

TIMES SIGNATURE

Opus I Music Society

March 2021

OPUS I LEADERSHIP

Ruth Ann McChesney
President
724-772-1063
pfmcram@hotmail.com

Kathy Kemerer
Vice President
Federation Secretary
724-996-5859
kathykemerer04@gmail.com

Linda Maurhoff
Treasurer
724-625-1761
lindamaurhoff@consolidated.net

Kathy Csellar
Recording Secretary
724-443-0237
kcsellar@consolidated.net

Karen Douglass
Newsletter Editor
724-612-5678
karenjdouglass@gmail.com



KAREN'S KORNER

Spring is surely on it's way...I feel it!
The spring season brightens out spirits
pandemic or not. So, I'm ready to jump
into the season! How about you?

Spring brings us St. Patrick's Day and all
of the merriment that goes with it. Irish
folklore tells us that St. Patrick drove
the snakes out of Ireland after they at-
tacked him at the top of a hill while he
was observing a forty day fast.

Now here is a question....just where did
all of those snakes go? Up to Scotland?
I don't think the Scots would put up
with them! Did they swim over to Eng-
land? I don't think they have a snake
problem! Or, did they end up in the
ocean? Inquiring minds really need to
know!

I am thankful that we have NO SNAKES
here at Opus I! I am also thankful for
the wonderful programming we have.
Details on this month's meeting can be
found on page three.

And as always, *"Let There Be Music!"*

Karen



FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK



Opus I News

If you have read the latest Music Clubs Magazine, you'll see comments like "What a year we have endured!" (Frances Nelson, NFMC Pres.) to Michael Edwards' comment "The NFMC Junior division has adapted to the upheaval caused by the 2020 pandemic... (but) we are open for business!". All through the magazine, one can read about how states, summer music centers, Festivals, and competitions adapted to the pandemic restrictions.

Well... Opus I Music Society has done the same. Just ask some of the teachers about giving virtual music lessons, or teaching in their homes with extra precautions. Look how Festivals were still held and we've had wonderful virtual club programs since last October. This will continue in March and April and we hope more of you will 'tune-in' and join the presentations that are not only educational, but sometimes very entertaining! Your 'attendance' is so important to the presenters, as well as the other members, since all of us need the encouragement we get from being together!

PLEASE put March 8th on your calendars.

Blessings to all,
Ruth Ann





MARCH MEETING INFORMATION!

Focus on John Rutter: In Celebration of the 75th Anniversary of His Birth



This month we will be focusing on John Rutter and the 75th anniversary of his birth. Kathy Csellar will be our presenter and she has quite a presentation for us!

This is a list of favorite music by John Rutter that you might check out before our meeting. Since sound is such an issue on Zoom, I thought you might like to listen on YouTube for yourself. (You may click on the links below or copy and paste them into your browser.)

The Shepherd's Pipe Carol - [Shepherd's Pipe Carol - John Rutter, The Cambridge Singers, City of London Sinfonia - YouTube](#)

Gloria - [John Rutter Gloria - YouTube](#)

Requiem - [Requiem – John Rutter – COMPLETE Rivertree Singers & Friends conducted by Warren Cook - YouTube](#)



Meeting information:
Date: March 8, 2021
Time: 9:45 AM



Here is the link to join the Opus I meeting via Zoom on March 8, 2021 at 9:45 AM. Tatiana Mester and Tatiana Sinelnikova will be our Zoom hosts.

Just Click on the link:

https://harvard.zoom.us/j/99521948766?pwd=amd0WC9Zdi94TGJRaDVPVXFwaUFRQT09&fbclid=IwAR1utMEGslBFb61hQIHjNhICoLl1xwe0mruNPXHOava_YE4koyzCC9s1C6Q#success



Many thanks to Tatiana Mester and Tatiana Sinelnikova for providing us with this platform to meet!

MEMORIES OF OUR FEBRUARY MEETING



On Feb. 8th , 13 Opus I members and guests enjoyed sharing poetry that they have written, or that means a lot to them.

It was also a celebration of the Junior Music in Poetry contest that our member, Jessica Wood, chairs for PFMC and the winning poems were read by Jessica, Ginny Netchi, Daryl Kemerer and Kathy Csellar. (See the first place winner's poem "COVID MUSIC" in this newsletter). It turned out to be a very meaningful time for each of us and almost brought tears to several people. From Karen's "How Do I Love Thee?" inspirational moment to Dennis' poem written to Joyce on their 25th wedding anniversary, it was a complete variety of offerings.

THANKS to all who took part, and to Tatiana for hosting this Zoom meeting (again)!!





JUNIOR MUSIC IN POETRY CONTEST WINNER ANNOUNCED



COVID MUSIC

By
Siya Jain

When Covid filled the world
Music uncurled
My ears heard the cries
But also heard the wise
The sound of music overflowed
And its rhythm was the secret code
Do dum do dum do dum
Was the hum
When Covid filled the world
Music uncurled

With every note I heard
The world became clustered
With every silent rest
Someone waited for a test
With every sharp higher up
People bought a pup
With every flat lowering
The west was smoldering
With everything halted
Music resulted
When Covid filled the world
Music uncurled



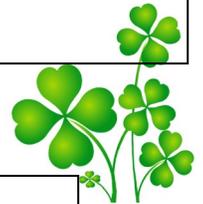
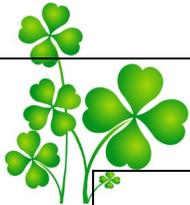
COVID MUSIC Cont.

Concerts through Zoom
In the family room
The noise filled the home
With Google chrome
Musicians all around
Were set down,
But many played on
Despite the marathon
People listened to the melody
And loved endlessly
When Covid filled the world
Music uncurled

Junior Music in Poetry

Siya Jain, First Prize winner in the Junior Music in Poetry Contest Class III was awarded \$20.00 for her poem, Covid Music. She is 14 years old and a student of Phyllis Chvostal.

A HEADS UP TO PLAN FOR OUR APRIL MEETING!



Music...is a Storyteller

The Theme of National Music Week

April's meeting will be member participation so be prepared! The virtual meeting will again be a member participation program focusing on the National Music Week theme "*Music...is a Storyteller.*"

So anyone who would like to relate a story about a music performance, a meaningful song (why it is meaningful), or any other story that comes to mind whether it happened to you personally or perhaps is something from a book, etc. **contact Kathy Kemerer (kathykemerer04@gmail.com) or phone (724) 996-5859.**

In order to fit as many stories in as possible please limit it to 3 or 4 minutes. Just as an example, Daryl and Kathy both have some interesting tales to share about weddings they've played for.

Happy Saint Patrick's Day





MEMBER NEWS!



Dennis Lisac is off to North Carolina to visit family and we trust his trip will be a safe and healthy one, even if he has to miss our March meeting!

Our Treasurer, Linda, reported that we collected \$158.34 by donations and from shoppers during Boscov's "Friends Helping Friends" event in October. Thank you to all who added this amount to our scholarship fund. She also reported we have \$2,489.93 in that fund so will have to decide if we are going to offer scholarships this year, and if so, HOW? Any suggestions?

Who have you invited to our virtual Opus I meetings? People from any place in the country could join us, so why not see who might want to hear all about John Rutter on March 8th !! Send them the link.

Ruth Ann has been invited to be the 'national guest' at the Texas Federation convention in August but her "dose of Vit. E for Encouragement" will be via Zoom instead of in person. The injection certainly won't hurt that way!!!

This year's theme for NFMC's National Music Week, May 2-9, is "Music... is a Storyteller". Last year we had two of Jessica's students do posters and get gift cards for doing so. Do some of you have creative students who would draw an 8X10 poster with that theme? Let Ruth Ann know.

Margie had lunch with Dottie Meeder and learned that the cause of the fire was electrical and everything was lost. She hopes to join Opus I at our meeting 3/8 via a computer given to her. We are thankful no one was hurt and she is OK.

A Standing Rule will be presented for vote (by a majority present) to clarify that the address of Opus I Music Society will be that of the current club Treasurer. (We are not renewing the PO box rental in May - at \$90).



OPUS I MUSIC SOCIETY SCHOLARSHIP AWARD



OPUS I MUSIC SOCIETY SCHOLARSHIP AWARD

Each spring, Opus I accepts applications for the annual Scholarship Award. The application is attached and must be returned by April 15, 2021. The funds for the Scholarship Award come in part from member participation in the Friends Helping Friends program sponsored by Boscov's Dept Store but mostly from generous donations of Opus I members. The amount of the award depends on how many applications received. The maximum award given is \$500 per applicant.

Please share this opportunity with eligible college students having a major or minor in music. Award recipients are expected to perform in the May Honor's Recital. Opus I leadership is discussing how and when the 2021 Honor's Recital will take place. Details will be included in next month's Opus I Times Signature.

Questions: Email Ruth Ann McChesney pfmcram@hotmail.com or Linda Maurhoff lindamaurhoff@consolidated.net



2021 APPLICATION FOR OPUS I SCHOLARSHIP AWARD

Opus I Music Society
203 Downieville Rd - Valencia, PA 16059

REQUIREMENTS TO APPLY FOR SCHOLARSHIP AWARD

Applicant must be a resident of one of the following school districts:

Mars Area - Pine-Richland - Seneca Valley - Knoch

A Past or Present Student of an Opus I Member also qualifies

Applicant must be a Sophomore or Junior in college

Applicant must have a major or minor in music

Return this application to the above address by April 15, 2021

Auditions may be required depending on the number of applications received.

NAME _____
HOME PHONE _____
HOME ADDRESS _____
SCHOOL DISTRICT _____
COLLEGE OR UNIVERSITY _____
YOUR EMAIL/PHONE _____
LEVEL FOR 2020-2021 YEAR (Sophomore or Junior) _____
MAJOR _____ MINOR _____
INSTRUMENT _____
PLANS FOLLOWING GRADUATION: _____
COLLEGE ADVISOR _____
EMAIL TO REACH YOUR ADVISOR _____
LIST ANY MUSICAL AWARDS OR HONORS AT COLLEGE LEVEL:

If selected to receive this award, you will be expected to perform for the May 2021 Opus I Recital.

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT _____



MARK YOUR CALENDAR !



March 8, 2021

Focus on John Rutter: In Celebration of the 75th Anniversary of His Birth

Presented by: Kathy Csellar

Location: Will be presented virtually

Time: 9:45 AM

April 12, 2021

Music...Is A Storyteller - The National Music Week Theme

Presented by: Kathy Kemerer and Opus I Members

Location: Will be presented virtually

Time: 9:45 AM

May Honors Recital - Stay tuned for more information!

