

# QUARTER NOTE

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at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

Opus 1 Volume 2

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## \* EDITOR'S NOTE \*

*Darcy Drexler*

### STUDENT HANDBOOK

Our handbook for the 1990-91 year will be ready in February. Be sure to pick one up from our office.

A special thanks to Tim Dodge Sr. for his name suggestion for our newsletter. This is the second issue of Quarter Note. Be sure to read articles about summer programs and mark your calendars!!

### RECITAL

Erin Aldridge will give a recital on Sunday, March 3, 1991 at 2 PM in the Recital Hall. Pianists are Leslie Cook and I-Hua Lee.

## THE FESTIVE WEEK IS BACK!

For string students and pianists, ages 10-18, the **FESTIVE WEEK OF STRING MUSIC** offers an opportunity for intensive study and performing from June 17-22, 1991 at the Fine Arts Building at UWM. Classes and rehearsals will run from 8:30 AM-3:00 PM daily, culminating with a final concert on Saturday at 10:30 AM (and celebratory picnic following).

Instructors will include members of the String Academy of Wisconsin faculty as well as bassist Laura Snyder (member, MSO) and pianist Stefanie Jacob (faculty, Wisconsin Conservatory of Music). Students will participate in technique classes, chamber music and orchestra. Special master classes and recreational events are also planned. Last year 48 students participated and the week was an exciting one. Don't miss it! Standard tuition will remain \$160 for the week, the same as in 1990. Early-bird tuition is \$135 if you register on or before May 15th. Contact Julie Hochman (Director of the Festive Week) at 961-1101 for further information.



## SENIOR'S RECITAL PLANNED

The String Academy will sponsor a concert to honor its graduating high school seniors on April 19, 1991 at 5 PM in the UWM Recital Hall. Each senior will be invited to perform and will receive a certificate verifying that they survived and thrived during their SA years. A reception will follow the concert.

The next issue of Quarter Note will feature an article on where our seniors are headed next year.

## OUR BROCHURE IS OUT

The String Academy is grateful to Peter Crum and DCI Marketing for designing our new brochure. The brochure will be used for recruitment of new students and sponsorship. If our recruiting efforts are as successful as this brochure, we will be very pleased. We also want to thank Bulfin Printing for their services.

## INSTRUMENTS FOR SALE

1/8 Violin - Call Cindy Beyer at 445-8549  
Full size German Viola (15") - Call 463-6574 (after 5 p.m.)

(Our "Instruments For Sale" ads have proven very successful. Let us know your needs.)

## INTERVIEW WITH MIMI

by Ertn Aldridge

For the past ten years, I have been a violin student of Mimi Zweig. As a student, I found over the years that I had questions about Mimi's experience and background that I had not had an opportunity to ask. Just a short while ago I finally had an opportunity to satisfy my curiosity. Here are some of the fascinating things I learned about Mimi.

Q. How old were you when you started playing the violin?

A. I was eight years old.

Q. What other instruments do you play?

A. I play the piano, the whole family of recorders, the bassoon (When I was 10, I played for three months, but quit because the case was too heavy to carry to school) and the viola.

Q. What colleges have you attended?

A. I attended Syracuse University, The Manhattan School of Music, and the State of University of New York at Albany.

Q. Who were your violin teachers?

A. My first teacher was a painter. I studied with her for a few years and had a good time sight reading. When I was fifteen, I studied with Louis Krasner. He was my first artist teacher. Then I studied with Rafael Bronstein. He was a famous violin teacher, but passed away a few years ago. The rest of my teachers have been my students. When you teach, you learn from your students.

Q. What made you decide to teach?

A. In 1972, I went to watch a woman teach kids at the North Carolina School of the Arts. After that day I was hooked, and I have been teaching ever since.

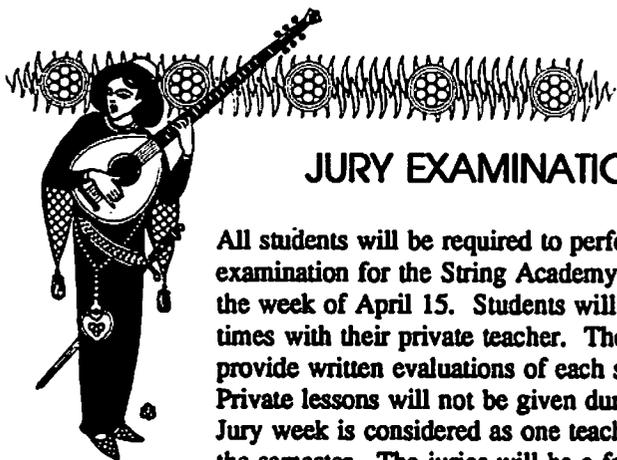
Q. What do you enjoy most about teaching?

A. Watching the students make good progress, and the joys that come from music making and working with young people.

Q. What do you enjoy most about the violin?

A. Its beautiful tone.

As you can see from this interview, Mimi is an excellent teacher and a very special person. I know that I have learned a lot from her, and I continue to appreciate all the things that she shares with me.



### JURY EXAMINATIONS

All students will be required to perform a jury examination for the String Academy faculty during the week of April 15. Students will sign up for times with their private teacher. The faculty will provide written evaluations of each student. Private lessons will not be given during this week. Jury week is considered as one teaching week of the semester. The juries will be a factor in deciding Financial Aid Awards and Merit Recognition/Awards.

### PABST ARTIST TO GIVE CLASS AT SAW

The Pabst Artist Series has graciously provided for our students a masterclass with Frank Almond on March 16 at 1 PM. Mr. Almond has been a prize-winner in the Tchaikovsky Violin, Paganini Violin, Aspen Music and Juilliard School Competitions. He has been a soloist with orchestras throughout the U.S., as well as in Europe. Mr. Almond, as a student of Dorothy DeLay, attended the Juilliard School. Today, in addition to his performing activities, he is on the faculty of San Diego State University. Be sure to attend his concert at the Pabst on Tuesday, March 19, 8 PM.



**A big THANK YOU to  
Dick Lincoln for  
the Quarter Note layout.**

## FOR THE FIRST-YEAR PARENT

In the first article, we explored the important steps that a parent must follow to insure their child's healthy progress. Hopefully, all is going well. This issue will speak about the importance of your child's daily listening to early repertoire and interval tapes.

Developing one's ear for music is especially important when playing a stringed instrument. The daily work with repertoire and interval tapes is vital for several reasons:

1. Your child learns the early piece by ear correctly. When learning new repertoire on the instrument the child has the new piece in the ear.
2. Daily listening improves concentration.
3. Listening helps a child to recognize good intonation and search for a beautiful tone.
4. By listening to future repertoire, a child is already beginning the learning process for those pieces and is motivated to strive ahead.

Interval tapes reinforce the aural skills learned in the group lessons. Recognizing intervals is a key to musical understanding and good intonation. Plus it is fun. Great music is an inspiration for all ages. Expose your children to the "Great Masters" of classical music -- Beethoven, Mozart, Bach and many others. Let your kids take you to some concerts.

## THE STRING ACADEMY OF WISCONSIN FUNDRAISING CAMPAIGN

*Mimi Zweig*

Fundraising is a necessity for a non-profit music school. Many other types of education are able to pay for themselves because classes are taught in large groups with one instructor. Music study can only be approached successfully with a one to one relationship between the student and teacher over a course of many years. Studying a musical instrument in a school such as The String Academy affects fewer students in many ways rather than many students in fewer ways. Most music schools such as ours need to raise 25% of their annual budget from outside sources. We are fortunate that we need to raise only 13% of our total budget this year. We try to keep our expenses to a bare minimum. Our shortfall of 13% goes towards educating 180 students, providing teachers with salaries and benefits, running an office and purchasing all supplies, publicity costs, program expenses, mailings, scholarships and much more. We have dreams for the future, but all

dreams come with a price-tag.

I am confident that there is support in the community for the quality of work we are doing. We are raising money in three areas: grants, individual donors and Parent's Organization fund raising. To date we have received some very generous grants from the Milwaukee Board of Realtors Youth Foundation, Marquette Electronics Foundation and the Gardner Foundation. We have also received private donations. The Parent's Organization will become active in the next few months organizing the Annual Flower Sale and orchestrating "A Spring Celebration Fund Raising Concert" on May 8. All in all, we have received \$6,500 of donations and have until May 15 to raise the remainder of our deficit.

It is lots of work, and worth all the effort.

## WHAT TO DO IN THE SUMMER-MUSIC CAMPS

by Mimi Zweig

Summer study can be a very important part of a young person's education. It is a time to meet other serious music students, experience a different teaching environment and feel the joy and independence of learning without the constant supervision of a parent. (Sometimes, this is a relief for all.) There are many wonderful opportunities for study around the country when students are old enough, advanced enough and mature enough to leave home for one to eight weeks.

Summer music camps usually emphasize one aspect of music study. You can choose practice camps, chamber music camps, orchestra camps or combinations of all. One that is close to my heart (I am also its Director) is The String Academy at Indiana University. It stresses the importance of daily practice (4 hours/day) and chamber music. Indiana is one of the great music schools in the world, and its resources of artistic faculty (Josef Gingold, Janos Starker to name a few) provide master classes and inspiration for the students who attend. This is a 4 week session.

Interlochen is a famous orchestra summer camp. It is 8 weeks long, and days are filled with ensemble and orchestra playing. It is situated in a beautiful area of Michigan on a picturesque lake.

For students who are in high school and would like to do nothing but practice 5 hours a day, there is an excellent camp in New York State - Meadowmount. Meadowmount was Ivan Galamian's (probably the most famous violin teacher ever) camp for many years until he passed away a few years ago. His wife still runs this famous institution, and there are many good teachers from the east coast on the faculty.

Closer to home: Madeline Island Summer Festival is a three week camp with the emphasis on chamber music. The setting again is very beautiful, and there are Milwaukee Symphony musicians on staff.

Bonnie Greene has been running a Fiddle-Jazz-Classical Camp outside Milwaukee for the past few years. Located on Onaway Island at Waupaca, this one week camp is lots of fun. It takes place the last week of June.

Ask your private teacher for more camp suggestions and information. Summer is a great time to make GREAT strides.



### MAY 8 "SPRING CELEBRATION BENEFIT CONCERT"

May 8th is the date set for the "Spring Celebration Benefit Concert". Featured on this concert will be The String Academy Chamber Orchestra under the direction of James Przygocki, the 1 and 2 o'clock afternoon groups, and selected solos. The String Academy will honor a prominent member of the Milwaukee community who has been influential in promoting the arts.

The concert will take place in the UWM Recital Hall at 5:30 PM. A reception will follow in the Art Gallery of the Fine Arts Department. This event is being orchestrated by the Parent's Organization. Tickets for the concert will be \$25, \$50 and \$100. If you have people to add to our mailing list, or if you are interested in helping to organize this concert, please call Ruth Kapustin at 367-3016. We look forward to a very successful benefit.

## LOOKING FOR

The String Academy of Wisconsin is searching for a printing business that would be happy to print our pamphlets and bulletins for ideally very, very little. If you have any leads to such a source, please contact James Olsen in the office at 229-6121. Thank you!

## HONORS RECITALS BIG SUCCESS

The String Academy presented their first series of Honors Recitals the weekend of January 12 and 13. Students selected to play were chosen from over 150 performances during semester I. The level of playing was extremely high. All performances were polished and played with assurance and beauty. The music of Lalo, Sarasate, Telemann, Saint-Saens, Lully and many others was heard. The audience responded enthusiastically, and students and parents were treated to lovely receptions organized by Mrs. Hsu and Mrs. Kim after the concerts.

The String Academy plans to present the outstanding performances of each semester in the Honors Recital Series.

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## STRING ACADEMY BOARD OF DIRECTORS IN PLACE FOR 1991

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The selection of a Board of Directors, is one of the most important aspects of forming a new organization. One must look for people who share the same goals, have vision, energy, wisdom and are ready to jump into the fund-raising world. The people on the Board are like the legs of an octopus (and actually we are eight to date). The legs are dangling and stretching out in all directions of the community and sharing the common center. The Board helps to formulate policy and is ultimately the entity that will carry out the visions and dreams for the future.

Looking for board members is a long process that involves many discussions, phone calls, and personal meetings. One looks for people with different skills that are necessary in running a non-profit corporation.

The String Academy has a board comprised of eight enthusiastic people. **John Austin**, an original founding member from the law firm of Reinhart, Boerner, Van Deuren, Norris & Rieselbach, is the lawyer that negotiated our contract with UWM, wrote the application for our tax-exempt status (this involves much paperwork) and is our advisor on all legal matters. It turns out that he played the trumpet (and was a music major in college) in the Army Band in Germany during the 1970's.

**Jullily Kohler** is also a lawyer who worked at the DA's office and runs her own private practice. (She is currently on leave from her practice.) She fell in love with the students at a recital and has worked very hard to establish our network of supporters. She is a warm and wonderful person and I hope that all of you will have the chance to meet her.

**Don Wallace**, a realtor from First Realty, has been a music lover all of his life. He has a master's degree in social work (MSW) from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee and has made Milwaukee his home for many years. He has a special interest in supporting our program that provides training for our inner city youngsters.

**Dr. Erwin Hirsch** is no stranger to the String Academy. As a pianist, he has been a sonata partner with our students for the past few years. He is a retired MD (formerly Dean of Students at the Medical College of Wisconsin) and has a special interest in watching young people develop into enthusiastic and self-confident musicians and young adults.

Every year there will be a parent representative on the board. This year **Astrid Beroukhim** is taking this responsibility. She works as a realtor with the Ogden Co. Astrid has limitless energy and knows the dedication our students have to their instruments. (Cyrus especially knows this.)

The board will also have one representative from the SAW faculty which will rotate on a yearly basis allowing all faculty members to be involved in the decision making process. This year our faculty representative is **Sara Edgerton**. Sara is one of our cello teachers and has been teaching in Milwaukee for 3 1/2 years. She came to Milwaukee from Cornell University where she completed her DMA in Music.

**Jerry Horner** is the violist of the Fine Arts Quartet and Professor of Music at UWM. He records and performs concerts throughout the world. He is very familiar with the workings of a music school and is in touch with musicians around the world. This years he is coaching the SAW String Quartet.

**Mimi Zweig** is the last member of the board. This year she is on sabbatical from Indiana University where she is Professor of Music. She is a tireless worker and determined that the String Academy will be a successful presence in Milwaukee which will enhance the level of string playing and develop the next generations of music lovers.

It is with regret that we announce that **Daniel Kapustin** has resigned from the board. He was the force behind the setting-up of SAW during the summer and early fall. It is because of his dedication and work that we are on sound footing and our future looks very bright.



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## CARE FOR YOUR INSTRUMENT

String instruments are designed to be very sturdy, but remember they are made of very thin wood and delicate varnish. One can never forget that they must be treated with care. Observing the following points will help insure a long and healthy life for you instrument.

Always leave your instrument in the case when not in use, and remember to latch the case. Cello cases are best left resting on their sides, for when leaving them upright the chances of them falling over and causing damage to the instrument is much greater.

Wooden instruments are susceptible to weather changes (i.e. extreme temperature and humidity fluctuations). To avoid trouble, never put a case in a car trunk. In summer heat, the trunk temperature can run quite high - hot enough to melt varnish, loosen glue, and cause cracks. It is also best to avoid placing a case on a car's back window ledge where the direct sunlight can be intense. In winter, one must guard against the extreme cold and dryness. The wood can become very brittle and possibly crack.

Lack of humidity can also cause cracks in your instruments. Having a humidifier in your home is important as well as using Dampits (these can be found at music stores) in your instruments.

In addition to maintaining moderate temperatures, keeping an instrument clean helps insure its well being. Good string instruments varnish is quite delicate and soft, so it is wise to leave the "proper" cleaning to your violin repair person. The use of a wrong cleaner can cause polish build-up and/or actually harm the varnish. Your task is to prevent dirt and rosin build-up. Wipe rosin off strings, fingerboard, and body of instrument after each practice session. The cloth should be clean and dry. A soft cotton cloth (old cloth diaper, etc.) gives best results.

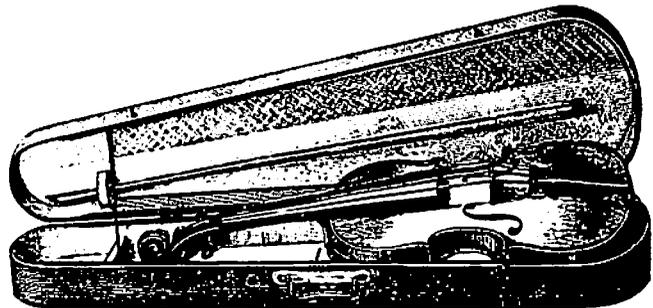
Remember also to wipe off the bowstick. And always loosen the hair when storing. This gives the stick a chance to relax. If not properly loosened, a bow may warp.

By following these few guidelines, you will keep your instrument healthy, in tip top shape and sounding great.

Suggested reading: Strings Magazine Guide to Common Sense Instrument Care - by James N. McKean

### FEBRUARY IS PRACTICE COMPETITION MONTH!!!

Our 3rd annual Practice Competition begins February 1st. Be sure to PRACTICE every day and chart your progress. Prizes will be awarded for highest individual average and highest group average. GOOD LUCK!!



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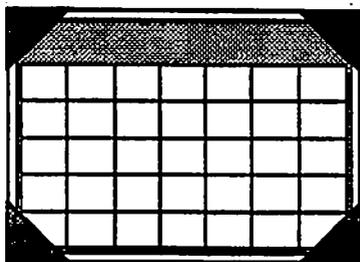
### STRING ACADEMY POLICY ON FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE AND MERIT RECOGNITION/AWARDS

All award decisions are made by the Director based upon the recommendation of the faculty and the end of the year jury examinations.

1. To apply for aid based on financial need, students must fill out the appropriate forms available at The String Academy Office. The forms need to be completed and returned to The String Academy Office by April 21, 1991.
  2. All students will be considered for merit recognition/awards, which will be presented at a special merit concert in the Fall of 1991.
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CALENDAR



EVENTS

- February 16: 10:30 Play-In for Morning Groups, Room 320
- February 23: Special event for groups. Regular Schedule Preliminaries/Concerto Competition
- March 8: Marathon Day of Solo Recitals
- March 9: Finals for Concerto Competition
- March 10: Frank Almond Master Class, 1 PM, Room 280
- March 16: Miriam Fried Master Class (Time to be announced)
- March 30: Spring Break
- April 6: Classes Resume
- April 15-19: Jury Week
- April 19: Seniors Recital, Recital Hall, 5 PM
- April 21: Scholarship Application Deadline
- May 8: Spring Celebration Benefit Concert, Recital Hall, 5:30 PM
- May 11: 9-12 NOON Dress Rehearsal for Mother's Day Concert
- May 12: 2:30 PM, Mother's Day Concert
- May 18: Semester II Ends

*Solo Recitals will be held at 12 NOON on many Saturdays in Room 280.*

FINE ARTS QUARTET CONCERTS

February 10      April 7

MILWAUKEE SYMPHONY CONCERTS

**\*\*Special\*\*** The MSO will sell us tickets for the following concerts at half price! In order to qualify we must have at least 20 people. Contact Jim Olsen (229-6121) if you are interested. You must sign up at least three weeks prior to each concert. All concerts are at the PAC.

Saturday, March 16, 8:00 PM:      Miriam Fried, violin  
 Sunday, April 21, 7:30 PM:      David Geringas, 'cello

PABST SERIES (we still have a few free tickets available)

Tuesday, February 12:      Emanuel Ax  
 Saturday, March 2:      Yo Yo Ma  
 Tuesday, March 19:      Frank Almond  
 Tuesday, April 16:      Camerata Lysy Gstaad  
 Tuesday, April 30:      Ralph Votapek

If you would like discount concert tickets, please call Rosemary Hable at 1-563-9153.

