

Welcome

Members and guests, welcome to our Burlingame music club's annual event to celebrate the opening of our 2019–2020 season. This is our 89th year of sharing with our members and guests the joy of music and the enjoyment of the talents of delightful musical artists and student competitors. Today, we honor Susan Bates, violist, founder of the Young Chamber Musicians, chamber music educator par excellence, and an inspiration to hundreds of young musicians. The Arcturus Trio, part of the Young Chamber Musicians program, will be performing for us, today.

Our other special guest is Ben Simon, conductor of the San Francisco Chamber Orchestra and the Palo Alto Chamber Orchestra, a violist in his own right, and an educator extraordinaire. Ben was honored by us two years ago and he joins us, today, to introduce his colleague and friend, and the BMC 2019 Honoree, Susan Bates.

We hope you will enjoy the fellowship, food, entertainment and silent auction opportunities provided by our hard-working volunteers and generous donors.

Beth Bhatnagar and Karen Hutchinson, Co-Presidents

BMC 2019 Guest of Honor

Susan Bates, violist and champion of chamber music education holds the 2013 Viola Advocate Award from the Northern California Viola Society and the 1992 award for "*Excellence in Chamber Music Training*" from Chamber Music America. Since 1982, she has instructed violists and chamber musicians in the Pre-College of San Francisco Conservatory of Music, guiding many who are now pursuing careers as professionals, as well as playing chamber music "for the love of it".

Ms. Bates is a founding member of the New Age String Quartet that worked under the tutelage of Albert Gillis and the Paganini Quartet and won awards in Carmel and Coleman competitions. She was for seven years instructor at San Jose State University serving as violist of the faculty ensemble, the San Jose String Quartet. The Quartet worked closely with composer Lou Harrison, giving the premier of his *Quartet Set* (1978). Ms. Bates also recorded Mr. Harrison's *Threnody for Carlos Chavez* (1979) for Solo Viola with Gamelan Sekar Kembar for CRI.

The focus of Ms. Bates' forty-year career has been the creation and direction of chamber music education programs for highly talented musical youth: SFCM Prep Chamber Music Program (1983-2000), California Summer Music (1996-2000), and Lake Tahoe Music Festival Academy with the Miró Quartet (2000-2006), among others. In 2009, Susan Bates retired from the viola section of the San Francisco Ballet Orchestra after 34 years and founded the award-winning pre-college chamber music training program **Young Chamber Musicians**.

Susan Bates is a champion of chamber music education and has a wonderful way with young people inspiring them to do their best while making hard work fun and rewarding. Her chamber music groups are excellence personified.

Young Chamber Musicians

Susan Bates, Founder & Director

Founded in 2008, Young Chamber Musicians is an award-winning program offering advanced chamber music instruction and exciting performance opportunities to string players and pianists ages 14-19. YCM immerses its students in the chamber music repertoire to develop technical skill, musical imagination, and the art of working with others. Through its collaboration with Music at Kohl Mansion and Mercy High School, Burlingame, YCM fosters *learning through listening and performing*.

YCM holds Gold Medals for winning ensembles in the Galante Prize competition (2014-2019), PCM Chamber Music Competition (2019) and the 2019 Fischhoff National Chamber Music Competition (Junior Division). YCM faculty includes violinists Eric Chin (Telegraph Quartet), Jory Fankuchen (Chamber Society of SF), Debra Fong (Stanford University), Lisa Lee (The Lee Trio), Viola, Susan Bates, Cello Eric Gaenslen (Bella Trio), Andrew Luchansky (Sun Quartet), and Piano Jeffrey LaDeur (SF International Piano Festival), and Musicologist Kai Christiansen (www.earsense.org).

(www.youngchambermusicians.org)

Special Guest

Ben Simon, Conductor
San Francisco Chamber Orchestra

In 2002, Ben Simon was appointed Music Director of the San Francisco Chamber Orchestra and transformed that organization into one of the premier professional ensembles in northern California. In the 25 years prior to joining the SF Chamber Orchestra, Mr. Simon performed as a violist with several of the United States' most elite ensembles, including the New York Philharmonic, the Los Angeles Philharmonic, the Naumburg award-winning New World String Quartet, and the Orpheus Chamber Orchestra.

Ben Simon is a force in the music world and has done it all, from soloist to conductor and to educator. He is truly an advocate for young people in music.

Program

Welcome

Beth Bhatnagar
Karen Hutchinson
Co-Presidents, BMC

Lunch and Silent Auction Continues

Keynote Speaker

**Susan Bates, Founder
Young Chamber Musicians (YCM)**

Introductions by:

Karen Hutchinson
Ben Simon, Conductor,
SF Chamber Orchestra

Guest Musicians:

Arcturus Trio (YCM)
Kevin Yang, Pianist
Ajay Mallya, Violin
Catherine Choy, Cello

Silent Auction

Norma Hoch

Winners

Closing Remarks

Beth Bhatnagar, Karen Hutchinson

Guest Performance

Arcturus Trio

Kevin Yang, Piano
Ajay Mallya, Violin
Catherine Choi, Cellist

Piano Trio in D Major, Op. 70, No.1 “Ghost”

Ludwig van Beethoven (1770-1827)

I. Allegro vivace e con brio

Piano Trio in G minor, Op. 15

Bedřich Smetana (1824-1884)

I. Moderato assai

Arcturus Trio

Pianist Kevin Yang, 16, is a junior at Aragon High School. He began studying piano at age 5 and has studied with Professor Sharon Mann for the past 3 years. Kevin was a finalist in the 2017 CYS Concerto Competition, and tied for 2nd place in the Pacific Musical Society Competition in 2018. This past summer, he attended the Aspen Music Festival & School, where he studied with professors Yoheved Kaplinsky and Julian Martin. Kevin is also an avid chamber musician, having participated in programs such as the Crowden Chamber Workshop and the Chamber Music Program at Aspen. He has played in master classes for distinguished artists such as Bonnie Hampton, Jon Nakamatsu, and Donald and Vivian Weilerstein. His YCM Trio Cantare won Third Prize in the Galante Prize Competition in 2018. This is Kevin's third season with Young Chamber Musicians.

Violinist Ajay Mallya, 16, is a junior at Bellarmine College Preparatory, and studies violin with Zhao Wei, having studied previously with Robin Sharp and Patricia Burnham. Ajay has won prizes from the Pacific Music Society, KAMSA, USOMC, Enkor, MTAC, VOCE, American Protégé and the Palo Alto Philharmonic Concerto competition, performing with the orchestra. Ajay attended the Meadowmount School of Music in 2018, studying violin with Sally Thomas and chamber music with Kikuei Ikeda. In 2017, Ajay performed in Weill Recital Hall; chosen as the best individual performer at the CMEA State Festival; performed at the National Center for Performing Arts at the Mehli Mehta Music Foundation, India; and, attended the Aaron Rosand Intensive Music program at Summit Music Festival. This summer, he participated in the United States National Youth Orchestra and attended Meadowmount. This is his second season with Young Chamber Musicians.

Cellist Catherine Choi, 16, is currently a junior at Monta Vista High School studying with Jonathan Koh. She is an avid chamber musician and was previously the cellist in the Fantasma Piano Trio, winning the U.S. Open Music Competition. As a soloist, Catherine won awards from the Junior Bach Festival, U.S. Open Music, U. S. International, Music Teachers' Association of California, VOCE Competition, Korea Times Youth Music, and KAMSA Competitions. Catherine was a finalist of the 2018 Mondavi Center National Young Artists Competition. She has participated in the Montecito International Music Festival, Meadowmount School of Music, Center Stage Strings at University of Michigan and Aspen Music Festival & School. She attended Music@Menlo Young Performers' Program this summer. This is her second season with YCM.

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Thank you to all our donors!

A Sneak Peek at the 2019-2020 BMC Season

We are in the midst of planning a very exciting program for our 2019-2020 Season. Here are some highlights from our guest artist program to whet your appetite. Be sure to tell, and bring, your friends!

November 11, 2019	DR. ANGELA KRAFT CROSS Organist
December 9, 2019	MARNIE BRECKENRIDGE Soprano A Holiday Program
January 13, 2020	GOUZHENG Chinese Harp
February 10, 2020	MARK ALMOND French Horn
March 9, 2020	Dance! St. Patrick's Day Celebration
April 13, 2020	LARRY DUNLAP AND FRIENDS April in Paris
May 11, 2020	MAY TEA Student Award Winners' Performance

This year's student performers will be scheduled on each of the above meeting dates performing from the categories of Brass, Wind, String and Voice. Students will compete for BMC Awards in April. Winning students will perform in May at our season-ending May Tea.

Our Mission

The Burlingame Music Club, founded in 1930 by local music teachers, is unique among music clubs. Our club meetings are specifically designed to provide a venue for young musicians to perform on stage, with a warm, supportive audience composed of music lovers and community members. At the end of each season, students compete for scholarships donated by our membership and the community to further the students' music studies. Our meetings also provide an eager audience for guest performers from our community, enriching our experiences through an afternoon of wonderful music.

BMC Board

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