

OPUS MARCH, 2016



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NEWS AT CCM



Concert & Lecture Series—March 18th, 7 p.m., CCM

It is naturally fitting that Ela Brandys, whose native country is Poland, should devote a

session of our Concert and Lecture Series: On Polish Music, to her home country. Ela will discuss Polish folk and dance music, and how these elements are integrated in classical music. You'll hear Chopin, Moszkowski, and others. Adults \$25, and students are free! Buy tickets online [here](#) or at the door.

Practice for your Sundae!

We have a motto here – “Practice makes permanent” and sometimes when we all work together as a team it is even more fun. In the fall, we have a month where our students practice for their pizza. This March, they are practicing for a much sweeter prize—an invitation to our sundae party. Keep on practicing—remember, it takes 30 days of practice in the month of March to qualify! Need a calendar? [Here's a link](#) to one.

Juanito Pascual and special guests—April 15th, 7:30 p.m., CCM

"Juanito is a kind of Ry Cooder of flamenco guitar--he combines vivid colors, a rich imagination and a yearning, never-satisfied mastery of his art."-- Steve Morse, Boston Globe

On April 15th at 7:30 p.m., virtuoso flamenco guitarist (and former long-time CCM faculty member!) Juanito Pascual performs with Jose Moreno, Percussion, and Barbard Martinez, singer/dancer. The concert will be held here at CCM, 1317 Main Street, Concord. Juanito brings influences from Jimi Hendrix, The Grateful Dead, Miles Davis, and Bach to his art. See why National Public Radio calls him "one of the hottest flamenco guitarists in recent years." Tickets are \$25 for adults; \$10 for students. [Available here](#), or at the door.

Recitals

Beatles Concert at CCM

On Saturday, May 14th, CCM celebrates its 10th anniversary with an all Beatles music recitals! This year we invited the entire school to participate in recitals devoted to the music of the Beatles. The Beatles catalog is accessible, universal, and timeless. It works for the whole range of our students—from the beginning player to our most advanced musicians. The 1 p.m. concert will feature our choral groups, ensembles, rock bands, and a special all school finale! The 2:30 p.m. recital will showcase individual and small group performances of Beatles songs, and the 4 p.m. recital will have both Beatles and non-Beatles songs.

WINTER PARTY MARCH 5, 2016: COMING TOGETHER FOR CCM



Taking a cue from the classic Lennon-McCartney composition “All Together Now,” more than 150 supporters of the Concord Conservatory of Music gathered March 5 for the conservatory’s 10th-anniversary gala, an event designed to raise money for the school’s range of music instruction and generous financial aid program. [READ MORE](#) or [CHECK OUT OUR PHOTO GALLERY](#)

“I always wanted people to play together,” said Kate Yoder, CCM’s executive director and founder at the deCordova Sculpture Park and Museum.

The evening kicked off with a cocktail party with period drinks like the Tom Collins and gourmet appetizers. Bids were then placed on the more that 25 silent auction items, including a luxury gift certificate for Nantucket’s Wauwinet resort and spa, and a session as Sous Chef at Woods Hill Table, the hot new West Concord restaurant. After the auction winners had been announced, guests were entertained by Beatles expert Tim Riley, himself a Concord resident. Riley, an Emerson faculty member and National Public Radio commentator, most recently published “Lennon: The Man, the Myth, the Music – The Definitive Life.”

He talked about the bridge between the classical and pop music worlds, with the Beatles – who employed strings famously on “Yesterday” and included a Bach-inspired piano solo on “In My Life” – serving as the ideal example.

After Riley, CCM Board member John Hogan discussed the growth of CCM, which has seen its enrollment increase from 250 students as recently as five years ago to its current 420. The organization’s annual budget is currently \$830,000, with \$16,000 of that devoted to offering scholarship money to those who can’t afford the pay full price for lessons.

“I saw Kate form the idea of a community music school, and through hard work, bring that to fruition. Over the years, I’ve been proud to be a CCM parent, student, volunteer, and now a board member,” said Hogan. “Ultimately, CCM is more than a great service to the community; it has become a living, breathing community in its own right, enriching many peoples’ lives and offering the gift of music and collaboration to all its participants. This is the kind of gift that renews itself in the many other communities that CCM’s alumni, students, families, and instructors are a part of. They are sharing what they’ve gained at CCM with the broader community.”

Yoder thanked the many volunteers, staff members, and her husband and family and explained how the Beatles theme came about. “From the time I founded the school, I’ve encouraged our students to play music together. This year we invited the entire school to participate in recitals devoted to the music of the Beatles. The Beatles catalog is accessible, universal, and timeless. It works for the whole range of our students—from the beginning player to our most advanced musicians. It’s going to be great. It seemed fitting to have our party theme match our end-of-year recital theme...what a great recognition for our 10th year.”

After dinner, auctioneer Allie Byers led the room in a rousing live auction, which included a ride in either the MetLife or DirecTV blimp, and a chance to race an Indy-style car with the Mario Andretti Racing Experience. There was also a raffle, and the first-prize winner selected an epicurean trip to the Napa Valley. In all, CCM raised \$75,000.

One of the big highlights of the evening was the 15-song set of Beatles music, which ranged from the familiar (“Hey Jude”) to rarities (“Martha, My Dear”). The performances were led by CCM faculty members with guest vocalist Laura Jaye and included performances by CCM students Julian Dai, Joachim Laurent, Zella Bergman, and Alex Taylor. “It’s so impressive to hear the caliber of these young players,” said CCM board member Ellen Rice. “At the Conservatory, great teachers, hard work, and lots of opportunities to perform produce strong results.”

BEHIND THE SCENES: CLASSIC WITH A TWIST



In the September 16, 2015, edition of *The Improper Bostonian*, CCM faculty member Keith Kirchoff and CCM parent Jennifer Montbach were among four musicians featured in the article “Classic With a Twist.” Montbach is oboist and artistic director of Radius Ensemble, which she founded in 1999. Radius Ensemble balances a repertoire of well-known masterworks together with exciting new music, bringing eclectic programming to smaller venues.

In addition to being on faculty at CCM, Kirchoff is artistic director of Original Gravity, which pairs modern music with craft beers in informal settings (often pubs!). Together with Christopher Biggs, he also founded and leads a summer institute (WHERE?) for electroacoustic music; he is also Vice President of Programs for the Society for Electro-Acoustic Music in the United States.

Montbach and Kirchoff are at the forefront of expanding the notion of classical music. They are bringing new 21st century compositions to more casual settings, and redefining the experience. It does not have to be confined to musicians in formal wear playing to an audience that’s only allowed to clap at specific, preordained moments. Composers and musicians can be far more accessible as they talk about the music during a performance and engage the audience in new ways.

This is the concept behind CCM’s Concert & Lecture Series: by having a discussion on history’s great music, and placing it into context, you can appreciate—and enjoy—the music even more.

It is a fascinating interview. [READ HERE](#)

WHY MUSIC MATTERS: SIR GEORGE MARTIN, THE FIFTH BEATLE



In keeping with our Beatles theme, it is appropriate to recognize that Sir George Martin, producer of the Beatles, (and often called “The Fifth Beatle”), died on March 8, 2016. In Tom Ashbrook’s March 11th show “On Point,” Ashbrook has a discussion with Tim Riley (author, NPR commentator, Emerson College faculty member, and emcee of our recent winter gala); Geoff Emerick, (audio engineer of the Beatles albums “Abbey Road” and “Sgt. Pepper’s Lonely Hearts Club Band”); and Maura Johnston (writer and music critic). Martin revolutionized pop music, and his influence is keenly felt even today. [GIVE IT A LISTEN.](#)

UPCOMING PERFORMANCES



BSO Family Concert, Saturday, March 5, 12 pm.

99.5 WCRB Classical Cartoon Festival, Saturday, March 19th, Symphony Hall, Boston (\$12 members, \$17 nonmembers, \$43 family four-pack. Kids will enjoy their favorite Warner Bros.

cartoons set to classical music on a giant screen, along with live performances, visits from beloved PBS children's characters, and more. [READ MORE AND BUY TICKETS HERE](#)

Wheelock Family Theater, *A Year with Frog and Toad*, April 15-May 15. "Part vaudeville, part make-believe, all charm," this family musical tells the story of best friends--the carefree frog and the worrying toad. They've got matinee performances over April vacation. \$20-38. [READ MORE AND BUY TICKETS](#)