



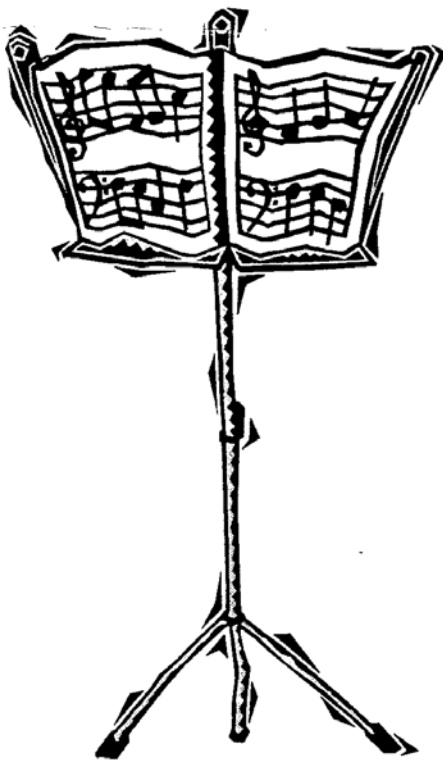
Notes

The Official Newsletter of the
Vermont Music & Arts Association, Inc.

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Theme and Variations ...



In spite of a few bumps in the road, we now have all of our coaching positions filled, thanks to our dedicated Music Directors, Gerall Hieser and June Gunter (formerly Infantino).

We are pleased to have engaged Bridget Hogan as our vocal coach. Bridget comes to us with much conducting and choral directing experience as well as a long list of operatic and choral performance credentials. As Liz Acker, our piano coach for the last several years, can only be with us for Weeks One and Two, we will be joined by Mitchell Vines for Weeks Two and Three. This means we will actually have two piano coaches for Week Two!!

Pat McQuiddy has also been busy finding a workshop manager. Reuben Jackson, a music and Vermont lover, as well as a poet and an archivist, promises to add an interesting and helpful dimension to our staff.

Charles Huckabee, who has done an exemplary job as our *Notes* newsletter editor, finds it necessary to resign the position, this being his last edition. We are therefore looking for someone to fill that spot. If anyone of you would be interested in taking over that responsibility, please let me or Pat know. We put out three issues a year – one in the fall, one in February, and this one in June. Charles has volunteered to help the new editor get started.

Remember to pack bed linens and towels, as they are no longer provided by the college, as well as all the other 'stuff' that you like to have with you.

As much as I am looking forward to this VMAA season, it is hard to imagine VMAA without Joan Miller. She will be sorely missed.

VMAA Board of Directors: 2010-2011

Lois Tepfer, president
Joan Lusk, vice president
Barbara Lakota, secretary
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Joan E. Miller, 1931-2011

VMAC lost a longtime friend, leader, and champion this spring with the death of Joan Miller on March 8. Joan died of a heart attack while doing something she loved: playing chamber music--in a performance of a Brahms sextet during a concert of the Montclair Music Club, in New Jersey.



A violinist and violist, Joan first came to VMAC in 1973 and over the years served the organization in many capacities, including as president, workshop manager, and board member. She brought dedication and administrative talent to every task she tackled to help the organization thrive. And she did it all with a wonderful sense of humor, always ready to share a giggle over a funny story. And no one can forget the care and assistance that she provided to another longtime VMAC staff member and participant, Ginny Howe, that enabled Ginny to return even as her health failed.

In her professional life, Joan was a mathematical acoustician at Bell Laboratories, becoming one of the first female department heads there during a career that spanned more than 30 years. Early on, she worked with Max Mathews on the digital synthesis of sound. If you've seen the movie "2001: A Space Odyssey," you've heard one result of their labors, a computer voice singing "Bicycle Built for Two." While working at Bell Labs, she completed her Ph.D. in mathematics from Columbia University. A niece, Shelley Norton Icaza, remembers Joan--or "Jun," as the family called her--as very engaged in her academic work and research, "making it to the Thanksgiving table for about 25 minutes one year before running back to work on her Ph.D." She added, "At a time when many women found their career options limited, Jun communicated that it was about doing, not complaining. Her academic and career successes gave me confidence that hard work and perseverance would lead to success."

After retiring, Joan earned a certificate in violin performance at Mannes College, and for many years she combined her scientific and musical interests through service on the boards of the Catgut Acoustical Society and the Violin Society of America, which merged in 2004. She also wrote the software they use to analyze winners at the violin making competitions. And she could make a pretty nifty violin herself.

Besides Ms. Icaza, Joan is survived by another niece, Melanie Norton Cullingworth, and a grand niece, Erin Cullingworth Rist. Her brother, Wayne G. Norton, predeceased her in 2009.

Annual Meeting Notice

The 2011 Annual Meeting of the Vermont Music & Arts Association will be held in three sections on each of the Thursday evenings, July 14, 21, and 27, during this summer's VMAC workshops. The meetings will begin at 9:30 p.m. in Crevecoeur Lounge. All attendees at VMAC for a minimum of a week are automatically members of the association for one year.

The association is required by its bylaws to hold meetings annually, and you are encouraged to attend them, because they serve as the forum for conducting business, making announcements, and discussing any issues that arise. The meetings are generally short, and are followed by a rummage sale that is usually well stocked with sheet music in many different styles. If you have something to contribute to the rummage sale, please bring it.

Trustee Elections

The Board of Trustees has elected Glenn Sproul and Jane Ezbicki as interim trustees to serve the remainder of the terms vacated by Charles Huckabee, who is stepping down early, and Joan Miller. Three additional seats on the nine-member board will be at stake in the regular election, to be conducted by mailed ballots this fall. The board will present a slate of candidates or incumbents for those positions, which are for three-year terms. Additional nominations will be taken from the floor during the Annual Meeting this summer. So it's not too early to start thinking about whether there's anyone you would like to nominate. The only stipulation is that you must ask the person's permission before placing their name in nomination.

An Invitation to the Art Room

Making mosaics with stained glass was such a popular project last year that our art director, Bill Tulp, plans to repeat it this summer, and he invites you to bring personal items you want to cover with mosaics. He advises: "A small wooden box, a cover, any kind of more permanent container would work great. Be creative. Keep in mind that you can bring something pretty small and just use smaller pieces of glass, or if you are ambitious work on something larger. If you don't finish, I can get you started on something to finish at home. Joan Lusk covered clay pots with mosaics and I could provide those for you if you'd like."

Bill is also available to help if you want to work on drawing, painting, or other art forms. If you have questions or comments, contact him by email at wtdulp@msn.com or by telephone at 802-748-8108.

The art studio this year will be in newly remodeled HAC, room 133.