

Dear Friends,

It has been an extremely productive season, and we have a lot to celebrate this Spring. I know it is time to write another newsletter when my summer chickadees return. Before long they will be eating out of my hand...

Outreach

In January, Winsor Music collaborated with Emmanuel Music and Oberlin College in the first **Bach Institute**. This was a two-week program that included a week of rehearsals during which vocal and instrumental students from Oberlin and the Boston area were coached by John Harbison, Ryan Turner, Kendra Colton, Frank Kelley, and myself. In the second week we performed four outreach concerts in the local area and a final concert in Lindsey Chapel. The Oberlin students were so excited by this repertoire that when they returned to school, they organized a lively, semi-staged performance of Bach's *Coffee Cantata*. Our goal is to hook young people on Bach, so I guess you could say we reeled in a few.



Winsor Music gave over twenty outreach concerts this season in local retirement communities. Four of these involved the Bach Institute members; others featured a mixture of professionals and younger students – most of whom were under 16 years of age. I truly enjoy playing with young people, and I hope to expand the Young Artists Program next season by involving more of them in the chamber series.

In early May we spent an afternoon performing at the **Mather School** in Dorchester, where my sister Anne volunteers. We played for the kindergarten students and the first graders, and we were very impressed with their attentiveness, curiosity and eagerness to participate. Our experience there has inspired us to look for a way to collaborate with a local school on a regular basis.

At the end of the month, Winsor Music will give out five scholarships to attend music programs this summer. The recipients will be young black or Latino string players, most of whom are students from Project STEP.



New Repertoire

Lev Mamuya, the charismatic 14-year-old cellist, is composing a "Song Without Words" for a memorial concert which we are presenting in Connecticut on September 11th, the tenth anniversary. We will feature this work on our first concert of the season. Lev is also being featured on WGBH, in the video "The Kid." It is about six minutes long and is posted on the Winsor Music site on Facebook.



Next Spring we will premiere a quartet for oboe and strings by **Helen Grime**, a Scottish composer and oboist who, in 2003, won a British Composer Award for her *Oboe Concerto*. She is the 2010 recipient of the Lili Boulanger Memorial Fund.

We are sponsoring a large consortium of chamber ensembles, sopranos, and oboists to commission a work from our local superstar, John Harbison. John will compose a work for soprano, oboe and strings, with a text by Louise Glück. To date, 12 participants have signed on to contribute funding, and each will give a local premiere. We plan to find 5-10 more. This is a very effective way to reach a national audience, and we are proud to be able to add a work of this scope to the oboe repertoire.

We have gone into the publishing business! By the mid-summer, our goal is to release five works for oboe that have been performed on the Chamber Series:

- ▶ Beethoven Septet, oboe part
- ▶ Haydn Quartet in D minor
- ▶ Mendelssohn Quintet in B flat
- ▶ Boccherini Quintet in D minor
- ▶ Haydn Trio in B minor

Over the years, we have performed 25 transcriptions of classical works for oboe – their titles form a border around this page.

Thank you, dear friends, for being so supportive. It is your enthusiasm that encourages me to keep coming up with new ideas, and gives me the energy to follow through with them. Don't ever stop! I am forever grateful.

Sincerely,

Peggy Pearson

SAVE THE DATES

- ▶ *Sunday, September 18, 2011 at 7:00 pm*
St. Paul's Church, Brookline
Premiere of Lev Mamuya's 9-11 piece
- ▶ *October 29, 2011*
Location TBA
Third annual Halloween concert!
- ▶ *Saturday, November 26, 2011 at 8:00 pm*
Follen Community Church, Lexington
Boston Premiere of Melinda Wagner's *Scritch*
- ▶ *Saturday, March 25, 2012 at 7:00 pm*
St. Paul's Church, Brookline
Premiere of Helen Grime's *Oboe Quartet*