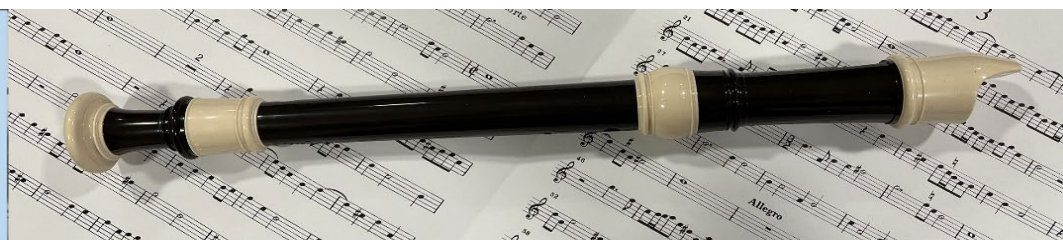


# Washington Recorder Society



## Notes

May, 2025

[washingtonrecordersociety.org](http://washingtonrecordersociety.org)

### From the President:

*Dear WRS members,  
Happy Spring! We are coming to the end of our recorder playing season and will end the year with the annual **recital on Saturday, May 10th at 3PM at St Columba's**. I invite you all to attend and bring family and friends for a short recital and reception. Thanks to everyone for making it another successful WRS year!  
Monica*

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.

Date	Type	Schedule	Group
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

### Vote for Board Members

Washington Recorder Society Board members have two-year terms; Gabe Johnson and Judy McGraw's terms are up this year. Gabe has graciously decided to run for another term; he has been the Secretary. Judy has decided to step down although she will continue as an active member. Many thanks for Judy's leadership in getting our wonderful Zoom teachers and her support in many other ways.

Two other members, Anthony Coyne and Edie Tatel, are also running for the Board. Their short biographies are in the links below as well as linked in the ballot. Please vote yes or no for each person by May 18 so that the results can be announced at the annual meeting on May 19.

Ballot - <https://forms.gle/nSa2XV2zoBcJktun8>

Anthony - <https://www.washingtonrecordersociety.org/anthony-coyne-bio/>

Gabe - <https://www.washingtonrecordersociety.org/gabe-johnson-bio/>

Edie - <https://www.washingtonrecordersociety.org/edie-tatel-bio/>

## Out and About Recorders

**Oakland Terrace.** WRS participated in Play the Recorder Month for the second year on March 26, 2025 at Oakland Terrace Elementary School in Wheaton, Maryland. Judy McGraw, Gabriel Johnson, and Monica Boruch, along with two of the music staff from Oakland Terrace, played several pieces for approximately 60 third graders. Then they all learned a song together. Each student played a soprano recorder with half the group playing one part and the other half playing the second part. It was a wonderful afternoon, and everyone had fun!



**St. Augustine's School.** WRS continues to provide support to the St. Augustine's after-school music program. Gabe Johnson began working with the children last year, but, due to job changes, is no longer able to volunteer. Gabe's husband, Cristian Marin Luis, had taken the background check clearance last summer and is now assisting Anna Granger with classroom management. Betty Landesman kindly stepped up and has been volunteering since January, 2025. Recently, WRS donated 6 collapsible music stands and a Yamaha alto recorder to this after-school class. Monica will contact Anna to invite the students and their families to attend the WRS spring recital in May.

WRS is looking for more volunteers from their members to work at the after-school program. For more information, please contact Monica Boruch [fmboruch@comcast.net](mailto:fmboruch@comcast.net)

## Where to Hear Early Music

### Look for Announcements Online for 2025-2026 Season

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

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

Tempesta di Mare <https://tempestadimare.org/>

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

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

## Becoming a Better Player—Local Instructors

<b>ADÉLA BALIMA</b> Washington, DC Phone : 240-688-2809 Email: <a href="mailto:adelabalima@gmail.com">adelabalima@gmail.com</a> Website: <a href="http://adelabalima.com">http://adelabalima.com</a>	<b>RACHEL ISAACSON</b> Arlington, VA Phone : 571-338-4606 Email : <a href="mailto:isaacson.rachel@gmail.com">isaacson.rachel@gmail.com</a>	<b>CAROLE ROGENTINE</b> Bethesda, MD Phones: 301-530-6386 (home); 301-523-5515 (cell) Email: <a href="mailto:crogentine@gmail.com">crogentine@gmail.com</a> Website: <a href="http://www.learnrecorderwithcarole.com">www.learnrecorderwithcarole.com</a>
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## 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. Use the website to vote in the upcoming board election. Email [carolyn.lincoln@verizon.net](mailto:carolyn.lincoln@verizon.net), if you need a password for the Members Only section.

## Summer Workshops

The following organizations are Partner Members of the American Recorder Society and offer events of interest to recorder players.

### **Amherst Early Music, Inc. Muhlenberg College, Allentown, Pennsylvania**

Letitia Berlin and Frances Blaker, Executive Directors [info@amherstearlymusic.org](mailto:info@amherstearlymusic.org)

The Amherst Early Music Festival takes place in two one-week segments from June 23 to July 13. It offers numerous opportunities to study with leading musicians in the field of early music.

### **Boston Early Music Festival. Downtown Boston**

Nina Stern, Director of Community Engagement [Nina@bemf.org](mailto:Nina@bemf.org)

Taking place June 8-15, this week-long festival features concerts, opera, and an exhibition. A new initiative will feature workshops for young instrumentalists, including recorder players.

### **Mountain Collegium. Western Carolina University, Cullowhee, North Carolina**

Jody Miller, Director [recorder96@gmail.com](mailto:recorder96@gmail.com)

From June 29 to July 5, this workshop is structured around daily classes with evenings given over to country dancing, a faculty concert, and the “big Blow and Bow,” when all participants and faculty gather to read and perform larger works.

### **Mideast Workshop. Laroche University, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania**

[EarlyMusicWeekMideast@gmail.com](mailto:EarlyMusicWeekMideast@gmail.com)

This weeklong workshop, from July 20-26, includes technique class at all levels except novice, large and small ensembles, and English Country Dance.

### **Bloom Early Music Workshop. St. Matthews Church, Bloomsburg, Pennsylvania**

Susan Schwartz [director@bloomearlymusic.org](mailto:director@bloomearlymusic.org)

A weekend retreat near the Poconos for recorder and viol players, singers, and other instruments, taking place August 29-31.

### **SFEMS Workshops. First Church, Berkeley, California**

[workshops@sfems.org](mailto:workshops@sfems.org)

<https://sfems.org/contact>

This year the SFEMS workshops will be consolidated into 3 months of online classes from mid-May through early August. The Baroque, Medieval/Renaissance, Classical and Recorder Workshops will all offer classes in play-along formats.

## **Reiko Yoshimura Answers *Whence the Recorder* Questionnaire**

**Do you have a musical family?** No, but my father introduced me to a recording of a Beethoven's piano concerto when I was in the first grade, which was my first encounter to classical music. Soon after I started taking piano lessons.

**Did you sing or play other instruments before you took up recorder?** I played piano and flute. Now I play keyboard occasionally for fun.

**Do you compose or arrange music?** No.

**Do you think there's any type of music that doesn't sound good on the recorder?** I am not crazy about playing music beyond the instrument's capacity. For instance, I have never thought that recorder was suitable for playing jazz music. However, this could be a matter of how the music is arranged.

**What's your approach to playing recorder?** I like to play ensemble music. I enjoy thinking of my role in the ensemble to create a musical whole, not just a group of musicians playing individual parts.

**Do you have a teacher?** I study with Gwyn Roberts.

**Do you play duets or in larger ensembles?** I am a member of two recorder consorts: one is a recorder quartet (baroque/renaissance) and the other, a renaissance consort (two recorders, lute, and gamba). I also occasionally play duets and solo/trio sonatas with a keyboard player.

**Do you attend workshops?** I regularly attend Amherst Early Music, Capitol Early Music, and Virginia Baroque Academy workshops.

**Do you approach performance with enthusiasm or dread?** For many years I freaked out about performing in front of people and was the worst public performer. Only recently I realized that all I need to do is to focus on how I want to play my own music within my capacity, not to impress others. It seems to be working. My favorite comment from listeners is "Your music healed me."

**How long have you been a member of WRS?** Since 1990.

**Has membership benefited you in ways you didn't anticipate?** I must admit that I have not been the most faithful participant, but WRS has been a great place to meet other recorder players and to play music, especially in large ensembles.

**Do you have any good stories about meetings, recitals, or other group activities over the years?** There are two major milestones in my recorder playing. One of them is meeting my teacher, Gwyn Roberts, twenty years ago. She made me want to play recorder more seriously and taught me so much during the last twenty years. The other milestone is encountering renaissance music and instruments. I was lucky enough to obtain Prescott renaissance instruments, which introduced me to another world of recorder music. I fell in love with it!

**Is there a performer—solo or group—that has inspired you throughout your recorder-playing life?** Gwyn Roberts, Frans Brüggen and Flanders Recorder Quartet.

**What are your 3 favorite recordings featuring recorder? --**

Flanders Recorder Quartet. *Final Favorites* (AE-10286, Aeolus, 2017)

Flanders Recorder Quartet. *Bach* (AE-10136, Aeolus, 2006)

**If you were a castaway on a desert island, which one of your recorders would you hope you had with you?** This question is difficult to answer. If I had to choose, it would be Stanesby Junior 415 alto which nurtured me for many years. However, it is no fun to play music alone!

## **Classified Advertising**

Free to Good Home. Four boxes of recorder sheet music—solos, duets, trios, quartets, and a few 5- and 6-part works. Also included is the Charlton Method for Recorder. Owner is located in the Kentlands area of Gaithersburg. If interested, call Howard, 301-869-4350 or email [landhbluth@toast.net](mailto:landhbluth@toast.net)

The Classified Advertising Section can help you with your musical projects.

You can:

- Form a consort and/or seek additional players
- Seek recommendations for music for an occasion or a topic
- Sell or give away music or an instrument
- Advertise an upcoming concert
- Seek recommendations on where to purchase a recorder or related item
- Pass along items of interest to recorder players

To submit an ad, contact Marge Hogarty at [margehogarty@verizon.net](mailto:margehogarty@verizon.net)



## 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	President, <a href="mailto:fmboruch@comcast.net">fmboruch@comcast.net</a>
Judy McGraw	Vice President, <a href="mailto:j.and.j@verizon.net">j.and.j@verizon.net</a>
Gabe Johnson	Secretary, <a href="mailto:gabriel.p.johnson@gmail.com">gabriel.p.johnson@gmail.com</a>
Carolyn Lincoln	Treasurer and Webmaster, <a href="mailto:carolyn.lincoln@verizon.net">carolyn.lincoln@verizon.net</a>
Marge Hogarty	Newsletter Editor, <a href="mailto:margehogarty@verizon.net">margehogarty@verizon.net</a>
Adéla Balima	Music Director, <a href="mailto:adelabalima@gmail.com">adelabalima@gmail.com</a>
David McGown	Music Director, <a href="mailto:drmcgown@gmail.com">drmcgown@gmail.com</a>

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### ***Washington Recorder Society Recital***

*Saturday, March 10  
3:00 PM  
St. Columba's Church  
Refreshments to Follow*

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