



Notes

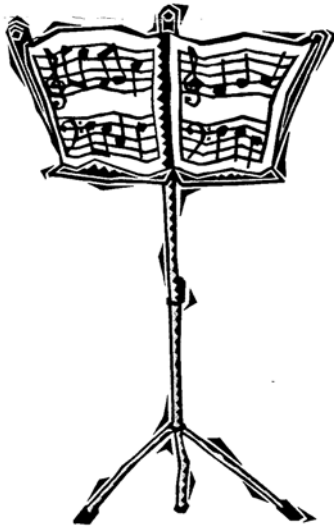
The Official Newsletter of the
Vermont Music & Arts Association, Inc.

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Theme and Variations

Once again our dedicated board gathered from all points of the compass to plan for the VMAC 2011 season. In addition to the nitty-gritty administrative details of running the program, we spent a good portion of the day reviewing comments on the evaluation sheets. Here are some of our responses to those comments:



- We are considering ways to encourage participants to include newcomers and participants whom they have not played with in the past when booking playing groups.

- We will continue our efforts to improve the wind players' experience and to encourage more groups involving wind instruments plus strings or piano.

- We will continue with the SoS (Suggestions of the Season). Remember that these are "suggestions." Participants are encouraged to make their own selections, from these suggestions or from their own preferences. As in the past, participants can contact fellow participants to form their own groups, contact a coach to work with them, and prepare their parts. This will allow for more flexibility regarding instrumentation and level of difficulty.

On a sad note, Damaris Jackson, who was our Workshop Manager for several years, passed away this fall. Many of you will remember her fondly.

And last but not least, many thanks to the many of you who helped so generously to meet the extra expenses of music stands and harpsichord repairs. These contributions make a big difference toward meeting our financial obligations.

Best wishes for a happy and healthy holiday season.

VMAA Board of Directors 2010-2011

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Joan Lusk, vice president
Joan Miller, secretary
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Minutes of Annual Meeting

The 2010 annual meeting of the Vermont Music and Arts Association was held in three sessions, convening at 9:30 p.m. on July 15, 22, and 29. Each session dispensed with the reading of the minutes, previously published in "Notes"; briefly described the organizational structure of the association and its summer conference, VMAC; and presented the slate of candidates for the Board of Trustees elections in September. The slate consisted of three incumbents, Virginia Fitzgerald, Charles Huckabee, and Joan Miller (all of whom were subsequently re-elected to three-year terms). There were no nominations from the floor.

In addition, a trustee not up for re-election this year, Marion Sanders, found it necessary to step down early. The board thanked Marion for her excellent years of service reluctantly accepted her resignation. Carol Louik was appointed as interim trustee to fill the remaining two years of Marion's term. Welcome, Carol.

Each session briefly summarized the 2009 financial status, as published last February in "Notes," noting a shortfall of about \$2,000 for VMAC and a gain of about \$400 for VMAA, due in part to a substantial increase in contributions. Gifts totaled more than \$4,000, with many from first-time donors, and many from people who increased gifts from previous years. The board gratefully thanks all of our contributors. The financial summary also outlined our policy of maintaining assets to cover a single season's operating budget of approximately \$100,000.

VMAC welcomed two new staff members in 2010 – Megan Kenny, violin, and Jennifer Thomas, voice – to fill in a staff vacancy and cover a leave of absence. Thank you, Megan and Jennifer.

The meeting noted the purchase of 90 music stands, in response to a suggestion by Rosemary Waltzer to place stands in all playing rooms. Pat and Jeremy picked up the stands from Shar Products, in Michigan, and drove them to Vermont in July. Thank you, Pat and Jeremy.

Suggestions from members included renting additional pianos for larger rooms; having the staff arrange coached groups once a day; and adding a mention to the notice of the Annual Meeting, published in the June edition of "Notes," reminding participants about the rules for trustee nominations from the floor. Those include getting the person's permission before placing their name in nomination.

Sessions also included the usual reminders about returning library materials, filling out evaluation sheets, and checking out. Each session closed shortly after 10 p.m.

*--Respectfully submitted by Joan E. Miller, secretary
(Week 1 minutes taken by Pat McQuiddy).*

In Memory of Damaris Jackson

We were saddened to learn that Damaris Lee Jackson, who was our workshop manager for nearly a dozen years, starting in 1997, died in September.

Damaris will be remembered as more than a capable manager. Having studied music and dance in college, she was also an accomplished violist and eager to join participant group. She was also an enthusiastic fun-night performer, participating in skits or offering an interpretive dance to improvisatory music. She was also a singer and an artist, known for her imaginative quilts and creative projects, and was employed as a handwork teacher at Waldorf schools in Vermont and Minnesota. Many will also remember Damaris for a questing, spiritual side, and a very caring nature that expressed itself through efforts to help alleviate others' pain, through shiatsu massage or meditation. She was also good company on a mountain hike.

Memorial contributions may be made to Walker Methodist Church, P.O. Box 7588, Minneapolis, MN 55407, or to Columbus Dance Theatre, 592 E. Main Street, Columbus, OH 43215.

Suggestions of the Season for 2011

Ready for VMAC 2011? The dates are set: July 10-17, 17-24, and 24-31. Now you can start planning what week (or weeks) you'll attend, and what you'll play. There are no "works of the week." Participants are welcome to request coaching on any work they have prepared. However, the music directors have come up with this short list of recommended pieces in a variety of formats. Their suggestions are:

- ♪ Mozart, String Quartet in C Major, K. 465 ("Dissonant").
- ♪ Schumann, String Quartet No. 1 in A Minor, Op. 41.
- ♪ Shostakovich, String Quartet No. 7 in F-sharp Minor, Op. 108.
- ♪ Schumann, Piano Trio No. 1 in D Minor, Op. 63.
- ♪ Turina, Piano Quartet in A Minor, Op. 67.
- ♪ Robert Fuchs, Clarinet Quintet in E-Flat Major, Op. 102.
- ♪ Arnold, Woodwind Quintet, Op. 4 ("Three Shanties").
- ♪ Barber, "Summer Music" for Woodwind Quintet, Op. 31.

If you are forming or joining a coached group, please remember to number your measures. That saves time when groups get together to work. An extensive list of works and measure numbers is available on our Web site: www.vermontmusicandarts.org