

ARTS ALIVE! April 2026

Edited by Jennifer Tillett, Concert Coordinator

CHAPEL CONCERT SERIES



**INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGE CONCERT:
RAMILYA SAUBANOVA, PIANO
& JACQUES-PIERRE MALAN, CELLO
Sunday / April 12 / 3:00 p.m.
Chapel**

Charlestown's Chapel Concert Series and International Exchange Concerts present an afternoon celebrating cross-cultural artistry. This series brings leading musicians from around the world to perform in the United States, fostering musical dialogue and global collaboration. The program for Charlestown will weave traditional European repertoire with the unique musical voices of two artists from opposite sides of the global sphere.

Tatarstanian pianist **Ramilya Saubonova** will bring the distinct colors of Tatarstan into conversation with works by Almaz Monasypov for cello and piano. Dr. Saubonova is a pianist from the Republic of Tatarstan, Russia, with over 22 years of experience in the world of music. She has won numerous awards, including the Grand-Prix at the World Vision Music International Competition, and has received prestigious scholarships like the Presidential Scholarship of the Republic of Tatarstan.

Dr. Saubonova will be joined by South African-American cellist and Embassy Series Artistic Director **Jacques-Pierre Malan**. Mr. Malan is an internationally acclaimed cellist praised for his "vibrant musicality" and described as a "tour de force" (*Beeld*). He has performed extensively across Africa, Europe, Asia, and the United States. Mr. Malan serves as Cellist-in-Residence and Artistic Director of the historic *Embassy Series* in Washington, D.C., where he collaborates with embassies as a soloist, chamber musician, and producer, developing concert programs with humanitarian and diplomatic themes. He is also the founder of the *Embassy String Quartet* and a core member of the *Serafin Ensemble* based in Wilmington, Delaware.

Admission to any Chapel Concert Series performance is free; donations at the door are welcome. Call 443-833-3785 for details. *This performance is open to the public.*



**OPERA BALTIMORE
(Re-scheduled from January 25)
Sunday / April 26 / 3:00 p.m.
Chapel**

Opera Baltimore is a bold, voice-driven opera company rooted in the heart of Baltimore, MD. Founded in 2009 as Baltimore Concert Opera and renamed Opera Baltimore in 2022, they have grown into a civic force for artistic excellence, access, and community connection.

Opera Baltimore reaches thousands each year through fully staged and concert opera performances, beloved Thirsty Thursdays at the Opera highlights concerts, public events, and educational

programs designed for all ages and levels of experience. From free performances in Baltimore city's green spaces during Fall for Opera to civic practice programs like Opera on the Avenue and historic collaborations across Baltimore's Black and Jewish communities, Opera Baltimore's work lives at the intersection of music, history, and home.

Admission to any Chapel Concert Series performance is free; donations at the door are welcome. Call 443-833-3785 for details. *This performance is open to the public.*

BRASS ROOTS TRIO
Sunday / May 3 / 3:00 p.m.
Chapel



Three world-class musicians redefine the chamber music genre with their adventurous programming of classical, jazz, Americana and Latin styles.

Travis Heath (trumpet & flugelhorn), Douglass Lundeen (French horn & vocalist) and Rosetta Senkus Bacon (piano) infuse their music with exuberant energy, and their warmhearted presentation makes an immediate connection with the audience.

A pioneer of this instrumentation - piano, trumpet and horn - Brass Roots Trio has played to standing ovations and rave reviews in every corner of the US and England since 2004. Their tours have included performances at Oxford University, St. James Piccadilly in London, the Chicago Brass Festival, and on Community Concert Series, Chamber Music Series and NPR. In 2009 the trio was honored to perform for President and Mrs. Obama and their guests at the White House.

The trio's concert programs are an eclectic mix of styles. From a Baroque duet with piccolo trumpet and horn to jazz inspired Gershwin to Piazzolla's decadent tangos and American Spirituals, Brass Roots Trio creates symphonic sounds, making three instruments sound like a small orchestra – and it's always a surprise when the horn player puts down his instrument and sings an aria or spiritual with his magnificent tenor voice! The commentaries throughout the program are informative and often humorous.

Admission to any Chapel Concert Series performance is free; donations at the door are welcome. Call 443-833-3785 for details. *This performance is open to the public.*



STUDENT RECITAL

Selected band and orchestra students from **Arbutus Middle School** will perform **a recital of solo and small ensemble pieces** they have polished for competition in Baltimore County's Solo and Ensemble Festival on **THURSDAY, APRIL 16 at 7:00 p.m. in the Auditorium**. These young people have worked hard to perfect their competition pieces and are thrilled to have the opportunity to perform them in public for family, friends, and neighbors.

Please come support these talented musicians! **Admission is free; doors open at 6:30 PM**. For more information, please call 410-737-8838, Ext. 601-8577. *This performance is open to Arbutus Middle School families, Charlestown residents and invited guests.*

COMMUNITY CONCERT SERIES

CATONSVILLE HIGH SCHOOL STEEL BAND

Friday / April 17 / 7:00 p.m.

****Auditorium****



Charlestown's Community Concert Series pleased to welcome back the Catonsville High School Steel Band!

Formed as a means for students to perform music from a culture other than their own, the band shares the music of Trinidad and Tobago with audiences throughout the Maryland region. They perform at school assemblies, jazz festivals, state and national conventions of music educators, community festivals, church social events, Baltimore's Holiday Brass Concert, Beth El Congregation's annual Island Shabbat, and the back of a flat-bed truck in the Catonsville Fourth of July Parade.

CHS Steel is directed by Andrew Hamilton and Jim Wharton. *Please note the location of this performance.*

Tickets are \$8 and will be sold on **Monday, April 13** at the following locations and times: **11:00-12:00 p.m. in the Cross Creek Lobby** and **12:30-1:30 p.m. in the Fireside Lounge**. (Note: There is a purchase limit of 4 tickets at the advance sale.) Remaining tickets can be purchased at the door starting 30 minutes before the show. In the event of a sellout, Waitlist Seating will be available. Please contact Jennifer Tillett at 410-737-8838, ext. 601-8577 or Jennifer.Tillett@erickson.com for more information. *The public may purchase tickets at the door only; please call ahead for availability.*

OUR LADY OF THE ANGELS CONCERT SERIES



THE HOTEL PARADISE ORCHESTRA

Sunday / April 19 / 3:00 p.m.

Chapel

The Hotel Paradise Orchestra, under the direction of musical director and conductor Jari Villanueva, and featuring lead vocalist Janet Paulsen, is a 15-piece ensemble dedicated to authentically recreating the sound and style of the music of the 1920s and 1930s. The orchestra brings the elegance, energy, and sophistication of the Jazz Age to life.

The group's program highlights songs composed or performed by notable Baltimore artists of that era, including **Eubie Blake**, **Cab Calloway** and his sister **Blanche Calloway**, as well as **Chick Webb** and **Billie Holiday**.

This performance is free; no tickets or reservations are required. Donations at the door are welcome. For further information, please contact Mary Slomba at 410-737-8838, Ext. 601-8298. *This performance is open to the public.*

SASSY SENIORS SINGERS

SASSY SENIORS SINGERS
Saturday / April 25 / 2:00 p.m.
Gallery

Show tunes, selections from the American Songbook, along with choreography and comedy sprinkled here and there – that’s the Sassy Seniors.

This lively group of Charlestown residents blends choreography into familiar songs to create an experience that is pleasant to both listen to and watch.

Admission to any Chapel Concert Series performance is free; donations at the door are welcome. Call 410-314-2832 for details. *This performance is open to Charlestown residents and their invited guests.*

LITTLE THEATRE COMPANY

They Aren’t Just Fiddlin’ Around

Putting a Broadway show together like *Fiddler on the Roof* is a big collaborative effort! Acting rehearsals are underway on Mondays and Wednesdays. Music rehearsals occur on Fridays under the direction of Chris Buppert, assisted by piano accompanist Beth Caluda with Glenn Caluda on the bass. Dance rehearsals occur as often as we can fit them in! Many performers are seeking extra time to rehearse both acting and music. Director, Marianne Reichelt proclaims, “I am thrilled with the energy and commitment of the 34-member cast!”

The production crew is also working valiantly. Charlotte Vincent has been invaluable as the director’s assistant/prompter/understudy. Michael Rogan and a team of volunteers built the main set in mid-March. Thanks to our faithful stage crew, Rick Jones, Bill Jones, and Michael, the cast has been working with the set pieces and props which Michael has created and those we have borrowed from Mount de Sales High School. Costumer Diane Powers, who has been working closely with the cast on costumes, has happily explored second-hand stores and visited the costume department at CCBC Essex. Carlene Craytor is hard at work managing stage lighting and Jerry Donaldson will be controlling sound effects. We will be working closely with Amber Fisher and the TV Studio Team on the microphone challenges of this large show. We are so grateful for the work of the entire production team!



Mark Your Calendars for Ticket Sale Dates (Tickets \$8)

Tuesday, April 7 / Cross Creek Lobby / 10:30 a.m. -12:00 noon

Wednesday, April 8 / Fireside Lounge / 4:30-6:00 p.m.

Thursday, April 9 / Bill's Place (Fountain Hill) / 4:30-6:00 p.m.

Performances

Tuesday, April 21 / Auditorium / 2:00 p.m.

Thursday, April 23 / Auditorium / 7:00 p.m.

Tuesday, April 28 / Auditorium / 2:00 p.m.

Thursday, April 30 / Auditorium / 7:00 p.m.

STUDIO 7-1-5 Mary & June Workshops

STORYTELLING, Part One

May 28 / 1:00-3:00 p.m. / Auditorium

Introduction to the art and techniques of storytelling. Elizabeth McWilliams, instructor.

STORYTELLING, Part Two

June 25 / 1:00-3:00 p.m. / Auditorium

Storytelling readings by the participants will be read on stage. Come and be entertained by their stories. Elizabeth McWilliams, instructor. *Free admission.*

THE CHARLESTOWN HARMONIZERS

PRESENT

“THE GREAT AMERICAN SONGBOOK”

Tuesday, June 3 / Auditorium / 2:00 p.m. (matinee)

Wednesday, June 4 / Auditorium / 7:00 p.m.

Thursday, June 5 / Auditorium / 7:00 p.m.



In conjunction with our pending 250th Anniversary as a nation, the Harmonizers are preparing a special concert. Since its founding, America has developed many unique styles of music. While they may draw on European and other traditions, America has developed its own styles, including spirituals, folk, jazz, Tin Pan Alley, Broadway, blues, rock, and more. A collection of such music has come to be known as The Great American Songbook. The Harmonizers will be presenting a selection from it in Concert under the direction of Linda Burgard on **June 3rd, 4th, and 5th** in the Auditorium. The Wednesday June 3rd concert at 2 PM is a matinee and

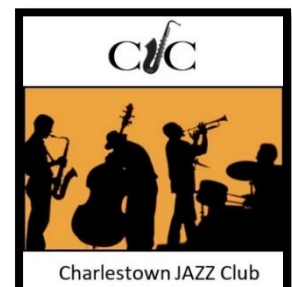
the Thursday and Friday performances are at 7 PM. **Ticket information will be announced in early May.**

In the early days of our history, music was something you experienced by listening to it live or performing it yourself. The 20th Century, as it progressed, brought recording, storage, playback, broadcast, and amplification to music, making it much more accessible to many more people. Radio, movies, television, and individual playback machines including tape players, record players, pocket radios, boom boxes, Walkmen, iPods, and then smart phones continued the revolution in how we experience music. Still, nothing beats a live performance, so come to our concert for a really enjoyable session in June. Mark your calendars now.

JAZZ APPRECIATION CLUB

Jazz Club News, Reviews, and Previews

A very busy February for the club culminated with 15 members attending a special concert on the UMBC campus featuring 7-time Grammy Award winning percussionist Vince Cherico playing with the 18-member student jazz ensemble. Various configurations of the ensemble performed 6 compositions of classic Afro-Cuban style music. Mr. Cherico worked with the students in clinics that afternoon



and the result was a very professional performance. Several of the soloists were students who perform here regularly at our monthly Shortline Cafe series. It was great seeing them with the larger ensemble in the beautiful, acoustically perfect concert hall. We are fortunate to have this excellent music education program so close by at UMBC and to have developed such a successful collaboration.

A much-needed late winter warm-up happened in the Auditorium on March 6 when the community was introduced to a form of jazz that was new to most of the audience. The Hot Club of Baltimore presented a program of "gypsy jazz" which literally raised the temperature in the room by several degrees.

I first contacted the band on behalf of the Community Concert Committee in May of 2024. We reviewed videos of the band and decided this was a good opportunity to have our residents explore a different musical style. Jennifer Tillett contacted the band which was able to fit us into their very busy schedule. It was almost two years later but, according to the audience response, it was worth the wait.

Michael Joseph Harris on guitar led the band made up of accordion, base and a second rhythm guitar. Vocalist, Alexis Tantau thrilled us with several songs in French and a few in English with some marvelous jazz scatting a la Ella Fitzgerald. After a 75-minute, non-stop, highly energetic set, we were treated to an encore of a beautiful, tender rendition of the Edith Piaf classic, La Vie En Rose. A standing ovation followed.

We plan to have Mr. Harris return soon to meet with the club to discuss the history of "gypsy jazz" from its roots in Paris where it originated with the famed guitarist Django Reinhart. We will open the event up to non-club members in a location and at a time to be determined.

Another future event that we plan to invite the general Charlestown community to attend is the Army Blues Band on April 18 on UMBC's campus. More information to follow.

We always welcome new members on the second Thursday of each month at 2:00 p.m. in Brookside Classroom 1. For more information, please contact me, Sebastian Petix at 410-314-1835 or our co-chair Pat Fagan at 410-314-2171. Please come and join in the fun.



All performances at Charlestown are open to the public unless otherwise indicated.

Outside guests attending events in the Auditorium are asked to park at Cross Creek Station or Charlestown Square and walk or take the shuttle to the Auditorium.

Guests attending weekend/evening events in the Chapel may park in the Carriage House parking lot. (If the Carriage House lot is not available, please park at Charlestown Square and take the shuttle to the Chapel.)

Guests attending events in the Conference Center may utilize the Cross Creek parking lot.

Please refrain from parking in reserved spaces while on campus. To request a campus map, please e-mail your request to Jennifer.Tillett@erickson.com.

To receive this newsletter each month, send your request to Jennifer.Tillett@erickson.com.

