Orchestra.

...**Barbara and Patty** presented a harp duo concert in March (delayed from the Fall due to Patty's role as a new mom), and another program in October, which helped to initiate McNeese's new theatre in the Shearman Fine Arts Center.

...The latter program included Paul Petrocokino's "Hellas" in an arrangement by former member **David Stockstill** of Picayune, Mississippi, who has returned to the chapter. We welcomed him back at that time.

...The chapter's Spring Concert, an annual free program, also was presented in March. This year's event emphasized ensemble music for various harp combinations, and even included Sauguet's "Barcarolle" for 'cello and harp, with Barbara and guest 'cellist MSU student Carly Thurman of The Woodlands, Texas.

The radio series, **Harp Talk**, hosted by Southern Regional Director, Patrice Fisher, includes a session featuring **Barbara**, which was released in July, and which was and will be aired on various public radio stations.

...Also in the summer **Barbara** represented both McNeese and the Louisiana Chapter by attending the American Harp Society's biennial National Harp Conference, held this year in Tacoma, Washington.

...In March **Lynette Babineaux**, now our new secretary-treasurer and a Student of Barbara's participated in the LMTA State Harp Rally in Baton Rouge, winning the event in her level. We are all very proud of her.

2. NEW ORLEANS, LA. Submitted by **Cathy Anderson**, cathharp@aol.com

Alyssa Kortright, student of **Catherine Anderson** from New Orleans, won the award for Outstanding Harpist at the Louisiana Music Teachers Harp Rally 2010, held at the Runnels School in Baton Rouge on March 6, 2010. This is the second year in a row she has received this honor. There were 20 students participating this year, 12 from the Baton Rouge studio of **Rebecca Todaro**, 7 from **Catherine Anderson's** studio, and one a student of **Barbara Belew** in Lake Charles. Other winners from the New Orleans contingent were **Kathryn Fagan**, 1st place Level A; **Kristen Kortright**, 2nd place Level B; **Marisa Spengeman**, 1st place Level II, and **Rebekah Atkinson**, 1st place Adult Level IV. **Quinn Kendall**, from Baton Rouge, won 2nd place Level A; and **Lynette Babineaux**, from Lake Charles, won 1st place in the Adult Level II. The rally ended with a duo harp concert featuring **Elaine Barber** from Austin, Texas, who had also served as rally adjudicator, and **Rebecca Todaro**. Several of the outstanding students were also invited to perform. Harp Rally 2011 will be held April 2, 2011,

at Tulane University in New Orleans. All harp students throughout the state of Louisiana are welcome to participate. A new edition of the syllabus is available on the LMTA website.

...The New Orleans Chapter has hosted fall and spring student recitals every year since 1998 (except for the year following Hurricane Katrina), and this year the annual Spring Recital was held May 8, 2010, at Tulane University Dixon Hall Annex. The Fall Student recital is scheduled for November 19, 2010, at Metairie Park Country Day School in New Orleans. Harp students performing are **Sophie Mueller, Hailey Mueller, Maury Mueller, Kathryn Fagan, April Simmons, Aimee Dwire, Frankie Ford, Kristin Kortright, Alyssa Kortright, Marisa Spengeman, Tess Clifton, and Rebekah Atkinson.**

...Special congratulations are in order for **April Simmons**, who performed both harp and violin on the Greater New Orleans Youth Orchestra concert November 14, 2010.

...**Catherine Anderson** was featured in concert at Christ Church United Methodist Church in Louisville, Kentucky, as part of their Sanctuary Music Series on October 17, 2010. In addition to performing several pieces with organ, a world premier for bass and harp, and several solos, **Catherine was joined by 14 harpists from the Louisville Chapter**, performing the Pachelbel Canon and Salzedo Fraicheur. The concert finale featured the 120 voice CCUM Concert Choir, orchestra, and harp, in a choral work by Srul Irving Glick



3. NEW ORLEANS, LA. submitted by **Rachel Van Voorhees**, RachelVV@aol.com

Rachel Van Voorhees and Friends will give their annual Christmas concert this year on Sunday, December 5th at 6PM at St. Louis Cathedral. Joining Rachel will be Louisiana Philharmonic concertmaster **Joseph Meyer** and principal flute **Ryan Rice** along with chorus members from the Symphony Chorus, UNO Chorale, St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Opera Chorus and others. Admission is free and open to the public. The concert is part of the St. Louis Cathedral Christmas New Orleans Style series presented by French Quarter Festivals Inc.

...**Rachel Van Voorhees** has become an authorized Lyon and Healy dealer. If you would like to purchase a new or used harp or need harp supplies or strings, please contact her at RachelVV@aol.com or 504-909-3756.

...**Rachel** has also become the Harp Consultant for the Blue Lake Fine Arts Camp in Michigan. This outstanding summer harp program is geared for middle and high school harp students of all levels of ability. Each summer session is two weeks long and includes daily harp lessons, music theory, music history, harp ensemble, and numerous orchestral ensembles. The camp has a large harp studio, 10 harp practice rooms and provides 17 pedal and troubadour harps. It is located an hour north of Grand Rapids on a gorgeous campus near Lake Michigan. Scholarships are available. If you or anyone you know would be interested in attending, please contact Rachel at RachelVV@aol.com or 504-909-3756 or visit the Blue Lake website at www.bluelake.org.

4. LAFAYETTE, LA, submitted by **Bette Vidrine**, bettetheharp@yahoo.com

The **Bayou Harp Ensemble** of Lafayette and the **New Orleans Celtic Harp Ensemble** met at the Louisiana Renaissance Festival on November 14th for an enjoyable day of playing together. They all wished they lived closer together to be able to "play with their friends" more often. Included in the group were 10-yr old **Mya Reine** from New Orleans and 11-yr olds **Megan and Samuel** from Lafayette.

...**Sophia Spallino**, graduate of Bette Vidrine's Harp Studio in Lafayette, is now studying at LSU with **Dr. Kimberly Houser**.

...the **Bayou Harp Circle** will be playing their 6th annual Harp and Handbells Christmas Concert fundraiser for the Affiliated Blind of Louisiana, a Lafayette school for those who become blind after age 18.

...**Bayou Harp Circle** will also play for Noel Acadien au Village, a Christmas light spectacular at Acadian Village in Lafayette.

...It's been a busy year and an injured year for Lafayette area harpists, but things are looking up and the group is getting back into full swing again, thank God!

5. BATON ROUGE, LA, submitted by **Kimberly Houser**, khouser@lsu.edu

Kimberly Houser is in her fifth year of teaching harp at Louisiana State University. Last year LSU acquired 2 new harps! A Lyon and Healy 23 and an 85 CG. Both are beautiful. A third new harp is being planned for the new LSU Band Hall.

In the last year, **Kimberly** has performed numerous times, mostly with flutist Katherine Kemler. She has played in Tucson, Arizona, Austin Texas and Houston Texas as well as Hattiesburg Mississippi. This included a presentation of **Kimberly's new composition** for Harp and Clarinet called "Night Dances," Which was presented at the International Clarinet Fest in Austin, as well as the Mozart Flute and Harp Concerto with the LSU Symphony. Kimberly's voice as a teacher has also been featured a few times in Harp Column Magazine over the last year.

...The coming Spring Semester at LSU will bring a series of harp recitals. Including 2 **DMA recitals and Kimberly's faculty recital** as well as the LSU Harp Studio Showcase concert. Please refer to www.music.lsu.edu for dates and times. Most will be in March and April.

6. COVINGTON, LA, submitted by **Molly Wiggins**, mary.wiggins@att.net.

FOR SALE: Camac concert Athena PEDAL HARP, 47 strings, cherry finish with matching adjustable harp bench, transport cover, velvet dust cover, hand truck, pick up and maxi mini amp. \$12,000.00 mary.wiggins@att.net. 8 years old, in excellent condition, rarely moved from adult students home.

7. NEW ORLEANS, submitted by **Patrice Fisher**, ecoslatinos@gmail.com

The **New Orleans Chapter** produced their first **Harp Extravaganza**, "Strings of Hope Concert, on November 7, at East Jefferson Parish Library in Metairie, LA. The concert featured guest artist, **Heidi Van Hoesen Gorton**, AHS Concert Artist. There were also performances by **New Orleans Celtic Harp Ensemble**, **Catherine Anderson & Tess Clifton**. The concert concluded with an ensemble performance of Dona Nobis Pacem, **performed by 23 harps**. Over 300 people attended the event. **Ms. Van Hoesen** gave a solo recital on November 6, at Holy Trinity Church in Covington, LA & a master class at Tulane University on November 5. We hope to make "Strings of Hope" an annual event



MISSOURI

The Gateway Chapter of the American Harp Society began the season with a Harp Salon at the home of Cathy Horneyer. A performance of Irish Harp Music genres was performed by Eileen Gannon. A business meeting followed the concert. Ed Galchick was here to regulate members pedal harps. The Chapter is currently looking for someone who would be willing to travel to St. Louis to regulate lever Harps.

...The chapter hosts a student Spring Recital each year. The date has not been set at this time.

Teachers interested in having their students perform should contact Chapter President **Terri Langerak** at terr@harp singer.net.

...Our President **Terri Langerak** will be releasing a CD for Christmas entitled MidWinter's Canon, a Christmas Medley for Harp. The CD will be available for purchase the first week of December. You can check her website http://www.harp singer.net/Terri_Langerak for more information.

...Gateway member **Ayako Watanabe's** students **Erin Brooker** and **Katie Hill** have been very busy. **Erin Brooker** is a freshman and Chancellor Scholar at the University of Illinois, Champaign-Urbana. Her goal is to receive a dual degree in harp performance and integrative biology honors. Recently she performed in the Philharmonia concert playing Weber's Invitation to the Dance. **Erin** will be performing Reed's Greensleeves in a freshman solo recital on December 4, 2010 and with the Philharmonia on December 5.

...**Katie Hill** entered the American String Teachers Association (ASTA)--Missouri Solo Competition in October where she was awarded Honorable mention for the state of Missouri. She performed: Marcel Tournier Vers la source dans le bois, G. F. Handel The Harmonious Blacksmith & Bach-Grandjany Etude No. 3

...**Eileen Gannon** spent the summer traveling. May 15-20, 2010 she traveled to Shanghai, China May 15- 20, 2010 with members of the St Louis Irish Arts to perform at the World Expo. In June, **Eileen** performed at the Ozark Folk Center in Mountain View Arkansas and the Midwest Fleadh Cheoil in Chicago. During July, she performed at Catskills Irish Arts Week and the Augusta Irish Week in Elkins West VA. August 16-22, 2010 **Eileen** was at Scoil Éigse and Fleadh Cheoil na hÉireann

...Several Gateway Chapter members currently have **Harps for Sale**:

...Here's your chance to get a lovely, gold, bronze, and maple Pedal Harp that's in GREAT shape, at a price you won't likely see again. **Lyon and Healy Style #16 pedal harp** (same size as a #15). 46 strings, straight soundboard. Gold, Bronze, maple, ornately carved. serial #3188. Rebuilt neck and re-riveted sometime in the '90s. Large, gorgeous sound in a fairly compact instrument. Structurally sound. Located in University City. \$12,500. Thanks! Eva (Murphy) Morley (314) 753-3557

...**Stonyend harp available**. 30", 22 strings, 3-octaves g-to-g, \with padded case and tuner. Asking \$500 (new retail is \$659). Contact should be made to JYOTI.ISHAYA@yahoo.com. Put 'harp' in the subject.

ST. LOUIS, submitted by **Amy Camie**, healingharp@aol.com

Harpist, **Amy Camie** continues to share her healing harp music throughout the holiday season. From "Vibrational Awareness" workshops and presentations in St. Louis and Columbia, MO to multiple "Sacred Connections" concerts and playing for hospital patients and families, Amy's music continues to touch the hearts and souls of others. Plus, she has two new CDs with harp, crystal bowls and toning being released. For a complete listing of events and musical CDs, visit: www.amycamie.com

TENNESSEE

1. NASHVILLE, TN, submitted by **LeAnne Harrington**, Nashville Harp Society

The **Nashville Chapter of the American Harp Society** (Nashville Harp Society) held our fall meeting on Sunday afternoon, October 24, 2010 at The Embassy in Madison, TN.

The meeting was well attended by both current NHS members and friends of the harp, with a total attendance of 74 people. Membership continues to grow, with 11 new members joining the Nashville Harp Society roster. The Fall meeting featured guest performer **Heidi Van Hoesen Gorton**, principal harpist with the Hartford Symphony Orchestra, and winner of the prestigious Young Professional Division of the American

Harp Society (AHS) National Competition in June 2009. As winner of this competition, **Ms. Van Hoesen Gorton** serves as the AHS Concert Artist through 2011, and has toured extensively around the country, with performances in Washington, DC, Tacoma, Denton, Milwaukee, Syracuse, New York City, and Nashville, and has upcoming performances scheduled for Pittsburgh, San Francisco and New Orleans.

...**Ms. Van Hoesen Gorton** is an exciting and talented young artist who is one the most highly acclaimed harpists of her generation. She has won several international competitions, including the Anne Adams Awards in 2010 and the Victor Salvi Awards Foundation Competition in 2009. In addition to her extensive touring and performance schedule, **Ms. Van Hoesen Gorton** completed her undergraduate degree in harp performance and will graduate with a master's degree in harp performance in 2011, both from the Juilliard School. She is currently a student of **Nancy Allen**, and has studied with **Gretchen Van Hoesen and Anne Marguerite-Michaud** in Pittsburgh, as well as **Elizabeth Fontan-Binoche** in France.

...**Ms. Van Hoesen Gorton** played a selection of pieces ranging from Salzedo's "Ballade, Opus 28" and Grandjany's arrangement of the Bach piece "Andante from Sonata No. 2 in A minor" to Kati Agocs' "John Riley" from "Every Lover Is A Warrior." **Ms. Van Hoesen Gorton** was so well received by NHS members and guests, that she was asked to return to the stage for an encore of Alfredo Rolando Ortiz' "Red Merengue."

...Following her performance, **Ms. Van Hoesen Gorton** was kind enough to answer questions from the audience regarding her practice schedule, her life growing up playing harp from such an early age, and the inherent pressures that come from being a gifted second generation harpist. After the question and answer period, a reception was held to honor **Ms. Van Hoesen Gorton**, with refreshments provided by **Nashville Harp Society**

2. NASHVILLE, TN. Submitted by **Amy McKinney**, laharpist@aol.com

I am an orchestra director in a magnet middle school. I hope to complete a Masters in Music Ed in May 2011 from Belmont University. I play for special occasions, and teach private harp lessons. My main focus are my orchestra students, and working on my master's thesis.

3. BURNS, TN, The Harp School, Inc., submitted by **Wes Ramsay**, augustpr@bellsouth.net

The Harp School, Inc., has enjoyed a most successful 2010, highlighted by a week spent with **Elinor Bennett** at the 2010 Summer Harp Academy, held this July at General Butler State Resort Park. With over 50 attendees on hand, the week included a lecture recital at the Welsh triple harp by **Ms. Bennett**, and a performance of the Britten Ceremony of Carols, conducted by Greg Wheatley, on faculty at Wheaton College, and producer of WMBI's nationally syndicated Sound of Majesty and Inside Look. The campers formed the choir, preparing the piece over the course of four days, with several of the students (and Ms. Bennett herself, at one point!) accompanying at the harp. Dr. Chris Mathews, chair of music at Union University, also joined us, serving as a choral coach and lecturer for high school students beginning the university admissions process. It was an intensive week of performance and learning for all participants, in a beautiful resort setting only a few hours drive from most of the East and Midwest of the United States.

...A few student highlights from 2010:

Lydia Falconnier, presently in her junior year at University of Louisville, is now working in collaboration with Dr. Marc Satterwhite, Chair of the Grawemeyer Award in Music Composition, coaching the composition majors as they create a new set of works for the harp, to be premiered later this academic year.

...**Anna Wicker**, presently a senior at Union University, with a double major in Spanish and music, returned from her semester in Argentina to prepare her senior recital, LRSM preparation, and graduate school admission portfolio. She was chosen by Union as one of the student recitalists for a presentation to the accreditation committee of National Association of Schools of Music.

...**Natalie Riley** graduated with honors from Western Kentucky University, married, and is now in China, pursuing studies in Chinese before returning for graduate school.

... **Parker Ramsay** began his first term at King's College, Cambridge University, as the first American to ever hold the position of organ scholar in a Cambridge college chapel. He will perform Ceremony of Carols with the Girls' Choir of Ely Cathedral in December, conducted by Sarah MacDonald, Director of Music at Selwyn College, Cambridge. **He and Clara Warford** participated in the competitions of the Welsh International Harp Festival in Caenarfon in Spring 2010, joined by **Alison Warford and Artistic Director Carol McClure**. **Parker** also received the commission to write the anthem for the Royal College of Organists summer course for 2010, and will perform on BBC Television's production of Carols from Kings this December.

... **The Harp School** hosted separate visits to Tennessee by Tim Arnold, Director of International Operations of The Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music, as well as John Holmes, Chief Examiner of ABRSM. Harp School Secretary **Wes Ramsay** attended a conference of all United States ABRSM representatives in New York, hosted by Guy Perricone, recently appointed CEO of ABRSM. The Board has ambitious plans for the United States, and **The Harp School, Inc.** is proud of its long & fruitful work with ABRSM.

... Artistic Director **Carol McClure** travels to Chicago this December for performances of Ceremony of Carols with the Glenn Ellyn-Wheaton Chorale, bringing Harp School students **Emily Stewart and Clara Warford** with her to perform the solo and duet portions of the piece. She continues her work as children's curriculum editor for St. James Music Press, and is beginning work on an extended choral work commissioned by the Louisville Youth Choir.

4. MEMPHIS, TN, submitted by **Lorrie Moore**, mooremelodies@hotmail.com.

This summer, 17 year old college sophomore **Melodie Moore** performed in Carnegie Hall with Grammy nominated saxophonist, Kirk Whalum and the Overton Wind Ensemble. In June, she was also chosen from preliminary auditions as a finalist in the 2010 Orpheum Star Search competition where she performed a jazz selection. **Melodie** tested Level 8 and passed with Distinction by the Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music based in London, which is the world's leading musical examination board. Celebrating the 10th anniversary of the Rudi E. Scheidt School of Music, **Melodie** performed Gustav Mahler's Symphony No. 2 "Resurrection" with the university's symphony orchestra and choirs where she is the principal harpist for the symphony orchestra, wind ensemble, symphonic & university bands, & the opera chamber orchestra. In addition to harp activities, she is heavily involved with non-profit organizations including the Tiara Tea Society which raises funds for young people in need each year. **Melodie** streamlined fundraising for air transportation from Haiti to the United States, medical operations & follow-up care for an injured Haitian teenager, Judeline, who lost her leg in the Haiti earthquake. As a treat for Judeline while in Memphis, The Peabody Hotel's, Chez Philippe restaurant will host a Tea as the crowning moment for Judeline courtesy of the Tiara Tea Society.

5. MEMPHIS/SEWANEE, TN, submitted by **Marian Shaffer**, marianshaffer@gmail.com

Marian Shaffer and Frances Cobb taught the harp students at the Sewanee Summer Music Festival last summer. Students from Memphis were **Alicia Guthrie and Margaret Wheless**. Students from the Vanderbilt pre college program were **Amy Thompson, Kristin Quint, and Caroline Zhao**. **Amy Thompson** was one of the concerto winners and performed William Alwyn's "Lyra Angelica" with the festival orchestra. **Valerie Huang**, also a student of **Marian Shaffer**, was the Emerson Scholar from Tennessee at the Interlochen Arts Academy. She maintained the principal harp position for the length of the festival.