

## Fall Festival is a Big Success!

The Lyra Society and the Philadelphia Orchestra presented the Harp Fall Festival featuring Susann McDonald on October 26th and 27th in Philadelphia. Ms. McDonald, Professor Emeritus at Indiana University, taught masterclasses to students at the Curtis Institute of Music and Temple University, including Glissando Program students from Girls High and Masterman. The Harp PlayIN featuring Lyra Society Artistic Director and Philadelphia Orchestra Principal Harpist Elizabeth Hainen brought over 20 harpists from around the region together at the Kimmel Center in one massive harp orchestra! Festival participants enjoyed special discounted tickets to the harp rich program at that evening's orchestra concert. Additional partners and sponsors included the Curtis Institute of Music, Temple University, Harp Column Music, and the Virginia Harp Center.



Susann McDonald & the Temple Harp Studio



Susann McDonald & the Curtis Harp Studio



Multitudes of harps at the Kimmel Center

## Glissando Alumni Succeed at College



Martis Ravenell, Glissando Program Alum now a freshman at the Colorado School of Mines

Glissando Program graduate Martis Ravenell, Central High School Class of 2018, won a scholarship to study at the Colorado School of Mines, one of the top engineering schools in the country. He is studying the harp privately and performing in his school orchestra. Martis says "(the) Glissando Program taught me that in order to become better at something you love doing you have to work on it. Because of how much I loved the harp I realized how hard I needed to work to get better. That drive to improve has helped me now that I am in college studying engineering which will be my life long career."

## Partnership with the Philadelphia Orchestra helps Lyra reach more students!



Chad, one of our youngest students, is a second-grader at KIPP Elementary in West Philly

We are thrilled to announce our new partnership with the Philadelphia Orchestra, which allows us to expand our Glissando Program into KIPP Charter School in West Philadelphia. The Philadelphia Orchestra's School Ensemble Program brings free music instruction and instruments to all KIPP students with the aim of building a full orchestra within the next few years, and we have partnered with them to provide a harp and 40 weeks of private harp lessons to four second-graders.

## Costello Competition attracts a record number of applicants from top conservatories

Our annual Costello Competition for Composition received its highest level of applicants ever at thirty applications from students currently enrolled at Juilliard, Yale, New England Conservatory, Rice, UCLA, and Peabody. Three composers have been selected for the second round for which they will write a piece for solo harp or harp in a chamber setting to be premiered at our 2019 Spring Benefit. The winner will additionally receive a \$1000 cash prize and publication through Fat Rock Ink.

Thank for your support at our 2018 Spring Benefit 'Glissando Live'!



Pianist Eric Lu and Executive Director Elizabeth Steiner



Mary Javian, Carole Haas Gravagno, and Margarita Montanaro

Thank you to everyone who made 'Glissando Live!' at the Curtis Institute of Music a big success! With your support, we raised over \$16,000 which will go directly towards harps and harp lessons for our thirty Glissando Program students across the Philadelphia Public Schools. It was a beautiful evening of performances from Eric Lu, who recently won First Prize at the 2018 Leeds International Piano Competition and released a new recording on Warner Classics.

A note from our Founder and Artistic Director



Martis Ravenell with Founder and Artistic Director Elizabeth Hainen

Dear Friends,

*It is with a joyous heart that I thank you for the great success our Lyra Society has achieved. This past weekend reaffirmed this, witnessing so many of our young harpists performing for the celebrated "harp master" Susann McDonald. These invaluable experiences will give these students confidence, proficiency and imagination to meet the challenges life brings them. We continue to develop our strengths thanks to our recently appointed Executive Director Elizabeth Steiner. She brings a passion and commitment that are essential to our unparalleled and precious organization. There has never been a better time to preserve your role in the Lyra Society.*

Warm Wishes,

Elizabeth Hainen, Artistic Director & Founder

#### 2018 BOARD OF TRUSTEES FOR THE LYRA SOCIETY

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### SAVE THE DATE FOR OUR SPRING BENEFIT: APRIL 7, 2019 AT THE CURTIS INSTITUTE OF MUSIC!

*Giving the gift of the harp through education, performance and new music.*

#### 2018 LYRA SOCIETY STAFF

Elizabeth Steiner, Executive Director

Helen Gerhold, Director of Education

Elizabeth Hainen, Artistic Director & Founder

Elizabeth White Clark, Costello Competition, Director

Elizabeth Huston, Director of Community Initiatives

Maryanne Meyer, Teaching Artist

#### HONORARY ADVISORY BOARD FOR THE LYRA SOCIETY

*In addition to its Board of Directors, The Lyra Society is also fortunate to have a small group of honorary board members. These honorary board members, who support the Lyra Society's mission, generously serve as informal advisors to the Board and The Lyra Society's leadership team.*

Peter Benoit, Co-Chairperson

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Carole Haas Gravagno, Co-Chairperson

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Joshua Bell, Concert Violinist

Susann McDonald, Indiana University  
Distinguished Professor Emeritus of Harp

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