

Wolfeboro Friends of Music Press Release for June 12, 2011 concert

June 12th at 2:00 brings the first of three summer concerts in celebration of the new grand piano at Kingswood Arts Center on McManus Road, just off of South Main St. in Wolfeboro. This program, free to the public, will be an open house 2:00-5:00 p.m., featuring local pianists from Wolfeboro, the Lakes Region and the University of NH. The three concerts are presented by Wolfeboro Friends of Music with Great Waters Music Festival and the Heifetz International Music Institute.

The afternoon will open with Andy Campbell and Don Holm, President of Wolfeboro Friends of Music, welcoming audience members to hear the very first notes from the Steinway Grand Piano at 2 PM. What follows will be a unique opportunity, made possible through the eleven performers who are so generously sharing their time and talent, to partake of Classical, Romantic, or Modern solo piano music throughout the afternoon. These performers' backgrounds reveal lives rich in lifelong music education and commitment to the performing arts. Their collective biographies make one blink twice, including degrees from Boston College; Westminster Choir College, Princeton, NJ; Teachers College, Columbia University; Oberlin Conservatory of Music; University of KY School of Music, Indiana University School of Music; faculty positions at Tufts, Phillips Exeter Academy, Mansfield College, PA, University of New Hampshire.

The 2:00 concert set will bring seven pianists from Wolfeboro, Meredith and New Durham to the stage. In concert order, they are: Elizabeth McCrae, Matt Lounsbury, Amy Jones, Kit Peterson, Jeanne Davis Porter, Angeline Schmid and Chris Mega. They will be playing works of the Classical and Romantic era composers Scarlatti, Beethoven, Mendelssohn, Schumann, Grieg, Liszt and Rachmaninoff.

At 3:00 Touring Artist Arlene Kies will offer a solo program comprised of Romantic era composers Chopin, Albeniz, Schubert and Schumann. She gives frequent master classes and enjoys the lecture-recital format. In addition to her solo performances, Ms. Kies makes frequent chamber music appearances. Additionally, she performs regularly with her husband, pianist Christopher Kies. The Kies have premiered several two-piano compositions and perform four-hand and two-piano standard repertoire as well. Of her playing, the Boston Globe has written "...simply extraordinary!"

The 4:00 program of more modern, post-Romantic piano selections includes Tufonboro resident Cecilia Ewing, playing two movements from Darius Milhaud's Saudados do Brazil, followed by McCrae and Peterson, playing the rhythmic piano music of Bartok and Russell, respectively. . Wolfeboro residents Bill Heske and Jan Allen will conclude the set with three jazz standards, and two classical selections which are famous, or infamous, as it were, for their virtuosic technique.

So--to the reader, come for all or parts of this community musical celebration. Upon arriving at the Kingswood Arts Center you will be greeted by the volunteer cadre of Great Waters Music Festival. They will guide you to your destination and assist you in entering or exiting the auditorium between numbers, or during the ten-minute intermissions. Any questions? They will be sure you find answers.

While admission is free, tickets are required and may be obtained from the Great Waters Music Festival office, recently relocated to 15 Varney Road, Wolfeboro. Tickets are also available at the door during the afternoon. Please enter or exit the auditorium between numbers, or during the ten-minute intermissions. Further information may be obtained at www.wfriendsofmusic.org or <http://www.greatwaters.org/>.