

Brevard Notes

BREVARD MUSIC CENTER ASSOCIATION

Volunteers Supporting Young Musicians

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Piano Technician Graham Anderson Returns for Ninth Season

Piano technician Graham Anderson has worked with the best. While at Steinway & Sons in London, Anderson tuned and voiced instruments for classical pianists André Previn, Daniel Barenboim and Vlad-



Graham Anderson

Photo courtesy of John Allen

imir Ashkenazy, as well as such pop music icons as The Beatles, Elton John and Frank Sinatra. Anderson served for ten years as piano technician for the internationally acclaimed Edinburgh Festival and was on staff of EMI Studios before moving to the United States in 1981. He maintains a studio in Montgomery, Alabama, rebuilding pianos.

Anderson joined the Brevard Music Center staff eight years ago after receiving a phone call. "They asked me if I was interested in a summer job," he recalls. "I said sure, and I've been here ever since."

As piano technician, Anderson maintains the Brevard Music Center's 78

pianos from Steinway & Sons. He arrives two weeks before the students and faculty, preparing each instrument for a summer of intense practice and performance. "Because of humidity, it's essential to up-keep the pianos. I roughly tune and voice about five a day, sometimes more or less, depending on rehearsal schedules. I have to be flexible with my time and will often wait until eleven o'clock at night before I get into a studio."

After eight seasons, Anderson feels comfortable at Brevard. "I'm expected. They send me a program each spring, and I just arrive." Many of the 65 faculty members return each year and have come to recognize the quiet piano technician. "The faculty know me now and tell me all of their problems along with their pianos' problems. I enjoy what I do, and it makes the job easier."

As a teenager, the London native joined a pop group. The drummer at the time worked for Steinway & Sons and suggested Anderson apply as an apprentice. He spent five years at the company learning to rebuild and voice pianos. When asked if there's a favorite instrument he worked on during his thirty-year career, Anderson promptly replies: "Yes, it was a 9 foot German Steinway we used to rent out to various artists. I even remember the serial number, 695. I'll never forget it."

2006 Artist Profile: Robert McDuffie

Robert McDuffie performs the Rozsa Violin Concerto with the BMC Orchestra and David Effron Sunday, July 30. McDuffie attended the Music Center as a student in 1970 and '71, receiving the Distinguished Alumni Award last summer. Since his time at Brevard, he has established an international career, appearing on the world's great concert and recital stages.



Robert McDuffie

"I fell in love with music at Brevard Music Center," declared McDuffie. "My two summers there as an adolescent were unforgettable. The Brevard experience helped shape my musical personality."

McDuffie recorded the Rozsa Violin Concerto with the Atlanta Symphony in 2000 on the Telarc label.

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Celebrations Draw Avid BMC Supporters

BMC Celebrations take on many characteristics. They range from formal dinners to hikes in our beautiful mountains. All this in an effort to support the aspirations of young musicians.

On a cool April Saturday, 21 bundled and hardy souls congregated beside a glassy clear lake. They fueled up on delicious warm French toast, cheesy eggs and potatoes, crisp asparagus-ham wraps, fresh fruit, and the best coffee anywhere (Quotations, of course).

Fuel for what? Hiking the cascade and waterfall filled hiking trails of Connestee Falls. Led by trailbuilders Adele and Andy Anderson, they struck out for the wilderness and to burn those calories. A very different kind of Celebrations fund-raiser, "Waterfall Wanderings."



Preparing to hike.

Photo courtesy Janis Allen

Hosts for the event were Ellie Vibert, Marcia Millar, Lynne and Jon Montague-Clouse, Mike McCarthy and Janis Allen.

Later in April more than 50 guests attended an evening of music provided by Bruce Murray at the lovely Glen Cannon home of John Gardner and Betsy Barefoot. Many other events were held during the preceding winter months. What creative ways to support our young musicians!

There will be more events in the coming months. A luau, a Sunday brunch by the lake, a late afternoon concert by a dazzling Armenian pianist, a chance to learn how to

paint your very own wine glasses, a delicious oyster roast, and how about listening/



Enjoying breakfast.

Photo courtesy of Janis Allen

dancing to Russ Wilson's 10 piece Nouvea-Passe Orchestra playing the unforgettable music of the 20's and 30's? That's just the beginning of BMCA's up and coming Celebrations. Stay tuned, folks. There's more to come!

From the President

Dear BMCA Volunteer:

A recent visit to the White House caused me to reflect a bit on a number of things, among them the fact that my life has already spanned twelve U.S. presidencies. That's approaching one-third of the men who have held that office in the 230-year history of our country. Some of you can add one, two or maybe more to my twelve. So, what's



John Candler, President of BMC

Photo courtesy of John Allen

my point? Just that things change and stay the same, and the older we get, the more we realize the importance of passing on what we have experienced and learned to future generations.

Your volunteering at BMC enables the transfer of generational knowledge, experience and wisdom to our gifted young students. Please remember that as you get swept up in the multitude of tasks you are carrying out as you read this letter. And long before the season started, you were at work.

Prelude 2006 – *Under the Tuscan Sun* – was a wonderful event. Under the leadership of co-chairs Penny Colman-Crandall and Peter McKinney, supported by committee chairs Charles and Beth Pickelsimer, Bob McGarry, Linda Candler, Nancy Nix and over 60 other hard working volunteers, over \$111,000 was raised to support our students and programs. What a night!

Extensive off-season work to upgrade and repair facilities was accomplished once again by "Cushman and Company" and Ellie Vibert and her gardeners have the campus looking great.

Your mission to support young musicians grows with each passing year. This season your contribution to the annual scholarship fund, combined with earnings from your BMCA Scholarship Endowment Fund, is supporting sixteen male and sixteen female students. They represent thirteen different instruments and come from fifteen U.S.

states and the People's Republic of China. I hope you will have the opportunity to meet Kyle Acuncius, Katherine Baker, Elisha Benjamin, Cynthia Bova, Erin Caplan, Natalie Draper, Joshua Gamboa, Seth Gilliard, sisters Brandis and Chelsea Godwin, Melissa Hohman, Kimberly Hoover, Michael Hustedde, Rachel Kim, Amanda Leland, Hart Linker, Daniel Nesbitt, Max Oppenheimer, Christopher Polen, Roland Rengifo, Terris Roberts, Clara Rottsolk, Jonathan Scheibler, Mark Selby, Cara Simpson, Deanna Sirkot, Ashley Stone, Michael Tybursky, Jordan Warmath, John Winstead, Kyle Yecke and Wei Zhou. They are why we exist.

On behalf of our students, staff and trustees – THANK YOU – for all that you do for us. Enjoy the season!



President, Brevard Music Center

Competition at Brevard

As many of you know, some of the most exciting concerts showcasing the talented students of the Brevard Music Center occur during the last few weeks of the summer. To foster healthy competition and provide unique performance opportunities, the Music Center offers two competitions for its students: the Jan and Beattie Wood Concerto Competition and the BMC Piano Competition. Pursuing a career in music is highly competitive – second only to professional sports – and competitions offer the chance to measure oneself against one’s peers and set goals, all the while improving overall musical ability.

The Jan and Beattie Wood Concerto

Competition is held at the end of the third full week of the season. Any full-session BMC instrumental student is eligible to participate. A student selects a concerto movement from an approved repertoire list and performs it with piano accompaniment for a panel of judges. Performances must be given from memory. The final round on July 16 is free and open to the public. Winners are then featured in performance with the Repertory Symphony Orchestra on July 29 and receive full scholarships to Brevard for the following summer.

The BMC Piano Competition, sponsored by the Zimmerli Foundation, occurs on the

next-to-last weekend of the BMC summer season and is open to all full-session pianists. Students compete with a solo program of their choice, lasting 30 to 40 minutes and containing repertoire chosen from at least three style periods. The Competition occurs in two parts, with the final round on July 30 free and open to the public. Winners are announced at the end of the evening’s performances, with five cash prizes awarded totaling \$7,000 and scholarships given to the top three contestants.

By Emma Candelier

“UNDER THE TUSCAN SUN”



Sunny centerpieces.

With thanks to the 65 volunteers who helped create “Tuscany” for the 2006 Prelude, We are grateful to them and more than 220 in attendance, who helped raise a record \$111,000.00 for the Music Center’s educational programs. It was our pleasure to be at the helm of this very successful event and we applaud each volunteer.

Our sponsors, donors and bidders each year continue to amaze “Prelude’s” important commitment to enhance the experience of each Music Center’s student. We thank, especially, John and Linda Candler, Bill Boggs, Gary Himes and Janie Sargent for their constant guidance, Charles and Beth Picklesimer, Nancy Nix and Ann Ives for their creative and amazing talent. Thank you for this very special opportunity to serve our community.

Penny Colman-Crandal
Peter McKinney
Co-chairs Prelude 2006



Tables set under the Tuscan sun.



Jerry Stone conducting live auction.



Volunteer preparing dinner table

Photos courtesy of Ann Hoeke

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Miklos Rozsa is best known as a film composer, writing such memorable scores to such classics as “The Thief of Baghdad,” “Spellbound” and “Ben Hur.” Born in Bucharest in 1909, he died in Los Angeles in 1995. Through an Oscar-winning career, Rozsa considered himself a real composer, count-

ing among his friends violinist Jascha Heifetz and cellist Gregor Piatigorsky.

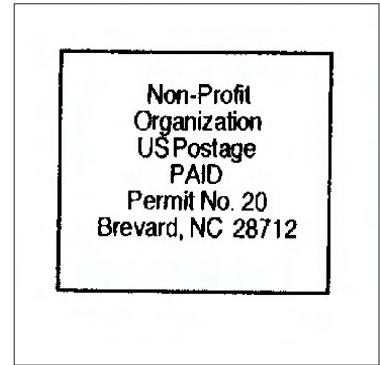
Written in 1956 for Heifetz, the Violin Concerto is a highly disciplined yet intensely passionate work. Upon reviewing McDuffie’s recording, the *New York Times* described the violinist as “a sweet-toned

soloist, lending Rozsa’s arching, lyrical strains welcome luminosity ... McDuffie all but erases memories of Heifetz’s famous RCA recording, which is precise but cool by comparison.”



BREVARD MUSIC CENTER
ASSOCIATION

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We're on the web
brevardmusic.org

Brevard Music Center Association Membership Registration Form

I/We wish to support BMCA by joining/renewing for the current membership year Jan. 1 - Dec. 31, 2006
(Please check mailing label for the last year your dues were paid.)

Name _____
Street _____
City, State, Zip _____
Phone (____) _____
E-mail address _____

Winter/Summer address if different:

Effective dates _____

Annual dues \$ 30.00 (Individual or family)
Contribution \$ _____ (Tax deductible)
Total \$ _____

Make check to: **BMCA Membership**
Mail to: **BMCA, PO Box 312**
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I/We wish to volunteer for the following activities:

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|--|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
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| <input type="checkbox"/> Concessions | <input type="checkbox"/> Publicity | <input type="checkbox"/> Ushering |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Gardening | <input type="checkbox"/> Purchasing | <input type="checkbox"/> Writing |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Handyman | <input type="checkbox"/> Prelude | <input type="checkbox"/> Other |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Harmony House | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, I would like to join the BMC Email Club. | | |