

# Charlotte NC Chapter of the AMERICAN HARP SOCIETY

## September 2023 Newsletter

### Message from the Chapter President

Greetings Friends,

As the summer draws to a close and we begin to prepare for the fall, your chapter Board of Directors has been busy planning exciting harp activities, workshop, recital and events. There are so many wonderful benefits of having a vibrant, supportive, multigenerational harp chapter. Our connections with the American Harp Society enhance our experiences and offer us many resources.

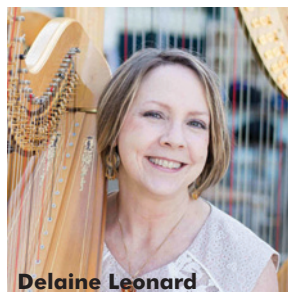


Please take time to **renew your memberships** to our local chapter online at [www.charlotteharps.org](http://www.charlotteharps.org) and to the national association, as well.

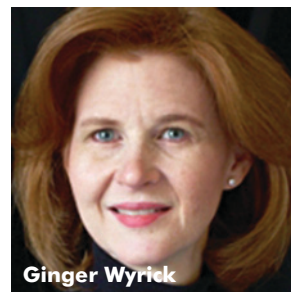
### Harp Opportunities... Harpportunities?

As members of the CCAHS, here are some of the things you can look forward to in the coming year:

- Delaine Leonard has offered to provide a workshop on ensemble playing. More details will be provided later.
- The chapter continues its commitment to reaching out to the community with two Christmas Ensemble Concerts. More details will be provided later.
- Mark your calendars! Betsey Sessler, who coordinates Auditions and Evaluations (A & E) has secured the dates of **February 24, 2024**, and **March 9, 2024**, with advisor Ginger G. Wyrick.
- Andrea Mumm Trammell, principal harpist and Kristina Finch, second harpist with the Charlotte Symphony have agreed to provide a Spring Duo Recital.



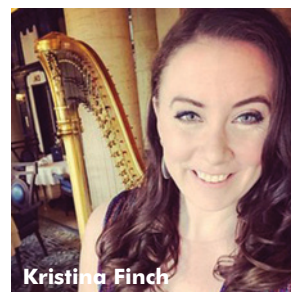
Delaine Leonard



Ginger Wyrick



Andrea Mumm Trammell



Kristina Finch

### Community Harp Ensemble Opportunities for ages 16 and up

Chapter members have asked for more harp ensemble opportunities:

- **Hospice of Cabarrus County's Interlude Harp Circle** which meets on the first Friday of the month from 10–11:30am and welcomes new members to play in the chapel at the Tucker Inpatient Unit at 5005 Hospice Lane, Kannapolis, NC 28081. However, the first session is on September 8th due to the Labor Day holiday weekend. For more information and music, contact Kathleen Blackwell-Plank at [Kathleen.BlackwellPlank@atriumhealth.org](mailto:Kathleen.BlackwellPlank@atriumhealth.org)
- In addition, the Interlude Music Program offers a six-part online webinar series, **Creativity and Innovation in Music for Hospice and Healthcare**. These affordable webinars (\$75 for the six-part series) are free for Interlude Harp Circle volunteers. This series offers a stellar line-up for 2023–2024 including: Verlène Schermer, Sunita Staneslow, Kathleen Blackwell-Plank, Monica Hargrave, Catharine DeLong and Mary Stevens (see attachment). Registration to begin in September.

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## New Harp Sheet Music Arrangements

The May/June 2023, vol.31, issue 5 featured an article about Ukrainian harpist Veronika Lemishenko. Jan Jennings' article, "Soothing lullabies: These calming melodies are not just for fussy babies," included a review of three Ukrainian Lullabies arranged by Kathleen Blackwell-Plank. This downloadable sheet music is available from Harp Column, Melody's Traditional Music and Sylvia Woods Harp Center.



Kathleen Blackwell-Plank

## Music for Meditation

Are you interested in music for meditation? September is National Yoga Awareness month. Check out the calming pedal and lever harp solos reviewed by Harp Column's Liana-Alpino's blog:

<https://harpcolumn.com/music/national-yoga-awareness-month/>

## Student Summer Harp Adventures

Tessa Jackson, who has studied harp with Bette Roth for approximately 13 years, attended Csehy Summer School of Music which is in Langhorne PA. She majored in harp and got to perform a chamber piece with other musicians around her age! She also got to play in the orchestra and band and have lessons twice a week with harpist Cheryl Cunningham.

Tessa states, "This experience was special to me this year because Csehy is a classical Christian music camp. It's one of the only places that I can think of where I'm with a community of people my age who enjoy playing classical music and praising the Lord with their talents. It's really amazing having a community of people that I can talk about my faith with and then randomly swoon over Mendelssohn No.2 as well!"

Tessa attends Covenant Day School and is a rising 10th grader.



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