



JANUARY

**MONDAY MUSICAL CLUB
OF PORTLAND**

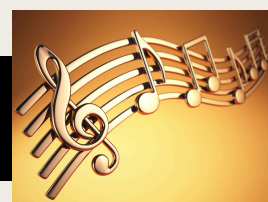
2025

WELCOME TO OUR

January Newsletter



Jerre Ann and Gus Pappelis, Co-Presidents:



Happy New Year, everyone!

Our MMC Holiday Luncheon at the Tualatin Country Club was a great way to close out the old year. The venue was festive, our entertainment was excellent, and a good time was enjoyed by all. It was especially nice to visit with so many members and old friends. I've attached a copy of my welcoming speech for your enjoyment. Thank you to all who helped make this event such a success.

January arrived with our New Year's Tea, featuring performances by this year's Portland Opera Resident Artists who performed selections from Elvis Costello and The Brodsky Quartet's *The Juliet Letters*, a very modern work featuring voices with a piano accompaniment based on the string arrangement. We were honored to have Sue Dixon, the Director of Portland Opera, in attendance as we made our annual \$1,000 donation.

Preparations are set for this year's Awards Auditions. The dates in the Directory have changed from April 19th to **April 12th and 13th**. A larger turnout of student performers is being accommodated over the two days due to popular demand. A few MMC members have signed up to help on these busy days, but we can always use more help. It's a great way to support the young performers and is also a great opportunity to enjoy their many talents. For additional information, contact Grant Porter, Awards Chairman, and Nancy Woo if you would like to provide support on these two days.



MMC Spring Sampler Concert: This year's Sampler features **Michael Allan Harrison** as our celebrity performer in support of our own members. Mark your calendars for this special event on **April 7th** and plan to bring some friends. Incidentally, we still need a host and helpers for our March Tea. Grab some friends and lend a hand. Contact Gus, Bev Owen and Nancy Woo to see how you can help!

While we are on the subject, there are many **volunteer opportunities** which need to be filled. A Tea Coordinator and volunteers for our March Tea are needed. We also need more volunteers for April's Spring Sampler Tea. And since our April auditions take place on two different days, we will need extra help available to ensure a successful weekend. We will have sign-up sheets at our next Tea, but please contact us if you would like to volunteer!

Grant Porter, Vice President, Programs and Awards Chair:

Awards Update: We are rapidly moving along with nineteen applications received within the first six days. We expect upwards of 45 applicants, which is fifteen more than last year because we are expanding our auditions over two days. I have selected three excellent judges for the auditions and three outstanding instructors to lead our masterclasses, with the help of our partners.

Please update your annual program with the dates below for the masterclasses and auditions. All events are scheduled to take place at: **Portland State University, Lincoln Hall, in room 326:**

Masterclasses:

March 1st, 8:30 am: Instrumental string session led by performing artist and teacher, violinist and violist **Bryce Caster**.

March 8th, 10 am: Piano session led by co-founder of Fear No Music and Director of the Young Composer's Project, pianist **Jeff Payne**.

March 29th, 10 am: Voice session led by Renegade Opera Executive Director and Portland Opera soprano **Madeline Ross**, and Portland Opera Resident Artist, collaborative pianist **Claire Forstman**.

Award Auditions:

April 12th, 8:30 am: Instrumental and Voice contestants

April 13th, 9 am: Piano contestants



Parking is available nearby at PSU parking structure 2 diagonally across the street from Lincoln Hall. However, there is a parking fee. Please visit the kiosk at the entrance of the parking lot with license plate number handy.



Changes to the Awards Program - There have been several changes over the last two years for our awards program to make them more fair and equitable. Last year we started having one judge for each of the three categories (Piano, Instrumental and Vocal). This allows more specialization and consistency than a mixed competition allowed over the many preceding years. We also started limiting teachers to two contestants each to avoid having them enroll all of their students and otherwise dominate the competition.

This year, we have adopted a "\$2,000 and Done" rule as well as a "Three Strikes and you're out" rule. These rules limit the total cumulative amount a contestant can win to \$2K and prevent them from participating more than three times. This allows us to more evenly distribute our limited funds, and opens up the competition to give more students an opportunity to apply. We have also eliminated the requirement for past winners to wait four years to reapply as many would have aged out or moved away and become ineligible.

Lastly, with the generous support of one of our members, we are opening the Voice Award category to formally include Musical Theater. Technically, students could have always selected a musical theater selection as a "contemporary" piece to go along with their classical opera selection; however, this award is designated for musical theater. We are watching to see how this goes and may fine-tune this after we see how many students apply. Stay tuned yourselves with future updates on our website. For additional information, please see our application instructions on our website for more details about this year's program: <https://www.pdxmmc.org/scholarship-info/>

Patty Cavanaugh, Ways and Means Chair

We are now at 31% of our goal for Ways and Means fundraising. We're actively pursuing opportunities and are in the planning stages for some additional fundraising events. We will need all the help we can get and hope some more members will volunteer in the future to help with these projects.

Cynthia Marberry, Corresponding Secretary

Job Opportunity! We are in need of a **Financial Secretary!!!** Free Training provided! Contact Cynthia Marberry 503-739-0578, cindynloren@gmail.com for a job description and answers to your questions.



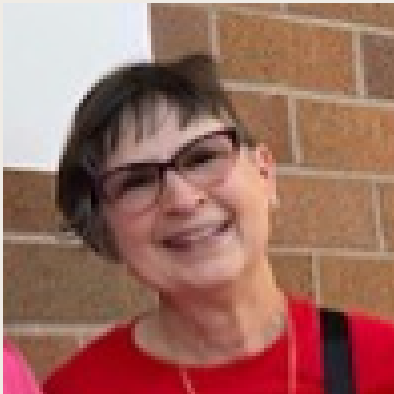
Teryl Williams, Membership Chair

We have five new members to introduce:



Joel and Sharon Burt recently joined in December and attended our Holiday Luncheon. Sharon has lived in the Portland/Vancouver area all her life. She has two brothers who live in the area as well. Joel is originally from Georgia and Florida but moved to the Northwest many years ago. They are neighbors of Grant Porter and Scott and Kathy Milner. They have adult children and grandchildren.

Sharon claims that she is not a musician, but Joel has played drums and harmonica in the past. They have enjoyed season tickets to the Portland Opera, the Oregon Symphony, and the ballet through the years, so they have a love of music and want to support young musicians.



Lori Kammerer joined Monday Musical Club in late September. She heard about us from her fellow church members, Cynthia Marberry and Bernadette Arnold. Lori took early retirement during Covid in 2020, after 25 years at Nike. She and her husband Bill moved to Estacada in 2021 to be closer to their son. They are originally from California where Lori lived for much of her childhood and moved to Eastern Oregon from there before settling in the Portland area. Lori is a dedicated tap dancer. She started lessons in 1985, so she has had 40 years of experience and still faithfully continues classes!

After her retirement, Lori also started playing the ukulele and leads a ukulele jam session at the library in Estacada on Wednesday afternoons. Lori has been involved in the performing arts all her life, either as a performer in local theaters or sometimes as stage manager. She claims that the talented one in the family is her younger sister, who was musically gifted as a child and studied all sorts of instruments. Her sister is now a professor of music at the University of Maryland and ironically is also learning the ukulele as well.



Chuck Schwartz retired as an engineer at PacifiCorp in 2017. He is an old friend of MMC members Scott and Kathy Milner, and enjoys playing golf with Scott, Grant Porter and new MMC member Joel Burt. They all three served in the military and enjoy telling stories together. Chuck enjoys working on projects around the house and at his daughter's houses. He enjoys bicycling, golf, walking his pug Hank every morning, and music. Chuck plays clarinet and saxophone. He was in the OSU marching band and is currently a member of the Portland Metro Concert Band.

Jane Winfield is a native of Alabama. She lived most of her life in Georgia and South Carolina before moving to Portland in 2012 to be near her son Marc. A daughter, Robin, and three grandchildren live in Atlanta, Georgia.

Jane has fond memories of being gifted piano lessons as a child and is grateful that she once actually could read music. When a neighbor didn't want to move the family piano and heartlessly set it out on the curb, Jane persuaded the family that it was just what she needed in her living room, and the movers actually walked it down the street to her house, where it challenges her every day to recover those lost memories.

Jane loves cats, books and movies as well as music and wants to do what she can to encourage young musicians to succeed in their chosen discipline. (Picture not available).



Be sure to attend our **February 3rd Valentines Tea** as we will be featuring the Metropolitan Youth Symphony string ensemble affectionately known as the self-titled "MYSfits." They are self-directed and often perform with MYS conductor and Musical Director, Raúl Gómez-Rojas and Director, Composer, Kenji Bunch!