

The Bellingham Music Club  
April 1, 2009  
10:30 a.m.  
Faith Lutheran Church



The Newsletter of the Bellingham Music Club  
Dorothy Wachter, Editor Emerita

## TODAY'S ARTISTS

Presented by Carolyn Wilhite

Winners of the  
WWU Music Awards

**First Place (\$500): Kristina Stankovic, Piano**

**Second Place (\$300): Deborah Blakesly, Mezzo-soprano**

**Third Place (\$200): Aidrien Wilkins, Guitar**

### *Opening Notes*

Once again, we are privileged to showcase three outstanding Music majors from Western; may their careers follow in the path of our many earlier recipients! (It seems that we have quite a knack for finding stars.) We are immensely grateful to Carolyn Wilhite for organizing the auditions and Glenda Williams for adjudicating. Enjoy!

Join us on May 6  
at 10:30 to hear the  
recipients of the  
Nicholas Bussard H.S.  
Instrumental Awards  
and the  
Lena Montgomery H.S.  
Vocal Awards

**In March** the aptly named **Zephyr Winds** quartet brought us a mini-festival of 20th century Parisian chamber music (effervescent, with a twist of lemon). Aside from a sweetly retro charmer by Bozza, the prevailing tone was piquant, acerbic and concise, the intent being not to elaborate but to distill. Oh-so-professional artistry brought out fractured stained-glass colors, impeccable draftsmanship and kooky charm, the very qualities of Picasso's "Three Musicians."

**Auditions were held last Saturday** for the Nicholas Bussard and the Lena Montgomery High School Awards. Coordinators John Reay and Frank DeFreytas welcomed a record 31 enthusiastic participants who dazzled parents, friends and several BMC members. You too will be impressed by their talent in May.

Once in a great while Bellingham gets to experience a live performance of some work whose vast scope and complexity would normally put it out of bounds for local performance—Bach's *St. Matthew Passion*, say, or the Berlioz *Requiem*. Such an opportunity will come our way on **Saturday evening, April 25 at 7:30 p.m., when the WSO presents Mahler's "Resurrection" Symphony at the Mount Baker Theatre.** This work offers a Cinema preview of the Apocalypse and the Rapture. On hand will enough choristers to storm the Bastille, augmented by a platoon of brasses and percussion. The score calls for the basses to sit on a contra-b-flat, a fifth below Sarastro's bottom note. Vast as it is, the "Resurrection" is but the second in a four symphony cycle, the counter part of Wagner's tremendous operatic *Ring*. Mahler's equally stupendous achievement has been fully appreciated only in our own time, thanks to the zeal of podium giants like Leonard Bernstein and Bruno Walter. In the words of the Angel—Mahler's words—"Prepare to live!"

### *From the Board*

**We offer our sincere condolences** to Beth Sizer whose husband, Dan, passed away recently. **We thank** the many of you who contributed close to \$400 to the **Awards Fund** in memory of Evelyn Wellman Von Bargen; she must be feeling "like a million bucks!"

The Bellingham Music Club  
P.O. Box 193  
Bellingham, WA 98227



*Organist Extraordinaire  
Nathan Avakian  
Returns to Bellingham*

The Mount Baker Theater Organ Society has invited this wunderkind to perform on **Sunday, April 5, at 2 pm at the MBT**. A 17 year-old junior at the Arts and Communication Magnet Academy in Beaverton, OR, Nathan has a passion for musical theatre, theatrical light design and video production. He first fell in love with the theatre organ at the Portland Organ Grinder restaurant and has studied organ with Donna Parker for five years. His goal is to showcase the versatility of the theatre organ by playing music from a diverse variety of eras and styles. **Nathan is one of the up-and-coming bright stars in the theatre organ world.** Presently preparing for the American Theatre Organ Society's Young Organist Competition in Cleveland this July, Nathan is set to wow 'em! He'll wow you too! Suggested donation \$10, free under 18.



*Viola and Piano Recital*

**Violist Jeremy Berry and pianist Tanya Gabrielian** will perform works by Bach, Schubert, Panderecki and Hindemith in a recital at **Christ the Servant Lutheran Church on Lakeway, April 18<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 pm.**

Jeremy is a 2004 graduate of Sehome High School and a 2008 graduate of the Juilliard School in New York. He is currently in graduate school in Los Angeles at the Colburn School. **You may remember him as a three-time 1<sup>st</sup> place recipient of the Nicholas Bussard Award.** Jeremy has performed throughout Central and South America with the Youth Orchestra of the Americas and is a long time member of the Perlman Music Program on Long Island. In May, Jeremy has been invited to Tokyo as one of 40 violists worldwide, to participate in the Tokyo International Viola Competition.

**Tanya Gabrielian**, also a graduate student at the Colburn School, received both her Bachelor's and Master's degrees from the Royal Academy of Music in London. She was the 1<sup>st</sup> place winner of the 2004 Scottish International Piano Competition and the 2003 Aram Khachaturyan International Piano Competition. She has performed in renowned concert halls throughout North America, Europe and Asia.

**Don't miss this exciting opportunity to hear soon-to-be world-famous musicians!**



*Our mission is "to foster and encourage the growth and development of musical appreciation and performance in the community."  
We are a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization and your donations are tax deductible. See any Board member for details.*

*Music Festivals*

You can participate in a fantastic choral experience this coming summer; the **Bellingham Festival of Music** is calling for chorus members to sing **Brahms' German Requiem** which Maestro Michael Palmer will conduct on Saturday, July 11. **Auditions will be held on April 18<sup>th</sup> at Christ the Servant Lutheran Church;** to arrange for your audition time, please contact Susan Johnson at 738-9399 or [susank\\_johnson@hotmail.com](mailto:susank_johnson@hotmail.com).

**The Bellingham Festival of Music's most important fundraiser, "A Night in Tuscany,"** is taking place on **Friday, April 24 at the Best Western Lakeway Inn.** It's an evening guaranteed to be fun where you will enjoy hors d'oeuvres, dinner and wine, and live music, as well as both live and silent auctions. Tickets are \$100 per person. For details, visit [www.bellinghamfestival.org](http://www.bellinghamfestival.org).

**2009 is also the year of Laulupidu**, the every-five-year song festival in Estonia where 30,000 people gather on stage and sing in perfect harmony. It was the 2004 festival that was filmed for **The Singing Revolution**. Astellaria Travel Agency is hosting two tours of Estonia that include attendance at the song festival. Miss it this year, and you have to wait until 2014! **"The Estonian Song Festival Tour of Estonia"** runs from June 27-July 6, and **"The Singing Revolution Tour of Estonia"** runs from July 2-9. Go to Astellaria's website to learn more about the tour: [www.song-festival.astellaria.ee](http://www.song-festival.astellaria.ee). You can also visit the official website of the song festival to learn more about this amazing cultural event – and the cornerstone of a nation's freedom: <http://www.laulupidu.ee/eng>. If you register for a trip, mention that you heard about it in an e-mail from the filmmakers! (Astellaria will make a donation to help with the film distribution.)

*Poets Invited to Submit their Best Work*

**The 4th annual Sue C. Boynton Poetry Contest** invites single-poem submissions from Whatcom County residents of all ages and experience. Submissions will be accepted until April 15, 2009. An awards ceremony will be held at the Whatcom Museum on May 13 and winning poems displayed for a year on the downtown Bellingham Poetry Walk (in front of the Library) and on WTA buses.

**Sue Boynton, the mother of Ethel Crook (past BMC president and co-founder of the Whatcom Symphony),** was a poet and community leader in early Bellingham. Complete submission guidelines are available online at [whatcomcf.org](http://whatcomcf.org), [whatcompoetryseries.org](http://whatcompoetryseries.org) and [www.alliedarts.org](http://www.alliedarts.org).

# *The Bellingham Music Club*

presents the recipients of the  
**Western Washington University  
Music Awards**

Preludios Americanos—3 campo	Abel Carlevaro (1916-2001)
Elegy	Johann Kaspar Mertz (1806-1856)
Una Limosna por el Amor de Dios	Agustín Barrios-Magoré (1885-1944)

**Aidrien Wilkins, Guitar  
Third Prize**

Stride la vampa! ( <i>Il Trovatore</i> )	Giuseppe Verdi (1813-1903)
Hurr hopp hopp hopp ( <i>Hansel and Gretel</i> )	Engelbert Humperdinck (1854-1921)
Lullaby ( <i>The Consul</i> )	Gian Carlo Menotti (1911-2007)

**Deborah Blakesly, Mezzo-soprano  
Second Prize**

Fantasy in F# minor (“Scottish Sonata”), Op. 28 2. Allegro con moto 3. Presto	Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847)
L’isle joyeuse, L. 106	Claude Debussy (1860-1918)

**Kristina Stankovic, Piano  
First Prize**

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## The Winners

**Aidrien Wilkins** began studying classical guitar with David Feingold at WWU in 2005. Currently a senior at Western, he had the opportunity to work with such well known guitarists as Eduardo Fernandes, Adam Holzman and Paul Grove. In addition to his coursework, Adrien works as a recording engineer in the Performing Arts Center and teaches at Harris Music in Bellingham.

**Deborah Blakesly** is a junior majoring in opera performance. As a alumnae of Whatcom Middle School and Bellingham High School, she credits the Bellingham School District music programs for her music foundation. Deborah was recently seen as the Witch in the Whatcom Symphony production of *Hansel and Gretel*, Mama McCourt in *The Ballad of Baby Doe* at WWU as well as a number of community shows over the past twenty-five years. She's honored to be a Bellingham Music Club award recipient.

**Kristina Stankovic (Anni)** began playing the piano when she was six, considering it nothing more than a fun pastime. She started to take piano lessons seriously during her senior year in high school and decided to pursue music studies with Jeffrey Gilliam at WWU. As a freshman, she won the WWU Concerto Competition and performed Prokofiev's Third Piano Concerto with the University Symphony. During her three years at Western, Kristina has been awarded the Ford Hill, the Arthur Hicks, and the William Sanford Piano Scholarships; last fall, she was also a winner at the State MTNA competition.