



American Harp Society – Pacific Region Fall/Winter 2009 Newsletter

Greetings to all our chapter members in the Pacific Region, Southern California and Hawaii! Please take a moment to catch up on our member and chapter news, and be sure to mark your calendar for the 2010 AHS Convention in Tacoma next summer!

**The American Harp Society
National Convention,
18th National Competition
and Anne Adams Awards
June 30-July 5, 2010
Tacoma, Washington**

www.ahsconference.org

Visit the web-site today and plan to attend this fabulous harp week-end! The Anne Adams Auditions will be held on June 30th and July 1st, followed by days of wonderful harp music, workshops, masterclasses, lectures, and concerts. Catherine Michel is the opening concert artist. Other featured artists are Judy Loman, Jana Bouskava, Deborah Henson

Conant, Ellie Choate, Paul Baker, Christa Grix, the Duarte Family from Mexico, and more. This is Carlos Salzedo's 125th anniversary, so there will be special events and exhibits of interest. In addition to our classical, chamber and concerto concerts, there will be celtic, latin, and pop and jazz performances. Those who are travelling with family will find a plethora of fun and interesting sites and activities in the Seattle/Tacoma area. There's something for everyone, so why not make it a family vacation?!

AHS has a new web-site!

The AHS has a new look online, with an expanded web-site that features links to the AHS Archives, information and news, and all sorts of interesting harp-related programs. Check it out today: **www.harpsociety.org** And for you facebook fans, now there's an American Harp Society group. Stay in touch...

CHAPTER NEWS

There has never been a better time to get involved with your local chapter. The economy hits everyone where it hurts, but harp society events are a great antidote. Suggested donations for tickets are affordable, and many events are free. Music education and scholarship events are a great way for young harpists to tap into the harp world, and we all gain when we have a chance to get together and enjoy beautiful music. If you have a little extra time, see how you can get involved with your local chapter.

There's always a way to contribute your time and talent, and it's a nice way to connect with your harp community.

Conejo Valley Chapter Toni Robinson Bogart, President

Italian harpist Floraleda Sacchi gave a solo concert on June 30th at the Civic Arts Plaza in Thousand Oaks. Flora was in town for a few days on her way from Italy to the AHS Institute in Salt Lake City, where she was featured in a concert and master class.

In other news, Toni Robinson Bogart is the director of a harp ensemble that has been active for the past six years, and will be heard first on the program at the Conejo Valley Youth Orchestra concert at the Thousand Oaks Civic Arts Plaza on January 31st. The harp group provides valuable ensemble experience and helps prepare these students for positions in the three youth orchestras in the Conejo Valley system.

Los Angeles Chapter Paul Baker, President

The new season kicked off with a duo harp concert on November 13th by ReGroup, harpists Lynne Aspnes and John Wickey in a stunning program that included several transcriptions

that Mr. Wickey has done for their concert tours.

The 2009-2010 season:

12 December 2009, 12:00 noon
Westfield West Covina Mall
12th annual Holiday Harp Extravaganza, directed by Elaine Litster. This year a joint event with the Orange County Chapter, harpists from all over the Los Angeles metropolitan area come together to perform a program of holiday favorites in a spontaneous mega-harp-ensemble.

January 31st and February 28th, 2010
Music Education sessions

Monday, March 15, 2010
"Practice and Performance:
Playing with Confidence" Workshop
Stella Castellucci residence, Santa Monica

Sunday, April 25, 2010
Valeria Finzi Memorial Scholarship Auditions

Sunday, May 23, 2010
Annual "Spring Fling" benefit for Valeria Finzi Memorial Scholarship fund
Paul Baker and Ellie Choate, duo harpists
Tina Lenert residence, Pasadena

Orange County Chapter Chapter of the Year Mindy Ball, President 2007-2009 Brian Noel, President

The Orange County Chapter was awarded AHS Chapter of the Year for 2009 by the Board of Directors of the AHS, as announced at the opening membership meeting of the Summer Institute in Salt Lake City. In addition to receiving a check for \$300.00, the chapter will be recognized in a feature article in the AHS Journal. The OC Chapter web-site (orangeharps.org) also has more information about the award, which was given on the basis of the scope of events sponsored and co-

sponsored by the chapter under the leadership of chapter president Mindy Ball.

The new season kicked off with a membership meeting on November 15th at the Salvi studio in Anaheim. Newly elected president Brian Noel presided at an open-mic program featuring chapter members, followed by a raffle to benefit the scholarship fund and a pot-luck supper. Tomoko Sato presented Mindy Ball with an award of recognition and thanks for her work as president during the inaugural seasons.

Sunday, December 6th
Torrance Memorial Hospital
12th Annual Holiday Harp Extravaganza
See also December 12th, LA Chapter

January 23rd and February 13th, 2010
Music Education Auditions

14 March 2010
Annual Lasagna Night

April, 2010 to be announced
Guest artist, fund raising event for scholarship fund

May 16, 2010
Annual Spring Fiesta featuring scholarship recipients and harpist guest artist

**San Diego Chapter
Joyce Peterson, President**

The West Coast Harp Duo featuring Tasha Smith and Sarah Davis presented a concert on Saturday, November 21st at the Serra Mesa Library. Tasha studied in Paris and earned her Master's degree from CSU San Diego. She plays regularly with the Baja California and Grossmont Symphonies and is the Vice-President of the San Diego Chapter. Sarah is also a graduate of CSUSD and is planning to study in France. She plays with the San Diego Symphony, City

Ballet Orchestra, and Civic Youth Symphony.

In March, harpist Kate Loughrey and Friends will perform a program of music for harp, piano, and flute at the Dove Library in Carlsbad.

**Santa Barbara Chapter
Christina Holvick, President**

Harpists in Santa Barbara have come to enjoy exciting events year after year, many of which recur annually. Recent chapter events:

January 12, 2009
"Harp and Vittles" social luncheon at The University Club

March 14, 2009
"Scrap Bee Tea"
The favorite event of the year, an enchanting afternoon English tea party

May 23, 2009
Harp Petting Zoo
for the I Madonnari Festival
This unique event features a "pen" of harpists who allow children to see and hear harps up close. Those who are comfortable doing so also allow kids to touch the instruments—a terrific outreach to the community.

September 26, 2009
Season Kick-Off Potluck Party
From 6:00 p.m. until everyone is "plucked out" at Patricia Rushton's home in Hope Ranch

Please submit your news for the Pacific Regional Newsletter to:

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See you in Tacoma!