



# Highlands-Cashiers Chamber Music Festival

Spring Newsletter

March 2021

*40th anniversary season features blockbuster lineup*

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*Ariel String Quartet*



*Zukerman Trio*

### From the Artistic Director

I write with cautious optimism that we will be able to be with you live again this summer to celebrate our **milestone 40th anniversary season** – and we have a **blockbuster lineup** planned with more **new musicians** joining us than ever before, plus many of our **favorites returning** as well in creative and exciting programs. After the last year, we are bursting with excitement and cannot wait to be back in action.

We will kick off the season with a special program on **June 27** at the beautiful **Bascom** celebrating both music AND art – an exhibit of the incredible original art which has been created for our Program Book covers and posters for the last 20+ years paired with a performance of Mussorgsky’s “**Pictures at an Exhibition**” in the galleries.

The season proper begins with a bang on **July 2** welcoming multi Grammy Award-winning sensation **Mark O’Connor** making his Festival debut in “**Bluegrass & Beethoven**” featuring both genres, and is followed on July 5 by the legendary **Pinchas Zukerman** returning to our stage for a special one-time-only concert.

We’re thrilled that we could reschedule young superstar violinist **Ray Chen** to lead a crack group of players in Mendelssohn’s thrilling Octet for Strings, and also new this season are **harpist Bridget Kibbey** – called “the Yo-Yo Ma of the harp” – entrancing us with a program called “**The Enchanted Harp**” and piano wizard **Michael Gurt** in “The Virtuoso Piano”. We welcome back the **Ariel String Quartet** who warmed our hearts a few years ago, the dynamic cellist **Zuill Bailey**, and on our 40th we will honor our Festival Founder Dr. Lucas Drew with a “**Founder’s Celebration**”



*Violinist Ray Chen*

featuring the ever-popular **Trout Quintet** by Schubert. Our final Gershon-Cohn Gala on August 8th brings together two brilliant favorites – **The Eroica Trio** and violinist **David Coucheron** with the Festival Chamber Orchestra in “**The Eight Seasons**” – Vivaldi’s masterpieces interspersed with Astor Piazzolla’s seductive “**4 Seasons of Buenos Aires**” performed by the Eroica.

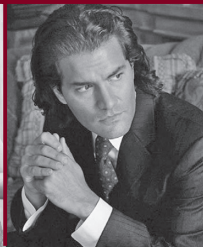
We are also thrilled to be moving into our new **Cashiers home venue** at the stunning **new hall in the Village Green!**

These are only some of the highlights of our 40th anniversary season – we also hope to offer **Festival Feasts**, more engaging **Salons**, an **Interlude Concert** – and bring the kids (of ALL ages!) to enjoy our **Family Concert** and **ice cream social** after, featuring “**Peter and the Wolf**” narrated by Lois Reitzes, the voice of classical radio in Atlanta.

Take a look at our **website** for complete information, make your plans now, and if all goes well, we will see you in the summer!

**William Ransom,**  
**The Anna and Hays Mershon**  
**Artistic Director**  
[www.h-cmusicfestival.org](http://www.h-cmusicfestival.org)





# HIGHLANDS-CASHIERS CHAMBER MUSIC FESTIVAL

## 40th Anniversary Season – 2021

July 2nd – August 8th  
*World Class, Internationally Known Musicians  
Beautiful, Intimate Settings*



**Friday-Saturday, July 2-3: “Beethoven & Bluegrass”**  
*Vega String Trio; Mark & Maggie O’Connor*

**Monday, July 5: “The Pinchas Zukerman Trio”**  
*Pinchas Zukerman, violin; Amanda Forsyth, cello; Angela Cheng, piano*



**Friday-Saturday, July 9-10: “Ray Chen and Friends”**  
*Ray Chen, violin; Alice Hong and Jessica Wu, violin; Yinzi Kong, viola;  
Charae Krueger and Guang Wang, cello; Scott Rawls, violin*

**Sunday-Monday, July 11-12: “Ariel String Quartet”**  
*Alexandra Kazovsky, violin; Amit Even-Tov, cello;  
Gershon Gerchikov, violin; Jan Gruning, viola*



**Friday-Saturday, July 16-17: “Founders Celebration”**  
*In honor of Dr. Lucas Drew*

*Amy Moretti, violin; Luke Fleming, viola; Khari Joyner, cello;  
Julie Coucheron, piano; Janet Clippard, bass; William Ransom, piano*



**Sunday Monday, July 18-19: “Sonata Mulattica”**  
*Amy Moretti, violin; Luke Fleming, viola;  
Khari Joyner, cello; Chris Rex, cello*



**Friday-Saturday, July 23-24: “The Enchanted Harp”**  
*Bridget Kibbey, harp; Charae Krueger, cello; Christina Smith, flute*

**Sunday-Monday, July 25-26 : “The Virtuoso Piano”**  
*Michael Gurt, piano*



**Friday-Saturday, July 30 -31: “Sibling Rivalry”**  
*Zuill & Allison Bailey-cello, violin; Helen & Michael Kim-violin, piano;  
Kate & William Ransom-violin, piano*

**Sunday-Monday, August 1-2: “Concerto Night”**  
*Zuill Bailey, cello; Helen Kim, violin; Elizabeth Pridgen, piano*



**Sunday, August 8: Gershon/Cohn  
Final Gala Concert and Dinner Party**  
*“The Eight Seasons: Vivaldi’s Four Seasons &  
Piazzolla’s Four Seasons of Buenos Aires”*  
*David Coucheron, violin; The Eroica Trio;  
The Festival Chamber Orchestra*



**Concert Info: Friday (6PM) & Sunday (5PM) – Highlands PAC  
Saturday & Monday (both 5PM) – Village Green Commons - Cashiers**

Ticket Information available at (828) 526-9060  
hccmfc@gmail.com | www.h-cmusicfestival.org





**President's Message:**

## *Festival's 40th Anniversary season promises to be spectacular*

Provided the stars continue to align, what a joyous summer this will be as we celebrate **together** the Festival's 40th Anniversary! The season promises to be spectacular as Will has described it with fantastic musicians and exciting programming.

Despite the challenge of this year, you have been so loyal to and supportive of the Festival. And for that, the Board and I can't thank you enough as it has ensured that Will has had the resources to program a blockbuster season. As in the past, our Angel Party on August 5th will thank our patrons who contribute \$2000 and up. This year the party will feature Festival favorites,

cellist Sara Sant'Ambrogio and violinist David Coucheron playing together at the Chattooga Club. Be sure to make your contributions to this season before May 31st so we can recognize your gift in the Festival program.

Given the continued uncertainty, we have not yet finalized our schedule of Feasts and Salons but planning them is in progress, so be sure to check our website regularly as they sell out quickly.

Looking forward to enjoying **live** music with you this summer.

*Martha Pearson, President*



***Interlude Concert***  
***Wednesday, July 7, 2021***  
***Highlands First Presbyterian Church***



Presented by the Highlands-Cashiers Chamber Music Festival and the Highlands First Presbyterian Church.

A special presentation of "Musical Fireworks" will be performed by Charae Krueger, cello; Alice Hong, violin, and William Ransom, piano.

**Free.**

***Family Concert & Ice Cream Social***  
***Thursday, July 8, 2021***  
***Highlands First Presbyterian Church***

A **free** Family Concert will feature a performance of "Peter & the Wolf/Ferdinand the Bull" to be narrated by Lois Reitzes with musicians Alice Hong, violin and pianists Julie Coucheron and William Ransom.

An ice cream social sponsored by Kilwins will follow.

Co-sponsored by the Highlands Community Child Development Center.



*Lois Reitzes*



***"Martinis & Mozart"***

***Tuesday, July 13 @ 5:30 PM***  
***Orchard House @ Old Edwards Farm - Highlands***

HCCMF presents, in collaboration with Old Edwards Inn & Spa, a special concert featuring the acclaimed Ariel String Quartet.

Complimentary martinis will be offered upon entrance to the Orchard House and a cash bar will be available. An hors d'oeuvre reception will follow the concert.

Reservations are required - \$50/person.

**UNDERWRITING**

Underwriting a concert is a wonderful way to support your Chamber Music Festival and a unique way to honor individuals, anniversaries, and other special occasions. Individual concerts may be underwritten beginning at \$2500. A dedication or underwriting credit will be printed in the program along with all of the information regarding that concert. The underwriting contribution is fully tax-deductible.

**FUND RAISING CYCLE**

To be included in the donor listings in the Program, contributions must be received no later than May 31st, 2021. Contributions received between June 1st and September 30th will be listed in the following year's program.

**COMING SOON!**

Information concerning our very popular fundraising **Feasts of the Festival** and **Salons** will be published as soon as plans are finalized.



**HIGHLANDS  
CASHIERS  
CHAMBER  
MUSIC  
FESTIVAL**

P.O. Box 1702  
507 Chestnut Street  
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828-526-9060

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Permit # 1431

## ***“Pictures at an Exhibition” June 27th at The Bascom***

**Sunday, June 27th  
@ 5:30 PM**

**The Bascom**

**“Pictures at an Exhibition”**

In collaboration with  
The Bascom Center  
for the Visual Arts,  
HCCMF will present  
Mussorgsky’s

“Pictures at an Exhibition”  
featuring very special  
musicians, who will be  
announced soon.

The concert will coincide with  
an exhibit of the Festival’s  
original cover artwork.  
Refreshments will be served,  
and the artwork will be  
available for viewing during  
the Festival’s Season.

Price: \$50/person

