TIMES SIGNATURE

Opus I Music Society

November 2026

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KAREN'S KORNER

Fall is in full swing and as I have said many times before, I just love it! I love the gorgeous colors the trees have turned. I love the holidays that come in the fall. I just love it all!

And speaking of all things that give us pleasure, this month at Opus I, Ruth Ann McChesney will be presenting *Music of American Women Composers* on November 9, 2026. Refreshments and registration starts at 9:30 AM with the program starting at 10:00 AM. It sounds like it will be an interesting and enlightening program and I look forward to seeing you all there!

And, as always, *Let there be music!*

Karen



FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK !







As we gather this November to share our love of music, let's shine a spotlight on the remarkable contributions of American women composers who have enriched our musical heritage with their creativity, courage, and distinctive voices. From the pioneering works of Amy Beach and Florence Price to the imaginative compositions of today's talented women, their music is an inspiration to us all! May this month give us a renewed appreciation for the women whose music deserves to be heard, remembered, and celebrated! We will be meeting on November 9th, at LifePointe Church in the music room. Refreshments and registration starts at 9:30 AM with the program starting at 10:00 AM.

Jessica Wood

WE ARE LOOKING FOR A NEW PRESIDENT/VICE PRESIDENT !

We are looking for a new President/Vice President team for 2026-2027.This club follows a rotating leadership schedule to ensure that new ideas, perspectives, and experiences are continually shared among our members.

As President or Vice President, you won't be planning everything on your own! You'll have a team of fellow music lovers and friends who are eager to contribute, lend a hand, and help make each season of the club successful.

If you're interested in serving our music club in one of these leadership roles, please contact Jessica Wood for more information. Her email is jessicawoodmusicstudio@outlook.com and her phone number is 724-730-1031.

NOVEMBER MEETING INFORMATION !

JOIN US AT OUR NOVEMBER MEETING !



AMERICAN WOMEN COMPOSERS



Inspiration Provided By Ruth Ann McChesney

Presented By
Ruth Ann McChesney

November 9, 2026

LifePointe Alliance Church Music Room

Registration and Refreshment: 9:30 AM
Program: 10:00 AM

Hospitality Provided By Kathy Csellar And Linda Maurhoff

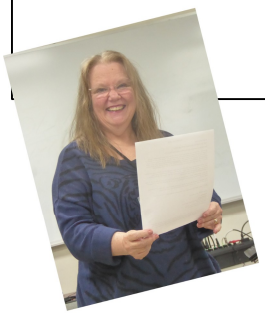
Who comes to mind when you hear of American women composers? There are many but we'll learn about Florence Price, Amy Beach, Joan Tower, Caroline Shaw and Jenni Brandon as well as hear from two of our very own Opus I composers - live and in person!!Don't miss this informative and educational session as well as enjoy hearing Joyce and Jeannie!! See you the 9th!!

Come and join us!

See you there!



MEMORIES OF OUR OCTOBER MEETING !










We were few in number but didn't lack for enthusiasm and enjoyment at our October Opus I meeting, the second round of "Musical Jeopardy"! This time Allen Kitchen was our "Alex Trebek" and Mary Kitchen was the score-keeper! The three teams had fun responding to the questions with answers in question form. This time there were prizes in a drawing and Susan Cooper, Karen Douglass and Margie Rinaman each received two tickets to the Butler Co. Orchestra Dec. 5th concert!! Thanks to Jessica, again, for putting together the categories and questions! And thanks to Susan Cooper for our delicious and colorful refreshments, and Karen for the Inspirational Moment.

MEMORIES OF OUR NW DISTRICT MEETING !










DUES ARE DUE NOW!



Greetings Opus I Friends,
Hope you are well and enjoying the beautiful weather!

It's time to pay Opus I dues for the 2026-27 year.
Dues are $40/year for one person and $60/year for a couple.

Please mail your dues check to me asap. My address is:

Linda Maurhoff, Treasurer
Opus I Music Society
203 Downieville Rd.
Valencia, PA 16059

I am so far behind this year - there is just not a descriptive word!!! I am so very thankful for thoughts and prayers as I continue to navigate this very LONG journey but have to admit that patience is not my strength!

The new yearbook is in process and we would like the membership pages to be current.

The programs for the coming year will be awesome - as always. Plan to attend each month and support our music club.

Mark your calendar for Monday, October 12, 2026 9:30am at LifePointe Alliance Church.

There is more information about the meeting in this newsletter.

See you soon.
Linda Maurhoff, Treasurer



BOSCOV'S FRIENDS HELPING FRIENDS UPDATE !







The Boscov's "Friends Helping Friends" fundraising event was most worthwhile again this year. Opus I had a prime location at the back parking lot door and received many, many donations for the shopping coupons. BIG thanks to the Opus I volunteers who greeted folks at that table: Mary and Allen Kitchen, Sue Stevenson and Ruth Ann, Dennis Lisac, and Kathy and Daryl Kemerer! Couldn't have done it without these folks sacrificing time and efforts that day. The total collected so far for our scholarship fund is approximately $1027 but we expect more Opus I members to send in donations. (Have you done that yet????)







IT'S NFMC AMERICAN MUSIC MONTH !

THE HISTORY OF NFMC AMERICAN MUSIC MONTH

In February 1955, founder Ada Holding Miller, the 17th NFMC President, established the NFMC American Music Department along with the Parade of American Music. Its purpose was to create a time for special emphasis on American Music.

In August 1998, the NFMC Board of Directors changed American Music Month to November of each year. The NFMC celebration coordinates with the Society of American Music which also promotes American Music During November. State Federations are encouraged to plan November programs to include the history and performance of American Music.



VOLUNTEER HOURS !



Volunteer Hours

to individuals who are confined

Your time and generosity make a meaningful difference, and we want to make sure that our collective volunteer efforts receive the recognition it deserves through PFMC.

To help us keep track of our volunteer hours, please let us know the following information for each time you volunteer by singing or playing an instrument:

- **WHO:** Who participated?
- **WHEN:** What was the date of the performance?
- **WHERE:** Where did you volunteer?
- **HOW MANY HOURS:** How much time did you spend volunteering, including both preparation time and performance time?

Please send your information to our Opus I email address at **opusonemusic@outlook.com**.

You can send everything in one email at the end of the season or send updates as you go. Whatever is easiest for you is perfect!

Our current reporting season runs from April 1, 2026, through March 31, 2027.

Thank you for giving your time and sharing the gift of music with others. We appreciate all you do!

MARK YOUR CALENDAR !



FRIDAY, November 6, 2026

Hope Lutheran Church Concert Series
The musical group North Pittsburgh Dixie Band
Hope Lutheran Church at 7:30 PM, 8040 Rowan Rd., Cranberry Twp.

MONDAY, November 9, 2026

Music of American Women Composers
Presented by Ruth Ann McChesney
Where: LifePointe Alliance Church in the Music Room
When: 9:30 AM Registration and Refreshment
10:00 AM Program



MONDAY, December 14, 2026

Holiday Open Mic
Presented by Members of Opus I
Where: LifePointe Alliance Church in the Music Room
When: 9:30 AM Registration and Refreshment
10:00 AM Program



OUR MAILING ADDRESS

Linda Maurhoff; Treasurer, Opus I Music Society; 203 Downieville Rd.; Valencia, PA 16059

CHECK US OUT ON FACEBOOK!

Our link is:
www.facebook.com/groups/opusonemusic (copy and paste into your browser!)