Dear Friends,

The Winsor Music office (my kitchen) is usually pretty quiet during the summer, but that has not been the case lately, because this summer we had our first intern. Katie Hoyer is a senior at Smith College, a talented mezzo-soprano and a student of my dear friend Jane Bryden. I’m delighted with how much we accomplished in three months. She learned the music notation software program Sibelius, and has used it to input some of the transcriptions for oboe which we hope to publish next spring. She has updated the brochure, helped to develop the web site, written a number of grants, and improved the Winsor Music Facebook page. (If you’re a Facebook fan, please help spread the word by “liking” us.) Katie was also given the arduous task of trying to get the Artistic Director current with various computer issues!

Katie ran the Outreach Program this summer, which included singing in and organizing five concerts. We performed several Bach arias together with Megan Henderson – who directs the Outreach Program during the academic year – and were joined by Chelsea Kim, an excellent young violinist from Phillips Exeter Academy, and three students from Project STEP, Njeri Grevious, Njioma Grevious and Noah Kelly.

Over the summer, Winsor Music sent ten young performers to music schools. They are all currently students of Project STEP. Their pictures appear at left and at the bottom of the page.

Thank you so much for allowing me to go to Point Counterpoint music camp!! I had an amazing time there. I made great friends that I have continued to talk to; I have played great chamber music and had great coaches. I have learned a lot about music, and am very glad that I had the opportunity to go there. I played a Mendelssohn piano trio with a great cello part, which really helped my musical expression abilities grow. I am very grateful to you and hope that I can go to the same camp again next year! – Nkosi Grevious

Winsor Music commissioned three new works for oboe and string trio this summer. Why this combination of instruments? I feel that oboe is at its best with strings. It can blend beautifully, either in unison or at the octave. One finds a lot of such writing in the music of J. S. Bach – in fact, playing in unison with strings in a Bach aria is one of my favorite activities. The striking timbre of the oboe also enables it to stand apart from the strings, weaving in and out of the texture. Another reason for choosing this instrumentation is that it is practical. A piece for oboe and string trio is more likely to be played by other existing ensembles. It will therefore receive multiple performances, and have a long healthy life. Here is a schedule of our commissioning projects:

Eric Nathan .......... Spring, 2012
Howard Meltzer ...... Fall, 2013
Jim Primosch ....... Spring, 2014
Andy Waggoner ...... 2014/15
Andrea Pinto Correia .... 2014/15
Charlotte Bray ........ 2014/15
Winsor Music is leading a consortium with 12 other groups to commission Crossroads, a new work by John Harbison for soprano, oboe and strings. We will also be premiering two new arrangements by John on our first series concert in November: Brazil, a tango, and Thanks, Victor, a tribute to Victor Young. The program will feature Elliot Hines, a graduate student from Oberlin, and former Bach Institute participant. He will be joined by Kendra Colton and Frank Kelley in the Coffee Cantata bwv 211 by J. S. Bach. The program will also include Toccanta for oboe and harpsichord by Joan Tower. This concert is as close as Winsor Music will ever get to an evening of pops, so be sure to join us on Saturday, November 24th!

On Saturday, January 26, 2013 Winsor Music will present a Mozart Birthday Concert at Emmanuel Church. Bring a birthday cake and we will provide the coffee. The most imaginative cake will win a prize!

Our Spring concert on Saturday, April 27th will feature the premiere of Eric Nathan’s Quartet for Oboe and Strings. We will also perform the Bach Cantata bwv 12, “Weinen, Klagen, Sorgen, Zagen,” and a new transcription of a wonderful Haydn quartet. Our usual September concert will not take place this season because I will be away in the fall.

On September 6th I am leaving for India where I will be for almost two months. I am going to be working at the Taktse International School in Gangtok, Sikkim (taktse.org). The kids I will be teaching are in pre-school to grade eleven – though I suspect I will be doing most of the learning! Although this trip is a private undertaking I am hoping that in the future Winsor Music will have a lasting relationship with this school. Internet access is intermittent in Gangtok, but I hope, if time permits, to keep you all informed by writing a blog. This can be accessed by going to http://peggypearsonoboe.wordpress.com/. My trip to Sikkim is an adventure that will no doubt change my life and add a new dimension to Winsor Music.

It is your support that enables us at Winsor Music to think outside of the box and take chances. As I mature (ha!) I am looking more and more in the direction of community service. I know from your contributions that this is the most important thing that we do, and I am forever grateful to you for your loyal support and for steering me in that direction. Your continuing generosity means that Winsor Music can move ahead and expand in new directions.

Sincerely,

Peggy Pearson

2012/2013 CONCERT SEASON
Saturdays at 8:00 PM

Saturday, November 24, 2012 at Follen Church, Lexington
► J. S. Bach: Coffee Cantata, BWV 211
► Joan Tower: Toccanta for Oboe and Harpsichord
► John Harbison: Tango Seen from Ground Level
► Brazil
► Thanks, Victor

Saturday, January 26, 2013 at Emmanuel Church, Boston
► Mozart’s Birthday Celebration!

Saturday, April 27, 2013 at St. Paul’s Church, Brookline
► F. J. Haydn: Quartet Op. 74, No. 1
► Eric Nathan: Quartet for Oboe and Strings
► J. S. Bach: Cantata bwv 12
► “Weinen, Klagen, Sorgen, Zagen”