



JANUARY

**MONDAY MUSICAL CLUB
OF PORTLAND**

2026

WELCOME TO OUR

Monthly Newsletter for January 2026

JOE MCDONALD, PRESIDENT

HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL OUR WONDERFUL MEMBERS. HERE'S HOPING YOU ARE WELL AND THAT YOU ENJOYED THE HOLIDAYS!

ON MONDAY JANUARY 5 WE WERE FORTUNATE TO HAVE THE PORTLAND OPERA AT OUR TEA. WE HAD GINA ADORNO, SOPRANO AND ANTHONY NGUYEN, TENOR, ACCOMPANIED BY GYAN SINGH MARIA, PIANIST PERFORMING SEVERAL PIECES FROM *LABOHEME*, AND THEY WERE TERRIFIC.

BELOW YOU WILL SEE SOME OF THE PICTURES TAKEN AT THE EVENT. TO SEE THE REST OF THEM, PLEASE LOG ON TO OUR WEBSITE, PDXMMC.ORG OR ON OUR FACEBOOK PAGE.

AS YOU MAY HAVE HEARD, WE DECIDED TO PUT THE AWARDS PROGRAM ON A ONE-YEAR HIATUS. A CONDENSED VERSION OF THE LETTER I SENT OUT IS ON THE NEXT PAGE. ALTHOUGH IT WAS A DIFFICULT DECISION, I AM GLAD THAT WE WERE ABLE TO ADDRESS IT THIS EARLY AND COMMUNICATE THE DECISION TO NOT KEEP POTENTIAL APPLICANTS WAITING. THERE WERE SOME INQUIRIES, SO WE WERE ABLE TO LET THEM KNOW. ALSO, I WANT TO STRESS SOMETHING ABOUT THE AWARDS DONATIONS WE HAVE RECEIVED THUS FAR. YOUR BOARD AGREED TO SEQUESTER THOSE FUNDS INTO A SEPARATE ACCOUNT (A NEW SAVINGS ACCOUNT AT KEYBANK) SO THAT WE CAN SAVE THEM FOR NEXT YEAR. PLEASE KNOW THAT WE INTEND TO HONOR THE WISHES OF ALL WHO DONATE TO THE AWARDS PROGRAM. I AM CONFIDENT THAT BERNADETTE ARNOLD AND HER COMMITTEE WILL DEVELOP AN EXCELLENT PROGRAM FOR NEXT YEAR!



DEAR MEMBERS OF MONDAY MUSICAL CLUB OF PORTLAND

AFTER MUCH DELIBERATION AND DISCUSSION, YOUR BOARD HAS DETERMINED THAT THERE IS INSUFFICIENT TIME AND VOLUNTEER RESOURCES AVAILABLE TO PUT ON A MUSICAL AWARDS PROGRAM THIS YEAR ...

THERE ARE SEVERAL SIGNIFICANT STEPS WE NEED TO TAKE BECAUSE OF THIS DECISION, BUT WE FELT THE VERY FIRST WAS TO INFORM YOU, OUR MEMBERS.

WE ARE UNDERTAKING THE DIFFICULT TASK OF COMMUNICATING THIS NEWS TO VARIOUS OTHER ORGANIZATIONS AND OUTLETS, PLUS WE HAVE MADE THE DETERMINATION THAT WE WILL SEQUESTER ALL FUNDS RECEIVED THIS YEAR THAT ARE DESIGNATED FOR THE AWARDS PROGRAM... THOSE FUNDS WILL NOT BE USED FOR THE OPERATING FUNDS OF THE CLUB.

FOR THE REMAINDER OF THIS FISCAL YEAR, WE WILL STILL HAVE THE TEAS THAT ARE SCHEDULED AND THE ANNUAL MEETING IN JUNE. THE SPRING CONCERT SCHEDULED FOR MONDAY APRIL 6 AT REEDWOOD FRIENDS CHURCH IS ON AS SCHEDULED. ADDITIONALLY, YOUR PROGRAM CHAIR, BERNADETTE ARNOLD, IS WORKING ON A SPECIAL SET OF PERFORMANCES FOR MAY 4, THE ORIGINAL DATE FOR THE AWARDS PROGRAM.

I AM PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE THAT I HAVE APPOINTED BERNADETTE ARNOLD AS THE NEW AWARDS CHAIR,,, I THANK BERNADETTE FOR UNDERTAKING THIS IMPORTANT TASK.

PLEASE BE ASSURED THAT WE, YOUR BOARD, ARE 100% COMMITTED TO DOING WHAT IS BEST FOR THE CLUB. WE KNOW HOW IMPORTANT IT IS TO YOU AND THE COMMUNITY.

PLEASE FEEL FREE TO CONTACT ME, JOE MCDONALD, OR ANY OTHER MEMBERS OF THE BOARD FOR FURTHER INFORMATION.

THANK YOU,

JOE MCDONALD



UPCOMING EVENTS

ON FEBRUARY 2 (OUR VALENTINES TEA) WE WILL HAVE THE METROPOLITAN YOUTH SYMPHONY PERFORMING DIMITRI SHOSTAKOVICH – CHAMBER SYMPHONY.

THEN ON MARCH 2 WE WILL HAVE OUR ANNUAL POT OF GOLD TEA WITH PERFORMANCES FROM THE COMMUNITY MUSIC CENTER.

ON APRIL 6 WE WILL HAVE OUR SPRING CONCERT AT REEDWOOD FRIENDS CHURCH. THIS IS ALWAYS SUCH A FUN EVENT, AND WE LOOK FORWARD TO ANOTHER GREAT TIME TOGETHER WITH MUCH WONDERFUL MUSIC PRESENTED. THE ‘CAST’ IS UNDER DEVELOPMENT. LOOK FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THEM SOON.

YOUR PROGRAMS CHAIR BERNADETTE ARNOLD IS PLANNING SOMETHING SPECIAL FOR THE NORMAL AWARDS PROGRAM EVENT ON MAY 4. PLEASE STAY TUNED – SHE HAS SUCH GREAT IDEAS, AND I AM PERSONALLY LOOKING FORWARD TO WHAT SHE COMES UP WITH. HER PRELIMINARY HINTS SOUND WONDERFUL.



**PATTY CAVANAUGH, VICE PRESIDENT,
WAYS AND MEANS CHAIR**

THE VALENTINES TEA IS ONE OF MY FAVORITE TEAS OF THE YEAR! WE WILL HAVE THE METROPOLITAN YOUTH SYMPHONY (MYS) PERFORMING FOR US, AND THEIR PROGRAM IS ALWAYS SPIRITED AND UPLIFTING! THEY USUALLY BRING ABOUT 16 TALENTED PERFORMERS, PLUS THEIR DYNAMIC MUSIC DIRECTOR, RAÚL GÓMEZ-ROJAS.

I AM PLANNING A RAFFLE OF SEVERAL ITEMS FOR THIS TEA: TICKETS TO AN MYS CONCERT, A VALENTINE'S BASKET THAT INCLUDES DELICIOUS CHOCOLATE TRUFFLES, AND ANOTHER ONE THAT INCLUDES SPARKLING BRUT ROSÉ CAVA FROM SPAIN.

YOU MIGHT ASK, WHY ARE YOU TRYING TO RAISE MONEY WHEN WE'VE CANCELED THE AWARDS PROGRAM FOR THIS YEAR? MANY OF YOU MAY NOT KNOW THIS, BUT OUR MINIMUM \$50 MEMBERSHIP DUES DO NOT COVER OUR FULL ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES. IN ADDITION, IF YOU'D LIKE TO CONTINUE CONTRIBUTING TO OUR AWARDS PROGRAM, WE HAVE SET UP A SPECIAL SAVINGS ACCOUNT THAT WILL BE ADDED TO NEXT YEAR'S CONTRIBUTIONS. SO, WHEN YOU ENTER FOR THE TEA ON FEBRUARY 2ND, PLEASE CONSIDER PUTTING IN A DONATION OR BUYING RAFFLE TICKETS TO HELP MMC DEFRAID ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS OR BUILD TOWARDS A BIGGER AWARDS FUND FOR NEXT YEAR.

**THANK YOU SO MUCH,
PATTY**



FROM OUR TEA COORDINATOR, APRIL AVERY

GREETINGS AND BLESSINGS DEAR MUSIC LOVERS.

JUST A FEW WORDS FROM YOUR MMC TEA HOST CHAIR. WE WELCOME YOU TO BE PART OF OUR ROTATING TEAM, SHARING IN THE OPPORTUNITY TO PROVIDE AND SERVE REFRESHMENT AT OUR MONTHLY TEAS. PLEASE CONTACT ME IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN PARTICIPATING WITH US. THANK YOU, IN THE SPIRIT OF MUSICAL HEALING AND WELL-BEING. APRIL AVERY (SEE DIRECTORY FOR CONTACT INFO).



**MUSINGS FROM A MEMBER
BY
CYNTHIA MARBERRY**

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO MY DEAR FRIEND, KAYLENE HELGERSON, BROUGHT ME INTO MONDAY MUSICAL CLUB THROUGH THE “BACK DOOR”, SO-TO-SPEAK, WITH AN INVITATION TO MMC’S WEEKLY CHORAL MUSIC PRACTICE. KAYLENE SANG SECOND SOPRANO IN THE MMC CHORUS, A FORTY MEMBER GROUP AT THE TIME. SINCE I WAS AN ALTO, I NEEDED TO SIT WITH THE ALTOS AND LUCKILY WAS SEATED RIGHT NEXT TO BEV OWEN, WHO GREETED ME WARMLY AND PUT ME AT EASE. FOLLOWING PRACTICE, KAYLENE ASKED ME IF I HAD ENJOYED MYSELF AND WANTED TO COME BACK. OF COURSE I HAD AND TOLD HER SO! SHE THEN INFORMED ME THAT THERE WAS A CATCH – I NEEDED TO BECOME A MEMBER, AND THAT WAS THE BEGINNING OF MY HISTORY WITH MONDAY MUSICAL CLUB.

THE CHORUS WAS AN INTEGRAL PART OF THE CLUB THEN, PRESENTING AUTUMN AND CHRISTMAS PROGRAMS AS WELL AS SPRINGTIME AND EASTER THEMED PERFORMANCES. THE CHORUS WAS LED BY JESSE FOSTER, A NOTED PORTLAND AREA CHORAL DIRECTOR. SOME OF OUR CHORUS MEMBERS HAD SUNG IN HIS HIGH-SCHOOL CHOIRS. WE ENTERTAINED AT RETIREMENT COMMUNITIES AND NURSING FACILITIES, WERE FEATURED PERFORMERS AT MMC’S FALL SAMPLER AND SPRING EVENT, AND SANG OCCASIONALLY FOR THE MMC CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON AND JUNE GENERAL MEETING AND LUNCHEON. OH! AND I MUST TELL YOU, WE WORE CHOIR “OUTFITS” – WHITE TOPS, BLACK LONG SKIRTS OR SLACKS, AND A COLORFUL TIE TO MATCH THE SEASON.



OUR JANUARY TEA PHOTOS





KAYLENE MADE SURE THAT MY INVOLVEMENT WITH MONDAY MUSICAL CLUB DIDN'T STOP WITH THE CHOIR. SHE ASKED THAT I SERVE AS A TEA HELPER. AT THE TIME, THE MONTHLY TEAS WERE THE RESPONSIBILITY OF EIGHT DIRECTORS, OF WHICH KAYLENE WAS ONE, THAT SERVED ON THE MONDAY MUSICAL CLUB BOARD. THE DIRECTOR FOR THE MONTH WOULD ASK AT LEAST FOUR MEMBERS TO SERVE AS HOSTESSES AT THE MONTHLY TEA. I COULDN'T SAY NO TO MY FRIEND AND I HAVE SERVED IN ONE CAPACITY OR ANOTHER, EVER SINCE.

WHEN I JOINED, I WAS FRESHLY RETIRED WITH A GREAT LOVE OF MUSIC. BESIDES MY VOICE IN THE CHOIR, I COULD ALSO CONTRIBUTE MY BACKGROUND IN NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS AND VALUABLE WORK-LIFE SKILLS. AND SO I DID, BUT WHAT I FOUND WAS THIS. THE CLUB HAS GIVEN ME AS MUCH, IF NOT MORE, IN RETURN - WONDERFUL MUSIC, BEAUTIFUL FRIENDSHIPS, MEMORABLE EVENTS, AND A SPECIAL SENSE OF COMMUNITY.

IT IS MY HOPE THAT ALL MEMBERS OF MONDAY MUSICAL CLUB HAVE THE SAME GREAT EXPERIENCE THAT I HAVE HAD AND THAT YOU, TOO, WILL SHARE YOUR MMC STORY IN AN ISSUE OF OUR NEWSLETTER. I'M CERTAIN WE'D ALL LOVE TO HEAR IT!