

March 2013

Spring Issue



THE AMERICAN HARP SOCIETY

# Pittsburgh Chapter

## Performances Springing Up!

### Claire Jones : The Girl with the Golden Harp



Former harpist for  
The Prince of Wales!  
Playing for us in Pittsburgh!

Sunday, April 21, 4:00 p.m.  
See page 2 for details!

### Harpistry : Adult Member Recital

On March 24, several chapter members will perform in concert at the Beechview United Presbyterian Church, 1621 Broadway Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15216. The concert is sponsored by the Pittsburgh Chapter and the Beechview United Presbyterian Church.

The performance begins at 3:00 p.m. and features adult students, non-professionals, and semi-professionals performing on concert harp and folk harp. The music will comprise classical, folk, and pop, and include original works composed by one of the performers. All chapter members, family, and friends are cordially invited to attend. The concert is open to the public; a free-will donation will be taken at the door, and a light reception will follow the performance.

Public Facebook Page — <http://tinyurl.com/MembersAHS>

### Welcome to our new members!

Kara Tippins, Anita Sisk, Nur H. Orak, and Emily Maldonado

#### Inside this issue:

Claire Jones Masterclass & Concert	2	Auditions and Evaluations	4
Chapter Recital, Meeting, & Elections	3	Two Sides of Celtic	4
Rental Harp Wanted & Harp for Sale	3	Member News	5

## Claire Jones : The Girl with the Golden Harp

---



Claire Jones is one of the most celebrated harpists in the world today. From 2007 to 2011 she was the Official Harpist to the Prince of Wales, an appointment which culminated in a performance at the wedding of His Royal Highness Prince William of Wales and Catherine Middleton. She has appeared on many major TV and radio networks in the UK and America, including GMTV, BBC, Classic FM and Radio 3. She has also been featured in a BBC2 documentary about the *Highgrove Suite* presented by Alan Titchmarsh, as well as being regularly seen on S4C - the Welsh TV network.

Engagements in 2011 included performing by personal invitation at the Royal Wedding at Buckingham Palace for the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge, a performance of the Mozart *Flute and Harp Concerto* with Sir James Galway, and concerts in the USA and at City Palace in Rio de Janeiro. Claire has performed with Sir Neville Marriner and the National Youth Strings Academy at St John's Smith Square, and in a Wigmore Hall debut. In 2012 she released 2 new albums: one solo, and one with the C2 Duo and percussionist Chris Marshall.

Noted for her personal rapport with the audience, and passion to promote the harp to all, Claire has been a featured artist in Classic FM Magazine, and her new album was featured as John Brunning's CD of the week. She has also been featured as a favorite on David Mellor's new CD weekend show on Classic FM. She encourages youngsters to play the harp through her workshops in schools, and takes great pride in being an ambassador by inspiring the next generation of young harpists.

This concert is provided through the collaboration of the Pittsburgh Chapter of the American Harp Society and the Allegheny Historic Preservation Society.

---

**Sunday, April 21, 2013 at 4:00 p.m.**

Calvary United Methodist Church, 971 Beech Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15233

For tickets call (412) 323-1070 or (412) 848-7162

General - \$15, Senior - \$10, Student - \$7, Children under 12 - Free

Chapter Website Page — <http://www.ahspittsburgh.org/clairejones.htm>

Public Facebook Event Page — <http://tinyurl.com/ClaireJonesAHS>

## Chapter Recital, Business Meeting and Elections

---



The Chapter recital and business meeting will take place on May 5, 2013 at Oakmont Presbyterian Church, beginning at 4:00 p.m. A light reception will follow the proceedings. All Chapter members are encouraged to attend.

In addition to reviewing the events of the past year, we will be discussing the election of officers and plans for next year. Sign-up forms will be sent out in April for anyone interested in performing in the recital or contributing food for the reception.

Latin music and food will be particularly appreciated – it's Cinco de Mayo!

2013 is an election year for the Pittsburgh Chapter. Becky Yuille, Julia Scott, and Stephanie Miller have all announced that they will not run for re-election. Sandy Smailier, Chair of the Elections Committee, is accepting nominations for the offices of President, Vice-President, and Secretary. To nominate someone (or yourself) for office, first check to see if that person will accept the nomination. Then send an e-mail to Sandy ([sandy0051@verizon.net](mailto:sandy0051@verizon.net)) specifying for **what office** you are nominating and **who** is the nominee. According to chapter bylaws, eligible nominees must be regular members of the Chapter **and** members of our parent organization, the American Harp Society.

The slate of candidates will be read during the May 5th business meeting, at which time any additional nominations will be taken from the floor. A ballot will be drawn up and sent to all members eligible to vote in Chapter elections. To be eligible to vote, you must be a Chapter member with a concurrent membership in the American Harp Society.

---

### Rental Harp Wanted

Bill Ranieri is looking to rent a harp for his 20-year-old daughter.

Please call him at 412-297-2662 if you have a harp to rent.

### Harp for Sale

Former Chapter member Terry Lee is selling her walnut Lyon & Healy Semi-Grand Style 100, Serial Number 12498, purchased in 1996. It was regulated annually for years by Ed Galchick, and includes dolly and cover. Terry's asking price is \$11,000, plus shipping from Arkansas (where the harp currently is).

Call Terry at (501) 253-3236 or e-mail her at [terryleeharp@gmail.com](mailto:terryleeharp@gmail.com).





## Music Education : Auditions and Evaluations

---

**Auditions and Evaluations** is a two-part program sponsored by the American Harp Society for beginning and intermediate harp students. Lucien Thompson conceived this unique program for the purpose of helping harp students of all ages improve their performances. It consists of two auditions held approximately one month apart. Participants play for adjudicators who critique their performances, and offer advice on how to improve. Each participant takes the advice, provided in written form, and uses it to polish his or her pieces for the second session. At the second session, the same music is played for the adjudicators again to show how well the advice was put to use.

The focus of the program is the improvement the participant makes from one session to the next. It is not a competition and no prizes will be awarded, but everyone who completes the program will receive a certificate from the American Harp Society.

*"Always bear in mind that it is the average and less gifted student whom we hope to help and inspire. Given sincere encouragement and inspiration, they may surprise us, and in any case they will comprise the knowledgeable audiences of the future."* Lucien Thompson

Our Chapter's second session of this year's program will be Saturday, April 6th.

---

## Two Sides of Celtic Coming in September



Gráinne Hambly and William Jackson are two of the foremost harpers of Ireland and Scotland. Combining their extraordinary talents on harp as well as concertina, tinwhistle, and bouzouki, the "Masters of the Celtic Harp" have been performing all over the country and dazzling audiences with their artistry.

With demanding solo careers that often have them performing on different continents, their *Two Sides of Celtic* show is a special treat. We are happy to announce that they will join us here in Pittsburgh on September 29, 2013 for a workshop and concert. Keep checking the website and your newsletters for more details.

## Member News

---

*We want members to know what we're all up to! And we want to make it easier to get that news out!*

*We're now posting all events, including private gigs, in our Member News section on the website at <http://www.ahspittsburgh.org/apps/blog/>.*

*Very soon, we'll modify the site so that members may post their own news stories. This means members may submit their news whenever they like, and the listings will be posted to the blog much sooner than the next newsletter.*

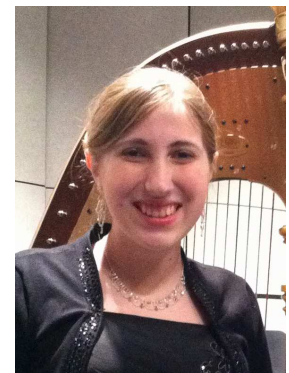
*Be sure to register at our website, <http://ahspittsburgh.org/>, and bookmark the Member News section!*

---

### January

**5<sup>th</sup> : Congratulations!** Chapter member Rebecca Pfingstl was one of the Pittsburgh Concert Society Young Artists Audition winners. In addition to receiving a \$500 Anna and Benjamin Perlow Scholarship to help further her musical education, Rebecca will perform in a Society recital at Carnegie Mellon University's Kresge Theatre on March 17<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 p.m. More is information at [www.pittsburghconcertsociety.org](http://www.pittsburghconcertsociety.org).

**20<sup>th</sup> :** Sarah Solomon Stern was featured in a Pittsburgh Post-Gazette article. Read it here: <http://www.post-gazette.com/stories/ae/music/pittsburgh-harpist-sarah-solomon-stern-thrives-in-buenos-aires-671154/>.



Rebecca Pfingstl

### February

**22<sup>nd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> :** Sophie Graf played under conductor Carl Hess in Duquesne University's performances of Francis Poulenc's opera Dialogues of the Carmelites by Francis Poulenc in Carnegie, PA.

**23<sup>rd</sup> : Congratulations!** Three of our Chapter members were winners in the 3rd Annual Mid-Atlantic Harp Festival Scholarship Competition, sponsored by the Washington DC Chapter of the AHS. In the Young Artist Category, 1st Prize of \$100 was won by Hannah Piston (left), and 2<sup>nd</sup> Prize of \$75 by Jessica Ding (center). In the Emerging Artist Category, Jadelyn Ding (right) won the 3rd Prize of \$25.



## Member News

---

**24<sup>th</sup> : Congratulations!** Chapter member Natalie Severson was the First Place winner in the Undergraduate Section of Carnegie Mellon University's 2013 Concerto Competition. Natalie played Alberto Ginastera's *Harp Concerto*, and as a Competition winner, will be performing next season with the CMU Philharmonic.

### March

**2<sup>nd</sup> :** Sophia Sunha Lee and Hannah Piston performed Stravinsky's *Firebird Suite* with the Pittsburgh Youth Symphony under the direction of conductor Lawrence Loh at Heinz Hall for the Performing Arts.

**17<sup>th</sup> :** Students of Lucy Scandrett will perform in a St. Patrick's Day Harp Class at 2:00 p.m. in the Hunt Rooms, Church of the Ascension. Everyone is welcome to attend! Please see [www.ascensionpittsburgh.org](http://www.ascensionpittsburgh.org) for further details.

**17<sup>th</sup> :** Rebecca Pfingstl will perform in Pittsburgh Concert Society Young Artists Audition recital at Carnegie Mellon University's Kresge Theatre at 2:00 p.m. More information is at [www.pittsburghconcertsociety.org](http://www.pittsburghconcertsociety.org).

**17<sup>th</sup> :** Sophie Graf will perform with the Duquesne University Wind Symphony under the direction of Dr. Robert Cameron at 8:00 p.m. at Carnegie Music Hall in Oakland.

**24<sup>th</sup> :** Sophie Graf will perform Prokofiev's *5th Symphony* with the Duquesne University's Symphony Orchestra under the direction of Jeffrey Turner at 8:00 p.m. at Carnegie Music Hall in Oakland.

### April

**8<sup>th</sup> :** Lucy Scandrett, Professor of Harp at Indiana University of PA, will perform with Dr. John Scandrett for a Faculty Horn and Harp Recital at 8:00 p.m. in DiCicco Recital Hall, Cogswell . She will play works by Koetsier and Singer with Dr. Scandrett and works by Marcel Grandjany and Carlos Salzedo with IUP Harp Students. All are welcome to attend.

**11<sup>th</sup> :** Natalie Stafford will perform her junior harp recital as partial fulfillment of the requirements for the Bachelor of Music degree. This free solo recital will take place at 8:00 p.m. in Alumni Concert Hall in the College of Fine Arts, Carnegie Mellon University. Natalie will perform works by Hindemith, Tournier, Pierne and Dussek. She will also perform the Mozart *Flute and Harp Concerto* with flutist Sarah Steranko.

**13<sup>th</sup> :** Lucy Scandrett will perform with the Oakland Girls Choir under the direction of Kathryn Barnard at 7:30 pm at The First Presbyterian Church in Pittsburgh. The performance will feature the Pittsburgh premiere of Caplet's *Le Miroir de Jesus* with soprano Laura Very. See [www.oaklandgirlschoir.org](http://www.oaklandgirlschoir.org) for further information.

## Member News

---

**24<sup>th</sup>** : Lucy Sandrett and the harp students at the Creative and Performing Arts 6-12 School downtown will present a Celebration of the Harp Concert at 7:00 pm. The concert will include harp solos, harp ensemble and chamber ensemble works with other CAPA music students. CAPA teachers Dena Miller and Dale Hertrick will conduct the ensembles. This fund-raiser for harp maintenance at CAPA will highlight chamber ensemble works featuring the harp. All are welcome to attend.

### May

**3<sup>rd</sup>** : Lucy Scandrett, Professor of Harp at Seton Hill University, will accompany Harp Major Emily Baroody for her Senior Recital at 7:30 p.m. at Reichgut Concert Hall, Seton Hill University Performing Arts Center. All are welcome to attend.

**4<sup>th</sup>** : Bill Van Patten will perform with the Washington Symphony Orchestra at Trinity High School in Washington at 8:00 p.m. The program will include Aaron Copland's *Four Dance Episodes from Rodeo*.

**12<sup>th</sup>** : Students of Lucy Scandrett will present a Mother's Day Concert at 2:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary, Church of the Ascension. Everyone is welcome to attend! Please see [www.ascensionpittsburgh.org](http://www.ascensionpittsburgh.org) for further details.

**18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>** : Lucy Scandrett, Principal Harp for the McKeesport Symphony, will perform with the orchestra for concerts at Sewickley Academy and at McKeesport High School.

**19<sup>th</sup>** : Sophia Sunha Lee and Hannah Piston will perform *Rainbow Body* by Christopher Theofanidis with the Pittsburgh Youth Symphony under the direction of conductor Lawrence Loh at Heinz Hall for the Performing Arts at 8:00 p.m.

### June

**2<sup>nd</sup>** : Jessica Ding will perform with the Central Pennsylvania Youth Orchestra, conducted by Gregory Woodbridge, at 4:00 p.m. in Esber Recital Hall, Penn State University campus.

**10<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup>** : Lucy Scandrett will hold a Harp Camp for all ages and levels at The Ellis School. The week will end with a concert on Friday at 11:00 a.m. Contact Lucy at (412)491-6555 or [www.blondelharpist.com](http://www.blondelharpist.com) for further details.





**To take advantage of all our member benefits,  
be sure to register at our website:**

**<http://ahspittsburgh.org/>**

Scan the QR  
code with a  
smartphone -  
go directly to  
our website!



---

Pittsburgh Chapter of the American Harp Society  
303 Trail Court East  
Cranberry Township, PA 16066