MidCentral Regional Newsletter

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

Greetings! from the Regional Director

As you will read in this newsletter, several of our local harp chapters have planned exciting events this coming year. Your chapter would love to hear from you and to meet you in person at their next concert.

Perhaps this will inspire you to get together with other harpists and plan an event to promote the harp in your area.

Be sure to “like” the AHS Facebook page to stay connected with year-round events and various harp news.

I hope you can attend a performance by our new AHS Concert Artist. Alexandra Mullins, a rising star from our region, won the top prize in the Young Professional Division of the AHS National Competition.

Please keep me posted on your news and accomplishments throughout the year. October 2014 is the next deadline for news submission from AHS members.

It has been my pleasure to serve as your Regional Director.

41st National Conference
June 22-25, 2014

HARP CARNIVALE
New Orleans, Louisiana

- Mardi Gras Ball Orchestra Gala
- Recital by Baltazar Juarez at the St. Louis Cathedral
- Jazz Nite on multiple stages
- Chamber music concerts & workshops
- Master Classes with Emily Mitchell, Ann Yeung, Ela Szmyt
- Alexander Technique Sessions
- Perform with one of 4 Harp Carnivale Ensembles
- Harp & Music Exhibits
- Sightseeing tours
- Promo photos and professional makeover at the Escosa Booth

See you in the French Quarter!
Crowne Astor Plaza Hotel

https://www.facebook.com/AHS2014Conference
http://www.harpssociety.org/ConferenceInstitute/

HTTP://WWW.HARPSOCIETY.ORG

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HARP LISTING

Please contact the owners for details.

~ Salvi Daphne 40 strings, walnut finish, warm tone. $6,900. Includes 3 piece transport cover. Lora Ilhardt, lkhardt@aol.com

~ Lyon & Healy 85E, 47 strings, $16,500. Includes full cover set, dolly.Juana Jimenez, 773.320.2427, jmjimenez042@sbcglobal.net

~ Lyon & Healy Prelude, #52406, brand new, never been used, $3,000 OBO, located in Bolingbrook, IL. Carly Zabinski, 630.759.7200 ext. 323, zabinskicc@vvsd.org

~ Venus Diplomat concert grand, natural blonde, $13,500. Venus No. 2417, built in 1997. Includes padded cover, harp cart, matching stool, music stand, key and holder. Heidi Maranell, heidimaranelphotography@gmail.com, 920.268.2884.

~ Lyon & Healy Style 23, natural, #5856, custom rebuilt, $19,250, 3-year warranty included. Includes tuning key and holder, dust cover. Janelle Lake, Chicago, IL, harpist.janelle@gmail.com

~ Venus Diplomat, concert grand natural finish, new strings and regulation April 2013. Beautiful sound, excellent condition, gently used, 12 years old, $12,000. Faye Seeman, 846.202.3236, kitharatrio@comcast.net

~ Lyon & Healy Prelude, #52406, brand new, never been used, $3,000 OBO, located in Bolingbrook, IL. Carly Zabinski, 630.759.7200 ext. 323, zabinskicc@vvsd.org

~ Lyon & Healy Style 23, built in 1981, natural with birds eye maple, several nicks and cracks. Includes tuner, 3 wheel harp cart, almost complete set of strings, cover, $19,500 OBO. Madeline Gould, madelinegould@aol.com

~ Thormahlen Serenade 36 string, Loveland levers, maple binding and top block, chestnut purfling, semi-stave with K&K pick up system. 2008, excellent condition. Includes formal bench, portable bench, fold-up music stand, full set of strings, tuning key, tuner, travel case, cart, amplifier, dust cover and original shipping box. Asking $3,900. Contact Peggy, 269.978.8666 peggyandtripper@yahoo.com.

~ 36 string Timothy, about five years old, cherry, rich, sonorous tone, in wonderful condition.Asking $3,600. Phyllis Miner, 616.698.6238

~ 2 harps for sale: 30 string Alder Creek model by Lewis Creek Instruments. Levers on C, F and B. Cherry. Excellent Condition. $2,200 each. Each comes with a very nice, padded case. Great for therapy, travel, students, beginners and rentals. Northwest Ohio. Denise Grupp-Verbon 419.476.8738 harpist@sbcglobal.net

CENTRAL ILLINOIS - ROSLYN RENSCH CHAPTER

Urbana, Champaign, IL

ILHarpGroup@gmail.com

New President: Molly O’Roark

Chapter Harp Recital On November 3rd, 17 lever and pedal harpists performed a Fall Harp Recital program at Clark Lindsey Village in Urbana, IL.

Illinois Summer Harp Class with Ann Yeung (iSHC) will be held June 12-14, 2014 at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

Registration is open; priority deadline is 4/1/14. The 2013 iSHC Harp Jam premiered Julia Kay Jamieson’s one time around for multiple harps. http://music.illinois.edu/public-engagement-programs/summer-harp-class

Erin Brooker was one of two harpists selected for the 43rd season of the Round Top Festival Institute this past summer. In May, she premiered Evocacion, by Gabriel Mora Bentacur for harp and vibraphone on the debut concert of the Archaea Tree Ensemble.

Chen-Yu Huang won the Principal Harp position with the Illinois Symphony Orchestra in 2012.

Claire Happel performed as Second Harp with the St. Louis Symphony in spring 2013 and for their 2013 opera season. In March 2013, she was featured on the Nonnewerther Inselkonzerte concert series in a program, “Auf den Spuren des Quintette Instrumental de Paris,” in Germany.

In January 2013, Ann McLaughlin performed a multimedia solo recital in the William M. Staerkel Planetarium in Champaign, Illinois. Commemorating the 25th anniversary of the planetarium, the show featured a range of music from Bach to Debussy, Flagello to Coldplay all choreographed to a star show.
Molly O’Roark performed Debussy’s *Danses* with the Eastman School Symphony Orchestra in Kodak Hall at the Eastman Theatre in October 2012. She was awarded the Wayne T. Barlow Harp Award for Excellence in Harp Performance last May along with her Bachelor's degree in Harp Performance, Arts Leadership Certificate, and Performer’s Certificate from the Eastman School of Music. She is starting her Master's degree at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

Molly Madden performed Ravel’s *Tsiganes* and *Daphnis et Chloe No. 2* with Charles Lynch for the Champaign-Urbana Symphony Orchestra’s opening concert of the 2013-2014 season.

Noël Wan was a Special Award winner and the youngest semi-finalist in the 18th International Harp Contest in Israel, held November-December 2012. In August 2013, she was invited to perform the opening concert of the Taiwan Harp Center in Taipei.

Ann Yeung is one of five University of Illinois Fellows in the Committee on Institutional Cooperation 2013-2014 Academic Leadership Program. She was the Jury President for the 2013 USA International Harp Competition.

As part of the Aletheia Duo with flutist Jonathan Keeble, Ann Yeung performed for the Amity Foundation's annual Chinese Orphans Benefit Concert in Madison, Wisconsin to support over 90 Henan Province HIV/AIDS-affected orphans in April 2013 and gave master classes at the University of Minnesota and the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Upcoming events in 2014 include the Opening Concert of Lyon & Healy Harps 150th Birthday Festival and the world premiere of a new work by Robert Paterson at the American Harp Society (AHS) National Conference in New Orleans and performance in the Twelfth World Harp Congress (WHC) in Sydney, Australia.

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**GREATER CHICAGO CHAPTER (GCCAHS)**

Chicago, IL and suburbs

http://www.GreaterChicagoAHS.org and on Facebook

New President: Lillian Lau

New Secretary: Charles Lynch, GreaterChicagoAHS@gmail.com

Chicago Harp Day

*Sunday, Nov 24, 2013, 1 - 4:30 pm*

**Lyon & Healy Harps**

168 N. Ogden Ave, Chicago, IL

The Chicago Chapter is organizing this popular event for the 3rd time. Events will include:

- **Members Showcase:** chamber music concert for harp with flute, clarinet and viola
- **“Pachelmania” Improvisation Workshop** with Faye Seeman
- **Stage Presence Workshop** with Maria Luisa Rayan-Forero
- **Visit the harp showroom and discover new music and accessories on sale.**
- **Learn to tie harp string knots and decorate a free tuning key.**
- **Honors Recital** featuring the most improved students from the Audition & Evaluation program and winners of the 2013 Scholarship Competition.

The 4th GCCAHS **Auditions & Evaluations** were held at the Chicago College for Performance Arts at Roosevelt University on 10/13 & 10/27. Two judges evaluated the performance of 17 students based on musicality, rhythm, articulation, stage presence, tuning, and a basic theory evaluation.

The winners of the **2013 Scholarship Competition**

**Advanced Division:**

1st Place: *Silja Reisch*

2nd Place: *Julia Dierksheide*

**Junior Division:**

1st Place: *Zoe O’Shaughnessy*

2nd Place: *Cadence Chalmers*

Everyone did a wonderful job this year. The judges were impressed with the level of preparation and performance represented. $550 were awarded to further the harp studies for these outstanding students.

**GCCAHS Calendar**

- **Nov 24:** 3rd Annual “Chicago Harp Day” at Lyon & Healy.
- **Spring 2014:** Master Class with Gretchen Van Hoesen, Principal Harp of the Pittsburgh Symphony
- **November 2014:** Chicago Chapter Scholarship Competition
- **November 2015:** 5th GCCAHS Auditions & Evaluation
Greater Chicago Chapter

Lillian Lau recently published a modern edition of *Valse Mélancolique* for flute & harp by Marie Félicie Clémence de Grandval (1828-1907) through the Lyrebird Editions. A charming and idiomatic work, the piece was composed for harpist Adolphe Hasselmans and premiered in 1891 for the Société National de Musique in Paris.

September 29
Joy Hoffman solo harp recital at the Lieberman Center in Skokie, IL.

September 15
Nuiko Wadden will join eighth blackbird, tenor Nicholas Phan, Kiera Duffy, and Jennifer Johnson Cano for "Music of the People - Britten & Folk Song," presented by the Collaborative Arts Institute of Chicago at the Logan Center for the Arts, University of Chicago.

September 22
Faye Seeman and the Kithara Trio "America the Beautiful" Recital Monroe Arts Center, Monroe, WI.

October 13
Faye Seeman performs for the Birch Creek Music Center Fundraiser, Door County, WI.

November 3
Janelle Lake presents an all Debussy harp program featuring his *Sonata for Flute, Viola, & Harp*. Mayslake Peabody Estate, Oak Brook, IL.

November 9
Nichole Luchs was the soloist in Debussy’s *Danses Sacree et Profane* with the Peoria Symphony at Grace Presbyterian Church, Peoria IL.

November 9
Lillian Lau with the Lyrebird Ensemble performed at the Chicago Flute Festival in Evanston, IL.

Concert: *Sonata for Flute and Harp* (2002) by Andy Scott

November 18
Lillian Lau with the Lyrebird Ensemble performed works for flute and harp by Andy Scott and Clemence de Grandval. Musicians Club of Women at the Union League Club, Chicago, IL.

Saturday, November 23, 10:00am
Joy Yu Hoffman will hold her Twentieth Annual Students' Recital at the Morton Grove Public Library Auditorium, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove, IL.

Friday, December 6, 12:10pm
Emily Ann Granger, Solo Harp Recital for the Musicians Club of Women Artists in Recital Series at the Fourth Presbyterian Church Buchanan Chapel, 126 E. Chestnut, Chicago, IL.

Sunday, December 8, 3:00pm
Chicago Harp Ensemble Winter Concert at Lyon & Healy Hall.

Saturday, December 14, 2:30pm
Joy Yu Hoffman solo concert at Vli at the Glen, 2401 Indigo Ln. Glenview, IL. Sunday 12/15, 2pm Annual Holiday Remembrance Service at Memorial Park, 9900 Gross Point Rd, Skokie, IL.

Friday, December 20, 7:30pm
Lillian Lau performs Benjamin Britten’s “A Ceremony of Carols” with La Caccina at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Church, 708 W. Belmont Ave, Chicago, IL.

December 24, 4pm, 6pm & Midnight Mass, Lillian Lau will be featured in works by Saint-Saens, and Britten with the Holy Name Cathedral choir & orchestra.

730 N. State St, Chicago, IL.

Chicago Harp Ensemble Spring Session begins 1/11/2014. Two ensembles (downtown at Roosevelt University and north in Grayslake). All ages / experience and harp types. www.chicagoharpensemble.org

January 26, 2014, 2pm
Joy Yu Hoffman will give a concert of the Kong Hou Chinese double harp with violinist Judy Lei at the Palos Heights Public Library.

February 21, 2014, 12:10pm
Chicago Harp Quartet will preview their upcoming CD at the Fourth Presbyterian Church.

Cincinnati, OH

From the Studio of Gillian Benet Sella - Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music:

Frances Cobb recently won the Principal Harp position for the Kentucky Symphony Orchestra.


Michelle Gwynne will perform Mozart’s Flute and Harp Concerto with Flutist Nina Perlove, and the Northern Kentucky University Chamber Orchestra in December.
Harp Week in Toledo, Ohio was again partially sponsored by the NW Ohio Chapter of the AHS. From June 17 - 19, ten harp students and professionals participated in workshops and ensemble rehearsals. On June 20, the group presented a concert to the community.

Harp Week was founded by Denise Grupp-Verbon and Nancy Lendrim, and they continue as the instructor/directors. This year, the camp was held at Owens Community College and the concert was presented at Owens’ Mainstage Theatre in their Center for Fine and Performing Arts.

The 7th Annual Harp Gathering will be held May 16-18, 2014 at the Sauder Heritage Inn, Archbold, Ohio. Performer/Presenters for 2014 are Maeve Gilchrist, Aryeh Frankfurter, Lisa Lynne, Cynthia Shelhart, TAPESTRY (Denise and Michael Grupp-Verbon) and Frank Voltz. www.harpgathering.com

Quadrant Chapter

Rock Island & Moline, IL, Davenport & Bettendorf, IA

President: Caitlin Thom, cat.harmonics@gmail.com
CINCINNATI CHAPTER

The Cincinnati Chapter of the American Harp Society is not only revived, but up and running at full speed!

- We met for a social get-together in April, followed by a Spring Recital on 5/19 in Greaves Hall at Northern Kentucky University. Thirty-six students played solos and in ensembles ending with all students playing Dargason arr. by Nancy Hurrell & conducted by Michelle Gwynne. The teachers of the students were Jackie Davis, Alaina Graiser, Linda Grieser, Michelle Gwynne, & Elizabeth Motter.

- In July, Alaina performed Britten's "Canticle V: Death of St. Narcissus" with internationally acclaimed tenor Marco Panuccio (Cincinnati Opera Company) and Britten's "Suite for Harp" in a concert celebrating Benjamin Britten's 100th birthday.

- In August, Alaina created and successfully held a Summer Harp Camp for her students with activities including harp ensemble rehearsals, a harp ensemble concert at the end of the week, and activities covering a variety of harp-related topics! The week was quite successful and she hopes to make it an annual event open to students from the tri-state area.

- This summer Alaina was unanimously elected President of the Cincinnati Chapter of the AHS and has enjoyed her work so far, uniting the Cincinnati harp community and coordinating events for the chapter.

- Next summer (2014) Alaina will be giving a presentation at the World Harp Congress in Sydney, Australia titled "Which 'Method' Are You?" She plans to preview this presentation in Cincinnati.

Alaina Graiser had a busy year completing all of her DMA coursework and achieving doctoral candidacy as well as building and maintaining a thriving private piano and harp studio.

Nancy Bick Clark

Nancy Bick Clark performed with the Clark & Jones Trio (Jude Jones - violin, Frank Clark - bodhran and Nancy Bick Clark-Celtic harp/recorder) at the Cincinnati Celtic Festival on 9/14. The event was held in Washington Park by Music Hall in Cincinnati.

Thomas L. Schanie

Thomas L. Schanie has published new music for harp: “Smithgall Serenade” for solo, duet, trio, or quartet, “How to Really Play the Harp from a Fake Book” and “Morning Gliss” a song with true glissandos for lever and pedal harp. Visit: www.tls-harp-piano.com
DAYTON OHIO CHAPTER
President: Bobbie Strobhar, 937.376.4608, tstrobhar@aol.com  Vice President: Martha Poiry

The Dayton Chapter of the American Harp Society featured Yolanda Kondonassis in the spring for a day-long master class. Many harpists from Columbus, Cincinnati and Dayton attended her enjoyable and information-packed class.

The Dayton Area Harp Ensemble (DAHE) is celebrating its 33rd year with 4 big concerts, one of which will be November 3 as a combined concert with the Kettering Handbells. DAHE will be presenting 2 "Harpin' Holiday" Concerts this year. DAHE is coordinated by Bobbie Strobhar. If you are interested in any of our programs, please contact Bobbie at tstrobhar@aol.com or call 937.376.4608.

News from Columbus, Ohio

Jeanne Norton gave a faculty recital dedicated to composer Stephen Paulus with the COSMOS flute, viola and harp trio at Ohio State University on October 12.

Abigail Bachelor, member of the Columbus Symphony Orchestra Youth Symphony, performed for the “Stars of Tomorrow” at the USA International Harp Competition in Bloomington, IN this summer. She participated in the AHS National Competition in Los Angeles and placed 4th in the Intermediate I Division.

Rebeca Troutner performs with the Columbus Community Orchestra and for the Grace Brthren “Living Christmas Tree”.

Elena Grandbois performs with the Newark / Granville Youth Symphony.

HARPOHIO, Students of Jeanne Norton will give a recital at the Grandview Library on December 8 and collect food for the Ohio Food Bank.

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

News from Indianapolis, IN:

Heaven Fan, Harp Faculty at Anderson University and the MasterWorks Festival, has performed with Indianapolis Symphony, Indianapolis chamber Orchestra, and Indianapolis Symphonic Choir, among others during the 2012-13 season. She has performed solo and chamber repertoire in the faculty concerts at AU and the MasterWorks Festival. In December 2012 Dr. Fan was the soloist performed in the AU’s annual production of Candles & Carols Christmas Concert, which will be aired in December 2013 by television stations nationwide and distributed internationally.

Dr. Fan was on the judging panel for the Indianapolis Matinee Musicale Collegiate Scholarship Competition held at Butler University in January 2013. She performed a chamber music concert with Webster University faculty members and taught a harp masterclass at WU, St. Louis in April. As a winner of the Creative Renewal Arts Fellowship sponsored by the Arts Council of Indianapolis and the Lily Endowment, Dr. Fan was the harp soloist performed in the special evening of performances for the Creative Renewal Arts Fellowship Retrospective Exhibition and Festival held at the Indianapolis Art Center in June 2013.

Anderson University Audition Dates: January 20, February 14, February, 17, March 7 (2014)

The 2013 MasterWorks Festival (Winona Lake, IN):
- Bethany Wheeler won the MasterWorks Concerto Competition and performed Debussy’s Danse sacrée et danse profane with the MasterWorks Philharmonic Orchestra.
- Caroline Haines and Morgan Short were selected to perform in the Honors Recital.
- MasterWorks Harp Ensemble was presented in the last Sunday Morning Service in the Rodeheaver Auditorium.

The 2014 MasterWorks Festival dates: June 15 – July 13, 2014
9th USA International Harp Competition
This past July, 43 harpists representing 18 countries traveled to Bloomington, Indiana, to participate in the 9th Competition, which was held at the Indiana University Jacobs School of Music.

After ten days of exciting world-class performances, the following prizewinners were announced:
• 1st: Remy van Kesteren, The Netherlands - Commemorative Lyon & Healy Gold Concert Grand Harp, valued at $55,000, Two Debut Recitals, CD Recording and Career Promotion all sponsored by Lyon & Healy Harps. $5,000 David and Linda Rollo Award in memory of Mindee Rollo
• 2nd: Marta Marinelli - Italy $5,000 Bow Brand Prize
• 3rd: Emily Levin, USA - $4,000 Eul Duk Kwak Memorial Prize from Megan Landfair, Executive Director USAIHC

Indiana University Harp Department
Adrianna Horne, DM candidate, recently won the Principal Harp audition for the National Symphony Orchestra in Washington, D.C.

Emily Levin, BM 2013 was a finalist in the this past July in the 2013 USA International Harp Competition. She won 3rd prize performing the Reinecke Harp Concerto. Emily is currently pursuing a MM degree at the Juilliard School.

Alexandra Mullins, sophomore, recently won First Prize at the Petar Konjovic International Harp Competition in Serbia. Alexandra was also a semifinalist in the USA IHC. She won first prize in the Young Professional Division of the AHS National Competition. As Concert Artist of the AHS, she has performed recitals in San Antonio and New York City, and has scheduled recitals in Cincinnati, Phoenix, Tucson and Nashville.

Haley Rhodeside, BM 2013, competed in the USA IHC as did Seika Dong, Sophomore, Jeremy Keppleman, Junior and Emmanuel Padilla, Freshman. Molly Grettenberger, Junior, performed her Junior Recital 10/26 at IU Recital Hall.

The IU Harp Ensembles under the direction of FanFen Tai will present their annual Christmas Concert on December 10 at 6:00 pm at Sherwood Oaks Christian Church in Bloomington, IN.

Susann McDonald, Chair of the IU Harp Department, Distinguished Professor of Music, recently returned from California where she and co-author Linda Rollo introduced and explained the effects used in their collection, Haiku for the Harp. 10 students of Linda Rollo performed the 12 short pieces. The event was sponsored by the Silicon Valley chapter of the AHS at the Hakone Gardens in Saratoga on October 12. Miss McDonald also taught a masterclass at the Cincinnati Conservatory for students of Gillian Benet.

Elzbieta Szmyt's student, Anna Aileen McNulty (IU Junior) won The Susann McDonald Merit and The Patrick O'Meara Merit Awards at the 2013 NSAL Instrumental Music Competition.

Anna McNulty and another of Szmyt's student, Rebecca Cieply (IU Sophomore) won second place at the 2013 Indianapolis Matinee Musicale Collegiate Award Competition.

An IU pre-college harp student of Elzbieta Szmyt, 11-year old Renee Murphy, won Second Place in Junior Division of AHS National Competition. She was also awarded the Salzedo Prize for the best performance of Haydn's "Theme and Variations". Renee was featured at the USA International Harp Competition "Stars of Tomorrow".

Aubrey Shumway, a pre-college student of Szmyt, was one of the youngest participants at the USA International Harp Competition. She gave a solo performance for the IU Women's Club in August.

In February, Elzbieta Szmyt gave a harp master class in Szymanowski Conservatory of Music in Warsaw, Poland.

The first Summer Harp Academy took place in Lake Junaluska, NC in June. The Faculty of the Academy included Elzbieta Szmyt and Jan Jennings; Chelsea Carlson and Anna McNulty worked as Academy teaching assistants. Christine Kercheval was the Administrative Director of event. Fifteen of Szmyt's students were among the participants.