

Guitarist

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VOL. 24 NO. 1

Warm Up at Sundin Hall with

Lily Afshar
Classical Guitar/
Persian Seh-tar
Friday, January 18th, 8 pm



Le Trio Joubran
Three ouds!
Three brothers!!
Saturday, February 23rd, 8 pm

Also In This Issue...

Local Artist concerts by Carlson and Cramer, the UM Guitar Dept., and Paul Hintz; the 2nd Annual Youth Guitarathon; more News and Notes

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Minnesota Guitar Society Mission Statement

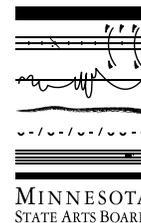
To promote the guitar, in all its stylistic and cultural diversity, through our newsletter and through our sponsorship of public forums, concerts, and workshops.

To commission new music and to aid in its promotion, publication, and recording.

To serve as an educational and social link between amateur and professional guitarists and the community.

To promote and help create opportunities for Minnesota guitarists and players of related instruments.

The Minnesota Guitar Society concert season is co-sponsored by Sundin Hall. This activity is made possible in part by a grant from the Minnesota State Arts Board, through an appropriation by the Minnesota State Legislature and a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts. Matching funds have been provided by General Mills, AT&T, and Ameriprise Financial.



NATIONAL
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To reserve tickets for any Sundin Hall concert, call our phone line at 612-677-1151 and leave a message.

*As a member of the Minnesota Guitar Society, you receive ticket discounts on all MGS-sponsored events, a year's subscription to the Guitarist and the opportunity to place free classifieds in each issue. To join the Minnesota Guitar Society, please fill out the information on this coupon and mail it to: **Minnesota Guitar Society, P.O. Box 14986, Minneapolis, MN 55414***

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Concert Spotlight: Lily Afshar

The 2008 half of our 07–08 Sundin Hall concert series opens with the return of Lily Afshar on Friday, January 18th. Afshar's previous recitals here were warmly received, and we're glad for the chance to bring her back. This visit will include a free workshop on the seh-tar, a traditional Persian string instrument featured on Afshar's most recent CD that she will play for part of her Friday night concert. The Thursday workshop will be at the University of St. Thomas, and is cosponsored by the UST Music Department's Guitar Program. See sidebar for details.

Lily Afshar is a breath of fresh air in the world of classical guitar. Her solo, chamber, and concerto appearances combined with adventurous recordings have earned her the status of "one of the world's foremost classical guitarists" according to Public Radio International. *The Washington Post* described her onstage performances as "remarkable, impeccable." But perhaps equally as important is her reputation for expanding the contemporary classical guitar repertoire. Afshar's collaborations with international composers have resulted in premieres of new works by many internationally known composers.

Her exciting concert programs continue to earn her an active schedule of solo, chamber, and concerto appearances in the U.S. and around the world, including England, Ireland, Canada, France, Iran, Jordan, Denmark, Italy, Africa, New Zealand, Australia, and throughout South America. She has performed at the Kennedy Center for Performing Arts, the Grand Teton Music Festival, the Aspen Music Festival, Wigmore Hall in London, Banff School of Fine Arts, the Menton Music Festival in France, and the American Academy in Rome.



photo by Jack Kenner

Afshar's four recordings have received international critical acclaim. Her first, *24 Caprichos de Goya, Op. 195*, was released in 1994 and her second, *A Jug of Wine and Thou*, in 1999 (both on Summit Records). Her recordings *Possession* and *Hemispheres* (Archer Records, 2002 and 2006) feature eight world premieres. *Hemispheres* reached #7 on Billboard's Top Classical Albums Chart in 2006. Not only has her passion for

challenging the traditional guitar repertoire made her a sought-after artist by classical composers, it has also led to some unusual guitar sounds. Afshar introduced quarter tones on *Hemispheres*, accomplished by the addition of fretlets to her guitar to accurately reproduce the tones. *Hemispheres* attracted the attention of National Public Radio's Robert Siegel, who featured Afshar on "All Things Considered" in 2006. Audiences have responded with fascination to the fretlets and to her live performances on the seh-tar, a traditional Persian instrument.

Born in Tehran, Afshar was 10 years old when she began the guitar. She graduated with a Bachelor of Music and a Master of

Music degree in guitar performance from The Boston Conservatory and the New England Conservatory of Music. At Florida State University, she became the first woman in the world to earn a Doctorate of Music in guitar performance. She has studied at the Banff Centre for Fine Arts and the Aspen Music Festival. She received Diplomas of Merit from the

Lili Afshar, *continued on p. 6*

Lily Afshar Free Seh-tar Workshop

Thursday, January 17th, 7 pm
University of St. Thomas, Brady Education Center
SW of Grand/Cretin Aves. intersection in St. Paul
Room 3 (lower level)

Free street parking south of building
For more info visit <www.mnguitar.org>
For a UST St. Paul campus map visit
<www.stthomas.edu/campusmaps>

Directions to Sundin Hall on the Hamline U. Campus

From I-94, head north on Snelling Avenue in St. Paul, past University Avenue to Hewitt Avenue. Turn right, Sundin Hall is on your left, a half-block east of Snelling. Free parking is available one block past the hall, in lots off Hewitt (on your right) or off Pascal (1 block north).

Afshar Concert Program

Kara Toprak "Black Earth" by Asik Veysel
(arranged by Ricardo Moyano)
MKG Variations by Kamran Ince (arranged by Lily Afshar)
Invocation y Danza by Joaquin Rodrigo
Gozaar by Reza Vali
Bird of Dawn "Morph-eh- Sahar" by Morteza Neydavood
(performance on seh-tar)
Fantasia on Bird of Dawn (Morph-eh-Sahar) by Garry Eister
Intermission
Two Pieces by Leo Brouwer
Danza del Altiplano
Ojos Brujos
Two Middle Eastern Ballads arranged by Lily Afshar
Sene de Qalmaz (Traditional Azarbaijani)
Jaan-eh-Maryam (Persian popular ballad)
Three South American Dances
Aire de Joropo by Benito Canonico
Jugueteando by Jorge Morel
Misionera by Fernando Bustamante
Two pieces by Isaac Albeniz
Tango
Sevilla

Concert Spotlight: Le Trio Joubran

On Saturday, February 23rd, our Sundin Hall series features the Minnesota debut of Le Trio Joubran. The group consists of three brothers: Samir Joubran on oud and voice, Wissam Joubran on oud, and the youngest, Adnan Joubran, also on oud. The trio has been in existence only a few years, and has already established an international reputation for their incredible live performances. The day before their concert at Sundin Hall, they will attend a screening at Oak St. Cinema of a documentary made in 2005 about them. After the film, the brothers will take part in a panel discussion/question-and-answer session with the audience about their art and the many questions the film explores.

The Joubrans

Samir (b. 1973), Wissam (b. 1983), and Adnan (b. 1985) Joubran were born in the biblical city of Nazareth in Galilee, into a family with a strong musical tradition. Their mother



sang in a Muashahat ensemble and their father, Hatem, is a master oud maker known throughout the Arab world. As soon as he could, Hatem started teaching Samir to play this ancient pre-cursor of the lute.

At the tender age of 9 Samir began his formal musical education at Nazareth Institute of Music. He completed his studies at the Muhammad Abdul Wahhab Conservatory in Cairo, having in the interim

performed at some of the most important venues in the Middle East. His talent as a composer quickly gained him the opportunity to work with leading Arab artists and intellectuals (Mahmoud Darwish the poet, Rashid Masharawi the film director). He has also been invited to work with the French film director Francois Dupeyron and the choreographers H la Fattoumi and Eric Lamoureux.

Wissam was apprenticed to his father, from whom he inherited the skill of oud making. In 2002 he went on to the prestigious Antonio Stradivarius Institute of Cremona in Italy to begin a 4-year course to perfect his instrument making talent.

Samir and Wissam began touring outside the Middle East in August 2002 and since then their reputation has grown through performances in Europe, Canada, and Brazil. Their first album, *Tamaas*, released in 2003 by 'daqui' is a masterpiece, displaying their intimate knowledge of the music and history of their instrument and their wonderful improvisational talent.

The youngest brother, Adnan, made his debut on the

international stage in October 2004. He is considered to be a prodigy by his older brothers.

Le Trio Joubran is a logical step for three brothers joined by music, by fraternity, and by humanity. Their album *Randana* (Randana-Fairplay / Harmonia Mundi) was released in March 2005. More information about the brothers and their music can be found at the trio's website, <www.letriojoubran.com>.

The Film

Ertijal (Improvisation) is a 2005 film by director Raed Andoni. Andoni has been working as a filmmaker and producer in Palestine since 1997. He is also a co-founder of Dar Films, an independent film production company based in Ramallah, Palestine. He has produced a number of award-winning documentaries including *Ijtiyah* (Invasion) by Nizar Hassan (2003), awarded best film at the Ismailiya Film Festival in Egypt, *Live from Palestine*, by Rashid Masharawi (2001), awarded the Special Jury Prize at the FIBA in France; and *Tahadi* (Challenge) by Nizar Hassan (2001). *Ertijal*, which he both wrote and directed, is his most recent documentary. The film allows us to witness the tensions and wonderful humor between a family of Palestinian oud makers and

musicians, whose livelihood is also their passion. The brothers have strikingly different personalities, yet their music requires listening and responding closely to one another as they improvise intricate and beautiful songs in performances around the globe.

Included are several mesmerizing performances that allow the audience to gain insight into the experiences and challenges for Palestinians living in Israel and Palestine, and experience first-hand a family's everyday struggles and triumphs. The showing will be followed by a panel discussion with the brothers.

Mizna

This showing of the hour-long film is co-sponsored by Mizna, a Twin Cities-based Arab-American cultural organization. Mizna began in 1999 with the publication of a journal, *Mizna*, which is still the only journal of Arab-American literature in the U.S. The organization presents an annual film festival as well as other arts, music, and cultural events, and has opened a center in NE Minneapolis. Visit their website <www.mizna.org> for complete info.

This activity is made possible, in part, by funds provided by the Metropolitan Regional Arts Council from an appropriation by the Minnesota Legislature.

***Ertijal* (Improvisation) Film**

Friday, Feb. 22nd, 7:30 pm

Oak Street Cinema
309 Oak St. SE, Minneapolis
(near intersection of Oak St. and
Washington Ave. SE in Stadium Village
area of East Bank UM campus)
Co-sponsored by Mizna

Tickets \$10 available at the door
Info at <www.mnguitar.org>
or <www.mizna.org>

Reception in lobby to follow show

Le Trio Joubran Concert
Saturday, Feb. 23rd, 8 pm
Sundin Hall, Hamline University
Tickets \$22/\$17
Info by phone 612 677 1151
or online <www.mnguitar.org>

Local Artists Concerts

Carlson/Cramer on January 20th

Our first Local Artists concert of 2008 features the exciting duo of Kevin Carlson and Mike Cramer. They will perform at Woodbury's indoor amphitheater on Sunday, January 20th at 2 pm. The one-hour concert is co-sponsored by the Woodbury Park and Recreation Department and will feature a varied program of guitar duets and guitar/mandolin pieces. Information about the venue can be found at www.ci.woodbury.mn.us/parks/cptheater.html.

Kevin Carlson has broad performance experience with ensembles and artists ranging from symphony orchestras to Broadway touring shows to stars like Marvin Hamlisch, Rita Moreno, and Thad Jones. He appears on recordings with artists from Chicago, Minneapolis, and St. Cloud. Carlson has worked as a professional liturgical musician for 15 years and is currently Director of Music at the St. Cloud State University Newman Center. He has worked at MusicTech in Minneapolis (now McNally-Smith College of Music in St. Paul), and as



an adjunct faculty member at St. Cloud State University. The founder of Professional Music Instruction (PMI), Carlson teaches private lessons as well as the nationally acclaimed ChildBloom Guitar program. His solo repertoire ranges from classical to pop/jazz to the work of Chet Atkins, Jerry Reed, and Scott Joplin. He also composes, and plays a variety of historic guitars in his programs. Carlson graduated summa cum laude with degrees in classical guitar and theory/composition from the University of Minnesota, Minneapolis (1987) and Musicians Institute, Los Angeles (1988). A long-time MGS member who has participated in many Society events, Carlson can be reached at kccarlson1@charter.net

Mike Cramer is an award-winning guitarist and educator. He received his BA in music from the University of Northern



Iowa, where he graduated summa cum laude. After graduation he took an adjunct guitar instructor position at Grinnell College in Iowa, a position he held for three years before moving to the Twin Cities. Cramer has given workshops throughout the country and has taught for the National Guitar Workshop. Besides maintaining a busy teaching studio at All12Notes in St. Paul (see their

website, www.all12notes.com), Cramer leads an active life as a performer. He has shared the stage with or opened for performers such as the legendary B.B. King, Tommy Castro, Chris Duarte, Michael "Hawkeye" Herman, Spencer Bohren, Debbie Duncan, Tresa Sauer, Gordy Johnson, Tanner Taylor, Jay Epstein, JazzMN Big Band, and Gordon Goodwin. For the MGS, Cramer was a standout performer at the December 2006 Jazz Guitarathon.

Please join us for this free concert on January 20th.

U-MN Guitar Department Concert on February 24th

by Jim Flegel

The University of Minnesota's guitar program has been at the center of Minnesota's thriving classical guitar scene for decades—thanks to the work and talent of long-time faculty member, Jeffrey Van. Nearly every teacher in the area has studied with Van or one of his students (or his students' students). Most every Minnesota Guitar Society's Local Artist Series classical guitarist has had a connection to the University of Minnesota. And with the addition of new faculty (James Flegel), new courses in Guitar Literature and Guitar Pedagogy, and more students (over 20 majors), the program is stronger than ever, and moving forward. On February 24th, the department will highlight its strengths, as well as its strong ties to the MGS, with a University of Minnesota Guitar Department Guitarathon. The concert will be presented at 2 pm in Lloyd Ultan Recital Hall, in Ferguson Hall on the West Bank campus of the U of MN.

The concert will feature undergraduate and graduate students from the guitar department. The program will include a mix of solo and ensemble performances. While details are yet to be determined, we are sure many of the following guitarists will take part, as well as other students:

Joanna Anderson (BMus-Music Therapy 2010) took second prize in the 2007 Schubert Club Scholarship Competition, and played a concert in St. Paul's Landmark Center in December 2007. Anderson began classical guitar at Normandale, where she studied with Wade Oden (U-MN alum and current DMA candidate).

Timothy Budge (BMus 2010) took second prize in the 2006 Schubert Club Competition, has given several recitals for the Schubert Club since (he was seen in the TPT documentary on the competition broadcast last December), and has performed in recent MGS/MacPhail masterclasses with Gilbert Biberian and Michael Chapdelaine.

Aaron Glade (BMus 2011) came from Ohio to attend McNally-Smith, where he studied classical guitar with Mike Menard (another U-MN alum). He spent the past several summers in the Valley Fair stage/rock/variety band, The Squiggles.

Daniel Hedegard (BMus 2008) is the current recipient of the John Chatterton Guitar Scholarship and a participant in the Honors program, and will graduate this spring summa cum laude. He plans to continue his studies at the U of MN next fall, pursuing a master's degree in both guitar performance and music theory.

Canadian guitarist **Ian Hodges** (DMA) performs as a soloist and chamber musician, and is a fine jazz guitarist as well. He recorded *Canciones*, a CD of Spanish music, with soprano Charlene Pauls in 1997, and CBC Radio has featured his performances in many national broadcasts. Hodges has composed music for film, theatre and the concert stage, including the Peabody award-winning documentary "Fat Chance" produced by the National Film Board of Canada. He received a Bachelor of Music degree from the University of Manitoba, and his Master of Music degree from Florida State University.

Local Artists Concerts, *continued on p. 6*

Accademia Musicale Chigiana in Siena, Italy. She was selected to play for Maestro Andrés Segovia in his masterclasses held at the University of Southern California.

Afshar was honored with the 2000 Orville H. Gibson Award for Best Female Classical Guitarist in Los Angeles. Other performance awards include the Top Prize in the Guitar Foundation of America Competition and Grand Prize in the Aspen Music Festival Guitar Competition. She received the Tennessee Arts Commission Individual Artist Fellowship Award in Music and an NEA Recording Award. She is a three-time winner of the Annual "Premier Guitarist" award given by the Memphis Chapter of the National

Academy of Recording Arts & Sciences and she was chosen as Artistic Ambassador for the U.S. Information Agency to Africa.

Currently, Afshar is head of the University of Memphis guitar program where she received the 2000 Board of Visitors Eminent Faculty Award. She regularly conducts guitar masterclasses in conjunction with her touring. Her book *Five Popular Persian Ballads* was published by Mel Bay Editions.

This activity is made possible, in part, by funds provided by the Metropolitan Regional Arts Council from an appropriation by the Minnesota Legislature.

Local Artists Concerts, *continued from p. 5*

Brad Horras (BMus 2009) won the Collegiate Guitar Division in the 2007 Thursday Musical Scholarship Competition. He has played in masterclasses in Cleveland and Boston, studying with Jason Vieaux, Elliot Fisk, and Frank Koonce, and currently studies with Jeffrey Van. Horras is an active performer at the University, playing guitar and banjo (!) in recent Opera and Theater department productions of Kurt Weill's *Three Penny Opera* and *Seven Deadly Sins*, playing in the jazz ensemble, and in the Symphonic Winds (on bassoon!). Horras also had his composition *Rhapsody on Nintendo Themes* performed by the Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra in 2007.

Jacob Jonker (MMus 2008) won first prize in the 2007 Schubert Club Scholarship Competition. He earned his undergraduate degree at UW-River Falls, where he studied under Joe Hagedorn (a well-known U-MN alum).

Steve Newbrough (MMus 2008) earned his undergraduate degree at the North Carolina School of the Arts. MGS audiences will remember his stunning performance of Carlo Domeniconi's *Koyunbaba* in last spring's Classical Guitarathon.

Wade Oden (DMA) currently teaches at Normandale Community College. He earned both undergraduate and master's degrees from the University of Minnesota, where he studied with James McGuire (who taught at U-MN for many years) and Jeffrey Van. He performs frequently with the Rose Ensemble, with his partner, soprano Kim Sueoka, in their duo *Voce y Cuerdas*, and with his band, Space Station Alpha.

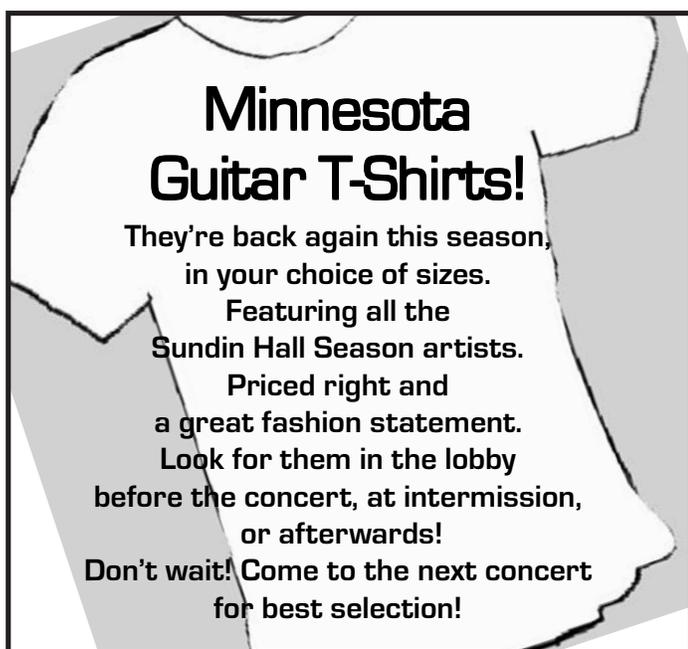
Todd Tipton (MMus 2007, DMA) has recently furthered his interest in early music by acquiring a baroque guitar (and, rumor has it, ordering a vihuela).

Jason Vanselow (DMA) is a Twin Cities-based guitarist, pianist, and composer. He earned his undergraduate degree from the University of St. Thomas, studying under Dr. Chris Kachian (another U-MN alum), and his master's degree from the Cleveland Institute of Music, studying under John Holmquist (yet another U-MN alum). Vanselow is a composer as well as a performer, and a very active teacher in the St. Paul area. He recently performed in Theater Latte Da's production of *La Boheme*.

Don't miss this opportunity to hear many of the most exciting young classical guitarists in our area, in concert at the U of MN's beautiful Lloyd Ultan Recital Hall. The free concert is on Sunday, February 24th at 2 pm. See you there!

Paul Hintz on February 10th

Our Local Artists series returns to Woodbury's indoor amphitheater on Sunday, February 10th, when MGS Managing Director Paul Hintz presents a solo jazz guitar concert. The program will feature—well, what else in mid-February?—love songs from the Great American Songbook. Visit Hintz's website, <www.paulhintz.com>, for more-or-less accurate information about his background and activities. This concert is also sponsored by Woodbury Park and Rec.



Special Feature: MacPhail Center for Music

New Building Grand Opening

From January 5th through the 12th, MacPhail Center for Music will celebrate the grand opening of its new \$25 million flagship building on the shores of the Mississippi River in downtown Minneapolis. The new address is 501 2nd Street South. All events and programs leading up to the Grand Opening Gala Dinner are free and open to the public. The weeklong series of events includes performances by faculty and staff, as well as local and national artists such as JelloSlave, Pamela Frank, and White Light Riot, among many others. A highlight of the week will be a masterclass by internationally renowned pianist Christopher O'Riley.

Few organizations in our community have had a longer or more positive influence than MacPhail Center for Music. MacPhail has been an integral and central foundation of lifelong learning through music for the Twin Cities and greater Minnesota for nearly 100 years. Students from more than 200 zip codes participate in MacPhail music education programs. For more information about the grand opening events, please visit <www.macphail.org>. or call Cassie Noll, MacPhail Center for Music, at 612-767-5350.

Early History

In 1907, William S. MacPhail, an original member of the Minneapolis Symphony (now the Minnesota Orchestra), established the MacPhail School of Violin in Minneapolis. Due to the overwhelming popularity of its programs, including music history and harmony classes, the school expanded its offerings. As the newly named MacPhail School of Music and Dramatic Art, the school continued to grow and soon needed a larger home. To satisfy an apprehensive East Coast investor, MacPhail's new four-story facility was built so that the first floor could easily be transformed into storefronts and the upper studios into office space. Continued growth of MacPhail's programs and enrollment eventually convinced investors that their concern was unwarranted.

With the larger space, MacPhail saw increased community interest and soon expanded to offer college degrees. Among the graduates of MacPhail's class of 1927 was a young man whose musical dream became a part of American culture—Lawrence Welk. After World War II, and with the help of the GI Bill, MacPhail's enrollment swelled. Along with violin and classical instruction, MacPhail offered courses in popular styles of music, such as jazz, to reach a wider range of students.

MacPhail at the University of Minnesota

With a faculty of more than 100 and a student body of more than 3,000, the responsibility of running the institution had increased. By 1966, four years after the death of William MacPhail, the MacPhail family gifted the MacPhail College of Music to the University of Minnesota. Under the university's administration, the name was changed to MacPhail Center for the Performing Arts.

During its tenure with the university, program directors created revolutionary curricula for young children. In the late 1960s, MacPhail introduced an Early Childhood Arts program and one of the nation's first Suzuki Talent Education

programs. It would take more than a decade for similar programs to begin to be seen elsewhere across the country.

In 1987, the university announced it would dissolve relationships with institutions that did not primarily serve college students. In 1994, after taking time to develop a board of directors and internal administration, MacPhail became an independent, nonprofit organization.

MacPhail Today: Learning Through Music

A certified member of the National Guild of Community Schools for the Arts, MacPhail remains a steadfast leader in music education. In 2003, the organization changed its name to MacPhail Center for Music to reflect its dedication to the mission of its founder, William S. MacPhail: promoting lifelong learning through music.

MacPhail Center for Music continues to grow, with more than 160 teaching artists and a student body more than 7,200 strong. MacPhail now provides instruction at 45 locations outside of its downtown Minneapolis facility, in more than 35 instruments, and in musical styles such as jazz, classical, pop, and world music. MacPhail continues to offer the popular Suzuki Talent Education and Early Childhood Arts (ECA) programs, and also has developed a Music Therapy department to offer music education and therapy opportunities to individuals with physical and developmental disabilities. In addition, MacPhail has expanded its course offerings to accommodate busy executives and adults by scheduling programs during lunchtime and after work.

Through innovative Community Partnership programs with inner city and greater Twin Cities schools and community organizations, MacPhail serves more than 3,000 children who would otherwise not have access to music education. Each program is tailored to the partner; MacPhail offers everything from ECA classes at preschools to supplemental music programs at area schools. In addition, MacPhail helps make music education accessible by awarding more than \$140,000 in support annually through its financial aid fund.

Several area organizations have partnered with MacPhail to support music education. Arts organizations like the Minnesota Orchestra, Minnesota Opera, and Children's Theatre allow MacPhail students to work with professional musicians and learn about and experience careers in music. Area corporations and foundations have also come together to support MacPhail, including Cargill Foundation, the McKnight Foundation, the Bush Foundation, CIGNA Foundation, General Mills Foundation, and MetLife Foundation.

MacPhail has recently launched two "Access Sites," providing the communities of Apple Valley and White Bear Lake with the "MacPhail Experience." Access Sites fulfill MacPhail's mission of providing music education to all who seek it.

Over the past 100 years, MacPhail has been an integral foundation of lifelong learning through music for the Twin Cities and greater Minnesota. MacPhail Center for Music maintains its strong reputation as a comprehensive community resource for music education, just as music continues to be an integral element in the life of all Minnesotans.

New Home for AGB

American Guitar Boutique has moved, expanded, and been renamed American Guitar & Band. Now located in a 5,000-square-foot, purpose-built space in Maple Grove, AG&B serves every type of musician and music student. The original guitar boutique, featuring limited edition and custom guitars, is now a unique store within-a-store. Known for its uncommon selection of gear and upscale atmosphere, this family-owned and operated company has a loyal following from professional musicians and seasoned collectors and has quickly become a destination for lessons and instrument rentals as well. The emphasis on education together with an appreciation of instrument design and craftsmanship is of paramount importance to owner Cory Lake. "I want every client and student to receive personalized, friendly, and informed service and to enjoy an atmosphere that is usually reserved for exclusive boutiques, not music stores. Whether it is a musician on tour looking for a rare guitar or a parent bringing their child in for lessons for the first time, the common reaction is 'I've never been in a store like this.'" Visit American Guitar & Band online at <www.AmericanGuitarandBand.com>, or in person at 13777 Grove Drive North in Maple Grove (right off Hwy 94 and Weaver Lake Road). Directions at their website, or call 763-424-4888 for more information.

Support Our Friends

See the display ads on pages 10 and 11, and the classifieds on page 12. Please support our advertisers and friends, and thank them for helping MGS! We also appreciate the support of music stores and schools throughout the metro area who help distribute our newsletter. Wherever you see copies available, please take a minute and thank the people in charge.

Guitar Instructor Wanted at Banfill-Locke

One of our partner organizations (OpenStage and Local Artists events) is Banfill-Locke Center for the Arts in Plymouth. They'd love to have guitar lessons there—individual and/or class. Their director, Lia Rivamonte, says that "we would advertise the lessons. We would do it for a trial period

(3–6 months) to build a student base. When we establish a base of students (3 or more) then we would ask for a nominal space rental (TBD) from the instructor, who would be responsible for his/her own tuition and billing. Of course, we would be open to a different model, if desired. Summer would be the time to start." If you are interested, contact the Center for more information at 763-574-1850.

Afshar in Zumbrota

Lily Afshar is offering a masterclass in classical guitar at Crossings at Carnegie, in Zumbrota, MN, on Saturday, January 19 from 1-5 pm. She will perform at Crossings that evening at 7:30 pm. The masterclass is \$48 (performer) and \$30 (auditor). Concert tickets are \$22/20. Visit Crossing's website at <www.crossingsatcarnegie.com> for more information.

Phil Keagy Concert at Bethel University

The Benson Great Hall at Bethel University in St. Paul will host a concert Saturday, April 12th, 2008 by Phil Keagy that is part of the 30th anniversary tour celebrating his hallmark 1978 album, *The Master and The Musician*. This rarest of live concert experiences will include a first set that brings the entirety of *The Master and The Musician* to life in a live setting for the first time ever as an amazing assemblage of master musicians take to the stage. A second set will feature solo performances from each of the ensemble members, as well as a selection of some of Keagy's favorite vocal songs from the last 40 years. Tickets go on sale at Bethel on February 4th. Call 651-638-6795. Visit Bethel U's website for more info about Benson Great Hall at <www.bethel.edu/special-events/tick.html>. And see the display ad on page 11 of this issue!

Tim Sparks New CD-ROM

Tim Sparks performs and explains his amazing renditions of American Roots Music on an interactive instructional and performance CD ROM that includes seven different roots guitar tunes taught in video and tab lessons plus 6 bonus video performances of Blues, Ragtime, Gospel, Early Jazz and Klezmer. This package captures American Roots Music from the early part of the 20th century, as reflected through fingerstyle guitar. The lessons and performances come with matching tablature, notation, and extensive liner notes with Internet hyperlinks. To learn more, visit <www.myspace.com/picksparks>.

New Performance Opportunity

A monthly program is starting up in which arts organizations big and small, in theatre, dance, music, whatever, perform 10-minute excerpts at Bryant-Lake Bowl. It's called "Sample Night Live." They are particularly short on classical music, which they would like to see better represented. Contact Barbe Marshall at Penumbra, <barbe.marshall@penumbra.org>, for more details. You can book a slot at <producer@sampleneightlive.com>. January is full, but there are slots left in February and the rest of winter and spring. Performers are unpaid. Tickets are \$15.

Local Artists Concerts

Kevin Carlson and Mike Cramer, guitar and mandolin duo
Sunday, January 20th, 2 pm—Woodbury Central Park Amphitheater,
8595 Central Park Drive, Woodbury

Paul Hintz, solo jazz guitar
Sunday, February 10th, 2 pm—Woodbury Central Park Amphitheater

U of MN Guitar Dept. "Guitarathon"
Sunday, February 24th, 2 pm—U of MN Lloyd Ultan Hall

Brent Weaver and Annett Richter, classical guitar duo
Sunday, March 9th, 2 pm—Banfill-Locke Center for the Arts

Chris Olson, jazz guitar and more
Sunday, April 13th, 2 pm—Woodbury Central Park Amphitheater

MGS Youth Guitarathon

During the 2006–2007 season, the Minnesota Guitar Society sponsored our first Youth Guitarathon. After a full day of auditions last April, a panel of three judges selected 26 talented young regional guitarists, who performed an amazing concert on June 10th in MacPhail Center for Music's 4th floor auditorium. Solo and ensemble guitarists ranging in age from 6 to 18 years demonstrated many styles of guitar playing. The students showed the high quality of their work with these teachers: James Allen, Christopher Becknell, Kevin Carlson, Greg Giese, Alan Johnston, Jeff Lambert, Daniel Schwartz, Jean Seils, Jason Vanselow, and Brent Weaver.

The following is a list of the June 10th performers: Paisley Buchanan; Haluk Ercan-Fang; Sophia Norwood; Joseph Lundy; Ryan Ellis; Xavier Jara; Christina Lundgren; Maverick Edmunds; Payton Perkins; Kyle Pederson; Joseph Mead; Matthew Ginter; Julia Fabbro; Soren, Kaj, and Lachlan Anders-Machleod; Nakia Edmunds; Jadan Sorenson; Trevor Wiest; Ben Abraham; Matt Kalpin; Joshua Schmitter; Ian Benoit, Austin Wahl; Hailey Palmer; and Ian Ingersoll.

2008 Youth Guitarathon on Sunday, May 18

Minnesota guitar teachers, both MGS members and nonmembers, here is an excellent performance opportunity for your students. This season, with a generous grant from the D'Addario Foundation, the MGS is proud to sponsor the 2nd Annual Youth Guitarathon. The event will consist of auditions, which will be held on the University of St. Thomas's St. Paul campus on Sunday, April 20th, and a concert, which will be held at the University of Minnesota's Lloyd Ultan Recital Hall in Ferguson Hall on Sunday, May 18th.

There will be four categories of solo performers—elementary, junior, high school, and senior—and an ensemble category. All styles are welcome and three students will be chosen from each division. Performers will be notified of



Made possible in part by a grant from The
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their audition time approximately one week before the April 20th date. A panel of three judges will choose the finalists based on technique and musicality, accuracy, and stylistic contrast of the program.

Interested performers can find an application below. All applications must be submitted no later than March 23rd. Students wishing to audition should have performance experience and be ready to audition with polished pieces. Maximum performance time is eight minutes per student.

There is a \$10.00 application fee for each entry. Ensembles will pay per group and not for each performer.

Make check payable to Minnesota Guitar Society. Send completed form and check to: Brent Weaver, 1187 Lafond Ave., St. Paul, MN 55104.

—by Brent Weaver

For more information contact Brent Weaver at (651) 643-0762 or <msgathon@yahoo.com>.

This application is also available on the MGS website: <wwwmnguitar.org>.

MGS YOUTH GUITARATHON REGISTRATION FORM

TEACHER _____ STUDENT(S) _____

TEACHER'S ADDRESS _____

TEACHER'S PHONE _____ EMAIL _____

Please circle your division: (Age as of June 10)

ELEMENTARY DIVISION (Ages 6-8)

HIGH SCHOOL DIVISION (Ages 14-18)

JUNIOR DIVISION (Ages 9-13)

SENIOR DIVISION (Ages 19-21)

ENSEMBLE DIVISION (All ages listed above)

Piece(s): _____

(Total time per student should be no longer than 8 minutes.)

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CLASSIFIED ADS are free to MGS members. Place ad by mailing (please type or print clearly) to: MGS, PO BOX 14986, Mpls, MN 55414 or by emailing to <editor@mnguitar.org>. Please limit ads to a 6-line maximum. Ads will run for a maximum of 6 issues (1 year) unless renewed. Ads are due the 15th of each odd-numbered month for the next issue.

LESSONS: Guitar, banjo, Suzuki guitar and violin, piano, elec. bass, voice, mandolin! Everything from rock to blue grass. Instruction and instruments. Northern Pine Studios in Lino Lakes. Call Chris at 651-780-1625.

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Music notation and digital audio editing services. Software: Finale, Pro Tools. \$45/hour. Samples available. Contact Jeff Lambert at 612-872-0454 or jeffguitar@gmail.com.

FOR SALE: 2005 Lance Litchfield classical guitar with travel case, \$6,000.00. Spruce top, Indian rosewood back and sides. Excellent condition. Exclusive US dealer for Australian Litchfield Guitars. Visit <www.litchfieldguitars.com> for details. Call 715-865-6068 for additional information.

FOR SALE: 10% Percent Off all in-stock Fender, Taylor, and Martin guitars when you show your MGS membership card. GuitarZone, 12763 Central Ave. NE, Blaine, 763-757-8555.

TWIN CITIES JAZZ SOCIETY: 651-633-3134; <www.TCJS.org>.

FOR SALE: Classical guitars. 2006 Ramirez AE SP/IN \$1,500 (list \$3,200); 2006 Burguet AC-2AS SP/IN \$950 (list \$1,495); 2006 Loriente Clarita SP/IN \$1,500 (list \$1,800); Alhambra 8P SP/IN \$1,360 (list \$1,600). Call 952-322-1310.

MUSICIANSHIP: Music Theory Software ear-training, sight-reading, instrument study, rhythm at <musicgoals.com>.

GUITAR LESSONS. 3 miles north of Mall of America—visit <marcotheguitarist.com> or call Mark, 612-209-6433. Finale notation and Pro Tools recording.

FOR SALE: Solid Top Classical Guitars: Artesanas (Cedar/Mahogany) \$195; Yamaha 245SII (Spruce/Rosewood) \$295; Aria A552 (Cedar/Rosewood) \$395; 1970 Matao (Spruce/Rosewood) \$695; 1973 Garcia (Cedar/Rosewood) \$1,250; 1968 Jose Ferrer (Cedar/Rosewood) \$45,00. Call 651-292-4929 to inquire.

FOR SALE: 1994 Daryl B. Perry classical guitar with hard case. \$5,500. Excellent condition. Visit <www.perryguitars.com> for information. Call Glenn Fisher at 651-458-3878 or email <gfisher62014@att.net>.

FOR SALE: 2005 Kenny Hill Fleta classical guitar. Cedar/Indian rosewood; 650/52mm; French polish top, sides, and back; perfect condition; \$2850. Call Steve Johnson at 763-497-2407.

FOR SALE: 1998 Simon Ambridge classical guitar. Spruce/Brazilian rosewood. Excellent condition. \$5,500 or best offer. Call Alan Johnston at 651-774-6523.

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