



APRIL

MONDAY MUSICAL CLUB
OF PORTLAND

2025

April Newsletter

JERRE ANN AND GUS PAPPELIS, CO-PRESIDENTS

Greetings everyone!

These are very exciting times. We all enjoyed a wonderful Spring Concert at Reedwood Friends Church, completed auditions for 49 contestants at Portland State University for our awards program and announced our twelve award winners, and now we are getting ready to hold the last big fundraiser of our 120th season, which will be a “S’Wonderful Soirée” at Gray Gables Estate on May 3rd.

The Spring concert was truly fabulous! Club members and their guests enjoyed hearing the music of Mozart, Schubert, Brahms, Tchaikovsky, Joplin, and Gershwin, and if you liked Michael Allen Harrison’s sample performance on April 7th, you are going to absolutely love his big show for us on May 3rd! We need everyone to be there as proceeds from the event will help fund our awards program. We really hope to see everyone attend!

All of this of course leads up to our big award winners performance at Westminster Church on May 5th. In case you missed the announcement, the list of awardees who will perform for us can be found on our website. You should also find all the photos and bios of these 12 amazing young musicians who were selected.

WWW.PDXMMC.ORG



Grant and Patty will tell you all about the May events below but we want to take a moment to recognize everyone who supported the Spring Concert from the musicians to the Tea Committee to the generous donors who gave \$4,134 to support our awards program. Our awards program continues only with the financial support of our club members, our friends, and those in the community who love music! Thank you for your time and generosity!

GRANT PORTER, VICE PRESIDENT AND AWARDS CHAIRMAN

Our awards program hit a high point this year with amazing results following our masterclass series which concluded on March 29th with soprano Madeline Ross and pianist Claire Forstman providing expert coaching to prepare our award contestants for their upcoming auditions.



Our Award Auditions on April 12th and 13th ran smoothly with great support from our team of club members. They guided the 49 contestants and their families throughout Lincoln Hall to make sure they were all at the right place, at the right time. Our highly skilled team of judges was rightly impressed with the amazing talent and provided excellent adjudication.



Left to right: Peter Frajola (Instrumental), Dr. Barbara Roberts (Piano), and Dr. Esteban Zúñiga Calderon (Voice).



Kristen Kim
Phillips Award Winner



Nikita Istratov
Colliver Award Winner



Jonathan Derby
LaFord Award Winner

Our May 5th Awards performance: You are sure to witness phenomenal talent from the best of the best. Check our website to see all 12 winners photos and bios to get to know them all. They have a great program lined up for you and we will honor their accomplishments with \$16,500 in award money. This would not be possible without the generosity of our donors.

Our Donors: While all of our donors are too numerous to mention, we make a point of acknowledging those who support our “named” awards, Our top three \$2,000 grand prize awards are funded by the following individuals:

- Janice Phillips donates in memory of her parents for the 1st place instrumental award. This year’s Phillips award winner is 15 year old cellist Kristen Kim, who will celebrate her 16th Birthday while performing on May 5th!
- The Colliver award provides for our 1st place piano award; which goes to Nikita Istratov for the best piano performance.
- Bonnie LaFord donates to support the 1st place voice award that goes to Jonathan Derby for the best vocal performance.

We also have two \$1,000 named awards:

- The 2nd annual Susan Patzakis memorial award for outstanding vocal excellence this year goes to Isabel Pichler. We thank Dr. Michael Patzakis for donating in the memory of his late wife, Susan Patzakis.
- Bonnie LaFord is also supporting an exciting new voice award with \$1,000 for the best non-classical performance; which goes to Minntah Haefker. Minntah recently performed with Pink Martini in Astoria and won this year with her performance of their song “Amado Mio” sung in Thai!

If you would like to create an award in your name or as a memorial for someone else, please consider making a donation this year for a named award, either on a one-time or a continual basis. If you feel the time is right to consider donating as part of your estate planning, it may be a good way to continue your legacy and support of Monday Musical Club in the future.



Patty Cavanaugh, Ways and Means Chair

As successful as our April concert was, we still need to raise more money to help fund the \$16,500 that we will be awarding to the young musicians you will hear on May 5th at our Awards Tea.

Our upcoming Benefit Concert, S'Wonderful Soirée, on Saturday, May 3rd is designed to help get us the rest of the way to our goal. Please share the attached flyer and event information with your friends, family and business acquaintances. We are reaching out to the greater Portland community and hope to gain a larger audience of people who enjoy Michael Allen Harrison's music and believe in helping young people achieve their musical dreams. So far, we have only sold 34 tickets (as of April 19th). We need to sell 75 tickets to break even and our goal is 125, so we really need to rev up our publicity machine!

The easiest way to buy a ticket is to go to our website and click on the event flyer image and it will take you to the Ticket Tomato website. If you prefer, you can also call Ticket Tomato at 1-800-820-9884 Monday through Friday from 10 AM to 5 PM and buy it over the phone. They will mail you your tickets if you ask. Otherwise you will receive them in your email. However you get your tickets, please do it today so we can put together a headcount and know where we are for our budget.

If you are unable to attend, please consider making a donation so we don't have to fund the awards from our capital reserve account. Any amount, no matter how small, is truly appreciated!

Also, I will be organizing a carpool to help those of you who no longer drive. Please contact me by texting or calling 971-645-6322 and give me your name, address, and how many people need a ride. If the cost is an issue for you, please let me know. There is an outside chance that some extra tickets may be subsidized by generous members. There's no promise of that, but if the opportunity materializes, I will let anyone know who needs support.

For those of you who haven't been there yet, Gray Gables is a charming and elegant venue. They are renowned for their delicious food and great customer service. We all know how wonderful the music will be after hearing Michael Allen Harrison play so beautifully on April 7th for our Spring Concert. We firmly believe this will be a great event, but we need your participation so, please come join us!!



Cynthia Marberry, 2025-26 Nominating Committee Chair

LEADERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES AND FUN WITH FRIENDS OFFERED! YOUR NOMINATING COMMITTEE WANTS YOU!

Club members Janette Barbour, Patty Cavanaugh, Cynthia Marberry, Ardith Stensland, and Teryl Williams will meet on Monday, April 21st to begin development of a 2025-2026 slate of leaders for our organization. Don't be surprised if you are called and asked to serve. Consider it a compliment that your committee, all of whom have served MMC in leadership capacities, thinks you are qualified to carry on the mission of our club.

A slate of nominees will be published in the May newsletter and election of officers will take place at our General Meeting and Luncheon on June 9th. Elected officers include: President, Vice President, Treasurer, Recording Secretary, Financial Secretary, and Corresponding Secretary. Our club directory (the red book) contains brief descriptions of these offices on page 27 and 28. As new officers, you will have the support, encouragement, and gratitude of all of us who have served in the past.

Committee members welcome your questions. Contact any one of us at phone numbers and emails listed in your red directory.

Teryl Williams, Membership Chair

Recruiting New Members!

Now is the time to invite your friends to join Monday Musical Club. Perhaps they attended the Spring Concert on April 7th. Maybe you've invited them to join you at the S'Wonderful Soiree on May 3rd. Let them know that their dues paid now will cover membership until July 2026. Don't wait until fall to join, because I hear there may be other upcoming events to attend this summer. Don't miss out!



MUSIC ABOUT TOWN MMC RECOMMENDATIONS

In case you are looking for musical events to attend, aside from your wonderful Monday Musical Club productions, here are some partner events to see:

- **The Oregon Symphony** wants you to join them for a free one-hour Celebration Concert on April 26th at 6pm with Thomas Lauderdale and friends at the Arlene Schnitzer Concert Hall. Check their website for details.

- **Portland State University** presents two Puccini one-act operas:



Portland State's Spring Opera program is a double bill of two one-act operas by Puccini performed together: *Suor Angelica* is haunting and beautiful, and *Gianni Schicchi* is full of laughter and satire.

MMC 2025 Voice Award winner, Laurien Zahn is playing the part of Lauretta in *Gianni Schicchi* on the 19th and the 26th, as well as 1st Tourière in *Suor Angelica*. She will be singing the famous aria, "O Mio Babbino Caro."

See their website for dates and times and go enjoy these well-trained young singers!

. Portland State's Piano department invites you to attend two free events in Lincoln Recital Hall (LH75):

The first is a Masterclass with Dr. Hana Lim from George Fox University on April 25th, from 10 am-12 pm.

Then enjoy a free concert program that will showcase PSU piano students performing a variety of solo works, and a special viola and piano duo at the Piano Area Noon Concert on May 1st at 12 pm.



- **MENDELSSOHN'S** features mostly live classical music but also jazz. They are connected to “Bar Bar” nearby where you’ll find delicious grass-fed beef Cheeseburgers for only \$10 (!) and some great cocktail specials. Here are some highlights from 'Mendelssohn's April schedule from 8 pm to late:
 - April 22nd: Musical Theater Karaoke with Adam John Roper and Colin Shepard
 - April 23rd and April 29th: Resident Artists Katherine Goforth, Ben Landsverk and Claire Forstman. (See Claire before she moves to Seattle!)
 - May 3rd: Musical Theater Karaoke.

- **RENEGADE OPERA**

Come celebrate with us as we embark on our 5th Season!

Renegade Opera presents Renegala 2025 and Bird Songs of Opera

**Executive Director:
Madeline Ross**

RENEGADE OPERA

You are invited to the Grand Library & Birds-Eye View Conservatory at The Heathman Hotel for

RENEGALA 2025

Hot Goss

Sweets, serenades & secrets!
Listen closely to get the inside scoop...

**April 25 at 7pm
The Heathman Hotel**

BIRD
Songs of Opera
is back!

**June 14 & 15
Leach Botanical Garden**
**June 27
Raptor Ridge Winery**

Tickets and information at www.renegadeopera.org

Your ticket to “Hot Goss” at the Heathman Hotel in the Grand Library on April 25th includes food bites and drinks, silent auction, raffles, photo booth, preview performances of next reason's operas throughout the evening, and some interactive performance areas. Tickets are only \$80 for individual tickets! For those who are willing to contribute more, there is a Sponsorship Circle Table for 4 people at \$1000. For more information, please visit their website.