



AMERICAN
HARP
SOCIETY

A tax-exempt non-profit corporation founded in 1962

Pacific Region Newsletter Fall 2012

Maria Casale, Regional Director

12728 Milbank Street, Studio City, CA 91604

818 762-9111 mariacasaleharp@hotmail.com

Autumn Greetings!

As your newly appointed Regional Director I am excited to have the opportunity to work with you for the next three years. As our harp community continues to grow and thrive, I look forward to sharing the news of your accomplishments, appointments, concerts, events, mater classes and workshops. Please forward information you would like included in the next Regional Newsletter through your chapter's president and I will do my best to include it in the next edition.

Wishing you Happy Holidays, as they are just around the corner.

Sincerely,

Maria Casale

The AHS website—www.harpsociety.org has been updated and you can create a profile, manage your account and more cool things—so check it out! Also, please be sure to like the AHS Facebook page! It is a great way to stay connected.

The 10th AHS Summer Institute, Competition and Lyon & Healy Awards

Will take place at the Colburn School in Los Angeles, CA

June 12-15, 2013—Lyon and Healy Awards

June 15-18, 2013—AHS National Competition

June 18-22, 2013—Summer Institute—Focus on Friends is the theme of the institute and will focus on the finest chamber music and small jazz and pop ensembles. Coachings and classes with Heidi Lehwalder, Carol Robbins and Paul Baker are just the beginning. Please visit www.harpsociety.org for more info and the required repertoire lists for the competitions.

Chapter and Area News/Events

Santa Barbara Chapter

President: Christine Holvick , christine@HarpistofSantaBarbara.com 805.969.6698

The Santa Barbara Chapter was fortunate to have the opportunity on October 5, 2012 to sponsor concert harpist Grace Cloutier (BM - Juilliard, MM - Yale) from New York to perform a magnificent mini recital

and workshop for the harpists and harp fans in the Santa Barbara area. Ms. Cloutier was staying in Los Angeles to record original works written for her by composer David Lefkowitz. These fascinating and award winning works were introduced by the composer himself before she played them for the audience during her recital.

The Santa Barbara Chapter is planning some delightful events for the coming months: a Harpoween Costume Party, October 31, 2012; two Dinner Parties & Harp Circles (probably in the winter and spring); our Elegant Afternoon Harp Tea in March; perhaps a Lotusland-related event; and we hope to have a workshop about Music Notation on the Computer.

Conejo Chapter

President: Toni Robinson-Bogart, TLRB@aol.com, 805.241.0885

No news at this time.

Los Angeles Chapter

President: Stephanie Bennett, harpworld@harpworld.com, 818.891.1023

Our Spring Fling concert/fundraiser on May 6 featured performances by the three young winners of this year's Valeria Finzi Memorial Scholarship (Annette Lee, Nina Agelvis and Joelle Roup), as well as a guest performance by the unique and exciting duo of Hitomi Suzuki [harp] and Saeko Kujiraoka [koto].

During the summer of 2012, the voting membership of AHS-LA passed two amendments to our chapter's constitution and bylaws. Term limits were amended so that (instead of all officers being ineligible for any office in the next two-year term), the President and First Vice-President are eligible to be re-elected for the next term, and the Second Vice-President, Corresponding Secretary, Recording Secretary and Treasurer are eligible for re-election without limitation. Also, the number of board members required (in addition to the six elected officers) was reduced from between 18 and 24, to between 9 and 13.

On Sunday, August 26, 2012, chapter members gathered at Dorothy Victor's home for a membership meeting (and potluck party). We discussed suggestions for upcoming programs, voted to raise chapter membership fee from \$20 to \$22, and held our elections for officers and board for the upcoming 2-year term. For election results, see www.harpsocietyla.org/about-us.

On Saturday, Oct. 6, AHS-LA presented a recital by the outstanding New York-based harpist Grace Cloutier, which included premieres of two works by Los Angeles composer David Lefkowitz.

Plans have just been confirmed for this December's 15th annual Holiday Harp Extravaganza, directed by Elaine Litster, in which dozens of harpers and harpists (of all ages and levels) from all over Southern California come together to play ensemble music for an appreciative audience. This year we will perform again in the lobby of Huntington Memorial Hospital in Pasadena.

Announcements of upcoming events, and snapshots and reviews of recent events, may be viewed at www.harpsocietyla.org/events.

Orange County Chapter

President: Susan Roth, susanroth@cox.net , 949.215.5797

The Orange County Chapter had a fun and busy summer. In July we held our Scholarship Auditions with a record 21 participants. The winners shared \$800.00 in prize money and performed at a large event in August.

In August we held a master class with Kathleen Bride of the Eastman School. At her master class Kathleen Bride discussed the issues faced by prospective students in the audition portion of the college application process, and she also held mock auditions with several students. This was an extension of our "Get into College Seminar" which is a yearly seminar comprised of multiple meetings with lectures on where to apply, how to get financial aid, and strategies for the audition. We will be holding this seminar later this year.

In August we held a large event at the Murray Center in Mission Viejo, California entitled "Hooray for Hollywood." This event celebrated harpists of Southern California from Hollywood veterans to showcasing our up--and--coming youth members. We had performances from our winners of the Scholarship Auditions held last July, premiered the winning composition of our New Music Competition "Hypnotic Dances for Flute and Harp" by Lucas Floyd sponsored by a grant from AHS, and raised money for AHS Foundation in the memory of Dorothy Remsen, Suzanne Balderston and Dale Barco through a fun silent auction. We had many special guests including Kathleen Bride, Gayle Levant, Eric Remsen among many others. Please check our website: www.orangeharps.org for details on our upcoming season. We are planning a New Music Competition, Music Education Auditions, our Get into College Seminar, Scholarship Auditions, along with concerts and many other events not to be missed.

San Diego Chapter

President: Tasha Godinez-Smith, <http://www.harpbytashasmith.com/> 619.300.6228

Performance by advanced students at the Mission Trails Information Center in San Diego on April 21, 2013.

Student recital May 2013 location TBA.

Annual High Tea June 2013.

Adult Student recital September 2013 location TBA.

Hawaii Chapter

President: No news at this time.