

Northwest Region March E-News

Hello! I hope everyone has been having a good winter. Here in Seattle, everything has started to bloom and the blizzards in the Midwest and East coast feel very far away. Our region has been very active in the last few months, with many upcoming events planned, especially the upcoming AHS Summer Institute on June 21-24 in Logan, Utah. Please visit the link to read more about it and consider going. <http://www.harpsociety.org/ConferenceInstitute/2015Institute.asp> It is sure to be a wonderful week of concerts and workshops, and a great opportunity to meet your fellow Northwest members! Hope to see you there, Catherine Case

Alaska

no news at this time

British Columbia

Rebecca Blair will be presenting a morning of romantic music with Michelle Carlisle featuring harp, flute and voice, Feb, 12, 2015, 10:30 - 11:30 AM, at the Silk Purse Arts Centre, West Vancouver. See <http://silkpurse.ca/classical> for more details. Rebecca will also be performing in a band with Sarah Chisholm at Vancouver's Celtic Fest, in a free concert **Sunday, March 15, 2015**, 3:00 – 4:00 PM, Doolin's stage on Granville St., downtown Vancouver. See www.celticfestvancouver.com for more details.

Elizabeth Volpé Bligh will be featured as soloist with the Vancouver Symphony Orchestra April 26, 7:30 p.m. at the Orpheum Annex. She will be performing at Harps on the Hill Festival in Ontario in June, and then will be coaching the harp students at the new VSO Orchestral Institute at Whistler from June 28 to July 5, 2015. The institute offers young musicians an experience and education like no other, joining together the GRAMMY® and JUNO Award-winning VSO with Whistler, one of the world's finest mountain resorts. Students will be immersed in a collaborative musical environment alongside and mentored by a world-class symphony orchestra, under the direction of the VSO's internationally acclaimed music director, Maestro Bramwell Tovey. Participation in the Whistler Institute Orchestra, chamber music, individual and group coachings, as well as a variety of unique performance opportunities will fill students' warm summer days and cool, refreshing evenings in the mountains of beautiful British Columbia in Canada. For more information, visit www.vsoinstitute.ca.

Lani Krantz played second harp with the Vancouver Symphony in its annual New Music Festival in January, 2015.

Caroline McKay's 16th Annual SPRING HARP Workshop this year is in Silver Hills, east of Vernon, BC. The facilitator is Rebecca Blair, who brings style, energy and a world of experience to the weekend of April 17 - 19, 2015. This retreat will be most helpful for the progress of Intermediate players. The new venue is at a lovely spa retreat centre, where there is a focus on the health benefits of a vegetarian and vegan menu, and where the spa facilities are available to the participants. Contact Caroline Mackay at theharplady@shaw.ca. phone: (250) 768-0930. High Spirits Music & Harps www.highspiritsmusic.com
Rebecca's workshop will focus on dance, which lies at the heart of Celtic music. She will use her fifteen years of Irish dancing experience to demystify all the dances' rhythms to help students breathe life into melodies and 'lilt' into their playing. Other aspects will be:

Practise Techniques for the Busy harpist, The Lone Arranger, Secrets of improvisation, Tips for Performing

Maria Moularas performed the second movement of the Mozart Flute and Harp concerto with the Chilliwack Symphony in the spring of 2014, and performed with Cirque Musica's Christmas production in Abbotsford. She continues to teach and was the recipient of a second Royal Conservatory Gold Medal Teacher award.

Joy Yeh will perform a series of chamber recitals as a member of the Onyx Trio at UBC School of Music, Capilano University and Kwantlen Polytechnic University. In March, she will play Ravel's Tzigane and a solo harp piece with the Prince George Symphony Orchestra, and she will also perform Debussy's Danses sacrée et profane with the Vancouver Academy of Music Symphony Orchestra in April.

The Vancouver Women's Musical Society is excited to host a scholarship competition for orchestral instruments in March, which includes the first harp applicants in the past 8 years.

Harp for sale by **Joan Spencer**, contact: jmspencer@shaw.ca - walnut Lyon & Healy 23 concert grand harp. Received from the Lyon & Healy factory in October 1984. <http://www.lyonhealy.com/pedal-style-23.htm>

The harp was regulated by Lyon & Healy in 2012 and all the wire strings were replaced at that time. Lyon & Healy evaluated the harp at \$20,000 (US) when it was loaned to the World Harp Congress in Vancouver in 2011. It has a beautiful sound. \$20,000 (will consider offers). Comes with an adjustable padded walnut bench. (photos available)

Idaho

Boise Chapter

We are announcing Boise's first "Idaharp Festival" on May 2, 2015 at the Riverside Hotel in Boise, ID.

Purchase your tickets **before March 15** and receive a discounted ticket!

<http://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/1266162>

This event will also be an opportunity for harpists in the area to receive a regulation by Steve Moss, Lyon & Healy Certified Harp Technician. If you would like to be put on the regulation list, please email Matthew **before March 15** at: matthewtutsky@gmail.com

Sarah Close won the Idaho Falls Symphony's state level Young Artist's Concerto Competition at their finals on November 8th, 2014. She will be performing the Harp Concerto in B flat major, Op 4 No 6 by Handel with the Idaho Falls Symphony at the Civic Auditorium for their season finale on April 25th, 2015 as their competition winner.

Sarah has been the principal harpist for the Idaho Falls Youth Symphony, Sun Valley Summer Youth Orchestra and at a Utah Music Festival. She has played for 23 conductors since the age of twelve.

Sarah won her first state competition at the age of 8 with an original composition, and has gone on to win several local and regional competitions, including the Concerto Competition for the Idaho Falls Youth Symphony, and gained honors in the Upper Valley Music Teachers Association. She has performed at Gem State. and will be playing at the North West Conference in February.



A believer in giving back, she has used her harp to volunteer at care centers and hospitals, and is the recipient of the Congressional Award and the Presidential Volunteer Service Award. She is also a member of the National Honor Society. Congratulations, Sarah!

Montana

no news at this time

Oregon

no news at this time

Utah Chapter

American Harp Society Institute and National Competition will be held in Logan, Utah at Utah State University on Sunday, June 21st through Wednesday, June 24, 2015. Many of the local chapter members are looking forward to volunteering and being part of this great experience. The **Lyon & Healy Awards will be held on** Friday, June 19th and Saturday, June 20, 2015 at the University of Utah in Logan, Utah as well.

Spring Harp Festival 2015

On May 9, 2015 we will be holding our annual **Spring Harp Festival** at Brigham Young University. We usually have over 200 harpists who played and represented over 30 teachers. The **Honors Recitals** will be held the following Saturday, May 16th, 2015 at Lyon and Healy West in SLC.

Scholarship Awards

Our chapter has two scholarship programs. The Rosalie Rebollo Pratt Award which is awarded to a promising harp student or students with a financial need. It can be used to pay for harp lessons, harp rentals, or harp music and supplies. The second scholarship is a scholarship harp loaner program called Konrad's Harp Award named after harpist Konrad Nelson former harpist for the Utah Symphony. We have started this scholarship with lever harps but hope to find a donated pedal harp. There is a great need for promising harp students who cannot yet afford to purchase a pedal harp. If you are interested in donating to the Rosalie Pratt Award please email julie@LDSharp.com. We welcome any donations including harps, harp music, harp supplies etc...which can be shared with our chapter members.

Student Awards and Harp Performances

Congratulations to Carly Ewell who won the 2014 Concerto Competition at Utah State University and performed Debussy's *Danse sacrée et danse profane* on February 25th.

Congratulations to Katie Ann Powell who performed the Boieldieu Harp Concerto with her high school orchestra in February.

Congratulations to Mischael Ann Staples who won the OMS Concerto Competition for a second year in a row as well as the Aspiring Musicians Concerto Competition with Timpanogos Symphony Orchestra and will play with them in April and May.



Congratulations to Jane Taylor who soloed with the Utah Valley Youth Symphony in February and will be performing the Dittersdorf Concerto with American Fork High School's Chamber Symphony this spring.

Suzuki Harp Institute

The Utah Suzuki Harp Institute was held at Utah State University. They held classes and teacher training in the Chase Fine Arts building from July 6-11, 2014 culminating in a performance of 80 harpists aged 4-18.

Utah State University Harp Program

It has been an exciting year at the Utah State University. In December the USU harp studio performed John Cage's *Postcard from Heaven* as part of the Museum + Music series at the Nora Eccles Harrison Museum of Art. During Spring semester a masterclass with Senior Master Sgt. Eric A. Sabatino of the United States Air Force Band was held. This May will see the first graduate of the USU Harp Program, and looking ahead to the 2015-16 academic year, performance psychologist Dr. Noa Kageyama will be on campus to work with the harp studio as part of the Caine College of the Arts Visiting Artist and Scholar Series. Utah State University will also be hosting the AHS Institute and L&H Awards in June.

Harp Workshop with Harpists Emmanuel Ceysson

From January 19th to the 25th Intermountain Harp Education Association sponsored Emmanuel Ceysson with a week full of lessons, masterclasses and lectures. Classes throughout the week were held at the University of Utah and Brigham Young University. The highlight of the week was Emmanuel's fabulous concert. The week was then capped off by his performance of Grandjany's Colorado Trail on the January 25th broadcast of Music and the Spoken Word with the Mormon Tabernacle Choir. We were very honored to have him come and share his expertise and talents with the harpists here. It was an unforgettable week.

Hospital Harp Program

The Utah Valley Regional Medical Center in Provo, Utah has a volunteer harp music program and would love harpists to share their music. You can contact them directly for more details. It is much easier to volunteer now that they have the Salvi Daphne Concert Grand harp which is available for this purpose. We hope that several of our chapter members will find time to play the harp for those going through challenging health situations.

Washington

Greater Seattle Chapter

The 2015 Harp Spectrum summer camps list is on the site. Some camps have early deadlines so check it out at http://www.harpspectrum.org/camps_concerts/camps%20USA.shtml

On November 23, 2014, 16-year-old harpist **Tiffany Chen**, from Vancouver, WA, performed as soloist with the Seattle Youth Symphony Orchestra in Benaroya Hall. Tiffany, an AHS member, gained this honor and opportunity by winning the SYSO's Concerto Competition earlier in the year. Tiffany performed Gliere's Concerto for Harp in E-flat Major, Op. 74



On January 17-18, **John Carrington** perform the world premiere of a work for harp and clarinet by Tim Huling. Huling wanted to create a work that evokes the Pacific Northwest – hence his title, “The American Northwest”. It has 3 movements: I Waters and Waterways; II Bird Calls; III Rainier: The Mountain and Summiting. The performances took place on Whidbey Island, with the Saratoga Orchestra.

Patti Warden performed with the Cascade Symphony in their presentation of *The Story of Babar, the Little Elephant*, as part of the Children’s Concert at the Edmonds Center for the Arts, Feb. 21

Our annual adjudications will take place on March 7 and March 28, led by **Bethany Man**.

Pat Wooster will lead the Pacific Lutheran University Harp Ensemble in a concert on April 11 at Lagerquist Concert Hall on the campus of PLU. Pat also directs the South Sound Strings Harp Ensemble, which will perform their spring concert on April 26, at the University of Puget Sound in Tacoma.

Wyoming

In December, 2014, a newly formed harp ensemble in Casper performed for several community functions.

In May, 2015, **Connie Wallace** and her violinist husband, Jack, will present a recital as part of the Casper Chamber Music Society programs. Other members from the Casper musical community will perform with them.

In November, **Alice Freeman** was successfully elected to another 3-year term on the Board of Directors for the International Society of Folk Harpers and Craftsmen (publishers of the “Folk Harp Journal”). She designed the original ISFHC Facebook page and assists now as a Page Administrator. Alice has also been appointed to a position with the National Standards Board for Therapeutic Musicians maintaining their website and Facebook page, besides continuing to serve as the 501(c)3 Corporation’s Treasurer. In March she will be attending the 2015 International Harp Therapy Conference in San Diego, California.