



Regional News from Regional Director Chilali Hugo

I will be contacting your chapter to schedule a Chapter Officer Training session this year virtually over Zoom. All chapters in the American Harp Society, Inc. are required to complete Chapter Officer Training by June 2021. Any chapter members or those interested in joining a chapter are welcome to participate. Please contact me at chilalipop@yahoo.com if you are interested in participating in the training.

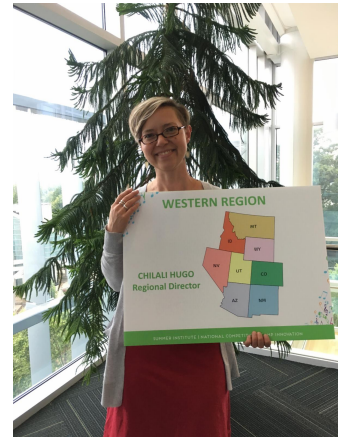
Starting a New Chapter

If you are interested in starting a new chapter in your state, please contact me or visit <https://www.harpsociety.org/Chapters/StartingAChapter.asp> for more information!


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National Notes . . .

 American Harp Journal



Summer 2019 Extras - Tchaikovsky Cadenzas

9 videos • 37 views • Last updated on Apr 24, 2020

News you can use, from chapters, regions, and national! Exciting opportunities to gather via video conference continue to bring members together, and chapters are hosting meetings and [national programs](#) virtually during the year. New resources are being added regularly to the [AHS](#) and [AHJ](#) YouTube channels, and plans are in place to offer two dynamic national events in June of 2021: the rescheduled [National Conference](#) and the [2021 National Competition](#) finals. Build your community within the AHS and join us as we learn about and serve the harp!

Nominations for new AHS Board members are now

open [online through November 30th](#). If you are interested in serving, or you know a colleague who might be well-suited to Board service, please submit your nomination(s) during November. Cycle through the badges on the right side to find "Call for Nominations". You may also download a [paper nomination form](#).

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ARIZONA

Phoenix Chapter

Meetings and Events

Welcome Back Meeting and Harp Circle September 29

We started with a harp circle rehearsal followed by a member's student performing and presenting a presentation. A business meeting was held, and **Emma Quinn** was voted in as Corresponding Secretary. We discussed upcoming events and the Young Artist Competition as well as the upcoming Duo Scorpio concert and masterclass. Stephen Hartman was presented with an award from the Chapter for his service, which was followed by a social hour.

Halloween Recital October 27

Hosted at a student's home, a combination of harp and piano students dressed up and played Halloween themed tunes.



Halloween Recital Participants

Associated Board of Royal Music Exam at a student's home November 9

Holiday Concert at Beatitudes December 10



**New Year Meeting and White Elephant
January 12**

Alla Yashneva, the Vice President, presented a history of the Associated Board of Royal Music Exam. The white elephant gift exchange took place as well.

**Young Artists Competition
February 22**

Hosted by the Phoenix Chapter and Phoenix Harp Center



Stephen Hartman, Megan Williams



Stephen Hartman and Anastasia Thran

**Jan Aldridge-Clark
August 29th**

A free online class and concert were held by Indianapolis based jazz harpist **Jan Aldridge-Clark**.

**Marvelous Modes with Joanna Mell
September 12th**

A free online workshop was held exploring modes using music theory, ear training, and chord progressions to create a framework for improvising in each mode.

Other events that were supposed to happen but were cancelled due to Covid:

April 19 - Annual Harp Tea



Annual Tea from the previous year



*Annual Tea from the previous year
with Adrienne Bridgewater, Mila*

May 2 - Spring Recital

Chapter News

Officer elections will be postponed to next April since they were cancelled this year due to Covid. A nomination committee will be chosen in January.

S.O.P.H.I.A. (Saguaro-Tucson) Chapter

If you would like to connect with or join the S.O.P.H.I.A. Chapter please contact Western Regional Director, **Chilali Hugo** chilalipop@yahoo.com or the S.O.P.H.I.A. Chapter via **Vanessa Moxness** at myantispam@comcast.net.

COLORADO

Mile High Chapter

Meeting and Events

Mile High Chapter Day at the Colorado Symphony November 2nd, 2019

The Mile High Chapter had a group outing to the Colorado Symphony. We got to watch principal harpist **Courtney Hershy-Bress** and **Rachel Starr Ellins** perform in the symphony's annual Halloween tradition of playing the soundtrack to *The Nightmare Before Christmas* in concert. After the concert we had a brief meet and greet with these two amazing harpists!

Mile High Harp Symposium February 22nd, 2020

The daylong symposium included masterclasses, workshops, and performances led by some of Colorado's professional harpists. The inaugural event opened with a Harp Ensemble Performance given by some of the Mile High Chapter Board Members. (**Alaina Bongers**, **Alisa Dewitt**, and **Dani Misegadis**)

During the busy symposium day classes were offered on topics such as basic music theory at the harp, jazz improvisation, harp maintenance, therapeutic music, practice tricks, managing performance anxiety, and a harpist discussion panel. These classes were lead by **Barbra Lepke-Sims**, **Dani Misegadis**, **Alisa Dewitt**, **Jenna Hunt**, **Rachel Starr Ellins**, **Alaina Bongers**, **Lisa Clark**, **Kathryn Harms**, and **David Kolacny**.

The symposium concluded with a Closing Harp Recital of jazz standards, original compositions, and Dorothy Ashby tunes featuring harpist **Jenna Hunt** and bass player Andrew Rose. Our goal with this event was to bring together all levels of harpists living in Colorado through collaboration, networking, and creating new friendships.



Vice President Jenna Hunt teaching a jazz Improv class



Secretary Alisa Dewitt teaching her music theory at the harp class



Guest presenter Rachel Starr Ellins teaching a class on how to manage performance anxiety



Mile High Harp Symposium participants perusing music in the "Music Swap" room



Harp tech David Kolacny teaching his harp maintenance class



Mile High Chapter Board at the Harp Symposium



Harpist Jenna Hunt and bass player Andrew Rose performing in a closing jazz concert

Mile High Chapter of the AHS: Harp Compilation Project - Music to Elevate Your Day!

April Special Project

In the midst of COVID-19, the Mile High Chapter looked for ways to connect with our members and ways to give back to the Colorado community. We called upon our members to record and submit short videos of them playing one their favorite pieces. Many of our chapter members participated and their video performances were compiled in a YouTube compilation video by our chapter Vice President **Jenna Hunt**.

This video link was then sent out to the rest of our chapter so that they could share it with

friends and family across the country. Additionally, this video was shared as resource for nursing homes and local school music programs. We wanted to use our music to spread joy during the uncertain times and let our community know that we were thinking of them.

2020 Online Student Evaluations

April 18th and May 16th, 2020

The Mile High Chapter successfully held student evaluations on a virtual format this year! We had six students participate in the online evaluation program and our guest harp advisors were **Rebecca Moritzky** and **Alisa Dewitt**.

First Annual Regional Recital

August 1st, 2020

As musical performances continued to move to an online platform, the Mile High Chapter joined this trend to do our part in maintaining safe social distancing practices while still elevating our local harp community. We wanted to give our community of harpists a much needed “live” performance opportunity to share their music with each other in a virtual recital. There were thirteen performers and numerous friends and family of chapter members were in the online Zoom audience.



Mile High Chapter Virtual Regional Harp Recital 2020

Chapter News

Our Mile High Chapter Board worked diligently on updating our chapter bylaws and we approved the updated version at our October 4th Annual Fall Meeting. (The last time they were updated was close to 40 years ago!) The board also updated our policies/procedure documents, as well as created outline templates for several of our major events for future board members to use as a resource when planning those events.

Board and Chapter Meetings

September 22nd, 2019

October 20th, 2019

November 2nd, 2019

November 17th, 2019

January 12, 2020

February 9th, 2020

March 1st, 2020

March 29th, 2020

April 19th, 2020

June 28th, 2020

July 12, 2020

July 26th, 2020

August 23rd, 2020

September 20th, 2020

Upcoming Events

We are excited to announce a solo recital and masterclass with special guest harpist **Grace Browning**. These events will take place virtually on November 14th and 15th. More details will be updated on our chapter website soon. milehighharpociety.org



IDAHO

Boise Chapter

We are working towards reactivating and are looking for members! If you are interested in helping to reactivate the Boise Chapter please contact Western Regional Director, Chilali Hugo at chilalipop@yahoo.com.



UTAH

Utah Chapter

If you would like to connect with or join the Utah Chapter please contact Western Regional Director, Chilali Hugo chilalipop@yahoo.com or the Utah Chapter via Julie M Staples LDSHarpJulie@gmail.com.

