



The Foundation Issue

Remembering Clinton B. Ford



Clinton B. Ford
ACMP Benefactor

Clinton B. Ford had two passions in life; music and astrology. When he died on September 23, 1992, (sixty-five years to the day on which he made his first variable star observation) his bequest to ACMP was a total surprise. After intensive thought and debate on how to make the best use of this windfall, the ACMP Foundation was created in 1993.

Who was this man who loved music and stars? Clinton Ford's "burn for Astronomy" started in his youth under his father's tutelage at the University of Michigan's Observatory. By the age of 14, he had observed his first variable star, and became the youngest person ever to be admitted as a member of American Association of Variable Star Observers. His unvarying interest in music also started in childhood with violin lessons. In his 1986 autobiographical sketch for AAVSO, *Some Stars, Some Music*, Ford said "When my grandfather's brother, a Civil War veteran, a grand old man who everyone called Uncle Clinton, learned that his namesake was playing the violin he gave me his own violin. It was no Strad, but it was better than the 'cheese-box' my father had on which I was scratching out the rudiments."

Some of Clinton Ford's happiest musical memories were at his family house, "The Manse" in Ovid, New York, near Cayuga Lake. He would host musical house parties at which marathon sessions of chamber music would be interspersed with delicious meals that he loved to prepare on an outdoor stone grill. He moved to Connecticut in his later years and played viola in the Stamford Symphony and chamber music with Advisory Council member William Selden (Va/Vn, Westport, CT.)

Seventeen years later, community music schools, youth orchestras, and workshops have introduced the pleasures and rewards of playing chamber music to hundreds of children and even some adults who might never have been exposed to it. You might say the Clinton B. Ford bequest has enabled them to reach for the stars.

Letter from the ACMP Foundation President

In addition to helping support the general activities of ACMP, the main purpose of the Foundation has been to further the mission of ACMP by providing grants to stimulate playing chamber music for pleasure. Since 1993, the Foundation has made grants totaling nearly \$4 million, \$258,994 of it in 2009. Nearly two-thirds of this total has been directed to community music schools to stimulate and support the inclusion of chamber music programs in their offerings. This reflects a commitment to develop future generations of chamber musicians by helping to introduce chamber music playing to youngsters. Foundation grants have also gone to support chamber music workshops around the world, Home Coaching, and a variety of other special projects.

The economic crisis and downturn in financial markets have impacted the Foundation's assets and thus there are fewer resources than in recent years. Still, the commitment to continuing grant programs remains unwavering, although at reduced levels. The budget for grant programs for FY 2010 is \$204,850 and the Board has committed not to permit it to drop below \$185,000 next year. While down from past years, this is still a considerable sum, and the Board is wrestling with how to allocate reduced resources.

Grants fall broadly into four categories. The most significant and largest program by far is Community Music Schools, accounting for around two-thirds of the total both in numbers of grants and funds disbursed. Second comes Workshops, accounting for around 15%. A catch-all category called Special Initiatives, and the popular Home Coaching program account for the rest.

Board committees review all applications for Community Music Schools, Workshops and Special Initiatives. The Home Coaching program is administered by our Executive Director. The Foundation's goal is to make the grant programs as streamlined and as transparent as possible. Efforts are ongoing to simplify and standardize the application process. We would welcome comments or suggestions from members.

Richard Weinert

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Bulletin Board

Grants for Community Music Programs

In 2008-09 a total of \$135,440 was disbursed to programs in 25 states, 2 Canadian Provinces, Puerto Rico and Japan as follows:

- CA:** Pasadena Conservatory of Music, Pasadena
Junior Chamber Music, Huntington Beach
Crowden Music Center, Berkeley
Santa Cruz Chamber Players, Santa Cruz
San Francisco Friends of Chamber Music, San Francisco
Music at Kohl Mansion, Burlingame
Sacramento Youth Symphony & Academy of Music, Sacramento
- CT:** Neighborhood Music School, New Haven
Hartt School Community Division - University of Hartford, Hartford
- DC:** Levine School of Music, Washington
- FL:** Amelia Arts Academy, Fernandina Beach
- GA:** Chamber Music Connection - Atlanta, Fayetteville
- IA:** Preucil School of Music, Iowa City
- IL:** Merit School of Music, Chicago
Midwest Young Artists, Highwood
VanderCook College of Music - Community Music Academy, Chicago
Music Institute of Chicago, Winnetka
- IN:** Suzuki Music School of Granger, Granger
Indianapolis Academy of Music, Indianapolis
- MA:** South Shore Conservatory, Hingham
Northampton Community Music Center, Northampton
Winchester Community Music School, Winchester
Longy School of Music, Cambridge
Suzuki School of Newton, Auburndale
Community Music School, Winchester
Joy of Music Program, Worcester
- ME:** Pineland Suzuki School, Manchester
- MN:** Saint Barnabas Center for the Arts, Plymouth
MacPhail Center for Music, Minneapolis
- ND:** Valley City State University
Community School of the Arts, Valley City
- NH:** Manchester Community Music School, Manchester
Concord Community Music School, Concord
Upper Valley Music Center, Lebanon
Timberlane Regional Music Department, Plaistow
- NJ:** Westminster Conservatory, Princeton
JCC Thurnauer School of Music, Tenafly
Stirling Duo, Maplewood
Newark School of the Arts, Newark
- NV:** Carson City Symphony Association, Carson City
Nevada School of the Arts, Las Vegas
- NY:** 92nd Street Y, New York
Third Street Music School Settlement, New York
Bloomingdale School of Music, New York
Lucy Moses School for Music and Dance, New York
Concordia Conservatory, Bronxville

(continued in text box on next page)



Austin Chamber Music Center, Austin, TX
Members of the Carpe Diem Quartet and students in Master Class, Saturday November 14, 2009.
Korine Fujiwara, violist of the Carpe Diem Quartet at Right

Ora Shay, business manager of the Asten Chamber Music Center writes: Thanks so much for the support that ACMP provides, especially in these times when the city and the state are both being slow about delivery of funds awarded to us for this year.

I wish that you could have heard the master class that Carpe Diem Quartet gave to our students on Saturday. Both the quartet and the students were outstanding.



Concord Community Music School, Concord, NH



Junior Chamber Music, Huntington Beach, CA



Preucil School of Music, Iowa City, IA

Chamber Musicians of the Future



Carson City Strings, Carson City Symphony Association, Carson City, NV

Grants for Community Music Programs

(continued from previous page)

- OH:** Chamber Music Connection, Worthington
University of Cincinnati Foundation, Cincinnati
Cleveland Institute of Music, Cleveland
Music Makers, Cincinnati
- PA:** Settlement Music School, Philadelphia
Musicopia, Philadelphia
Darlington Fine Arts Center, Boothwyn
Temple University Music Preparatory Division,
Philadelphia
Pennsylvania Academy of Music, Lancaster
Community Conservatory of Music, Doylestown
Community Music School of Collegeville, Trappe
Suburban Music School, Media
- RI:** Community MusicWorks, Providence
East Providence School Department-Music
Department, East Providence
- SC:** Charleston Academy of Music, Charleston
- SD:** Dakota Academy of Performing Arts, Sioux Falls
- TX:** Salon Concerts, Austin
Austin Chamber Music Center, Austin
- VA:** Academy of Music, Norfolk
- WA:** Whatcom Symphony Orchestra, Bellingham
- WI:** Wausau Conservatory of Music, Wausau
Wisconsin Conservatory of Music, Milwaukee
- CANADA**
- BC:** Langley Community Music School,
Langley
- ON:** University Settlement Music & Arts
School, Toronto
- PUERTO RICO:** Conservatorio de Musica de Puerto
Rico, San Juan
- JAPAN:** Tanner Community Chamber Ensemble,
Yokohama

Home Coaching

Foundation Funds Benefit All Dues-Paying ACMP Members

"Home Coaching is an awesome use of ACMP Funds. We worked hard and had fun at the same time. The inspiration we got is thrilling." Marion Richter (Vn/Va, Olney, MD).

Home coaching is open to all dues-paying members at all levels. Form your own group, choose your own repertory, your own schedule, your own coach, and your own location at your own convenience. The ACMP Grants Program subsidizes half of the cost.

To take advantage of this program, all you have to do is complete your application and submit it to the office. Include the names of all the members of your group, the work you will study, the prospective coach, the dates of your coaching sessions, and the amount that the coach will charge.

Download the application from our web site, <www.acmp.net>, or telephone the office (212) 645-7424 to receive one in the mail.

After the application is approved and the sessions begin, you pay your half directly to the coach, who then submits a bill for the remainder to ACMP.

Members may apply for one course of home coaching each year, and all members of the group must be members of ACMP.

Youth Orchestras with Chamber Music Programs

In 2008-09 a total of \$58,250 was disbursed to youth orchestras with chamber music programs in 20 states, and 1 foreign country as follows:

- CA:** Peninsula Youth Orchestra, San Carlos
- CO:** Boulder Youth Symphony, Boulder
Colorado Springs Youth Symphony Association, Colorado Springs
- CT:** Greater Bridgeport Youth Orchestra, Fairfield
- FL:** Greater Miami Youth Symphony of Dade County, Miami
Sarasota Orchestra, Sarasota
Tampa Bay Performing Arts Center, Tampa
- GA:** Metropolitan Youth Symphony Orchestras of Atlanta, Atlanta
- HI:** Hawaii Youth Symphony, Honolulu
- IN:** New World Youth Orchestras, Indianapolis
Musical Arts Youth Orchestra, Bloomington
- LA:** Greater New Orleans Youth Orchestra, New Orleans
- MA:** Northshore Youth Symphony Orchestra, Topsfield
- NE:** Omaha Area Youth Orchestra, Omaha
- NJ:** Youth Orchestras of Essex County, Maplewood
New Jersey Youth Symphony, Murray Hill
- NY:** New York Youth Symphony, New York
Saratoga Springs Youth Orchestra, Saratoga Springs
Children's Orchestra Society, Manhasset
- OH:** Cleveland Orchestra, Cleveland
Greater Akron Musical Association, Akron
Portland Youth Philharmonic Association, Portland
- PA:** Three Rivers Young Peoples Orchestras, Pittsburgh
- RI:** Rhode Island Philharmonic Orchestra and Music School, East Providence
- VA:** Williamsburg Youth Orchestras, Williamsburg
- WA:** Seattle Youth Symphony Orchestra, Seattle
Student Orchestras of Greater Olympia, Olympia
- WI:** Milwaukee Youth Symphony Orchestra, Milwaukee
Waukesha Symphony Orchestra, Waukesha
Wisconsin Youth Symphony Orchestras, Madison
- WV:** West Virginia Youth Symphony, Charleston
- ISRAEL:** Ron Shulamit Conservatory, Jerusalem



Levine School, Washington, DC



Rhode Island Philharmonic Orchestra and Music School, East Providence



I Cambristi Brussels, Belgium
 Founder and Board Member, Franz Marcus (Vc, Brussels, Belgium) standing at R.



Kammermusik Workshop, Santa Fe, New Mexico



Williamsburg VA, Youth Orchestra

Grants for Workshops

In 2008-09 a total of \$42,670 was disbursed to programs in 11 states, and 7 foreign countries as follows:

- AL:** Mobile Symphony, Mobile
- CA:** Chamber Music Society of Santa Barbara, Santa Barbara
 Chamber Musicians of Northern California Pacifica
- DC:** Levine School of Music, Washington
- FL:** Alhambra Music, Coconut Grove
- IL:** Illinois Council of Orchestras, Crystal Lake
- KS:** Chamber Music at the Barn, Maize
- MA:** Northampton Community Music Center, Northampton
 Amherst Early Music, Watertown
 Boston Chamber Music Society, Cambridge
- ME:** Portland Chamber Music Festival, South Portland
- MN:** Chamber Music Society of Saint Cloud, Saint Cloud
 Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra, Saint Paul
- NC:** Chapel Hill Chamber Music Workshop, Chapel Hill
 Raleigh Chamber Music Guild, Raleigh
- NM:** Kammermusik Workshops, Santa Fe
- NY:** Southampton Chamber Music Festival, Greenport
 Music Etc., Westhampton
 Orfeo Duo, New York
 Diller-Quaile School of Music, New York
- OH:** Chamber Music Connection, Worthington
 March Chamber Music Retreat, Stow
- PA:** Main Line Chamber Music Seminar, Philadelphia,
 Summertrios, Bryn Mawr
- VT:** Greater Manchester Adult Chamber Music Workshop, Manchester
- BELGIUM:** I Cambristi, Brussels
- FRANCE:** Association des Musiciens Amateurs, Caluire
- IRELAND:** Dublin Chamber Music Group, Co Dublin
- ISRAEL:** Israeli Chamber Music Club, Srigim
- ITALY:** Musical Passages, Carassai
 Associazione Culturale, Key Largo, Naples
- JAPAN:** ABCHAMBERMUSIC, Kawasaki
- SWEDEN:** Akademiska Kapellets, Vänner
 Mazer Quartet Society, Stockholm

Special Initiatives

In 2008-09 a total of \$22,634 was disbursed to special initiative programs in 11 states and 1 Canadian province as follows:

GA: Georgia Chamber Music Retreat, Duluth

IL: Illinois Wesleyan University, Bloomington

IN: Fiscoff Chamber Music Association,
Notre Dame

MA: Hybrid Vigor Music, Pelham
Composers Conference and Chamber
Music Center, Wellesley

MI: Troy Public Library, Troy
Chamber Music for Fun, Kalamazoo

NJ: New Jersey Intergenerational Orchestra,
Berkeley Heights

NY : Cassatt String Quartet, New York

PA : SATORI, Allentown

CANADA

BC: Quiring Chamber Music Camp, Coquitlam



Chamber Music for Fun, Blue Lakes Fine Arts Camp,
Manistee National Forest, MI



New Jersey Intergenerational Orchestra,
Berkeley Heights

The Process of Awarding Grants

The preceding impressive lists of ACMP grant recipients for fiscal year 2008-09 include both well-established and fledgling institutions, regional and national associations, recognized nonprofit organizations as well as individuals able to create and implement suitable programs. ACMP takes a lively interest in recipients' activities, on occasion providing technical and logistical assistance, and arranging for site visits to complete written reports.

We have funded community and public schools, youth orchestras, chamber music workshops, home coaching programs, and "Special Initiatives"—worthy endeavors outside ACMP's established categories.

The length and variety of the list is impressive, as is its geographic breadth: 35 American states, 2 Canadian provinces, Puerto Rico, Belgium, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, and Sweden.

So, too, does it confirm ACMP's mission of fostering chamber music playing by people of all ages and skill levels.

Executive Director, Daniel Nimetz, says, "All application information is entered into a database from which a report is generated for the use of review committees. This includes a grant history where appropriate and lists of current and pledged awards for each program area.

I add some notes if I have information that the committee might find useful in deliberating, and prepare a worksheet for committee members to jot down their own comments prior to the conference call. Grant applications are reviewed according to a prescribed schedule. and the average grant is \$1500."

Funding decisions are made by staff and board member panels carefully addressing each of our four programs, both through conference calls and real-time meetings. Members of the committees look for the quality of the program — how it serves chamber music, the number of participants, the number and quality of coaches or directors, and, if relevant, the repertoire involved.

A business-like presentation suggests a solid organization. As one Board Member said, "This does not exclude new and adventuresome programs. Quite to the contrary — a history of success is nice but so is a well-organized new venture." Committees look for budgets that are realistic, especially fair professional staff salaries. They also look at expenses that are directly related to program quality. If the request is for more than 20% of the organization's total budget, there needs to be a good explanation. Ideally the organization should have other means of income, as the committees are concerned about any organization's total dependency on ACMP (or any other funder).

Finally, a well-written application is a further assurance that the organization is a responsible one.

Committee members are in full agreement that the Foundation is absolutely essential to ACMP because we must further the cause of chamber music in general as well as its amateur performers. One member of the Workshop Committee was particularly pleased to be able support workshops aimed at C and D players in order to help them gain experience. Another member commented, "Amateur playing has a long history of importance in chamber music—from the Schubertiads of the 19th Century to the resources it provides for the modern musician, both professional and amateur. Many of our grants support professional musicians who are furthering the cause of amateur playing, and I find that encouraging for the future of the art form. The Foundation has brought a new level of awareness to ACMP's part in that future."

Guidelines and application forms for all categories of grants can be found and downloaded from our web site by clicking on the ACMP Grant Program tab.

News From the Far East

Shanghai's Viola Festival

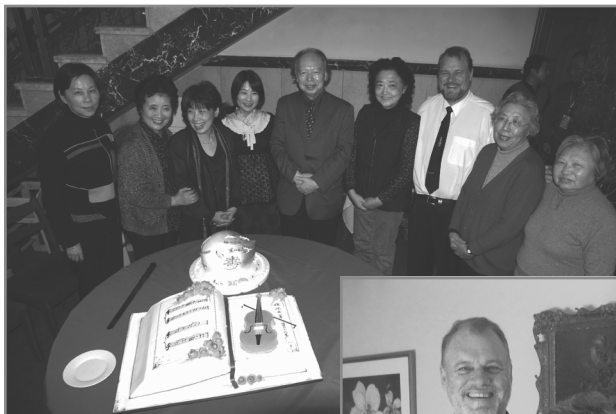
An overview by Michael Vidulich, QSM (Va/Vn/Vc, Auckland, New Zealand)

The 2009 Viola Festival took place in Shanghai, China, from November 28th to December 1st, 2009. It celebrated the 50th anniversary of the Shanghai Conservatory of Music and the 70th birthday of the Conservatory's viola professor, Professor Xi Di Shen. It was my great pleasure to attend this remarkable event. It included fantastic musical events and gave me the opportunity to observe the music scene in China today and learn about China's musical development and changes over the past fifty years.

On the second day of the festival, a **Viva la Viola** concert was held at the beautiful art deco Shanghai Concert Hall. It was open to the public and drew an audience of more than 1,000 people. It was also televised on the arts channel, broadcast on Shanghai's Weekly Radio Concert program and reviewed the following day in two Chinese newspapers.

Viva la Viola is an ensemble of 70 violists, which includes viola professors, professional violists and student violists of all ages. Among other works they performed Handel-Halvorsen's *Passacaglia* arranged for massed viola ensemble and Yang Ye Yang's *Mountain Nostalgia* for solo viola, brilliantly played by a talented eleven-year-old student violist, Zunyi Fan.

It was my pleasure, as the International Viola Society's President, to present Prof Xi-Di Shen the Society's award for her lifelong contributions to the viola.



Shanghai Viola Festival Celebration honored Professor Xi-Di Shen

Michael Vidulich and ACMP Chair Roberta Goldman at Shanghai Viola Festival



Cadences

We were saddened to learn of the deaths of the following members

Philip Blatt (Vn/Va), Brooklyn NY, Schroon Lake NY (summer).

Sarah C. Garrison (Vc), Norfolk, CT, December 18, 2009.

Elizabeth H. Martin (Vc), Sarasota FL, July 4, 2009.

Alan Meyerhoff (Vn/Va), Monroe Township NJ, May 2009.

Felix van Raalte (Pf), Wassenaar, The Netherlands.

Executive Director, Daniel Nimetz writes:

Many of you will remember Felix, who was a Dutch member of the International Advisory Council, and long-time Remitting Agent. He attended the ACMP conference in 1997 in Chautauqua, New York. We have learned that he passed away last year at the age of 93.

Contributions and Bequests

Robert A. Williamson (Vc, Lawrenceville, NJ) writes: My quartet and I have benefited greatly from the Home Coaching Program, and this is a nice opportunity to give back for the future of chamber music.

In these difficult financial times we are especially grateful to those who wish to honor the memory of their musical friends with a bequest or contribution in any amount. Your generous bequests and contributions will help us to continue to support the playing of chamber music for pleasure, and as well to nurture the next generation of chamber musicians.

Quartets in Shanghai

Jane M. Carhart (Va/Vn, Carassai, Italy) writes: In December I had the good fortune to make a trip to Vietnam and Singapore. Before I left home, I made contact with some musicians including fellow ACMP Advisory Council Member, Ronald Ling (Vn), in Singapore. He organized a quartet session for me to join him (it happened to be my birthday and as luck would have it also the birthday of our cellist) and he even arranged for me to borrow a viola from luthier Tong Ming Xi at AmberCraft Violins, which was really generous. I was very impressed with the musical life in Singapore, and this was a wonderful day for me, a real experience.

Unfortunately, the one ACMP contact listed in Vietnam has moved to India, but I got to hear lots of traditional music in Vietnam, a really lovely country and lovely people.



Wendy Stimson, Ronald Ling, and Lim Song Ann
(Not shown: Jane Carhart, who took the photo)



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ACMP Bulletin Board

AVAILABLE

TWO HAND MADE KUSTER VIOLAS WITH CASES FOR SALE

- 1) Label: Frederick Kuster, Montpelier, VT 1961 #36. Condition Excellent, attractive with very good nasal quality. Body Length 16 1/4" & String Length 14 1/4" —no purfling, but no problem since purchased by dealer from Kuster's estate, mid-80's. Needs to be "played in." Appraised by Francis Morris, Great Barrington, MA (12/19/97) "Two-piece top with med. grain; two-piece back med. flame perpendicular to joint; ribs & scroll sim. to back. Varnish: Antique Brown top; BR/Red/Orange Ant. Back." Selling value \$1,500, asking \$1350.
- 2) Label: Frederick Kuster, Montpelier VT 1959 #14. Condition excellent, good and big sound. Large-size body length: 16 5/8" & dark brown finish—no purfling, again no problem, purchased by dealer from Kuster's estate, mid-80's. Price reduced to \$1350. Contact: Roberta Farrell Phone: 518-346-0240. E-mail: <rfarrell5@nycap.rr.com>

UPRIGHT PIANO FOR SALE

1989 matte white Eterna upright piano (42.75" high) and bench for sale. Owned and maintained by same family for 20 years. Excellent condition with new built-in climate control system. Bright, beautiful, well-balanced sound. Asking \$1,800. If interested, please email to <birgit.anderson@gmail.com>

CHAMBER MUSIC LIBRARY

Violin music for sale; solos, duets and piano trios and 1 set new strings in very good condition. List of works and prices (postage from NYC not included) available by contacting <marandmarv@verizon.net>

3/4 CELLO KIT

Hoffman Maestro, Cushy Glider Cello Bag, Meinel Pernambuco Bow, Excellent Condition, used less than 2 years. Lists \$1500, \$900 or best offer. Ralph or Deborah Katz - 734.663.1288

WANTED

SILENT CELLO

I'm looking for a silent cello for travel and practice. Any advice or information, ideas, preferences, styles, makes, about this type of cello will be appreciated and welcome. Shell Gray <snowberry@wildblue.net>

PROFESSIONAL LEVEL CELLO BOW

Looking for a professional-level cello bow up to \$10K. I live in the SF bay area, but travel to Boston frequently. Please contact me via e-mail: <walter.halvorsen@gmail.com>

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It's easy to update your info on the web, so please let us know of any changes to your information, especially if your E-mail address changes.

Members are reminded that a copy of ACMP's last annual report may be obtained from the New York Office of Charities Registration, Department of State, Albany, NY, 12231

2010 Directory in Preparation

Please make any necessary changes to your personal information on the web or submit them to the office.