

# Newsletter

## Vancouver Cello Club

OCTOBER 2007

President, Lee Duckles

Secretary, Ilona Scharer

Treasurer Dawn Binnington

Past President, Ian Hampton

Executive, Janet Steinberg, Heather Hay, Brian Mix, Rosanna Butterfield, Judith Fraser, Cristian Markos

American Cello Council Delegate: Judith Fraser

Editor: Judith Fraser

994 Frederick Pl., North Vancouver, BC V7K 2B5

2812 W. 14<sup>th</sup> Ave., Vancouver, BC V6K 2X4

5638 Wallace St., Vancouver, BC V6N 2A2

939 Ioco Rd., Port Moody, BC V3H 2W9

[www.vancouvercelloclub.org](http://www.vancouvercelloclub.org)

### President's Message

Welcome to another newsletter - your source for all the latest cello news, concert listings, competitions, reviews, chit-chat, and instrument sales in the Lower Mainland.

This season marks our 37th year as an organization - a fact that never ceases to amaze! I urge all readers to renew your memberships or subscription to the Cello Club newsletter and take part in the myriad of activities sponsored by your Club. This season, the Club is sponsoring a cello recital with Cristian Markos, a January cello ensemble Play-In, a masterclass with Czech cellist Jan Haliska in February, 2008, workshops with John Katz in April, as well as our annual Caroline E. Riley Competition in May-In addition to our regular events, the Club hopes to celebrate the memory of Rostropovich in a public concert in March, 2008. The proposed "Slava Tribute Concert" is still in the planning stages. Tentatively scheduled for Sunday afternoon, March 9th, 2008, the concert will feature Cello Club members, professional and amateur, in the performance of works for multiple cello ensembles. We are looking for a venue to accommodate masses of celli - (GM Place?) - and sponsors who would like to support our spring extravaganza. If you

would like to support our spring concert and /or know people who would like to support the venture, please contact myself or a member of our Vancouver Cello Club Executive Committee. (See top of the newsletter). More details will appear in our next newsletter as plans unfold. In the meantime, your contributions will be gratefully received!

Just a reminder to all teachers - the Cello Club provides a limited number of tuition assistance bursaries to deserving students throughout the year. These funds are made available through the Cello club scholarships held by the Vancouver Foundation and are awarded on the recommendation of teachers. Teachers who are members in good standing with the Vancouver Cello Club - (dues paid) - may submit names of students in writing to the Treasurer before December 2007 for consideration by the Executive. Assistance bursaries are usually awarded in January and June.

I hope to see you at the next cello event. Until then, keep practising!

Lee Duckles, President

P.S. The January Play-In on January 20 at ~~2:00 pm~~ <sup>10:00 am</sup> at the VAM will include a dress rehearsal for the "Slava Tribute Concert". Editor

### Ernest Collins Memorial Concert

(Young Performers)

October 26, 2007

7:30 pm

Koerner Recital Hall  
Vancouver Academy of Music

Cristian Markos, Cello  
Monica Pfau, Piano



1920 - 2006

#### Programme

J.S. Bach - Sonata for Cello  
& Piano No. 2

L. van Beethoven - Sonata for  
Cello & Piano Op. 5 No. 1

#### Intermission

F. Mendelssohn-Bartholdy - Sonata  
for Cello and Piano Op. 45 No. 1



#### Cristian Markos, Cellist

Born into a musical family, Cristian Markos began playing the cello at age eight. He completed his early studies in his native country, Romania, earning a Bachelor degree in Music Performance from the Music Academy of Bucharest. From Romania, Mr. Markos went on to study for one year at the Musik Akademie in Weimar, Germany and toured throughout Europe with the Mont Blanc Youth Symphony Orchestra. Mr. Markos completed his formal studies at the University of Wisconsin Milwaukee studying for two years with Wolfgang Laufer, cellist of the Fine Arts Quartet.

In 1990 Mr. Markos was awarded first prize in Romania's National Cello Competition and went on to win top prizes at other concerto competitions, including the Concord Chamber Orchestra Concerto Competition and the University of Wisconsin Milwaukee Concerto Competition.

An accomplished soloist and chamber musician, Mr. Markos has performed on a variety of stages throughout Romania, France, Germany, Austria, Greece, Italy, the United States, and Canada. He has also spent the past three summers in Boulder, Colorado as a member of the Colorado Music Festival Orchestra.

Since joining the Vancouver Symphony Orchestra in 1999, Mr. Markos has been active in Vancouver's vibrant music community both as a performer and as a teacher. He can be seen often on stage with the CBC Radio Orchestra and collaborates with many of Vancouver's local musicians in concert and recital.

**Vancouver Cello Club**  
**35th Annual General Meeting, 7:00 pm, June 6, 2007**  
**Vancouver Academy of Music**

1. Minutes of the 34th Annual General Meeting were read by president – Lee Duckles, motioned to be approved and passed unanimously. Attendance 25
2. The Presidents Report, read by Lee Duckles reviewed the year's activities. The Executive committee met three times during the past season to plan and guide the club's activities. Founding member Judy Fraser announced she wishes to limit her service to the club but will continue to serve as editor of the newsletter.



The Vancouver Cello Club continues to maintain The Audrey Piggott Fund, the Catherine Carmack Fund, and the Caroline E. Riley Fund. VCC published three newsletters this season. VCC sponsored two major events this past season; the 7<sup>th</sup> Banff Cello Fest in February and three master class/workshops and an evening recital with Ottawa cellist, Paul Marleyn. The Caroline E. Riley Competition, adjudicated by Ian Hampton and Cristian Markos was held in May.

Next season's concerts will include a recital in October by Cristian Markos commemorating Cello Club Founder Earnest Collins. Daniel Muller Schott will perform in October with the Vancouver Recital Society and with the VSO next June. In March, the Club hopes

to organize and produce a special "Concert for Slava" - a concert of cello ensemble music commemorating Rostropovich featuring the players of the VSO and Vancouver Opera with the Vancouver Cello Club.

3. The Treasurers Report was read by Dawn Binnington. This year donations amounted to \$4,370, dues were \$1,899.97 and interest was \$1654.80. There were 64 members. The bulk of the spending went to charitable programs such as bursaries and the events held with Ottawa cellist, Paul Marleyn. The remainder went to publishing the newsletter and for bank charges.

Motion to approve the accounts, moved, seconded and carried.

4. Membership Dues same as last year.
  - a. Contributing Member - \$50
  - b. Sustaining Member - \$35
  - c. Family or Individual Member - \$25
  - d. Out-of-Town Member - \$25
  - e. Newsletter Subscription - \$20

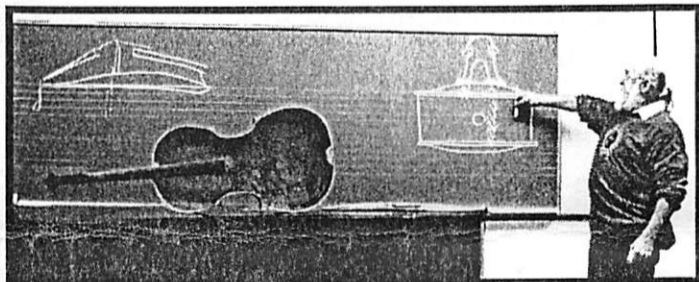
Motion to approve the membership dues, moved, seconded and carried.

5. Nomination and Election of Officers:
  - a. President - Lee Duckles
  - b. Treasurer - Dawn Binnington
  - c. Secretary - Ilona Scharer
  - d. VSO Rep. - Cristian Markos
  - e. Student Rep.- Rosanna Butterfield
  - f. Members at Large —Jean Ireland, Brian Mix, Janet Steinberg, Judy Fraser
  - g. Honorary Chief of Everything—Judy Fraser

Motion to approve officers, moved, seconded and carried.

6. New Business — Lee Duckles is striking a committee to produce the "Concert for Slava" in recognition the great cellist Rostropovich.

7. Guest Speaker, Luthier - Brian Hoover of Bowen Island spoke on the care and feeding of cellos. It was a very informative and interesting talk and included a cello which had been opened up down the middle so we could be the mechanics of how the sound is produced. In his own words "No-one has really come up with a better mouse trap"



8. Presentation of Awards — Caroline Finley, patron founder of the Catherine Carmack Fund spoke of the dedication, passion and incredible generosity of cello teacher Catherine Carmack who died from breast cancer in 2003. The fund has now reached \$20,000.

- Caroline E. Riley Scholarship - Jonathon Lo who is going to Eastman
- Catherine Carmack Scholarship - Sonia Taylor and Katie Youn – Sonia going to McGill; Katie to NEC
- Graham Ingram Scholarship - Noah James
- Summer Bursaries — Rosanna Butterfield and Christina Markle

9. Adjournment ~ There was a rousing three cheers for Judy Fraser, a round of applause and the motion to adjourn, moved, seconded and carried.

*Photos: [www.allegrophoto.ca](http://www.allegrophoto.ca) – taken by Member Leslie Ponich*



## Morningside Music Bridge 2007

Morningside Music Bridge takes place at Mount Royal College Conservatory in Calgary, and brings together a selection of passionate young strings and piano students from around the world. This year, there were almost 60 participants – representatives from Canada, the U.S, China, Poland, Japan and Korea - all between the ages of 12 and 18. Music Bridge is an opportunity to meet like-minded young people, and share in the knowledge that the accumulated faculty has to offer. I had the great privilege this summer to attend the program, and have never before worked as hard, learnt as much, or had as much fun as I did in those four weeks!

When people ask me to describe my experience at Music Bridge, the only word I can think of is "intense". I had been warned that the standard would be very high, but I was unprepared for the level of discipline and dedication I saw in my fellow students. The very evening I arrived in Calgary, both my room-mates disappeared into their bedrooms, and practiced a single four octave scale for an hour. The next day, one of the teachers told us that the minimum expectation was four hours of practice a day. I realized then that I better reform my practicing skills!

The first main event we had to prepare for was the concerto competition, which was held four or five days into the program. The competition was mandatory, and the prize was the opportunity to perform with the Calgary Philharmonic Orchestra. Seven semi-finalists were selected to play with the orchestra, and four were selected as the winners. After the competition, we turned our attention towards masterclasses.

There were seventeen cellists in all, and each of us played for five fantastic teachers over the course of the month: John Kadz, Na Mu La, Ron Leonard, Desmond Hoebig and Liu Meijuan. We also were very lucky to have Susanne

Ruberg-Gordon supporting us on the piano. Mr. Leonard gave a week of masterclasses where we each played our concerto movement, and he said something new and exciting to each person - even after we had heard the first movement of the Haydn D major for the fifth time! Mr. Hoebig heard sonatas, and also made a fantastic impression on all of us with his clearly-stated ideas on both technique and artistry. Throughout the program, we had daily lessons with either Mr. Kadz or Na Mu La, who offered endless amounts of technical advice and enthusiasm. Mr. Kadz's favorite part of Music Bridge (perhaps not an opinion shared by many) was the famed "Popperfest". We each picked two Popper studies out of a hat, and were permitted to choose the third by ourselves. All three were to be performed on the final day. We played 2 of the 3 in a study class with Liu Meijuan about a week before the official "competition", so we had some ideas to work with, but the looming "Popperfest" definitely cast a shadow over the cello class in the last few days!

Amid the flurry of daily lessons and masterclasses, as well as those requisite four hours of daily practice, there was a concert of large chamber ensembles, a chamber music competition, an orchestral piece to prepare, countless faculty concerts and student recitals. We also went on a several outings, including a trip to Lake Louise and a rafting adventure down the Bow River. The month culminated with a gala concert consisting of solo performances, and the string orchestra playing Vaughan Williams' "Fantasia on a theme by Thomas Tallis", which we had prepared in only three rehearsals under the baton of Nick Pulos.

I came back to Vancouver at the beginning of August feeling like a completely different musician to the two-hours-of-practice-a-day cellist who had left a month before. I can still hardly believe the amount of expertise and encouragement that was offered to me, and will always look back at this past summer as a wonderfully

exciting, vibrant time of learning and music-making.

Rosanna Butterfield

## Noah James at Domaine Forget

Thanks to the generosity of the Vancouver Cello Club and Domaine Forget, I was able to attend the Domaine Forget Strings Program for two weeks in July. Located in Saint-IrÈnÈe, a small town a few hours drive east of Quebec City on the St. Lawrence Seaway, the Domaine Forget properties are large and terraced with beautiful ocean views from almost every building — good for musical inspiration but taking a toll on the arm when carrying an instrument about. The cello faculty included Philippe Muller of the Paris Conservatory as masterclass teacher, and Paul Marleyn and Johanne Perron as private teachers. Although I was not chosen to take part in the masterclasses, they were informative to watch. Ample attention was given to students in private lessons, of which students received 3-4 per week with an assigned teacher. Chamber groups were also formed, with coaching sessions almost every day. Most weeknights there were professional concerts accessible to students at the Salle FranÁois-Bernier Concert Hall by such artists and ensembles as James Ehnes, Musica Intima, and the Orchestra de la Francophonie Canadienne, as well as solo and chamber concerts by members of the Domaine Forget faculty. A typical day consisted of a three hour master class, one or two hours of private lessons and/or chamber coaching, voluntary ear training or solfege classes and as much practise as a student desired, capped off by a concert in the evening. I thoroughly enjoyed my stay at Domaine Forget. I learned a lot and would recommend the program to anyone investigating summer music programs.

Noah James

# The Safe Haven of Humanity

Michael Kim

In contemporary society, humans have become reliant on science technology and our logical minds to protect us. The fear of reality has made us become parts of a machine, not individuals. I have become hardened and tempered by the amount of fear that circulates around us, but this summer I found a safe haven, a place where people were regaining their humanity through [earning and freedom. I found a place that inspired the youth and regenerated the elderly I found a place of art, a place of learning and a place that gave my love of humanity back to me. This place was Valhalla.

I will be completely honest, I personally felt that going to Valhalla was not going to be rewarding. I was completely mistaken. The fresh cool blue waters of the Slokan, resting in a valley of green set the background for one of the most renewing, remarkable, rewarding experiences I have ever had. I myself was dubious of the impact a three hours technique class would have on my life, but the three hours of hard work was a crumb of the cake that is Valhalla. I don't go to Valhalla for the class; I go for the ambience and unique aura that each musician brings to the community of New Denver and Silverton- In a community of 600, all the citizens know each other. This level of community spurs a willingness to connect emotionally, intellectually and artistically with each other. The lack of cell phone reception creates a feeling of isolation. This isolation causes the entire camp to look to each other for companionship and support. The false believe that this music camp is just about music is instantly defeated the first day one arrives at the

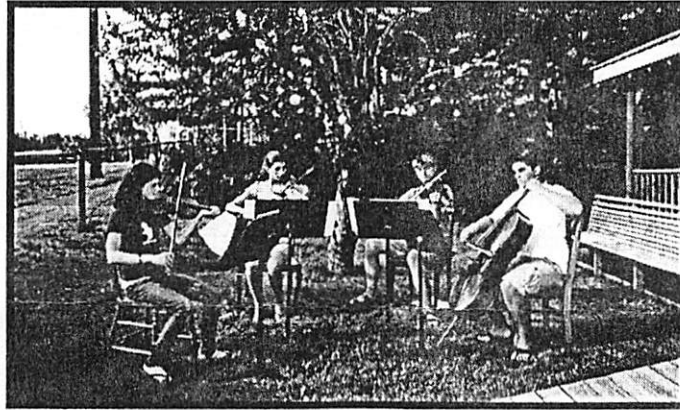
camp. The important social aspect of the camp is what is so spectacular.

During the second week of the camp, the instructors prove that freedom is one of the most important words in a human vocabulary. Instead of forcing us to practice, or occupying huge amounts of our time with technique, master classes and chamber music, the amount we work is completely up to us. This freedom of choice is what makes learning so much more enjoyable. The fact that we choose to be in the class, the fact that we choose to play music with each other and the fact that we choose not to stand idly in the face of musical improvement is a testament to the power of art in humanity This camp is proof that art plays an important role for all humans. The fact that even in freedom we will work for music is incredible. The fundamental question we answer at this camp is one that in being asked over and over again in ethics and the world. The question: can humans ever

work together for a common goal, the answer; absolutely, through art, music and other creative outlets for the human soul.

I am glad. For one reason and one reason only that in this world of pain, suffering and hate, there remains a glimmering hope of cooperation and compassion, a bastion of love and learning, a fortress of music and art. The students of Valhalla take for granted the extraordinary challenge they have overcome. They have overcome the contemporary norm of conflict and claimed glorious music as their prize.

Photos: The Editor



## 9<sup>th</sup> Banff International String Quartet Competition

The BISQC took place at the Banff Centre August 28 through September 2. For six exhilarating and quite tiring days, nine (the Dutch Quartet could not attend due to the illness of one of their members) of the best young string quartets took centre stage for 13 concerts, playing for a distinguished jury and a very eager and very knowledgeable audience. This was my fifth BISQC and I wouldn't miss this

room (I thought only teenagers had four desserts!). Two of the quartets were old hands – The Zemlinsky Quartet (formerly The Penguin Quartet) from the Czech Republic were on their 3<sup>rd</sup> time and were rewarded by coming in 2<sup>nd</sup>. The Tokai String Quartet (Canada) were on their 2<sup>nd</sup> time and made the finals coming in 4<sup>th</sup>. The Koryo String Quartet (USA) had a familiar face – cellist Earl Lee, who

von Hahn, a member of the Royal Danish Orchestra, and "The winners were".....Tin Alley String Quartet from Australia. All quartets had to play Haydn and Bartok (like a mini concert), for the first round; then a Romantic Round, then the Canadian Commission Round – 'Dark Energy' by Kelly-Marie Murphy (lots of exciting rhythms), followed by a Beethoven or Schubert Round and then the finale



## Fall Concert Calendar

The following is a partial list of events featuring local and visiting cellists

- ANGELA HEWITT, Piano & DANIEL MÜLLER-SCHOTT, Cello  
October 15, 2007 – 8:00 pm – Kay Meek Centre
- VANCOUVER PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA  
October 20, 2007 – 8:00 pm  
With CARINNA REEVES playing in Beethoven Triple Concerto  
Shaughnessy United Church, Vancouver
- CRISTIAN MARKOS in Recital with Pianist Monica Pfau in a program of works by Bach, Beethoven & Mendelssohn  
October 26, 2007 – 7:30 pm – Vancouver Academy of Music  
This special Cello Club sponsored event is in memory of Ernest Collins
- LIONEL GOODMAN – Recital will include Rosanna Butterfield, who will receive the Florence & Ian Dougherty Scholarship  
November 1, 2007 – 7:30 pm – KRH – Vancouver Academy of Music
- JOSEPH ELWORTHY in Recital with Pianist Ailsa Zaenker in a program of works by Locatelli, Cassado, Messiaen & Chopin  
November 16, 2007 – 7:30 pm – Vancouver Academy of Music
- ANTONIO LYSY in Recital with Pianist Jane Coop in a program of Sonatas for Piano and Cello by Beethoven  
November 22, 2007 – 8:00 pm – UBC Recital Hall
- CELLO MASTERCLASSES with Antonio Lysy  
November 23, 2007 – 4:00 – 6:00 pm – UBC Recital Hall (FREE ADMISSION)



### Adult Ensemble Classes

Last Monday of the month, except December  
Room 22B at the VAM

### Adult Masterclass with Paul Marleyn

(April 2007)

Everyone welcome – any level

Photo: [www.alegrophoto.ca](http://www.alegrophoto.ca)

Taken by Leslie Ponich

## Amateur Orchestra List

Vancouver Philharmonic Orchestra  
604-878-9989  
[www.vanphil.ca](http://www.vanphil.ca)  
[vancouverphilharmonicorch@vcn.ca](mailto:vancouverphilharmonicorch@vcn.ca)  
Auditions required

Ambleside Orchestra  
604-926-3030, Hillary Clarke  
Wednesdays, 3:30 - 5:30 pm, Unitarian Church, West  
Vancouver

Elgar Strings Group  
604-261-5255, Vi Smyth  
Fridays, 10:00 am - 12:00 pm, Willingdon Church,  
Burnaby  
Note: They are looking for violas

North Shore Chamber Orchestra  
604-925-3834, Madeline Stewart  
Tuesdays, 7:30 - 9:30 pm, Sutherland School, North  
Vancouver  
No auditions required, looking for more string players

A Little Night Music  
604-261-6891, Peter Stigings  
Mondays, 7:30 - 9:30 pm, Magee Music Room,  
Vancouver  
[www.alnm.ca](http://www.alnm.ca), [stiainQsO-interchange.ubc.ca](http://stiainQsO-interchange.ubc.ca).

West Coast Symphony  
604-438-0077, Jim DeFina  
Thursday evenings  
Auditions required  
[www.vcn.bc.ca/wcsvm](http://www.vcn.bc.ca/wcsvm)  
[westcoatsymphony@hotmail.com](mailto:westcoatsymphony@hotmail.com)

Fraser Valley Symphony  
604-852-5697, Dr. Garnet Wolchok  
Mondays, 7:15- 9:45 pm, Rick Hansen School,  
Abbotsford  
Informal auditions





## "The Pale Surface of Things"

by Janey Bennett

from Hopeace Press, Victoria, BC, Canada, 2007

*A fast-moving novel in a Cretan village—  
kidnaps and killings, prayers and healing, ethics and ritual... a damned good tale.*

Check out the website: [www.palesurfaceofthings.com](http://www.palesurfaceofthings.com)

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### What's coming up:

Senior & Intermediate Orchestra Workshop Concert  
Birch Theatre, Capilano College, North Vancouver  
September 23, 2007 - Sunday at 2:00 pm

Intermediate Orchestra Fall Concert  
UBC Old Auditorium, Vancouver  
November 3, 2007 - Saturday at 7:30 pm

New World and Remembrance - Senior Orchestra Concert  
Kay Meek Centre, West Vancouver  
November 11, 2007 - Sunday at 2:30 pm

Debut & Junior Strings - Christmas Pageant  
Vancouver Christian School, Vancouver  
December 9, 2007 - Sunday at 2:30 pm

Intermediate Orchestra Christmas Concert  
Magee Secondary School, Vancouver  
December 15, 2007 - Saturday at 7:30 pm

Junior & Debut Strings Christmas Community Concert  
Aberdeen Centre, Richmond **FREE ADMISSION**  
December 15, 2007 - Saturday from 11:30 - 1 pm

Senior Orchestra Concerto Winners Showcase  
Kay Meek Centre, West Vancouver  
February 24, 2008 - Sunday at 7:30 pm

Junior & Intermediate Orch. Concerto Winners Showcase  
Vancouver Playhouse Theatre, Vancouver  
March 2, 2008 - Sunday at 7:30 pm

Debut Strings Community Concert  
George Pearson Hospital, Vancouver  
March 8, 2008 - Saturday at 2 pm

VYSO Spring Ball  
Sheraton Vancouver Wall Centre Hotel, Vancouver  
April, 2008 - date tba

Debut & Junior Strings with Lafayette Quartet  
Nikkel Centre, Burnaby  
May 4, 2008 - Sunday at 2:30 pm

Intermediate Orchestra Spring Concert  
Nikkel Centre, Burnaby  
May 10, 2008 - Saturday at 7:30 pm

Salute to R. Murray Schafer - Senior Orchestra Concert  
Christ Church Cathedral, Vancouver  
May 11, 2008 - Sunday at 2:30 pm

Ticket information for all concerts is  
available through the VYSO office  
(604)737-0714  
Times and venues subject to change,  
please visit our website for updates  
[www.vyso.com](http://www.vyso.com)



VANCOUVER  
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BRITISH  
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COUNCIL



NATIONAL CELLO SOCIETY  
OF AMERICA



Cello octet Conjunto Iberico and conductor Elias Arizcuren.

*Reprinted from Bridge & Bow, Winter 2007  
Oregon Cello Society*

Based in Amsterdam, Conjunto Iberico is the only full-time cello octet in the world. Created by conductor, Elias Arizcuren, Conjunto Iberico has worked its way to the musical foreground and is highly acclaimed by the international press for its high quality performances and also for the many initiatives Arizcuren has taken. These have resulted in world premieres at renowned chamber music venues all over the world; a collection of over 100 beautiful songs from Spain and South America performed with sopranos of international renown; theatre productions with modern dance groups; and a collaboration with queen of flamenco, Carmen Linares. Since Conjunto Iberico began performing in 1989 some of today's best-known composers have picked up their pens resulting in 60 premieres and 11 CDs. ■

## Cello Resources on the Web...

- ❖ National Cello Institute
- ❖ Cello Festivals
- ❖ Chamber Music Northwest
- ❖ Friends of Chamber Music
- ❖ Camerata Musica
- ❖ American Chamber Music Players
- ❖ Internet Cello Society
- ❖ Salem Youth Symphony Association
- ❖ Fear No Music
- ❖ Four Daring Celli
- ❖ New Directions Cello Association
- ❖ Los Angeles Violoncello Society
- ❖ Violoncello Society of London

- [www.creativeharmony.com/members/nci](http://www.creativeharmony.com/members/nci)
- [www.cello.org](http://www.cello.org)
- [www.cmnw.org](http://www.cmnw.org)
- [www.focm.org](http://www.focm.org)
- [www.open.org/~camerata](http://www.open.org/~camerata)
- [www.acmp.net](http://www.acmp.net)
- [www.cello.org](http://www.cello.org)
- [www.youth-symphony.org](http://www.youth-symphony.org)
- [www.fearnomusic.org](http://www.fearnomusic.org)
- [www.apocalyptica.com](http://www.apocalyptica.com)
- [www.newdirectionscello.com](http://www.newdirectionscello.com)
- [www.lacello.org](http://www.lacello.org)
- [www.loncellosocietylondon.org](http://www.loncellosocietylondon.org)