

THE GUILD

of The Birmingham Music Club

the official newsletter of the The Guild of the Birmingham Music Club
Editor: Martha Mims Layout and Design: Sherrie Futch

Invite Fellow Music Supporters to Join us in The Guild!

Do you know any fellow Magic City residents who love music and are interested in supporting music education? We are always recruiting new members for The Guild! Send contact information for potential new members to membership@birminghammusicclubguild.org.

Dues Payable by June 1

And, as a reminder, dues are payable by June 1 and are \$50 per member. For a printed/mailed directory, add an additional \$5. Members always have the option of viewing/printing the directory from the website, free of charge.

Pay online at

<http://www.birminghammusicclubguild.org>

or mail your check to:

The Guild of The Birmingham Music Club, Inc.
P.O. Box 530323
Birmingham, AL 35253



Conductor's Podium: From Michelle Rushing, President

Dear Guild Members,

Thank you, Guild members, for your support and encouragement this year. Your attendance at our events this year and financial support of our scholarships, even during a pandemic, resulted in a very successful year for the Guild.

I am certain not many organizations in Birmingham had the kind of positive results we did.

Of course, this would not have been possible without our excel-

lent Board members. It has been a pleasure and honor to work with such a devoted group of women.

Due to COVID-19, our year is basically over, but Linda Cooper and her Board are already preparing for a fantastic 2020/2021 year. I look forward to seeing you at our first membership meeting in the Fall. Have a safe and healthy Summer!

-- Michelle Rushing



2020 Scholarship Audition Winners Impress Judges

The 2020 Scholarship Auditions were held Saturday, March 7 at Birmingham Southern College. First place winners, from left to right: Stephen Michaels, Tim Berry and Joseph O'Shea. More photos and complete results are on pages 4-6.

The Guild of the Birmingham Music Club 2020-2021 Officers and Committee Chairs

Over several weeks this spring, Linda Cooper, Guild Executive Vice President, and her Nominating Committee, comprised of Roberta Atkinson, Marsha Drennen, Linda Griggs, Martha Mims, Miriam Morris, and Susanne Thomas, have worked hard to put together an excellent group of Officers and Committee Chairs for 2020/2021. The slate of nominees has been presented to the Guild Board and membership and heartily approved. We welcome these members to the 2020/2021 Board.

President: Linda Cooper

Executive VP/President Elect: Roberta Atkinson

1st Vice President Project: Susanne Thomas

2nd Vice President Placement: Powell Owens

3rd Vice President Programs: Kim Strickland

4th Vice President Locations: Kim Strickland

5th Vice President Membership: Elise Warren

6th Vice President Scholarship: Margery Whatley

Recording Secretary: Lesley DeRamus

Corresponding Secretary: Marsha Drennen

Treasurer: Roberta Atkinson

Historian: Jeanne Bradford

Parliamentarian: Michelle Rushing

Investment Trustees: Linda Griggs, Margaret Hubbard and Barbara Klyce

Addressing/Mailing: VACANT

Bylaws: Linda Griggs

Christmas Party: Cindy Bowron

Hospitality: Cynthia Watts

Marketing/Communications: Sarah Rich - Facebook

Marsha Drennen and Linda Cooper - Website

Membership Directory: VACANT

Music Education Support and Benevolence: Pat Grant

Newsletter: VACANT

Photography: Angie Holder

Publicity: Elizabeth Crommelin

Spring Luncheon: Martha Mims



We exist to award scholarships!

Awarding scholarships to exceptional, aspiring talent is why The Guild exists! These winners will impact the future of quality, beautiful music in Birmingham and throughout our state. Let's support music and education. Let's do more...TOGETHER. All Guild Members, please give to the scholarship fund. Your donation will make a difference. Any amount will be greatly appreciated.

<http://www.birminghammusicclubguild.org>

Or, mail your check to:

The Guild of The Birmingham Music Club, Inc. P.O. Box 530323,
Birmingham, AL 35253

All contributions are tax deductible.
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We Need You!

As you review the list of new officers and committee chairs, you will notice that several positions need to be filled. Special talents/abilities are required for these. Please contact Linda Cooper (404-314-4000, theguildebmc@gmail.com) if you are willing to serve.

Addressing/Mailing. Powell Owens has served diligently, managing the addressing and mailing of Guild correspondence for several years. We are so pleased that she will continue to serve The Guild as VP Placement. With her change in responsibility, a new Chair for Addressing/Mailing is needed. This is an important position, instrumental in maintaining the beauty, the quality and the professionalism of our organization. The position is largely handled at home, coordinating with Officers and Committee Chairs, meeting deadlines for each scheduled correspondence, and following procedure of bulk mailing. Committee members will be assigned to assist.

Membership Directory. The Chair of Membership Directory works to format and print this important communication tool for our membership. Coordinating with VP Membership and a selected printing company, this Chair will lead a team of committee members to create virtual and printed formats for distribution to members.

The Guild's Newsletter. *The Guided Note* is a beautiful and informative communication tool, full of valuable information about The Guild's activities and announcements. Martha Mims and Sherrie Futch have used their special talents to create and deliver reliable, timely information to our membership and friends of The Guild. We are grateful for their service and appreciate Martha's continued service as Chair for the 2021 Spring Scholarship Luncheon. Sherrie has relocated to Atlanta.

In Sympathy...

It is with great sadness we note the following Guild members who have lost loved ones:

- Margery Whatley on the death of her father, William "Bill" Robert McDuffie, who passed away in February.
- Judy Anderson on the death of her mother, Ivy Vickery Wittichen, who passed away in February. Mrs. Wittichen was also the grandmother of Guild member Powell Owens, and grandmother-in-law of Charlann Anderson.
- Susan Haskell on the death of her sister, Jane McFadden, who passed away on March 25th.

If you would like to write a note to any of these members, their addresses are below.

Margery Whatley
3030 Overhill Road
Birmingham, AL 35223

Judy Anderson
4129 Highlands Circle
Birmingham, AL 35213

Powell Owens
3608 Old Leeds Road
Birmingham, AL 35213

Charlann Anderson
4035 Montevallo Road
Birmingham, AL 35213

Susan Haskell
3214 Rockledge
Birmingham 35213

2020 Scholarship Audition Winners Announced

The 2020 Scholarship Auditions were held Saturday, March 7 at Birmingham-Southern College. Thirty-two students entered the Auditions, and twenty-six showed up to compete. The applicants were from 9 different Alabama colleges and universities: Alabama State University, Auburn University, Birmingham-Southern College, Samford University, University of Alabama, University of Alabama at Birmingham, University of Alabama in Huntsville, University of Mobile, and the University of Montevallo.

Awards were given in three categories: Piano, Instrumental, and Voice. First Place winners will receive \$2,000, and Second Place winners, \$1,500. In addition, the Walter Sechriest Best Performance Award of \$1,000 was awarded to the overall winner. The scholarship awards will be used during the 2020-2021 academic year toward music studies at their respective Alabama Universities.

Scholarship Winners for this year are:

INSTRUMENTAL

First Place & Overall Winner: Stephen Michaels, saxophone, University of Alabama (student of Jonathan Noffsinger).

Second Place: Sean Brown, violin, University of Alabama (student of Jenny Gregoire).

1st Honorable Mention: Ashton Jah, saxophone, University of Alabama (student of Jonathan Noffsinger).

2nd Honorable Mention: J.T. Holdbrooks, bassoon, University

of Alabama (student of Jenny Mann).

3rd Honorable Mention: Zachary Chou, clarinet, University of Alabama at Birmingham (student of Denise Gainey).

VOICE

First Place: Joseph O'Shea, University of South Alabama (student of Thomas L. Rowell).

Second Place: Bradyn Debysingh, Samford University (student of Kristin Kenning).

Honorable Mention: Abigail Pauley, University of Mobile (student of Maryann Kyle).

PIANO

First Place: Tim Berry, University of Alabama (student of Kevin Chance).

Second Place: Weixiang Peng, University of Alabama at Birmingham (student of Yakov Kasman).

We extend thanks to all of our judges, including:

Instrumental Judges: Dr. Ariana Arcu from the University of Alabama in Huntsville and Kevin Fitzgerald, Assistant Conductor of the ASO.

Piano Judges: Dr. Lucy DeSa from Alabama School of Fine Arts and Dr. Melody Ng from the University of Alabama in Huntsville.

Voice Judges: Dr. Jeffrey Kensmoe from Birmingham-Southern College and Dr. Christopher O'Rear from Tuscaloosa.

I would like to give special thanks to Guild members Debbie Bennett, Marleen Bodden, Elaine Clark, Linda Cooper, Marsha

Drennen, and Missy Fooshee for volunteering at the auditions; to Angie Holder who so generously provided waters and the delicious lunches from Honey Baked Ham for our judges; and to Guild members Debbie Bennett, Marleen Bodden, Elaine Clark, Marsha Drennen, Sandy Eichelberger, Lassie Hatley, and Powell Owens for providing assorted snacks and drinks for everyone. I hope I haven't left anyone out!! It was also most helpful and fun to have my four BSC students assisting throughout the day with registration and serving as pages. All-in-all – a wonderful day!

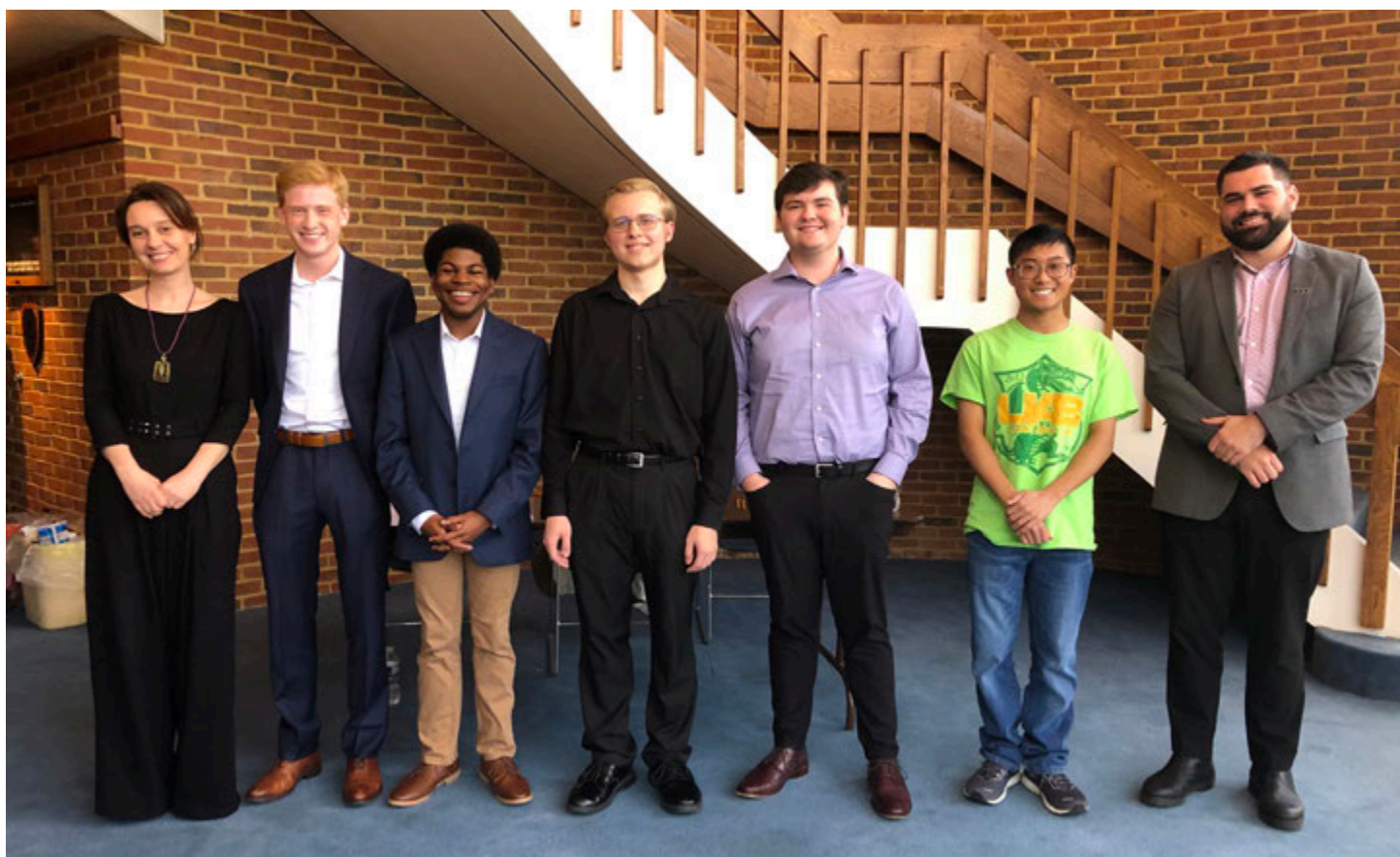
*~ Margery Whatley,
Scholarship Auditions Chair*



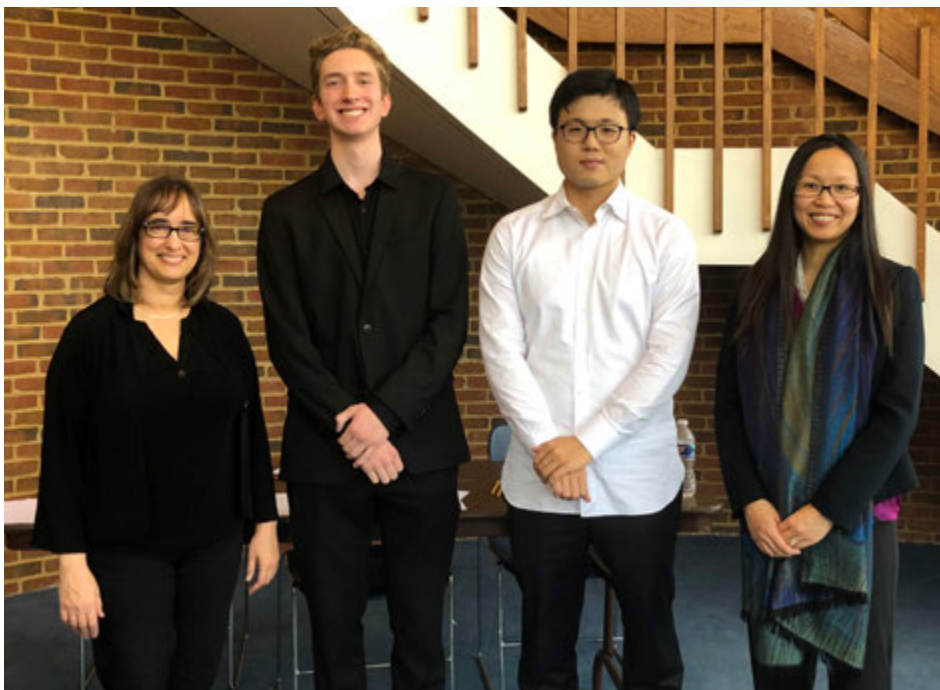
2020 Overall Winner: Stephen Michaels, a student at the University of Alabama.



Voice Winners: Judge Christopher O'Rear, Joseph O'Shea, Bradyn Debysingh, Abigail Pauley and Judge Jeffrey Kensmoe.



Instrumental judges and winners from left to right: Judge Ariana Arcu, Stephen Michaels, Ashton Jah, Sean Brown, J.T. Holdbrooks, Zachary Chou and Judge Kevin Fitzgerald.



Piano Winners: Judge Lucy DeSa, Tim Berry, Weixiang Peng and Judge Melody Ng.



BSC Student Volunteers: Emily Kate Hayes, Michael Barren, Angus Durham and Henry Collier.



Guild volunteers from left to right: Elaine Clark, Debbie Bennett, Margery Whatley, Marsha Drennen and Marleen Bodden.

Mom's Basement Party Attendees Had a Rockin' Good Time!

Guild members had a rocking good time at a fundraiser on Jan. 30 at Mom's Basement. Guild members donned their favorite garb from the 70s and had a great time of fellowship. Special thanks to party planners Beth Adams, Mary Noel Sellers and Nancy Canada.

