

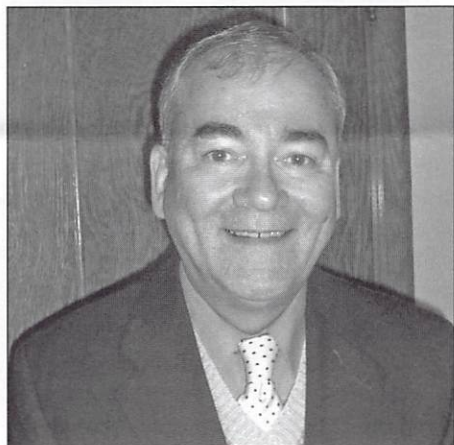
THE PIERRE MONTEUX SCHOOL

for Conductors and Orchestra Musicians

NEWSLETTER FALL 2006



Pierre Monteux Board Appoints School Administrator



At its October meeting, the Board of Trustees appointed Ron Schwizer to the position of School Administrator. This appointment is one more step in the Board's ongoing efforts to strengthen the Monteux School in the areas of student recruiting, housing and other student affairs, effective communication with students and friends of the school, and public visibility.

Last year, recognizing that the School and the Foundation were in a transitional stage of development, the Board began an assessment of how the organization functions, an important part of which was surveys of recent alumni and current students. The results of the assessment and surveys showed clearly the necessity of having someone dedicated to overseeing the management of the School's operation.

This past summer, the Board appointed a special Subcommittee on Administration to help the Board decide how best to proceed. The Subcommittee recommended

that, to insure the future success of the School, an Administrator should be hired as soon as possible. The Board agreed, recruited qualified candidates, and made its decision at the October Board meeting.

The School is particularly fortunate and pleased to have Ron Schwizer accept the position of School Administrator. Ron has been associated with the School in one capacity or another for 25 years. He has served on the Board and has been Treasurer several times. He possesses a sterling record of support and commitment to the School's mission to provide the best training possible to aspiring symphony musicians and conductors.

Ron has extensive professional experience both as an administrator and a teacher. Ron readily confesses to not being a musician; however, with a little prodding, you will discover that he studied trumpet, took voice lessons, and performed in summer stock and community theater musicals. He admits that most of his friends and family expected him to pursue a career in music and theater, "so, naturally," he says, "I majored in biology." Ron holds a bachelor's degree in biology from the University of Bridgeport, (Connecticut), a master's in education from the University of Chicago, and a PhD in biomedical sciences from City University of New York, The Mount Sinai School of Medicine.

Please join with Ron's friends, the School staff, and the Monteux Board in welcoming him in his new role.

Capital Campaign Passes Halfway Mark

Now in its third year, the Monteux School's campaign, "Ensuring the Legacy," has secured over \$470,000 in cash, gifts and pledges as of October. That leaves \$385,000 to be raised in meeting the campaign's goal of \$855,000.

As Douglas Kimmel, campaign co-chair commented to Tom Walsh of The Ellsworth American in a September 7 article, "We are working to ensure that this jewel that is in Hancock continues to be a tremendous cultural resource for all of Hancock County. The school has a long and distinguished history and alumni list.... This is the first time it has had a capital campaign.

Originally projected as a three-year effort, Kimmel added, "The campaign will go on as long as it needs to in reaching our goal. The phase that we are in now is reaching out to the hundreds of alumni from all over the world. It's been very difficult tracking them down, and many are extremely prominent and difficult to reach."

Nearly \$200,000 raised in the early stages of the campaign helped renovate and repair the aging buildings at the school. Following the renovation and expansion of the Forest Studio, the trustees turned their attention to renovation and repair of the six cabins and barn that house students. Another \$30,000 was donated for rebuilding the grand piano and provide winter storage for it. An additional gift has made possible the construction of a new rehearsal studio nestled in the woods between the cabins and Forest Studio.

Continued on Page 2

Music and Artistry at Monteux

This year I was delighted to return to Hancock for my second summer with the Monteux School Orchestra. As someone with little aspiration to become a conductor, my friends often wonder why I would go to a "Conducting School" that is so different from the "standard" festival programs. At the Monteux School, however, the great "heirloom secret" about conducting lies not in baton technique but in learning about singing, musical communication, and discipline. As such, I feel as if I learn as much about my artistry as a trumpet player as the conductors learn about theirs. In both my summers in Hancock, Maestro Jinbo has been an inspiration through his quiet but unquestionable passion for great music-making and the teaching of great musicianship.

It was my honor to serve as Chamber Music co-Coordinator this summer with my fellow musician and girlfriend, Kristen Dirmeier. While our friends comment that we're attached at the hip - never one without the other - it was a pleasure for us to have the opportunity to work together to facilitate the

great concerts that were held each Wednesday night at the school. With so many great musicians assembled for the summer and such an eager audience ready to attend, it was a labor of love for us to help put the two together. Our responsibility and involvement also encouraged us to perform in the concerts more than we would have otherwise, which made for some delightful and memorable collaborations with our colleagues.

Whether the circumstances of my life allow me to return to Hancock as a participant again or not, the Monteux School will forever hold a special place in my heart and memory. Hancock is not only one of the most beautiful places on earth -- an inspiring place of fresh air, beautiful trees, and friendly folk -- but it also is a place where students come together with the Maestro to learn about the most important thing that we do in this life of music -- to cut through the jargon and techniques, and get at that elusive, ethereal, and essential core of what it means to be a great artist.

Fred Sienkiewicz ('05, '06)

New Trustees

Margaret (Peggy) Amstutz grew up in the Boston area, and for the past twenty years she and her husband Arnold have been living in Connecticut. Since the ripe old age of three months, she spent at least part of the summer on Hancock Point. Three years ago she and Arnold renovated and winterized their home on the Point and are now able to be here for six months of the year.

Professionally, she was involved in investment management. Soon after she "retired" to raise their two daughters, she became involved with a number of not-for-profit organizations, including chairing two chapters of Young Audiences, a national arts education organization. Today she serves on the boards of Hartford Stage Company and Hill-Stead Museum.

Over the years, in part because of her involvement with Young Audiences, she has been interested in the development of artists and audiences - both young and old. She and Arnold enjoy concerts and the theater in New York, Hartford and Maine. Peggy remembers sitting on the lawn at Monteux concerts - probably before the Forest Studio was built!

Bradley Stager is a sixth generation native of Franklin, where he now lives with his wife, Barrie and their 11 year old daughter, Elizabeth. With degrees in both business and electrical power, Brad currently works in real estate and comes to the board with decades of experience in charitable work.

Last season his daughter joined him on stage in Gilbert & Sullivan's *HMS Pinafore* and *Trial by Jury*. They also attended many concerts together at the Monteux School this season. Through his participation in the local theater, the Ellsworth Area Chamber of Commerce events, real estate work, and church, Brad is well known in the community. For the past three years he has served on the board of directors of the Gilbert & Sullivan Society of Hancock County, where he demonstrated his skills as chairman of the fundraising committee.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

2007 Monteux School Season June 18 - July 29, 2007

Sunday, June 24 - First Symphony Concert

Capital Campaign

Continued from Page 1

The major focus of the campaign is now on endowment. The goals include funds for scholarships, guest artists, and maintenance of the school's memorial garden.

A \$25,000 grant from the Stephen and Tabitha King Foundation for work on the student housing is among the largest gifts to the campaign. Other major gifts have been made by the Rev. Philip and Phoebe Devenish of Hancock and Ginia Davis Wexler of Sullivan and Fort Lauderdale, Fla., president of the Pierre Monteux Memorial Foundation's board of trustees. The local business community has also been supportive, providing supplies for the renovations at a significant discount, as well as pledges. Monteux-era alumnus Michael Charry, along with Bruck alumni Marc David and Neal Gittleman are co-chairing the alumni portion of the campaign.

The legacies of Monteux and Bruck are

the many conductors and musicians who benefited from the School's unique and rigorous training. Pierre and Doris left the land and buildings, but no endowment. It is up to all of us--alumni and devoted friends of this special School--to ensure that its legacy continues well into the future.

Pledges to the campaign can be paid over three years on an annual, quarterly, or semiannual schedule. As with the School's annual solicitation, contributions may be made by credit card, in the form of securities, or as planned gifts or bequests.

Can You Help with Student Housing

Finding local housing for all our students from mid-June through July is always a challenge. Might you be able to help? If you have a home or know of one that might be available for rent to house musicians next summer, give us a call at (207) 422-3280, or send an email message to Roslynne Lowry at assist@monteuxschool.org. You might also consider summer housing as an in-kind gift to the School!

The Pierre Monteux School Orchestra 2006



Back Row: Heather MacLean, Katie Ambacher, Blaine Willhoft, Nicole Izzo, Mary-Margaret Buchanan, Rick Ippolito, Derek Lewis, Fawzi Haimor, Kristen Dirmeier, Erica Chenoweth, Lauren Avery, Thomas Heuser Third Row: Emily Holden, Malachy Rodriguez, Gareth Jones, Barnaby Palmer, Frederick Sienkiewicz, Reuben Blundell, Kevin Hakes, Colin Lovett, Bruce Walker Jr., William White, Michael Shane Wittenburg, Monica Eason, Jim Randall, Elizabeth Holub Second Row: Meghan Miller, Amanda Rosado, Isaac Selya, Travis Reiley, Yuki Ishibashi, Jeral Benjamin, Michael Jinbo (Music Director), Kristen Kang, Adam Parnell, James A. Martin, Micah Layne, Lucas Carter, Shannon Merlino Front Row: James P. Johnson, Dana Sadava, Josephine Cox, Mary MacKinnon, Kate McLoughlin, Ming Luke, Paul Marroquin, Eric Drew, Nathan Koch Not Pictured: Hope Brogunier, Lynne Connelly, Vince Lee

Some things I took from Monteux School this summer

When asked if I would write a piece for the newsletter, I first thought about documenting "what I did in Maine," which would have been fun, for me at least. I could list the great music played and conducted, an organic farm with goats, wine tasting, Bar Harbor, moose-spotting, and finding a good theory for Winter Harbor's name.

Instead, I'll try to bring together the things I took from my time at Monteux, and what they mean to me on a personal level. The reason I returned to the Monteux School for a second summer was because of Michael Jinbo's teaching. As I move forward, I find his influence affects me on a daily basis.

I teach conducting labs as part of my TA work at the Eastman School of Music. I've borrowed the layout of classes at Monteux, and I aim to continue some of the other traditions that Maestro Jinbo practices. I ask my students leading questions to help them find their answers while on the podium and practice thinking on their feet. I do this also to encourage them to always consider these questions themselves.

Teaching has given me even further appreciation for Maestro Jinbo's skills as an educator. We students bring more than one issue to our lesson. Deciding where to focus the student's attention first is a challenge for the teacher, since one issue, in many instances, can be causing some of the others. My time at the Monteux School has helped me to teach in this way (and I found the approach helpful, myself).

Many of my students are focusing on music education, and will have a strong influence on the music-making of many young people. I often reflect on Maestro Jinbo's commitment to the school and to his students. The way he transmits, by example and teaching, a sincerity to the music above all else, is one of the cornerstones of my summer experiences and something I hope to keep with me always.

The Monteux school is a wonderful environment. It fosters a connection to nature (in this case, spectacular), which encourages a growth of the musical self. Living and learning with a small group of other musicians for six weeks is also important

for musical and personal growth. There's a point when you realize that the challenges facing your friends are similar to your own, and that you are always learning together, wherever you go. I am grateful for the last two summers I studied at the School and for all the people who helped make it a success – the board, the community of committed contributors, my fellow students, and naturally, the Maestro.

By Reuben Blundell ('05, '06)



Kristen Dirmeier teaches a future horn player at our free Children's Concert on July 24

Pierre Monteux Memorial Foundation, Inc.

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September 1, 2005 - August 31, 2006

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We apologize for any errors or
omissions in the list above

THE PIERRE MONTEUX SCHOOL *for Conductors and Orchestra Musicians*

Sponsored by
*The Pierre Monteux Memorial
Foundation, Inc.*

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Web: www.monteuxschool.org

Do We Have Your Current Contact Information?

We would also
appreciate your email
address.

Please send to:
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THE PIERRE MONTEUX SCHOOL

FOR CONDUCTORS AND ORCHESTRA MUSICIANS

Sponsored by The Pierre Monteux Memorial Foundation

Michael Jinbo
Music Director

November 2006

Ronald W. Schwizer
Administrator

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After a year as President of the Pierre Monteux Memorial Foundation, I write to share with you exciting news about the state of our School. Our 63rd season attracted large and enthusiastic audiences. All enjoyed not only the orchestra and its young musicians and conductors, but also the many improvements in our hall. Our wooden seats have largely been replaced; we have new entrances and exits; the acoustics remain superb; we have new spaces for our music library and instrument storage, and enough room to hold post-concert receptions — we had two this season; and, thanks to the Giroux family, the charming outdoor garden enhances the intermission stroll.

We had the usual six Sunday concerts and five delightful chamber music concerts. Although we faced the disappointment of learning that Monteux alumnus, Thomas Baldner, was unable to be with us this summer, we hope to have him or another one of our distinguished alumni with us next season.

For the first time in some years we had a special concert for children — a woodwind quintet organized by the students. Next season we will have a brass ensemble. The children who attended were enthusiastic, tried their hand at playing the clarinet, flute, and French horn, and asked lots of questions afterwards of the five musicians.

As always, we greatly appreciate your assistance in keeping the Pierre Monteux School going. My hope for the future is to build more housing on campus for all our students. Currently, we are able to accommodate twenty-four, but we need space for at least that many more.

As our operating costs continue to rise at a surprising rate, we are always mindful of how important your ongoing support is to the vitality of the School as we plan for our 64th season.

We look forward to hearing from you all and seeing many of you at our concerts next summer.

Sincerely,



Ginia Davis Wexler

P.S. Our website is up and running with a list of next summer's repertoire. Visit www.monteuxschool.org and you will be amazed at what is on the agenda for the students of 2007!