

# Chapter Newsletter

## Fourth Annual Chapter Recital

Our chapter's fourth annual recital and business meeting will be held on Saturday, April 17, 2010, beginning at 1pm. This year's venue is in Shadyside at the Third Presbyterian Church, 5701 Fifth Ave (at Negley Avenue), Pittsburgh 15232. All chapter members are welcome to perform and slots are filling up quickly. Come and share your talent and or listen to your fellow harp chapter members perform their favorite piece of music. The business meeting will be followed by the presentation of 2010 Music Education Certificates to all students who completed both sessions, the Annual Chapter Recital and a reception.

recital

Pittsburgh Chapter  
of the  
American Harp  
Society

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## Chapter Presents Nancy Hurrell



Bring your harps and put on your dancing shoes - Nancy Hurrell is coming to Pittsburgh on May 1! She is a well-known harpist, harp historian and consultant for the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston. Alongside a display of her six antique harps, Nancy will present "History of the Harp," a lecture chronicling the harp from ancient times to the present, and a workshop entitled "Renaissance Dance Music for Harp," in which participants not only will learn to play the 16<sup>th</sup> century music but also to dance the steps! The workshop will be followed by a recital on some of Nancy's historic harps. Don't miss this chance to learn some new

music and have fun. Nancy's workshop, harp display and recital will take place in the Alumni Concert Hall at Carnegie Mellon University. Tickets to the events, available at the door, are \$10 per event or \$25 for the entire day for non-chapter members. For chapter members the first two events are free and \$10 for the recital.

Here is the schedule for the day:

9:30 - 11:30 am - HISTORY OF THE HARP: This presentation tells the exciting story of the harp from ancient times to the present. We'll explore the history, surviving instruments, and the people who played them. Musical examples show the fascinating variety of harps from different periods and countries.

1:00 - 3:00 pm - RENAISSANCE DANCE MUSIC WORKSHOP: Play Renaissance dances from the 16th century and dance the steps! Improvise in the renaissance style. We'll discuss sources for Renaissance music. *Participants are strongly urged to bring their own harps.*

5:00 - 6:00 pm - HARP TAPESTRY CONCERT: Historical harps include Medieval Gothic bray, Renaissance double harp, Spanish Baroque cross-strung, John Egan Irish Portable (c.1815), and single-action pedal harp. A reception will follow the concert.

Nancy is offering private lessons on May 2 at the home of Laura Lockard. To schedule a lesson email Nancy at [hurrellharp@aol.com](mailto:hurrellharp@aol.com).

### Special points of interest:

- Chapter Recital
- Nancy Hurrell Renaissance Dance Workshop
- Music Education Auditions
- Congratulations!
- Race for the Cure
- Chamber Music Camp
- Member News

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## Music Education Auditions Are A Big Success

We have completed the 2010 AHS Music Education Evaluations in Pittsburgh. All students had a positive experience and gained much by performing for our two excellent non-harpist judges, Rodrigo Ojeda and Elizabeth Heath Charles. Students participated in two separate sessions, February 13 and March 13, 2010 at Carnegie Mellon University. All harpists announced their repertoire, performed beautifully, took the theory worksheet/tests and had an opportunity to speak directly to the judges. Those who completed their performances on both sessions will receive a beautiful certificate of participation from the National American Harp Society. Congratulations to all of the following students:

**Alexis Balog, Yi-Wen Chang, Jennifer Dickey, Jessica Lu Ding, Sophia S. Lee, Sierra Pastel, Julianna D. Peebles, Rebecca C. Pfingstl, Hannah Elizabeth Piston, Dana Lee Schneider, Natalie Severson, Avery Alexander Turley and Vanessa J. Young.**

**Gretchen Van Hoesen**, the chairperson of this event, would like to thank officers and board members who helped to make these days run smoothly. Thank you to **April Howsare, Denise Ventura, Vanessa Young, Lucy Scandrett, and Becky Yuille.**

## Pittsburgh Chapter Races for the Cure



One in eight women will be diagnosed with breast cancer in her lifetime. The Susan G. Komen Pittsburgh Race for the Cure® raises money to fund education, screening and treatment programs for these women and thousands of others in our own community and supports the national search for a cure.

**JOIN THE FIGHT AGAINST BREAST CANCER TODAY! EVERY STEP COUNTS!**

To this end, and in support of our fellow chapter members who are fighting the disease, our chapter has formed a team to raise donations and participate in the race. Please join us on Mother's Day, May 9, 2010 to race for the cure. Participants may run, walk, or even sleep in for the cure, so there is no reason NOT to join!

To get more detailed information regarding the Susan G. Komen foundation or the upcoming race, go to [www.pittsburghraceforthecure.org](http://www.pittsburghraceforthecure.org). There you will find all of the information you need concerning the race, parking, shuttle buses to and from the race, and receiving race materials. To join the team or to make a donation in the team's name, go to [http://race.pittsburghraceforthecure.org/site/TR/Race/General?px=1645166&pg=personal&fr\\_id=1100](http://race.pittsburghraceforthecure.org/site/TR/Race/General?px=1645166&pg=personal&fr_id=1100). The same link works for both joining the team and making donations. If you prefer to donate or join through the mail, downloadable forms are available at [www.pittsburghraceforthecure.org/RaceDownload.html](http://www.pittsburghraceforthecure.org/RaceDownload.html). Write "American Harp Society" in the space for the team's name. Mail-in forms can be sent to Komen Pittsburgh Race for the Cure, 1133 South Braddock Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15218.

## Plains Presbyterian Church Wants Harpists

Every year, the Plains Presbyterian Church in Cranberry Township hosts a holiday concert to benefit "Treasures for Children," a program sponsored by the Salvation Army that provides Christmas gifts for needy children in the area. Last year the church raised enough money to spend \$100 on each child. For this year's concert, Allen Frederick, music director at the church, would like to create a concert with a harp ensemble consisting of chapter members as the main feature. Possible dates are November 29 and December 5. The number of harps and the choice of holiday music has been left up to the chapter.

If you are interested in performing in this year's concert, please contact **Becky Yuille** ([ryuille@zoominternet.net](mailto:ryuille@zoominternet.net)) by April 30, 2010. We are not looking for a firm commitment at this time; we just want to get an idea of how many people are interested in performing. If you missed last year's holiday concert in the PPG Wintergarden, here is your chance to do something similar. If you performed in the PPG holiday concert and can't wait to do it again, wait no longer! These concerts are well attended and very successful. This could be an excellent way to raise awareness of our chapter in the outlying community.

## Congratulations to Chapter Members

Congratulations to the following chapter members:

**Sunha Lee**, who won First Place in the 12/ Division of the Duquesne Young Artist Solo Strings Competition . She performed *Watching the Wheat* by John Thomas and *Song in the Night* by Carlos Salzedo.

**Dana Schneider**, who won 2<sup>nd</sup> place the the 18/ Division of the Duquesne Young Artist Solo Strings Competition. Dana performed *Variations on a Theme by Mozart* by Mikhail Glinka and *Sarabande and Double from Violin Sonata #2* transcribed for harp by Marcel Grandjany. Both Sunha and Dana received certificates, cash prizes, and they were both featured in the winners' recital at Duquesne University, March 6, 2010 at 2 PM.

**Chelsea Lane**, who won first prize in the Pittsburgh Philharmonic concerto competition. She will perform Pierne's *Concertstuck* on Saturday, May 22, 2010 at 7pm at the North Hills Junior High School, and again on Sunday May 23, 2010 at 3pm at Butler Community College's Succop Theater. Chelsea was also a semifinalist in the Duquesne Young Artist Concerto Competition and performed Pierne's *Concertstuck* with pianist Rodrigo Ojeda.

**Jessica Ding** and **Hannah Piston**, who competed in the solo strings division in their age bracket in the Duquesne Young Artist Concerto Competition.

**Katie Ventura**, who won first place in the Concerto competition at Roosevelt University. She performed Ravel's *Introduction and Allegro* under Stephen Squires on February 8 at Governor's State University and again on February 9 at the Harris Theater in Chicago, IL. In addition, she was accepted into both the Pacific Music Festival in Japan and the National Repertory Orchestra for the summer. She will spend nine weeks in Breckenridge, CO rehearsing and performing four concerts per week with the NRO. She will perform the *Introduction and Allegro* as a soloist with the NRO.

## Summer Music Camps

- **Gretchen Van Hoesen** will be teaching again this summer at the Chamber Music Camp held at Shadyside Academy in Fox Chapel, PA. The intensive chamber camp is designed for beginner/intermediate, intermediate and advanced level harpists of all ages. This year's camp takes place from August 8 through August 15, 2010. For specific questions contact Misha Istomin, [mistomin@comcast.net](mailto:mistomin@comcast.net). Please check the website for registration and information: <http://www.ChamberMusicPro.com/>.
- Harp in the Mountains Summer Festival 2010 from July 11 to July 17 in Coburn, PA. The Festival is a fun and intense harp experience for high school and college age students. The week-long camp, directed by **Anne Sullivan**, provides the perfect summer opportunity for students to improve their harp

I ♥  
music camp

## Help Needed with Reception on May 1

The chapter needs your help with the reception after Nancy Hurrell's concert on May 1. We are asking chapter members to bring food for the reception. We are in particular need of non-dessert items, such as pickle trays, cheese trays, dips, and other finger foods. Coolers, preferably with wheels, are needed for the beverages. Contact Laura Lockard with questions - 412-600-8894.

## For Sale

- Lyon & Healy style 85 Grand Petite pedal harp - about five years old. Oak harp cart included. Detroit area. \$12,000 or best offer. Contact Pat Eisenberger, 586-850-0590 or email [pateisen@comcast.net](mailto:pateisen@comcast.net).
- Lyon & Healy style 85 Petite pedal harp - Mahogany, 40 strings, built in 2004. Cover included. Asking price: \$8400.00. Please contact Brenda Schneider at 412-906-4467 or [bschneider@zoominternet.net](mailto:bschneider@zoominternet.net) for more information or interest in purchase.

## Member News

### General

- **Tula Ruggiero** regrets to inform everyone that her solo recital scheduled for April 18 has been cancelled.
- **Stephanie Miller** and her husband Robert recently created a music business called Music for Life of Pittsburgh, LLC. Music for Life of Pittsburgh, LLC offers a variety of musical services to complement every aspect of life. Stephanie's harp playing skills are featured not only as an entertainer, but also as a Certified Music Practitioner and as a Vibroacoustic Harp Therapy Practitioner. Robert is a Board Certified Music Therapist, a Drum Circle Facilitator and a wonderful vocalist and guitarist. Please visit [www.musicforlifepgh.com](http://www.musicforlifepgh.com) for more details.

### December 2009

- December 13 - **Debbie Stackrow** performed some Christmas songs for the residents of Sunrise Assisted Living in Cranberry Township.

### January 2010

- January 7-10 – **Heidi Van Hoesen Gorton** performed as Principal Harpist of the Hartford Symphony in works by Strauss and Theofanidis.
- January 20 – **Julia Ann Scott** performed as Principal Harpist with the Pittsburgh Symphony for the Tribute Concert at Heinz Hall, featuring trumpeter Sean Jones.
- January 29-30 – **Heidi Van Hoesen Gorton** performed as Principal Harpist of the Pittsburgh Symphony for their performance of Mahler's *Symphony #4*.

### February 2010

- February 5-6 – **Heidi Van Hoesen Gorton** performed as Principal Harpist of the Pittsburgh Symphony for their performance of Mahler's *Symphony #1*.
- February 13 – **Katie Ventura** performed second harp in a benefit concert with the New World Symphony in Miami Beach, FL.
- February 15 – **Julia Ann Scott** played various Enesco compositions with the YSU Symphony Orchestra in Youngstown, OH.
- February 19-21 – **Julia Ann Scott** performed as Principal Harp with the Pittsburgh Symphony BNY Mellon Grand Classic Series in Mason Bates' *Liquid Interface*, both in Heinz Hall and in Midlands, PA. Leonard Slatkin conducted.
- February 20 – **Heidi VanHoesen Gorton** performed *Ein Heldenleben* with the Juilliard Orchestra under James DePriest at Carnegie Hall.
- February 25-March 1 - **Julia Ann Scott** performed Principal Harp with the PSO Pops, Marvin Hamlisch conducting.

### March 2010

- March 13 – **Julia Ann Scott** performed Glazounov's *Spring* as Principal Harpist with the Westmoreland Symphony Orchestra at the Palace Theatre in Greensburg at 8 P.M., Kypros Markou conducting.
- March 14 – **Heidi Van Hoesen Gorton** repeated the recital program that she played at the opening of the Mid-Atlantic Harp Festival in Alexandria, VA at the Wawatosa Presbyterian Church in Milwaukee, WI. She performed works by Agocs, Parish Alvars, Damase, Houdy, Bach, and Krumpholtz.
- March 19-21 – **Heidi Van Hoesen Gorton** performed Berlioz's *Harold in Italy* and Holst's *The Planets* with the Pittsburgh Symphony.
- March 24-26 - **Julia Ann Scott** performed the *Finale* from Stravinsky's *Firebird* for the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra's School Time Series at Heinz Hall.
- March 27 – **Julia Ann Scott** performed Bizet's *L'Arlésienne Suite* and Vaughan-William's *Fantasy on Greensleeves* with the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra, Thomas Hong, conductor.
- March 28 – **Gretchen Van Hoesen** gave a harp masterclass at her home for current students. **Sunha Lee, Sunjoo Lee, Hannah Piston, Sierra Pastel, Yi-Wen Chang, and Vanessa Young** attended the class.

### April 2010

- **Becky Mitchell**, a junior at Franklin Regional High School, will play for the seniors at Cloverleaf Estates during their April meeting.
- April 6 – **Suzanne Hershey** performed for a Macy's Department Store luncheon at Phipps Conservatory.
- April 8 - **Julia Ann Scott** performed with Alia Musica in two new works by Mark Fromm and Fernando Garcia. Oakland's Synod Hall, 7 PM, Tickets are \$15 at the door.
- April 8 – **Heidi Van Hoesen Gorton** performed the Overture from Verdi's *La Forza del Destino* in a side by side

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concert with the Hartford Symphony.

- April 8 – **Vanessa Young** and **Natalie Severson** performed with the Carnegie Mellon Philharmonic at Carnegie Hall in Stravinsky's *Petrouchka* and Mahler's *Songs of a Wayfarer*.
- April 12 – **Heidi Van Hoesen Gorton's** flute, viola and harp trio will perform the Genzmer *Trio* at Paul Hall in the Juilliard School of Music
- April 13 – **Suzanne Hershey** will play for Carnegie Mellon and their lecturer Raymond Ryan, whose topic will be "Irish Follies in Homes." This event will take place at the home of Henry Hoffstot in Shadyside.
- April 14 – **Katie Ventura** will play Mahler's *Symphony #1* with the Chicago College of Performing Arts Orchestra at Symphony Center in Chicago, IL.
- April 17-18 – **Laura Lockard** and her husband Bill will perform music from the Revolutionary War era at the Heinz History Center throughout the day (both days) from 10am to 4pm. This event celebrates the Grand Opening of the Fort Pitt Blockhouse and Museum.
- April 18 – **Vanessa Young** will perform a practice play-through of her upcoming recital in Alumni Concert Hall, Carnegie Mellon University.
- April 18 – **Chelsea Lane** and **Dana Schneider** will perform with the Pittsburgh Youth Symphony in concert at the State Theater in Uniontown, PA. They will perform *Scottish Fantasy* by Max Bruch, *Candide Overture* by Leonard Bernstein, *Les Preludes* by Franz Liszt and Ottorino Respighi's *Pines of Rome*.
- April 24 - **Julia Ann Scott** will perform Samuel Barber's *First Symphony* as Principal Harpist with the Butler Symphony, Betsy Heath, conductor.
- April 25 – **Sunha Lee** will perform Puccini's *O Mio Babbino Caro* and Debussy's *Nocturnes* with the Three Rivers Young People's Orchestra and Symphonette.
- April 26 - **Vanessa Young** will present a solo harp recital at 8pm in Kresge Recital Hall at Carnegie Mellon University. Vanessa will perform works by Houdy, Bach, Lu, and Ginastera. This is a degree recital for completion of the Master of Music degree at Carnegie Mellon University.
- April 27 – **Katie Ventura** will play Brahms' *Vier Gesange* with the Roosevelt Women's Chorus in Ganz Hall, Roosevelt University, Chicago, IL.
- April 29 – **Vanessa Young** and **Natalie Severson** will perform at Carnegie Music Hall with the CMU Philharmonic in Stravinsky's *Symphony of Psalms* and Britten's *Sinfonia di Requiem*.

#### May 2010

- May 2 - Harpists **Chelsea Lane** and **Dana Schneider** will perform *Scottish Fantasy* by Max Bruch, *Candide Overture* by Leonard Bernstein, *Les Preludes* by Franz Liszt and Ottorino Respighi's *Pines of Rome* with the Pittsburgh Youth Symphony Orchestra under the direction of Lawrence Loh. The concert is free of charge at Heinz Hall, 4pm.
- May 4 – Masterclass in harp given by **Gretchen Van Hoesen** at her home, 5pm.
- May 9 – Studio class recital at 5:30pm at Duquesne University, PNC Recital Hall, by harp students of **Gretchen Van Hoesen**. All students of Ms. Van Hoesen will be performing a solo piece or ensemble work and a reception will follow. Members of the Pittsburgh Chapter of the AHS are cordially invited to attend this free of charge recital.
- May 13 – **Hannah Piston** will perform with the Delahunty Middle School Choir in several works for harp and chorus.
- May 20-22, 8pm & May 23, 3pm - **Heidi Van Hoesen Gorton** will perform Stravinsky's *The Firebird* with the Hartford Symphony Orchestra & Maestro Edward Cumming at Belding Theater, Hartford, CT. On May 26 at 10:30 AM, she will play Stravinsky's *The Firebird* with the Hartford Symphony Orchestra & Maestro Edward Cumming and the Enchantment Theater Company and their puppets at Mortensen Hall; Hartford, CT.

#### July 2010

- July 2 – **Heidi Van Hoesen Gorton** will present the opening recital at the 39<sup>th</sup> National Conference of the American Harp Society in the Venice Ballroom of the Hotel Murano in Tacoma, WA at 4pm.
- July 17 – **Heidi Van Hoesen Gorton** will present a solo recital at 7:30pm in Penn Alps, Windsor Hall in Cumberland, MD.

## Pittsburgh Chapter of the American Harp Society

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***We're on the Web!***

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## Happy Spring!

