



Notes

September, 2024

www.washingtonrecordersociety.org

Dear WRS members,
Welcome to another year of our making music together! We are excited to begin both our in-person and Zoom meetings in the near future. Please renew your membership [here](#) so you can join us at our first Zoom meeting on September 16th. We look forward to seeing you soon.

Monica

WRS 2024-2025 Schedule

In-person meetings are held at St. Columba’s Episcopal Church, 4201 Albemarle St. NW, Washington DC 20016. The closest Metro stop is Tenleytown on the Red Line. Online sessions are held on Zoom. You will receive an invitation and music after registration [here](#).

Date	Type	Schedule	Group
2024			
Mon, 09/16	Online	7:00-7:30pm 7:30-9:00pm	Virtual Happy Hour Session led by Alison Melville
Sat, 10/12	In person	10:00-10:30am 10:30am-12:30pm	Meet and greet Play music with David McGown and Adéla Balima
Sat, 11/09	In person	10:00-10:30am 10:30am-12:30pm	Meet and greet Play music with Sarah Shodja and Teresa Deskur
Mon, 11/18	Online	7:00-7:30pm 7:30-9:00pm	Virtual Happy Hour Session led by Rachel Begley
Sat, 12/14	In person	10:00am-1:00pm	Holiday party and music playing led by David McGown & Adéla Balima
2025			
Sat, 01/11	In person	10:00-10:30am 10:30am-12:30pm	Meet and greet Play music with David McGown and Adéla Balima
Mon, 01/27	Online	7:00-7:30pm 7:30-9:00pm	Virtual Happy Hour Session led by Jennifer Carpenter
Sat, 02/08	In person	10:00-10:30am 10:30am-12:30pm	Meet and greet Play music with Rainer Beckmann

Sat, 03/08	In person	10:00-10:30am 10:30am-12:30pm	Meet and greet Play music with David McGown and Adéla Balima
Sat and Sun, 03/15-16	Amherst Spring Break Workshop		St George's Episcopal
Sat, 04/12	In person	10:00-10:30am 10:30am-12:30pm	Meet and Greet Play music with David McGown and Adéla Balima
Mon, 04/21	Online	7:00-7:30pm 7:30-9:00pm	Virtual Happy Hour Session led by Frances Blaker
Sat, 05/10	In person	3:00-5:00pm	Recital
Mon, 05/19	Online	7:00-7:30pm 7:30-9:00pm	Virtual Happy Hour Session led by Anne Timberlake
Sat, 06/14	In person	10:00-10:30am 10:30am-12:30pm	Meet and Greet and Annual Business Meeting Play music with David McGown and Adéla Balima

Time to Renew Your Membership for 2024-2025

The fiscal year for the Washington Recorder Society ends on August 31, so it is time to renew your membership for another year of great benefits. The cost is still \$55. Go [here](#) and then click on "Pay Now" which will take you to PayPal. You do not need to have a PayPal account – you can pay with a credit card. If you are a new member or your contact information has changed, please complete the membership form on the same page. While you are there, click on "Donate" to give an additional amount to support WRS if you are able. We are so fortunate to have excellent teachers from near and far to teach our Zoom and in person meetings! Dues alone do not cover the expenses of these terrific teachers. Many thanks!

Board Members Re-Elected

Congratulations to Board members Monica Boruch (President), Judy McGraw (Vice-President), Marge Hogarty (newsletter editor), David McGown (music leader), and Adela Balima (music leader) who were re-elected to the WRS Board. Click [here](#) to read their bios.

Become a Better Player

Local Instructors:

<p>ADÉLA BALIMA Washington, DC Phone : 240-688-2809 Email: adelabalima@gmail.com Website: http://adelabalima.com</p>	<p>RACHEL ISAACSON Arlington, VA Phone : 571-338-4606 Email : isaacson.rachel@gmail.com</p>	<p>CAROLE ROGENTINE Bethesda, MD Phones: 301-530-6386 (home); 301-523-5515 (cell) Email: crogentine@gmail.com Website: www.learnrecorderwithcarole.com</p>
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Fun and Learning at Summer Workshops

Virginia Baroque Academy Workshop -- Reiko Yoshimura

From June 10-15 I attended the Virginia Baroque Academy Workshop in Harrisonburg, VA. It was my first time. The workshop was held in conjunction with the Shenandoah Valley Bach Festival, and there were daily noon concerts throughout the week as well as a workshop faculty concert. It was a small workshop consisting of 31 students, 5 faculty members and 3 workshop organizers/support staff. Some students were from conservatories, some were amateur musicians, and some were talented young high school students.

The workshop had five programs: recorder, harpsichord, gamba, voice, and violin. Each program had two masterclasses in the morning and afternoon playing in mixed ensembles. This year there were seven students in the recorder program which was led by Anne Timberlake. She had us select pieces from the suites by Hotteterre for the first masterclass, and for the second, we picked our own piece. Anne also covered some techniques and coached on recorder consort playing in the morning session.

Coached by faculty members, the students were assigned to play in the same ensemble group throughout the week and prepared for the student recitals on Saturday or Sunday.

Harrisonburg is in the central Shenandoah Valley region, and some people participated in an after-class activity organized by the workshop, hiking/walking in the Shenandoah National Forest.

Although the workshop participants' musical background and playing levels varied, I found the atmosphere was friendly and relaxed, which I appreciated. I enjoyed the workshop very much.

For further information about the workshop:

<https://www.svbachfestival.org/2024-baroque-academy-information>

Lynne Mackey, Director lmackey8@gmail.com

The Mountain Collegium -- Madeleine Moore

I have attended the week-long Mountain Collegium many times over the years. It is a workshop where the class fee is separate from the room and board fee. It allows my husband (a non-musician) to go with me. He can attend all of the performances (faculty recital, student recital, etc.). For a number of years, it has been held at Western Carolina University in Cullowhee, NC, surrounded by the Blue Ridge and Great Smoky Mountains—a very picturesque area.

The workshop offers the usual classes in viola de gamba and recorder at various levels, as well as classes in a variety of other early and folk instruments. There is some variation in the offerings in early and folk. In the past, I have taken classes in shape note singing, hurdy-gurdy, early double reeds, penny whistle, recorder and viola de gamba.

Note of interest: where else could you play in a garklein orchestra?!

Mideast Early Music Workshop -- Mary Anne Espenshade

In July I attended the week-long Mideast Early Music Workshop held at LaRoche University outside of Pittsburgh, PA. I've been going most years since 1999, usually with one or more other members of Consort Anon, but the workshop has been held for around 50 years. It is run by members of the Pittsburgh ARS chapter and has teachers from across the US and Europe. It's a small (around 40 participants) friendly workshop, not a high-pressure environment, with lots to learn and experience.

Two of each day's classes are assigned based on the recorder playing level you report in a pre-workshop questionnaire. One is the morning recorder technique class; the second is a consort class in the afternoon. You can pick an all-recorder or a mixed consort for that. If you play Baroque flute or viola da gamba, you can specify that as your technique class instrument instead of recorder. The rest of the classes you choose from the schedule, which includes a vocal music class, Renaissance Band (including crumhorns, sackbuts and any other buzzies you want to bring, harps and percussion), Bass class (F-Bass down through sub-contra) and numerous classes based on the year's theme or a teacher's specialty. The 2024 theme was 16th century Italian music, but there were also a contemporary recorder music class and a Baroque trio sonata class. You can take an intro to harp or intro to gamba class to try something new or schedule time to play with a harpsichord accompanist.

Each evening is the All-Workshop Ensemble, led by Eric Haas, followed by English Country Dancing. Wednesday evening is the Faculty Concert. Thursday is the "Ad Hoc" concert where anyone can perform, either a piece worked on at home or something put together with players just met at the workshop. Friday is the student concert where many of the classes present what they've worked on for the week.

We stay in the college dorms and have nice meals in the cafeteria. They always have vegetarian and vegan options. This year I car-pooled with a friend from the Riderwood Early Music Ensemble. If others would like to join us next year we can have a convoy. Dates are July 20-26, 2025!

Go to www.earlymusicweekmideast.org to get added to the mailing list for next year. They're also on Facebook.

Amherst Early Music Festival – Mollie Habermeier

The main reason I chose to attend the Amherst Early Music Festival is the wide variety of classes it offers. Amherst is a large festival with hundreds of attendees, and a large talented faculty, so for every class time, there are multiple appealing options. There are classes on different composers and time periods, classes with just recorders and classes with mixed instruments, and classes at different playing levels. You can also learn about something you may not have done before, like percussion, singing, or reading from early notation.

This year, I learned about Corelli concerti, baroque style, ways a group of players becomes an ensemble, and Brazilian music. Other years, I have played more renaissance music.

Amherst draws students and faculty from all over the country and internationally. There's usually a fairly big contingent of recorder players and other early musicians from the DC area. If you go, you are likely to see other WRS members there, and you could well meet people you continue to play with at home.

Where to Hear Early Music

Look for Announcements Online for 2024-2025 Season

Washington Bach Consort <https://bachconsort.org/calendar/>

Folger Consort <https://www.folger.edu/performances-events>

Tempesta di Mare <https://tempestadimare.my.salesforce-sites.com/ticket/#/>

Capitol Early Music <https://capitolearlymusic.org/>

Piffaro—The Renaissance Band <https://www.piffaro.org>

Capitol Early Music

New World Recorders
Beginning, Middle, End

Rainer Beckmann Héloïse Degrugillier
Gwyn Roberts Sarah Shodja



Even without words, instrumental music can be heard as narrative. In this intriguing concert, the virtuosi of New World Recorders focus on how various musical forms can be structured to create an audible narrative arc. Music from the 15th to the 20th century, employing a variety of styles and sizes of recorders.



SEPTEMBER 8, 2024 3:00 PM
ST. GEORGE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
915 N. Oakland, Arlington, VA

Details and Tickets: <https://capitolearlymusic.org/>

General Admission \$40, Students \$15

Concert/Workshop Special \$135 (one concert ticket with workshop registration)

This concert is supported by a generous donation from the Washington Recorder Society.

American Recorder Society

WRS is a chapter of the American Recorder Society. ARS provides many resources for all recorder players, including its own YouTube channel, which has many free videos and information. The ARS site also has free music and play-alongs. The website address is <https://americanrecorder.org/>. The initial membership fee is \$25, with an annual charge of \$55 thereafter, for access to many resources. Consider joining. The ARS offers scholarships for workshops and classes. For more information and to register, go to https://americanrecorder.org/learning_resources_for_recorde.php.

WRS Spring Recital

On May 18, 2024, WRS held a recital for members, family, and friends at St Columba's Church. The last recital we had was in 2019, so it was a joy to be able to do this again! There were 44 persons in attendance including performers and audience members. There was a variety of repertoire and ensemble sizes. The recital began with a performance by the WRS in-person Saturday group, followed by smaller ensembles, and ending with solo performances. Everyone enjoyed refreshments and social time together following the program. We have included the program here for all to see. Thanks to everyone who participated!

WRS Players

Alles Regres	Ludwig Senfl (1486 - 1543)
Arioso	J. S. Bach (1685 – 1750); arr. K Sone
The Dark Eyed Sailor	Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872 - 1958)
from Five English Folk Songs	
Allegro from Concerto Grosso	Georg Fredrick Handel (1685 - 1759)
Op. 6, No. 5	
Gigue from Concerto Grosso, Op. 6, No. 9	G. F. Handel

Tuesday Morning Ensemble

Neale Ainsfield, Ed Feinberg, Marge Hogarty, Recorders-- Donna Sieckmann, Violin	
Sweet Day	Ralph Vaughan Williams
Carmen in La	Ludwig Senfl

Cedarwood Consort

Reiko Yoshimura, Ellen Farrell, Mollie Habermeier, Judy McGraw	
Fuga alla Breve e Staccato BWV550	J. S. Bach

New Dawn Consort

Carolyn Lincoln, Madeleine Moore, Kate Richardson, Cathy Schairer	
German Dance No. 1	Melchior Franck
Say Gentle Nymphs	Thomas Morley
Amazing Grace	arr. David Kemp

Ensemble NOVA

<u>D</u> ave Mann, Judy McGraw, Rachel Isaacson, Zulema Garraffo	
Contrapunctus I from The Art of the Fugue	J. S. Bach

Reiko Yoshimura	Tea for Two (1924)	Vincent Youmans (arr. Steve Mullany)
Steve Mullany		lyrics by Irving Caesar

Patricia Balestra	Première suite de pièces à 2 dessus, sans basse, Op. 4	Jacques-Martin Hotteterre
Adéla Balima		

Matthew Dayton	Suite for Two Recorders	Matthew W. Dayton
Steve Mullany		

Zulema Garraffo	Three preludes from L'art de Préluder	Jacques-Martin Hotteterre
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Dave Mann	Basse Dance La Brosse (1530)	Pierre Attaignant
	Recercada Primera (1553)	Diego Ortiz
	La Spagna: Alta Danza (1510)	Francisco de la Torre

David McGown	Variations on "Mein junges Leben hat ein End	17th century melody with variations by David McGown
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Adéla Balima	Cominciamento di gioia	Anonymous, 14 th Century Italian
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WRS Website

The WRS website, <https://www.washingtonrecordersociety.org/>, has lots of useful information. The main page provides an introduction to the organization and the latest news. The footer has links to the meeting schedule and newsletters. The menu and the buttons both take you to more detailed information such as links to handy websites. Check out the Members Only section for a directory of members and the Roger Morris Collection of recorder music. Email carolyn.lincoln@verizon.net, if you need the password.

Obituary—Vickie Walter

We are saddened to let you know about the death of Vickie Walter this past spring. Vickie was an avid recorder player and even more, a guiding force for WRS. See Daniel Bruner's words below on her longstanding dedication to WRS.

"Vickie first learned the recorder "by ear" more than 30 years ago. She joined WRS in 2004. After that, she studied with Scott Reiss and Suzana Cooper, and attended many WRS workshops over the years taught by Gwyn Roberts and Shelley Gruskin. Vickie was a guiding force for WRS. She served as Treasurer from 2010 through 2012, and as WRS President from 2012 through 2016 (the last year as Co-President with Daniel Bruner). After retiring as President, she remained on the Board in an *ex officio* capacity until she retired in 2021. She also edited our newsletter and served as WRS webmaster, establishing it in 2014 until 2018. She was greatly appreciated for her organizational talents, her humor, and her dedication to the organization."

Classified

I am interested in joining a group in Maryland or DC to play recorder music. Hours are flexible. I play all the instruments and own and play the contrabass, one of the few in the DMV. Please contact me at jayme.a.sokolow@gmail.com.

WRS needs your help! We are seeking a volunteer to work with Gabriel Johnson, at the St Augustine School (1421 V Street, NW, Washington DC) once a week on Wednesdays, from 4:00-5:00PM with their after-school music program. We work together providing music instruction to children ages 6-10 for approximately 8-10 students. This enrichment program uses the recorder and ukulele to provide a strong foundation in the essential elements of music: instrumental technique, reading notation, and playing together as an ensemble. Please contact Monica at fmboruch@comcast.net if you are interested in learning more.

Wanted: Music Stands. The after-school program at St Augustine's in DC is looking for collapsable music stands to use for their young blossoming recorder players. Please contact Gabe Johnson at gabriel.p.johnson@gmail.com or Monica at fmboruch@comcast.net if you have one to donate.

WRS In-Person Meetings—Revised COVID Policy Modified 11/20/22

WRS leadership will stay informed and cautious about COVID-19 risks. We will make every effort to keep the membership updated about COVID-related changes in our schedule or plans. The WRS Board recommends that members follow current CDC guidelines for vaccination. In addition, participants in WRS in-person meetings must:

- Be free of COVID-19 symptoms.
- Have no recent exposure to individuals known to be infected with COVID-19
- Play only their own instruments during sessions

Board of Directors

Monica Boruch
Judy McGraw
Gabe Johnson
Carolyn Lincoln
Marge Hogarty
Adéla Balima
David McGown

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