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## Director of Orchestral Studies Paul Phillips Reports on the Stanford Philharmonia's Trip to Bermuda

THE STANFORD PHILHARMONIA'S trip to Bermuda in March to perform at the Bermuda Festival of the Performing Arts during 21–28 March 2022 was a success in every way. The concerts were all well attended, with very enthusiastic responses from the audience each time. Our interactions with the Bermudians we met were very positive, and the Bermuda Festival administration was extremely pleased with how things went. We observed strict COVID-testing protocols in the U.S. and Bermuda, and no one contracted COVID or tested positive throughout the trip. Moreover, no one experienced any severe health problems that week. Everyone played in all rehearsals and concerts and enjoyed their time in Bermuda. Considering the conditions that we've been dealing with for the past two years, it seems truly miraculous that none of us were beset by any significant health problems during the trip!

We arrived in Bermuda on schedule on Tuesday morning, 22 March. Several minibuses transported us to Rosemont Guest Suites in Hamilton, where we checked into our rooms and had lunch. The weather was beautiful and we all spent the afternoon at Horseshoe Bay Beach, enjoying the sun and sea. Because tourism still hadn't fully revived in Bermuda, we had this spectacular beach virtually to ourselves, which everyone found rather hard to believe.

The Bermuda Festival provided breakfast, lunch, and dinner for everyone throughout the week. Most meals were served at the Rosemont Guest Suites except for some lunches that were served at the Earl Cameron Theatre after our morning rehearsals so that SP members could go on excursions each afternoon without having to return to the hotel for lunch.

Wednesday, 23 March, was devoted mainly to rehearsals with violinist Caroline Campbell at the Earl Cameron Theatre, and later with 31 Bermudian string players ranging in age from



*The Stanford Philharmonia in Bermuda*

about 12 to 18. During the afternoon, a string quintet comprised of students played for seniors at the Lorraine Rest Home and Westmeath Residential and Nursing Care Home. That evening, Nic and Juliana Snelling hosted a marvelous dinner party at their glorious home Ardsheal House, which overlooks the ocean. Juliana Snelling is a Stanford alumna and the Director of Canterbury Law Limited, Bermuda's leading law firm. She went all out to host dinner for about 60 people — everyone in the Philharmonia plus a number of Bermudians, including four other Stanford alumni. We presented each of the alumni in Bermuda with gifts from the Stanford Bookstore and gave Juliana an elegant wine stopper engraved with the Stanford insignia, which she appreciated very much. She gave a short emotional speech saying that she considered her four years at Stanford the best years of her life and how glad she was to host this gathering.

The following three days, Thursday–Saturday, were structured similarly. Each day began with a morning rehearsal in the Earl Cameron Theatre for that evening's concert. During the afternoon, students went sight-seeing in Bermuda or returned to the Rosemont. Following dinner at the hotel at 6:00 p.m., each evening, there was a concert at 8:00 p.m. with a different program each night.

On Thursday, 24 March, the main concert was preceded by a side-by-side concert of 60 string players, including the 29 SP string players and 31 Bermudian students. Together, we performed music by Florence Price, Edvard Grieg, and Gustav Holst under my direction. In the following concert, we performed Dvorak's Czech Suite; a composition of mine titled *Go Perfect Into Peace*;

*(continued on page 2)*

## Tour of Bermuda

*Continued from first page*

Sinfonie Concertante, Op. XIII, No. 2 in G Major by the Chevalier de Saint-Georges; and Beethoven's Seventh Symphonie. Sophomore violinists Roger Xia '24 and Richard Cheung '24 were the soloists in the Sinfonie Concertante.

The concert on 25 March featured Stanford alumna Caroline Campbell on showpieces for violin and orchestra, most with arrangements written especially for her. The program also included Novellette for Orchestra, Op. 52, No. 1, by Samuel Coleridge-Taylor; the final movement of William Grant Still's *Danzas de Panama*; *Old Wine in New Bottles* by Gordon Jacob, and Debussy's *La fille aux cheveux de lin* in an arrangement for winds that I wrote last year.



Violinist  
Caroline  
Campbell,  
Her  
Excellency  
Ms Rena  
Lalgie,  
Governor of  
Bermuda,  
and  
conductor  
Paul Phillips

The final concert on 26 March included Haydn's Symphony No. 97 in C Major, *Sonata da Chiesa* by Adolphus Hailstork, and Grieg's Piano Concerto in A Minor, Op. 16, with senior Ethan Chi '22 as the piano soloist. That afternoon, everyone received a final COVID test in order to be cleared for travel. Everyone tested negative and was permitted to board the flight.

After breakfast on Sunday, 27 March, we returned to the Bermuda Airport and departed at 1:00 p.m. In Atlanta, our connecting flight was delayed, but even this hitch had a silver lining. While waiting for the plane to refuel, a delay of about an hour, one of the flight attendants mentioned to me that she wished that the orchestra could play while we waited. I asked Richard Cheung, one of our violin soloists, if he and Roger Xia could play their cadenza from the Sinfonie Concertante by the Chevalier de Saint-Georges. They took out their violins and played, followed by wild cheering when they finished. Violinist Hiroto Yamamoto posted videos of this impromptu concert on Twitter, and they soon went viral, with over 20K

views within a day. As of today, one video has had 58.2K views, while the other has had 10.1K. That "coda" to our trip is a moment that everyone aboard that flight will remember!

At SFO about 1:00 a.m. on Monday, 28 March, the bus we had reserved was there to meet us, and all made it back in time for the start of Spring Quarter that day.

Everyone in Stanford Philharmonia is extremely grateful for the generous support that the Friends of Music at Stanford provided for this trip! Thank you so much! I am very gratified that the effort required to make this trip happen resulted in such a positive experience for our 47 travelers from Stanford, and that we were able to share our music with the wonderful people of Bermuda! — *Paul Phillips*

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## The Friends of Music Scholarship Recital 2022

FOR MANY YEARS, the Stanford Department of Music proudly presented an event called the Friends of Music Scholarship Tea, during which several of the department's Friends of Music lesson scholarship recipients gathered to perform a recital of solo and chamber works. This concert was always followed by a beautifully catered reception, allowing Friends of Music members and scholarship donors to chat with the student performers. The COVID pandemic pushed this event online in 2021, as the department presented a pre-recorded video concert of in-home recorded performances and student interviews. But in 2022, an in-person Scholarship performance returned to Braun: on March 5th, the 2022 Friends of Music Scholarship Recital took place in Campbell Recital Hall. COVID protocols made a reception impossible, but a lively and enthusiastic audience gathered for a truly memorable concert featuring a fascinating cross section of the department's student talent.

The afternoon began with Stina Katchadourian's friendly and inviting introduction to the proceedings. Audience members were then privileged to hear student scholarship recipients — some joined by two of our department's stellar staff pianists, Lori Lack and Steven Lightburn — perform at the highest level. The program included vocal repertoire by Handel and Fauré; instrumental works by Dvořák (his beloved Cello Concerto and "American" String Quartet), Beethoven, and Saint-Saëns; and an unusual and intriguing new work for oboe and English horn by Stanford alum Michael Senturia. The recital was a great success in showcasing the wide range of tremendous talent within our department, and left me, a teacher of several of these students, glowing with pride!

This concert presentation gave our community the opportunity to hear a wide range of musical offerings performed by serious, committed, and talented students who bring positive energy and artistic curiosity to the University. Such events showcase the fact that that the Department of Music provides unique and important opportunities for Stanford students and our supportive artistic community.

— *Christopher Costanza*



## The Friends of Music's Recent Accomplishments

- Board meetings conducted via Zoom since COVID shutdown. Teleconferencing makes it possible to have board members who are not local to the Bay Area. It has also improved attendance.
- Revised Friends of Music bylaws approved, October 2020.
- Presented a streamed Holiday Musicale December 2020, hosted by board members Debra Fong and Christopher Costanza.
- Funded staffer for training in JackTrip technology (virtual music lessons and collaboration), January 2021.
- Held “virtual” Scholarship Recital hosted by board member Melanie Goldstein Berenson; performances by seven students, March 2021.
- Held virtual masterclass in cello with Rafael Figueroa, April 2021.
- Provided additional funding to four coterminal master’s degree students at the Center for Computer Research in Music and Acoustics (CCRMA) to complete their degrees, Spring 2021.
- Held “virtual” Department Awards concert, performances by twelve students, June 2021.
- Money transferred from Endowment fund payout into Endowment fund principal; by enlarging the principal, the monthly payout increased \$1,000/month.
- Held Holiday Musicale in Memorial Church with live audience, December 2021.
- Funded Stanford Philharmonia tour to Bermuda, March 2022.
- Presented a streamed lecture on Lou Henry Hoover and the history of our organization. Speaker Dr. Elena Danielson, Archivist Emerita, the Hoover Institution, March 2021. Co-sponsored by Stanford Historical Society, Clayman Institute for Gender Research, and Hoover Institution.
- Welcomed four new board members: Amelia Farber, Sonja Johnson-Yu, Naoya Kanai, and Susan Lape, all Stanford Music alumni, Spring 2022.



*JackTrip technology*



*Cellist Rafael Figueroa*



*Holiday Musicale at Memorial Church*



*Poster for Bermuda concerts*



*Lou Henry Hoover*

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## The St. Lawrence String Quartet Chamber Music Seminar at Stanford Returns to Campus

THE ST. LAWRENCE STRING QUARTET (SLSQ) was thrilled to resume hosting the SLSQ Chamber Music Seminar at Stanford in person this year on the Stanford campus during June 18–26. The extended COVID pandemic led to the cancellation of both the 2020 and 2021 Seminars, but this year’s program offered a triumphant return of intense chamber music study, as well as a wide range of varied musical gatherings at Braun Music Center. Over 50 participants joined the SLSQ and their invited faculty for daily chamber music coachings, masterclasses, special events, and concerts.

In addition to the SLSQ, the guest faculty included pianist Stephen Prutsman, composer and cellist Paul Wiancko, former SLSQ violinist Scott St. John, harpsichordist Pedja Muzijevic, flutist Tara Helen O’Connor, clarinetist Todd Palmer, and others. An event of note was the free noon faculty concert in Bing Concert Hall on Monday, June 20. Three other scheduled Bing concerts were sadly cancelled due to an extended power outage on campus, the result of a local fire disrupting PG&E’s transmission lines!

This year’s Seminar welcomed a number of Stanford’s own music students, who, with the generous support of the Friends of Music, attended the program free of charge. These fine Stanford musicians will have the opportunity to interact musically and socially with a fascinating mix of young professionals and serious adult amateurs, many of whom enjoy varied careers in a wide range of professions and plan their vacation time so as to allow them to take part in this unique program.

For the week of the seminar, Braun Music Center was abuzz with the sounds of chamber music of all sorts at all hours, even moving outdoors as needed during Stanford’s power outage. Thankfully, all was back to normal in time for the traditional closing performance featuring all of the Seminar’s participating groups performing in a single concert on Sunday, 26 June, in Campbell Recital Hall. — *Christopher Costanza*

## Meet Jocelyn Chen

JOCelyn CHEN is a junior from Irvine, CA, majoring in Music and in Chemistry. When applying to colleges and universities, she had planned to go to a conservatory for piano performance. “Coming to Stanford was definitely a big change of plans but a fortunate one!”

Jocelyn started private piano lessons at the age of six with Angela Hershey, and in junior high and high school, she performed as a piano soloist and in chamber ensembles in various recital halls and competitions in the U.S. and Britain. She was principal pianist of the Pacific Symphony Youth Orchestra from 2017–19. In addition to her focus as a pianist, she is also a gifted bassoonist.

“I really love listening to all genres of music—jazz, electronic dance music, pop — you name it! Piano music-wise, I really like anything by Ravel, Rachmaninoff, or Schumann.” Jocelyn worked on the demanding Rachmaninoff Symphonic Dances, Op. 45 for a piano duo with fellow Music major Kendrick Shen at his senior recital in June, as well as Beethoven’s Sonata No. 31 and Schumann’s *Carnaval*, Op. 9.



“Jocelyn is a joy to work with,” says her Stanford piano instructor Laura Dahl. “She is a conscientious and intelligent student, always ready to engage with new concepts relating to technique, musicianship, and presentation. As a person, Jocelyn is

invariably cheerful, even though as a double major, her course load is very demanding.”

“I chose chemistry,” says Jocelyn, “because I like to make things with my hands and I was particularly interested in food chemistry. I enjoyed AP chem in high school and organic chemistry at Stanford, so I knew it was right for me. My two majors feel pretty unrelated, but they combine my love for handiwork and creating things and they balance each other out well class-wise.” Beyond Stanford, “I would love to work in chemistry, education, and music... or discover something else! I eventually want to teach piano or teach in the public school system. But before that, my options are wide open.”

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## Lou Henry Hoover Lecture

ON MARCH 24, Hoover Institution Librarian Emerita Elena Danielson presented a lecture on Lou Henry Hoover and the origins of Friends of Music at Stanford. Sponsored by the Stanford University Department of Music in partnership with the Friends of Music at Stanford and co-sponsored by the Stanford Historical Society, the Clayman Institute for Gender Research, and the Hoover Institution, the presentation discussed the earliest days of The Friends of Music at Stanford, an organization launched in the middle of the Great Depression by President Herbert Hoover's wife, Lou Henry Hoover, Class of 1898, with help from her friend Elizabeth Sprague Coolidge, a generous music patron known for commissioning Aaron Copland's *Appalachian Spring*. Their groundwork helped form the foundation for what would become Stanford's Department of Music, established in 1946-47.

The lecture was a rousing success, and it remains online for viewing:

<https://music.stanford.edu/news/lou-henry-hoover-and-origins-friends-music-zoom-presentation-elena-danielson>

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