

OPUS / APRIL 2018



The Concord Conservatory of Music

www.concordconservatory.org

In This Issue

[News at CCM](#)

[Musical Cousins: Jazz and Bluegrass](#)

[Did you know...](#)

[Student Spotlight: Elizabeth Howard](#)

[Upcoming Area Performances](#)

News at CCM



Friday, April 6th at 7 pm

To kick off National Jazz Appreciation month, join the talented Concord Conservatory of Music Jazz Faculty. Tsuyoshi Honjo on saxophone, Justin Meyer on bass, Brian Friedland on piano, Phil Sargent on guitar, Mike Connors on percussion, and Gabriela Martina on vocals will perform classic jazz standards and original compositions. ***Join us to listen, enjoy and learn about jazz. [To purchase tickets>>](#)***

Upcoming Student Recitals: Saturday, April 7 at 2:30 pm and 4:00 pm and Thursday, April 12 at 7 pm (reception following recitals).

CCM Second Saturday Bluegrass Jam with BBU: April 14th

Join the [Second Saturday Bluegrass Jam](#) at CCM from 7:00 – 9:30 pm on April 14th. Our monthly jam, co-sponsored by the Boston Bluegrass Union, is open to all ages and bluegrass

instruments for advanced beginner musicians and above. The fee is \$5 payable at the door. **The jams will take place at CCM through June 2018.**

Adult Student Recital & Social on Thursday, April 26 at 7 pm

We invite all adult students to join us for an evening of musical performances. Immediately following the recital, CCM will host a cocktail party for musicians and their guests.

Summer Registration has begun



Summer strumming—**Guitar Workshops** to elevate your playing!

This summer CCM is offering a variety of guitar workshops for both kids and adults. [See workshop details and register online. Space is limited.>>](#)

Are you a CCM friend yet? Join us on [Facebook](#) to hear the **Tune of the Week** and be the first to hear CCM news and more! See what music videos we like, photos we post, practice tips and articles we suggest, and discover what's new in the music world. Join us on [Facebook](#).

Musical Cousins: Jazz and Bluegrass at CCM



Both jazz and bluegrass music, two American genres, awaken emotions, create an experience and feature improvisation. They can be rhythmic and follow a pattern or turn the musical encounter upside down and be quite unpredictable. Bluegrass tells you a story, and makes you tap your foot, while jazz makes you sway and evokes many different impressions and feelings. Jazz originated in the late 19th and early 20th centuries in the African-American communities in New Orleans while bluegrass came later in the late 1930's – 40's. CCM faculty Ian Goldstein calls jazz the quintessential American genre—its harmonically interesting and complex. It provides ample opportunity to improvise with engaging, beautiful chord changes, which allows for artistic expression.

Bluegrass is a thoroughly mixed genre with a dose of folk, country, old-time and blues. Ian reminds us that it is an American invention. Bill Munroe, known as the *Father of Bluegrass*, experimented with his country band and its sound. According to the Bluegrass Heritage Foundation, he created a hard-driving and powerful sound that used traditional acoustic instruments and featured distinctive vocal harmonies. To create this new music genre, Munroe chose the mandolin, banjo, fiddle, guitar, and bass. These continue to be the typical bluegrass instruments, contrary to jazz, which also include brass and percussion. Bluegrass involves improvising with melodies though with much simpler chord changes than jazz.

Exposure to both genres is great for young musicians and teaches them valuable skills. CCM saxophone faculty Tsuyoshi Honjo believes that students should learn the jazz basics to build upon. “Some people often believe that innovation is the main part of jazz but without tradition, it would lack the depth in the music. It is actually the same as with classical music”, explains Tsuyoshi. Learning the basics and essential skills for any genre is important. According to Ian, “these genres are fun to learn, provide a sense of the wider world, and allow

them to progress. Students can see which genre speaks to them to delve deeper into or they may choose not to be defined by only one. *Why not try both?*

[Back to top.](#)

Did you know...

What does jazz and bluegrass have in common? More than you think.

[NPR's Take Five: a jazz sampler](#) explains their commonality while exploring five songs that meld jazz and bluegrass.

Student Spotlight

CCM Student Elizabeth Howard accepted to the MMEA Eastern Junior District Band

Busy schedules don't stop our students from preparing for music competitions. We are happy to announce Elizabeth Howard, a CCM student, recently auditioned for and was accepted to the highly competitive MMEA Eastern Junior District Band. Students in grades 7 through 9 audition on a prescribed solo, along with scales and sight reading. The students who score above a specific level are selected to perform in one of the district ensembles, which include orchestra, band, jazz band and chorus. The festival consists of one day of rehearsals followed by performances the second day. Congratulations Elizabeth!

"This is a wonderful opportunity for students to experience playing in a large ensemble with a full complement of instruments and the highest-level players from the district schools. Following Junior District, students in high school can audition for Senior District and then All State Ensembles."

--Liz Leehey, CCM clarinet instructor

Memorizing a new piece or mastering one for a competition helps students gain the mental and technical skills to elevate their musical ability. Hearing constructive and objective feedback from the judges and their instructors is always helpful. Like performing in school recitals, participating in competitions allows the students to gain poise and confidence. We encourage students to go beyond performing at CCM and within our community and challenge themselves by participating in a music competition.

Upcoming Area Performances



Course in the Age of Klimt and Schiele, Musical Modernism and Opera in Vienna

James Myers, coach/pianist and lecturer, Boston Lyric Opera

Wednesday, April 11, 2018, 1:00 pm – 2:30 pm, Museum of Fine Arts, Harry and Mildred Remis Auditorium (Auditorium 161) / [Tickets for members \\$28, nonmembers \\$35](#)

Vienna has long been a city of musical achievement and innovation. In the early 20th century, the often-radical voices of the Belle Époque, Art Nouveau, Vienna Secession, and expressionist movements found a home in the enterprising freedom of modernism. Explore the astonishing cultural milieu of Klimt and Schiele's epoch, from the musical influences and symbols in their work to the exhilarating creations of contemporary composers. From Gustav Mahler and Richard Strauss to the infamous Alma Mahler and Beethoven's solemn specter, uncover lives and art intertwined, leaving the world forever changed.

On Your Feet, The Story of Emilio & Gloria Estefan, April 17 -29th

The story of international sensations Gloria and Emilio Estefan, set to their smash hits.

Boston Opera House, 539 Washington Street, Boston

[For details and ticket information>>](#)

