

The Peoria Bach Festival presents:

Marcia and Friends

12:05 p.m. Thursday June 10th, 2021 | TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH, PEORIA

Trio Sonata in G minor, Op, 4, No. 2.....Arcangelo Corelli (1653-1713)

Preludio: Grave
Allemanda: Allegro
Grave
Corrente: Vivace

*Marcia Henry Liebenow, Jenna Ferdon, violin
Adriana La Rosa Ransom, cello; Carol Wessler, harpsichord*

Sonata for Two Violins in A major, Op. 3, No. 2.....Jean-Marie Leclair (1697-1764)

Allegro
Sarabanda: Largo
Allegro

Julie Haring, Marcia Henry Liebenow, violin

Sonata No. 2 in E minor, Op. 51.....Joseph Bodin de Boismortier (1689-1755)

Vivace
Allegro
Aria: Affettuoso
Giga

Marcia Henry Liebenow, EmmaLee Holmes-Hicks, violin

Trio Sonata in G major, BWV 1039.....Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

Adagio
Allegro ma non presto
Adagio e piano
Presto

*Marcia Henry Liebenow, EmmaLee Holmes-Hicks, violin
Adriana La Rosa Ransom, cello; Carol Wessler, harpsichord*

Concerto for Four Violins in G major, TWV 40:21.....Georg Philipp Telemann (1681-1767)

Largo e staccato
Allegro
Adagio
Vivace

Marcia Henry Liebenow, EmmaLee Holmes-Hicks, Julie Haring, Jenna Ferdon, violin

PROGRAM NOTES

At his last post in Leipzig, on top of directing all the music for four churches, **Johann Sebastian Bach** assumed directorship of the Collegium Musicum, a musical society of university students, many of whom were quite proficient musicians. The society, founded by Telemann in 1701 as a student himself, presented free weekly concerts at Zimmermann's Coffeehouse, where the hall could hold an audience of 150 as well as an orchestra. In the summer the concerts were held outside in the coffee garden. It was for this society that most of Bach's later instrumental music was written, though any of it could have come from earlier in his career, since much of it exists in manuscript copies made by students. The **Trio Sonata in G major, BWV 1039**, was originally written for two flutes and continuo (usually cello and harpsichord).

Joseph Bodin de Boismortier, a French composer who worked mainly in Paris, wrote sonatas and concertos for various instruments, especially the flute, and music for various combinations of instruments. He also wrote opera-ballets and vocal music. His music attained great popularity in his time since he wrote mainly tuneful music for amateurs, and he became wealthy by obtaining a royal patent and publishing his own compositions. His **Sonata No. 2 in E minor, Op. 51**, was originally written as a duet for flute and violin.

Little is known about **Arcangelo Corelli's** early life and musical training, though many fantastic legends abound. Apparently he arrived in Rome by 1675 as a violinist of repute and performed with various ensembles, eventually dominating musical life in Rome. His compositions for strings were immensely popular, and he established the form of chamber sonata, church sonata, and concerto grosso for generations of composers including Handel. He also organized the basics of violin technique and became the most influential violin teacher of his day.

Jean-Marie Leclair was a French violinist-composer who spent most of his working life in Paris and served in various courts. He wrote mostly for violin, including dozens of sonatas and concertos for one and two violins, in which he combined Italian musical style (with energetic passage work) and French style (with embellishments). He is considered the founder of the French school of violin playing. He also wrote operas, ballets, and other stage music.

Georg Philipp Telemann was a contemporary of Bach and one of the most prolific composers in the history of music. He was a close friend of the Bach family and godfather to Bach's son Carl Philipp Emmanuel. As a young man he developed a keen interest in poetry and music, and though his mother forbade him participation in any musical activities, he continued to compose and practice in secret. Eventually abandoning himself to music, he filled important court and church musical positions and became known as the leading composer in Europe. He and Bach applied for the same position in Leipzig in 1722 and Telemann was the unanimous first choice, but an offer to raise his salary kept him from leaving his position in Hamburg. Telemann wrote over 3000 works, including at least 1700 church cantatas, and was still producing music in his mid-80's.

ARTIST BIOGRAPHY'S

Violinist Marcia Henry Liebenow is Concertmaster of the Peoria Symphony Orchestra and professor of violin, viola, and chamber music at Bradley University. She leads a multi-faceted career as a recitalist, chamber musician, soloist, and highly regarded teacher. Her performances have been nationally broadcast on American Public Media's Performance Today. She has appeared as soloist with the Samara Philharmonic Symphony in Russia, served as Primo Violino at Orvieto Musica in Italy, and performed in Germany, Ireland, Wales, and with orchestras throughout the United States. She has presented at national ASTA conferences, and was a featured performer at the 2021 International Music by Women Festival.

In 2020, Marcia created and performed in a series of eleven Driveway Concerts that were live-streamed on Facebook during the pandemic, and viewed more than 25,000 times. She is a founding member of the Concordia String Trio, Peoria Lunaire new music ensemble, and River City String Quartet. She has recorded two CDs with her Concordia String Trio, American Vistas and Viennese String Trios, and recorded the Grieg Violin Sonatas with internationally acclaimed pianist Antonio Pompa-Baldi, also on the Centaur label. Marcia is a faculty artist at the Red Lodge Music Festival in Montana, the Birch Creek Music Festival in Wisconsin, and the ARIA International Summer Academy in Massachusetts and Canada.

Her work has been recognized with the Outstanding Studio Teacher Award from Illinois ASTA, and the Distinguished Alumni Award from Ohio University. She earned her graduate diploma in violin performance from the New England Conservatory, and her master and bachelor degrees with highest honors from Ohio University.

Jenna Ferdon, violinist/violist, is a member of the Lincoln Symphony Orchestra and a lead teacher for the Omaha Conservatory of Music's String Sprouts program, where she also teaches individual lessons as one of OCM's artist-faculty. Prior to her move to Nebraska, she served as adjunct faculty of violin and viola at Knox College in Galesburg, IL. She has enjoyed being a section member of orchestras in the Midwest, including the Peoria Symphony Orchestra, Waterloo Cedar Falls Symphony, and the Southeast Iowa Symphony Orchestra. During the summers, she is a teaching assistant at the Birch Creek Music Academy in Door County, WI and the Five Seasons Chamber Music Festival in Cedar Rapids, IA, and serves as Principal Second violin in the Peoria Bach Festival Orchestra.

As an active performer, **violinist Julie Haring** has performed throughout the United States, Europe, and Central America. Currently she performs throughout the New England area, serves as Concertmaster of the Connecticut Valley Symphony Orchestra, and teaches a full studio of young violinists and violists. Globally, Ms. Haring has worked with Teaching Artists International to bring music to underprivileged students around the world, most recently in Guatemala. Ms. Haring holds violin performance degrees from Bradley University and The Hartt School and is currently pursuing her Doctor of Musical Arts degree at The Hartt School under the guidance of Anton Miller. Her dissertation research is centered around Icelandic composer Sveinbjörn Sveinbjörnsson and his Sonata for Violin and Piano. In her spare time Julie enjoys hiking, running, playing games, and spending time with her “little brother” through Nutmeg Big Brothers Big Sisters.

An expansive musical career has taken **EmmaLee Holmes-Hicks, violinist and Concertmaster** of the Peoria Bach Festival Orchestra across Europe, Japan, South America, Canada, and the United States and has included performances in New York's Carnegie Hall as well as in Giants Stadium and Madison Square Garden. EmmaLee is equally at home as a concertmaster and soloist on stage and as chamber musician in more intimate settings. With boundless energy, this young musician performs classical, baroque, and contemporary music, as well as traditional fiddle music. A firm believer that music can move people, quite literally, EmmaLee takes the lead in string bands across New England and in the Midwest, where her vibrant fiddle music drives spirited, old-time dancing. During her formative years EmmaLee studied with violinist and Peoria Symphony Orchestra Concertmaster Marcia Henry Liebenow. She received her doctorate from SUNY Stony Brook where she worked with such renowned artists as Philip Setzer of the Emerson String Quartet, Pamela Frank, Ani Kavafian, and Gilbert Kalish. She is on faculty at University of Massachusetts, Dartmouth and the Birch Creek Summer Performance Center. She serves as principal second violin with the New Bedford Symphony.

Cellist Adriana Ransom is Interim Director of the School of Music at Illinois State University where she previously served as professor of cello and director of the String Project and the Community School for the Arts. She earned a bachelor of music degree from the University of Missouri-Kansas City and master and doctorate degrees from the University of Minnesota. As a soloist she has recently appeared with the Peoria Symphony Orchestra, the Illinois State Wind Symphony, and the Illinois State Symphony Orchestra. She has also appeared as a guest artist on solo and chamber music recital series, including Chicago Cello Society concerts, the Peoria Bach Festival, and at universities throughout the Midwest. She is currently Principal Cellist of the Peoria Symphony Orchestra.

Carol Wessler, cellist, harpsichordist, and rehearsal accompanist, received her Bachelor of Music degree in cello performance from the University of Oregon, and her Master of Music degree in cello and organ performance from the University of Nebraska. She played in the Peoria Symphony for over 30 years, is co-principal cellist as well as harpsichordist for the Peoria Bach Festival Orchestra, and is active with other Peoria area music ensembles including Bradley University and the Sing-It-yourself Messiah. She is currently the rehearsal accompanist for the Bradley Community Chorus as well as the chamber choir, Lumière.

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The GrandStay Hotel and Suites of Peoria is conveniently located off of Knoxville Avenue and Lindbergh Drive. You will enjoy the largest city on the Illinois River, guests to the Peoria area will enjoy Grandview Drive, the Peoria Riverfront Museum, Caterpillar Visitors Center, Peoria Zoo, and the Peoria Park District with over 9,000 acres of parks and trails.

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Peoria Bach Festival

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