



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.

Regional News & Events

Events

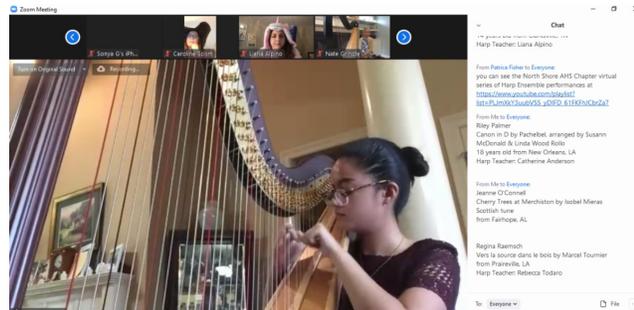
- **AHS Southern Region Harptoberfest**



On Sunday, October 25, 2020, the Southern Region of the American Harp Society held its first-ever regional event hosted by Southern Regional Director, **Sarah K. Crocker**. The Harptoberfest event was held virtually over Zoom with about 40 people in attendance – many dressed in festive fall costumes - and served as a rally for our members on the Gulf Coast who have recently suffered multiple hurricanes in a row. Hailing from southern Louisiana, the Southern Region’s own Quintessential Duo, **Catherine Anderson** and **Rebecca Todaro**, were the featured performers for the event. They opened the event with Handel’s “Arrival of the Queen of Sheba” from *Solomon* arranged by Catherine Anderson for two harps and closed the event with Albeniz’s Granada from *Suite Española*, Op. 47 arranged for two harps by Maite Etcheverry. Attendees were introduced to each chapter and its officers, and then learned about programs and resources that the American Harp Society offers to its chapters. In addition to our featured performers, attendees were also treated to 9 student and adult performances from across our region: **Lily Stewart** (Nashville, TN), **Kate Gladney** (Baton Rouge, LA), **Gracen Beaird** (Franklin, TN), **Ella Moore** (Clarksville, TN), **Riley Palmer** (New Orleans, LA), **Jeanne O’Connell** (Fairhope, AL), **Regina Raemsch** (Prairieville, LA), **Annelise Grindle** (Spring Hill, TN), and **Kari Novilla** (Knoxville, TN – Indiana University). Each performer did a beautiful job. Along with performances, participants had fun playing a virtual Harp Bingo game and voted on the winner of the Harpy Halloween Costume Contest! Congratulations to our bingo winners: **Kari Novilla**, **Olivia Hitt**, and **Chloe Jones** and our Harpy Halloween Costume Contest winners: **Kari Novilla** (1st place), **Ella Moore** and **Shae** Zalenski (tie – 2nd place). All of our winners received Harp Column Music gift cards, sponsored in part by the Nashville Chapter. Everyone had a wonderful time, and we are all looking forward to holding another regional event in the future! Weren’t able to make the event? Don’t worry! You can watch the entire recording of the event [HERE](https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/j8gU_XIUHINfiq_1jgHxzoQ7wJPICteJinPF_lhqYTpfnBdtQw-Si6mLOgo9ov4s.gWsd9USab8gPxYXt).
https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/j8gU_XIUHINfiq_1jgHxzoQ7wJPICteJinPF_lhqYTpfnBdtQw-Si6mLOgo9ov4s.gWsd9USab8gPxYXt



Quintessential Duo, Catherine Anderson and Rebecca Todaro



Regina Raemsch performs Tournier’s *Vers la source dans la bois* while attendees in costume look on: (L to R) Caroline Scism, Liana Alpino, and Annelise Grindle



Harptoberfest host and Southern Regional Director, Sarah Crocker, leads the event with spooky harp decorations.

News

- If your chapter has not already received Chapter Officer Training, Southern Regional Director Sarah K. Crocker will be contacting your chapter to schedule a Chapter Officer Training session this year, whether in-person or virtually over Zoom. All chapters in the American Harp Society, Inc. are required complete Chapter Officer Training by June 2021.

In Memoriam: Brook Boddie (October 29, 1968-July 15, 2020)

Nelson Brook Boddie graduated from Caddo Magnet High School and went on to study at both Northwestern State University and Louisiana State University-Shreveport, where he completed his Masters Degree. He served as Assistant Director of Disability Services for the state of Louisiana, Organist and Principal Accompanist for Broadmoor Baptist Church, and as an Adjunct Professor of English at LSU-S.

Brook learned about life, faith and music from his two grandmothers, Dot and Memommy. He had an interest in music from a young age and was known to bang around on his grandmother's piano as a small child. He loved music and embraced the challenge of learning to play a new instrument. While participating in music mission trips with Broadmoor Baptist and Louisiana Baptist All State Choir, Brook influenced thousands of students. He was also an accomplished composer and had many published pieces for the harp. As a tributes to him, his pieces were played by harpists around the world the week of his passing.

A Memorial Service celebrating Brook's life was held at 4:00 PM on Saturday, July 18, 2020 in Worship Center North, Broadmoor Baptist Church, Shreveport. The service was also live-streamed on the church's Facebook page. Brook's family suggests that memorials be made to ALS in memory of his mother, www.alsalams.org or to the Brook Boddie Memorial Scholarship (for High School Choir Tour), www.broadmoor.tv/give, 4110 Youree Dr., Shreveport, LA 71105.



Brook Boddie

Alabama Chapter

Meetings & Events

Chapter Officer Training – September 12th, 2019

The Alabama Chapter Officers met with their Southern Regional Director, Dr. Sarah Crocker, at the home of **Olivia Hitt** for a dinner social and officer training. Dr. Crocker provided a wealth of information to help the Alabama Chapter with officer duty formalities as well as informing them of opportunities available to chapter members provided by the American Harp Society.



(L to R) Chlothilde Jones (Treasurer), Karen Bopp (Secretary), Olivia Hitt (President), and Yvonne Johnson (Vice President) pictured with the Alabama Chapter of the American Harp Society charter and certificate.

Boldachev Concert and Dinner Social – September 13th, 2019

The Alabama Chapter met for a dinner social and yearly planning meeting at Newk's in Vestavia Hills, Alabama. Afterwards, they attended **Alexander Boldachev's** Concert at the Episcopal Church of the Ascension in Vestavia Hills, Alabama.



Alabama Chapter members and officers attended Alexander Boldachev's concert after their general membership meeting. (L to R) Olivia Hitt, Dr. Sarah Crocker, Alexander Boldachev, Chloe Jones, and Yvonne Johnson.

Business Meeting and Music Tasting Social – January 25th, 2020

Chloe Jones graciously hosted The Alabama Chapter at her home for their annual business meeting on January 25th, 2020. The chapter met, previous meetings minutes were read and approved, Chloe Jones (treasurer) updated the members on the status of the treasury, and **Olivia Hitt** (president) discussed upcoming harp events, harp camps, harp conferences, and harp competitions in 2020. Attendees brought music for the "music tasting" part where any harpist could look through the music and try it out on Chloe's pedal harp or Olivia's lever harp if they so desired. **Sharon Powers** brought her carbon fiber lap harp with her and presented to the group and let the attendees play on it.

Music Tasting Social

Presented by
The AHS Alabama Chapter



Date: 01/25/20
Time: 2:00PM
Location: 6800 Breyerton Way SE,
Owens Cross Roads, AL 35763
RSVP:
alabamaharpsociety@gmail.com

Come join us for this free social event! Bring your favorite music to share with your harp friends. All ages, experience levels, and types of harp music welcome! Both a pedal harp and lever harp will be available to try out music. Refreshments will be provided. A short annual business meeting will be held, and we will discuss our upcoming chapter events and opportunities. Please be sure to mark your music with your name.

Virtual Harp Recital (in lieu of library outreach event) – April 25th, 2020

The Alabama Chapter planned a music recital community outreach on April 25th, 2020, at our local Bailey Cove Branch Library. Because of Covid-19 restrictions the chapter had to cancel presenting it at the library and instead hosted it virtually via the chapter's Facebook page. 23 videos were submitted and published for the recital! Participants in the virtual recital: **Miley Grave Davis, Malachi Dyer, Olivia Hitt, Chloe Jones, Ronald Marino Jr., Katie Hoppe-McQueen, Gretchen Monson, Bethany Murphy, and Sharon Powers.**

- Link to the virtual recital: https://www.facebook.com/events/1514897522002294/?active_tab=discussion

Wind River Harps Tour – September 12th, 2020 3pm-5pm

The Alabama Chapter visited **Dave Boling** of Wind River Harps, a lever harp maker in Huntsville, AL on September 12th, 2020. This tour had such a great response with 19 attendees that we had to divide up into two groups to be able to accommodate everyone in the workshop. We toured Dave's workshop and he explained the intricacies of building harps to group 1 while group 2 waited their turn and played on a couple of Dave's finished lever harps. After the first tour finished, group 1 switched places with group 2 and the same process was followed.



(L to R) James Shaltes, Alana Dyer, and Dave Boling



(L to R) Luana Waits, Arlan and Mary Sue Goins, Meghan Shaltes, Alana Dyer, Chloe Jones, William and Leah Hitt,

The Alabama Chapter of the American Harp Society Presents

Wind River Harps Tour



Saturday, September 12th at 3:00 PM

Harpists and harp enthusiasts, join us for a tour of Dave Boling's lever harp workshop in Huntsville, AL. RSVP to alabamaharpsociety@gmail.com to reserve your spot and to get directions. Visit <https://windriverharps.com/index.php> for more information.

Please be sure to bring your mask if Alabama is still mandating it on the tour date. All attendees are expected to follow the CDC Guidelines for COVID-19.



Flyer for Wind River Harps Tour



Dave Boling in his harp workshop

Central Gulf Coast Chapter

Meetings and Events

- **Jeanne O'Connell, Jennifer Shell, Eric Allison** at Richards DAR House entertaining during the Christmas Open House on December 7, 2019.
Video Link: <https://www.facebook.com/gulfcoastharps/posts/2971668406191390>
- Members performed at the Westminster Village, a senior retirement home, in Spanish Fort, AL on January 19, 2020.



(L to R) Pam Every, Jeanne O'Connell, Elizabeth Brinkley, Jennifer Shell, Beth Marble

- The Central Gulf Coast Chapter Officers and a few North Shore Chapter Officers met with their Southern Regional Director, **Dr. Sarah K. Crocker**, at Pour Baby in Mobile, AL on January 31, 2020 for a dinner social and chapter officer training. Attendees learned about chapter officer duties as well as the programs offered by the American Harp Society for chapters.



Chapter Officer Training at Pour Baby in Mobile January 31, 2020. (L to R) Eyler Coates, Tami Roberts, Janean McCawley, Jeanne O'Connell, Dr. Sarah K. Crocker, Harriet Nihart, Eric Allison, Jennifer Shell

- **Dr. Sarah K. Crocker** presented a masterclass and lecture-recital “Tracing the Legacy of the French Harp School: Alphonse Hasselmans and Henriette Renié” for members and guests of the Central Gulf Coast Chapter at the Sacred Heart of Jesus Catholic Student Center in Mobile, AL on February 1, 2020. Dr. Crocker discussed her research on the lives, works, and relationship of Hasselmans and Renié and performed several of their solo compositions. To end the presentation, she was joined by members of the Gulf Coast Chapter for a performance of her harp ensemble arrangement of Renié’s *Les Pins de Charlannes*. Before the lecture-recital, Dr. Crocker presented a masterclass with 6 members of the Central Gulf Coast Chapter performing.



Dr. Sarah Crocker



Dr. Sarah K. Crocker (far right) with members of the Central Gulf Coast Chapter performing Renié’s *Les Pins de Charlannes*.



Dr. Sarah K. Crocker and Pam Every (at harp) during masterclass.



Dr. Sarah K. Crocker and Eric Allison during masterclass.

- On March 13, 2020, **Grainne Hambly** and **Billy Jackson** presented a Masters of Celtic Harp Concert with harp duos, bouzouki, flute, and concertino. It was a house concert held at the home of **Jennifer Parker Shell** in West Mobile. The following day, Grainne and Billy led a workshop on Celtic tunes and music therapy. They luckily flew back to Ireland just in time before all travel was shut down due to COVID.



Billy Jackson and Grainne Hambly

- Following the outbreak of COVID, our chapter meetings had to go virtual. Thank you Zoom and AHS for allowing us to connect. We have found a new way to meet with our members who are spread so far and wide, and the meetings have been better attended, enjoyable, and informative. We made plans for Fall 2020 and Spring 2021 with hopes that all will be well. It was good to see everyone happy and healthy at home. The meeting is recorded for members who could not attend.



Virtual Central Gulf Coast Chapter meeting

Upcoming Events

- The Quintessential Duo will present a concert at the St. James Episcopal Church in Fairhope, AL on November 13th. Members of Central Gulf Coast Chapter will join the Quintessential Duo to play *Ballet of the Butterflies* by Louise Trotter. On November 14th, the Quintessential Duo will present and masterclass and workshops on ensemble playing and harp care and maintenance.



Catherine Anderson from New Orleans and Rebecca Todaro from Baton Rouge are the Quintessential Duo

- **Pam Every, Jeanne O'Connell, Elizabeth Brinkley, Jennifer Shell, Beth Marble, and Eric Allison** plan to perform at Richards DAR House Christmas Open House on December 5, 2020 in Mobile, AL.

Members News

Member **Eyler Coates** arranged the Scottish Tune *Bonny at Morn*, which was published in the *Journal of the Scottish Harp Society of America, Inc.* Congratulations, Eyler!



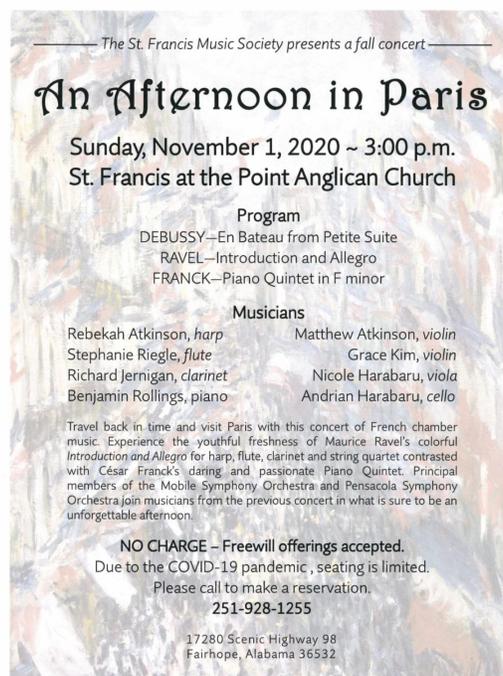
Pictured: Dreama's Dance (L to R: Frank Clark, Mary Radspinner, Nancy Bick Clark and Evelyn Castiglioni)

Eyler Coates arrangement listed on the cover of The Kilt & Harp.

- Harp & Bow performed September 12, 2020 at the Faery Court Masquerade Ball in Biloxi, MS. Harp & Bow thanks **Laura Leigh** for joining them on violin, **Cindy LoPresto** for adding that medieval touch with her bodhran, and **Chris LoPresto** for patiently recording them.
Highlight Reel: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FkJkHcqO7DM&feature=youtu.be&fbclid=IwARocOv6ZnoH5dMG9woj2-EyoDHq2jCI7tbWZoh6WxoolI4mB8ybG6QNULOc>
- **Elizabeth Brinkley** and **Jeanne O'Connell** from Fairhope, AL joined 107 other harpists to perform a virtual compilation of Pachelbel's Canon in D.
<https://www.facebook.com/HarpsNorthWest/videos/629034147821308/>
- Anyone stressed out? Have a listen to this. *Cherry Trees of Merchiston* by **Isobel**

Mieras from the Edinburgh International Harp Festival. Hope it brings calm and peace. Stay healthy. Stay home. – Jeanne
<https://youtu.be/5Q-xmXfZMSk>

- **Jeanne O'Connell** participated in *Harp Column's* practice challenge during the month of January 2020. Harpists were to practice at least 20 minutes per day on a new piece or technique, and Jeanne chose *Chanson de Mai* by Alphonse Hasselmans. She was amazed that she could learn the beautiful piece in just one month.
<https://youtu.be/2HIQYfYmycI>
- During the pandemic, **Elizabeth Brinkley** collaborated with her flutist friend, Bruce, in Florida on the Scottish tune *Cro Chinn t-Saile*. They created it with the Acapella App. You can also check out Elizabeth's recording of *Angel's Prayer*.
<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1SQFLqRgjcG1YFzxPitAm5h67DWu8mva/view?usp=sharing>
<https://youtu.be/GL5b2TV5oyQ>
- **Andra Bohnet** played her Celtic harp and Celtic flutes on this version of *Hector, the Hero*. Andra also accompanied the Boxwood 2020 Virtual Flute Choir with her Celtic harp on her arrangement of Thomas Walsh's *Inid Oírr*. The flutists came from U.S.A., Canada, Scotland, and New Zealand.
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dVY7lRjXMHw>
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NX7tcd_M7T4
- **Rebekah Atkinson** wanted to share something lighthearted and upbeat, the Valse in Eb Major by Auguste Durand. Rebekah will be performing Ravel's *Introduction and Allegro* at St. Francis at the Point Anglican Church in Point Clear, AL with members of the Pensacola Symphony on Nov. 1, 2020.
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=a72TdVdf_Co&t=150s



Flyer for the St. Francis Music Society's fall concert *An Afternoon in Paris* featuring harpist, Rebekah Atkinson

ARKANSAS

Arkansas Chapter

News

The Arkansas Chapter is working to plan events for 2021. If you would like to connect with or

LOUISIANA

Bayou Chapter

Meetings & Events

- Louisiana Harp Day, September 21, 2019 presented a showcase of Louisiana harpists of the Baton Rouge community. Hosted by St. Luke's Episcopal Church, with a pop-up shop by Atlanta Harp Center, the day held formal opening and ending concerts, lectures, master classes, and student performances. **Brook Boddie** opened the day with a concert of his compositions, and then students **Kate Gladney** and **Natalia Tooraen** performed two of his works for him. An orchestral excerpt master class coached by **Stephanie Gustafson** was followed with **Bette Vidrine's** presentation describing her walk on The Camino, her article on which was published in the Folk Harp Journal, Fall 2018. Students **Tess Fullerton**, **Thuy Bui**, **Kate Gladney**, **Natalia Tooraen** and **Aubrey Adams** performed on the youth concert at lunchtime. **Deborah Goppelt** brightened the afternoon with a concert of her hymn arrangements. A panel discussion of therapeutic harp and music therapy shared the views of **Catherine Anderson**, **Bette Vidrine** and the Baton Rouge General head of Music Therapy, **Mary Malloy**. Finally, the closing concert dazzled all with **Jane Clark** and **Melissa Wiggins** performing gems of the classical repertoire.



(Standing, L to R) Letreta Wilbert, Rebecca Todaro (Seated, L to R) Karen Adams, Tish Karl. Bayou Chapter officers ready to check attendees in for Harp Day.



Louisiana harpist, composer and beloved treasurer Brook Boddie discusses his composition "Elegy" with Natalia Tooraen.



Youth Concert performers: Kate Gladney, Natalia Tooraen, Bette Vidrine, Thuy Bui, Tess Fullerton and Aubrey Adams

- Following Louisiana Harp Day, the chapter officers held meetings in October 2019 and January 2020. All planned events were put on hold due to COVID. We plan to have more events in 2021.
-

Louisiana Chapter

News

The Louisiana Chapter of the AHS has had a weird year, as have many of you!

- In September 2019, **Barbara Belew** and **Carlyn Fullington** attended the Bayou Chapter's "Louisiana Harp Day." Louisiana Chapter member, **Jane Clark**, performed on the final program of the day. Jane is a recent graduate of McNeese State University and is now is principal harp of the Lake Charles Symphony Orchestra. She played Grandjany's *The Colorado Trail* and the Mozart's *Concerto for Flute and Harp* with flutist **Dr. Judy Hand**, a veteran McNeese faculty member and principal flute for both the Lake Charles and the Rapides Symphony Orchestras. Jane Clark and Dr. Hand also later presented a faculty recital at McNeese, which included the Mozart.
- **Patricia Horvath** and **Barbara Belew** gave their annual harp duo program in October 2019 in a very chilly concert hall. There were a number of chapter members who braved the cold to support them, and they were glad for their presence. Patty and Barbara ended with a piece by the late Samuel Milligan, who was still living at that time. It is a bit of a farce about a huntsman and a cuckoo.
- Later in the 2019 season, **Barbara Belew** played with the Lake Charles Community Band for the first time for their Christmas Concert at Trinity Baptist Church.
- The Louisiana Chapter has traditionally presented a Spring Concert, a tradition of over 40 years. Unfortunately, the concert was scheduled for March 15, 2020, and we were notified only two days before on March 13th that the concert would have to be cancelled due to the closure of McNeese State University due to COVID.
- Sadly, the Louisiana Chapter's and MSU Harp Camp (it would have been the 2st annual) and the annual harp duo presented by **Patty Horvath** and **Barbara Belew** originally scheduled for Oct. 25, 2020 have also been canceled/postponed due to COVID and the recent hurricanes.

Our chapter looks forward to getting back "in gear" and moving forward!

New Orleans (NOLA) Chapter

Meetings & Events

- September 14, 2019 - Irish Festival New Orleans, Kingsley House, New Orleans, LA
- October 6, 2019 - Willoughby Nursing Home, Westbank, New Orleans, LA
- November 4, 2019 - First Mondays of the Month at Fair Grinds Café', New Orleans, LA



(L to R) Jesse Autumn, Teresa Sylvest, Joyce Buie, Patrice Fisher

- December 15, 2019 - Preservation Resource Center of New Orleans, Garden District Holiday Home Tour, New Orleans, LA



(L to R) Patrice Fisher, Teresa Sylvest, Phyllis Waring, Laurie McConnel



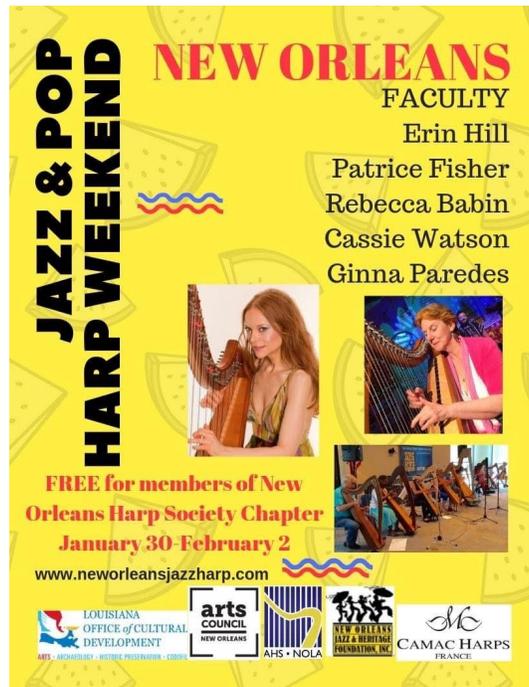
Felicity Church

- December 26, 2019 New Orleans City Park's Celebration in the Oaks, New Orleans, LA



(L to R) Patrice Fisher, Teresa Sylvest and Eyler Coates

- January 31 – February 1, 2020 New Orleans Jazz and Pop Harp Weekend, New Orleans, LA



2020 NOLA Jazz and Pop Harp Weekend Flyer

- March 4, 2020 The 23rd New Orleans French Film Festival, Prytania Theater, New Orleans, LA
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=74x284ij9qe>



Upcoming Events

- Upcoming Event! Mark your calendars. You won't want to miss this!



2021 NOLA Jazz and Pop Harp Weekend Flyer

North Shore (Covington) Chapter

Meetings & Events

- September 8th, 2019 Carmelite Monastery, Covington, LA
- November 9, 10, 2019 Highlands & Islands Festival, Gulfport, MS



(L to R) Patrice Fisher, Phyllis Waring, Joyce Buie, Eyler Coates



Eyler Coates

- November 17, 2019 Renaissance Festival, Hammond, LA



(L to R) Joyce Buie, Patrice Fisher, Eyler Coates, Teresa Sylvest Dershak

- December 14, 2019 Christmas Past Street Festival, Mandeville, LA



(L to R) Claire Cowart, Patrice Fisher, Teresa Sylvest Dershak, Joyce Buie

- The North Shore Chapter began a Virtual Harp Concert Series in September 2020. You can check out their recordings here:
"Mary's Wedding" <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8Gcd7b6OSXI>
"Sunset at Waver" <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LslDI7-6oEQ>

Member News

Dr. Eyler Coates had his arrangement of "Bonny At Morn" published in Spring 2020 *The Kilt & Harp Journal* of the Scottish Harp Society of America, Inc.



Remembering Evelyn Tiffany-Castiglioni



Pictured: Dreama's Dance (L to R: Frank Clark, Mary Radspinner, Nancy Bick Clark and Evelyn Castiglioni)

Cover of Spring 2020 The Kilt & Harp Journal of the Scottish Harp Society of America, Inc.

MISSISSIPPI

Mississippi Chapter

News

- If you would like more information about how to start a new chapter in Mississippi, please contact Southern Regional Director, Sarah K. Crocker at sarah.k.crocker@gmail.com.

TENNESSEE

East Tennessee Chapter

Meetings & Events

- **September 6, 2019: Elzbieta Szymt Concert and Masterclass - Knoxville, TN**
- The East Tennessee Chapter of the American Harp Society was thrilled and honored to co-sponsor, along with Bill Jones Music, a very special concert given by the gifted **Elzbieta Szymt**, harp professor and director of the pre-college program at the Jacobs School of Music, Indiana University. Ela has performed numerous solo and chamber events in Europe, Japan, Canada and the United States, so it was quite an opportunity for our chapter to have a harpist and teacher of her reputation in East Tennessee. The audience was entranced with her exquisite performance, which also included a beautiful duet with Indiana University Junior **Kari Novilla**. The audience expressed their appreciation with a standing ovation and later with a request that she return to Knoxville for another concert in the future. Ela's concert was followed the next day by a master class with several students from the Knoxville area and also a student from



Elzbieta Szmyt at Westminster Presbyterian Church, Knoxville, TN



Elzbieta Szmyt and Kari Novilla



Elzbieta Szmyt and Kari Novilla.



Elzbieta Szmyt and Korena Hodge



Elzbieta Szmyt and Emma Bursworth



Elzbieta Szmyt and Amy Carty

- December 8, 2019: Holiday Harps in West Town Mall** - The ETCAHS received an invitation to play holiday music at West Town Mall in Knoxville, TN, which was our last event of 2019. We had enough talented harpists who volunteered that we were able to cover the requested 3 hours of time. Both the administration for the mall and the shoppers were very pleased with the music provided by our chapter. The harpists received many encouraging and appreciate comments, the best of which might have been the fact that shoppers stopped to enjoy the free concert.



West Town Mall - shoppers certainly enjoyed the harp music.



Catharene Petty playing her double strung harp.

- March 13, 2020: Caroline Wilkins Concert and Master Class - Knoxville, TN** - Though news of Covid-19 arriving in the U.S. became well known in late February, our

chapter was still able to sponsor a lovely concert by the American Harp Society's Concert Artist, **Caroline Wilkins**. In 2019, Caroline won the National Competition in the Young Professionals Division and was given the opportunity to perform concerts for local chapters across the United States for the following 2 years. Caroline enchanted us with a lovely concert, including an audience favorite, Faure's *Une Chatelaine en sa Tour*. What a great opportunity for some members of our local community to get to hear this award-winning harpist.



Caroline Wilkins

Memphis Chapter

NEWS

- If you are interested in helping to reactivate the Memphis Chapter, please contact Southern Regional Director, Sarah K. Crocker at sarah.k.crocker@gmail.com

Nashville Chapter

Meetings & Events

- On October 24, 2019, members of the Nashville Chapter met at the home of President **Agnes Hall Bartek** for a "Harpy Halloween" social event with costumes and Halloween cookie decorating!
- On March 9, 2020, a chapter officer meeting was held to discuss future programming and local events to attend. Plans to continue student performances at a local library and getting groups together to see AHS Concert Artist **Caroline Wilkins** in Knoxville at the East TN Chapter event on 3/3/20 and **Mary Lattimore** in Nashville on 3/16/20 were discussed. Unfortunately, many of these plans and harp performances scheduled were canceled due to COVID.
- On September 20, 2020, another chapter officer meeting was held to discuss how to move forward with virtual programming for the chapter this year. The decision to waive membership dues for the 2020-2021 year was made as many members are experiencing difficulties due to COVID.
- On October 18, 2020, a virtual chapter meeting was held on Zoom to give members the opportunity to fellowship and discuss what they have learned and any music they have discovered during these "virtual times." Members discussed pieces they have been practicing and harp music they were listening to for inspiration.

Upcoming Events

Plans for a **2020-2021 "Hometown Harpists"** virtual event series was announced:

- Chapter members will be invited to virtually attend Timbre's Annual Christmas Show in December 2020 (day and time TBA). Nashville based harpist/songwriter **Timbre** has been enchanting audiences across the world with her unique harp-based folk/rock with her neoclassical/baroque pop band "Timbre". Thanks to an anonymous donor, the Nashville Harp Society will be sponsoring tickets for chapter members for this event.
- Franklin, TN based harpist, **Kirsten Agresta Copely**, will perform original works and discuss producing her recent album, "Around the Sun" during a virtual event at 2pm (Central Time) on January 17, 2021. Kirsten is a harpist, arranger, and multi-genre composer. Her prolific career has taken her across the world performing for dignitaries, blockbuster soundtracks, and Billboard 100 artists. Kirsten is the Associate Professor of Harp at Vanderbilt University.

Though no date is set yet, the Nashville Chapter plans to invite the 2019-2021 American Harp Society Concert Artist **Caroline Wilkins** to perform in 2021.

To be notified about Nashville Harp Society's events, please email nashvilleharpociety@gmail.com to be included on the email list.

Member News

- NHS Secretary **Liana Alpino** was featured on the local Nashville news for her driveway concert series on Mother's Day, May 10, 2020. She played an hour of music in her neighborhood to celebrate mothers and gave away flowers to each mother in attendance.



Liana Alpino

- **Paula Bressman** and her husband **José Francisco Salgado** welcomed baby boy, **Salvador José**, into the world on August 16, 2020.



(L to R) Salvador José, Paula Bressman, and José Francisco Salgado

- **Agnes Hall Bartek** and her husband **John Bartek** welcomed baby girl, **Adelaide Elaine**, into the world on February 26, 2020.



Adelaide Elaine Bartek

- The Hillnote Harp Academy, directed by Sarah K. Crocker, held its annual Harpy Holidays community concert on December 15, 2019 at the Brentwood Library. Over 200 people were able to attend with 20 performers!



Hillnote Harp Academy Students and Directors (L to R) Serena Arsenault, Lailah Wilson, Eloise Kubiak,

Kathleen Moore, Annelise Grindle, Ansley Tillman, Othniel Parson, Grace Hathaway, Gracen Beard, Garland Shamblin, Faith Viers, Aliyah Wenneker, Sophia Burr, Zarinah Wilson, Joy Arsenault, Stacy Fahey, Kelly Harris, Sarah K. Crocker, and Luke Freeman.



Audience at Hillnote Harp Academy's Harpy Holidays 2020

- **Sophia Burr** gave her first solo harp recital on November 16, 2019 at the Steinway Recital Hall in Nashville. She performed works by C.P.E. Bach, Carlos Salzedo, Alphonse Hasselmans, Marcel Grandjany, and John Thomas. Sophia studies with Sarah K. Crocker at the Hillnote Harp Academy.

A promotional poster for a harp concert. The background is a dense field of pink flowers. The title "Beauty through the Ages" is written in a large, elegant cursive font at the top. Below it, in a smaller, simpler font, is "a harp concert by". The name "Sophia L. Burr" is written in a large, white, cursive font. To the right of the text is a photograph of Sophia Burr, a young woman with long dark hair, wearing a black dress and a pearl necklace, standing next to a harp. Below the name, there is a small text box that says "» program includes unique opportunities for children participation". At the bottom left, there is a white-bordered box containing the text: "11:00 a.m. on November 16, 2019", "refreshments to follow", "Steinway Recital Hall", and "4285 Sidco Drive, Nashville". At the very bottom, there is a small line of text: "please RSVP by 11/9/19 :: allison@truthbeautygoodness.net".

Sophia Burr

- **Kirsten Agresta Copely** released an album of original compositions titled *Around the Sun* this year, and it is on the nomination ballot for the 63rd Grammy Awards! She also recently launched the Americana duo Harp & Plow with her husband, **Marc Copely**, and they have a new single set to release on Nov. 13th. Her three original compositions "Inside, Looking Out," "Bokeh," and "Tableaux" were published by Lyon & Healy Publications this year as well.



- 1 Daybreak 6:13
- 2 Wind Made Moan 3:54
- 3 Persephone Rising 2:46
- 4 Surya 5:58
- 5 The Silver Swan 5:26
- 6 Water Lilies 3:32
- 7 Fall Leaves, Fall 4:18
- 8 Riflessioni (Reflections) 4:09
- 9 Winter's Bone 5:33

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Music composed & performed by Kirsten Agresta Copely
Produced, Engineered, Mixed by Marc Copely
Marc Copely - Omschoord on Track #1
Recorded in Franklin, TN at Casa Copely Studios
Mastered by Jeff Lipton & Maria Rice, Peerless Mastering, Boston, MA
Photography - Jeffrey Fasano
Art Direction: The Design Studio at DiscMakers
Music administered by Kirsten Copely Music (ASCAP)
For more info go to
www.musiccityharp.com



Kirsten Agresta Copely's album *Around the Sun*

