

# Alaska Flute Studies Center

## March 2007 - Flute News!

(See the special feature article on flute care at the end of this newsletter. Thanks to Cecelia.)

### Junior High School Solo & Ensemble Competition

Region IV – Anchorage Area  
Friday March 2 at Central Lutheran Church (15<sup>th</sup> & Cordova)

### Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music

#### Music Theory Exam Reminder

...for those of you who have registered for the exam...

**Saturday March 3, 2007 9:30 am**

**Turnagain Arts Building**

**\*\*note the time of the exam has been changed to 9:30 am\*\***

### *Arctic Wind Flute Choirs*

#### **WINTER CONCERT**

#### **Music for Multiple Flutes**

**Barbara Eberhart, Laura Koenig & Kirsten Adams, Directors**

**Sunday March 4, 2007 7:00 pm**

**Wilda Marston Theatre**

ZJ Loussac Public Library, 3600 Denali Street

Admission: \$5.00

The *Arctic Wind Flute Choir* Winter Concert – Music for Multiple Flutes includes stunning works which uniquely express the Alaskan spirit. The performance includes “O Northern Star,” “As Eagles Flew” and the newly published “Secret Language of Snow.” These works for full flute choir are powerfully performed by the elite *Arctic Wind Flute Choir*. Joining the Flute Choir for this concert will be both the Junior Flute Choir and the Preparatory Flute Choir.

The *Arctic Wind Flute Choir* has a rich tradition of performance. Originally established in 1984 as the Anchorage Flute Choir, there are now four flute choirs with three conductors for all ages and ability levels. *The Arctic Wind Flute Choir* is the top performing ensemble and has been featured on both national and international concert tours. In 2004, the ensemble toured to Paris and London; in 2006 its concert tour was to New Zealand.

*Thank You to the Business who are supporting*

*the Arctic Wind Flute Choir through advertising*

Admiral's Place  
Club Paris Restaurant  
The Horn Doctor  
The Keyboard Cache  
The Music Man  
Sona Vita Medical Day Spa

***Milly Josephson & Lindsay Underwood***

**Senoir Recital**

**Sunday March 11, 2006**

**2:00 pm**

Brooke Marston Recital Hall

Turnagain Arts Building

*Admission free*

Milly and Lindsay's program will include:

"Sonatine" by Deutilleux

"Poem" by Griffes

"Andante and Rondo" by Doppler

"Deux Papillons" by E. Kronke

plus other works for solo flute

**Former Alaska Flute Studies Center member, Cedar Rozzi**

**Senior Recital**

Quigley Recital Hall

Western State College of Colorado

March 30, 2007 7:30 pm

***Alaska State Annual Flute Fair***

Saturday April 28 8:00 am – 5:00 pm

Brooke Marston Recital Hall

Turnagain Arts Building

*Admission free*

***Arctic Wind Flute Choirs***

**SPRING CONCERT**

**Music for Multiple Flutes**

Sunday May 6, 2007 7:00 pm

*Admission \$5*

**Change of Venue – The concert will be at:**  
**Wildberry Theatre**  
5225-C Juneau Street

(Located in midtown Anchorage across the street from the Sourdough Mining Company Restaurant behind the Peanut Farm off the East end of Int'l Airport Rd.)



**"The Sky's No Limit"**

**Cd is now available online through**  
**<http://cdbaby.com/cd/arcticwind>**  
**(You can even listen to excerpts!)**

Ear Training: <http://www.earpower.com/index.htm> (students can download a metronome!)

**If you have any questions about your membership or items announced in this newsletter, feel free to call me at 336-5991.**

**- Barbara Eberhart**  
**Director, Alaska Flute Studies Center**

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**Personal Flute Care 101**  
**by Cecelia Frey**

As a somewhat veteran flute player, former repair apprentice, and flute salesperson, I know that taking care of a flute involves more than just putting a swab in the instrument after practice. This knowledge did not come naturally, unfortunately, it took multiple mistakes and some handy tips from others. Personal flute care means having a licensed repair person inspect and adjust the instrument yearly, and it also means doing little things to prevent disasters from happening later.

I'll mostly focus on maintenance issues that any and all flutists should know how to handle.

I feel the most important, if not obvious, subject is the putting together and taking apart of the instrument. Most flutists don't take a second glance to grabbing their flute in the middle of the body, then shoving the headjoint on whilst gripping the lip plate...RED LIGHT! The keys on your instrument are made of somewhat malleable metal, therefore can bend. There is a safe place to hold the body of the flute, and that is at the top of the joint, above the keys, a good three inches away from them in fact. Flute lip plates are separate, soldered on pieces of metal, and may not be indestructible after years of grabbing and twisting. Bottom line: while it may not seem like a big deal, avoiding the keys during set up and take down can save the requirement of multiple adjustments each year.

If you're anything like me, your flute has to be as shiny and beautiful as the day it entered your life. Unfortunately, even just cleaning and polishing your instrument can do more harm than good. The flute is a very intricate creature, with springs and screws and rods and pads and corks...oh my! But never fear, there is a way to properly clean your instrument without damaging any of its fragile pieces. If you have a silver plated or solid silver instrument, you should use a treated silver cloth. Treated cloths have fine powder in them that reduce tarnish and keep oils from deteriorating the plating. Be careful when polishing your flute, however, those keys and springs are sensitive to grabbing and pulling by a cloth. Try to avoid rubbing the pads so as not to tear them. If you need to get to a hard to reach spot, cut a small piece of your cloth and put it on the head of a Q-tip. For instruments that are especially bad, a small amount of rubbing alcohol on a soft cloth can help with tarnish and wear.

Besides assembly and cleaning of the flute, there are a few other things to keep in mind when being a responsible flute owner. Don't play your instrument just after eating, drinking or chewing gum unless you've brushed your teeth. This prevents sugars from getting under the pads and making them sticky (that smacking sound some of your keys make after lunch.) Keeping a travel toothbrush with your flute is a good idea, or at least rinse your mouth out really well with water. Along the same lines, wash your hands, it can prevent wear on nickel flutes and some intense polishing later.

Overall, be aware that the way you treat your instrument outside of the repair shop has a lot to do with how long it will be in there, and how expensive the repairs will be. With some extra loving care, your flute can stay better in adjustment and its pads will last longer. Be sure to get a yearly checkup, however, since the tiniest mis-adjustment can cause leaks. If something is out of the ordinary, bring your instrument to a licensed repair person at a music store; don't attempt to fix the problem yourself, even just loose screws and springs, as more harm can be done. By spending a few minutes taking better care of your flute, you can spend many more playing it.