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Opus November 2019

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Save the date!

CCM American Roots Benefit on Saturday, March 28, 2020 at 6 pm

An evening of exceptional bluegrass, BBQ, bourbon, and a fantastic night to support your community music school and music education in our area.

This year's Benefit will take place at the Scout House in Concord and will feature the band [The Ruta Beggars](#)—a timeless bluegrass band filled with intricate yet smooth vocal harmonies, fiery instrumentals, and plenty of fun.

Join the team and come to the Kick-Off Benefit Meeting on Monday, November 11th at 7 pm!

[Send an email](#) to say your coming and what's your interest. Let's get together and plan the best fundraiser for CCM. Thank you!

[BARNES, GORDY, WALSH TRIO](#)

A Bluegrass Concert on Friday, November 22nd at 7:30 pm at CCM (\$25 for adults, free for students 18 and under)



Three of the most influential and dynamic acoustic musicians in modern American music join forces as the [Barnes, Gordy, Walsh Trio](#). Banjo legend [Danny Barnes](#), winner of the 2015 Steve Martin Prize for Excellence in Banjo, has been a creative force in modern bluegrass and related genres since his days as a founding member and frontman of the Bad Livers in the 1990s. [LEARN MORE>>](#)

[Purchase Tickets>>](#)

[Find Your Voice Workshop](#)



On Saturday, November 9th from 1 – 3 pm the Concord Conservatory of Music is partnering with the Acton-Boxborough Service Unit of the Girl Scouts of Eastern Massachusetts to offer the Public Speaking Workshop - an opportunity for Cadette Girl Scouts to complete all the steps of the Public Speaking Badge! The workshop is for girls in grades 6 -12 and non-Girl Scouts are welcome too.

Join CCM faculty artist Gabriela Martina and learn what it takes to be an effective public speaker. Build your confidence, use empowering body language, and captivate your audience. (Workshop fee \$25; Questions? Text Michelle Shoemaker, ABGS Leader, at 617-699-4826). [Register today>>](#)



Practice for Pizza Party

All students who practice 30 days in October are invited to join us at the Pizza Party on Tuesday, November 5th, at 5:30 pm in the North Hall. We hope our students enjoy their practicing and have fun!

[RSVP>>](#)

Chieko Loy, Learning From & Sharing Her Life Experiences



Chieko Loy

Learning From & Sharing Her Life Experiences

Every year, dozens of new students join the CCM community on the long path to becoming a musician. The amazing faculty at CCM not only guide our students through the trials of learning but also represent the possibility of what can be gained with years of dedication and enthusiasm. CCM piano faculty and long-time music instructor Chieko Loy is a brilliant example of what a commitment to music can achieve.

As a child growing up in Yokohama, Japan, Loy loved to sing, but she remembers how difficult some aspects of music came to her:

“In seventh or eighth grade, I flunked music theory. It was tedious, and you have to take a step-by-step approach. You can’t just jump right in. However, now I can tell my students, ‘I flunked that class but learned it in the end, and so now you can learn it too’”. There were

several incidences from her childhood that Loy says lets her empathize with the fears and struggles her students face every day, especially when it comes to performing on stage. Loy recalls a time in elementary school when she was chosen to sing in front of her class of more than 60 people, "I goofed, forgot all the words...and it was no big thing over the course of a long musical career, but I still remember it."

Loy started teaching when she began college at the age of eighteen, first with just a few neighborhood kids and friends of her mother. She entered college as a pianist but had long wanted to sing. "The musical 'West Side Story' came, and I just fell in love. I wanted to be a singer after that," says Loy. She went to a voice professor and asked to take one of their classes. Loy ended up switching her major to voice and in turn, received both her Bachelor of Music degree from the Senzoku Academy of Music and later her master's in music from the University of Tulsa for voice.

Loy explained that as a voice student she still needed to learn piano as a part of her studies; "The piano majors weren't required to learn a second instrument, but all other majors had to learn piano. It was because the intervals and intonation were so easy to see and understand on the piano. It helped to teach music theory."

After leaving Japan, Loy taught in India, and then Hong Kong, and finally ended up in Oklahoma where she went back to school to study for her Masters. Loy recalled how there was only one other student who was also a mother trying to get a degree and raise her children at the same time. Loy explained how it was challenging to find time for her children and also take classes, but she was determined to succeed.

Loy has now been teaching for just over half a century and says her teaching style has changed over that time and advanced to serve her students better. She says that for each new student she asks herself, "Oh, I've never had this kind of kid before, so how should I approach [teaching them]?" Loy wants to stress the importance of her students following what they are interested in, because if they are interested then they will be motivated to put in the required effort. She says, "I can push my students, but in the end, it is up to them."

Loy explained how parents are also an essential part of the equation for success. She says that as an instructor, "I can teach music. You don't ask me to teach math or science because that's not what I teach." Loy explains that it is the teacher's job to teach and to criticize, and the parent's responsibility to provide the love and support necessary for a student to face the

challenges and frustrations that come with learning. “There’s no quick fix for anything. If there are wrong notes or wrong fingers, it can take years...so the parents must step back and give the instructor the time to work”. She says, “It can be difficult to accept criticism or corrections, but students must know that their playing is not their character. If I correct your fingers, I’m not saying you are a bad person”.

Loy has taught at CCM since its founding fourteen years ago, and in that time has proven to be a valued and well-loved member of the faculty. Whether singing along to her student’s playing or explaining the ins and outs of music theory, Chieko Loy brings her lifetime of experience and shares it all with her students so that they can learn and follow their passions as well.



CCM 2019 – 2020 Concert Series



CCM's 2019 -2020 Concert Series—*mark your calendars or better yet, purchase your tickets today!*

The Concord Conservatory of Music's 2019-2020 Concert Series brings world-class performers to our local community. Thank you to our generous donors including Middlesex Savings Bank and Cambridge Savings Bank that have helped us bring the Series to our community.

Friday, November 22 at 7:30 pm, Barnes, Gordy, Walsh Trio – *a bluegrass concert* (\$25 for adults, free for students 18 and under)

Friday, February 7 at 7:30 pm, Mile Twelve - Bluegrass (\$25 for adults, free for students 18 and under)

Saturday, February 29 at 11:00 am and 2:00 pm, Brady Rymer and the Little Band that Could (\$20 for all tickets)

Friday, April 17 at 7:30 pm, CCM Jazz (\$25 for adults, free for students 18 and under)

CCM November Dates to Know



- November 5 at 5:30 pm (Tuesday) – Practice for Pizza Party at CCM, [RSVP](#)
- November 9 from 1 – 3 pm (Saturday) [Find Your Voice Workshop](#)
- November 11 at 7:00 pm (Monday) – Kick-Off 2020 American Roots Benefit Meeting, [Email](#) us your coming!
- November 16 from 11:30 – 12:30 pm (Saturday) [Painting and Music: Colors and Texture](#)
- November 16 at 11:30 (Saturday) – Frederick Collection Tour for CCM piano students. (30 Main Street in Ashburnham; \$20 suggested donation to Fredericks) [Sign-Up>>](#)
- November 22 at 7:30 pm (Friday) [Barnes, Gordy, Walsh Trio](#)
- November 23 1:00, 2:30, and 4:00 pm, Student Recitals
- November 24, two shows: 3 and 8 pm, Childsplay at the Sanders Theatre, Cambridge
For tickets go to www.childsplay.org.
- November 27 – December 1 – Thanksgiving Break



A CCM performance recommendation—*Childsplay* to perform at Sanders Theatre in Cambridge on Sunday November 24th in two shows: 3 pm and 8 pm! *For tickets go to www.childsplay.org*

Childsplay: Fiddlers, Fiddles and Fiddlemaker, with singers Karan Casey and Aoife O'Donovan, is an unparalleled fiddle supergroup embarking on its final tour ever this November after over 32 years of performing in Europe and the United States. Childsplay features the collective voice of over a dozen violins all made by one violinmaker's hands (hence the name of the band), along with an all-star supporting cast from the United States and abroad. Among the great artists featured in Childsplay are all-Ireland Fiddle champion (Sheila Falls), two National Scottish Fiddle champions (Hanneke Cassel and Katie McNally), Boston Symphony violinist Bonnie Bewick, superstar vocalists Karan Casey and Aoife O'Donovan, from Pilobolus dancer Molly Gawler and National Endowment for the Arts and National Heritage fellow, dancer Kevin Doyle. Equally important is that the artistic director of the group is Bob Childs, a violinmaker for over 40 years who endured the tumultuous experience of living in five different foster homes in his early years and went on to make violins to give voice to that disruptive experience through his instruments. This final tour, to be made into a film for American Public TV, will be the capstone to an impressive musical journey to honor the tremendous talent, creativity and community that is indeed Childsplay!

