Dear Friends,

Many of you know that we had to cancel our first concert of the season – I cut my finger in an effort to make a cheese sandwich! The stitches are out now, and it seems to be healing well. We did our best to get the word out to everyone, but for those of you who showed up on October 3rd, I am extremely sorry. Sadly, we are unable to make up this concert, but we will program it again next year.

Our next program is the Young Artist concert on November 27th. It will feature Yuki Beppu (back by popular demand!) and members of the Young Women's Chorus of the Handel & Haydn Society, directed by Lisa Graham. The program will include one of the Bach organ trio sonatas arranged for oboe, violin and continuo, as well as cantatas by Bach and Stravinsky.

Outreach

With the help of William Thomas, former Artistic Director of Project STEP, we were delighted to be able to expand our scholarship program last summer. Two very generous donors made it possible to give over $5,000 to young Black and Latino students, enabling them to attend summer music camps or schools. Most of these students were from Project STEP (a String Training and Education Program for Black and Latino children which provides students with comprehensive music instruction). William and I both feel strongly that these summer music programs are a crucial part of a young student’s education. Having been fortunate enough to attend several of them myself from age 12 through 16, and having been on summer school faculties from age 16 to 25, I have both experienced and witnessed the growth that can occur with this kind of intense study. It is inspiring to be surrounded by other young people who love music, and chamber music in particular. This shared enthusiasm can be the spark that makes a lifelong difference in a young person’s life. I used to count the days until summer camp when I would be surrounded by other students as smitten as myself.

I am excited to announce that in addition to the annual Bach Birthday Celebration at Emmanuel Church, Winsor Music will collaborate with Oberlin College and Emmanuel Music in sponsoring our very first Bach Institute. This will take place for two weeks in January (the 9th through the 23rd). It will include a week of rehearsals during which vocal and instrumental students from Oberlin and the Boston area will be coached by John Harbison, Ryan Turner, Frank Kelley, **Kendra Colton** and myself. In the second week we will perform four outreach concerts in the local area and a final concert in Lindsey Chapel (Sunday, January 23 at 7:30 pm). Many thanks to Kendra Colton who is on the faculty at Oberlin and is the force behind this exciting collaboration!

The Bach Birthday Celebration is on Saturday, March 19, 2011. Selected student ensembles will participate in an afternoon master class, followed by a cantata discussion and performance of Cantata bwv 12, “Weinen, Klagen, Sorgen, Zagen,” conducted by **John Harbison**.

**Premieres**

Winsor Music has three commissioning projects that will come to fruition over the next three seasons. In the Spring we will perform Kay Rhie’s quartet for oboe and strings. The 2010 recipient of the Lili Boulanger Memorial Fund, Helen Grime, is writing a work for the following season. In addition, Winsor music is forming a consortium to commission a work from John Harbison which we will premiere in the 2012-13 season.

**I AM HAPPY TO REPORT THAT** Winsor Music is growing, in spite of hard times. I am proud of the fact that since 1996, we have premiered 22 works by 17 composers – their names form a border around this page. Collaborating on an institute as a means to spread awareness of Bach is a life-long dream of mine and I can’t tell you how happy I am to see it come to fruition. Thank you for your support – and please don’t stop! Your generous donations are a way of confirming that my goals for Winsor Music are meaningful to you. We will continue to emphasize working with young people as an essential part of our mission, and strive for a unique atmosphere in all of our performances – one of high artistic achievement combined with close contact between performers of all ages, our audience and the music. Won’t you join me?

**Gratefully,**

**Peggy Pearson**