

## MAY NEWSLETTER



By Grant Porter

## Upcoming Events

*Through 2020*

**August 22nd:** Scholarship Auditions, Portland State University. *Attendance will be limited due to social distancing restrictions.*

**September 14th:** Annual Business Meeting and Election of Officers. Options include mail/email voting and an assembly by way of video-conference, (VTC) if needed.

**October 5th:** October Tea.

**October 25th:** Memorial Scholarship Performance, location to follow.

**November 2nd:** November Tea.

**December 7th:** Holiday Luncheon, location to follow.

*All events are tentatively being scheduled at Holladay Park Plaza unless otherwise noted. In the event of continued social distancing restrictions, our events may take place by VTC or rescheduled.*

**Video-teleconferencing:** All you need is a phone or computer. If you would like to learn how to participate in our VTC sessions, using the "Zoom" app but need more information or help using Zoom, please contact Jan Petersen by email at [jmpknt@msn.com](mailto:jmpknt@msn.com) or by phone at 503-646-3928.

## Happy May everyone!

I hope everyone is healthy, well and able to get out and enjoy the nice spring weather, with all the beautiful sunshine and flowers emerging everywhere.



Monday Musical Club members continue to work hard and enjoy meeting together. Our board meetings have remained on schedule throughout the pandemic by having video-teleconference meetings. Everyone is encouraged to attend.

We are all missing our gatherings and the great performances we've had at Holladay Park Plaza.

At the same time, we are needed now more than ever by the local organizations and musicians we support. I'm sure everyone is well aware of the many canceled performances and difficulties facing local musicians. We all hope for a return to normal but there are many challenges ahead. We are going to meet these challenges by doing all we can to support classical music in Portland and we need everyone to help. Next season will depend on the old adage "It's better to give than to receive" so thanks for your continued support!

A big thanks goes out to all of our current board members for agreeing to remain in place until our annual business meeting and election of officers can take place. The event has been rescheduled to September 14th. While Holladay Park remains closed to visitors, we have submitted a list of tentative dates for all meetings and will adjust as needed.

## Money Matters

MMC witnessed a 50% loss of annual funding in 2020 compared to 2019 due to the cancellation of the Duo-Piano concert and the decline in the stock market.

Fundraising ideas include adding a donation button to our website and encouraging private fundraisers on Facebook. MMC is listed as a non-profit on Facebook. I have done it twice already and it's a great cause.

Did you know you can deduct your donations to MMC as a non-profit on your tax returns? Also, please take a minute to look into the Oregon Cultural Trust website to learn about receiving tax credits. Their FAQ page provides information on how you can use your tax dollars to benefit non-profits such as ours: <https://culturaltrust.org/resources/faq/>.

"The Oregon Cultural Trust tax credit is a unique way for the state to fund cultural activities in the state into perpetuity. To qualify, you need to first make a donation to one or more of the 1400+ nonprofits on our list." (MMC is on their list). "Then make a matching gift to the Oregon Cultural Trust on our website or via mail. Oregonians who pay state income tax will get the credit back – dollar for dollar – on their tax return. It costs them nothing. A tax credit reduces what you owe the State of Oregon. It's a much greater savings than a deduction, which only reduces the income on which you are taxed."

## What's Happening

*Our Nominating Committee*, led by Cynthia Marberry, is off to a great start and has already identified a nearly full slate of officers this month. Officers and directors nominated to serve in 2020-21 include the President (myself), the Vice-President, Gyrid Hyde-Towel; Treasurer, Lynda Wendel; Financial Secretary, Jan Petersen; Corresponding Secretary, Janette Barbour as well as April Avery, Connie Gillespie, Florence Lersch, Glennis Lundberg, Beverly Owen, Jane Rabe and Dee Schiavone to serve as Directors. Thanks to everyone for volunteering! There are still two positions to include the Recording Secretary and a Director position that need to be filled. All positions remain open for additional nominations. Contact Cynthia Marberry for more information at 503-739-0578 or [cindynloren@gmail.com](mailto:cindynloren@gmail.com)

### *Scholarship Update:*

As expected with the change of audition and performance dates, we have had a few applicants withdraw, mostly seniors who are going off to school. Some are unsure if their schools will start as scheduled, so I have offered to place them on a standby list just in case. All prior stand-by applicants are being offered a seat. We received a generous offer from Portland State to hold our audition in their Lincoln Hall auditorium at no cost so we are moving forward with minimum attendance at the audition on August 22nd.

### *Member News:*

I am very sad to announce that Judy Babcock passed away after a long bout with cancer. She served as our Recording Secretary this year, sang in the choir and performed with the duo piano group. She was well loved by her family and had many followers across the country. Please contact me for additional information. "Club members are encouraged to contribute to the Memorial Scholarship Fund as a way to honor friends and loved ones" as stated on page 2 of the directory if you would like to honor Judy with a donation.

New member: My brother Ralph Porter became our newest member in April. Ralph has video recorded several MMC events for us throughout the years so he is very familiar with us and we are very glad to have him as an official member!