



SEPT

**MONDAY MUSICAL CLUB
OF PORTLAND**

2024

WELCOME TO OUR

Monthly Newsletter

Jerre Ann and Gus Pappelis, Co-Presidents:

What a great start to Monday Musical Club of Portland's 120th year! We have an exciting year planned for the 2024-2025 season. Monday Musical Club's Vision for 2024-25 is to continue to expand the organization with new members, foster a strong sense of volunteerism, seeking and gathering voluntary financial contributions for music awards by engaging patrons and benefactors, provide music education and empower our community to thrive through music. We truly accomplish more together. Monday Musical Club is a better organization because of you, our volunteers and supporters! We are building on a foundation of learning while enriching our members with leadership opportunities. Our goal is to do a lot of good work while having fun. To continue this great work, Monday Musical Club needs you to volunteer to fill open positions and join committees. Committee volunteers help with music auditions, masterclasses, support fundraising events and assist with teas. We have two critical positions for the 2024-2025 season: Financial Secretary and Web Coordinator. Please see the attached job descriptions for these amazing opportunities to excel!



120th Anniversary Celebration

Our Season Kickoff Event on Sept. 14th set the stage for our year-long celebration. Jim and Linda Vogler provided their home as the perfect party venue. The weather turned sunny and warm, and everyone enjoyed an afternoon of fun, food, and music. Helen Raptis of KATU's AM Northwest Show was on hand to join the group. You may have seen her report on our club's celebration and historic traditions featured on her Monday 9/17 show. Our Board members brought amazing foods and wines; Sherry Symington provided delicious desserts and customized MMC Cookies for our table; and beautiful flowers helped put the final touches on the happy afternoon. Incidentally, we also provided our own MMC 1904–2024 commemorative wine glasses as a special souvenir of the day (these glasses will also be available to members while the supply lasts – suggested donation \$10 each). Musical entertainment was provided by last year's Susan Patzakis Vocal Award winner, Minntah Haefker, singing three selections from the contemporary repertoire. Oregon Symphony double bassists Colin Corner and Mariya–Andoniya Andinova presented a variety of pieces from Baroque and Classical composers.

Kim Ositis, the Oregon Symphony's Assistant Director of Development, shared insights into their upcoming performance season. Cressa Burris, Artistic Director for Portland Opera, also contributed an update on her organization's plans for the new year.



All were generously complimentary to the long-standing tradition of support and inspiration from our Monday Musical Club to the performing arts of our fair city. What a proud moment for all of us! See you at our upcoming Bring-a-New-Friend Tea on Monday, October 14th, 1 pm at Westminster. (See our attached flyer).

(click on picture above to see full video)



Grant Porter, VP, Programs and Awards Chair, Historian:

Mark your calendars and look forward to some amazing programs this season beginning October 14th at 1 pm with the Portland Youth Philharmonic. PYP Musical Director, David Hattner will present a masterclass for us with clarinetist, Miloh Dunn. We are switching the order of performances a little bit this year as the Oregon Symphony will perform on November 4th and Portland Opera will take the stage on the January 6th date. The MYSfits String Ensemble will fill their usual date in February on the 3rd, and by then we will be well under way with Masterclasses and scheduling for our Awards program's auditions and much more.

During our 120th Anniversary celebration, I spoke with Artistic Director Cressa Burriss about Portland Opera's plans with their new batch of Resident Artists. They are beginning to arrive in Portland to start their 9-month residence, so she filled us in about their exciting season.

Free tip: RSVP now to get in on the Portland Opera Resident Artists free season opener "Pops & Arias" concert on Friday, October 18th at 7 pm at Alberta House, 5131 NE 23rd Ave in Portland. Click [here](#) to RSVP on a first-come-first-served basis.

We will continue to focus on student-led partner organizations that are growing with your support. Student groups like Project Prelude and the Pacific Rose Ensemble (PRE) are offering great programs this season. Please check out PREs program line-up beginning with their season opener at 7 pm on September 27th at Madeleine Parish at 3123 NE 24th Avenue in Portland with 12 of their 30 members performing familiar works by a variety of European composers. It will be a great season for PRE with guest artists such as Kenji Bunch and Maria Garcia.



Master Gunnery
Sergeant, Erika Sato,
USMC

Historian's Corner - I was inspired to take on the role of Historian this year when Janette Barbour discovered the Marine Corps bio of 1993 MMC award-winning violinist, Erika Sato. Erika's incredible musical career in "The President's Own" US Marine Chamber Orchestra is the subject of the interview I did with her this month for our newsletter, (see below). What an amazing story about one of the most accomplished award winners in our 120-year history! Be sure to read her full interview below and click on all the links to watch her videos.



Patty Cavanaugh, Ways & Means Chair:

My first event as the new Ways and Means Chair was at the 120th Anniversary Celebration on Saturday, September 14th, and it was glorious! Jerre Ann and Gus Pappelis, Grant Porter and Joe McDonald planned a wonderful celebration that had delicious food, a fabulous music program and an amazing historical slide show that displayed many great memories. They even arranged perfect weather at the beautiful home of our hosts, Linda and Jim Vogler in Newberg, Oregon!

I'd like to thank all the Board members who contributed delicious appetizers, dips, cheese platters, tasty baked ham, assorted beverages and scrumptious desserts. You all outdid yourselves! We had a white wine tasting while also enjoying the Voglers' elegant Pinot Noir made from grapes grown on-site at their property.

Based on quantity consumed, I can report that the most popular white wine was the Pinot Beurot by Domaine Divio, and the second most popular was an imported German Riesling by Escher Haus. Pinot Beurot is the Burgundian name for Pinot Gris. Domaine Divio is located in Newberg, Oregon and is run by 4th generation French winemaker, Bruno Corneaux and his wife Isabelle. Judging by the attendees' enthusiasm, we will have more wine-tastings in the future!

The financial goal for Ways and Means for 2024-25 is \$5,000, but this is a number we'd love to exceed! Gus Pappelis, our Co-President, and I are embarking on a plan to develop corporate sponsors as a follow-up to the letters that were sent out last Spring to over 100 targeted individuals/companies. We are in the process of creating a twopronged approach: one for small businesses that would like to participate, and a second one for larger corporations that have annual budgets for community giving. We will be showing these potential sponsors how they can concretely help us to realize our financial goals for student awards and/or specific music programs. I look forward to seeing you all at the first MMC Tea of the new season on Monday, October 14th!

Teryl Williams, Membership Chair:

Don't miss out! If you haven't already paid your dues for 2024-25, please send them to Sandy Tyler, our out-going Financial Secretary, at 2309 Miller Farm Road, Woodburn, OR 97071. Our new year is under way, and we want you to be a part of it! If you are a new member who joined after April 1, 2024, your dues are paid in full until July 2025. Thank you!

During the past few months, we have had several new members join to include Rusty and Brenda Kotsovos (April); Bernadette Arnold, Eleni Pappelis, Maria Teresa Pietrok (May); Ann Barkley (June); and Kris Haefker and Tom Jamison, (September). Here are the photos and bios we've received so far from some of our new members:



Please Welcome Our Newest Members



Our newest member is **Kris Haefker**, the father of our 2024 Susan Patzakis award winner, Minntah Haefker. Kris is a native Portlander and graduated from Lincoln High School and Portland State University.

Kris comes from a musical background. His father, Uwe Haefker sang with the Portland Opera for almost 30 years. In the 1970's, Kris and his brother sang in the children's choir when the Portland Opera was under the direction of Stefan Minde. Kris's wife, Supakjanat Brunjongaksorn (Pbong), is from Thailand. They divide their time between Portland, Astoria, and Chiang Mai. Professionally, Kris works as a remodeler and has extensive experience working on historical homes.

Kris has invited everyone to come hear local artists, [3 Leg Torso](https://www.3legtorso.com/) who will be joining Minntah at the Astoria Coffee House and Bistro on October 19th at 7 pm. "It'll be a fun show in a casual and lively environment. 3 Leg Torso is a very unique ensemble that I think many of the members would enjoy." Please click on the link for more info: [https:// www.3legtorso.com/](https://www.3legtorso.com/)

Maria Teresa Pietrok joined Monday Musical Club in May, so it's time we get to know her! María Teresa was born in Mexico City where she grew up. She graduated from the University of San Diego in French literature, with minors in English and German. She married Luke Pietrok in 1967, a US Navy pilot. They have two daughters and four grandchildren. MaríaTeresa's career in international marketing led her to have a very successful career as marketing representative for Latin America, and later territory manager for central and eastern Europe, including the Soviet Union. She is the author of 'Piercing the Iron Curtain,' available on Amazon, a book detailing her challenges and tribulations during her long career.





Please Welcome Our Newest Members



Tom Jamison, Judie Jamison's husband, has just joined MMC. Tom was born and raised in Seattle and moved to the Portland area about 30 years ago. He and Judie now live in Woodburn. Tom was self-employed as a software engineer until his retirement. Tom and his entire family have been involved in all types of music through the years.

Eleni Pappelis grew up just outside Portland, Oregon, in a musical family where creativity and talent filled her childhood. Drawn to the vibrant music scene, she moved to Nashville, Tennessee, where she combined her love for the arts with a career in real estate. Recently, Eleni relocated to Sarasota, Florida, where she continues her work in real estate while embracing the beach lifestyle and enjoying the natural beauty of the Gulf Coast.



Ann Barkley, after years of public service in California, Washington, DC and The Hague, moved to Portland to be with her two adult children and four grandchildren in 2010. She is an avid gardener, reader and cook. Her passion is travel. No place on earth is too far, too hot or cold or too full of bugs to deter her desire to be there. She is active in the Portland Art Museum, Literary Arts and various political entities. Ann says that she knows little about music beyond Elvis Presley and every Broadway musical ever written. She has taken winter classes from PSU Cellist, Professor Hamilton Cheifetz for years and is looking forward to learning more!



*Interview with 1993 MMC Award Winner, Erika Sato
by Grant Porter, September 2024*



We recently discovered that one of our Monday Musical Club Award winners from 1993, violinist Erika Sato, has had a very distinguished musical military career performing in "The President's Own" United States Marine Chamber Orchestra in Washington D.C. The mission of "The President's Own" is to perform music for the President of the United States and the Commandant of the Marine Corps. Founded in 1798, it is America's oldest continuously active professional musical organization. Erika graduated from Beaverton High School in 1994, went on to attend the Julliard School and was accepted in "The President's Own" US Marine Chamber Orchestra back in August 2003. Since then, for the past 21 years, she has performed regularly for Presidents and other dignitaries at the White House. I contacted Erika to let her know Monday Musical Club is still alive and well, and asked if she would be willing to do an interview for our newsletter. She graciously agreed. Enjoy!

Q. Erika, congratulations on your amazing career! You are notably the first female Asian-American and non-white female to attain the rank of Master Gunnery Sergeant, (E-9) in the Marine Corps! You've come a long way since receiving our award in 1993. What do you recall about your Monday Musical award and audition?

A. "Thank you and thanks to Monday Musical Club for all the support you give to students and the wonderful work you do with the musical organizations you support in Portland! I remember MMC's cash prize was very generous. It went toward plane tickets to visit and audition for colleges my senior year in 1994. It is amazing to see how the program has expanded and is thriving. I don't remember exactly what I played for the audition. It was probably either the Mendelssohn or Barber Violin Concerto, probably the latter as I performed that solo in 1993 with PYP," (Portland Youth Philharmonic).

Q. Tell us a little more about your early musical experience playing with PYP and about your Portland-based teachers.

A. "I was in PYP from ages 8-17. I spent two years in the Prep Orchestra and the rest in PYP. I soloed with both Prep and PYP. I was concertmaster for my senior year of high school and for the tour of Germany that we took in the summer of 1994. I studied with Raphael Spiro and Kathryn Gray (Oregon Symphony). I also soloed with the Oregon Symphony in 1993, playing the first movement of the Barber Violin Concerto and the solo for Dance Macabre for their youth concerts series after winning the Corbett Competition."



Q. What led to your decision to apply for “The President’s Own”?

A. “I had no idea military music careers were possible until I met someone in a military band while completing my Masters degree at Juilliard. I spent the next year in DC freelancing while taking orchestral auditions and met other players from different bands in the area. They were talented players, nice people, and had exciting jobs with great benefits! When I saw that the Marines had an opening, I was playing in the Colorado Symphony Orchestra. I was intrigued, having met people in the military bands, so I was ready to try out a new and different path, and here I am over 21 years later!”

Q. I served 30 years in the Army and didn’t meet many service members from Portland, so that’s an unusual and big step. How has that turned out for you?

A. “You’re right – when I joined, there wasn’t anyone else from the area who had done this as a string player. Woodwind, brass, and percussion players have all known about military bands growing up as a career option, but it isn’t well known in the orchestral world outside of the DC/Maryland/Virginia area and usually takes a conversation to get people to understand. My hope with this article is that we can show the different facets and opportunities available, plant the seed, and present this as a viable career option. I saw several singers have won your competition over the years and I also know that many vocalists are not aware of military choirs as a career option, much like I was for the strings. We have two professional singers in the Marine Band. For special events, they join the professional choruses of the Army, Navy, and Air Force to sing as the Joint Armed Forces Chorus. So, there are opportunities for vocalists as well. For me personally, it’s been a better overall fit than I could have ever imagined, and I have been able to do so much: performing orchestral works, soloing, lots of chamber music, teaching educational outreach clinics and masterclasses, as well as creating chamber music programs that other band members have performed on. My last one was in honor of the [50th Anniversary of Women in the Marine Band in March, 2023.](#)”

Q. I read that you played a great role in coordinating the 50th anniversary event. You reached your 20 years of service about that time. Congratulations! I found this article complete with program notes: Celebrating 50 Years of Women in the Marine Band. I take it you found that to be very fulfilling?

A. “I have loved collaborating in small ensembles and performing chamber music throughout my career, and creating programs showcasing my colleagues’ talents has been one of the highlights.”



Q. How would you describe a day in the life for you:

A. "Schedules differ weekly and depend upon what is needed. For the Marine Chamber Orchestra, we appear at the White House an average of 200 times a year in different small ensembles ranging from solo harp, string quartets, or full orchestra. We present public orchestra concerts, performing an annual showcase series and popular summer series in the DC area. We offer a chamber music series, which has been one of my favorite parts of being in this organization, and I will touch on that in more detail. We perform educational outreach at schools in the National Capital region, and visiting school groups will often come visit and observe band and orchestra rehearsals. We support ceremonies and events throughout Washington DC, including Presidential Inauguration activities, State Dinners at the White House, the United Nations Gala, and receptions for the Commandant of the Marine Corps."

Q. Do you have any special memories of performances or experiences that you would like to share?

A. "I have been so fortunate in this career to have been a witness to history and many incredible moments. One that particularly stands out was at the White House in 2007; after she was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom from President Bush, watching Harper Lee, the author of *To Kill a Mockingbird*, race over as the orchestra played the theme from the book's movie adaptation and then give us a standing ovation from her wheelchair brought me to tears."

That's a very touching theme and soundtrack by Elmer Bernstein that captured the essence of the movie and the book. You truly have been a witness to history to have been a part of that event. Harper Lee's portrayal of racism in the 1930s is akin to what your father must have experienced as a Japanese-American nisei during WWII when he was placed in an internment camp at Tule Lake. You told your own family's amazing four-generation story for the Marine Corps observance of Asian-American Pacific Islander Heritage month in May 2024. Here's the video you made so our readers can watch for themselves:



PLEASE "CLICK" ON THE VIDEO (ABOVE) TO HEAR ERIKA'S STORY ABOUT HER FAMILY.



Q. Performing in The President's Own Band must be highly competitive for a musician to get accepted but I'm sure there is a lot going on behind-the-scenes. What types of activities support the musicians?

A. "Yes, there are several. We are always working with our Support Staff offices: Operations for scheduling, venue liaison, and logistics, Library for music acquisition and rentals, Office of Communication for concert programs and promotion, Recording Lab for audio/video support, Supply for our uniform and instrument needs. Stage Crew for on-site logistics. It has been a fantastic opportunity to learn and develop organizational and leadership skills and see what it takes outside of performing to put on a concert in full; it is a team effort, and without their contributions, we would not be successful! For those students who may not feel like a performing or teaching career is right for them, these specialties are more broadly applicable to a wide range of industries, and they may want to look at this side of the performing arts and consider learning more about them."

Q. What additional advice would you give to today's music students?

A. "In this day and age, young people should pursue and develop as many interests and skills as they can. All traditional career paths are not guaranteed for success, so to stand out, they need to diversify their skill sets and cultivate the things that they are passionate about in order to be heard. And we need their voices!"

Q. Thank you Erika. Is there anything else you would like to say to your friends at Monday Musical Club?

A. "Yes, congratulations to all of you at Monday Musical Club on 120 years of supporting young people in the Portland area music community! Here is a video of me and Gunnery Sergeant Regino Madrid discussing the historical role of strings in the Marine Band and performing Bruce Dukov's arrangement of John Philip Sousa's march "[The Stars and Stripes Forever](#)" (for string duo)."