



Greetings Harpists of the Midatlantic Region!

I know this has been a challenging year for us all but I'm happy to report that our region is not merely surviving but is even thriving! As you read this newsletter you will see that our chapters have been finding ingenious ways to stay connected despite the pandemic.



Our region kicked off the season with a rousing virtual Rally Day in September. We heard 6 talented young performers and enjoyed a rousing game of bingo hosted by Mary Jane D'Arville. Congratulations to our bingo prize winners! There was also an opportunity to participate in our regional virtual ensemble. You can watch the replay of Rally Day and see our Virtual Ensemble video here: <https://www.harpmastery.com/rally-day>

While we seem to be headed for more social distancing in the coming months, I have some suggestions for staying connected:

- If social media is your thing, the AHS and your region are there. Check out all the AHS social media channels, especially our exciting new Instagram presence. [@harp society](#)
- Our Region's [Facebook group](#) is always open too, and I look forward to connecting with you there.
- The AHS national events take community to the next level. I encourage you to plan now to join us at the [2021 National Conference in Orlando, Florida](#) this June 20-23. The theme for the conference is "That's Entertainment!" and the insider peek I've seen of the program plans will guarantee you an entertaining time with workshops, concerts and ensemble experiences for all ages. Be sure to reserve your room now; no deposit is necessary.

I still believe that our greatest connection is with our own chapters. While we may need to keep our meetings virtual for the present, simply being together is the best way to nurture and sustain relationships. Please remember that as your regional director I am prepared to be your "go to" resource for whatever your chapter may need to stay strong.

Stay well, stay happy and keep harping,

Anne Sullivan

Mid Atlantic Regional Director

anne@harpmastery.com

National Notes . . .

News you can use, from chapters, regions, and national! Exciting opportunities to gather via video conference continue to bring members together, and chapters are hosting meetings and [national programs](#) virtually during the year. New resources are being added regularly to the [AHS](#) and [AHJ](#) YouTube channels, and plans are in place to offer two dynamic national events in June of 2021: the rescheduled [National Conference](#) and the [2021 National Competition](#) finals. Build your community within the AHS and join us as we learn about and serve the harp!



Nominations for new AHS Board members are now open [online through November 30th](#). If you are interested in serving, or you know a colleague who might be well-suited to Board service, please submit your nomination(s) during November. Cycle through the badges on the right side to find "Call for Nominations". You may also download a [paper nomination form](#).

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Washington DC Chapter

Chapter News

The Chapter held Virtual Auditions and Evaluations in July for an enthusiastic group of harp students. Many thanks also to our fabulous reviewers, **Christina Brier**, **Kate Loughrey**, and **Kate Sloat** for their invaluable feedback!

Member News

- Three accomplished students of **Melissa Tardiff-Dvorak** performed at the Midatlantic Harp Rally: **Jocelyn Chang**, **Goldie Woods** and **Sarah Howell**.



Jocelyn Chang playing *First Arabesque* by Debussy



Goldie Woods playing *Rondo* by Dussek



Sarah Howell playing *Romanze* by Beethoven

- Congratulations to Jocelyn Chang for winning 3rd prize in the Young Artist's Harp Seminar and Competition's New Artist Division.
- Member **Zoe Coppola** has developed a new curriculum for student harpists called "Happy Harps."



MARYLAND

Charm City (Baltimore) Chapter

Chapter News

In February 2020, the Baltimore Harp Chapter held a student event in Baltimore for area students to perform for each other and get to know one another. Students of all ages attended and enjoyed spending an afternoon together!

Member News

- Harpist **June Han** joined the faculty of the Peabody Conservatory beginning in the fall of 2020. The Baltimore Harp Chapter congratulates Ms. Han, and extends her a warm welcome.
- Baltimore Harp Chapter president **Jacqueline Pollauf** recently published a new exercise book: *Glissando Exercises*, a book of fifty incremental exercises. She is also presenting an online mini-concert series for the fall of 2020, with monthly themed performances featuring solo harp music.



NEW JERSEY

North Jersey Chapter

Chapter News

The Chapter is looking forward to an exciting 2020-2021 season beginning with a meeting on November 1, 2020. Several new projects are planned and membership resources are being updated.



PENNSYLVANIA

Central Pennsylvania Chapter

Chapter News

The Chapter's General meeting was held on November, 20, 2019 in Altoona and members **Zaneth Casteel**, **Barbara Crain** and **Sophi Conn** performed.

A Zoom meeting was held in May, and another is planned for November, 2020.



Barbara Crain and her teacher Sophi Conn performed holiday music.



Zaneth Casteel performing at the meeting.

Northwestern Pennsylvania Chapter

Chapter News

The Chapter members are currently working on producing their second CD to assist with fundraising, following on the success of their first CD. Although plans are on hold due to the pandemic, online preparation is continuing as are online get-togethers.

Philadelphia Chapter

Chapter News

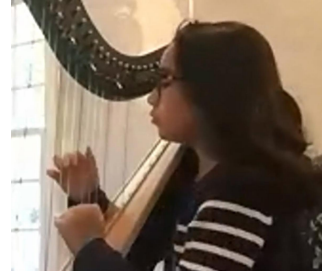
- Philly Harp Day 2020 was held online on Sunday, September 27. A featured presentation was a panel discussion called, "The Harp & Technology: How To Function In The 21st Century." **Abigail Kent** presented a solo recital with a pre-concert discussion with **Angelica Hairston**.
- The annual student recital has also been moved online and will take place on November 15 at 2:30 p.m.
- The Chapter's biennial Student Competition is to be held on April 17th, 2021 at Temple University's Center City Campus located at 1515 Market St., Philadelphia, PA 19102. Students may compete in one of four categories based on their age and type of harp. Details are available on the Chapter's website: phillyharp.org.

Member News

- Three students performed at the Midatlantic Harp Rally: **Hanna Cox**, student of Chapter Secretary **Candace Lark-Masucci**, and **Valentina** and **Andres Ramos**, students of **Anne Sullivan**.



Hanna Cox



Valentina Ramos



Andres Ramos

Rally Day Performers

Chapter President **Rebecca Simpson** will be giving an online concert with flutist Faith Wasson on Saturday, November 14 at 7:30 p.m. Faith and Rebecca met while playing the Debussy Trio and rekindled their duo after Faith returned from living and performing for two years in Dublin, Ireland. The program will include *Serenade No. 10* by Persichetti, *Romance* by Saint-Saens, *Carmen Fantasy* by Borne, *Meditation from Thais* by Massenet, and a fun surprise fantasy!

Pittsburgh Chapter

Chapter News

The Pittsburgh Chapter of the AHS along with Carnegie Mellon University co-sponsored a harp masterclass by **Bridgett Kibbey** on September 7, 2019. The following ten area harp students performed in the class: **Isabel Cardenes, Jadelyn Ding, Sophia Jho, Amanda Kengor, Juliana Matteo, Skyler Moon, Alice Statham, Caroline Haines, Katelyn Croft** and **Alyssa Hensley**.



Bridgett Kibbey Master Class -l. to r.-- Skyler Moon, Isabel Cardenes, Alyssa Hensley, Juliana Matteo, Caroline Haines, Alice Statham, Bridgett Kibbey, Katelyn Croft, Jadelyn Ding, Sophia Jho

- Seven members from the Pittsburgh Chapter of the AHS performed the National Anthem at a Pittsburgh Pirates baseball game on September 24 at 7 PM at PNC Park. The video image of the performance of the National Anthem was shown on the Jumbotron at PNC Park to 9989 fans in attendance.



National anthem at Pittsburgh Pirates baseball game. l. to r.--Sophia Jho, Gretchen Van Hoesen, Alice Statham, Pittsburgh Pirate Parrot, Peg Calder, Skyler Moon, Katelyn Croft, Alyssa Hensley

- The Chapter Holiday Harp Ensemble Concert took place on December 10, 2019. The hour long concert in the grand lobby of Carnegie Music Hall, complete with an interview by Pittsburgh Harp Chapter President **Gretchen Van Hoesen** was broadcast on WQED-FM Radio on December 13 and 25, 2019. A record number of twenty nine harpists performed under the direction of conductor Daniel Nesta Curtis.



Holiday Harp Ensemble Concert--December 10, 2019
Carnegie Music Hall Grand Lobby, 29 harpists performing

- The Chapter held its annual Auditions and Evaluations on February 22 and March 21, 2020. The first session was held at Carnegie Mellon University with adjudicator **Christine Mazza**. Participants completed theory worksheets and received excellent oral and written feedback after performing. The second session was done virtually with all participants performing on FaceTime or Skype. All participants received a certificate of participation. The following chapter members performed: **Reagan Allen, Abigail Alling, Kiersten Beahm, Peg Calder, Isabel Cardenes, Katelyn Croft, Jadelyn Ding, Caroline Haines, Alyssa Hensley, Sophia Jho, Juliana Matteo, Skyler Moon, Madeline Rhoades, Aislynn Senn, Alice Statham, Sylvia Wang** and **Megan Wellener**.
- Plans to host NYC harpist/story teller **Alyssa Reit** in May 2020 had to be postponed due to the Corona Virus. Alyssa Reit was to narrate Hans Christian Andersen's "*Snow Queen*" with eleven harpists performing at Carnegie Mellon University. This program will be rescheduled as soon as it is safe to meet together to rehearse and perform.

Member News

- Pittsburgh AHS Chapter members **Katelyn Croft, Alyssa Hensley, Natalie**

Severson, Gretchen Van Hoesen, Mia Venezia and Nuiko Wadden performed the world premiere of “*Surround*” for 6 harps by Federico Garcia-De Castro at the Pittsburgh Opera building on September 9, 2019. Subsequent performances of this unusual and interesting work were presented on October 6, 2019 for the CMU Contemporary Ensemble at CMU with **Caroline Haines** and **Alice Statham** performing, November 25, 2019 at the W. PA School for the Blind, and January 27, 2019 at City of Asylum, in Pittsburgh.



November 25, 2019 performance of “*Surround*” by Federico Garcia-De Castro at Western PA School for the Blind I. to r.--Federico Garcia De Castro, Arlene Wolk, Natalie Severson, Gretchen Van Hoesen, Nuiko Wadden, Alyssa Hensley, Katelyn Croft, Caroline Haines

- **Sophia Jho**, 14 year old ninth grader and harp student of Gretchen Van Hoesen was the 1st place prize winner, 2020 Young Artists\' Harp Competition, New Artist Division.



Sophie Jho

- On July 31, 2020 **Gretchen Van Hoesen**, harp and Ann Alton, 'cello presented a concert for the Lake Placid Sinfonietta on Mirror Lake.



Gretchen Van Hoesen, harp and Ann Alton, 'cello

VIRGINIA

Southwest Virginia Chapter

Chapter News

The Chapter is reorganizing, re-energizing and looking for new members as well as members interested in stepping into leadership roles. If you are in the southwest Virginia area and would like to join a friendly harp chapter, email Anne Sullivan at anne@harp mastery.com and she will put you in touch with the chapter.

Tidewater Chapter

Chapter News

Officers and members of The Tidewater Chapter met with Anne Sullivan via Zoom for a Chapter Officer Training. Lots of great ideas were generated and the chapter is making plans for an active, if virtual, year. They are welcoming new members, especially harpists in the Richmond, VA area who are looking for a chapter home.

Member News

- In September 2019, **Barbara Chapman**, Principal Harp in the Virginia Symphony Orchestra, was joined by **Vince Zentner** for Ravel's "*Daphnis and Chloe*".
 - In January 2020, Barbara Chapman, Principal Harp in the Virginia Symphony Orchestra, was joined by **Colleen Potter Thorburn** for Berlioz's "*Symphonie Fantastique*".
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WEST VIRGINIA

Morgantown Chapter

Chapter News

- The Chapter's business meeting was held online by email on August 19, 2020. Brittany Blair is stepping down from the office of President to attend graduate school on a full scholarship at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor where she will study with Joan Holland. Way to Go Brittany!
- Christine Mazza was voted new chapter president and ongoing treasury/secretary officer.
- The Chapter's project for this year is to maintain our chapter owned LH15 for use in the WVU Harp Studio.

Member News

- Eden Rogers, harp; Heather Marsico, viola; and Lydia Moenssen, flute will perform the Debussy Trio Sonate for WVU Chamber Music course credit and play a 7:30 live streaming performance on November 17 through the WVU School of Music.
- Sophomore Verena Zaisberger, harpist and Mandi Bearjar, clarinet will perform the Reade Suite from the Victorian Kitchen Garden for a recorded final Chamber Music performance in November.

- The WVU harp studio will perform a Zoom recital in December.
- We welcome two new students to the WVU Harp studio this fall- Katheryn Przybylski, freshman music minor and Autumn Holt, senior music therapy major. Fall Harp lessons and Chamber Music are in person, or online.
- Christine Mazza and Karen Taddie, director of WVU Community Music were awarded a WVU Community Internal Grant to purchase six Rees Harpsicles for use by the Morgantown Harp Ensemble and Community Music.
- Christine Mazza is publishing two transcriptions, one for harp duo and the other for harp, clarinet and violin trio.

