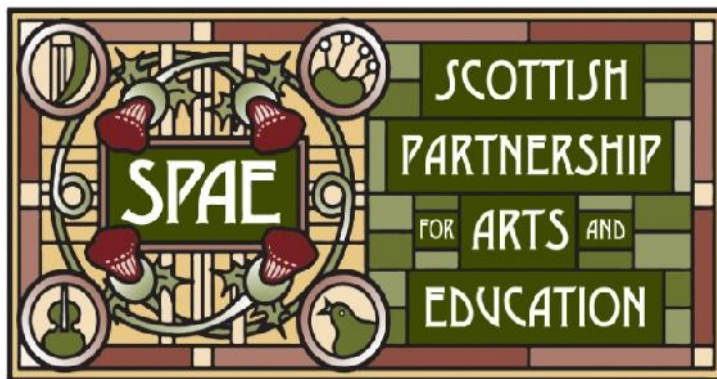


QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

of



Good fortune, good future through arts and education

MISSION STATEMENT

In the belief that music and the arts are key to connecting cultures and understanding our roots, Scottish Partnership for Arts and Education is dedicated to supporting Scottish Traditional arts and artists and to providing cultural experiences and educational opportunities in Scottish Traditional arts in St. Louis area schools.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Fall 2010

We have had a wonderful set of workshops this year. Thanks to Brian McNeill, Sara Ann Dawodu, Dominique Dodge and Mitzi McDonald for their hard work and fantastic concerts. I would also like to thank the board for their hard work, especially Diane McCullough, who housed two of our artists, set up all of the workshops and spent a lot of time writing grants and planning so much of what happened behind the scenes. Our programs would not happen without Diane's work.

Finally, I would like to thank all of our supporters who have donated money, time, housing and transportation. We would not be able to be so successful without your thoughtful gifts.

Michael Herron
President & Treasurer, SPAE

FROM THE ARTISTIC DIRECTOR'S DESK

Fall 2010

SPAE Celebrates its fourth year of Artists in Residence in local schools!

Cali Moody, from Cross Keys Middle School in the Ferguson/Florissant School District wrote: "I liked having the liberty to bend the music to my will in order to make it sound as wonderful as possible. I can't do that with regular concert music. I only wish we could've had a bit more time..."

These sentiments were expressed by nearly all of the students participating in the 2010 residencies which ended on October 8. Brian McNeill, Sara Dawodu, Dominique Dodge and Mitzi MacDonald (substituting for Caroline Pugh) taught for two weeks in eleven different schools. Brian and Sara worked with middle and high school orchestra classes to teach Scottish traditional fiddle. Dominique and Mitzi worked with upper elementary and middle school vocal and general music classes to teach Scots and Gaelic song.

We increased the number of students and audience members this year. Students in the Artists in Residence workshops numbered 662. Their school concerts served an additional 1560 students. Adults were served in two teacher development opportunities and numbered 62. Our artists performed at the Focal Point and attracted over 100 audience members ranging in age from 4 to 80. We have new teachers from the teacher development classes who are clamoring for us to come to their schools next year.

Your support makes all of this possible and we thank you from the bottom of our hearts!!

All the Best,

Diane McCullough
Founding/Artistic Director/Grants Administrator



Photos Courtesy of Michael Herron



Photos Courtesy of Michael Herron



Photos Courtesy of Michael Herron

FROM THE VICE PRESIDENT'S DESK

Fall 2010

Hello and Happy Holidays! It's hard to believe 2010 is winding down and 2011 is just around the corner! I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your ongoing support. I'd like to summarize some of our activities over the last few months. Towards the end of the summer, SPAE set up our booth at the Festival of Nations event in Tower Grove Park, where we made new Friends, sampled delicious international cuisine and listened to lots of music. Next up was the St. Louis Scottish Games and Cultural Festival, the first weekend in October. The Games featured local and national musical talent, and a great time was had by all! Our own Diane McCullough was the Game's Sound and Entertainment Committee Chair. With the help of Michael Herron, Judy and Eric Stein, Mark Clark and others, performances were pulled off without a hitch. The Games ran concurrently with SPAE's annual **Artists in**

Residence program! Everyone did a fantastic job. Brian, Dominique, Mitzi and Sara, thanks for all of your hard work and dedication! Jacqueline, thank you for being our biggest cheerleader throughout two very hectic weeks.

There are exciting events and new projects on the horizon for 2011. SPAE is sponsoring Ed Miller, April 15 – 17, 2011, when he returns to St. Louis to perform at Tionol. We'll provide additional information as we move closer to the date. Diane has been working very hard on a super secret new project, so stay posted to hear an exciting announcement regarding a new collaborative effort in the 2011!

Lastly (and you knew it was coming ☺....), I would like to ask you to remember SPAE as you're writing checks to support your favorite organizations, during this Holiday Season. Help us continue to share the gift of Traditional Scottish Fiddle and Vocal music in schools and other local venues. We can only succeed with your support!

Thank you and Best Wishes in 2011,

Rebecca Warren
Vice President, SPAE



Photos Courtesy of Michael Herron



Photo Courtesy of Becky Warren

WINTER STORM

By Matt Pantaleoni

As the competitive piping season winds down, it's time to look forward to 2011. We in the Midwest are fortunate to have a premier piping and drumming event right in our back yards to kick off the calendar year in unrivaled form. The Midwest Highland Arts Fund (MHAF) will hold its tenth annual Winter Storm weekend January 14-16, 2011, in Kansas City, Missouri. A team of world class pipers and drummers assemble for a day of competition, two days of workshops, and a sell-out Saturday night concert guaranteed to get your toes tapping.

MHAF held its first workshops in 2002, drawing 106 piping and drumming students and six instructors. They introduced solo competitions in 2003 and have grown exponentially since then. To mark their tenth year, they expect over 350 students, 150 competitors, and a team of 25 instructors. People come from all corners of North America and Scotland and from as far as Australia and Asia. The instructors have all won major prizes at the highest level of international solo piping, drumming, and pipe band competition. Literally nowhere else will you find this much talent assembled for a piping and drumming workshop.

The weekend kicks off on the Friday with a full day of professional-level piping and drumming competitions. The headlining events are the US Gold and Silver Medal piobaireachd competitions (piobaireachd is the classical music of the highland bagpipe) and the North American Gold Medal Ceol Beag competition for march, strathspey, and reel playing. There are also a number of Scottish drumming competitions. The competitions draw the top players in North America and also a handful from the UK and other countries, a testament to the esteem in which these events are held internationally. The competitions start early in the morning and run through the evening, with a day-pass ticket available which allows spectators to take in whichever events they like.

With the competitions safely out of the way on Friday, the workshops run from Saturday morning through Sunday lunchtime. Workshops are broken down by instrument and skill level, but there are also more general workshops on topics such as reed manipulation, pipe band playing, and drum majoring. Students of all levels have the opportunity to work on technique and learn new tunes from some of the leading exponents of our music.

The highlight for many comes on Saturday night with the annual concert where the workshop instructors combine with Friday's prize winners to put on a two-hour concert event. This is not your typical, staid piping recital geared towards piping aficionados. The Winter Storm concert is an ever-changing panorama of piping and drumming talent. There is the requisite solo piping, but the performers branch out from here to feature mini-bands, drumming ensembles, small pipes performances, and highland dancing. The acclaimed South Uist piper and traditional music icon Fred Morrison never fails to bring the house down!

This unique concert is unrivaled in North America and stands amongst the best worldwide. CDs of past concerts are available at www.winterstorm.net and video clips can be found on YouTube by searching for "Winter Storm concert". After the concert, the audience and performers adjourn to the host hotel, the Marriott Country Club Plaza, for the Winter Steam after-party which features further impromptu performances and has that unforgiveable habit of running through the night.

If the end of the highland games season has left you yearning for all things piping, it's time to start planning your visit to Kansas City in January. Whether you are a piper or drummer or not, you won't want to miss this world-class event in our back yard. Visit www.winterstorm.net or www.mhaf.org for more information and be sure to book your hotel room and concert tickets early as these normally sell out in advance.

Matt Pantaleoni was the 2008 winner of the US Silver Medal in Kansas City

SCOTTISH/CELTIC CULTURE & EVENTS CALENDAR

Scottish St. Andrew Society of Greater St. Louis

Monthly

2nd Thursday of each month, 6pm - 9pm: Social at *The Scottish Arms*: www.thescottisharms.com

January

22nd: 2011 Burns Dinner, St. Louis Marriott West, 660 Maryville Centre Drive, St. Louis, MO 63141. Free Parking. For more information, please visit: www.slsas.org/Events.html

Seven Rivers Highland Society

Monthly

3rd Friday of each month, 7pm- 9pm: Kilt Night at *Llywelyns Pub – St. Charles*: www.llywelynspub.com

December

18th, Noon – 4pm: Blood Drive at **Mississippi Valley Regional Blood Center**. Mid-Rivers Mall, lower level by Macys. Please inform the registrar that your donation is on behalf of 7 Rivers Highland Society.

The Focal Point: 2720 Sutton, Maplewood, MO 63143, 314.781.4200, www.thefocalpoint.org

December

4th, 8pm: Switchback

The Sixth Annual Christmas in the Kitchen Concert with Mitzi MacDonald and Keltic Reign

Tuesday, December 7th 2010 The Sheldon Concert Hall: 3648 Washington Blvd, St. Louis, MO 63108.

For Ticket information please visit: www.mitzimacdonald.com/Christmas_Kitchen.html

Showtime: 7pm. Doors open at 6pm, with a silent auction and entertainment

LINKS

Folk School of St. Louis: www.folk-school.com

Scottish Partnership for Arts and Education: www.stlspae.org

Matt Pantaleoni: www.pipingstl.com/Home

Scottish St. Andrew Society of Greater St. Louis: www.slsas.org

Mitzi MacDonald: www.mitzimacdonald.com

Seven Rivers Highland Society: www.sevenrivers.us

Scots for Tots: www.scotsfortots.org

St. Louis Scottish Games: www.stlouis-scottishgames.com

Scottish Arms (The): www.thescottisharms.com

Thistle and Clover: www.thistleandclover.com

SPAE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Michael Herron, President & Treasurer

Rebecca Warren, Vice President

Diane McCullough, Artistic Director

Cynthia Millar, Member-At-Large

Alex Sutherland, In Memoriam

SPAE ADVISORY BOARD

Mark Clark
Music Teacher & Guitarist

Robert Nordman
Retired Supervisor of Music for St. Louis Public Schools. Chairman of the Music Department and current E. Desmond Lee Professor of Music Education at the University of Missouri - St. Louis

Dennis Riggs
Director of HEC-TV

SPAE IS PROUD TO PARTNER WITH:



SPAE receives partial funding from the Regional Arts Commission and Missouri Arts Council, a State agency

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

For additional information about SPAE or to become a member, please contact us at: www.stlspae.org

SPAE is a 501(c)3 Non-Profit Corporation. Donations are Tax Deductible to the extent the law allows.

If your employer will match your donation, please provide your Corporate Matching Gift Form

Please mail donations to: SPAE, P.O. Box 6761, Chesterfield, MO 63003-6761

SPAE Brochure and Annual Report are available at:

www.stlspae.org