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American Harp Society

45th National Conference

Orlando, Florida • June 16-19, 2024

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Welcome to the
45TH NATIONAL CONFERENCE
of the AMERICAN HARP SOCIETY

The mission of the American Harp Society is to celebrate our legacy, inspire excellence, and empower the next generation of harpists.



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SAVE *the* DATE

15th AHS SUMMER INSTITUTE & HARP ENSEMBLE FESTIVAL



June 12-15, 2025

Marriott Dallas Allen Hotel • Allen, Texas



**Hosted by the Dallas Chapter
of the American Harp Society**

AHS Summer Institute Co-Chairs
Laura Brandenburg & Kela Walton

26th AHS NATIONAL COMPETITION

May 28-June 1, 2025

The Colburn School, Los Angeles

JoAnn Turovsky, Competition Director

MANY THANKS *to the* 2024 NATIONAL CONFERENCE
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ELIZABETH HUNTLEY

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ONE BY ONE/4IMPRINT

SUZANNE THOMAS

GRETCHEN VAN HOESEN



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WELCOME TO ORLANDO *and the* 45TH NATIONAL CONFERENCE *of the* AMERICAN HARP SOCIETY

It is my pleasure to welcome you to the long-awaited National Conference in the most magical place on earth, Orlando! We are thrilled to be sharing this time together at the beautiful Renaissance Orlando at SeaWorld.

A conference usually takes about two years of planning and preparation to launch an incredible national event. As many of you likely know, this conference was scheduled to take place in 2020. That means our team of dedicated volunteers have been planning and waiting for this event for close to six years! We are so grateful to our host, the Central Florida Chapter of AHS, and our Chair, Cheryl Cunningham, for believing in this event and seeing this through despite the unexpected setback.

This year's conference theme is "That's Entertainment!" and that is exactly what this conference will be doing! We will be celebrating our legacy (past, present, and future) through the lens of enjoyment and entertainment. Incredibly diverse concerts will delight with creative programs and themes from various time periods, genres, and areas of our world. Presentations will look to the past by sharing the history of our harp pioneers, and guide us in the now and future by sharing the latest technological aids, address wellness and injury prevention, and much more. Make sure to take some time between the presentations, concerts, and social connections to walk the exhibition hall and explore all that is on display for us.

I would like to thank all our volunteers who are working hard to make this event sparkle. A very special thank you to the Central Florida Chapter, its President Susan K. Bright, and Cheryl Cunningham for their dedicated work over the past six years. Many thanks to our National Events Group Coordinator, Lynne Aspnes; our National Event Manager, Connie Hunt; and our Executive Director, Kathy McManus for all their incredible work on this event. Lastly, thank you to our sponsors who support the vision of the AHS and helped make this event extra special.

For every harpist and friend of the harp at our conference, we are sure that you will be delighted and inspired as this conference entertains you!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Angela Schwarzkopf".

Angela Schwarzkopf, President
American Harp Society



WELCOME!

That's Entertainment!

After five long years, disrupted twice by COVID-19, we're proud to finally present this National Conference to our AHS membership! When Orlando was first proposed as the venue, Central Florida Chapter leader Jan Jennings told us that "People come to Florida to be entertained. Our goal is to make sure people enjoy themselves." With the perseverance of the Chapter and most of the same performers rescheduled from 2020 and 2021, we're finally able to bring that vision to life.

So how are we doing that? The clues are in the theme song of this conference:

Everything that happens in life
Can happen in a show
You can make 'em laugh
You can make 'em cry
Anything, Anything can go....

This week you can find just about "anything" on the schedule and enjoy a wide range of diverse performances, workshops and hands-on experiences that reflect the goals of the original 2020 conference:

- Celebrating the **history & legacy** of American popular music transformed by the iconic American harpists who brought their cultural influences to the repertoire.
- **Professional development & repertoire resources** that inform teaching and advance skills.
- **Health & wellness** practices that support the physical and emotional stamina needed for musicians to thrive.
- **Business, Marketing, and Technology** for musicians.

And of course there is lots of social time and fun! Grab your bathing suit or favorite beach attire and join us Monday to see how many harpists can fit in a pool! Hang out in the Event Hub to catch up with friends new and old. Don't miss exploring the cool things in the Exhibit Hall, and discover some of our amazing pop and jazz heritage in the Legacy Room. Receptions each night will be a chance to mingle and enjoy several harpists heard regularly in Central Florida entertainment venues.

Thank you for being here and for your ongoing support of AHS. Enjoy yourself and be entertained by everything as you explore this world of the harp!

The world is a stage,
The stage is a world of entertainment.
That's entertainment!

Kathryn McManus
Executive Director, American Harp Society



June 16, 2024



As Mayor of the City of Orlando, I am happy to help welcome you to our community for the 45th Annual Conference of the American Harp Society. It's wonderful that this event is being held in Orlando, providing harpists from around the nation with the opportunity to learn, share and connect with others.

Orlando is vibrant, inclusive and welcoming. During your time here for the conference, I invite you to explore our community, which has so much to offer visitors.

I am certain that you know about our world-class theme parks and attractions. They are places where imagination becomes reality. But you may not know that Orlando is also filled with authentic experiences. I am proud of our city's arts and cultural offerings, always growing and diverse food scene, recreational amenities, sports events and thriving small business districts that are located throughout our community.

There's something for everyone in Orlando, giving you endless possibilities to have fun and create unforgettable memories.

I hope that you find the conference rewarding and can also create opportunities to enjoy some of the many experiences that help make Orlando unbelievably real.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Buddy Dyer". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Buddy Dyer
Mayor

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

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ORANGE COUNTY MAYOR
Jerry L. Demings

P.O. BOX 1393, 201 SOUTH ROSALIND AVENUE, ORLANDO, FL 32802-1393
PHONE: 407-836-7370 • FAX: 407-836-7360 • EMAIL: MAYOR@OCFL.NET



June 16, 2024

Greetings!

It is my distinct honor and pleasure to welcome you to the 45th Annual Conference of the American Harp Society!

As the largest organization of harpists, I applaud your member's commitment, time, and talent to cultivate the American Harp Society (AHS) for over four decades. As you experience the Harp workshops and concerts hosted by AHS in the coming days, continue celebrating your legacy while empowering future generations through musical creativity and artistic expression. I commend your organization for enriching the lives of our local youth through the arts during your visit to our community.

Orange County is proud to be one of the top destinations in the world for visitors. We are known for the finest hospitality, exciting theme parks, arts and cultural attractions, sports venues and one of the largest convention centers in the nation. On behalf of the more than 1.5 million residents who call Orange County home, we value your decision to select Central Florida as your conference destination. During your stay, I hope that you take time to enjoy all that Orange County has to offer.

Once again, welcome and I wish you all the best for a successful conference!

Sincerely,

Jerry L. Demings
Orange County Mayor

BOARD OF DIRECTORS *and* EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE



AMERICAN HARP SOCIETY BOARD OF DIRECTORS



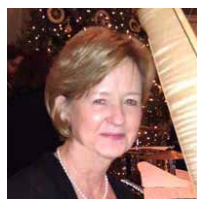
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Anne Sullivan,
Mid Atlantic RD



Joan Holland, Mid
Central RD



Felice Pomeranz,
Northeastern RD



Jennifer Ellis,
Pacific RD



Hope Cowan
South Central RD



Rebecca Todaro,
Southern RD

*2023-2024 Executive Committee



AMERICAN HARP SOCIETY ADMINISTRATION



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Sheri Saunders,
Bookkeeper



Allison Volk,
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Communications
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Secretary



Connie Hunt,
National Event
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Emily Laurance,
Editor,
American Harp Journal



Linda-Rose Hembreiker,
Circulation Manager,
American Harp Journal



Petra Bryan,
Graphic Designer

OUR LEGACY LEADERSHIP FOUNDING COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Marcel Grandjany, Chairman
S. Mario DeStefano
Mildred Dilling
Eileen Malone
Lucile Rosenbloom
Alberto Salvi
Edward Vito
Bernard Zighera

HONORARY LIFE MEMBERS

Pierre Boulez
Bernard Grandjany
Victor Salvi
Leonard Slatkin

Please visit [www.harpsociety.org/Community/Our Legacy](http://www.harpsociety.org/Community/Our%20Legacy) to view lists of past AHS Presidents and Chairmen of the Board, as well as national event Chairs and programs

The American Harp Foundation is proud to announce the Winners of the **2024 Anne Adams Awards Auditions** and the **2024 Grandjany Memorial Competition** that were held virtually. We congratulate them all on this outstanding accomplishment, along with their marvelous teachers, nurturing schools, and supportive families. The winners' announcements can be found at <https://harpfoundation.org/competitions-2/>

ANNE ADAMS AWARDS 2024 WINNER

Chaela Franck, a student of Gretchen Van Hoesen at Carnegie Melon University.

In 1990 as a tribute to his wife, Anne Adams, Dr. Burton Adams founded the Anne Adams Fund with the mission of furthering the development of future professional harpists. In honor of Anne Adams, these awards have always included an orchestra, ballet, or opera excerpt in addition to the required solo repertoire.

An award of **\$3,000** for full-time study of the harp is given to the winner, thanks to the generous support from the Anne Adams Fund, The Sally Maxwell/Doris Calkins Fund, and the Jack/Doris Nebergall Funds.

GRANDJANY MEMORIAL COMPETITION 2024 WINNERS

Hallie Bentschneider, student of Carol McClure at The Harp School, Inc. UK Conservatory Program and **Can Yang Zi Quan** (known as Sunshine), student of Kathleen Bride at the Eastman School of Music.

The **Grandjany Memorial winners** receive an award of **\$3,500**. This competition was established in 1979 by the American Harp Society and was funded by Bernard Grandjany in honor of his father Marcel Grandjany and was enhanced by bequests from Mary Wheeler and Hermine Herbring. Its administration was transferred to the American Harp Foundation in 1996.

HARP DISCOVERY DAY

On Saturday, June 15th, the Central Florida Chapter of the American Harp Society graciously hosted a free public "Harp Discovery Day" for the greater Orlando community. We are particularly grateful to the Elizabeth Morse Genius Foundation of Winter Park, Florida, who provided funding for the event as well as complimentary tickets to the Sunday evening concert for local jazz students.

In the morning, a panel including Stella Sung, Dan Crozier, Alex Burtzos, and Jan Jennings explored the Mysteries of Writing and Arranging for Harp. Invitees included members of the Central Florida Composers Forum, the Young Composer's Challenge, and composition students from the University of Central Florida, Rollins College, and local high schools.

The afternoon offered the public a chance to hear and learn about the harp – it's history, how it works, and a performance by the Chapter ensemble. The day wrapped up with a delightful Harp Petting Zoo to offer hands-on opportunities to potential future harpists, on pedal and lever harps of all sizes.



WELCOME *from* ORLANDO PHILHARMONIC MUSIC DIRECTOR



Welcome Harpists!

Greetings from the Orlando Philharmonic Orchestra! We are excited to have so many of you here in our culturally rich community. The Philharmonic is currently completing its 31st season and as a resident company of the Dr. Phillips Center for the Performing Arts, we are proud to perform in the new Steinmetz Hall, one of the finest venues for acoustic music in the country. The Hall was also recently recognized by Architectural Digest as one of “The 11 Most Beautiful Theaters in the World.” It’s a truly spectacular space.

Our Vision is to enrich and inspire through the transformative power of live music as Central Florida’s premiere professional orchestra. We do that by annually presenting the 10-concert Classics and Pops Series at Steinmetz as well as the chamber orchestra Focus Series, and Symphony Storytime Series at The Plaza Live, a historic Central Florida venue. We present more than 170 live concerts during our season and impact more than 70,000 elementary age students through our Young People’s Concerts.

I am especially excited that we are a partner in commissioning a new piece for the harp, composed by Alex Burtzos, Endowed Chair of Composition Studies at the University of Central Florida. You will get to hear his piece at the Conference performed by members of the Philharmonic, and we will repeat it on our August concert at the Dr. Phillips Center.

I hope you have a wonderful Conference experience, learning from the giants in your field, and feasting on the live performances by your nationally and international known colleagues.

All the best for a great week in Orlando.

Musically yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Eric Jacobsen". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Eric Jacobsen, Music Director
The Orlando Philharmonic Orchestra

2024 CHAPTER AMBASSADORS

In 2019, the AHS Board of Directors created the Chapter Ambassadors Program program to inspire student engagement with the AHS national events; to promote community; and to empower recipients to create engagement opportunities within local harp communities. Chapters were invited to nominate up to three students for this honor. Chapters raised funds in support of their students' attendance at the Summer Institute and AHS provided a match of up to \$500 per student.

This matching awards program is being presented as an opportunity for the national organization to encourage and support chapter initiatives that promote student participation in the National Event while simultaneously engaging the student ambassadors in learning about and participating in activities at the national level. Each Ambassador will complete a community engagement project within the next year, and share what they gained from their national event attendance with their local community.

CONGRATULATIONS *to the* 2024 CHAPTER AMBASSADORS



Viviana Alfaro,
Silicon Valley Chapter



Jolene Cao,
Long Island Chapter



Camille Chu,
Silicon Valley Chapter



Dagny Dash,
Mile High Chapter



Madeleine Douah,
Minnesota Chapter



Bianca Gao,
Silicon Valley Chapter



Eva Rami,
Greater Houston Chapter



Anjali Shivkumar,
Dallas Chapter

WE HONOR THOSE WHO HAVE ELEVATED THE HARP *through their* OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENTS



FAITH CARMAN (1941-2023)

Performer, teacher, and music publisher

Chairman of the AHS Board of Directors and Vice President, chapter officer

AHS Lifetime Achievement Award recipient



MARIA CASALE (1962-2024)

International soloist and teacher

AHS National Competition winner, USA International Harp Competition gold medalist

AHS Pacific Regional Director



T. EDWARD GALCHICK (1954-2023)

Professional bass guitarist, harpist, and master harp technician

Served as harp technician and harp pen coordinator at AHS national events for many years



MOLLY HAHN (1929-2022)

President and Vice President of the AHS; President of the Washington D.C. chapter; Mid Atlantic Regional Director, National Conference Co-Chair, Human Relations Committee Chair

AHS Lifetime Achievement Award recipient



JUDE MOLLENHAUER (1939-2024)

Teacher, orchestral harpist, and member of the Angelaires

Founding member of the Philadelphia Chapter of the AHS



ELLIS SCHUMAN (1931-2022)

Composer, pianist, harpist, and teacher

President of the Chicago Chapter of AHS for several years and active in the Bay Area Chapter later in life

More information can be found online at www.harpsociety.org/in-memoriam

REMEMBERING BERNARD GRANDJANY



Bernard Marcel Grandjany, son of the esteemed French harpist Marcel Grandjany and his wife Georgette, was born on April 29, 1930, in Paris, France, and passed away peacefully in Queens, NY, on February 24, 2024. His final act of kindness was to give the gift of life through organ and tissue donation, under the auspices of LiveOn NY.

Bernard's family, living in Paris, became wary of the dangerous political climate in Europe and emigrated to the United States in 1936, residing in New York City. In 1937 at the age of seven years, Bernard began the study of the harp with his father. In his words, "It was not to be," and his studies lasted only one month.

Bernard finished his schooling and began work with the American Red Cross. He rose through the ranks and eventually was appointed Assistant Director of Disaster Services in the greater New York area. He held this position for twenty-five years, retiring in 1981. Bernard, answering calls in the middle of the night, could be found at every fire, flood, and natural disaster affecting the citizens of New York City. He was tireless in his efforts to help those most impacted by disaster and loss. He was appointed Honorary Deputy Fire Chief with the Fire Department of New York in 1982 for services rendered to the City of New York by then Fire Commissioner Charles Hynes.

For many years Bernard escorted his mother and father on their annual summer trips driving throughout the United States, especially to see the natural beauty of the Western states. He developed a love of travel which continued in his retirement. He often took trips on ocean liners and rode trains across the United States and Canada to appreciate the natural beauty of both countries.

He was a member of The World Ship Society – Port of NY Branch, and The Steamship Historical Society of America.

Bernard lived in retirement in Rego Park, NY, and continued to attend harp-related events and concerts in the NYC area and to speak to American Harp Society chapters about his father, Marcel Grandjany, one of the founders of AHS. Several short videos of Bernard reminiscing about his family are available in a playlist on the AHS YouTube channel (visit <https://bit.ly/BernardG>).

A Mass of Christian Burial was held on Thursday, February 29, 2024 at 10:30 am at Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal Catholic Church, Ridgewood, New York, with interment alongside his parents immediately following in the Gate of Heaven Cemetery, Hawthorne, New York. Bernard was a donor to and Honorary Life Member of AHS, and contributions may be made in his memory at www.harpsociety.org or PO Box 47, Granby, MA 01033.



L-R, Bernard, his mother Georgette, father Marcel, and Gertrude Hopkins, friend and student of Marcel



Bernard (left) with two other members of the International Fire Buff Associates enjoying a 1925 Seagrave pumper.

WELCOME *from* THE CONFERENCE CHAIR



Dear AHS Conference 2024 Attendees,

Welcome to Orlando!

We are so excited to finally be able to gather together here in Orlando. Over the next few days you will have the opportunity to meet, hear, and learn from wonderful harpists from around the world.

Our Conference Planning Committee has been hard at work planning this conference for more than five years, starting before Covid delayed our event in 2020 and 2021. It is our hope that our theme of “That’s Entertainment” will be brought to life with workshops, panels, exhibits and concerts that will both educate and inspire you, and bring a new level of joy to your playing and/or teaching.

Celebrate our amazing instrument, the harp. Enjoy the performances, learn from presenters, browse and make discoveries in the exhibit hall, renew old friendships, and make new ones. While you are here, we encourage you to take some time and discover the many treasures that Orlando has to offer. We want you to leave with lots of new knowledge, a renewed enthusiasm for the harp, many new friends, and loads of wonderful memories!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read "Cheryl Cunningham". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping tail that extends to the right.

Cheryl Cunningham, Chair
2024 AHS National Conference

THE CENTRAL FLORIDA CHAPTER
of the AMERICAN HARP SOCIETY
PROUDLY WELCOMES YOU *to* ORLANDO!



CONFERENCE PLANNING COMMITTEE

Honorary Conference Chair **Jan Jennings**

2019-2020 Committee

Barbara Browning, Chapter President
Jan Jennings, Conference Chair
Haley Rhoadside, Laura Sherman, Co-chairs
Lynne Aspnes, National Advisor
Anna Vorhes, Harp Pen Coordinator
Laura Brandenburg, Ensemble Coordinator
Laura Sherman, Cheryl Cunningham,
Artist Liaison Co-Chairs
Elizabeth Seabrook, Artist Sales Chair
David Kolacny, National Exhibits Chair

2024 Committee

2024 Committee

Susan Bright, Chapter President
Cheryl Cunningham, Conference Chair
Lynne Aspnes, National Advisor
Julie Brumbaugh, Volunteer Coordinator
Gretchen Cover, Registration Chair
Anna Vorhes, Harp Pen Coordinator
Jan Jennings, Ensemble Coordinator
Linda van Niekerk, Hospitality Chair
Susan Bright, Artist Liaison Chair
Sandi McCourt, Artist Sales Chair
Paul Leake, Production Assistants Chair
David Kolacny, National Exhibits Chair
Beth Cocchiarella,
Marketing & Public Relations Chair
Gary Battestella, Audio Visual Manager
Michael Bersin, Official Photographer
Barbara Browning, Discovery Day

WELCOME *from* THE CHAPTER PRESIDENT



Dear Harpists,

The Central Florida Chapter of the American Harp Society is excited to welcome you to Orlando to attend the 2024 45th American Harp Society National Conference.

Our Chapter has been in existence since 1987 and was started by Central Florida Harpist, Jan Jennings. For 30+ years, Jan has been the champion and cheerleader of our Chapter, planning annual harp workshops featuring nationally known clinicians, organizing many Chapter ensemble concerts, and planning concerts for visiting harpists. You will see her in action during the Conference as she leads our Central Florida Chapter Ensemble and the Sunshine Harp Ensemble. If you happen to speak with Jan, please thank her for her service to the harp world.

Orlando is known worldwide for its theme park attractions, especially the one inspired by the Mouse!! And in the 33 years I've been a resident here, the Greater Orlando region has expanded its cultural and performing arts footprint exponentially.

Our community's most life-changing "performing arts moment" was the 2014 opening of the Dr. Phillips Center for the Performing Arts. Included in the Center, at that time were the 2700-seat non-acoustic Walt Disney Hall and the 300-seat Pugh Theater.

Then in January of 2022, Steinmetz Hall, a 1700-seat acoustically perfect hall, opened for Orchestral, Opera, and Ballet performances. Our now 31-year-old Orlando Philharmonic Orchestra is very excited to have this wonderful hall in which to perform. Most recently, in February 2024, Judson's Live, a 150-seat intimate space with a club-like atmosphere, opened to feature blues, jazz, Latin, and soul performers. Jazz Harpist Brandee Younger performed here in April 2024.

To complement our Conference offerings, the Elizabeth Morse Genius Foundation in Winter Park, Florida, awarded the Conference a grant to put together a "Harp Discovery Day" on Saturday, June 15. The goal of this Day was to promote the harp to the Greater Orlando community. It included two sessions: "Mysteries of Composing and Arranging for the Harp" and "You Can Play the Harp".

Thank you to all of you who volunteered to assist with the Conference. And while you are here, don't miss the "Harpists in a Pool" photo shoot. Wear your bathing suit as we fill the pool with harpists!

If you have any questions or concerns during the Conference, please visit the Registration area.

All best for a great week,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Susan K. Bright".

Susan Bright, President
Central Florida Chapter of the American Harp Society

Conference registrants are welcome to keep personal harps in their hotel rooms, where practicing is allowed within reasonable hours. The Harp Pen is available for storage of Conference performer/presenter instruments in Longboat 2. The Harp Pen will be secure, monitored and/or locked 24 hours a day.

Harp owners loaning instruments to the Conference must sign a liability release form and receive a registration tag for each harp. Neither the AHS nor the Conference venues provides insurance for any harps, and are not liable for damages that may occur while at the Conference. Harps will be registered, labeled, and moved to the Harp Pen by their owner unless prior arrangements have been made with the Harp Pen Coordinator.

Instruments of participants in the Sunshine Harp Ensemble may be secured in Merritt Tuesday through Wednesday morning. Owners are responsible for moving their own instruments (see below).

OPERATING HOURS

REGISTRATION/HOSPITALITY

Peninsula Registration Desk

Hours:

Sun. 8:00 AM – 6:00 PM
 Mon. 7:30 AM – 7:00 PM
 Tues. 7:30 AM – 7:00 PM
 Wed. 7:30 AM – 11:00 AM

EXHIBITS

Peninsula Ballroom

Hours:

Sat. 8:00 AM – 6:00 PM (*Exhibitor move-in*)
 Sun. 8:00 AM – 11:30 AM (*Exhibitor move-in*)
 11:30 AM – 6:00 PM (*Exhibit Hall open*)
 Mon. 9:30 AM – 6:00 PM (*Exhibit Hall open*)
 Tues. 9:30 AM – 6:00 PM (*Exhibit Hall open*)
 Wed. 9:00 AM – NOON (*Exhibit Hall open*)
 NOON – 10:00 PM (*Exhibitor move-out*)

LEGACY ROOM

Longboat 1

Hours:

Sun. 11:30 AM – 5:00 PM
 Mon. 8:30 AM – 4:00 PM
 Tues. 8:30 AM – 4:00 PM
 Wed. 8:30 AM – 11:00 AM

HARP PEN

Longboat 2

Hours:

Sat. Noon- 5:00 PM (*dropoff only*)
 Sun. 8:00 AM – 6:00 PM
 Mon. 8:00 AM – 7:00 PM
 Tues. 8:00 AM – 7:00 PM
 Wed. 8:00 AM – 3:00 PM

ENSEMBLE HARP STORAGE

Merritt

Merritt will be available for secure instrument storage for participants only. Access will be available at least 30 minutes prior to rehearsals and 30 minutes after rehearsals. Any access at other times must be arranged, if available, with the ensemble coaches.

EVENING CONCERT BUS,

Sunday, June 16, 6:00 PM

Buses will depart from the hotel at the side door toward the self-parking lot at 6:00 pm, just beyond the Bella Grove Market, for the off-site concert venue, and will return 15 minutes after the end of the concert.

If you prefer to drive instead, the address is:
 Dr. Phillips High School Performing Arts Center
 6500 Turkey Lake Road
 Orlando, FL 32819

GENERAL INFORMATION

SILENCE YOUR ELECTRONICS AND DIM ALL SCREENS. NO VIDEO RECORDING, PLEASE. THE AHS RECORDS ALL PERFORMANCES AND YOU WILL HAVE ACCESS TO THOSE RECORDINGS ONLINE FOLLOWING THE CONFERENCE. PLEASE RESPECT YOUR FELLOW AUDIENCE MEMBERS AND PERFORMERS.

Doors will open 10 minutes before workshops and 20 minutes before concert start times. Out of courtesy to the performers, please do not disturb pre-concert set-ups, sound-checks, or tuning. Thank you.

NAME BADGES

Your name badge serves as admission to all concerts, concert receptions, master classes, and the exhibit hall. It must be with you at all times. Please remove badges when you leave the Conference venues to sightsee and explore. This is recommended for visitor safety and will help you to enjoy your time in Orlando.

CONFERENCE EXHIBITS

The exhibit hall is one of the highlights of all American Harp Society conferences. It is an ideal place to gather important information about harps and harp-related products. At the exhibits, harpists, teachers, and students can find tools and ideas to help them carry out their daily work. The exhibiting companies have gone to considerable expense to present their products and services and to make themselves available to you. Make sure you visit the exhibits in the Peninsula Ballroom.

Before removing anything from an exhibit booth, be certain that it is complimentary material. Some companies make catalogs, circulars, and price lists available and others do not. You may not make sales or solicit sales in the exhibit hall if you are not a registered exhibitor. Enjoy the conference and the exhibit hall, and please spend time with as many exhibitors as possible. They will appreciate your patronage.

To protect instruments and other items on display, no food or drink is permitted in the exhibit hall. (Registered exhibitors are exempt from this policy.) Please be courteous when playing exhibitors' instruments or loaned harps by removing any jewelry which might potentially cause damage.

LEGACY EXHIBIT (*Longboat 1*)

Stop by Longboat 1 to embark on a journey back in time to meet the early pioneers of jazz and pop on the harp. Watch a video montage and listen to some of their arrangements. Browse the artifacts there, including LP covers. (You might even find some LP's to take home with you amongst the free materials from the Archives in the Exhibit Hall!) The Conference hallway is lined with posters sharing the stories of these special artists. You will find similar information in the app, along with links to a collection of related *American Harp Journal* articles, and links to more videos and recordings. Everything is also available to view at www.harpsociety.org/jazzharp. This project was originally conceived for the 2020-2021 Conference and its "That's Entertainment!" theme by Laura Sherman and Cheryl Cunningham. Special thanks to both of them, and to Linda-Rose Hembreiker for creating these beautiful posters, and for bringing these harpists to life for us!

CONCERT TICKETS

Admission to evening concerts and concert receptions is included with your conference registration. Additional tickets for all concerts may be purchased at Registration, in the lobby of each evening concert, or online at <https://bit.ly/AHSconcerts>.

MANAGE YOUR CONFERENCE EXPERIENCE WITH THE AHS NATIONAL CONFERENCE APP, WITH ONLINE & ON DEMAND ACCESS

The AHS National Conference smartphone app provides instant access on your smartphone or tablet to schedules, bios, programs, exhibitor information, maps, and so much more. Share your favorite Conference pictures for all to see, and connect with other attendees in real time. The agenda will include links for post-conference recordings. Recordings will be available for several weeks in the app and the web app found via “AHSLive!” on harpociety.org.

Before arriving at the Conference you should have received an email invitation to access the Conference app. If you do not have that email, stop by the Registration desk for assistance.

First you need to search in your app store for “Sched”. Once you’ve downloaded that app, create an account using the same email with which you registered for the Conference and then search for “45th AHS National Conference”.

AHS WEBSITE

A wealth of additional information about AHS programs, opportunities, and resources is available on www.harpociety.org. Visit often to keep up with the latest news and log in to access your members-only content, including the AHS Membership Directory.

SHARE YOUR CONFERENCE EXPERIENCE

In order to improve future national conferences, we want your feedback. An online form is available for your convenience at <http://bitly.com/2024Eval>. Please submit your comments by July 15th. Thank you!

PHOTOGRAPHS OR VIDEOS

No photographing or videotaping is allowed in any scheduled concert or presentation (with or without flash, and including cell phone cameras) except by official conference photographers and videographers.

NO RECORDINGS

No recording is allowed during any performance or presentation at any time. This policy will be strictly enforced. Archival recordings for loan to Chapters and members will be available in the AHS Archives in a few months.

SMOKING

The Renaissance and Dr. Phillips High School maintain smoke-free facilities. Designated outdoor areas are available at the hotel for smoking activities, including electronic cigarettes/vaping.

SOCIAL MEDIA

Tag us in your social media posts:

#OrlandoHarpening

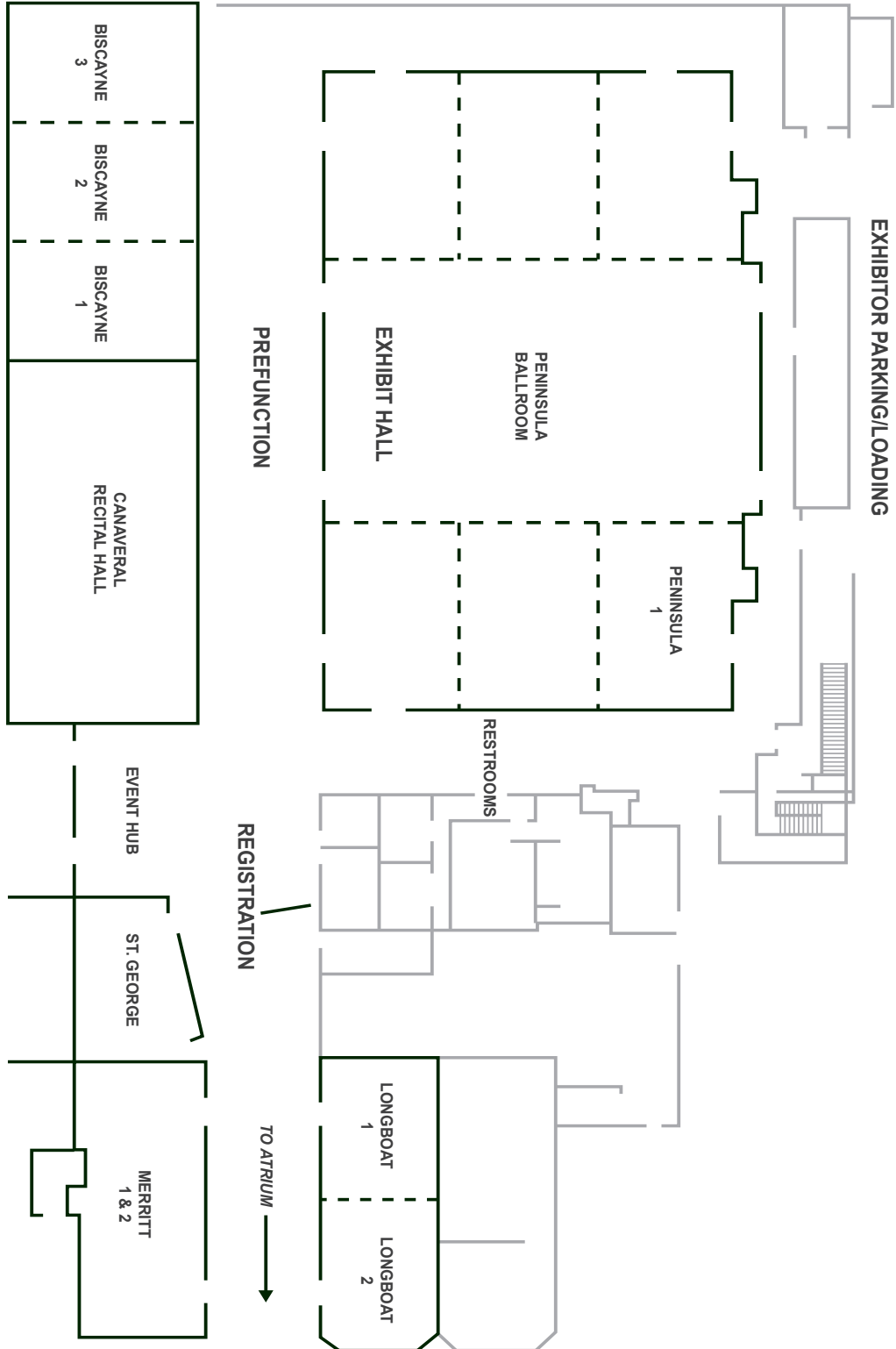
#harpistsinapool

#sunshineharps 😊

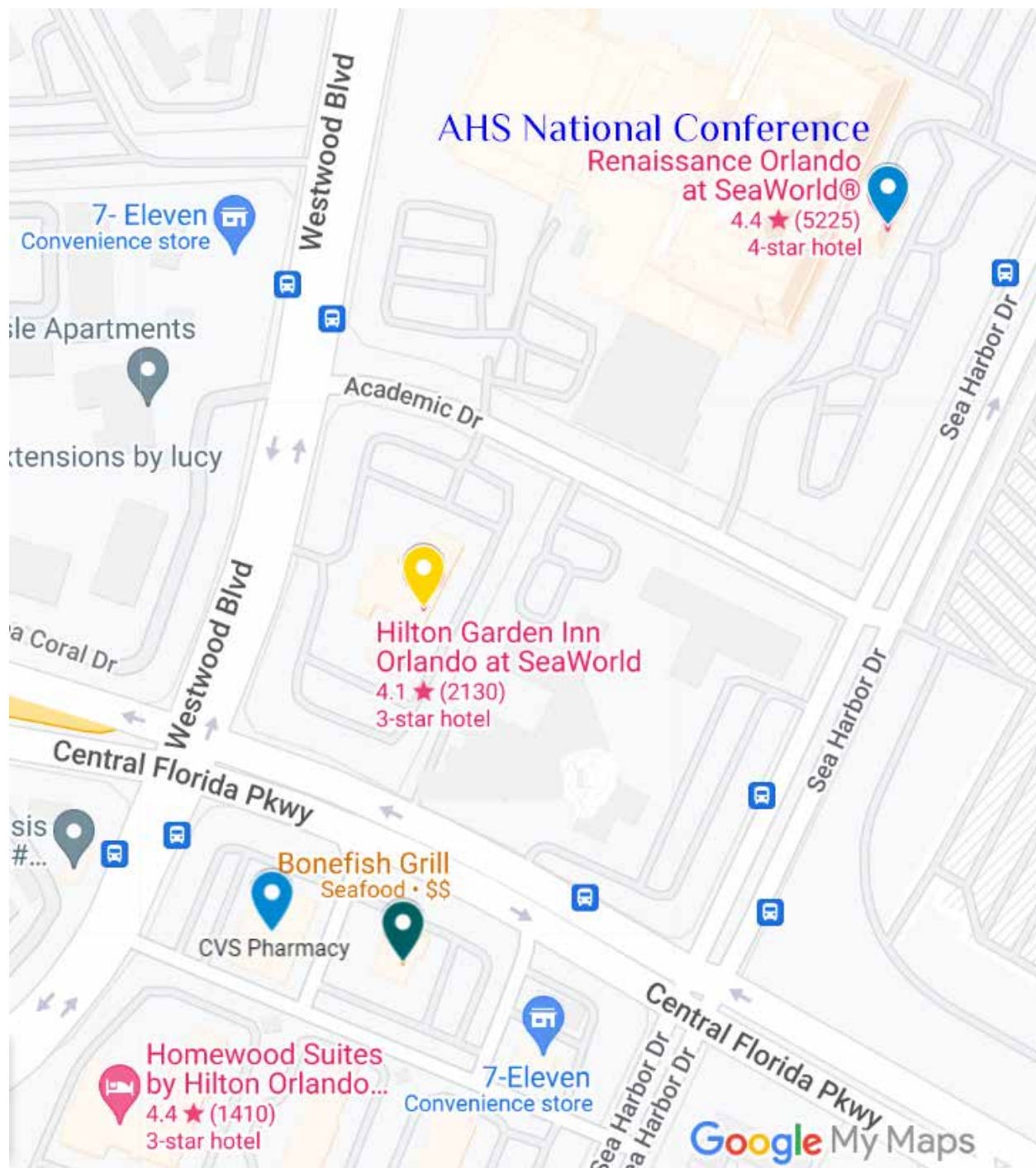
@AHSConference

@HarpSociety

Peninsula Conference Center



Nearby Area



SCHEDULE-AT-A-GLANCE

SUNDAY, JUNE 16

	BISCAYNE 1	CANAVERAL RECITAL HALL	DR. PHILLIPS HIGH SCHOOL AUDITORIUM	EVENT HUB	PENINSULA FOYER
1-2 PM		1:00 - 2:00 PM CONCERT ARTIST RECITAL: KAITLIN MILLER			
2-3 PM	2:00 - 3:30 PM ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING AND KEYNOTE ADDRESS				
3-4 PM					
4-5 PM					3:30 - 4:30 PM WELCOME RECEPTION
5-6 PM					
6-7 PM					
7-8 PM			6:00 - 6:15 PM BUSES LEAVE FOR JAZZ CONCERT <i>Renaissance Hotel North Lot Entrance</i>		
8-9 PM			7:00 - 9:00 PM JAZZ CONCERT		
9-10 PM					
10-11 PM					9:30 - 10:30 PM POST CONCERT RECEPTION

Registration/Hospitality	8:00 AM - 6:00 PM <i>Peninsula Registration Desk</i>
Harp Pen	8:00 AM - 6:00 PM <i>Longboat 2</i>
Exhibits	11:30 AM - 6:00 PM <i>Peninsula Ballroom</i>
Legacy Exhibit	11:30 AM - 5:00 PM <i>Longboat 1</i>

SCHEDULE-AT-A-GLANCE

MONDAY, JUNE 17

	BISCAYNE 1	BISCAYNE 2	BISCAYNE 3	CANAVERAL RECITAL HALL	MERRITT 1 & 2	PENINSULA 1	PENINSULA FOYER	RENAISSANCE HOTEL POOL
7-8 AM						7:00 - 7:50 AM YOGA		
8-9 AM	8:30 - 9:20 AM APPROACHES TO PLAYING BACH ON LEVER AND PEDAL HARPS	8:30 - 9:20 AM PERFORMING VENEZUELAN MUSIC	8:30 - 9:20 AM JAZZ HARMONY FOR THE CLASSICALLY TRAINED		8:30 - 10:20 AM MASTER CLASS: HARP QUARTET ARRANGING			
9-10 AM	9:30 - 10:20 AM NEW LEVER HARP NOTATION	9:30 - 10:20 AM LOOPING				9:00 - 10:50 AM MOCK ORCHESTRA AUDITION		
10-11 AM								
11-NOON				11:00 AM - NOON CONCERT: HARPISTS OF THE SUNSHINE STATE				
NOON-1			NOON - 1:30 PM OFFICERS & EXECUTIVES LUNCHEON <i>(by reservation only)</i>					
1-2 PM	1:30 - 2:20 PM HARP CARE & SAFETY	1:30 - 2:20 PM SECRETS OF PEDAGOGY			1:30 - 3:20 PM CELTIC HARP CIRCLE WITH NIKOLAZ CADORET		1:30 - 2:20 PM VENEZUELAN MUSIC, FUSION MUSIC & ARRANGING	
2-3 PM	2:30 - 3:20 PM THE HARP ENSEMBLE IN EDUCATION	2:30 - 3:20 PM ANN HOBSON PILOT & THE MUSIC OF JOHN WILLIAMS	2:30 - 3:20 PM SIX STEPS TO BASIC ARRANGING					
3-4 PM								
4-5 PM				4:00 - 5:00 PM CONCERT: NEW WORLD SYMPHONY ALUMNI				
5-6 PM								5:15 - 5:30 PM HARPISTS IN A POOL PHOTO SHOOT
6-7 PM								
7-8 PM								
8-9 PM				7:30 - 9:30 PM CONCERT: NOEL WAN RECITAL				
9-10 PM								
10-11 PM								9:30 - 10:30 PM POST CONCERT RECEPTION

Registration/ Hospitality	8:30 AM - 7:00 PM <i>Peninsula Registration Desk</i>	Exhibits	9:30 AM - 6:00 PM <i>Peninsula Ballroom</i>
Harp Pen	8:00 AM - 7:00 PM <i>Longboat 2</i>	Legacy Exhibit	8:30 AM - 4:00 PM <i>Longboat 1</i>

SCHEDULE-AT-A-GLANCE

TUESDAY, JUNE 18

	BISCAYNE 1	BISCAYNE 2	BISCAYNE 3	CANAVERAL RECITAL HALL	EVENT HUB	MERRITT 1 & 2	PENINSULA 1	PENINSULA FOYER
7-8 AM							7:00 – 7:50 AM YOGA	
8-9 AM	8:30 – 9:20 AM HARMONY IN MARKETING: TUNING UP YOUR BRAND FOR SUCCESS	8:30 – 9:20 AM JAZZ HARP PIONEERS	8:30 – 9:20 AM WILLIAM MARX'S CONCERTO FOR TWO HARPS AND ORCHESTRA				8:30 – 9:20 AM OM IS WHERE THE HARP IS	
9-10 AM	9:30 – 10:20 AM TECH AIDS, APPS, SOCIAL MEDIA & SOFTWARE FOR HARPISTS	9:30 – 10:20 AM MUSIC OF LATIN AMERICA	9:30 – 10:20 AM THINK IT, DO IT, FINISH IT!			9:00 – 10:50 AM REHEARSAL: 2024 CONFERENCE ENSEMBLE, SUNSHINE HARPS 🌞	9:30 – 10:20 AM IDEA ROUND TABLE	
10-11 AM								
11-NOON				11:00 AM – 12:00 PM CONCERT: FROM BACH TO BEYOND ON LEVER AND PEDAL HARPS				
NOON-1					12:00 – 1:30 PM IDEA SOUNDBOARD			
1-2 PM	1:30 – 2:20 PM NEW WORLD SYMPHONY PANEL	1:30 – 2:20 PM BUSINESS FOR HARPISTS Q & A SESSION	1:30 – 2:20 PM HARPISTS IN WOMEN'S ORCHESTRAS AND ALL- GIRL BANDS				1:30 – 2:20 PM IMPROVISATION	
2-3 PM	2:30 – 3:20 PM WORKING WITH COMPOSERS	2:30 – 3:20 PM NOTATION SOFTWARE	2:30 – 3:20 PM PLAYING PAIN FREE: A GUIDE TO EARLY IDENTIFICATION & PREVENTION OF INJURY AT THE HARP			2:00 – 3:50 PM REHEARSAL: 2024 CONFERENCE ENSEMBLE, SUNSHINE HARPS 🌞	2:30-3:20 PM MEMORIES OF CAMDEN/TEACHING OF ALICE CHALIFOUX	
3-4 PM								
4-5 PM				4:00 – 5:00 PM CONCERT: MUSIC OF LATIN AMERICA				
5-6 PM								
6-7 PM								
7-8 PM								
8-9 PM				7:30 – 9:30 PM CONCERT: DESCOFAR & THE TRANSATLANTIC HOT CLUB				
9-10 PM								9:30 – 10:30 PM POST CONCERT RECEPTION
10-11 PM								
Registration/ Hospitality		7:30 AM – 7:00 PM <i>Peninsula Registration Desk</i>			Exhibits		9:30 AM – 6:00 PM <i>Peninsula Ballroom</i>	
Harp Pen		8:00 AM – 7:00 PM <i>Longboat 2</i>			Legacy Exhibit		8:30 AM – 4:00 PM <i>Longboat 1</i>	

SCHEDULE-AT-A-GLANCE

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 19

	BISCAYNE 1	BISCAYNE 2	BISCAYNE 3	CANAVERAL RECITAL HALL	MERRITT 1 & 2	PENINSULA 1
7-8 AM						7:00 - 7:50 AM YOGA
8-9 AM						
8-9 AM	8:30 - 9:20 AM ZABALETA IN COLUMBIA	8:30 - 9:20 AM THE "EXOTIC" IN THE MUSIC OF MARCEL TOURNIER	8:30 - 9:20 AM CHAPTER AMBASSADOR PROJECTS			8:30 - 9:20 AM AHS GRANTS
9-10 AM						
9-10 AM	9:30 - 10:20 AM ELEMENTS OF PUERTO RICAN BOMBA RHYTHMS FOR HARP AND CELLO	9:30 - 10:20 AM STRATEGIES FOR PRACTICING SIGHT READING		9:00 - 10:45 AM REHEARSAL: 2024 CONFERENCE ENSEMBLE, SUNSHINE HARPS 🎻	9:30 - 10:20 AM INTRODUCTION TO JAZZ	
10-11 AM						
11-NOON						
11-NOON				11:00 AM - 12:45 PM ENSEMBLE CONCERT: SUNSHINE HARPS 🎻 & HARPBEATS		
NOON-1						

Registration/Hospitality	7:30 - 11:00 AM <i>Peninsula Registration Desk</i>
Harp Pen	8:00 AM - 3:00 PM <i>Longboat 2</i>
Exhibits	9:30 AM - NOON <i>Peninsula Ballroom</i>
Legacy Exhibit	8:30 - 11:00 AM <i>Longboat 1</i>

EXHIBITORS LIST

AMERICAN HARP SOCIETY

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Granby, MA 01033
Kathryn McManus
execdirector@harpssociety.org
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ANDERSON MUSICAL INSTRUMENT INSURANCE SOLUTIONS, LLC

Booth B

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Sebring, FL 33870-
Peter Anderson
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ARIA LIGHTS, INC.

Booth 8

244 Southern Hill Dr.
Johns Creek, GA 30097
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ATLANTA HARP CENTER

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CAMAC HARPS

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www.facebook.com/CamacHarps

CENTRAL FLORIDA CHAPTER OF AHS

Booth H

Meet and thank the members of
our host chapter, and learn more
about their activities in Central
Florida.
Susan Bright, President
centralfloridaharp.wordpress.com

CLAIRSEACH HOUSE

Booth D

6423 Rocky Ridge Road
Hillsborough, N.C. 27278
F. Marion Redd
scribexyz777@gmail.com

CONFERENCE ARTIST SALES

Booth F-G

Musical offerings for purchase
from our National Conference
volunteer performers and
presenters.

DUSTY STRINGS CO

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Booth 2

5662 Carnegie Way
Livermore, CA 94550
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dominiquepiana@comcast.net
www.harpiana.com

HARPJEWELRY.COM & ALFREDO ROLANDO ORTIZ

Booth 1

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Corona, CA 92878-0911
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HARPS NOUVEAU LLC

Booth C

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David Kolacny
harpdavidk@harpsnouveau.com
www.harpsnouveau.com

HEARTLAND HARPS & MUSIC

Booth 9

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Hendersonville, NC 28791
David Woodworth
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www.heartlandharps.com

LYON & HEALY HARPS/ SALVI HARPS

Booth 10

168 N Ogden Ave
Chicago, IL 60657
Giovany Gomez
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lyonhealy.com

PAX HARP MUSIC

Booth 7

424 So. 5th E.
Rexburg, ID 83440
Elaine Litster
elainelitster@gmail.com
www.paxharpmusic.com

SWEET HARPS LLC

Booth A

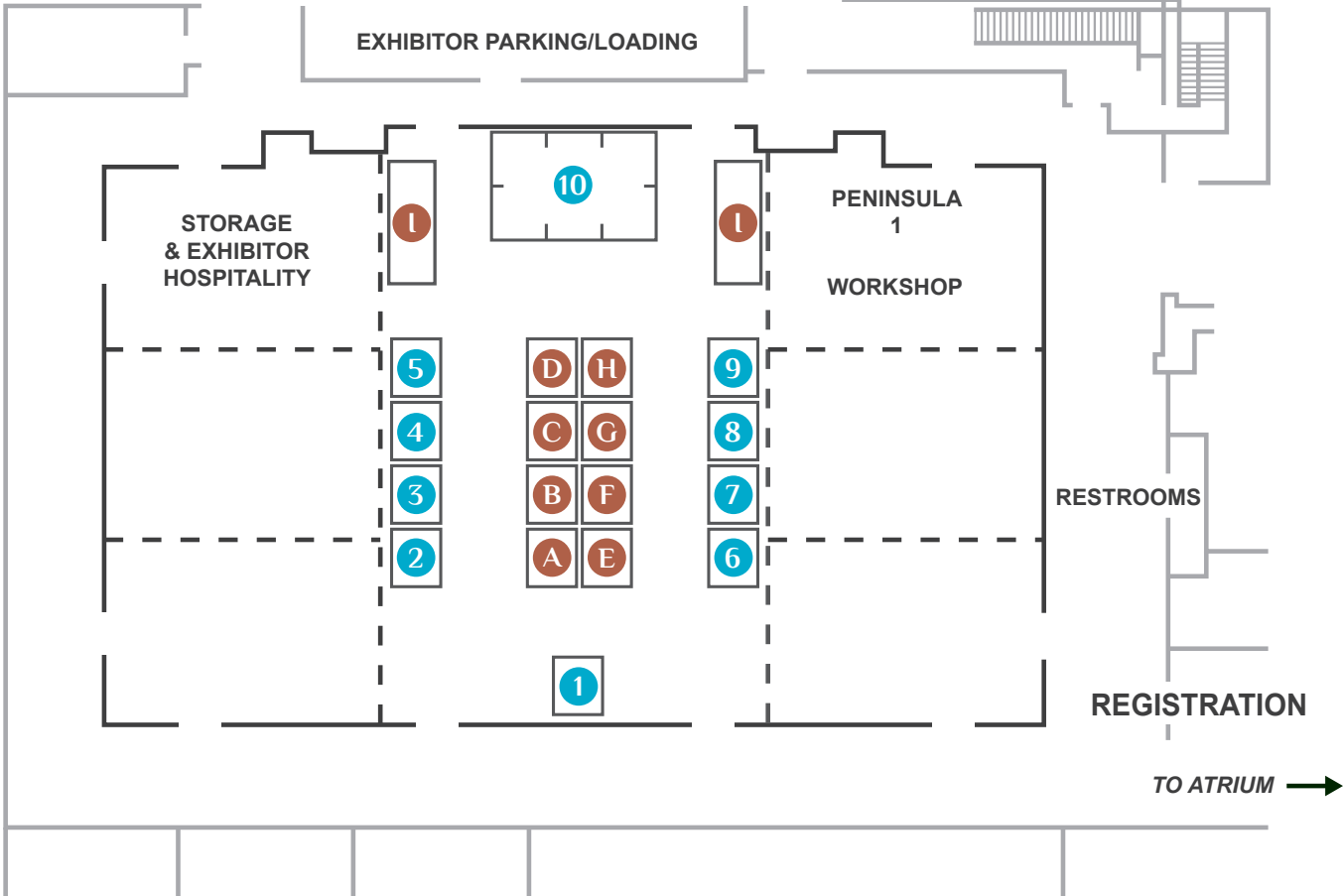
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VIRGINIA HARP CENTER

Booth 5

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VirginiaHarpCenter

Peninsula Ballroom



- A** Sweet Harps
- B** Anderson Insurance
- C** Harps Nouveau Publications
- D** Clairseach House
- E** American Harp Society
- F** Artist Sales
- G** Artist Sales
- H** Central Florida AHS Chapter
- I** Free Music and Recordings from the AHS Archives.

- 1** Harp Jewelry / Alfredo Ortiz
- 2** Harpiana Publications
- 3** Camac Harps
- 4** Atlanta Harp Center
- 5** Virginia Harp Center
- 6** Dusty Strings Harps
- 7** PAX Harp Music
- 8** Aria Lights
- 9** Heartland Harps
- 10** Lyon & Healy / Salvi Harps

SCHEDULE *of* EVENTS

SUNDAY, JUNE 16

8:00 AM – 6:00 PM **Registration/Hospitality**
Peninsula Registration Desk

8:00 AM – 6:00 PM **Harp Pen**
Longboat 2

11:30 AM – 6:00 PM **Exhibits**
Peninsula Ballroom

11:30 AM – 5:00 PM **Legacy Exhibit**
Longboat 1

1:00 – 2:00 PM **Concert Artist Recital: Kaitlin Miller**
Canaveral Recital Hall From historic to modern compositions, this is a recital inspired by “storytelling.”

2:00 – 3:30 PM **Annual Membership Meeting and Keynote Address: Ann Hobson Pilot; South Florida Chapter Ensemble; Angela Schwarzkopf**
Biscayne 1 Meet the AHS Board of Directors and staff, hear about the Society today, and hear from our keynote speaker Ann Hobson Pilot, principal harp for 40 years with the Boston Symphony, about her amazing life and career. Hear the premiere of the work by Alfredo Ortiz, commissioned in commemoration of the 50th anniversary of the South Florida Chapter of the American Harp Society.

3:30 – 4:30 PM **Welcome Reception: Central Florida Chapter Harp Ensemble; Jan Jennings**
Peninsula Foyer Central Florida Chapter Ensemble performance will feature music from movies and Broadway musicals as well as a medley the Chapter commissioned by Stephanie Curcio, “Break a Leg.”

6:00 – 6:15 PM **Buses Leave for Dr. Phillips High School**
Renaissance Hotel North Lot Entrance Buses depart at 6:00 pm from the North lot entrance (just beyond Starbucks) of the Renaissance hotel. Buses will leave the concert venue 15 minutes after the concert ends.

7:00 – 9:00 PM **Jazz Concert: Scott Marischen; Charles Overton; César Secundino**
Dr. Phillips High School Auditorium Fabulous jazz originals and improvisations with three jazz harpists and friends.

9:30 – 10:30 PM **Post Concert Reception: Christine MacPhail; Elizabeth Louise**
Peninsula Foyer Classic rock standards by Christine MacPhail and Disney, popular, Broadway, and anime music by Elizabeth Louise.

MONDAY, JUNE 17

- 7:30 AM – 7:00 PM** **Registration/Hospitality**
Peninsula Registration Desk
- 8:00 AM – 7:00 PM** **Harp Pen**
Longboat 2
- 9:30 AM – 6:00 PM** **Exhibits**
Peninsula Ballroom
- 8:30 AM – 4:00 PM** **Legacy Exhibit**
Longboat 1

- 7:00 – 7:50 AM** **Yoga: Alix Raspé Gray**
Peninsula 1
Begin your day with a dynamic, heart-opening and breath-inspiring flow class. This yoga class will stretch and unwind the body. Leave feeling refreshed, clear, and ready for the day. All levels welcome.
- 8:30 – 9:20 AM** **Jazz Harmony for the Classically Trained: Felice Pomeranz**
Biscayne 3
Have a “love/hate” relationship with Harmony and Etudes? Let’s discover how etudes and harmony shape a delightful portion of our artistic diet.
- 8:30 – 10:20 AM** **Master Class: Harp Quartet Arranging: Willi Maerz; HarpBeats; Jaymee Haefner**
Merritt 1 & 2
Taking a systematic approach: from first analysis and shortlist to finalizing choices, towards the perfect arrangement.
- 8:30 – 9:20 AM** **Approaches to Playing Bach on Lever and Pedal Harps: Dr. Laura Sherman; Dr. Anne-Marie O’Farrell**
Biscayne 1
All Bach all the time! These career devotees address choices, transcriptions, interpretations, and performances of the music of J.S. Bach, on both the lever and pedal harp.
- 8:30 – 9:20 AM** **Performing Venezuelan Music: Leonard Jácome**
Biscayne 2
Explore Venezuelan sounds and rhythms you can use in your own playing, revealed through Venezuelan cuatro, harp, and maracas.
- 9:00 – 10:50 AM** **Mock Orchestra Audition: Ann Hobson Pilot; Abigail Kent**
Peninsula 1
Esteemed orchestral harpists provide feedback to mock audition participants.
- 9:30 – 10:20 AM** **New Lever Harp Notation: Dr. Anne-Marie O’Farrell**
Biscayne 1
Discover new options to enhance fluid lever technique, and see Anne-Marie’s newest approaches to music notation!
- 9:30 – 10:20 AM** **Looping: Nikolaz Cadoret; Ben Creighton Griffiths; Leonard Jácome**
Biscayne 2
Get loopy with the experts and leave Orlando with new knowledge and skills for incorporating this electronic skill into your own performance. This presentation by Ben Creighton Griffiths is made possible thanks to a grant from Wales Arts International and The Arts Council of Wales.
- 11:00 – NOON PM** **Concert: Harpists of the Sunshine State: Dr. Laura Sherman; Kontra Duo: Kristina Finch and Dannel Espinoza; Haley Rhodside, Rimma Bergeron-Langlois, Mauricio Cespedes Rivero, Grace Gavin, and Colleen Blagov**
Canaveral Recital Hall
A showcase for the talent and expertise across the great state of Florida, and the world premier of *a moment of transition* by Alex Burtzos.
- NOON – 1:30 PM** **Officers & Executives Luncheon (by reservation only)**
Biscayne 3
Chapter and national officers and board members network and learn about AHS programs available to chapters.
- 1:30 – 3:20 PM** **Celtic Harp Circle with Nikolaz Cadoret: Nikolaz Cadoret**
Merritt 1 & 2
Learn to play a traditional tune from Brittany and to dance with your harp. Bring a harp for hands-on participation.

SCHEDULE *of* EVENTS

MONDAY, JUNE 17 ... *continued*

- 1:30 – 2:20 PM** **Harp Care & Safety: Dr. Steve Guerra; David Kolacny; Peter Anderson; Jason Azem**
Biscayne 1
Experts in the building and maintenance of the harp talk about best practices for caring for your harp.
- 1:30 – 2:20 PM** **Venezuelan Music, Fusion Music & Arranging: Eduardo Betancourt**
Peninsula 1
Take a leaf from the book of this Latin fusion artist and infuse YOUR playing with the dynamic rhythms and sounds of Latin music.
- 1:30 – 2:20 PM** **Secrets of Pedagogy: Elzbieta Szmyt**
Biscayne 2
Ela Szmyt's takes on teaching harp techniques, musicianship, and artistry from ground zero with ease and with long-lasting results.
- 2:30 – 3:20 PM** **The Harp Ensemble in Education: Charles W. Lynch; Jaymee Haefner; Joseph Rebman; Maurice Draughn; Lydia Cleaver; John Wickey**
Biscayne 1
Using harp ensemble for building collaboration skills and community.
- 2:30 – 3:20 PM** **Six Steps to Basic Arranging: Jan Jennings**
Biscayne 3
This class provides a hands-on opportunity to learn six steps that will make your arrangements more interesting.
- 2:30 – 3:20 PM** **Ann Hobson Pilot & the Music of John Williams: Ann Hobson Pilot; Michael Maganuco**
Biscayne 2
Ann Hobson Pilot discusses her experience of performing with the legendary "Star Wars" composer for 30 years and working with him on his harp concerto.
- 4:00 – 5:00 PM** **Concert: New World Symphony Alumni: Abigail Kent; Janet Harriman; Christine Van Arsdale**
Canaveral Recital Hall
Performances by alumni of the New World Symphony in Miami Beach, which prepares graduates of music programs for leadership roles in professional orchestras and ensembles.
- 5:15 – 5:30 PM** **Harpists in a Pool Photo Shoot**
Renaissance Hotel Pool
More fun than a phone booth, we're going to fill the pool with harpists! Grab your beach ball and come make some AHS history!
- 7:30 – 9:30 PM** **Concert: Noël Wan Recital**
Canaveral Recital Hall
Recital by Noël Wan, Gold Medal and the Mario Falcao Prize winner in the 12th USA International Harp Competition, including a multimedia performance of music for solo acoustic and amplified harp inspired by Alfred Hitchcock's iconic 1963 horror film *The Birds*.
- 9:30 – 10:30 PM** **Post Concert Reception: Michelle Jones; Madison Harding; Yamilet Trujillo; Vioelectric®**
Peninsula Foyer
Be transported by Vioelectric® on an interactive auditory and visual journey with wireless, lighted instruments and original arrangements of their favorite songs!

TUESDAY, JUNE 18

- 7:30 AM – 7:00 PM** **Registration/Hospitality**
Peninsula Registration Desk
- 8:00 AM – 7:00 PM** **Harp Pen**
Longboat 2
- 9:30 AM – 6:00 PM** **Exhibits**
Peninsula Ballroom
- 8:30 AM – 4:00 PM** **Legacy Exhibit**
Longboat 1

-
- 7:00 – 7:50 AM** **Yoga: Alix Raspé Gray**
Peninsula 1
Begin your day with a dynamic, heart-opening and breath-inspiring 45-min flow class. This yoga class will stretch and unwind the body. Leave feeling refreshed, clear, and ready for the day. All levels welcome.

TUESDAY, JUNE 18 ... *continued*

- 8:30 – 9:20 AM** **Om is Where the Harp Is: Alix Raspé Gray**
Peninsula 1 Tools and performance benefits of yoga for harpists of all levels. Workshop will focus on mindful movement and pedagogical tools for musicians.
- 8:30 – 9:20 AM** **Harmony in Marketing: Tuning Up Your Brand for Success: Nichole Rohrbach-McKenzie**
Biscayne 1 Discover the essential marketing and business management best practices for success as a self-employed artist.
- 8:30 – 9:20 AM** **The Legacy of Dorothy Ashby & Alice Coltrane: Brandee Younger, Alison Reese**
Biscayne 2 In a musical landscape of the 1950s where few women were able to make a mark and the harp wasn't considered a jazz instrument, Dorothy Ashby blazed a trail as both a female musician and jazz harpist. In the late 60's, Alice Coltrane began her solo recording career incorporating harp into her original compositions and spiritual practices. Join Brandee and Alison and learn about Ashby and Coltrane's incredible journey, inspiring careers, and lasting legacies.
- 8:30 – 9:20 AM** **William Marx's Concerto For Two Harps and Orchestra: Dr. Colleen Potter Thorburn; Dr. Jaclyn Wappel**
Biscayne 3 Lecture-recital describing the recent journey of preparing William Marx's Double Harp Concerto (composed 1987) for performance, with live demonstration and performance of the harp parts.
- 9:00 – 10:50 AM** **Rehearsal: 2024 Conference Ensemble, Sunshine Harps 🌞: Jan Jennings; Elzbieta Szmy; Laura Brandenburg; Willi Maerz; Jaymee Haefner & UNT HarpBeats**
Merritt 1 & 2 All registered harpists are welcome to join the 2024 AHS National Conference Ensemble, Sunshine Harps 🌞, led by Jan Jennings and assisted by Willi Maerz, Laura Brandenburg, and Jaymee Haefner with members of the UNT HarpBeats.
- 9:30 – 10:20 AM** **IDEA Round Table: IDEA Committee; Johanny Navarro**
Peninsula 1 A discussion about cultivating a more inclusive landscape for harpists by actively supporting minority composers to bridge cultural divides and foster mutual understanding.
- 9:30 – 10:20 AM** **Think it, do it, finish it!: Alison Reese; Kimberly Rowe**
Biscayne 3 Find out how to manage your creativity to turn your next big idea (concert, website, social media, whatever!) into a finished project.
- 9:30 – 10:20 AM** **Tech Aids: Apps, Social Media & Software for Harpists: Kristina Finch; Kristen Elizabeth Hoyos**
Biscayne 1 Experts share their favorite apps, online marketing tools, and hardware & software to make your musical life smooth sailing!
- 9:30 – 10:20 AM** **Music of Latin America: Leonard Jácome; Mónica Gallego; Eduardo Betancourt**
Biscayne 2 Learn about the historical and cultural influences that shape Latin American music.
- 11:00 AM – NOON** **Concert: From Bach to Beyond on lever and pedal harps: Dr. Laura Sherman; Dr. Anne-Marie O'Farrell**
Canaveral Recital Hall Drs. Anne-Marie O'Farrell and Laura Sherman (lever and pedal harps) present music by J.S. Bach, and original lever harp compositions by Dr. O'Farrell.
- NOON – 1:30 PM** **IDEA Soundboard: IDEA Committee**
Event Hub The IDEA Committee will host an informal meet and greet to get to know members and hear their ideas to support a more inclusive membership. All are invited to this event.
- 1:30 – 2:20 PM** **New World Symphony Panel: Dr. Laura Sherman; Abigail Kent; Janet Harriman; Christine Van Arsdale**
Biscayne 1 Alumni of the New World Symphony in Miami Beach discuss their experiences with the orchestra, which trains & mentors musicians to pursue professional performance careers.
- 1:30 – 2:20 PM** **Business for Harpists Q & A Session: Nichole Rohrbach-McKenzie; Alison Reese; Kristina Finch; Kristen Elizabeth Hoyos; Kimberly Rowe**
Biscayne 2 A powerhouse panel answers your questions about navigating the often confusing world of self-employed business management.

SCHEDULE *of* EVENTS

TUESDAY, JUNE 18 ... *continued*

- 1:30 – 2:20 PM** **Harpists in Women's Orchestras and All-Girl Bands: Emily Laurance**
Biscayne 3 Before women's inclusion in professional orchestras, top female instrumentalists found opportunities in all-women orchestras and dance bands. Harpists were important members of these ensembles.
- 1:30 – 2:20 PM** **Improvisation: Nikolaz Cadoret**
Peninsula 1 Tips and tricks to take away any fear when it comes to improvising in different contexts. Bring a harp for hands-on participation.
- 2:00 – 3:50 PM** **Rehearsal: 2024 Conference Ensemble, Sunshine Harps 🌞: Laura Brandenburg; Willi Maerz; Jan Jennings; Jaymee Haefner & UNT HarpBeats**
Merritt 1 & 2 All registered harpists are welcome to join the 2024 AHS National Conference Ensemble, Sunshine Harps 🌞, led by Jan Jennings and assisted by Willi Maerz, Laura Brandenburg, and Jaymee Haefner with members of the UNT HarpBeats.
- 2:30 – 3:20 PM** **Working with Composers: Dr. Laura Sherman; Kristina Finch; Dr. Stella Sung; Sara Cutler; Johanny Navarro; Dannel Espinoza; Charles Norman Mason; Elisa Torres**
Biscayne 1 Learn the resources, tools, and best practices for working to effect great outcomes with new music!
- 2:30 – 3:30 PM** **Notation Software: Christopher Green; Dr. Steve Guerra; Rachel Green**
Biscayne 2 Get professional insights into using Dorico, Finale, LilyPond, MuseScore, and Sibelius music notation software, to help you build better scores for the harp.
- 2:30 – 3:20 PM** **Playing Pain Free: A Guide to Early Identification & Prevention of Injury at the Harp: Kai Rasmussen; Angela Schwarzkopf**
Biscayne 3 This interactive presentation/workshop removes the stigma surrounding pain at the harp by providing information and strategies for early identification and prevention of injury.
- 2:30 - 3:20 PM** **Memories of Camden & The Teaching of Alice Chalifoux**
Peninsula 1 Former students of the legendary Alice Chalifoux explore her teaching style and experiences studying with her, especially at the legendary Salzedo Harp Colony in Camden, Maine.
- 4:00 – 5:00 PM** **Concert: Music of Latin America: Leonard Jácome; Eduardo Betancourt; Humberly Maldonado**
Canaveral Recital Hall Original and avant-garde Venezuelan repertoire with influences from jazz and world folklore, in the unique style of Eduardo Betancourt. Leonard Jácome and Humberly Maldonado in a unique and colorful performance, which shows the majesty of the Venezuelan cultural dance accompanied by the Venezuelan Electric Harp. Venezuelan merengue, Joropo, Afro-Venezuelan Rhythms.
- 7:30 PM – 9:30 PM** **Concert: International Flavors: Descofar, with Nikolas Cadoret, Alice Soria-Cadoret, & Yvon Molard; The Transatlantic Hot Club with Ben Creighton-Griffiths, Adrian Chevalier, & Philip Ambuel**
Canaveral Recital Hall Descofar is a power trio from Brest, FR, between Breton music and psychedelic post-rock. Two electric harps and drums that may knock all your prejudices over... An exciting show of Swing classics, Django standards, and Latin Bossa Nova by the Transatlantic Hot Club.
- 9:30 – 10:30 PM** **Post Concert Reception: Victoria Lynn Schultz; Craig Thomas; Stringfyre**
Peninsula Foyer Original compositions as well as Celtic, Broadway, and standards featuring Victoria Schultz on harp and Craig Thomas on viola da gamba, guitar, recorders, and violin.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 19

- 7:30 - 11:00 AM** **Registration/Hospitality**
Peninsula Registration Desk
- 8:00 AM - 3:00 PM** **Harp Pen**
Longboat 2
- 9:00 AM - NOON** **Exhibits**
Peninsula Ballroom
- 8:30 AM - 11:00 AM** **Legacy Exhibit**
Longboat 1
-
- 7:00 - 7:50 AM** **Yoga: Alix Raspé Gray**
Peninsula 1 Begin your day with a dynamic, heart-opening and breath-inspiring 45-min flow class. This yoga class will stretch and unwind the body. Leave feeling refreshed, clear, and ready for the day. All levels welcome.
- 8:30 - 9:20 AM** **AHS Grants: Kela Walton; Karen Lindquist**
Peninsula 1 Get the grant! Discover tips and insights to make your next AHS grant application a success.
- 8:30 - 9:20 AM** **The “Exotic” in the Music of Marcel Tournier: Alexander Rider**
Biscayne 2 Drawing together influential elements from Tournier’s world, social circle, compositional technique, and live musical illustrations, Alex Rider explores the man and the music.
- 8:30 - 9:20 AM** **Chapter Ambassador Projects: Chapter Ambassadors**
Biscayne 3 Chapter Ambassadors showcase their community engagement projects through a poster session. The Chapter Ambassadors Program promotes student engagement at the chapter and national levels, creating service and community-building opportunities for students, and fostering future leadership potential for the Society.
- 8:30 - 9:20 AM** **Zabaleta in Columbia: Mónica Gallego**
Biscayne 1 Explore the legacy of distinguished 20th Century Spanish harpist Nicanor Zabaleta and his musical connections to Colombia, South America.
- 9:00 - 10:45 AM** **Rehearsal: 2024 Conference Ensemble, Sunshine Harps 🌞; Jan Jennings; Laura Brandenburg; HarpBeats; Willi Maerz; Jaymee Haefner & UNT HarpBeats”**
Canaveral Recital Hall All registered harpists are welcome to join the 2024 AHS National Conference Ensemble, Sunshine Harps 🌞, led by Jan Jennings and assisted by Willi Maerz, Laura Brandenburg, and Jaymee Haefner with members of the UNT HarpBeats.
- 9:30 - 10:20 AM** **Elements of Puerto Rican Bomba Rhythms for Harp and Cello: Elisa Torres; Johanny Navarro; Luis Miguel Rojas**
Biscayne 1 Puerto Rican composer Johanny Navarro explains the bomba rhythms used to create her piece “Suite Bombástica,” and how the cello and harp represent them.
- 9:30 - 10:20 AM** **Strategies for Practicing Sight Reading: Phala Tracy**
Biscayne 2 Does your heart seize with dread at the idea of SIGHT READING??? Come discover resources for meeting the printed page as a friend, not a foe.
- 9:30 - 10:20 AM** **Introduction to Jazz: Ben Creighton Griffiths**
Merritt 1 & 2 A fun first look at jazz improvisation on the harp covering a variety of styles! This presentation is made possible thanks to a grant from Wales Arts International and The Arts Council of Wales. a variety of styles!”: Bring a harp for hands-on participation.
- 11:00 AM - 12:45 PM** **Ensemble Concert: Sunshine Harps 🌞 & HarpBeats: Jan Jennings; Laura Brandenburg; HarpBeats; Willi Maerz; Jaymee Haefner & UNT HarpBeats**
Canaveral Recital Hall The 2024 conference Sunshine Harps 🌞 ensemble performs, along with the University of North Texas HarpBeats ensemble!

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AHS CONCERT ARTIST

Kaitlin Miller

Sunday, June 16, 2024, 1:00 PM
Canaveral Recital Hall

The Colorado Trail, Op. 28

Marcel Grandjany
(1891-1975)The Moldau, (“*Vltava*”) from *Má Vlast* (1874-1879)Bedřich Smetana
(1824-1884)
transcribed for harp by Hanuš Trněček (1858-1914)

PAUSE

Suite Galactique, Op. 39
Exosphère
Hymne au Bon Combat
Scherzo del puebloCaroline Lizotte
(b. 1969)*caprice* (2016)Jeffrey Mumford
(b. 1955)Around the Clock Suite (ca. 1948)
The Morning After
Ten Past Two
Beige Nocturne
Harpicide at MidnightPearl Chertok
(1918-1981)

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AN EVENING OF JAZZ

Scott Marischen, Charles Overton, César Secundino, harpists
Mark Rose, saxophone Manny Patiño, bass Tony Verdejo, percussion

Sunday, June 16, 2024, 7:00 PM
Dr. Phillips High School
Turkey Lake Road, Orlando, FL

Scott Marischen and his trio will perform music by Chick Corea,
Pat Metheny and songs from The Real Book.

Arpa en Clave
Déjà vu
Va Bossa
Guajira
Ñompiro
Songo

César Secundino

César Secundino, harp
Manny Patiño, bass Tony Verdejo, percussion

Charles Overton
Charles Overton will be performing his original works
as well as arrangements of jazz standards.

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HARPISTS OF THE SUNSHINE STATE

Monday, June 17, 2024, 11:00 AM
Canaveral Recital Hall

Dance of the White Lotus under the Silver Moon (1998) Stella Sung
(b. 1959)

Haley Rhodside, harp Colleen Blagov, flute

Coconut Grove Suite for solo harp Charles Norman Mason
(b. 1955)
and soundscapes (2020-2023)
I. Biscayne Bay
II. Plymouth Congregational Church

Laura Sherman, harp

Meditation and Dance (2017) Gregory Wanamaker
(b. 1968)

Kontra Duo

Kristina Finch, harp Dannel Espinoza, saxophone

a moment of transition (2024) ++ Alex Burtzos
(b. 1985)

Haley Rhodside, harp
Rimma Bergeron-Langlois, violin, Mauricio Céspedes Rivero, viola,
Grace Gavin, cello

Commissioned by

The Central Florida Chapter of the American Harp Society
Susan Bright, Central Florida Chapter President and her husband, Larry Stevenson
Cheryl Dungan Cunningham, Chair, 2024 AHS National Conference
In partnership with the Orlando Philharmonic Orchestra

++ *World premiere performance*

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NEW WORLD SYMPHONY ALUMNI

Abigail Kent, Janet Harriman, Christine Van Arsdale

Monday, June 17, 2024, 4:00 PM
Canaveral Recital Hall

Sonata for Harp (1953)
Allegretto
Lento
Perpetuum Mobile

Germaine Tailleferre
(1892-1983)

Abigail Kent

Pride & Prejudice, (2005) suite from the movie soundtrack

Dario Marianelli
(b. 1963)

arranged for two harps by Christine Van Arsdale

Christine Van Arsdale & Janet Harriman

Acrostic Paraphrase (1983)

David Del Tredici
(1937 - 2023)

*Extracted from Final Alice for soprano (amplified), folk group, and large orchestra (1974-75),
Commissioned by the American Harp Society (1984) and dedicated to Ann Mason Stockton*

Janet Harriman

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NOËL WAN

Monday, June 17, 2024, 7:30 PM
Canaveral Recital Hall

THE HARP IN THE GILDED CAGE
Music inspired by Alfred Hitchcock's *The Birds* (1963)

The Lark	Mikhail Glinka (1804-1857) Mily Balakirev (1836-1910) <i>transcribed for harp by Ksenia Erdely</i>
from, Suite in E minor, RCT 2 Le rappel des oiseaux	Jean-Philippe Rameau (1683-1764) <i>transcribed for harp by Noël Wan</i>
Sonata in d minor, K. 213 ("The Lover")	Domenico Scarlatti (1685-1757) <i>transcribed for harp by Noël Wan</i>
Deux Impromptus	Jean Cras (1879-1932)
The Ocean Within (2011)	Du Yun (b. 1977)
O canto do cisne negro	Heitor Villa-Lobos (1887-1959) <i>transcribed for harp by Noël Wan</i>
Birds in Winter: Six Preludes (1989)	Michael Mauldin (b. 1947)

INTERMISSION

... continued

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NOËL WAN RECITAL ... *continued*

from, Images Book IV (1932)
La volière magique

Marcel Tournier
(1879-1951)

Chamber of Horrors (1995)

Elena Kats-Chernin
(b. 1957)

Harpalycé (1980)

Marius Constant
(1925-2004)

from, Goyescas, Op. 11 (1911) ("Los majors enamorados")
Quejas, o la maja y el ruiseñor

Enrique Granados
(1867-1916)
transcribed for harp by Noël Wan

O sacrum convivium! (1937)

Olivier Messiaen
(1908-1992)
transcribed for harp by Noël Wan

Life is flashing before my eyes and I realize that
it all started with a blackbird (2018)

Uno Vesje
(b. 1989)

Blackbird (1968)

Paul McCartney
(b. 1942)
arrangement by Brad Mehldau
transcribed for harp by Noël Wan

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FROM BACH TO BEYOND

Dr. Anne-Marie O'Farrell & Dr. Laura Sherman

Tuesday, June 18, 2024, 11:00 AM
Canaveral Recital Hall

Reverie: This is My Will Anne-Marie O'Farrell

from, Chromatic Fantasia and Fugue, BWV 903 (ca. 1720) Johann Sebastian Bach
Fantasia (1685-1750)from, Partita No. 2 in D Minor for solo violin, BWV 1004 (ca. 1717-1720)
Chaconne

Anne-Marie O'Farrell

Prelude, Fugue and Allegro BWV 998 (ca. 1735) Johann Sebastian Bach
Laura ShermanChorale Variations on Take My Life and Let it Be Frances Ridley Havergal
(1836-1979)
transcribed for harp by Anne-Marie O'Farrell

AirDance Anne-Marie O'Farrell

from, Very Warm for May (1939) music & lyrics by Jerome Kern
All the Things You Are (1885-1945)
and Oscar Hammerstein, II
(1895-1960)
arranged by Paul Baker

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MUSIC OF LATIN AMERICA

Eduardo Betancourt and Leonard Jácome, harp
Humberly Maldonado, dance

Tuesday, June 18, 2024, 4:00 PM
Canaveral Recital Hall

Quinta Anauco (Vals, “waltz”)	Aldemar Romero (1928-2007)
Talla Doble E (Joropo, or “Música Llanera”)	Eduardo Betancourt (b. 1976)
Efecto Mariposa (Merengue Venezolano)	Eduardo Betancourt
Carora	Vals Antonio Lauro (1917-1986)
Camaguan (Joropo Venezolano)	Traditional

Eduardo Bentancourt

~~~~~

Leonard Jácome & Humberly Maldonado

*Selections will be announced from the stage*

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## INTERNATIONAL FLAVORS

Descofar & The Transatlantic Hot Club

Tuesday, June 18, 2024, 7:30 PM  
Canaveral Recital Hall

Descofar

Nikolaz Cadoret, harp  
Yvon Molard, drums  
Alice Soria-Cadoret, harp

PAUSE

The Transatlantic Hot Club

Ben Creighton-Griffiths, harp  
Adrian Chevalier, violin  
Philip Ambuel, bass

*The program will be announced from the stage.*

*Mr. Griffiths' appearance was made possible with support from*



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## HARP ENSEMBLES CONCERT

UNIVERSITY OF NORTH TEXAS HARPBEATS & 2024 SUNSHINE HARPS ENSEMBLE

Wednesday, June 19, 2024, 11:00 AM  
Canaveral Recital Hall

University of North Texas HarpBeats

Sophie Chien, Maria De Jesus Contreras, Halie Douglas, Acadia Ferguson,  
Eduardo Flores, Victoria Gonzalez, Kathryn Horton, Gabrielle Logan,  
Kaitlin Miller (UNT alum, guest performer), Zoe O'Shaughnessy, Urszula Rucka

Dr. Jaymee Haefner (director)  
Ruth Mertens (assistant director)

Book of Days (1992)

Enya and Roma Ryan (b. 1961/1950)  
*arranged by Ruth Mertens*

Only the Beginning of the Adventure  
From the movie,  
*The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe* (2005)

Harry Gregson-Williams  
(b. 1961)  
*arranged by Kaitlin Miller*

Theme from *The Avengers* (2012)

Alan Silvestri  
(b. 1951)  
*arranged by Halie Douglas*

Bundle of Joy from *Inside Out* (2015)

Michael Giacchino  
(b. 1967)  
*arranged by Gabi Logan*

Rey's Theme from *Star Wars: The Force Awakens* (2015)

John Williams  
(b. 1931)  
*arranged by Victoria Gonzalez*

Forbidden Friendship from *How to Train Your Dragon* (2010)

John Powell  
(b. 1963)  
*arranged by Kathryn Horton*

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HARP ENSEMBLES CONCERT ... *continued*

La Tentacion (1933)

Nacio Herb Brown  
(1896-1964)  
*arranged by Laura Erb*Galop Infernal ("Can-Can") from *Orphée aux enfers* (1858)Jacques Offenbach  
(1819-1880)  
*arranged by Zoe O'Shaughnessy*

Tamacun (2006)

Rodrigo y Gabriela  
(b.1974/1973)  
*arranged by Jaymee Haefner*... *continued*

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## HARP ENSEMBLES CONCERT ... *continued*

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### 2024 NATIONAL CONFERENCE SUNSHINE HARPS ENSEMBLE 🌞

Joelle Bell, Carys Brumbaugh, David Crookston, Maria De Jesus Contreras, Halie Douglas, Paula Fagerberg, Eduardo Flores, Vicki Garcia, Victoria Gonzalez, Laurel J Grube, Stephen Hill, Kathryn Horton, Jan Jennings, Julian Jones, Noel Li, Gabi Logan, Harper McCoy, Nick McCoy, Bailey McLean, Jeanne O'Connell, Sasha O'Kane, Emma Quinn, Sarah Rivera-Palencia, Urszula Rucka, Elizabeth Seabrooks, Miriam Shilling, Amy Stabler, Mary Stark, Linda van Niekerk Franklin, Donna Whitney

Laura Brandenburg, Jaymee Haefner, Jan Jennings, Willi Maerz, directors

The Wayfaring Stranger

Music by Johann Georg Ebeling  
1637-1676  
Lyrics by Paul Gerhardt (1666)  
*arranged by Cindy Horstman*

Three Spanish Dances  
Villano  
Canarios  
Paradetas

Gaspar Sanz  
(1640-1710)  
*arranged by Samuel Milligan*

Powdered Wigs

Stephanie Curcio  
(b. 1939)

*"Respectfully derived from themes of Mozart, Haydn, and Clementi"* – S.C.

Black and White Rag

George Botsford  
(1874-1949)  
*arranged by Jan Jennings*

Big Apple Swing

Willi Maerz

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*Susann McDonald, Founder and Artistic Director Emeritus*

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# PERFORMERS *and* PRESENTERS



## PHILIP AMBUEL

**Philip Ambuel** (bass) is a Thai/American bassist from Falls Church, VA. After getting his start playing bass guitar in rock bands and bass trombone in orchestra, Philip chose to learn upright bass at George Mason University. He studied with professor Glenn Dewey from 2009 to 2012, and then relocated to Paris where he

played in local jazz clubs and learned to speak French. Philip moved to NYC in 2016, where he studied with legendary bassist Ron Carter. Philip lives in Brooklyn and performs in jazz clubs all over the world.



## PETER ANDERSON

**Peter Anderson**, owner and founder of Anderson Group, has a deep and abiding relationship with the world of musicians. Performing since the age of four, Peter now mixes his love of music with his exceptional knowledge of the insurance

business. Peter has degrees in music and business and appeared regularly with the Boston Symphony Orchestras Tanglewood Festival Chorus from 1980 thru 2006.



## JASON AZEM

With over 25 years of experience regulating harps, **Jason Azem** is among the world's most sought-after technicians. He began his career at Lyon & Healy Harps, where he studied under Peter Wiley and later was appointed Production Manager of the Assembly Department. In 2012, he chose to leave Lyon & Healy to become an independent technician.

Jason's clientele includes many of the world's leading orchestras, universities and professional harpists in the USA, South America, Canada, Australia, Asia and Europe. He has also worked as the exclusive technician at the USA International Harp Competition, International Harp Contest in Israel, Lyon & Healy Awards, American Harp Society Conferences and Institutes, as well as the World Harp Congress in Vancouver and Sydney. Jason is a member of the Lyon & Healy/Salvi Technicians Guild.



## EDUARDO BETANCOURT

Considered "one of the iconic harpists of this new age," **Eduardo Betancourt** is a Grammy-award winning Venezuelan musician, producer, arranger, composer, instructor, and multi-instrumentalist with

30 years of experience in traditional and fusion Venezuelan music.



## RIMMA BERGERON-LANGLAIS

**Rimma Bergeron-Langlois** (Yermosh), Concertmaster of the Orlando Philharmonic, began playing the violin when she was five years old, and her first public appearance was on Ukrainian National television when she was six. She

studied at the specialized music school in Kharkiv, Ukraine, and was a prize winner at the Adolescent's Assemblies of Arts International competition in Moscow, Russia. Rimma went on to pursue her Bachelor's and Master's degrees at the New England Conservatory in Boston with Masuko Ushioda and Donald Weilerstein. During her studies, she won multiple New England Conservatory Concerto Competitions. She was also a soloist and competition winner with the Boston Modern Orchestra Project. Rimma has performed extensively in concerts and recitals throughout Europe, Russia, the USA, South America, Asia, and Australia.



## COLLEEN BLAGOV

**Colleen Blagov** joined the Orlando Philharmonic Orchestra in 2005 as Second Flute/Piccolo and was named Principal Flute in January of 2008. Prior to her appointment with the OPO, Colleen was Principal Flute with the Savannah

Symphony. She is a three-time winner of the American Flute Association's Orchestral Competition, and is adjunct Professor of Flute at Florida Southern College.

Colleen received her Bachelor of Music degree in Flute Performance from Ithaca College, where she studied with Dr. Wendy Mehne; she continued her studies at the Cleveland Institute of Music under the tutelage of Joshua Smith (Principal Flute, the Cleveland Orchestra) and was awarded the Professional Studies Diploma in 1995.

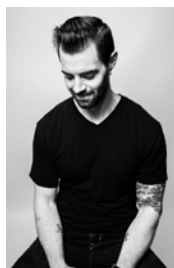


## LAURA L BRANDENBURG

**Laura Logan Brandenburg**, DMA, served as Harp Instructor on the Texas Christian University School of Music faculty from 2001-2020. In addition, she maintained an active pre-college studio through the TCU Music Prep Department. A highly regarded freelance harpist, Laura enjoys a wide variety

of collaborative performance opportunities in the Dallas-Fort Worth area. She is current President of the Dallas Chapter and is honored to be the Co-Chair of the 2025 AHS Summer Institute and Harp Ensemble Festival.

# PERFORMERS *and* PRESENTERS



## ALEX BURTZOS

Alex Burtzos is an American composer and educator based in New York City and Orlando, FL. His music has been performed across four continents by some of the world's foremost contemporary musicians and ensembles, including JACK Quartet, Yarn/Wire, loadbang, Contemporaneous, ETHEL, Jenny Lin, RighteousGIRLS, Decoda, and many others. Alex is the founder and

artistic director of ICEBERG New Music, a New York-based composers' collective.

Alex holds a DMA from Manhattan School of Music, where his primary teachers were Reiko Fueting and Mark Stambaugh. He is the Endowed Chair of Composition Studies at the University of Central Florida, where he teaches composition, orchestration, film scoring, video game scoring, and music technology. His music is published by Just a Theory Press, NewMusicShelf, and others.



## NIKOLAZ CADORET

Born in Brittany, **Nikolaz Cadoret** is a multifaceted musician: he started studying the Celtic Harp with Dominig Bouchaud but is also graduated in Classical Harp from the Zürich Musik Hochschule. Prize

winner of prestigious international competitions, he worked as solo harpist throughout Europe and collaborated with world class orchestras. He simultaneously works on improvisation and trans-arts projects with Collectif Polop, FackZeDirtyCut, Meteoros or Collectif ARP. With Descofar Trio he renews the Celtic harp repertoire and brings the electric harp in unexplored fields on international stages. Nikolaz Cadoret is also teaching at the Brest Conservatoire, Pont Supérieur, and is invited professor at the Oslo Royal Conservatory.



## ADRIEN CHEVALIER

Born in Provence, South of France, into a family of violinists, **Adrien Chevalier** began his musical education at the Avignon Classical Conservatory, where he studied for 12 years before moving to Paris; there he developed his passion

for Gypsy jazz and Eastern European music. He created Pad Brapad, a musical ensemble specializing in Balkan folklore, with whom he performed all over Europe, participating in the most renowned World Music festivals. Adrien Chevalier then settled down in the French capital and joined the Grüss Circus orchestra, while also studying at the CMDL jazz school with master violinist Didier Lockwood.

In 2011 he moved to New York City where he co-founded the Avalon Jazz Band. Adrien Chevalier continued his work as a film composer (Canal +, France 3...) and founded the Hot Club of New York with whom he performed at the New York Hot Jazz Festival in 2014. Adrien Chevalier often collaborates with renowned artists and tours regularly in Europe, South America and Asia.



## CENTRAL FLORIDA CHAPTER

The Chapter was founded in 1987 by Jan Jennings along with a small group of founding members. Since that time we have presented more than 100 harp events including concerts, workshops, and master classes to benefit harpists and the public. The members are professional harpists, amateur harpists, students, teachers, and harp enthusiasts from the greater central Florida area. The Central Florida Chapter was selected as Chapter of the Year by the parent organization, the American Harp Society, in 1995, 2003, 2008, and 2013.



## LYDIA CLEAVER

**Lydia Cleaver** began her harp studies at Cass Technical High School in Detroit and received undergraduate and graduate degrees from the University of Michigan. She is an active performer, faculty member of the Michigan State University Community Music School, and a member of Detroit Harmony,

partnering with the Detroit Symphony Orchestra to strengthen music education opportunities in Detroit. Lydia and Maurice Draughn formed the Harp Instruction and Performance Program (HIPP), providing free lessons to young students in Detroit and offering them the opportunity to continue studying harp at Cass Technical High School, where Lydia serves as program director. She passionately promotes the harp to Detroit's next generation of harpists.



## SARA CUTLER

**Sara Cutler** has appeared around the world as soloist with orchestras, performing concertos at Carnegie Hall, Lincoln Center, the Kennedy Center, and at the Edinburgh Festival. She has been the featured soloist with ensembles such as the Orchestra of St. Luke's and the American Symphony, has been heard in recital in Tokyo, Tel Aviv, London, Paris, and New York and has

produced many recordings in collaboration with artists such as Jessye Norman and Pat Metheny. She was principal harpist of the American Symphony Orchestra, with whom she recorded the Dohnanyi *Concertino for Harp*, and the New York City Ballet Orchestra and is on the faculty of Bard College.



## MAURICE DRAUGHN

**Maurice Draughn** is a freelance harpist performing in orchestras throughout Southeastern Michigan and Western Ontario. From the concert stage to the commercial studio, Maurice regularly performs various genres of music including jazz, neo-soul

and gospel and has recorded with notable artists from each respective genre. His compositions and arrangements are performed frequently by professional and student harpists alike. Maurice is currently the director of choral activities at Cass Technical High School in Detroit, MI.

# PERFORMERS *and* PRESENTERS



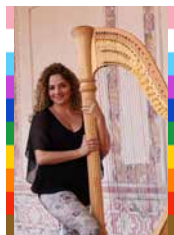
## DANNEL ESPINOZA

Dannel Espinoza is currently the Assistant Professor of Saxophone at the University of Southern Mississippi. Besides regular performing with Kristina Finch in the Kontra Duo, he is also extremely active with the Project Fusion Saxophone Quartet.



## KRISTINA FINCH

Versatile and flexible in all settings Dr. **Kristina Finch**, harpist (Hattiesburg, MS) is constantly striving to connect with new and diverse audiences using classical training and a passion for popular music to defy expectations and expand perceptions of the harp. Kristina performs with ensembles throughout the United States, including the Nu Deco Ensemble, Miami City Ballet, Mississippi Symphony Orchestra, Anchorage Symphony Orchestra, and as second harpist with the Charlotte Symphony Orchestra. Kristina is a visual artist, entrepreneur, Harp Mastery Certified Coach, harp faculty at the University of Southern Mississippi, and the host/creator of the "Harp Column Podcast."



## MÓNICA GALLEGO

A native from Manizales, Colombia, **Mónica Gallego** holds a Master of Music degree from the New York University, Steinhardt School of Music, and the PhD summa cum laude from Burgos University, Spain where her dissertation work included a focus on the work of harpist Nicanor Zabaleta in Colombia. Dr. Gallego has presented in the Second International Congress of Musicology in Spain, and her articles have been published in research journals in Colombia and Spain. Monica has performed with orchestras and as a soloist with international music festivals in Mexico, Colombia, Brazil and recently in Spain, Portugal, Italy. As a composer is the author of *Bambucos, Pasillo & Son* (book).



## GRACE GAVIN

**Grace Bahng Gavin**, cellist, was a scholarship student of Leonard Rose and Channing Robbins at the Juilliard School where she received her B.M. and M.M. degrees. She was a member of the Blair String Quartet and Associate Professor at Vanderbilt University from 1984-1999. Widely acclaimed in concert performances across the country, she has appeared in recital at the Library of Congress, Kennedy Center, 92nd St. Y in New York, Alice Tully Hall and on National Public Radio and Television. She has been in residence at the Aspen, Marlboro, Sunflower, Sewanee, Buzzard's Bay, and the Crested Butte Chamber Music Festivals, the El Paso Pro Musica International Chamber Music Festival, the Sedona Chamber Music Festival, the Highlands/Cashiers Chamber Music Festival, the Irving S. Gilmore International Keyboard Festival, and the St. Barths Music Festival.



## ALIX RASPÉ GRAY

**Alix Raspé Gray** is an award-winning harpist, music educator and a 500-hr Yoga-Alliance certified yoga instructor. Alix teaches harp for Phillips Academy Andover, Boston Youth Symphony Orchestras, and The Groton School.

Alix is an Associate Harpist for the Columbus Symphony, former Principal Harpist for the Lima Symphony, and substitute harpist for the Boston Symphony Orchestra. Alix lectures regularly on wellness music. She has performed on *Live with Kelly and Ryan*, *The Late Late Show with James Corden*, and with Andrea Bocelli, Michael Bolton, Roger Daltrey, Laufey, and MAX. Alix graduated Pi Kappa Lambda from New England Conservatory (M.M., Harp Performance) and NYU (B.M., Harp Performance).



## CHRISTOPHER GREEN

**Christopher Green** is a digital designer and software architect based out of Tucson Arizona.



## RACHEL GREEN

A teacher, author and performer, **Rachel Green** strives to help harpists share the joy of music with their friends, families, and communities. Holding a Doctor of Musical Arts degree from the University of Arizona, Rachel has studied pedagogy with pianists Stephen Pierce and Lisa Zdechlik and harpists Kathy Moore and Carrol McLaughlin. After serving as Assistant Professor of Harp at the University of Arizona, Rachel set out to find new ways to help harpists learn and perform better. Her groundbreaking teaching method, *Play with Me*, is published by her company, Happystring Music. Rachel also publishes new high-quality editions of standard harp repertoire as well as compositions of contemporary teachers.



## BENJAMIN CREIGHTON GRIFFITHS

**Ben Creighton Griffiths** is a touring Jazz and classical musician based in Wales. He made his international debut at the 2004 1er Concours International de Harpe in France, coming second in the under 18 division at aged 7. In 2008 he won the Junior Lily Laskine competition in Paris, winning a concert harp in the process. He has gone on to perform extensively across the UK, Europe, Canada, Brazil, the French Caribbean, India, and Hong Kong. He is a founding member of Chube, an experimental electro-acoustic fusion trio, and The Transatlantic Hot Club, a 1930s French Swing and Gypsy Jazz outfit featuring New York based violinist Adrien Chevalier.

# PERFORMERS *and* PRESENTERS



## STEVE GUERRA

**Steve Guerra** is a composer, arranger, saxophonist, and educator who is the Director of the Studio Jazz Writing program and an Assistant Professor in the department of Studio Music and Jazz at the Frost School of Music. In high demand as a composer and arranger, Steve has been commissioned to write for Dave Koz, Ben

Folds, Clark Terry, Carmen Bradford, and the National Symphony Orchestra, among others. In December 2016, he served as the assistant orchestrator for Japanese music sensation Yoshiaki's Classical Tour and Carnegie Hall Performance. He has served as a composer-in-residence throughout the U.S., thanks to the Commission Project and the National Endowment for the Arts.



## JAYMEE HAEFNER

**Jaymee Haefner**, Associate Professor of Harp and Director of Graduate Studies at the University of North Texas College of Music, has performed in Hong Kong, Moscow, Prague, New York City, New Orleans, Atlanta, and Mexico, and has

adjudicated competitions in Hong Kong, Italy and the US. Oxford University Press (Grove Music Online) has published her work. She released recordings on the MSR label, and has published two books. She has served the World Harp Congress, American Harp Society, USA International Harp Competition boards, and *The American Harp Journal* editorial board.



## MADISON "MAD HARPIST" HARDING

**Madison "Mad Harpist" Harding** performs at the Walt Disney World Resort as part of the Walt Disney World Orchestra, including recordings and live performances. She is currently principal harpist with the House Band for the City of Orlando, Violectric®,

and is an active freelance harpist in the greater Central Florida Area. Madison graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in Music with an emphasis in Harp Performance from the University of Utah. Madison has studied with harpists throughout the United States, including Dr. Cathy Clayton (University of Utah), Dr. Carrol McLaughlin (University of Arizona), and Janet Peterson (Principal Harpist with Ballet West).



## JANET HARRIMAN

**Janet Harriman** began her harp studies with her mother, Jean Harriman. She continued her studies with Alice Chalifoux while she attended the College of Wooster, the Cleveland Institute of Music and the Salzedo Harp Colony. Harriman has performed

as a soloist, chamber player, and opera and orchestral member in Ohio, Florida, Georgia, New York and Colorado, and internationally in South America, Europe and Asia. She

is currently instructor of harp at the University of Colorado in Boulder and principal harpist with the Central City Opera Festival and Opera Colorado. Harriman is an alumnus of the New World Symphony.



## KRISTEN HOYOS

With over a decade of professional experience, **Kristen Hoyos** is a versatile harpist acclaimed for her exquisite performances at weddings, galas, and corporate events. As an esteemed featured author and music advisor for *Harp Column Magazine*, she shares her expertise with fellow harpists worldwide. As the

principal harpist of the Florida Philharmonia Orchestra in Lakeland, she shares her passion with the local community. Beyond her performances, Kristen is also a dedicated harp teacher committed to nurturing future harpists and inspiring them to reach new heights in their musical journey.



## IDEA COMMITTEE

**The Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, and Access (IDEA) Committee** promotes representation for the varied demographics of the membership by encouraging diverse and accessible programming for the Society. The committee researches

and provides resources that support the interests and identities of our members.



## LEONARD JÁCOME & HIS VENEZUELAN ELECTRIC HARP

Venezuelan harpist **Leonard Jácome** is a champion of the South American harp. Mr. Jacome partnered with Camac Harps, France, to create the Venezuelan electric harp, adding a fresh and contemporary identity to the traditions of the South American harp. Mr. Jacome has won

numerous awards representing Venezuela abroad, performing throughout North and South America, the African continent, Europe, Japan, Malaysia, and the United Kingdom.

Mr. Jacome arranges, composes, produces, and performs in multiple genres including solo works, small ensembles, original works for classical orchestra and Venezuelan harp, and jazz ensemble. He founded the harp training program through El Sistema at the Simón Bolívar Conservatory, and willingly shares his techniques, style, and the embellishments that take full advantage of the qualities of the Venezuelan harp. Mr. Jacome holds the Bachelor of Music degree in Music Education from the Libertador Experimental Pedagogical University in Caracas, Venezuela.

# PERFORMERS *and* PRESENTERS



## JAN JENNINGS

Jan Jennings was first prize winner of the Lyon & Healy International Pop & Jazz Harp Competition in 1988. She has written two instructional books, *The Harpist's Complete Wedding Guidebook* and *Effortless Glissing*, and has been Music Review Editor for *Harp Column* since 1993. She served two terms as Director at Large and Treasurer for the American Harp Society, and founded the Central Florida Chapter in 1987. Jennings currently serves on the board of the World Harp Congress, having previously served two terms on their Board and as Treasurer. She left her position as Vice President at a local bank to become a full time harpist in 1984.



## MICHELLE JONES

Michelle Jones, "Vinylinist<sup>®</sup>" is a producer, instrumentalist, composer, recording artist, and educator/speaker. She serves as Chair of the Education Committee and as a Governor for the Recording Academy/GRAMMYS<sup>®</sup>, and band leader of Violectric<sup>®</sup>: Classic Musicians Who Rock. They perform their proprietary arrangements of popular music on their exclusive Violuminescence<sup>©</sup> LED electric instruments. Violectric<sup>®</sup> was declared "House Band for City of Orlando" by Orlando Mayor Buddy Dyer in 2022, are the first Artists in Residence at the Dr. Phillips Center for the Performing Arts in Orlando, Florida, and are the Guest Performing Artist in Residence at The Neon Museum Las Vegas. She is also the founder of Cosplay Records<sup>™</sup>.



## ABIGAIL KENT

Abigail Kent communicates emotions and stories through music, using the harp as a passport to the human heart. As a player of two worlds and genres, they incorporate music and influences from both classical and traditional Celtic music. Additionally, Abigail puts a focus on women as well as composers of other marginalized identities as integral to their programming. An international award-winning harpist, she has performed with orchestras across the world and is currently the harp fellow at New World Symphony. Abigail teaches both classical and Celtic genres at the College of Charleston and holds a doctorate degree from Juilliard.



## DAVID KOLACNY

David Kolacny has been National Exhibit Chairman since 1988. He trained in harp regulation at Lyon and Healy and has been repairing and regulating harps since 1983 at his family owned music store in Denver. David is a member of the Lyon and Healy/Salvi Harp Technicians Guild and is considered an authority on pedal and lever harp repair, regulation and maintenance. David has served the AHS as Treasurer and Chairman of the Board, has been president of the International Society of Folk Harpers and

Craftsmen several years and currently runs Harps Nouveau harp repair and harp music publishing out of his home in Englewood, Colorado.



## EMILY LAURANCE

Emily Laurance is editor of *The American Harp Journal* and musicology faculty at Oberlin Conservatory of Music. As harpist she performs frequently with many Northeast Ohio ensembles. In addition to degrees from Oberlin and the New England Conservatories, Dr. Laurance received her PhD from the UNC-Chapel Hill, after which she was a fellow at the Library of Congress. Dr. Laurance was formerly Principal Harp with the Stockton (CA) Symphony Orchestra and Professor and Chair of Music History at the San Francisco Conservatory. She earlier served as harp faculty at UNC-Chapel Hill and Duke University. Dr. Laurance is founder and director of the Cleveland Silent Film Festival.



## KAREN LINDQUIST

Karen Lindquist, an AHS Lifetime Achievement Award winner, is an active teacher and freelance musician in New York City. She has served as a jurist for international harp competitions around the world. A prolific chamber musician, she has appeared at many festivals, such as the Marlboro Music, the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center; toured the United States with *Speculum Musicae* and the Aurora trio; and performed frequently with the Theatre Chamber Players of the Kennedy Center. Karen has been a soloist with many major orchestras, including the National Symphony, New York Philharmonic, and the Vienna Austria Symphony. She may be heard on Varèse Sarabande, Orion, Music Masters and Bridge records.

Karen studied with Suzanne Balderston and Eileen Malone; and with Marcel Grandjany at Juilliard, earning both bachelor's and master's degrees.



## ELIZABETH LOUISE

Elizabeth Louise began studying music at age six. At nine, she began taking harp lessons with Elizabeth Motter, former harpist with the Cincinnati Symphony. Elizabeth attended Benslow harp camp in England, studied with Alice Spero Keene at the University Of Illinois, and attended the summer harp course at Indiana University, studying under Susann McDonald. She attended Interlochen Arts Academy and studied with Joan Raeburn Holland, then received her Bachelor's of Music as a student of Ayako Watanabe. In 2016 Elizabeth graduated from the University of Central Florida with a Masters of Arts in music; under tutelage of Rosalind Beck. Elizabeth performs full-time for Disney World at Victoria & Albert's.

# PERFORMERS *and* PRESENTERS



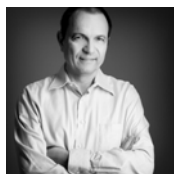
## CHARLES W. LYNCH III

Dr. Charles W. Lynch III is the Harp Specialist for Mesa Public Schools (Mesa, AZ), directing a program which includes over 240 harp students at sixteen MPS junior and senior high schools. He is also Faculty Associate in Harp at Arizona State University and faculty for the Midwest Harp Festival in Chicago each summer. Charles serves on the Board of Directors and Executive Committee of the American Harp Society. He holds degrees from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and Arizona State University.



## CHRISTINE MACPHAIL

Christine first saw a harp at the age of 5 while attending a museum in western Canada. When her father ran his fingers along the strings, it was love at first sound. She began harp lessons with Carrol McLaughlin in Calgary, Alberta. In the late 1980s, Christine moved to Florida and continued to study harp with Kathryn (Holm) McManus. With Kathryn's encouragement, she became a freelance musician in the Central Florida area and continues in that profession to this day. Christine's repertoire focuses primarily on current hits and classic rock themes. Playing the harp is one of the great joys of her life.



## WILLI MAERZ

The artistic range of Willi Maerz' works encompasses both quality light music and sophisticated art music. It includes numerous compositions for smaller ensembles, music for big bands and wind orchestra and up to full symphony orchestra. Willi Maerz began his career in music at age five with his first piano lessons. Later, while majoring in piano at the Academy of Music, Munich, Germany, he also read instrumentation, harmonics in jazz and composition theory. Willi's great passion in music is the harp, for which he has written numerous arrangements, especially for harp quartet. Because of the unique sound his music, Willi's works are performed all over the world.



## MICHAEL MAGANUCO

Michael Maganuco is a harpist, teacher, arranger, and composer living in Southwest Michigan. He is principal harpist of Dubuque Symphony and has performed with Lyric Opera of Chicago and the Milwaukee and South Bend Symphonies. As a composer, Michael is known for his 2009 piece, *Awakening Stillnesses*, winner of the 8th USAIHC composition contest. His arrangements of Astor Piazzolla's music for harp have been recorded by Ann Hobson Pilot. His published works are currently sold by Lyon & Healy. He has previously spoken at the AHS national conference in Atlanta (2016) and 11th WHC in Vancouver (2011).



## HUMBERLY MALDONADO

Humberly Maldonado is a proponent of Venezuelan Nationalist dance, a cultural expression that has its roots in the regional folk traditions of Venezuela. She is a graduate of the University of Tachira, San Cristobal, Tachira, Venezuela, studying Agro Industrial Engineering, where her training focused on the processes that govern quality control, industrial hygiene and safety, OHSAS systems, food safety systems and standards, (HACCP), programs that promote good manufacturing practices, design and control of distribution chains, and human resources management. Ms. Maldonado is a paraprofessional in the Cotopaxi (Colorado) School District, and founder and CEO of Sano-Ingenio healthy foods.



## SCOTT MARISCHEN

Scott Marischen has been performing professionally in the South Florida area for over 30 years and has written, produced and played his entire career. He manages a full-time event music business, working with professional musicians all over the state of Florida.



## CHARLES NORMAN MASON

Charles Mason has received many awards including the Rome Prize and the 2023 MTNA Distinguished Composer Award, the Ernst Bacon Memorial Award American Prize, Premi Internacional de Composició Musical Ciutat de Tarragona Orchestra Music prize, NEA Individual Artist Award, and Dale Warland Singers Commission Prize. His music has been performed throughout the world and broadcast on a number of radio stations including NPR's "Performance Today," Italy's RIAA, and featured on Mexico's Opus 94 on 94.5 FM. He has written for many wonderful performers including Laura Sherman. He is Chair of the Composition at the Frost School of Music. His music is available from Universal Editions, Gothic Harp Publishing, and [charlesnormanmason.com](http://charlesnormanmason.com)



## KAITLIN MILLER

Kaitlin Miller is currently an active musician in the Los Angeles area performing in orchestral, chamber, and solo settings. Her favorite music to perform ranges from romantic French music to the innovative compositions of contemporary artists. In her orchestral pursuits, Kaitlin has performed with the Los Angeles Chamber Orchestra, Pacific Symphony, and American Youth Symphony. Kaitlin's achievements include winning the 2019 AHS in Dallas Scholarship Competition and the 2020 Anne Adams Awards Competition. She was also honored with fellowships at the Music Academy of the West in 2022 and 2023. Distinguished as the Young Professional Division winner of the AHS National Competition, Kaitlin now stands as the Concert Artist for 2023-2025.





## YVON MOLARD

Yvon Molard, drums and live electronics. Iconic drummer and percussionist of the new generation of Breton music, Yvon Molard has built his rhythmic vision far from traditional schools, in close contact with dancers and audiences, immersed in the reality of nights in Brittany and beyond. He collaborates with Youn Kamm, David Pasquet, Plantec, Forzh Penaos, as well as Gwennyn, Obis' Trio, Stok An Dans, Dasson, and Kreiz Breizh Akademy 7.



## JOHANNY NAVARRO

Composer **Johanny Navarro**, celebrated for Afro-Caribbean-inspired creations, has enriched diverse musical entities, such as the Multicultural Music Group and Boston Opera Collaborative. Notably, she earned Opera America's Discovery Grant in 2020 for *¿Y los Pasteles?*, premiered in July 2022 in San Juan. A finalist in the Atlanta Opera's "96-Hour Opera Project" in 2022, she unveiled *Atlanta: 1906*. Currently, as a resident artist at the American Lyric Theater, New York, she premiered *The Magic Cabbage* in 2022 and collaborates on the comedic opera *Working for the Macbeths* (2023) with librettist Marcus Yi.



## ANNE-MARIE O'FARRELL

Leading harpist of her generation, **Dr. Anne-Marie O'Farrell** has performed worldwide at international festivals, including several World Harp Congresses. She is particularly recognized for her levering innovations and ground-breaking expansion of harp repertoire. These are documented in her substantial publication output, including critical editions of works by J.S. Bach. Highlight performances with BBC National Orchestra of Wales, RTÉ Concert Orchestra and National Symphony Orchestra of Ireland featured her as soloist in her lever harp concerto, *In Light Anew*. She is Head of Harp at Manchester's Royal Northern College of Music. A prolific recording artist, she has released several solo albums available at [www.annemarieofarrell.com](http://www.annemarieofarrell.com)



## CHARLES OVERTON

Originally from Richmond, VA, **Charles Overton** is a Boston-based harpist and improviser. Charles enjoys a career in classical music that includes frequent performances with the Boston Symphony, as well as regular chamber music performances with such organizations as the Orpheus Chamber Orchestra and the Yellow Barn Summer Music Festival. As a jazz musician he performs internationally both as a band leader, and in collaboration with such artists as Shabaka Hutchings, Ganavya Doraiswamy, and Esperanza Spalding. Charles owes much of his outlook on music to his time spent learning from the renowned artist-faculty of the Berklee Global Jazz Institute. Overton serves on the faculty of the Boston Conservatory at Berklee.



## MANNY PATIÑO

**Manny Patiño**, bassist, author, composer and arranger, studied music at Miami-Dade Community College, University of Miami, and Florida International University where he received a Bachelor's Degree in Music. He has participated as a studio musician in over 40 CD/LP recordings and has performed numerous television shows and concerts throughout the world accompanying artists in various genres including jazz/Latin jazz, pop and Latin pop, Latin and salsa. He has performed for President Clinton, as well as various congressmen and dignitaries throughout his career. He has also authored three instructional books entitled: *Afro-Cuban Bass Grooves* and *Afro-Cuban Keyboard Grooves* (Warner Bros.) and published a transcription of "Cachao Masterpiece Vol. I" - Israel Lopez "Cachao" (Warner Bros.). In addition to recording, performing with numerous artists and genres, Manny was part of the adjunct music faculty at Miami-Dade Community College (1991-2001). He currently freelances throughout Central & South Florida in jazz trios and quartets where he feels there is more "room" and freedom of expression.



## ANN HOBSON PILOT

After 40 years with the Boston Symphony, harpist **Ann Hobson Pilot** retired at the end of the 2009 season, returning to the stage as soloist with the BSO both at Symphony Hall and at Carnegie Hall with the premiere of *On Willows and Birches*, concerto for harp, written for her by legendary composer John Williams. Pilot graduated from the Cleveland Institute of Music under Alice Chalifoux. She has performed as soloist with orchestras all over the world and has several CD's available as well as documentaries about her life. Her many awards include the Gold Baton from the League of American Orchestras, two Lifetime Achievement awards and four honorary doctorates.



## FELICE POMERANZ

**Felice Pomeranz** is a performer, teacher, entrepreneur, and recording artist. Trained in both classical and jazz harp, she has been Professor of Harp at Berklee College of Music since 2002. Felice is a clinician and performer at festivals worldwide. Her arrangements for harp are widely available, as are *Jazzy Beginnings*, and *Harp in the Band, Vol 1*. Books: *Berklee Harp* and *Contemporary Etudes for Lever and Pedal Harp*. Felice directs the harp referral network, The Gilded Harps, organizing events throughout New England. Active in the AHS, she has served as Chairman of the Board of Directors, and sponsors Kids for Camp, funding summer camp for underprivileged youth. [www.gildedharps.com](http://www.gildedharps.com)

# PERFORMERS *and* PRESENTERS



## KAI RASMUSSEN

**Kai Rasmussen** is a registered Physiotherapist with the College of Physiotherapy of Ontario, and a member of the Canadian Physiotherapy Association. She is a graduate of the University of Western Ontario. Her post graduate studies include Orthopaedic manual therapy and acupuncture. Kai owned and operated her own outpatient clinic in St. Catharines from 1992-2023 and is a current harp student of Angela Schwarzkopf. She has a special interest in musician injuries and is devoted to the assessment, early intervention, and treatment to avoid chronic injury and participate in prompt recovery from injury.



## JOSEPH REBMAN

**Joseph Rebman** is a harpist and composer based in Cincinnati, Ohio. He directs the harp program at Cincinnati's School for the Creative and Performing Arts, a magnet school for grades K-12 within City of Cincinnati public schools. This program has four levels of harp ensemble for students in grades 4-12 which meet every day, during the day, for the same length as their academic classes. Rebman is also professor of harp at Northern Kentucky University, principal harpist for the Kentucky Symphony Orchestra, president of the Cincinnati Chapter of the AHS, and harp faculty for the Mostly Modern Festival. He recently recorded an album of solo harp originals and commissions.



## ALISON REESE

Best known among harpists for her work as editor of *Harp Column* magazine, harpist **Alison Reese** teaches and performs with orchestras and ensembles throughout West Michigan. In addition to editing *Harp Column*, the harp world's leading publication for over 30 years, she and *Harp Column* partner Kimberly Rowe have developed additional services for harpists—Harp Column Academy, an online learning platform, and Harp Column Music, a digital marketplace for harp sheet music. Reese graduated from the University of Michigan where she studied harp with Lynne Aspnes.



## HALEY RHODESIDE

Harpist **Haley Rhodeside** is currently the Principal Harp of the Orlando Philharmonic. Other ensembles she has performed with include the Royal Philharmonic, Baltimore Symphony, Florida Orchestra, Sarasota Orchestra, and the Charleston Symphony. As a soloist, she was a first-prize winner of the Young Artists Harp Competition, a winner of the Miami Music Festival's concerto competition, and a prizewinner in the American Harp Society's national competition, among other awards. Haley is also a dedicated teacher, serving as harp professor at University of Central Florida. She holds a Masters degree in Harp from Yale, and a BM in Harp and BS in Mathematics from Indiana University.



## ALEXANDER RIDER

With interests encompassing period performance to the newest music, **Alexander Rider** freelances with major ensembles throughout the United Kingdom. These include the BBC Concert, Philharmonic and Scottish Symphony Orchestras, City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra, the London Sinfonietta, London Chamber Orchestra, English Touring Opera, Brighton Philharmonic, Chroma and (on original instruments) the Gabrieli Consort and the Academy of Ancient Music. As a soloist, Alexander is noted for his affinity with French music at the turn of the last century, and for his work on original instruments of the period. Using his Erard harp, Alexander has made painstaking research into the époque, and recorded neglected works for the harp on the Willowhayne Label.



## MAURICIO CÉSPEDES RIVERO

From 1994-2000, **Mauricio Céspedes Rivero** was first principal viola in the Bolivian National Symphony Orchestra, and following that held the same position in the Lansing Symphony, Miami Symphony and the Orlando Philharmonic Orchestra. He also serves the Orlando Philharmonic as Assistant Conductor and Artistic Director of the Orlando Philharmonic Summer Camp. He has been a winner of numerous competitions and a conductor, soloist and chamber music performer across Europe, Asia, Australia, South and North America.

Besides music, Mauricio holds a degree in Environmental Engineering and teaches Environmental Science at Interlochen Center for the Arts.



## NICHOLE ROHRBACH-MCKENZIE

**Nichole Rohrbach-McKenzie's** exceptional journey juxtaposes her roles as a seasoned harpist and corporate professional, providing a truly unique perspective on the nexus of art and business. With over a decade of experience in both realms, she juggles her role as Manager of Client Strategy with running Harp & Soul. Harp & Soul is a 5-Star, award-winning brand focused on curating bespoke, musical experiences targeting luxury wedding and event markets. Serving two diverse markets in Philly and Atlanta amplified her insights into business growth, rebranding, and pricing. Nichole holds a B.Mus in Harp Performance, a M.A. in Design. She served as VP and Secretary of the Philadelphia Chapter of the AHS.



## LUIS MIGUEL ROJAS

Luis Miguel Rojas is a product of the program for youth symphony orchestras of Venezuela, also known as “El Sistema”. He began his career as a trumpet player and member of the “Simón Bolívar Symphony Orchestra”, but switched to cello, due to lung disease. Just three years after switching, he made the Latin American premiere of the “Concerto for Cello and Orchestra” by Aram Khachaturian.

Rojas holds a bachelor’s degree from the Simón Bolívar Music Conservatory, a master’s degree from Duquesne University of Pittsburgh, and a Doctorate from Michigan State University. He has held positions in several orchestras in the USA, among them; Grand Rapids Symphony, Greater Lansing Symphony, Wheeling Symphony. He is currently the Principal Cello of the Puerto Rico Symphony Orchestra, professor at the Puerto Rico Conservatory, member of Trio Sanromá and he is the founder and president of the “Festival Cellistiko PR, Inc”. [www.cellistiko.com](http://www.cellistiko.com).



## MARK ROSE

Mark Rose was born and raised in front of the Rocky Mountains in Colorado Springs, Colorado, and learned piano with his mother. Mark’s band director at Watson High School convinced Mark to learn to play saxophone, starting in the sixth grade. Mark attended the University of

Northern Colorado in Greeley. He studied and played in a band with well-respected jazz educator, Gene Aitken, performing in a jazz band called Cross Currents.

After college, Mark joined the Air Force in 1983 and performed with the Falconaires until the end of his military career in 1987. Mark returned to school to get a degree in Music Education and also decided to teach music in Colorado while maintaining a busy performing career. He later earned a Master’s Degree from University of Miami.

In 1996, Mark and his wife visited Key West, and were impressed by a jazz gig at Virgilio’s with Skipper Kripitz, Phil Sampson, and Lonnie Jacobson. After their retirement in 2013, they decided to move to Key West, where they have become very active in the amazing Key West music scene.



## KIMBERLY ROWE

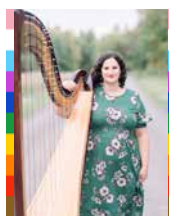
Kimberly Rowe is a professional harpist and website designer. She founded *Harp Column* magazine in 1993, serving as its editor until 2013, and now oversees the company’s three websites including *Harp Column*, Harp Column Academy, and Harp

Column Music. As a harpist she has performed numerous times with The Philadelphia Orchestra, as well as the Brno Filharmonie, the Bangor Symphony Orchestra, and many others. Kimberly currently resides in Camden, Maine, where she collaborates with web design clients around the world and tries not to miss a day of Pilates.



## VICTORIA LYNN SCHULTZ

Victoria Schultz has performed for President Jimmy Carter, performed with the Mantovani Orchestra tour of China, and toured with Celtic Woman, Josh Groban, Johnny Matthis, Connie Francis and as featured soloist with the Irish Band “The Chieftains.” Her recordings and music publications have been distributed worldwide, including “The Soothing Harp” and “The Healing Garden: Perfect Calm,” which reached No. 15 and Top Ten Billboard Charts in the New Age category. Victoria has been a featured entertainer at SeaWorld, Busch Gardens, Cypress Gardens and Silver Springs, and has performed as harpist and pianist for Walt Disney World, including the Candlelight Orchestra, for over 25 years.



## DR. ANGELA SCHWARZKOPF

JUNO award winning harpist **Angela Schwarzkopf** concertizes throughout North America as a soloist, chamber musician, and orchestral musician. She is principal harp of London Symphonia and frequently performs as guest principal harp with the National Arts Centre

Orchestra. The first harpist to become Doctor of Musical Arts in harp performance in Canada, she now teaches at the University of Toronto and at Western University. Angela is the current President and Director at Large for the American Harp Society. As an advocate for new music, her album, *detach*, comprised of all new Canadian music, won the 2020 JUNO award for Classical Album of the Year: Solo or Chamber. [www.angela.schwarzkopf.com](http://www.angela.schwarzkopf.com)



## CÉSAR SECUNDINO

Harpist, Arranger and Composer **César Secundino** was born in Mexico. He has played in important concert halls around the world, and has been winning first prizes at some international harp competitions in: Mexico, Spain, France, Wales, Germany and

Netherlands. Notably, he was awarded with the first place and the public prize at The World Harp Competition, held in May 2018 in Utrecht, Netherlands. His passion for jazz and world music has led him to write arrangements and compositions that have been premiered and awarded by renowned musicians from all around the world. He is currently the harp professor at Berklee College of Music.

# PERFORMERS *and* PRESENTERS



## DR. LAURA SHERMAN

Dr. Laura Sherman is a harpist and harp teacher in Miami who also performs with five orchestras in south Florida. Previously a longtime harpist in New York City, she performed in diverse ensembles,

toured internationally, and recorded extensively. She specializes in transcribing and playing J.S. Bach's music on the pedal harp and has written articles and given masterclasses internationally. Her editions are available from Gotham Harp Publishing, [www.busytuning.com](http://www.busytuning.com).



## ALICE SORIA-CADORET

Adventurous musician, Alice Soria-Cadoret goes from the classical (Ensemble 8611, Verbier Festival Orchestra, Berliner Philharmoniker, Orchestre National de Bretagne...)

to the contemporary (Sillages...) while enjoying transversal creations in France and Europe (Finis Terrae, Zwei auf einer Bank...). She studied the harp in France with Ghislaine Petit-Volta and Catherine Michel, then in the USA with Judy Loman at the Curtis Institute of Music. Passionate about teaching, she has been taking part of the project DEMOS with the Philharmonie of Paris for 6 years.



## SOUTH FLORIDA CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN HARP SOCIETY

The year 2020 marked the 50th anniversary of the South Florida Chapter. Ms. Margarita Montero

Inclan, originally from Cuba, was the founder. Our chapter is unique because of its roots, and although its Latin American influence hasn't been as keenly felt in recent years, it is one that should not be forgotten. Overcoming distance and everyone's otherwise busy schedules, we continue to thrive, cultivating harpists of the future and those members ranging in age from 18 to 80, and sharing the beauty of the harp with the community.



## DR. STELLA SUNG

Stella Sung is an award-winning composer with works performed throughout the United States and abroad. She was the first Composer-in-Residence for the Orlando Philharmonic Orchestra (2008-2011) and was also Composer-In-Residence for the

Dayton Performing Arts Alliance (2013-16). She holds the B.M degree (piano) from the University of Michigan, MFA degree (Composition) from the University of Florida, and the DMA degree (piano) from the University of Texas at Austin. She is director of the Center for Research and Education in Arts, Technology, and Entertainment (CREATE) at the University of Central Florida. Sung is a distinguished "Pegasus" Professor at the University of Central Florida, and an endowed "University Trustees Chair" professor.



## ELZBIETA (ELA) SZMYT

Elzbieta Szmyt is a Professor of Music and the Chair of the Harp Department at Indiana University Jacobs School of Music. She has appeared on Polish radio and television and performed

numerous solo and chamber recitals in Europe, Canada, Japan, Vietnam, and the United States. Elzbieta has been a featured soloist with the Warsaw National Philharmonic Orchestra, the Cracow Philharmonic, the Czech Radio Orchestra, and the Metropolitan Orchestra of St. Louis. She performed and gave lectures for World Harp Congresses in Copenhagen, Prague and Dublin. For three decades she has regularly conducted master classes in Poland, the US and Asia. She studied harp with Alina Baranowska Liese and Susann McDonald.



## CRAIG M. THOMAS

Craig Thomas (viola da gamba, guitar, flute, recorders, and vocals) has performed with groups at Walt Disney World, Discovery Cove, Silver Springs, and Cypress Gardens. He was featured with the Key West Gazebo show at SeaWorld, and the Irish Duo/Trio at Finnegan's Bar & Grill in Universal Studios.

Craig is a specialist in Renaissance and Baroque instruments, performing on the viola da gamba, Baroque flute, recorders as well as the violin, mandolin, flute and classical guitar. He currently performs the ensemble "Stringfyre" with Victoria Lynn Schultz and Jonita Aadland. Craig graduated from the University of Central Florida in Liberal Studies.



## DR. COLLEEN POTTER THORBURN

Dr. Colleen Potter Thorburn recently performed William Marx's Double Harp Concerto with the Eastern Connecticut Symphony Orchestra, with whom she also played as Principal Harp for 11 years.

Colleen currently teaches private harp lessons and performs in central Arkansas, where she also teaches Harp, Music Theory, and Music Appreciation courses at the University of Central Arkansas in Conway. Previously, Colleen performed regularly with the Richmond Symphony and Virginia Symphony Orchestra and taught harp at Virginia Commonwealth University. Her playing has been featured on recent recordings of new chamber music by composers Hee Yun Kim, Zack Stanton, Aaron Price, Michael Weinstein-Roman, Naftali Schindler, Russell Nadel, and Michael Winter.

# PERFORMERS *and* PRESENTERS



## ELISA TORRES

**Elisa Torres** is the first Puerto Rican to become principal harpist with the Puerto Rico Symphony Orchestra. Native of Old San Juan, Torres began studying harp at the age of seven at the Puerto Rico Conservatory of Music. She studied at Indiana University under the tutelage of Susann McDonald, obtaining her Bachelor's and Master's degrees in harp performance. In addition to her work as an interpreter and arranger, Elisa also acts as Professor of Harp in the Bachelor's Program of the Puerto Rico Conservatory of Music, and works independently as founder and director of Glissando, a program for harp ensemble.



## PHALA TRACY

**Phala Tracy** teaches Suzuki harp and music theory at Studio Fidicina in Minneapolis, MN, and she is adjunct professor of harp at Gustavus Adolphus College. She teaches at summer Suzuki Institutes across the country and she is a Suzuki harp teacher trainer. Phala plays and sings with Matt Wilson and his Orchestra and Follow the Firefly, and she is an active arranger, composer, improviser and performer in the Twin Cities. She has released a whimsical collection of *Critter Songs*, published four volumes of *Songs for Sight Reading* and is developing an ever-growing curriculum of "Music Theory in Song and Rhyme." BM Oberlin MFA CalArts [www.theorysongs.com](http://www.theorysongs.com)



## YAMILET TRUJILLO

**Yamilet Trujillo** is a native of Orlando, FL. In addition to performing as a freelance cellist, Yamilet also teaches orchestra classes to beginner 4th and 5th grade students at various elementary schools in Orange County. Her favorite music includes the Beatles, Classic 80s hits and pop songs.



## CHRISTINE VAN ARSDALE

**Christine Van Arsdale** is a college instructor at CPEC in Charlotte, NC, where she teaches full time in the music department. She continues to perform as a substitute harpist for the Charlotte Symphony, as well as with other orchestras in the Southeast. She also maintains a harp studio with Arts Plus, specializing in the Suzuki Method for harp.



## UNT HARPBEATS

The **UNT HarpBeats**, directed by Jaymee Haefner, has attracted national attention for its innovative and diverse compositions and arrangements by its members since established in 2006. The ensemble has performed their own arrangements and compositions

worldwide, in Hong Kong (Center for Performing Arts), New Orleans, and Chicago (Lyon & Healy Hall), and was invited to perform at the Royal College of Music in Cardiff, Wales. The repertoire fuses elements of traditional and popular music, ranging from J.S. Bach to Led Zeppelin. Recent recitals featured arrangements of Danzon No. 2, "(Rains in) Africa," "Fanfare for the Common Man," "Experience," Theme from Skyrim, and "Scherzo" from *West Side Story*. Notable appearances include a performance for FOX 4 News Good Day Dallas and a recital at the Texas Music Educator Association conference (attended by over 30,000 music educators). Now in its 17th year, the ensemble is one of the largest and well-known college harp ensembles in the United States, and has released several studio recordings of their original compositions and arrangements.



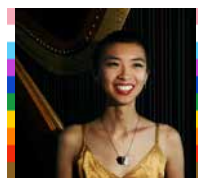
## TONY VERDEJO

A native of Puerto Rico, percussionist **Tony Verdejo** has performed internationally and had his own Latin group in Miami for many years. He has worked with Tito Puente, recorded with Mongo Santamaria, New Generation Menudo 2023, and many others. He is retired from Broward County Public Schools and is a U.S. Army veteran.



## KELA WALTON

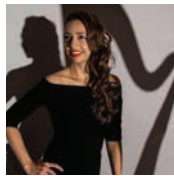
**Kela Walton** enjoys a varied career as a freelance performer and serves on the faculty at Texas Christian University. She co-directed the youth harp ensemble for the 2016 AHS national conference, and frequently works with harp students in ensembles and adjudicating throughout the United States. Her primary teachers include Gayle Barrington, Delaine Leonard, and Paula Page. Ms. Walton can be heard on several Naxos recordings and has been published in *Harp Column* magazine and *The American Harp Journal*. For the AHS she currently serves as Chairman of the Board of Directors, Co-Chair for the AHS Grants Committee and Co-Chair of the 2025 AHS Summer Institute and Harp Ensemble Festival.



## NOËL WAN

Taiwanese-American harpist **Noël Wan** is the 2022 Gold Medalist of the USA International Harp Competition, winner of the 2023 Astral Artists National Competition, and Assistant Professor of Harp and Entrepreneurship at Florida State University. As a solo and collaborative performer, she is drawn to concert programming that explores relationships between sound, affect, and narrative. Also an interdisciplinary scholar, she works with feminist philosophies in her research on social identities formed through experimental performance practices. [www.nywharp.com](http://www.nywharp.com)

# PERFORMERS *and* PRESENTERS



## DR. JACLYN WAPPEL

Currently based in South Korea, harpist and scholar **Dr. Jaclyn Wappel**, earned her Doctor of Arts degree under the tutelage of Elizabeth Richter at Ball State University in 2016. Her teaching journey includes positions at James Madison University, Southern Virginia University, and Washington and Lee University. Additionally, her performance career has taken her to a diverse medley of prestigious orchestras that includes the Kansas City Symphony, Bismarck-Mandan Symphony Orchestra, Charlottesville Opera, Richmond Symphony, and more. Apart from music, Jaclyn is a licensed massage therapist, finding balance in activities like hiking, Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu, and yoga. In leisure, Jaclyn values quiet moments with her husband Chris and her cherished beagle, Ruby.



## JOHN WICKEY

**John Wickey** started the harp at Cass Technical High School. His degrees are from Boston University and the University of Michigan. Mr. Wickey is principal harpist of the Greenville (SC) Symphony Orchestra and the South Carolina Philharmonic and is on faculty at Converse and Anderson Universities.



## BRANDEE YOUNGER

A leading voice of the harp today, performer, composer, educator, concert curator, and Grammy nominee **Brandee Younger** defies genres and labels. She has performed and recorded with jazz leaders and popular artists including Pharoah Sanders, Ravi Coltrane, Jack DeJohnette, Common, John Legend, The Roots and Lauryn Hill. In 2019, she released her fourth solo album and her original composition “*Hortense*” was featured in the Netflix Concert-Documentary, *Beyoncé: Homecoming*. This same year, Ms. Younger was selected to perform her original music as a featured performer for Quincy Jones and Steve McQueen’s “Soundtrack of America.”

Ms. Younger has taught at Adelphi University, Nassau Community College, The Hartt School Community Division and presents masterclasses globally. She holds leadership positions through the Apollo Young Patrons Steering Committee and the American Harp Society. As a curator, Ms. Younger has produced concert series for Arts Brookfield (including “Harp on Park,” highlighting the various styles of harp performance) the Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture and the National Jazz Museum in Harlem.



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# Membership Dues Update

The American Harp Society Board of Directors has approved new streamlined membership offerings and new membership rates effective July 1, 2024. With these new rates come exciting new opportunities as well!

Starting July 1st, a **Digital Membership discount code** will be available to all members!

Great news too for **international members**! Beginning July 1st, members outside of the U.S. can join at the *same rates as U.S. members* and receive a print copy of *The American Harp Journal*. The digital discount code can be applied to receive the magazine digitally instead.

In early 2024, AHS debuted two new Group Memberships: - perfect for the 2025 Ensemble Festival in Texas!

**K-12 Organization Group** is for an unlimited number of students enrolled in harp programs at schools or non-profits serving K-12 students.

**Studio Memberships** provide a 50% membership discount to ten or more members joining together.

**Renew your membership before July 1st to lock in the current rate!**

## ✦ Standard Memberships ✦

Regular Membership - \$75  
Student Membership - \$50

## ✦ VIP Memberships ✦

Harmonic Membership - \$150  
Arpeggio Membership - \$300  
Glissando Membership - \$750

## ✦ For a Lifetime ✦

Lifetime Membership - \$1,500  
Benefactor Lifetime Membership = \$3000

## ✦ Group Memberships ✦

K-12 Organization Group Membership - \$250  
Studio Membership - 50% off Regular or Student Rate (only)

*All new membership terms will be 1 year.*

Find more details at [www.harpsociety.org/Community](http://www.harpsociety.org/Community)

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