

# Glissando

Newsletter of the Greater Houston Chapter of the AHS

March 2017



## President's Message---Mary Jane Sinclair

“When Irish Eyes Are Smiling...” Did you know that this month always reminds me of Mildred Milligan? As her students, we played from an Irish Folder which was utilized at almost every function we were invited to attend.

In 1974, we performed at the River Oaks Country Club to raise monies for the Houston Youth Symphony. Right in the middle of “When Irish Eyes...” philanthropist Harris Masterson III and his wife Carroll, made a b-line over to us. He interrupted our playing to speak to his harp teacher (Mil) whom he studied with when he was in high school. The “photo op” was documented in the Houston Chronicle by Betty Ewing. It was just another page in Mil’s scrapbook which included her playing at President Franklin D. Roosevelt’s Inaugural Ball and later in Clark Gable’s living room!

This month, we honor Mil’s life and legacy with the Mildred Milligan Scholarship Competition. In 1987, Patricia John Keightley, Virginia Robbins, Cynthia Cooper and I drafted the Milligan Fund Charter. I contacted Norma Lowder, then the Principal of HSPVA, and she enabled us to use the Alessandro Recital Hall for our first fundraising concert which featured Mil’s FIVE generations of students. In 1988, Mr. Hertzell Aron

donated the Kaplan Theatre at the Jewish Community Center so we could present Carrol McLaughlin and Bill Marx for the second fundraiser, “The Musical Magic of Harpo Marx”, which quickly became a sold-out event.

A big thank you to Hope Cowan, (chairperson) Therese Honey, Emily Klein and Susanna Campbell for facilitating this year’s completion. They have given their time and talents to bring everyone’s students into the mix.

Philanthropy truly begins at home with our former San Jacinto Chapter’s efforts and now the Greater Houston Chapter of the American Harp Society. Best wishes to all the contestants. See you at the competition!

*“The harp is the only instrument you cradle in your arms.”---Mildred Milligan*



Membership Dues:

Just a reminder that it is time to renew your membership to the GHC. Our fiscal year is from September to August so please send your check today. We have attached a membership form to this newsletter, please return it with your dues. All teachers and students who intend to participate in the Mildred Milligan Scholarship Competition to be held March 26, 2017, are required to be members of the GHC. Please send your membership forms with your dues to the address of our Treasurer, John Gearhart, as soon as possible. Many thanks for your continued support of the GHC.

### Mildred Milligan Scholarship Competition 2017

Hope Cowan, Chairperson, has announced our competition will be held on Sunday, March 26, 2017 at St. Luke’s Presbyterian Church. Hope’s Milligan committee consists of harpists, Susanna Campbell, Therese Honey and Emily Klein. Packets are available to download on our website.\*\* Please make a note of the correction in Hope Cowan’s address: 22022 Cimarron Parkway #1074. Katy, TX 77450 [www.houstonharp.org](http://www.houstonharp.org)

Entry deadline is March 1, 2017. Teachers and students entering the competition must be members of the Greater Houston Chapter of the American Harp Society



GHC Meeting Schedule—2017

May 7, 2017, Sunday, 3:00 P.M.—Home of Angela Chan, 311 Promenade Estate Lane, Stafford TX. 77477

Concert and final meeting featuring Mildred Milligan Scholarship Competition winners.



GHC Performance Calendar— March

\*March 5, 2017, Sunday @3:00 p.m.

AURORA: Centuries--Christ the King Presbyterian Church-1201 Silber Road, Houston, TX 77055. Tickets available. [www.christtheking.com/concerts](http://www.christtheking.com/concerts)

\*March 8, 2017, Wednesday @8:00 p.m.

Class Recital: Shepherd School of Music--Students of Paula Page—Duncan Recital Hall, Rice University.

\*18<sup>th</sup> Houston Summer Harp Festival will be held at Houston Baptist University on July 10-15<sup>th</sup> 2017. Sponsored by School of Music at Houston Baptist University. Instructors: Kimberly DeRosa (Director), Therese Honey, Susanna Campbell and Hope Cowan.

Festival theme is “It’s Showtime”: **Broadway and Movie Themes**. Six day, non-competitive immersion of everything harp ensembles. Includes wedding workshop,

private lessons, harp history, finale concert and much more! Scholarships available. On-campus housing available. Limited rental Harps available. Tuition: \$400-\$490. Room and board: \$350. Registration deadline: June 13. Scholarship deadline: June 1. For more information: [www.HoustonSummerHarpFestival.com](http://www.HoustonSummerHarpFestival.com) or [kimberlyharp@gmail.com](mailto:kimberlyharp@gmail.com)



Harp for Rent

Venus Penti—44 Strings—8 years old

\$200. Monthly plus \$500. deposit (delivery and pickup extra)

Betsy Paine—832-607-9128

[cross\\_harps@yahoo.com](mailto:cross_harps@yahoo.com)

Harp for Sale

Venus 2003 Premier Semi-Grand, Mahogany finish

Serial # 3131-A

Includes Venus 3-piece padded covers, dolly and shipping crate

\$12,000

Contact: Susan Bosworth at 713-430-6789

email: [sboz@live.com](mailto:sboz@live.com)

## GHC Board 2016-2017

Mary Jane Sinclair, President, 281-374-8060 [lesliehoward1@yahoo.com](mailto:lesliehoward1@yahoo.com)

Terese Weber, Vice-President, 281-660-6749 [trswbr@gmail.com](mailto:trswbr@gmail.com)

John Gearhart, Treasurer, 281-546-4001 [jgearhartmusic@gmail.com](mailto:jgearhartmusic@gmail.com)

Angela Chan, Secretary, 281-730-9951 [angelaychan@gmail.com](mailto:angelaychan@gmail.com)

Hope Cowan, 507-943-4969 [hope.k.cowan@gmail.com](mailto:hope.k.cowan@gmail.com) Chairperson, Mildred Milligan  
Scholarship Competition

Are you interested in serving on our GHC Board in the future? Please contact Mary Jane Sinclair if you would like to serve in any of the above capacities. Also, I invite you to send your “notes” and comments. Please submit your ideas, locations where you may be performing, and notices of harps for rent or sale. Please send your contributions to me at [lesliehoward1@yahoo.com](mailto:lesliehoward1@yahoo.com) by the 25<sup>th</sup> of each month.



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