



A tax-exempt non-profit corporation founded in 1962

MidCentral Regional Newsletter

*Featuring the chapters & members of
Illinois, Indiana, Michigan Ohio*

*Greetings!
from the Regional Director*

I hope you are having a rewarding year as a harpist, performer, teacher, student, and musician. Many of us at the AHS have been busy improving programs to benefit harpists like you around the country. By now, you should have heard from our new Executive Secretary Ashanti Pretlow.

Here are a few updates: The Grants Program is well underway for the second year. Last summer, many harpists gathered in Texas for the 9th Summer Institute & 19th National Competitions. Congratulations to the national

competition winners from our MidCentral region:

Advanced Division:

- *Rachel Miller (MI)*
- *Mackensie Hammel (OH)*

Intermediate II Division:

- *Aubrey Shumway (IN)*

Intermediate I Division:

- *Abigail Bachelor (OH)*

Please keep me posted on your news and accomplishments throughout the year. October 2012 is the next deadline for news submission from AHS members.

*Sincerely,
Lillian Lau*

40th National Conference & 50th Anniversary of the AHS

June 30 - July 3, 2012

New York City
Times Square
Marriott Marquis

www.AHSConference.org

- World premiere of the 50th anniversary commissions
- World-class performances and prominent master class teachers
- Tributes to AHS founders and major New York harpists
- International harps & harp music vendors
- Show case of historical harps at the Metropolitan Museum
- Discount room rates at a premium destination

***See you in NYC for
4th of July!***

[HTTP://WWW.HARPSOCIETY.ORG](http://WWW.HARPSOCIETY.ORG)

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Membership@harp society.org

HARP LISTING

Please contact the owners for details.

FOR SALE:

~ Lyon & Healy Salzedo:
one owner from 1985, great
condition, includes adjustable
bench. \$18,000.
Chicago, IL Honorharps@aol.com

~ Blevins Encore 34:
full set of levers, padded case, full
set of strings, 10 years old, regulated
with new strings May 2010, \$2,700
Faye Seeman 847-202-3236

~ Blevinsong 34: full set of levers,
padded case, full set of strings, 6
years old, regulated with new
strings in May 2010, \$2,400
Faye Seeman 847-202-3236

~ Lyon & Healy Troubadour VI:
36 strings lever harp, mahogany,
excellent condition, like new.
Shirley Lukey 847-526-2680

~Lyon & Healy Prelude: 38 string
lever harp from 2003, mahogany,
with music stand, great condition.
Chicago area, lillharp@gmail.com

FOR RENT:

~ Salvi Aida:
34 Strings, full levers, concert
tension, for rent \$60/month.
Marguerite Williams 773-791-7520
marguerite@mlwharp.com

~ Lyon & Healy Prelude:
38 string, lever harp, for rent \$60/
month. Janelle Lake, 847-636-2612
harpist.janelle@gmail.com.

CENTRAL ILLINOIS - ROSLYN RENSCH CHAPTER

Urbana, Champaign, IL

ILHarpGroup@gmail.com

President: Molly McKenzie

2012 Illinois Summer Harp Class with Ann Yeung (iSHC) June 7-9, 2012 at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. 2012 will be the 10th iSHC! Julia Kay Jamieson of the HarpCore 4 has been commissioned to write a new work for harp ensemble to be premiered by the iSHC Harp Jam. <http://music.illinois.edu/public-engagement-programs/summer-harp-class> (Priority application due: 3/15/2012)

The 2011 iSHC featured Chen-Yu Huang and Stephanie Gustafson in Thomas' *Carmen Duo*; Molly O'Roark, The Illinois Harp Quartet (Stephanie Gustafson, Chen-Yu Huang, Peter Huang, Molly McKenzie) performing Michael Maganuco's arrangement of Ravel's String Quartet, 2nd movt; Chelsea Balmer, Erin Brooker and Jing-I Jang, in the premiere of Julia Kay Jamieson's "*tiktaalik*" with 20 harpists, and the iSHC participants.

Aletheia Duo (Jonathan Keeble, flute and **Ann Yeung**, harp), premiered Reynold Tharp's *Chaparral* in San Francisco, performed at Indiana University-Bloomington, University of Michigan, Interlochen Arts Academy and Eastman School of Music. Their second CD with works inspired by nature will be released next year and includes Debussy's *Sonate* with Masumi Per Rostad, violist of the Grammy Award-winning Pacifica Quartet.

Ann Yeung premiered Stephen Taylor's "*Shindychew Dances*" for solo harp at the 11th World Harp Congress in Vancouver, BC in July 2011. She also was the MC and performed in the Tribute to Ceren Necigoplu (who tragically was on the 2009 Air France 447 flight that crashed into the Atlantic Ocean) at the 11th WHC. Her article on harmonics appeared in the July/August 2011 issue of the "Harp Column".

Stephanie Gustafson is the first recipient of the Agnes Krueger Scholarship towards her graduate studies at the Manhattan School of Music this fall. She was the State of Illinois American String Teachers Association (ASTA) Competition winner and was a finalist in the 2011 ASTA National Solo Competition Senior Division Harp Finals.

Agnes Hall was the harp apprentice for the 2011 Hot Spring Festival in Arkansas. She was selected to perform for a master class with Joan Holland at the 2011 AHS National Summer Institute.

Chen-Yu Huang received Honorable Mention in the 2011 Lyon & Healy National Awards Competition and was appointed Adjunct Instructor of Harp at Illinois Wesleyan University this Fall 2011.

CENTRAL ILLINOIS - ROSLYN RENSCH CHAPTER

Jing-I Jang gave a lecture-recital on her edition of Parish-Alvars' "*Norma*" variations for harp and orchestra (never before published) at the 11th World Harp Congress in Vancouver, BC, accompanied by Chen-Yu Huang on the piano. Her modern edition of Parish-Alvars' work (well-known in its solo harp version as the "Introduction and Variations on Bellini's 'Norma', op. 36") has been published by Adlais in the UK (full score, piano reduction by J. Jang, solo harp part, and orchestra parts) and is available now in the US.

Noël Wan was featured in a concert tour in the Netherlands in February 2011 as the First Prize winner of the 1st International Harp Competition in The Netherlands (2010). She was also featured in a solo recital at the Eleventh World Harp Congress in Vancouver, BC.

New York harpist and Ohio native, **Bridget Kibbey**, will perform Rodrigo's *Concierto Serenata* with the Illinois Symphony Orchestra on Feb 24-25, 2012 in Bloomington & Springfield, IL.

CHICAGO CHAPTER (CCAHS)

Chicago, IL and suburbs

President: Elizabeth Cifani Secretary: Janelle Lake, harpist.janelle@gmail.com

2011-2012 CCAHS Events:

- Sept 18: Coffee Hour for all members at the Iguana Cafe
- Sept 18: Ann Hobson Pilot was interviewed about her life and music on Channel 11 WTTW.
- Sept 22: Ann Hobson Pilot Master Class, Wheaton, IL
- Sept 24: Ann Hobson Pilot in concert with the Chicago Sinfonietta, Wentz Concert Hall, Naperville, IL
- Sept 25: Ann Hobson Pilot Master Class, Northwestern University in Evanston, IL
- Sept 26: Ann Hobson Pilot in concert at Symphony Center, Chicago, IL
- Oct 16: Student Auditions and Evaluations - Phase One
- Nov 6: Auditions and Evaluations - Phase Two
- Nov 11: Venus Harp Open House (All visitors to the factory will receive a demonstration, a tour, and a free tuning key)
- Nov 20: AHS Chicago Harp Day at Lyon & Healy: honors recital for outstanding participants of the Auditions and Evaluations, crafts, master class, photo ops, performance opportunities
- Dec 13: Chicago Harp Ensemble Recital
- Dec 28: Deadline for CCAHS Winter Newsletter info
- Jan 8, 2012, 3pm: College Audition Masterclass at the Fulton Recital Hall, University of Chicago, Hyde Park.
- Jan 15: Professional Harpists' Luncheon at the Elysian Hotel
- Feb 20: Chicago Students' recital (students of Chicago teachers)
- March 3: Illinois Federation of Musicians Auditions and Evaluations (Teachers need to apply in September)
- March 5: Venus Harp Open House
- March 20: Deadline for CCAHS Spring Newsletter info
- April 17: Harp Parent Tea at the Drake Hotel, Chicago, IL
- May 6: Chicago Chapter Scholarship Competition
- June 20: Deadline for Summer Newsletter info.

Proposed events: Healing Harps or Harps and Health lecture. Please email the chapter secretary with more suggestions and ideas.

CCAHS Auditions and Evaluations featured 21 students performing at a very high level. The panel of judges selected the top 10 harpists to perform at Lyon & Healy Hall on Nov 20. They are students of Sarah Bullen, Joy Yu Hoffman, Lillian Lau, Faye Seeman, Brittany Smith, Lillian Reasor and Marguerite Lynn Williams.

Marguerite Lynn Williams accepted the Principal Harp position with the Chicago Lyric Opera Orchestra following an audition in March 2011. Longtime Lyric Opera harpist **Elizabeth Cifani** retired after 42 years with the orchestra.

CHICAGO CHAPTER

Chicago Harp Day

Sunday, Nov 20, 2011, 2-6pm
Lyon & Healy Harps
 168 N. Ogden Ave, Chicago, IL

This inaugural mini harp festival is hosted by Lyon & Healy Harps and the Chicago Chapter of the AHS.

Events will include:

- A performance of harp chamber music by *Pinotage*.
- A workshop / master class by **Elizabeth Cifani**.
- A panel discussion by teachers, students and parents.
- A hands-on maintenance workshop by a certified Lyon & Healy technician.
- Shopping opportunities at the Lyon & Healy showroom and accessories department.
- Photo ops with some of the most beautiful harps ever built.
- Arts & Crafts - tuning key decoration
- Chicago Student Honor's Recital at the Lyon & Healy Hall.

Ann Hobson Pilot, retired Principal Harpist of the Boston Symphony Orchestra, performed the new concerto "*On Willows and Birches*" by John Williams, written in honor of her retirement and "Ennango" for piano, harp and strings by William Grant Still with the Chicago Sinfonietta Orchestra.

The **Chicago Harp Ensembles** were established in Fall 2010 to provide vital ensemble training to harpists of all ages, skill level, and harp type striving to improve their overall rhythm, musicianship and sight-reading. Classes will consist of warm-up exercises, sight-reading, and performance pieces while integrating music theory and improvisatory skills. An enriching

opportunity for all harp students, participation in an ensemble will help build and foster a supportive community of harpists.

CHE is pleased to find a new home at the Sherwood Conservatory of Music where we will hold all of our rehearsals and performances. With the combined teaching efforts of our Director, **Marguerite Lynn Williams**, and Assistant Director, **Janelle Lake**, students are sure to have a positive and enjoyable season!

New this year, the **Chicago Adult Harp Ensemble** draws strength from the collaborative effort of students who study under different teaching styles. This ensemble aims to create a group of adult amateur harpists who support each other while improving sight reading, exploring music theory, applying healthy technique, and making beautiful music together.

Bi-weekly rehearsals ensure that the ensemble repertoire will enhance your harp studies instead of eclipsing solo repertoire and harp studies. Lever and pedal harps of all abilities are welcome. Contact **Janelle Lake** at 847-636-2612, harpist.janelle@gmail.com.

Claire Happel

12/11: Northbrook Library
 1/22/2012, 1:30: Roselle Library with Alisa Seavey, viola & Heather Johnson, flute. Debussy: *Sonate*, Takemitsu: *And Then I Knew 'Twas Wind*, Lutoslawski: *Three Fragments*, Arvo Part: *Spiegel Im Spiegel*, Vaughan Williams: *English Folk Song Suite*, Gubaidulina: *Garden of Joy and Sorrow*.

Janelle Lake

10/2: solo recital, Montgomery Place retirement facility in Hyde

Park, Chicago including works by Smetana, Salzedo, and Gershwin. 12/19, 6:30pm: Studio Recital, Mabel Manning branch of the Chicago Public Library.

Faye Seeman presented a faculty recital at Wheaton College on 9/19 with works for flute, violin, piano and harp. Reade: *Victorian Kitchen Garden*, Saint Saens: *Fantasia*, Salzedo: *Sonata for harp & piano*, and Ibert: *Entr'acte*.

Nichole Luchs has been appointed as the harp instructor at North Central College in Naperville, IL. North Central will now be offering harp ensemble class and harp lessons to harp majors and non-harp majors. Various scholarships are available.

Lillian Lau is the harp instructor at the University of Chicago, offering harp lessons, orchestra performance and chamber music opportunities.

Britten: "A Ceremony of Carols" with the Chicago Chamber Choir. 12/15: St. Matthias, Lincoln Square
 12/17, 4pm: St Mark's Episcopal Church, Evanston, IL
 12/18, 3pm: Unity Lutheran Church
 12/24, 4pm & 6pm: Christmas Eve Mass, Holy Name Cathedral, 735 N State St, Chicago, IL

The Lyrebird Ensemble, with flutist Ellen Huntington:

1/21/2012: Quad City Symphony Orchestra's Signature Chamber Series at the Figge Art Museum, Davenport, IA. Works by William Alwyn, Howard Buss, Adrian Schaposchnikov, Charles Rochester Young, Henri Busser, Gareth Farr and Cameron Wilson.

9/11: Gail Borden Library Recital.

MICHIANA CHAPTER

N. Indiana, S. Michigan, Chesterton / Valparaiso, IN
 President: Ramona Kim, 564.612.3765, rkharapist@yahoo.com

News from Indiana:*Indianapolis, IN*

Czech harpist **Jana Bouskova** performed the Ginastera *Concerto for Harp and Orchestra* and Saint-Saens' *Morceau de Concert* with the Indianapolis Chamber Orchestra on 10/29 at the Eugene and Marilyn Glick Indiana History Center, in Indianapolis, IN.

Heaven Fan has been appointed the harp faculty at Anderson University in Anderson, Indiana. She is also on the harp faculty at the MasterWorks Festival in Winona Lake, Indiana every summer. In March 2011 Dr. Fan was awarded the Creative Renewal Arts Fellowship Award of the Arts Council of Indianapolis and Lilly Endowment for the 2011-2012 year. This biennial grant program offers a cash award of \$10,000 to each of 40 selected artists and arts administrators in all artistic disciplines in Indiana. She also served as a panelist for the FY2012 Individual Artist Program of the Indiana Arts Commission in April 2011.

Bloomington, IN

Indiana University Jacobs School of Music Distinguished Professor **Susann McDonald** was awarded the Governor's Arts Award, a biennial award to honor those who make significant contributions to the arts in and outside of Indiana. Miss McDonald served on the jury of the Lyon & Healy Awards in Denton, Texas, as well as lecturing on *Harp for Today* at the 2011 AHS Summer Institute at the University of North Texas. Miss McDonald served as the Artistic Director at the 11th World Harp Congress (WHC) in Vancouver, BC, Canada.

Elzbieta Szmyt, Associate Professor, Jacobs School of Music, Indiana University, performed Lutoswaski's *Double Concerto for oboe and harp* with the National Philharmonic Orchestra in Poland in February. On April 2, she conducted a master class and served as a judge for the AHS Louisiana Chapter at Tulane University. Prof. Szmyt was elected to serve on the WHC Board of Directors, representing USA and Poland.

Aubrey Shumway, a student of Elzbieta Szmyt's, won third prize in the Intermediate II Division of the 2011 AHS National Competition. She also was featured on the "Focus on Youth" program during the World Harp Congress. Two alumni of the IU pre-college program, Chelsea Carlson and Melody Lindsay, performed during the World Harp Congress as well. Katherine Kapelsohn, another student of the program, was a finalist of the Indianapolis Concerto Competition, performing Debussy's *Dances* and was featured NPR's "From the Top" in May.

Mackenzie Hammel won fourth prize in the Advanced Division of the 2011 AHS National Competition. **Joy Yeh** performed Elliott Bark's *Autumn Leaves Canvas for solo harp* in October. She also performed at the 11th WHC on a concert of British Columbia harpists.

The Latin American Popular Music Ensemble will be giving a CD release concert on Nov 30, both include **Liza Wallace**, a student of Prof. Szmyt. Liza Wallace traveled to Venezuela to study Arpa Llanaro, or "Harp of the Plains".

Luisa Rayan Forero gave master classes in Bloomington in September, October and November of 2011. **Jana Bouskova**, visited before her concerto engagements in Indianapolis and Terra Haute as soloist with the Indianapolis Chamber Orchestra.

At the 11th World Harp Congress in Vancouver, Canada, many Indiana University alumni and former students of **Susann McDonald** performed and presented: Elizabeth Hainen, Jana Bouskova, Mieko Inoue, Kyo-Jin Lee, Baltazar Juarez, Kaori Otake, Ann Yeung, Robin Best, Celia Chan, Isabel Moreton-Achsel, Sidsel Waldstet, Bettina Boyadjiev, Florence Sitruk.

As the harp center based in Bloomington, IN, [Vanderbilt Music Company](#) continues to provide outstanding service to any harpist who would like to purchase a new Lyon & Healy pedal harp. **Eleanor Fell**, co-owner, or a qualified professional harpist makes personal selections for harpists around the world. Call toll free 1.800.533.7200 or visit [vanderbiltmusic.com](#). They will be happy to help you with all things harp related.

WEST MICHIGAN CHAPTER

Grand Rapids, Lansing, Muskegon, Holland, Kalamazoo, Battle Creek, MI

President: Sister Mary Margaret Delaski, FSE, 616.897.7842, smmdelaski@lifeprocesscenter.org

Vice-President: Alison Reese Secretary / Treasurer: Richard L. Hagan

Two workshops for members were held. In addition to the educational aspects and camaraderie that happens at these workshops, our members are also able to purchase new music, harps, accessories as **Kelly Yousofian** of Michigan Harp Center brings her store, located on the east side of the state, to us.

Workshops:

* March 26: 75% of the membership played a piece for each other. In addition, **Joan Raeburn Holland** brought four of her students from the University of Michigan to play for the members.

* Sept 17: Three members, **Phyllis Miner, Barbara Boertje**

DeVries, and Sister Mary Margaret Delaski, FSE presented "Harp in Worship."

Other important harp events:

"Afternoon with the Arts," featuring Italian ensemble music, sponsored by the Harp Department of the Franciscan Life Process Center, under the direction of **Sister Mary Margaret Delaski, FSE** and **Joan Raeburn Holland** playing works by Italian composers, with a special Italian dessert of tiramisu, provided by Noto's Old World Italian Dining, was well received by West Michigan harp lovers.

HARPFest 2011: 2 Days with Frank Voltz, an annual two

day harp workshop held in August, brought 29 harpists to the Franciscan Life Process Center. A concert in the evening by Frank gave everyone a delightful summer's night of entertainment.

Phyllis Miner gave a piano & harp concert to celebrate over 30 years of service to St. Paul's United Methodist Church.

Developments:

Marcia Good is building the Musical Touchstone Volunteer Program at Spectrum Health Hospice and Palliative Care in Grand Rapids. Many harpists share their talent in this growing program.

News from Michigan

Christa Grix has released three new arrangements for jazz harp in time for Christmas. Waltz of the Flowers is a lively jazz waltz that gives a contemporary twist to Tchaikovsky's masterpiece from the Nutcracker Suite. A Child is Born is a quiet, poignant interpretation of Thad Jones' beautiful Christmas composition. The third arrangement, Dat Dere composed by Bobby Timmons, is set for harp and upright bass. These arrangements for pedal harp are written so that a harpist with little or no jazz training can play them and sound authentic. They are available from Lyon & Healy, or online at www.christagrix.com.

Rachel Miller won third place in the Advanced Division of the AHS National Competition last summer in Denton, TX. Rachel is a student at Michigan State University, studying with **Patricia Masri-Fletcher** (Principal Harp, Detroit Symphony Orchestra).

From **Joan Raeburn Holland**, Northern Michigan

Interlochen Arts Academy harpists had a variety of harp experiences last summer: **Charles Overton** attended BUTI at Tanglewood; **Catherine Miller** attended the Interlochen Arts Camp Harp program; **Jeanette Chen** attended the Saratoga Harp Colony and also performed in a master class given by **Joan Raeburn Holland** at the 2011 AHS Harp Institute in Denton, TX.

Ann Yeung performed with flutist Jonathan Keeble and gave a class at the Interlochen Arts Academy in November 16, 2011.

NORTHWEST OHIO CHAPTER

Toledo, Finley, OH

President: Nancy Lendrim Vice President: Denise Grupp-Verbon, harpist@sbcglobal.net

* In June, the Northwest Ohio Chapter helped to sponsor "**Harp Week**"; four afternoons of ensemble rehearsals and practical application workshops. The Chapter maintains a large library of ensemble music, which is used by the camper/members. A public concert featuring 12 harpists was presented at Owens Community College. "Harp Week" is directed by **Denise Grupp-Verbon** and **Nancy Lendrim**.

* In May, the Northwest Ohio Chapter sponsored a concert by Toronto harpist, **Sharlene Wallace**. Shar performed a brilliant program at the Center for Fine and

Performing Arts at Owens Community College in Toledo.

* **Jan Bishop** is celebrating her 44th season as Principal Harpist of the Lima Symphony Orchestra. Her students **Moriah Umbs** performed her Suzuki Book 2 recital in August and **Lindsey Bishop** performed her Suzuki Book 1 recital in May.

* **Denise Grupp-Verbon** will give her 11th annual recital at Owens Community College on Nov 16. It will feature solo selections as well as duets with harpist Judy Riley.

* TAPESTRY, which features **Denise Grupp-Verbon** on harp and

Michael Grupp-Verbon on guitar, released their 3rd CD, The Red Leaf, in May. It was recorded and produced in Nashville. It is available on iTunes, or you can visit their website at: www.tapestryduo.com.

* The Harp Gathering, which is co-directed by **Denise Grupp-Verbon**, will celebrate it's 5th year, May 17 - 20, 2012. Featured performers and presenters will be TAPESTRY, Frank Voltz, Timothy Harper, Lisa Lynne, Aryeh Frankfurter and Martha Gallagher. The Harp Gathering is held in Northwest Ohio. More info: www.harpgathering.com.

DAYTON OHIO CHAPTER

President: Bobbie Strobhar, 937.376.4608, tstrobhar@aol.com Vice President: Martha Poiry

The Dayton Harp Chapter hosted a harp music sale / buy event in August.

The **Dayton Area Harp Ensemble**, coordinated by **Bobbie Strobhar**, celebrated its 31st year playing throughout the Dayton and Miami Valley area. They will be performing in Baltimore, Ohio the end of November.

Andrea Speros, student of **Bobbie Strobhar**, has received the first Mildred Manny Harp Scholarship. She is a freshman attending Cedarville College in Cedarville, Ohio. Mildred Manny was a long time harp member who passed away 2 years ago.

News from Columbus, Ohio

Jude Mollenhauer will perform Britten's "A Ceremony of Carols" with the Otterbein University Chorus at the Westerville (OH) Community United Church of Christ, Dec 11.

Lyric Harp Duo (**Jude Mollenhauer** and **Yan Ni**) will perform at the Ohio State University Faculty Club on Dec 5.

Ni Yan will perform "A Ceremony of Carols" by Benjamin Britten with the Chorus Columbus State on Dec 4 at the Columbus Museum of Art.

Ni Yan directed a harp ensemble, performed a harp solo, as well as several piano accompaniments for a major fundraising concert for The Children's Hunger Alliance of Ohio on Oct 16.

This fall, **Jeanne Norton** is performing with COSMOS, trio for flute viola and harp at Ohio State University, Miami University, and Prince of Peace Lutheran Concert Series. The recitals will include new pieces especially written for COSMOS as well as a composition by

Donald Harris: "A Letter from Home", written for COSMOS and soprano, Lucy Shelton. The piece was premiered last spring during the Contemporary Music Festival at OSU, and will be recorded in November.

Abigail Bachelor participated in the World Harp Congress "Focus on Youth" in Vancouver last summer. She is a member of the American Youth Harp Ensemble and will travel and perform with them this fall. Abigail is a student of **Jeanne Norton**.