



NOTES

The Official Newsletter of the Vermont Music and Arts Association, Inc.

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Theme and Variations

It was indeed glorious to be back in Vermont for VMAC greeting longtime friends and making music together after the long COVID hiatus.

The VMAA board was able to pull it off with the advent of Zoom, replacing our annual in-person get-together of pre-COVID days. We met on Zoom at least once a month to breathe life back into the sleeping giant that is VMAC.

Our long-treasured cello coach, Gael Abbassi finds that she is no longer able to fulfill the full-time obligations of a VMAC cello coach. We are creating a title of Coach Emeritus, which will allow her to tailor her obligations. That leaves us with one overworked cello coach. We are instituting a search for a new cello coach to bring our roster up to two full-time cello coaches.

Exciting news: We have engaged a professional web designer to bring us into the 21st century. This will include training one of us to update and maintain the website. While it is good to play early music, our organization has to function with the times.

We are continuing with our monthly Zoom board meetings in order to meet the needs of our flourishing organization.

Be on the lookout for your invitation to vote on the current term of board members.

Enjoy the upcoming holidays in good health,



VMAA Board of Directors

Lois Tepfer, president
Cecilia Sweeney, vice president
Barbara Lakota, secretary
Diana Cole, treasurer
Virginia Fitzgerald
Dick Franke
Donna Kirshbaum
Martin Miller
Helene Resky, *Notes* editor
Judy Terwilliger, VMAC coordinator

www.vermontmusicandarts.org

***Please share this with a friend
who might like to come to
wonderful VMAC!***

VMAC 2023: July 2-23

2022 VMAA Annual Meeting Minutes

The VMAA annual meeting was held over the course of three days, June 30, July 7, and July 14, 2022, in order to reach all of our active participants. On June 30, Board members Lois Tepfer, Diana Cole, Donna Kirshbaum, Cecilia Sweeney, Lois Tepfer, Judy Terwilliger, and Barbara Lakota were present. On July 7, Cecilia Sweeney, Lois Tepfer, Diana Cole, Judy Terwilliger, Donna Kirshbaum, Jinny Fitzgerald, Marty Miller, and Helene Resky were present. On July 14, Donna Kirshbaum and Judy Terwilliger were present. Lois Tepfer called the meeting to order on June 30 and July 7, and Donna Kirshbaum led the meeting on July 14.

During the first two meetings, Lois welcomed everyone and acknowledged how wonderful it was to hold our workshop again, to be reunited, and to welcome new members. Lois acknowledged the work of the COVID committee and thanked everyone for adhering to wearing masks when required.

Lois also acknowledged Judy Terwilliger as our extraordinary new workshop coordinator and noted the many things Judy has done to help the program run smoothly, challenged not only by being new to the job but by unexpected issues specific to the college, such as internet interruptions, the printer not working, and certain door keys not working. Lois also introduced Leo Aponte, our new workshop manager, and commended him for stepping in and learning the “ropes” of his new position quickly and efficiently. Finally, Lois thanked Alison Howe for creating our “green books” and asked for anyone with knowledge pertaining to websites to consider helping us update ours.

After these introductory and welcoming comments, each meeting:

- 1) Dispensed with reading the minutes previously published in *Notes*;
- 2) Presented a brief description of the organization structure for the benefit of new attendees; and
- 3) Provided the usual statement about the purpose of the meeting:
 - a) to disseminate information
 - b) as a forum for ideas and discussion
 - c) to prepare for the formation of the board.

Structure of the Organization and Trustee Elections

The Vermont Music and Arts Association (VMAA) is the corporation whose sole job is to run VMAC, the workshop.

Voting: VMAA is run by a board of 9 members who each serve for 3 years, 3 of them elected every year. This year the terms of Jinny Fitzgerald, Helene Resky, and Diana Cole will be up, and all three are agreeable to running for another 3-year term. The election process was described at all 3 meetings, including the nomination procedure in the event others were interested in running. A prospective candidate must be consulted first and agree to being nominated before that person’s name may be offered as a nominee. A ballot with all nominees’ names will be sent by email soon.



Treasurer’s Report: Diana Cole referred members to the VMAC *Notes* for the status of our finances and encouraged all to consider purchasing VMAC merchandise that she had positioned on a table in the room where the meeting was held.

Music Director’s Report: At each meeting, Barbara Jaffe said how wonderful it was to see everyone and that it has been a joy to be back. At the first meeting, she noted that that first week was unusual in that it was shorter than the other weeks by 3 days, but all went well, and she was proud of the coaches and participants for working together to make the week a great success. She added that she had attended several of the board’s meetings over the past two years and expressed gratitude that the board has worked diligently to keep VMAC running smoothly. She also singled out a few coaches who particularly helped to make our return successful: Nicole Aldridge, beloved returnee vocal coach; Karen Shapiro, flute coach, who stepped in for all 3 weeks when our regular flute coach, Collette LeFever, could not attend due to an injury; and Andreia Torain, who agreed to play in the

Montiverdi String Quartet for Dana Allaband, who was unable to attend this summer.



Library: At each meeting, the procedure for borrowing music from the library was presented, and attendees were reminded to visit the rummage sale featuring pre-owned music, the proceeds to benefit purchases of new music for the VMAC library.

Disseminated information: Evaluations were sent to all attendees, and all were encouraged to complete them.

Discussion: At the first meeting, Thor Sigurdson, cello and bass artist in residence, suggested we consider having a composer in residence as part of the workshop.

At the second meeting, a number of issues for discussion were raised: 1) the Green Books should include Sundays at the beginning and end for those staying more than one week; 2) there needs to be a clearer explanation for the tip and money jars at check-in; 3) review the necessity of assigning mentors for new applicants; 4) in addition to folk dancing and the morning walk, we should consider adding yoga, and 5) we should consider adding a Sing-Along as an option to next year's schedule.

Details for check-out were reviewed and all who were leaving each week were wished a safe journey home.

The meeting adjourned each week at approximately 10:00PM

*Respectfully submitted,
Barbara Lakota, Secretary (June 30)
Cecilia Sweeney, Vice President (July 7)
Carol Louik, former trustee (July 14)*

Edited for length by Helene Resky



2023 Works of the Week

String works:

Beethoven String Quartet in D major, Op. 18, No. 3

Mendelssohn String Quartet in D major, Op. 44, no. 1

Piano/String works:

Mendelssohn Trio no. 2 in c minor, op. 66

Schumann Quartet in E flat major, op. 47

Wind works:

Roseman Renaissance Suite

Lefebvre Suite No. 1 for Wind Quintet, Op. 57

Piano/Winds work:

Rimsky-Korsakov Quintet in B flat Major, (Fl, Cl, Bsn, Fr Horn, Piano)



New VMAC Website Design

Our improved VMAC website is scheduled to be up and running by early 2023. This new format, courtesy of VMAC violist/violinist Doug Anderson's son Rob, has up-to-date, user-friendly technology.



Music Librarian Position

If the VMAC library is your happy place, this very important job may be for you. Responsibilities include maintaining the library database, ordering new music, updating the library catalog on the website, and filing music. The librarian will work closely with the faculty member who is responsible for maintaining the library during the workshop and may supervise any volunteers who help with the library. If interested, please contact Ken Johnson at kennyfresh340@gmail.com for more information.

Summer 2022

