The Elevated Linked Chicago’s Music Venues in 1920s through Early ‘40s
See Pages 18-19
I recently participated in the AFL-CIO Midwest District meeting in Chicago. It was a day filled with speakers and panel discussions concerning the upcoming midterm election cycle and how unions play a large part in the political climate. Here in Illinois, we are facing increased pressure for “right to work” ordinances. We are surrounded by states that are “right to work” including Wisconsin, Indiana, Michigan, Iowa, Missouri, Tennessee, and Kentucky.

On the surface, right to work sounds like a great idea. It gives a person the ability to be employed without the need to join a union. However, it comes with consequences. It outlawed mandatory payments of union dues or fair share fees in union negotiated contracts. Employees have no need to pay dues or their “fair share” to help defray the union’s cost of bargaining and representation. The goal of right to work is to financially starve unions, which, by federal law, have to represent EVERY worker in a union work place whether he or she pays dues or not, thereby limiting the union’s ability to financially represent workers.

The Chicago Federation of Musicians has been successful in negotiating contracts with fair wages and working conditions through the support of all of our members. Every musician working under the terms of our collective bargaining agreements has the right of collective bargaining. As a professional musician we are sometimes asked to put together a band or ensemble for an event, often a casual job. A wedding, reception or a private party. And close on the heels of that question is how much will it cost? Most of these types of engagements would fall within our Casual Engagement Scales. But even before you talk money with the person, take some time to ask some questions. Where is the event? If it is downtown, costs for everything for that event are higher than most suburban venues. Also you need to know where the job is to find out whether Class AA or Class A are appropriate. How many guests are attending the event? Will there be an open bar, a buffet or a plated meal? There is a florist? All of these questions can lead you to an idea of costs for the event so you can ask for a wage that is fair and in line with the other costs for that event.

Another thing to think about is scale for that job. That is, what is the minimum to charge so that your contract is acceptable by union rules. Toward the back of our Wage Scales are computation tables for Class AA and Class A jobs. These tables are for a single, 3-hour, non-continuous job. They do include pension fees (at 11.99%), payroll fee (15%) and leader fees. They do not include rehearsal pay, overtime, continuous fees, doubles or any premium payments.

The tables have each column labeled so that you could find the minimum amount to charge for the number of musicians (including the leader) for a Class AA or Class A job. The first column is labeled Num. of Musicians and in the third column there is a boxed amount showing the total minimum cost. If you double the amount in that total box, that amount might be a good place to start your negotiation. Often these offers come when you least expect it. Maybe on a break during a job or from a cold call. But taking time to ask questions, look at the wage tables and get your thoughts together should provide a chance for a fair price. Also you can always call my office and we will help guide you through the wage scales. Also we can help you get a contract together to present to the purchaser.

The Casual Engagement Scales are not what is used when working a Major Event job. The higher scale used for Major Event takes into consideration the fact that tickets are being sold for that performance. That revenue raised from ticket sales in a 2,500 or more seat theater, generates income for someone and the CFM believes that if too, three or four seats cover the cost of a musician’s salary and benefits, that is fair. We use a variety of ticket prices and if we took the total box amount and divided by the number of seats, it would be a fair price. Also you can always call my office and we will help guide you through the wage scales. Also we can help you get a contract together to present to the purchaser.

Many of us did not get into music to be a businessperson we wanted to play. The love of music or performing took us to where we are now. But as we look to be more successful and achieve some financial stability in our life, we must consider the business part of our art, including just and fair wages for our work. The CFM is here to try to help musicians. So, if you have questions please contact my office at 312-782-0636 or email me at lmurphy@cfm10208.org and I would be glad to assist you.

Rehearsal Space is available at the CFM! The local’s rehearsal hall is available for members in good standing to rent. The rate to rent the hall during the week and during business hours is $10.00 an hour with a three hour minimum. The space is also available during the weekends and after regular business hours at higher rates because office staff has to be present. The space has a sound system and a baby grand piano. We have had rehearsals of two or three musicians up to a 70 piece orchestra with a small chorus. If you are interested in learning more, please call my office, 312-782-1063.

The independent auditor’s report is included in this Intermezzo. Our 2017 operating expenses met budget expectations, and the auditors were positive in their review of our accounting procedures. The investment fund had strong earnings, which is the main reason why net assets increased over last year. If you have any questions please feel free to contact me.

The lists of suspended and expelled members will be coming out at the end of March. If you have not yet paid your dues, please contact the membership department. If you are unsure of your current status just give us a call. We’re always glad to hear from members. Thanks and please remember that this union belongs to you. Your continued membership makes our mission possible.
NOTICE:
Changes to Major Event Scale

The 2018-19 Wages Scales will show a change in the Major Event rate table. Principal pay (25% additional) and Concertmaster pay (100% additional) will be part of every Major Event rehearsal and performance when 12 or more musicians are hired. The new scales take effect January 1, 2018. The Board of Directors of the Chicago Federation of Musicians voted in favor of this addition as of November 14, 2017.

The list for Principal positions is shown in Rule XV of the CFM’s Work Rules. If you have any questions please contact Vice-President Leo Murphy at 312-782-0063 or lmurphy@cfm10208.org.

Mike Alongi  Freshly Squared  alongmike@oak.com  cdbaby.com  875-399-5112
Ray Bailey  Making Tracks  Teaching the Offsides  cdbaby.com  Bailey6619@sbcglobal.net  773-430-7880
Jimmy’s Bavarians  Swingin Chicago Style  Tuneless with Jim Beam, Johnny Fitz, Rusty Jones, Annie Onoda, Wayne Rorke, and Don White  Jim Beam  630-543-7859
Jack Baron  Jack Baron Quartet Plays the Coach House  Featuring Bobby Schiff, Jerry Coleman, and Brian Sandstrom  Jackmsn130@com  847-204-8212
Eric “Baron” Behrenfeld  Tiki Cowboys  Island Dreams  nikicowboys.com
Anne Burnell  Blues in the Night  Mark Burnell  773-862-2665  www.burnellmusic.com  cdbaby.com  i tunes.com
Art “Turk” Burton  Spazz Fonz & New  708-334-3491  cdbaby.com  amazon.com
The Jazz Record Mart
Greg Cahill  Special Consensus  Scratch Gravel Road  Compass Records  www.compassrecords.com
James Callan Trio  In The Tradition  James Callan  708-488-8877
Tanya Carey  Golden Celebration: A Recital of French and American Music for Cello, Flute, Harp, and Piano  with the Carey Consort  amnon.com  cdbaby.com
Peter Casamorera  All The Things I Am  bebop8@art.net
Chicago Jazz Philharmonic  Orbert Davis  Collective Creativity  chijazzphil.org  orbertdavis.com
Havana Blue 种植store.com  orbertdavis.com  312-573-9390
Chicago Q Ensemble  Amy Wertz String Quartet  www.chicagoqensemble.bigcarmel.com
Jerry Coleman  Ninebomber  Jazz Makes You Happy  dunsold90@mail.com  www.jerrycolemanandsummer.com  847-251-1410
Conjunto  Chicago Sessions  James Sanders  847-329-9630
Mark Colby  Speaking of Stars  Reflections  Origin Records  iTunes.com  amazon.com  cdbaby.com  630-258-8356
Richard Cross  Gorilla  Get Happy Featuring Dan Shapera and Rusty Jones  Just Enough Joy  Smile  www.richardcrosstours.com  773-963-5906
Donal Dragunski  Music for woods and piano performed by the Pilgrim Chamber Players  www.albanymusic.com
Nick Drozdoff  No Man Is An Island  nickdrozdoff.com

*Only members in good standing are allowed to list CDs For Sale.

ASSOCIATION OF PROFESSIONAL ORCHESTRA LEADERS
Regular meeting at various locations every third Wednesday of the month. For further information, please contact Brian Parisi, (630) 852-9222 www.handleaders.org

GERMAN AMERICAN MUSICIANS CLUB
Third Wednesday of the month. Regular meeting, M Pub, 3454 W. Addison, Chicago, IL, 8 p.m. Send all communications to Mr. Zenon Grodecki, 3238 N. Neshah, Apt. 1-D Chicago, IL 60656-2725  (773) 774-2753

SOCIETY OF ITALIAN AMERICAN MUSICIANS SOCIAL CLUB
Third Monday of the month. General meeting, Supertrump Banquet Hall, 4242 N. Central Avenue, Chicago, IL 60654, 8 p.m. Send all communications to John Maggio, 6916 W. Armitage, Chicago, IL. 60635  (773) 745-6733

THE KOLE FACTS ASSOCIATION
Third Sunday of the month at 2 p.m. Regular meeting, Washington Park Fieldhouse, 5531 S. King Drive, Room 101, Chicago, IL 60637

POLISH AMERICAN MUSICIANS CLUB
Meetings held every second Wednesday of the month, 8:00 p.m. at A.A.C. Eagles Soccer Club, 5844 N. Milwaukee Ave., Chicago, IL. Send all communications to Ed Sasin, President, 5531 S. King Drive, Room 101, Chicago, IL 60637

THE CAROLINA’S CHRISTMAS CONCERT
City Lights Foundation 512-644-0600 www.citylightsfoundation.com

Dick Daugherty  Verawhy cdbaby.com  reddaugherty@comcast.net

Orbert Davis  Home & Away Chicago Jazz Philharmonic Times  chijazzphil.org/homeandaway
Pandora Blue 种植store.com

Diane Delin  Blijan Productions  Offering for a Peaceable Season Duality Talking Stick Origins Another Morning DianeDelin.com Diane@dianedelin.com

Bob Dogan  Salohans Rings Bock Dognon Sings Ballads My Blues Roots cdbaby.com  773-963-5906

Donal Dragunski  Music for woods and piano performed by the Pilgrim Chamber Players  www.albanymusic.com

Nick Drozdoff  No Man Is An Island  nickdrozdoff.com
### Address and Phone Changes

**56021** Baker, Tyrone K.
444 Madison St.
Gary, IN 46402
219-902-0994
BASS GUITAR

**33857** Beck, Eva Carol
161 W. Harrison St., Apt. 1102
Chicago, IL 60605-1081
312-835-3802
VIOLA

**57094** Beisel, Emily R.
1455 W. Foster Ave., Apt. 1
Chicago, IL 60641
773-315-0173
CELLO

**54528** Chambers, Ronald
608 Willow Road
Winnetka, IL 60093
847-924-8883
CELLO

**57233** Darrow, Jacob W.
6043 N. Whipple Ave., Apt. 3
Chicago, IL 60660
773-218-1558
BASSOON

**46767** DiMuzio, Jerry M.
5645 N. Mozart St.
Chicago, IL 60659
773-390-1117
SAXOPHONE

**56799** Donatelle, Nicholas M.
3570 W. Shakespeare Ave., Apt. 1
Chicago, IL 60647
917-667-8488
CELLO

**57113** Drablette, Netanel
1155 Riplsey St., Apt. 1513
Silver Spring, MD 20910-7467
215-353-2488
VIOLIN

**57168** Ellis, Jason A.
4228 N. Lamon, Apt. 1
Chicago, IL 60641
812-327-8093
BASS VIOLIN

**31330** Judson, Richard
17 W. 702 Butterfield Road, Apt. 102
Oakbrook, IL 60181
773-484-9151
TRUMPET

**54537** Kopp, Michael S.
444 W. Saint James Place, Apt. 1212
Chicago, IL 60614
312-351-3577
PERCUSSION

**56976** Larson, Kelly M.
4817 W. Berenice Ave.
Chicago, IL 60641-3502
708-646-1655
VIOLA

**55739** Maze, Valerie
908 Willowbrook Drive
Greenboro, NC 27403
773-415-4849
CELLO

**56294** Olive, Jordan D.
4722 N. Sacramento Ave.
Chicago, IL 60625
773-390-1117
TRUMPET

**55986** Olsen, Kenneth R.
208 W. Washington St., Apt. 610
Chicago, IL 60606
773-315-0173
CELLO

**49646** Pendowski, Michael J.
1425 E. University Drive
Auburn, AL 36830
312-965-0782
SAXOPHONE

**57238** Schade, Julia L.
609 Ellis Ave
Rockford, IL 61103
815-979-2237
PIANO

**57057** Sheldt, Rachel P.
7219 W. Madison, Apt. 211
Forest Park, IL 60130
630-835-6153
CELLO

**53813** Schwaum, John G.
336 Bell Drive
Cary, IL 60013
847-338-3459
FRENCH HORN

**48079** Swope Dupree, Sheryl L.
2001 S. Calumet Ave., Apt. 601
Chicago, IL 60616
217-241-7040
PIANO

**56775** Tachouet, Marie E.
1309 W. Wells St., Apt. 904
Chicago, IL 60607-8059
503-367-9596
VIOLIN

**65845** Whitney, Valerie B.
1108 Florence Ave., Apt. 2
Evanston, IL 60202
708-646-1655
CELLO

**50342** Weiss, Howard A.
1408 Summit Circle Drive
Rochester, NY 14618
585-244-7471
VIOLIN

**56885** Whitney, Valerie B.
1108 Florence Ave., Apt. 2
Evanston, IL 60202
212-738-0785
FRENCH HORN

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### Contributions to the Musicians Relief Fund

**TOTAL: $1,802.50**

The Musicians Relief Fund helps Local 10-208 musicians in time of need. Contributions can be made in memory of a musician that has touched your life and whose life you would like to see remembered. Or, a general contribution can be made to the fund. Your name will be added to the expanding list of generous donors.

Make checks payable to the Musicians Relief Fund and mail them to the Chicago Federation of Musicians
656 W. Randolph St., #2W
Chicago, IL 60661
Attn: Membership Dept.

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### Contributions to the Tempo Fund

**TOTAL: $1,617.00**

**TOTAL: $1,001.50**

TEMPO is the AFM’s nonpartisan, multi-candidate political action fund that is supported entirely by the voluntary contributions of AFM members, staff and family. Contributions from others cannot be accepted and will be returned. TEMPO contributions are used for political purposes, including contributions and expenditures in federal and state elections and to support candidates of either party who have a demonstrated record of support for professional musicians, issues of concern to its members and the arts in general.

To make a contribution, make your check payable to TEMPO and send it c/o Chicago Federation of Musicians
656 W. Randolph St., #2W
Chicago, IL 60661
Attn: Membership Dept.

Contributions to the CFM College Scholarship Fund for Music Students are in memory of Leland Baska, Loren Binford, Frank D’Rone, Shelly Elias, Rick Frigo, Betty Mateyko and Wayne Roepke. This fund helps the CFM continue to offer financial assistance for children of CFM members as well as students of CFM members that are currently working toward a music degree.

Make checks payable to the CFM Scholarship Fund and mail them to the Chicago Federation of Musicians
656 W. Randolph St., #2W
Chicago, IL 60661
Attn: Membership Dept.

We will add your name to the list of contributors on our website.
The Elevated Linked Chicago’s Music Venues in 1920s through Early ’40s

By Charles Sengstock

The recent restoration and upgrading of two major Chicago Elevated System stations recalls the days when the El was a key route connecting the city’s major entertainment districts.

The Wilson Avenue El station entrance at Montrose and Broadway, one of those stations being renovated, was a portal to one of Chicago’s largest amusement districts that extended along Broadway north of Montrose to Lawrence Avenue and beyond. A number of theaters, nightclubs and two major ballrooms were located in the area.

The Martin Luther King terminal at 63rd St. and M. L. King Dr., on what is now known as the Green Line, is being updated, whereas the Wilson station entrance was restored to its external 1923 look.

The North Side

Just to the north of the Montrose entrance was the old Arcadia Ballroom, at 4444 N. Broadway, a long and narrow, bow-truss-roofed building on Transit System property. It was built adjacent to the former Elevated System’s Wilson Ave. train yard.

The next Elevated stop north of Wilson is at Lawrence and Broadway. The Aragon Ballroom is located just east of the El station on Lawrence Ave. To the west, across Broadway, were the Riviera and Uptown Theaters, one of the biggest clubs and entertainment venues.

Further north the Winona Gardens and 5100 Club, where comedian Danny Thomas got his start, were located in the 5100 block of north Broadway near Lawrence Avenue. The large Marigold Gardens (Grace at Broadway) was being updated, whereas the Wilson station entrance was restored to its external 1923 look.

Jazz on The Stroll

In the 1920s, clubs and entertainment venues extended south to 55th St. Clubs continued to operate into the 1930s and 40s.

The north-south line running from Howard Street on the north to Jackson Park on the south is the most important to our story. But the branches also went Brooke to entertainment venues.

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The Englewood branch of the north-south line turned west near 63rd Street. The Lake St., Douglas Park and Garfield Park branches all fed into the Loop from the west. Those El lines carried passengers to and from the Loop and the major downtown Chicago entertainment district with its scores of restaurants, legitimate theaters, clubs and movie houses.

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The next Elevated stop north of Wilson is at Lawrence and Broadway. The Aragon Ballroom is located just east of the El station on Lawrence Ave. To the west, across Broadway, were the Riviera and Uptown Theaters, one of the biggest clubs and entertainment venues.

The next stop east was Cottage Grove Avenue. Streetcars ran along both streets. Many of these entertainment venues continued to operate into the 1930s and 40s under new names.

The north-south line running from Howard Street on the north to Jackson Park on the south is the most important to our story. But the branches also went Brooke to entertainment venues.

An El ride south from the Loop took patrons to the city’s far south major entertainment and recreation areas along the Jackson Park branch.

The giant White City Amusement Park was at 63rd and Cottage Grove. The Clifton’s Amusement Park, which started out as a military amusement rides, a giant lighted tower and two ballrooms—the White City Ballroom and the Casino. The White City Ballroom had the largest dance floor in Chicago, nearly 34,000 square feet.

The next stop east was Cottage Grove Avenue where the nightlife district at 63rd and Cottage Grove spread from about 60th St. on the north, where the Midwest Gardens, the Merry Garden and the Trianon were located, to about 68th St. on the south. Numerous clubs dotted 63rd St. to the east and west.

Just south of the 63rd and Cottage Grove intersection on the east side of Cottage Grove were the Tivoli Theater and the Garfield Park Ballroom. Across the street on the west side was the Pershing Hotel, which had both a large nightclub and a ballroom.

The popular Granada Café was located farther south on Cottage Grove at 68th Street, across from the Oak Woods cemetery, not a prime location. Operator Al Quadabchi liked dance bands and hired Paul Whitman, Ben Pollack, Ted Weems and others. A youthful Guy Lombardo and his band rose to fame there through its nightly broadcasts over WBBM.

Although the Granada Café actually was out of the main 63rd and Cottage Grove’s neighborhood, its radio broadcasts and discretely located gaming tables drew big crowds in spite of its location.

That strip of South State was known as “the Stroll,” so named because it was crowded day and night with residents, entertainers and club patrons strolling between venues, many just taking in the sights.

The Grand, old Monogram and Vendome Theaters, the Elmwood Café and the Elite Number one were clustered around 31st St. on State. Other clubs like the Elite Number two, the Dreamland Café, the Panama and Deluxe cafés and the new Monogram and State Theaters were located around 35th and State St. The famous Club DeLisa later located farther south on State St. near 55th.

In the 1920s, clubs and entertainment venues extended east of State St. along both 31st St. and Cottage Grove Ave. An El ride south from the Loop took patrons to the city’s far south major entertainment and recreation areas along the Jackson Park branch.

The Giant White City Amusement Park was at 63rd and Cottage Grove. The Clifton’s Amusement Park, which started out as a military amusement rides, a giant lighted tower and two ballrooms—the White City Ballroom and the Casino. The White City Ballroom had the largest dance floor in Chicago, nearly 34,000 square feet.

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63rd St. and Cottage Grove Ave.

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George M. Pales 1927-2018

George M. Pales, of Lodi, Wisconsin passed away quietly on Wednesday, February 7, 2018, while at his winter residence in St. Petersburg, Florida. George was born on December 25, 1927, in Chicago, Illinois, to George and Mary (Vandlik) Pales. George was a lifelong member of the Chicago Federation of Musicians. After summer visits to the Lake Wisconsin area in the early 1960’s George and Lois fell in love with the snow covered and exciting lifestyle of the lake area offered. They purchased property and began, with their children, building their dream lake home in Okee, which became their permanent residence in 1978. George loved sharing the exciting summer lake life of boating, water skiing, tubing and swimming with his family, along with snowmobiling in the winter months. George was a member of First Lutheran Church, Lodi and Lodi’s American Legion Post. For many of the past 25 years, after enjoying the two early Wisconsin snowfalls and snowmobile ride, George and Lois thawed out during the remaining winter months in St. Petersburg. There George enjoyed following several Big Band Jazz groups which he occasionally had the opportunity to drum with, keeping his passion for music and drumming alive. Preceding him in death were his parents George and Mary Pales and his two siblings Will Pales and Bess Bagel. He is survived by three children, Debbie (Richard) Hode of Crystal Lake, Illinois, George (Carla) Pales of Littleton, Colorado, Kenneth (Nancy) Pales of Charlotte, North Carolina: seven grandchildren, Todd (Catherine) Hode, Scott (Niki) Hode, Alyson (Kiri) Shore, Christopher (Dee) Pales, Timothy (Janesia) Pales, Christina (Neil) Blazin, Brittany Pales, and twelve great-grandchildren, Johnathan, Ivana, Kate, Paige, Caleb, Lydia, Brielle, Ava, Preston, Mylan, Grayson and Theodore. George is also survived by many wonderful nieces, nephews and dear friends. George leaves an incredibly beautiful legacy as a loving devoted and proud husband, father, grandfather and great-grandfather, setting a strong example of hard work, as well as always stressing the importance of family values and unity. George’s charming smile, grand sense of humor and infectious personality made him an immediate friend to countless numbers of people during his years in Chicago, Lodi and St. Petersburg. He was greatly loved and will be tremendously missed by all the lives he touched.

Nancy C. Boehm 1952-2018

Nancy Colemier Boehm, age 65, of Glenview, passed away on February 25, 2018. Nancy was survived by her devoted husband of 32 years, Bradley Richard Boehm; son, Daniel Richard Boehm; daughter, Heather Ruth Boehm; and many other loving relatives and friends. Born in Stillwater, Minnesota on November 11, 1972 Nancy received her Bachelors degree in music from St. Olaf College in 1972. She attended Northwestern University on a performance scholarship for her Master’s in Music (1975) where she graduated with departmental distinction and played with the Civic Orchestra of Chicago. An accomplished French hornist, Nancy performed as a soloist on the Britten Serenade for Horn, Tenor, and Orchestra, Mozart’s Horn Concerto No. 3, and concertized with a French horn quartet. She performed and toured with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra under Sir George Solti playing Wagner tuba and French horn. Nancy played with Chicago Opera Theatre, where she met Brad, who was playing trumpet. Nancy and Brad were married on September 4th, 1986. After Daniel was born, Nancy worked as the assistant librarian of a junior high school in Glencoe and Technology Coordinator at Main South High School in Park Ridge. Upon retirement, she served her community as a volunteer concierge at Glenbrook Hospital. Memorials may be made to Lutheran Church Charities Canine Comfort Dogs, 3020 Milwaukee Ave., Northbrook, IL 60062

By Heather Boehm

Nancy C. Boehm
1952-2018

Bachelor's degree in music from St. Olaf College in 1972. She performed as a soloist on the Britten Serenade for Horn, Tenor, and Orchestra, Mozart’s Horn Concerto No. 3, and concertized with a French horn quartet. She performed and toured with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra under Sir George Solti playing Wagner tuba and French horn. Nancy played with Chicago Opera Theatre, where she met Brad, who was playing trumpet. Nancy and Brad were married on September 4th, 1986. After Daniel was born, Nancy worked as the assistant librarian of a junior high school in Glencoe and Technology Coordinator at Main South High School in Park Ridge. Upon retirement, she served her community as a volunteer concierge at Glenbrook Hospital. Memorials may be made to Lutheran Church Charities Canine Comfort Dogs, 3020 Milwaukee Ave., Northbrook, IL 60062

By Heather Boehm

Intermezzo April 2018

Obituaries

Rami Solomonow 1949-2018

A Tribute

Rami Solomonow was the very first person that I met in Chicago. In 1978, I was coming out of the building where I had just played an audition for the Lyric Opera orchestra, and he was standing outside. They say, good things come in small packages. But great things must come in big ones because it was impossible to miss Rami - so tall and so fiercely handsome. On that day we became friends and so we remained for forty years, until the day he died.

Rami was principal of the viola section at Lyric, and I was always looking forward to his solos. His sound was sweet and thick like honey, and warm like a Mediterranean sunset on a warm spring evening. We played together many times, and I will never forget playing Mozart’s “Sinfonia Concertante” with Rami. During the second movement all I was thinking was: I never want this to end, so beautiful was the playing, with his sound enveloping and hugging all in the audience. Later, when he co-founded Chicago String Quartet, it was always a treat to hear him perform chamber music, with his rich sound soaring.

Outside of the concert hall, Rami was a master raconteur with a wonderful sense of humor, he could turn the most mundane episode into a stand-up routine. His sense of loyalty and of integrity was absolute: he never asked for help but was always the first to offer it. And if Rami said that he would do something, it was as good as done, and done right. His largesse was also legendary. If you went out with Rami, he was always the first to offer to pay for the entire meal, and sometimes we had to actually fight for the check in front of the waitstaff. He was just as generous with his time, sharing his talent, expertise and experience with his many colleagues and with his students at DePaul University and at the many music festivals.

After years of being one of Chicago’s most eligible bachelors, Rami met the love of his life, his wife Ronit. Just as he was the witness at my wedding, I was the witness at his. And I witnessed their family life where love ruled. Rami was an adoring husband and soon became a doting and proud father of Yoni and Ben. His pride in his boys was enormous, his devotion to his family all-encompassing. Rami truly took care of Ronit in sickness and in health: when she became gravely ill, he was nursing her until her very last breath; she died at home in his arms.

Yet, even people closest to him never heard him complain. He was not a man of many words, but his actions spoke louder than any words ever could, and his courage and strength inspired awe and admiration.

When he himself became ill, nobody ever heard him complain. He was always shielding his sons and people close to him from pain. His silence fooled us, and his death was unexpected. His passing leaves a gaping void in Chicago’s musical life and in the lives of all those who had the honor of knowing him personally. For me, it is a deep personal loss, as Rami was an integral part of my life. I want to extend my deepest condolences to the loved ones he left behind: to his wonderful boys and to his loving brother Moshe and his family.

We will miss Rami and will remember him always.

Alexander Belinsky
Chicago Lyric Opera Orchestra

Deceased

May they rest in peace

Last First Instrument Died Born Elected
Barron Ron Drums 01/25/18 10/14/28 06/15/78
Connors Maurice J. Banjo 01/17/18 04/09/15 07/11/46
Kary Robert W. Piano 01/07/18 11/17/24 08/21/47
Pales George M. Drums 12/25/27 06/14/62

Rami Solomonow 1949-2018

A Tribute

Rami Solomonow was the very first person that I met in Chicago. In 1978, I was coming out of the building where I had just played an audition for the Lyric Opera orchestra, and he was standing outside. They say, good things come in small packages. But great things must come in big ones because it was impossible to miss Rami - so tall and so fiercely handsome. On that day we became friends and so we remained for forty years, until the day he died.

Rami was principal of the viola section at Lyric, and I was always looking forward to his solos. His sound was sweet and thick like honey, and warm like a Mediterranean sunset on a warm spring evening. We played together many times, and I will never forget playing Mozart’s “Sinfonia Concertante” with Rami. During the second movement all I was thinking was: I never want this to end, so beautiful was the playing, with his sound enveloping and hugging all in the audience. Later, when he co-founded Chicago String Quartet, it was always a treat to hear him perform chamber music, with his rich sound soaring.

Outside of the concert hall, Rami was a master raconteur with a wonderful sense of humor, he could turn the most mundane episode into a stand-up routine. His sense of loyalty and of integrity was absolute: he never asked for help but was always the first to offer it. And if Rami said that he would do something, it was as good as done, and done right. His largesse was also legendary. If you went out with Rami, he was always the first to offer to pay for the entire meal, and sometimes we had to actually fight for the check in front of the waitstaff. He was just as generous with his time, sharing his talent, expertise and experience with his many colleagues and with his students at DePaul University and at the many music festivals.

After years of being one of Chicago’s most eligible bachelors, Rami met the love of his life, his wife Ronit. Just as he was the witness at my wedding, I was the witness at his. And I witnessed their family life where love ruled. Rami was an adoring husband and soon became a doting and proud father of Yoni and Ben. His pride in his boys was enormous, his devotion to his family all-encompassing. Rami truly took care of Ronit in sickness and in health: when she became gravely ill, he was nursing her until her very last breath; she died at home in his arms.

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Pales George M. Drums 12/25/27 06/14/62
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If you have future engagements that you would like listed in this column, please send them to Nancy Van Aacken at nvanaacken@cfm10208.org. Listings will be included provided there is a Union contract on file.

By Nancy Van Aacken
We have many musicians performing throughout the area. Support them by attending a performance or patronizing an establishment where they work.

Enjoy a Musical
Cadillac Palace Theatre
On Your Feet!
March 21st, 2018 – April 8th, 2018
Rodgers and Hammerstein’s Cinderella
April 27th – May 6th, 2018
312-977-1700

CBC Theatre
Hamilton
New Playing
312-977-1700

Dury Lane Theatre
South Pacific
April 5th – June 17th, 2018
630-530-0111

Marriott Lincolnshire Theatre
Oklahoma!
April 11th – June 10th, 2018
847-634-0200

Oriental Theatre
Pretty Woman
March 13th, 2018 – April 15th, 2018
630-966-6666

The Second City
Jacob Shuda and Vinnie Pillarella
Sunday through Saturday
1616 N. Wells St., Chicago

Attend an Orchestra Concert or Opera!
Chicago Master Singers
Music of the English Cathedrals
Friday, April 20, 2018 at 7:30 pm
Techny Towers
2001 Waukegan Road, Techny/Northbrook
877-825-5267
www.chicagomastersingers.org

Chicago Opera Theater
Il Pignozione & Rites
Saturday, April 14, 2018 at 7:30 pm
Friday, April 20, 2018 at 7:30 pm
Sunday, April 22, 2018 at 3:00 pm
Studebaker Theater – Fine Arts Building
410 S. Michigan Ave., Chicago
312-704-8414
www.chicagoperaetheater.org

Chicago Philharmonic Orchestra
Beyond the Black Sea
Sunday, April 8, 2018, 2:00 pm
North Shore Center for Performing Arts
9501 Skokie Blvd., Skokie

Chicago Philharmonic with Visceral Dance Chicago
The Dream
Sunday, April 29, 2018, 3:00 pm
North Shore Center for Performing Arts
9501 Skokie Blvd., Skokie
312-977-0000
www.chicagophilarmonic.org

Illinois Philharmonic Orchestra
Season Finale: Heart and Soul
Saturday, April 14, 2018 at 7:30 pm
Trinity Christian College, Ozinga Chapel
6601 W. College Dr., Palos Heights
708-481-7774
www.ipomusic.org

Lake Forest Symphony Orchestra
Haydn / Beethoven
Saturday, April 7, 2018 at 8:00 pm
Lake Forest Academy
1500 W. Kennedy Road, Lake Forest
Sunday, April 8, 2018 at 2:00 pm
James Lumber Center for the Performing Arts
1935 W. Washington Street, Grayslake
847-543-2000
www.lakeforestsymphony.org

Attend the Ballet
Joffrey Ballet
Chicago Philharmonic Orchestra
Midsummer Night’s Dream
April 25, 2018 – May 6, 2018
Auditorium Theatre
50 East Congress Parkway, Chicago
312-386-8905
www.joffrey.org
www.chicagophilharmonic.org

Attend an Orchestra Concert or Opera!
Rockford Symphony Orchestra
Rahsaan Valentine Concert
Saturday, April 28, 2018 at 7:30 pm
Thomas Jefferson Performing Arts Center
314 N. Main Street, Rockford
815-965-0049
www.rockfordsymphony.com

The Symphony of Oak Park
and River Forest
Beethoven Choral Fantasy
& ORFF Carmina Burana
Monday, April 23, 2018 at 7:30 pm
Symphony Center
220 S. Michigan Ave., Chicago
708-218-2648
www.symphonyoprf.com

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Jazz on Sundays!
April 1 – Bill McFarland & The Chicago Horns – Trombone
7:30 PM – 11:30 PM
April 8 – Julius Tucker…Piano
7:30 PM – 11:30 PM
April 15 –Hinda Hoffman featuring Chris Foreman… Sax & Organ
7:30 PM – 11:30 PM
April 22 – Note Worthy Band
7:30 PM – 11:30 PM
April 29 – Joan Collazo 5th Sunday Jazz Session…Vocals
7:30 PM – 11:30 PM
James Wagner Hyde Park Jazz Society Room 43
1033 E. 43rd Street, Chicago
www.hydeparkjazzsociety.com

Bach Week Festival
45th Annual Opening Night
Friday, April 27, 2018 at 7:30 PM
Candlelight Concert at 10:00 PM
Saturday, April 28, 2018 at 7:30 PM
Nicholas Conquest Hall
Music Institute of Chicago
1490 Chicago Ave., Evanston
Closing Concert
Friday, May 4, 2018 at 7:30 PM
Anderson Chapel
North Park University
5149 N. Spaulding Ave., Chicago
800-338-3080
www.bachweek.org

Unique Programs
Phil Passen
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Wednesday, April 4, 2018 7:00 PM – 8:15 PM
Woodstock Public Library
5155 Barrington Ave., East Dundee
Music to Commemorate Illinois’ Bicentennial
Saturday, April 28, 2018 2:00 PM – 3:15 PM
Fox River Valley Library
1215 S. 5th Ave., Aurora
Music to Commemorate Illinois’ Bicentennial
Sunday, April 29, 2018 2:00 PM – 3:30 PM
Wilmette Public Library
1244 Wilmette Ave., Wilmette
www.phipaspen.com

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217 Sequences For The Contemporary Musician
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Patrick Dessent (Sam Bennett)
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Memoirs of a Trumpet Player
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amazon.com

Nancy Fako
Philip Farkas and His Horn
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The Intermezzo is published 9 times a year. May-June, September-October, and November-December are combined issues.

CALL FOR INFORMATION
The Intermezzo is our communication between the Local and our members. In addition to the printed version, we also post each issue on the CFM website. Most of the magazine is available to the public. We are always looking for events, accomplishments, and things of interest to other members and the public.

Share your announcements, reviews or anything you would like to see printed to tjares@cfm10208.org.

The Board of Directors reserves the right to determine whether material submitted shall be published.

First Violin Audition
May 30 & 31, 2018

Chicago Sinfonietta and Mei-Ann Chen announce the following audition:

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE GO TO: WWW.CHICAGOSINFONIETTA.ORG/AUDITIONS
Chicago Sinfonietta is an equal opportunity employer.

Second Horn Audition
May 17, 2018

Chicago Sinfonietta and Mei-Ann Chen announce the following audition:

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE GO TO: WWW.CHICAGOSINFONIETTA.ORG/AUDITIONS
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The Illinois Arts Council Agency is pleased to announce the release of Fiscal Year 2018 guidelines and application materials for our open deadline programs; Artstour & Live Music, StArts, and Individual Artist Support.

Artstour & Live Music (ATLM) provides support to eligible Illinois not-for-profit organizations seeking to present Illinois performing artists, companies, or groups for performances, collaborations, or short residencies held in conjunction with performances.

Guidelines:
To access the ATLM guidelines follow this link:
http://www.arts.illinois.gov/grants-programs/ArtstourLiveMusic

Deadline:
Open Deadline - Grant requests for fiscal year 2018 will be accepted through May 15, 2018 for activities occurring through August 31, 2018. Applications must be received by the IACA no less than 8 weeks prior to the project starting date.

For further information about the program email Encarnacion Teruel at encarnacion.teruel@illinois.gov.

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Contact B.J. Levy for prices and to secure dates.