

Noted pianist to play Sept. 17

By OLIVIA WISE

It is not often you get the chance to experience classical music, new compositions, artistic advocacy and a global perspective all rolled into one performance — yet that is exactly what Yael Weiss's piano concert promises to deliver as the inaugural Sarofim Music Series event of the season.

Hailed by *The Washington Post* as an artist “who delves deeply and tellingly into that cloudy area where fantasy morphs into improvisation,” Ms. Weiss is internationally renowned for her expressive and arresting performances.

She has captured audiences around the world at venues including the Kennedy Center, Carnegie Hall, Moscow's Bolshoi Hall and London's Wigmore Hall. She has been featured as a soloist with major international orchestras such as

Prague Chamber Orchestra, the Seattle Symphony, and the Brazil National Symphony.

Ms. Weiss is set to perform at Southwestern University's Alma Thomas Stage for a concert featuring works from her project *32 Bright Clouds: Beethoven Conversations Around the World*.

She strives to inspire peace and unity with this international performing and recording project. Drawing on Beethoven's 32 Piano Sonatas, 32 artists from 32 countries of conflict where classical music is not a common form of artistic expression were commissioned to create 32 original short piano compositions.

These new works are connected by a shared “Peace motif” from Beethoven's *Missa Solemnis*. Ms. Weiss's concert for the Sarofim Music Series will

feature a selection of these compositions by musicians from Turkey, Indonesia, Venezuela, Syria and the Philippines.

Inspiration from the past evokes inspiration for the future in this program. Beethoven's beliefs about liberty, equality and the freeing power of independent art during the trying social and cultural transitions of the Enlightenment era translate well to our own. The relevance of Beethoven's work implies that Ms. Weiss's project is a unifying reach across space and time.

Ms. Weiss's performance will be at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, September 17 in the Alma Thomas Theater on Southwestern's campus on East Rutersville Road. Tickets can be purchased through SU's Mathers Box Office in person, over the phone at 512.863.1378 or at www.southwestern.edu/tickets.

Libraries welcome everyone

BIBLIOFILES

Dana Hendrix

A Georgetown Public Library patron and I had an interesting conversation a couple of months ago. I was working at the reference desk one evening and he came to the desk and we were chatting about the library. He surprised me when he asked, very respectfully, “Do you feel safe at work?”

I wondered what would lead him to ask that question. Our library is a very safe place. We have about 1,000 people coming through the doors on any given weekday and the only injuries I can recall anyone leaving with were self-inflicted accidents — a patron might lose their balance and have a fall, or a staff member sustain a pulled muscle from moving the lovely 1949 Steinway in the Hewlett Room out for a recital. Library visitors generally leave the building in better condition than they arrived, having attended a concert, seen an art exhibit, attended children's story time, found just the book they wanted to read or had a few hours of relief from the summer's relentless heat.

I feel very safe at work so that is what I told the man who asked, but I probably looked a little puzzled to have been asked at all. And then he clarified his question: He said he had been shown a photograph that an acquaintance had taken in the library, and she told him the person pictured was experiencing homelessness and was in the library for long periods of time. This caused her to think the library was not a safe place for her daughter to visit, which caused the man I was speaking with to wonder whether the library

was a safe place for anyone, and in particular for the staff who spend 40 hours a week in the building.

I was glad he asked, and glad he was asking for more information instead of making assumptions. One cannot be sure whether someone has a home by looking at them, and not having a place to sleep at night does not make someone dangerous. It is disrespectful and invasive to take photographs of people without their permission. But what's more important to note is that people very often imagine the worst, and are frequently afraid of what they do not have experience with. Many people reading this column may have little personal experience that would help them deeply understand the lives of people experiencing homelessness. Statistics show that people experiencing homelessness are far more likely to be the victims than the perpetrators of violence, for instance.

Libraries are public places, with rules for conduct that protect everyone and that must be applied fairly and without prejudice. If someone experiencing

homelessness is asleep in a library chair, we treat that the same way we do if a local business owner stops in to read the *Wall Street Journal* and nods off for a bit. But if an individual's behavior violates library expectations, staff either ask them to leave the building or we call the most appropriate local agency for assistance. These things happen very rarely, but we encourage all library users to speak to a staff member anytime they have a concern.

The library is a welcoming haven for all — a protective factor in the lives of people from all walks of life who need something more than what the world outside the walls of the library provides. People come here for many different reasons: to find intellectual stimulation, a sense of community, creative inspiration, a place to gather or study, a peaceful place to escape the heat or a refuge from the chaos of a dysfunctional home life for a few hours.

It is a place where you can meet others whose lives are similar to yours, and others who may live lives very different from yours, and expand your heart and mind. The Georgetown Public Library is a place where all are welcome. We look forward to seeing you — all of you — in the library.

Church reaches 150 years

One of Georgetown's oldest congregations, Wesley Chapel African Methodist Episcopal Church, is marking its 150th anniversary.

A celebration is set for 3 p.m. Sunday, September 15 at the church, 508 West Fourth Street.

Established in 1869, Wesley Chapel AME is Georgetown's oldest historically black church.

Former slave Robert Haywood organized the church. Members of the congregation originally met in each other's homes and on the banks of San Gabriel River.

In 1904 church members laid the cornerstone for the sanctuary that's still used today.



Members of Wesley Chapel AME will celebrate the congregation's 150th birthday September 15 at the church.

Wesley Chapel AME Church is on both the Texas Historic Register and the National Register of Historic

Places. The Rev. William A. Quickly is the church's pastor.

— Brad Stutzman

Select events listing

- September 11, 6:30 p.m. GPL World Cinema: *Cold War*, ages 18 and older
 - September 15, 2 p.m. The Sieker Band (Live Music at the Library)
 - September 20, 7 p.m. Adultish Spelling Bee at Lark & Owl Booksellers
- Consult the Library Events Calendar at library.georgetown.org for more information about these and other library programs.

Notice of Tax Revenue Increase

The Williamson County ESD # 8 conducted public hearings on August 28, 2019 and September 4, 2019 on a proposal to increase the total tax revenues of the Williamson County ESD # 8 from properties on the tax roll in the preceding year by 6.637093 percent.

The total tax revenue raised last year at last year's tax rate of 0.100000 for each \$100 of taxable value was \$3,195,278.06. The total tax revenue proposed to be raised this year at the proposed tax rate of 0.100000 for each \$100 of taxable value, excluding tax revenue to be raised from new property added to the tax roll this year, is \$3,408,330.31.

The total tax revenue proposed to be raised this year at the proposed tax rate of 0.100000 for each \$100 of taxable value, including tax revenue to be raised from new property added to the tax roll this year, is \$3,506,895.38.

The Williamson County ESD #8 is scheduled to vote on the tax rate that will result in that tax increase at a public meeting to be held on September 11, 2019 at Public Safety Operations and Training Center, 3500 D B Wood Rd, Georgetown, TX 78628 at 6:00 PM



Holy Trinity CATHOLIC CHURCH of Corn Hill

Annual Bazaar

Join us for good food & fun!

Sunday, September 15

On the Church grounds • 8626 FM 1105, Jarrell

Mass at 10:30 am, followed by a meal & festivities at the Parish Activity Center.

BBQ & CORN HILL FRIED CHICKEN DINNER
w/dressing and all the fixin's!
(11am-1pm)

Adults \$10/Children \$5
Drive-thru adult plates available
11am-12:30pm
BBQ by the pound sold at the pit from 8am-noon
Hamburgers at 2:30 pm

FAMILY FUN!

- Live Polka Music
- Kolache Sale
- Bingo
- Cake Walk
- Silent Auction
- Children's Games

LIVE AUCTION

Starts at 1:30pm inside the PAC building, payment by check or cash only

Auctioneers:

Buddy Johnson (Lic# TXS-6520)
Harvey Johnson (Lic# AUCTNR-00012401)

RAFFLE

Grand Prize: \$1,000 Visa Card

20 Great prizes valued at \$6,550!
Tickets only \$2 each or 6 for \$10.
Need not be present to win — drawing held after Live Auction

DIRECTIONS:

From I-35: Exit 271, go East on CR 311 for 2 ½ miles.

From Bartlett: TX 95 – go West on FM 487, turn left onto FM 1105 - go 6 miles.

For more information, visit our website at holytrinityofcornhill.org.
For questions, email us at holytrinitycc@yahoo.com or call 512-863-3020.