



2023-2024 Chapter of the Year submission

The San Diego Chapter has had a vibrant, inspirational and busy year. We are a small chapter with an aspirational vision, and were able to reach our mission-driven goals this year. Our Board met in June of 2023 for a day-long retreat, where we reviewed our previously adopted strategic plan and drafted a new one to be implemented in the 2023-24 fiscal year. We aligned that budget with the plan and came up with a very ambitious calendar of events. We truly put our mission statement at the heart of every event we planned.

Mission Statement of the San Diego Chapter of the American Harp Society

Our purpose and mission is to celebrate the harp legacy, inspire musical excellence, and empower the next generation of harpists throughout San Diego.

We inspired our members, both students and adults, on November 5 with our First Annual HarpFest. It was a day of ensemble music rehearsal, a concert, and camaraderie. During lunch four local professional harpists were interviewed; they answered questions about how they began their study of the harp, and explained a bit about their lives as professional musicians. It was remarkably interesting to hear their journey. Parents and students also asked pertinent questions about life as a professional musician. On the Board we have a retired classical symphony harpist, a composer and several teachers, as well as several event harpists playing weddings and gigs around the county.

After lunch our student camp scholarship winner, Stella Lien, gave a well organized presentation with a slide show describing her summer experience at the Young Artist's Harp Seminar in Chestertown, MD with world-renowned harpist and Julliard School Professor of Harp, Nancy Allen. Our robust scholarship program is one way we empower the next generation of harpists. We offer scholarships for lessons, harp rental, summer camp and graduating seniors. This year, we provided 2

scholarships for lessons, 1 camp scholarship, and 1 graduating senior scholarship. We hope to have more students apply for camp scholarships for this summer.

Stella's camp presentation was followed by a brief Chapter meeting, in which we introduced the history of our Chapter. While developing this program, we discovered it was the 60th Anniversary of the Chapter, which was started by Gertrude Hustana, the San Diego Symphony Harpist at that time. We presented a slide show (attached) highlighting the Chapter. This was truly an opportunity for our Chapter to celebrate the legacy of the harp in San Diego.

The vision for HarpFest is growing. We are planning more workshops and activities such as Stage Department, and Harp Transportation, and will plan and implement games and age appropriate activities for our youngest students.

November ended with an Adult Harp Salon. These bimonthly "Salons" are opportunities for our adult members to share their love of the harp. After enjoying light snacks and beverages, the harpists perform pieces on which they are working, play duets and ensembles, or discuss "tricks of the trade." Optimally, there are at least 2 pedal harps, and at minimum, a pedal harp as well as a lever harp. The salon rotates to different homes throughout the county, enabling more members to participate as we support and inspire each other's journey with the harp. Participants include adult students, teachers, gig harpists, retired harpists, hobbyists, and harpists who play for hospice/palliative care/nursing homes. In addition to the November Salon, we hosted Salons in January, March, and May, with one scheduled for July.

In February, we presented our annual fundraiser with a very inspiring Gala Concert featuring Alexander Boldachev in a beautiful, private residence near Rancho Santa Fe, CA with an audience of 90. The next day our student members were able to take advantage of a Masterclass supported entirely by the San Diego Harp Society, and the opportunity for private lessons. This event truly celebrated the legacy of the harp, and inspired musical excellence among our members and the community at large. By using social media (Instagram and Facebook), we were able to reach out to

the greater Southern California Community, bringing in people from all walks of life.

In addition to an annual gala event, we have a USPS appeal in December and one to be implemented at the end of the fiscal year in August. This fundraising allows us to bring in concert artists, including paying for venues, receptions, transportation as needed, and to provide the scholarships mentioned above.

But wait, there's more to February! The Los Angeles and San Diego Chapters of the American Harp Society worked together to bring harpist-composer Caroline Lizotte to Southern California for an artist residency focused on learning, collaboration, and community engagement. This project was called *SO Vibrant Together!* because it was a celebration of bringing people together in many ways, through contemporary harp music.

The residency featured concerts of chamber and solo works by Ms. Lizotte in Los Angeles and San Diego. The concert program included several chamber works that Ms. Lizotte had not performed in Southern California, including *Close for Couloir* for cello and harp (with Ms. Lizotte's husband, cellist Étienne Ratthé), *Raga* and *Stellae Saltantem* for two harps (with harpist Tasha Smith Godinez from the San Diego Chapter), and the *Concerto Techno* (with Étienne Ratthé performing a techno live-act accompaniment). These performances highlighted the versatility of the harp when combined with other instruments. It was also a significant opportunity for harpists in our area to see many of the techniques that Ms. Lizotte uses in her music executed in-person as well as to note her specific phrasing and approach to gestures in her pieces.

While in Southern California, Ms. Lizotte gave a master class at Irvine Community College in which harp students from our San Diego Chapter participated, performing chamber works for harp. She also gave a Composing for the Harp workshop at the University of San Diego. This workshop was attended by composition students from the University of San Diego, University of California San Diego, San Diego State University and Grossmont Community College. It was an exciting time of outreach to our local composers and they left empowered to compose for our extraordinary instrument! Caroline Lizotte's residency was funded through a collaboration

among: a grant from the American Harp Society, Lyon and Healy Harps, and both local chapters. All events in San Diego were provided free of charge as a way to inspire and celebrate harp music with our members and community.

March, April, and May were full of opportunities for our students to shine! We hosted the first of a unique, two part program, the Music Education Audition and Evaluations in March. This year we had Jillian Lopez, faculty member from the University of Redlands, serve as our judge. Five students participated; two participants performed both a solo piece, and a duet number. Ms. Lopez provided verbal and written feedback to each participant. In April, the students returned with their polished pieces and gave a lovely performance for their parents and friends. Again, Ms. Lopez met with each performer, giving further feedback. We host this event annually as a way to empower our next generation of harpists.

Also in April, we hosted our annual Harp Care Workshop, featuring Gabriel Diaz. Mr. Diaz graciously donated his time for this workshop, which is provided free to our members, and is timed to coordinate with his San Diego visits, during which he offers fee-for-service Harp Technician services, such as regulation and simple repairs. This highly anticipated event happens every Spring, and is always a big hit with our members. It is a great way to celebrate the legacy of the harp, as we learn about all that goes into building and maintaining our beautiful instruments, and how that has changed over the years.

Later in April, three of our advanced high school students had the opportunity to perform at our Annual Advanced Student Recital, which was open to the public.

Our Annual All Student Recital and Senior Scholarship Auditions & Awards were held in May. This event is also open to the public, and we had over 70 people attend and enjoy the beautiful music provided by 14 of our students. Prior to the All Student Recital, we held the scholarship audition. Although we only had one Senior auditioning for the scholarship this year, she still played before a panel of 3 judges: two local, professional harpists and one local, professional, non-harpist musician. We offer 3 levels of scholarship prizes, and have specific requirements for each. Our annual recital opportunities and scholarship programs are further examples of how we

empower our future generation of harpists. Recitals are also a way to inspire our students to systematically learn and perfect the musical selection assigned by their teachers to improve their mechanics and develop their musicality. At the conclusion of the All Student Recital, we held our semi-annual membership meeting and elected our new Executive Board.

Although our Chapter has a dedicated [website](#), we found we needed to increase our outreach. To improve communication and encourage participation in our events, we began a “Teacher Newsletter.” In the past, teachers were our most direct link to Chapter membership. This coming year, we hope to expand our outreach to include a regular newsletter directed to not only the teachers, but our entire Chapter. This will facilitate our communication with not only students, but our adult hobbyists and professional members as well.

Our Chapter is fortunate that, in 2021, we welcomed a Board Member who holds a Certified Fundraising Executive certification; he brings his skills and talents to assisting us in planning our fundraising activities. He is also our Chapter’s Treasurer. In fiscal year 2022-23 he planned, drafted and presented a formal strategic plan and corresponding budget that was unanimously approved and adopted by the Board. In June, 2023, the Board met to plan the FY2023-24 budget, which was approved and adopted. The entire Board will meet again this June for another all-day retreat where we will review in detail the FY2023-24 budget-to-actual results. Additionally, the Board will plan, approve and adopt the FY2024-25 strategic plan and budget, as well as organize the yearly calendar, including our fundraising Gala. We again have aspirational, yet achievable goals for HarpFest, jazz workshops, our Chapter Gala and more!

2023-2024 SDHS Board



Supporting Documents and Links

Slide show, showcasing our year:

[San Diego Harp Society, 2023-24 Season](#)

Teacher Newsletters

[September Teacher Newsletter](#)

[January Teacher Newsletter](#)

[February Teacher Newsletter](#)

[March Teacher Newsletter](#)

2023-24 San Diego Chapter Calendar

[2023-24 San Diego Chapter Calendar](#)

San Diego Chapter of the American Harp Society
Fiscal Year 2023-2024
Strategic Plan

Mission Statement

The San Diego Chapter of the American Harp Society, aka San Diego Harp Society (SDHS), was formed to support, enhance, and cultivate the local harp community in the southern California region. Our purpose and mission is to celebrate the harp legacy, inspire musical excellence, and empower the next generation of harpists throughout San Diego.

The Plan

To promote the mission of the organization, the following strategic plan will be implemented during the 2023-24 Fiscal Year beginning in September of 2023.

Annual programming:

Music Education Auditions and Evaluations:

Held two days per year

Participants come specifically to be heard and to hear one another. Because this is a unique two-part program, there is special focus on the improvement that can be made by participating on both days.

- Day 1: Participants play pieces of their own choosing for an advisor and for one another. The advisor gives each student feedback on his/her performance. A performer's worksheet or traditional theory test is given.
- Day 2: about a month later, participants show their improvement by playing the same pieces again.

Annual Chapter Recital:

- One recital held per year

Senior Scholarship Competition

- Open to all harp students graduating from high school and continuing their education at an accredited college or university are eligible for the competition.
- There is no limit on the number of students who can apply, and award scholarship is dependent upon several factors including the applicant & application, their involvement in the SDHS and their audition performance.

Concert Harpist Recital: Masterclass

- A nationally recognized concert harpist will come to San Diego and perform a public recital.
- This artist conducts a masterclass and/or private coaching and lessons for intermediate and advanced harp students.
- Students need to prepare and play a section of or a whole piece.

Concert harpist recital:

- A nationally recognized concert harpist will come to San Diego and perform a public recital.
- This artist conducts a class and/or private lessons for beginning, intermediate and adult harp students.
- Students need to prepare a part of or a whole piece to present.

Professional Development for Harp Teachers

- "Teach the Teacher Workshop(s) will be conducted by a nationally recognized harp pedagogue.
- Harp teachers in and about the San Diego area and Southern California will be invited to attend.

Community Outreach Program *

- In keeping with one pillar of our mission, which is to cultivate the local harp community and in the service of being mindful of equity, diversity and inclusion, the Chapter will make recitals, workshops, masterclasses and other events available to students from all backgrounds in the greater San Diego area.
- Postponed until 2024-25

HarpFest

Held one day per year

- The centerpiece of this festival will be harp ensemble rehearsals and a performance.
- Also featured will be a workshop on harp technology and repair.
- Technique and study of the lever harp by a nationally recognized lever harpist and teacher
- Vendors and national sponsors will be engaged.

Adult Harp Student Salons

Every other month.

- Invited adult harp students and harpists to meet at the home of a Board Member and read through harp ensemble music. There is a social hour following with conversation and nibbles.

Harp Community Social Events

- HarpFest
- Spring Workshop

Annual SDHS Fundraising and membership drive

One fundraising event per year

- A ticketed fundraising event featuring a performance by professional harpists to include a medium to light ask will be planned and implemented.
- This event should be publicized and marketed in and beyond the San Diego area, possibly reaching into Orange County.

Annual Giving

- An annual fundraising appeal letter via USPS focused on current and past Board Members, current and past SDHS members and their families.

One membership drive per year.

- A membership drive will be conducted online and via the USPS once annually. It will be primarily harp teacher driven. It should be at the beginning and/or end of each fiscal year.

Scholarship Program**Senior Scholarship Competition**

- First, second and third place winners will be award one-time scholarships.

Continued study of the harp scholarships

- Funds awarded will be to cover some of the cost of private harp lessons for deserving students.

Music camp scholarships

- Funds awarded will be to cover some of the cost of private harp lessons for deserving students.

Chapter Ambassador Program*

- The Chapter Ambassadors program promotes student engagement at the chapter and national levels, creating service and community building opportunities for students.
 - The program strives to build partnerships that increase access to the harp, strengthen connections to chapters, encourage student mentoring at the chapter level, and foster future leadership potential for the Society.
 - Provides funds for AHS Conference attendance for a deserving student (See guidelines on the American Harp Society website)
- * Continue to promote this program next year. Start projects over the summer.

San Diego Chapter of the American Harp Society

2023 – 2024 Concert Season

Programs

A CONCERT TO BENEFIT THE SAN DIEGO HARP SOCIETY

ALEXANDER



BOLDACHEV

FEBRUARY 3, 2024



Alexander Boldachev

Alexander is a virtuoso-harpist, composer, exclusive artist of Italian harp house Salvi Harps. He initiated the World Harp Day, founded the Zurich Harp Festival, and co-founded the community “LYUDŸ”. Boldachev is Laureate of more than a dozen prestigious international competitions, including composing competitions; awarded by the “Britain's Brilliant Prodigies”, “Aoyama Music Award” in Kyoto, “Pro Europa” in Austria and presented by Heinz Fischer for high achievements in the field of culture. He is also Fellow of the international foundations Vontobel in Switzerland and Banque Populaire in France, as well as the Russian foundations for the development of young musicians Spivakov, Temirkanov, the Rotary Club and Houses of Music that gave a start to his career. He is Laureate of the Prix Walo television award in Switzerland.

Boldachev has played the harp, piano and written music from the age of five. He travels giving solo concerts around the world and leads master classes at such educational institutions as the Royal Conservatory in Toronto, Juilliard School in New York, Royal Academy in London and the Ferenc Liszt Academy in Budapest. In 2018, Alexander wrote and performed an electronic harp solo at the FIFA World Cup Opening Ceremony, sharing the stage with Robbie Williams and Aida Garifullina. He has performed in such world halls as Carnegie Hall in New York, the Hall of Gaveau in Paris, the Musikverein in Vienna, the Great Hall of the Philharmonic in St. Petersburg, and others, both with solo concerts and in collaboration with many European and Russian orchestras.

Alexander Boldachev is a participant of the festivals: Burning Man, Musical Olympus, New Names, Mozart+, Davos and Gstaad in Switzerland, Big Russian Ball in Rome, Bravo Award, SKIF Sergey Kuroyokhin, Burberry and D&G shows and projects of The Moscow and St. Petersburg Houses of Music.

Program

Peter Tchaikovsky – Sentimental Valse - **We are yearning...**

Modest Mussorgsky – Promenade - **...during the journey**

Mikhail Glinka – Nocturne - **...to the good old days...**

Modest Mussorgsky – The Old Castle - **...which have vanished.**

Sergei Rachmaninov – Prelude C # - **Death...**

Peter Tchaikovsky – Sugar-plum Fairy - **... and life...**

Modest Mussorgsky – Baba Jaga - **...are dancing together...**

Ukrainian Folk Song – Shchedryk - **...in the fields of Ukraine.**

Dmitry Shostakovich – Waltz n. 2 - **Sorrowful waltz...**

Sergei Slonimsky – Chechen Rhapsody - **... spurred by past mistakes...**

Sergei Prokofiev – Dance of Knights - **...that we sadly repeat...**

Alexander Boldachev – War and Peace - **... failing to learn from them.**

Georgy Sviridov – Time Forward - **But the future...**

Igor Stravinsky – Petrushka - **... will rise our spirits...**

Modest Mussorgsky - “Great Gate of Kyiv” **... and bring peace into our hearts.**



“Confession”

a journey to a peaceful mind

Program by Swiss-Russian Artist –
Alexander Boldachev

We are yearning during the journey to the good old days, which have vanished. Death and life are dancing together in the fields of Ukraine – a sorrowful waltz spurred by past mistakes that we sadly repeat, failing to learn from them. But the future will raise our spirits and bring peace into our hearts.

The War in Ukraine has touched the hearts of many, bringing forth an array of emotions from sorrow and distress to hope and determination. This musical program addresses the complex variety of these sentiments, reminding us that humanity's collective response transcends borders, ethnicities, and the color of passports. It's a plea to internalize the profound teachings that emerge from such turbulent times and to sow seeds of unity, understanding, and future prosperity. We are here to build our joint future.

As a Swiss-Russian artist and composer, my lineage extends across the territories of Ukraine, Belarus, Russia, and Finland. My younger years in St. Petersburg and my move to Zurich at 15 gave me a comprehensive view of the world. I admit my past indifference, which is also my guilt and burden because a healthy society should take responsibility for the people's and community's doings.

Spanning multiple eras and emotions, this program captures the essence of our experiences over these tumultuous years through the eyes of composers of the past. It transports listeners from Glinka's heartrending melodies of the 19th century and the timeless resonance of Ukrainian folk songs to the poignant wartime reflections encapsulated by Shostakovich and Prokofiev.

We're reminded of the ever-evolving nature of our shared history through Rachmaninov's introspective exploration of mortality and Sviridov's futuristic visions. The 1999 Chechnya conflict, an alarming wake-up call, is portrayed hauntingly in Sergei Slonimsky's compositions, leading us to Alexander Boldachev's contemporary musings on the dichotomies of War and Peace.

Concluding this odyssey is Stravinsky's "Petrouchka"—an ode to the indomitable Ukrainian spirit. A puppet animated with life symbolizes hope, renewal, and the inexhaustible human capacity for self-determination. It is a beacon in these uncertain times, encouraging us to find clarity through the prevailing chaos.

San Diego Chapter of the American Harp Society

A Brief History

The San Diego Chapter of the American Harp Society is 60 years old! Founded in 1963 by then principal harpist of the San Diego Symphony, Gertrude Peterson Hustana, to promote the harp and provide a community for the few scattered harpists in the area, the San Diego Chapter continues to grow and thrive today. Early SDHS events focused on student recitals, ensembles and preparing students for competitions of the American Harp Society. Our chapter continues to provide those opportunities, and so much more. We bring in concert harpists, such as Alexander Boldachev and Caroline Lizotte, to perform and provide master classes. We host an annual HarpFest, where participants work on ensemble pieces and spend a day learning and building community together. Annual workshops on themes such as the care and maintenance of the harp and playing different genres of music are a staple. We offer Music Evaluations and Auditions, an opportunity for budding harpists to bring a piece on which they are working to be evaluated by a judge and then return a month later to perform the piece. And we offer scholarships for lessons, harp rental, summer harp camps and to college bound seniors.

Over the years, SDHS has counted several prominent harpists in its membership. Our founder, Gertrude Peterson Hustana, was not only the principal harpist of the San Diego Symphony for many years, and a sought-after teacher, she was a key figure in the American Harp Society and played across the country. JoAnn Ford, also a symphony harpist and area teacher, started a "Harps in Schools" program in the 1980's. Unfortunately, the program died with the funding cuts. Our past president, Julie Smith Phillips is the current principal harpist of the San Diego Symphony, and Elena Mashkovtseva, our Vice President, is the principal harpist of the San Diego Opera.

San Diego has produced some very successful harpists as well. Our current president, Eileen Mason, a San Diego native, is the retired principal harpist of the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra. Recording artist, composer, and board member Tasha Smith Godinez is a former student of Elena Mashkovtseva, as is up and coming concert harpist, Sophie Graf Camden. Board secretary, Pam Wing, and member at large, Naomi Alter, are both professional harpists, playing at weddings, special events and with local orchestras. Board treasurer, Nick Newcombe, is a retired Broadway harpist. The newest addition to the San Diego professional harpist scene, Heidi Fleischbein Courmouis is also a San Diego native.

SDHS is looking forward to riding the wave into the next 60 years!

Current Board Members

President: Eileen Mason

Vice President: Elena Mashkovtseva

Secretary: Pamela Wing

Treasurer: Nick Newcombe

Webmasters: Sophie Camden, Tasha Smith
Godinez

Members at Large: Joan Thompson, Barbara
Austin, DeeDee Varner, Naomi Alter, Julie
Phillips

SO Vibrant Together!

Caroline Lizotte
Southern California Artist Residency

Brought to you by the Los Angeles and San Diego chapters of the American Harp Society, and made possible by an AHS Grant, **SO Vibrant Together** features harpist-composer Caroline Lizotte in chamber concerts, masterclasses, and meet & greets. Each event is designed for you to listen, learn, and be inspired.

Composer of the Year at the Gala des Prix Opus 2023, harpist and composer Caroline Lizotte is internationally recognized for her contribution to the harp repertoire and the development of her language, through her original and personal signature. Her works are innovative, accessible and her love for the harp is contagious!

SO Vibrant Together!

Events:

Masterclass For Harp Students

February 17th, 11-2PM

Irvine Valley College

Caroline Lizotte In Concert

February 18th, 4PM

Music Hall, Cal State Los Angeles

Masterclass For Composers

February 23, 6-8PM

University of San Diego, Music Department

Caroline Lizotte In Concert

February 24, 7PM

Meet & Greet Reception Following
Shiley Theatre, University of San Diego

All events are free to participants and the public!

**For more information scan the QR code or visit:
www.sandiegoharpsociety.org**





SAN DIEGO HARP SOCIETY

ADULT HARP SALONS

SATURDAY, MARCH 9, 2 PM

WEDNESDAY, MAY 15, 7 PM

Enjoy the encouragement of gathering with adult harpists of all levels in a low-key performance setting. A pedal harp and a lever harp will be available to play. Refreshments provided by the SDHS.

Email sandiegoharpsociety@gmail.com
to sign up!

2024 – A YEAR OF POSSIBILITIES WITH THE SAN DIEGO HARP SOCIETY

Workshop for Harpists and Composers with Caroline Lizotte

February 23, 6pm

University of San Diego, Music Department

Harpists and composers are invited to learn about traditional and contemporary techniques with master harpist and composer, Caroline Lizotte! Don't miss the opportunity to participate in, or audit this free workshop. Funded in part by a grant from the American Harp Society.

Scan the QR code or visit sandiegharpsociety.org to register.



So Vibrant Together! Caroline Lizotte in Concert

February 24, 7pm

University of San Diego, Shiley Theatre

Free Admission

As part of her residency in Southern California, Caroline Lizotte will perform a concert of her compositions for solo harp and chamber ensembles. She will be joined on stage by Étienne Ratté and Tasha Smith Godinez in a program of captivating music for acoustic and electric harp, cello, electronics, and more.

Funded in part by a grant from the American Harp Society.

Scan the QR code to reserve your free tickets or visit sandiegharpsociety.org



Adult Harp Salons

March 9, 2-4pm

May 15, 7-9pm

Locations vary around the San Diego area.

Enjoy the encouragement of gathering with adult harpists of all levels in a low-key performance setting. A pedal harp and a lever harp will be available to play.

Refreshments provided by the SDHS.

Email sandiegharpsociety@gmail.com to sign up!

Music Education Auditions & Evaluations

March 9 and April 7, 2pm

Musician's Association of San Diego, Union Hall

Music Education Auditions and Evaluations (A&E) is a free-to-chapter-members educational program for harp students, sponsored by the American Harp Society, Inc. Participants come specifically to be heard and to hear one another. Because this is a unique two-part program, there is special focus on the improvement that can be made by participating on both days.

Students should keep in mind this event is intended to be a learning experience; it is a good opportunity to set a goal, practice and perform.

Email sandiegoharpsociety.org to register.

Advanced Student Recital

April 14, 2pm

Redeemer Lutheran Church by the Sea
6600 Black Rail Rd, Carlsbad 92011

Come and enjoy the performances of our advanced student members. To be invited to perform in this recital, the students must be of high school age, and recommended by their private teacher.

A reception will follow.

Annual Student Recital

May 5, 2pm

Tierrasanta Lutheran church

The Annual Chapter Recital is our biggest event of the year, celebrating the hard work and accomplishments of all our students! Any harp student who is a member of the SDHS may perform in this recital.

Also paired with the recital is our Senior Scholarship Audition where high school seniors have the opportunity to compete for college scholarship awards. If you are a high school senior and would like to audition, visit sandiegoharpsociety.org

The Annual Chapter Recital is free and open to the public.

HarpFest!

November 2024, date TBA

SDHS members (no age restrictions) are welcome to join this free, ALL-Chapter gathering from 9:30-4:30 for ensemble rehearsal, Lunch and Learn, a brief member meeting, and a performance by the chapter ensembles and some of our professional harpists.

Thank You!

To our supporters and attendees, we would like to express our deepest gratitude to each and every one of you who made tonight's concert a tremendous success.

Your presence added vibrancy and energy to the event, creating an atmosphere of unity and shared joy. It is heartwarming to see a community come together in support of a cause that is so important to us.

We extend our heartfelt appreciation to DeeAnn Cary and Bill Jech for the use of this lovely home and for providing the catering.

We thank Alexander for his wonderful concert and artistry.

A special thank you goes out to our dedicated volunteers who worked tirelessly behind the scenes, ensuring smooth operations and a memorable experience for all.

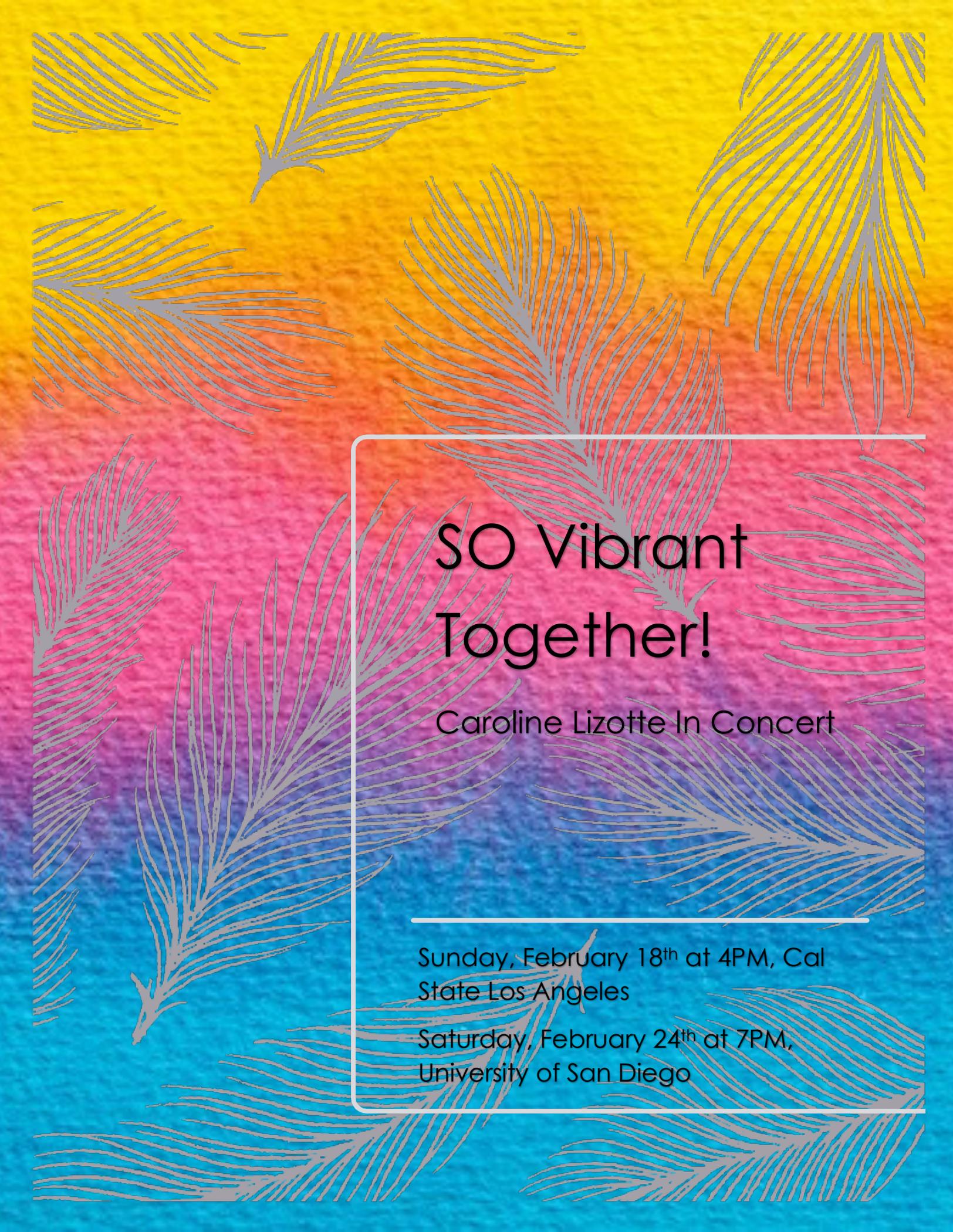
Last but certainly not least, thank you to each individual who opened his or her heart and contributed to our cause. Your generosity will resonate far beyond tonight, making a difference in the lives of students.

With gratitude,
Eileen Mason
President, San Diego Harp Society



MISSION STATEMENT

THE SAN DIEGO CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN HARP SOCIETY WAS FORMED TO SUPPORT, ENHANCE, AND CULTIVATE THE LOCAL HARP COMMUNITY IN THE SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA REGION. OUR PURPOSE AND MISSION ARE TO CELEBRATE THE HARP LEGACY, INSPIRE MUSICAL EXCELLENCE AND EMPOWER THE NEXT GENERATION OF HARPISTS THROUGHOUT SAN DIEGO.



SO Vibrant Together!

Caroline Lizotte In Concert

Sunday, February 18th at 4PM, Cal
State Los Angeles

Saturday, February 24th at 7PM,
University of San Diego

Program

Raga

Caroline Lizotte, harp
Tasha Smith Godinez, harp

Close for Couloir

Caroline Lizotte, harp
Étienne Ratthé, cello

Stellar Sonata

Caroline Lizotte, harp

— intermission —

Concerto Techno

Caroline Lizotte, harp
Étienne Ratthé, techno live-act

Stellae Saltantem

Caroline Lizotte, harp
Tasha Smith Godinez, harp

Suite Galactique

Caroline Lizotte, harp

Performer Biographies

Caroline Lizotte: A Quebec harpist and composer, Caroline Lizotte is named Composer of the Year at the PrixOpus 2023 and stands out internationally as one of the leading harp composers of her generation. In 2023 Caroline was the featured artist of the American Harp Society Summer Institute in Los Angeles, for which two of her works were imposed by the AHS National Competition. She is now completing her new opus *Partita* for harp and violin, supported by the Canada Council for the Art, a commission of harpist Lori Gemmell which will be premiered with violinist Sheila Jaffé at the Ontario Harp Society in Toronto in 2024. In 2022 Caroline produced her debut album *Lizotte Plays/Joue Lizotte*, which received critical acclaim and ten stars from Harp Column Magazine. Her album is also nominated at the next Gala de l'ADISQ in the category Album of the Year – Classical.

An associate composer at the Canadian Music Centre, Caroline Lizotte is regularly invited as a soloist and chamber musician at the harp major events. An accomplished orchestral musician, she was with the Orchestre Symphonique de Montréal for 23 years.

Caroline Lizotte is a teacher and mentor for several career harpists, as well as a harp professor at the Faculty of Music of the Université de Montréal.

Tasha Smith Godinez: Southern California native, Tasha Smith Godinez, is passionate about augmenting the harp repertoire and has dedicated her career to bringing new music to the world. She holds a BM and MM from San Diego State University and a performance diploma from the Ecole Normale de Musique de Paris, Alfred Cortot. Through her label, Ennanga Records & Publishing, Tasha offers new publications and recordings of music for the harp. In 2022, she released two albums: *Metamorphoses* (Centaur Records), an album of six new pieces for harp solo, and *Out of the Desert* (Ennanga Records), a collection of her original compositions. Both albums gained international acclaim.

Étienne Ratthé: An accomplished multi-instrumentalist and musical director, Étienne Ratthé is an eclectic artist who leads a very active career in Canada and abroad for 35 years. Étienne performs as cellist, percussionist and techno-live-act musician, notably on Caroline Lizotte's major harp events, such as the Dutch Harp Festival, the Espace Camac in Paris and the World Harp Congresses. Director of RougébLeuë Productions record label, Étienne recently co-produced with Caroline the critically acclaimed *Lizotte Plays Lizotte* album.

SO Vibrant Together! Events:

Masterclass For Harp Students:

February 17th, 11-2PM
Irvine Valley College
5500 Irvine Center Drive Irvine, 92618

Caroline Lizotte In Concert

February 18th, 4PM
Music Hall
Cal State L.A.
5151 State University Drive Los Angeles, 90032

Meet & Greet Reception with Caroline Lizotte

February 19th, 2-5PM

Workshop for Composers & Harpists

February 23, 6-8PM
Music Building Room CH 153
University of San Diego
5998 Alcalá Park Way, San Diego, CA 92110

Caroline Lizotte In Concert, Meet & Greet Reception Following

February 24, 7PM
Shiley Theatre
University of San Diego
5998 Alcalá Park Way, San Diego, CA 92110

***Scan here to make a donation in
support of the San Diego Harp Society!***



Funded in part by:





San Diego Harp Society Annual Advanced Student Recital

Mission Statement

Our purpose and mission is to celebrate the harp legacy, inspire musical excellence, and empower the next generation of harp players throughout San Diego.

Upcoming Events

Sunday May 5, 2024: Senior Students Scholarship Auditions at NOON, and All-Chapter Annual Student Harp Recital at 3:00pm
Tierrasanta Lutheran Church
11240 Clairemont Mesa Blvd.
San Diego, CA 92124

Wednesday May 15, 2024: Harp Salon--hosted by Barbara at her home in Ocean Beach. For more details, go to sandiegoharpsociety.org or visit our website using the QR code below.

October 2024: HarpFest -- specific details and plans to be announced by summertime. STAY TUNED!

For more information about concert opportunities featuring our area harpists, visit our website using the QR Code below.

Become a member/friend of the San Diego Chapter of the American Harp Society. Visit our website to join:



**Redeemer by the Sea Lutheran Church
6600 Black Rail Rd.
Carlsbad, CA 92011**

2:00pm

Sunday April 14, 2024





Emma Valdez, is 14 years old and a current freshman at Torrey Pines High School. She has been a member of the San Diego Harp Society for 6 years. She began playing the harp 8 years ago with Elena Mashkovtseva and has played in orchestras since the age of twelve. She plays with Civic Youth Orchestra and Torrey Pines High School Advanced Orchestra, and currently holds the title of Principal Harpist in both. She's played "The Nutcracker" with Civic Youth Orchestra for two years, and has competed in two

competitions, securing 2nd place at Nationals in 2020. In June 2024 she plays at Carnegie Hall with the Civic Youth Orchestra

***Fantasia-Impromptu*, F. Chopin**



Joanne Lee, is 18 years old and currently a senior at San Marcos High School. After high school she is committed to Stanford University, majoring in Child Psychology. Joanne has been playing the harp for 8 years, and was first introduced to the instrument from a family friend who was a formal professional harpist. Starting from the summer of sixth grade, she began to rent several harps, until finally deciding to get a harp of her own. She was able to get a harp that was broken and stringless, but after repair, it is now the harp she

plays today. With the help of her teacher, Mrs. Naomi Alter, she has learned to play the harp using the Salzedo technique, and has also attended several masterclasses with the San Diego Harp Society

***Concert Variations on O Tannenbaum*, Carlos Salzedo *Concert Fantasy on Granada (Fantasia Española)*, Augustin Lara (arr. Carlos Salzedo)**



Macaria Valdez, is 15 years old and currently a sophomore at San Diego School for Creative and Performing Arts. She is a member of the San Diego Youth Symphony, Sinfonia Orchestra. She has been studying privately with Elena

Mashkovtseva for seven years and has been a member of the San Diego Harp Society for five years.

***Paraphrase on Liszt's Second Hungarian Rhapsody*, C. Salzedo**

Special Thanks

We thank the recitalists who spent many hours learning and preparing to perform this beautiful music for our listening pleasure. We also thank their parents and families for promoting a strong commitment to the music education of these young talents.

We are grateful for the active teachers who are members of the San Diego Chapter of the Harp Society. Special thanks to Naomi Alter and Elena Mashkovtseva for their steadfast guidance and training of today's performers.

Many Thanks also to:

Kerry Vara, Facilities Director at Redeemer By the Sea Lutheran Church, for graciously agreeing to host today's recital.

Warm appreciation extended to DeeDee Varner for managing the details of the formal program; and our enduring gratitude continues for the dedicated work of Clifford Taylor Fleischbein for the program design, format, and compilation.

Mission Statement

Our purpose and mission is to celebrate the harp legacy, inspire musical excellence, and empower the next generation of harpists throughout San Diego.

Upcoming Events

Wednesday May 15, 2024: Harp Salon –hosted by Barbara at her home in Ocean Beach. This is a FREE event for adult members of the San Diego chapter. If you're not already a member, please join our chapter and enjoy the encouragement of gathering and collaborating with harp enthusiasts. A pedal harp and a lever harp will be available to play.

October 2024: HarpFest – specific details and plans to be announced by summertime. STAY TUNED!

For more details, go to www.sandiegoharpsociety.org or visit our website using the QR code below. You will find more information about concert opportunities featuring our area harpists.

Become a member/friend of the San Diego Chapter of the American Harp Society. Visit our website to join:



BIG THANKS:

Our on-going gratitude goes to **Clifford Taylor Fleischbein** for compiling and formatting the Program for today's event; thank you also to DeeDee Varner for gathering and editing the information, and preparing it for formatting.

We also thank the recitalists' families who have encouraged and prompted these young musicians to embrace a code of practice, diligence, and perseverance. Their investment has made our world of music an enjoyable garden of pleasure.

And, of course, to the teachers: they have earned BIG THANKS for diligently and devotedly encouraging their students through the highs and lows of the learning curve, cheering and prodding as necessary, to guide them to higher goals of musicianship.

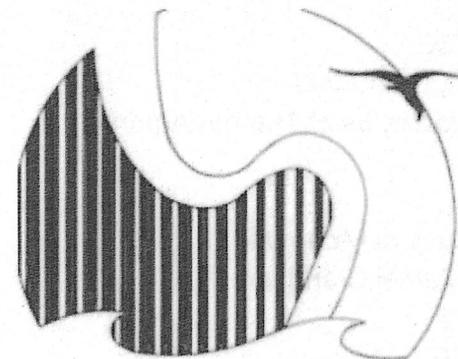
Finally, thank you to the San Diego Chapter **Board of Directors** which strives to make opportunities for meaningful musical events.

San Diego Chapter of the American Harp Society Annual Student Recital 2024

**Tierrasanta Lutheran Church
11240 Clairemont Mesa Blvd
San Diego, CA 92124**

Sunday May 5, 2024

2:00pm



**American Harp Society
San Diego Chapter**

Recital Program

Special thanks to the teachers who prepared the students for today's program:

NA: Naomi Alter

SC: Sophie Camden

TSG: Tasha Smith Godinez

EM: Elena Mashkovtseva

Gianna Booth TSG

Patterns Suite, McDonald/Wood

1. *Falling Leaves* 2. *Snowflakes* 3. *Good-bye to Winter*

Jennica Ho SC

Chinese Moon, Susan McDonald

Effie Mayer TSG

Butterflies, Bonnie Moore

Salomé Ruis TSG

Louise, Bonnie Hyndman

Roxy Sinsuan TSG

1. *Frère Jacques*, Traditional

2. *O Salutaris Hostia*, Saint Thomas Aquinas

Zahra Jafari SC

1. *Moonlight*, Susann McDonald

2. *Passing By*, Marcel Grandjany

Brianna Chu TSG

Glide a Bit, Bonnie Hyndman

Emma Liu EM

Toccata, F.J. Nadermann

Sophie Jennings TSG

The Little Fountain, Samuel I. Pratt

~~ *Intermission* ~~

Emma Valdez EM

Fantaisie-Improptu, Frédéric Chopin

Stella Lien TSG

The First Garden, Tasha Smith Godinez

Macaria Valdez EM

Second Hungarian Rhapsody, Franz Liszt

Sophia Fontes EM

Chanson de Mai, Alphonse Hasselmans

Joanne Lee NA

Concert Variations on O Tannenbaum, Carlos Salzedo

At the conclusion of the recital, a brief business meeting for the purpose of holding a confirming acceptance vote for the new slate of San Diego Chapter of the American Harp Society officers will be held.

Please join us for a reception following the recital.