



Abington Presbyterian Church
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Abington, Pennsylvania 19001
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A photograph of a choir of people, mostly older adults, wearing blue robes with white collars and singing from black songbooks. The image is slightly faded and serves as a background for the title text.

Music at Abington

2020–2021
Calendar of Events
49th Season

The principle aim is to find through song a way to connect everyone in the room. We are not only teaching music, we are practicing community. We are awakening people out of their isolation into a wider world of heart and spirit. The more we perfect our art, the more it unites us. And this union, I believe, is why we are given ears and voices.

≈ Alice Parker ≈

Dear *Music at Abington* Friends, Followers, and Patrons,

This season will present unique challenges to “connect everyone in the room” and practice community in the ways that Music at Abington has faithfully done through 48 previous seasons, but we are making revisions and plans to continue that mission, despite the challenges. Knowing how many things are uncertain and how much plans have changed through our process, we are both hopeful and committed to sharing in the gifts and goals of MAA together this year, including in-person attendance when possible, online performances by livestream as needed, and through connection with our artists and listeners in all formats.

Enclosed you will find planned programs and identified concert dates and times, which more than ever may be subject to changes. Knowing the logistics of rehearsal and performance continue to shift you will recognize flexibility in this schedule, and you will find much to look forward to, as well.

We moved our original October concert to spring to give a little extra time to organize the health and safety logistics of gathering for such events and to assure the safety of rehearsals for our artists, but there is plenty of music ahead this season. Thank you for your interest and support of these concerts as we practice community together through performing, listening, sharing, and enjoying music together this year.

John Sall, Director of Music Ministries &
The *Music at Abington* Committee

2020 *Music at Abington* 2021

Friday, November 6, 7:30 P.M.

Abington Orchestra Friends

We begin with a program of chamber works featuring members of the ASO. Masked and distanced rehearsing and performing provide new challenges to be sure. This first program will be a thrilling opportunity to see creativity respond to challenge and to experience the welcome sense of community centered around making music and enjoying it together.



Sunday, December 13, 4:30 P.M. & 7:00 P.M.

Christmas Comes

We light candles to lighten the darkness in this season. So, too, we gather to hear the story, poetry, and carols of Christmas to lighten our hearts. This Christmastide will feel different due to limits on singing and choirs for safety, but we will hear again the power of love to bridge all distances as Christmas Comes.

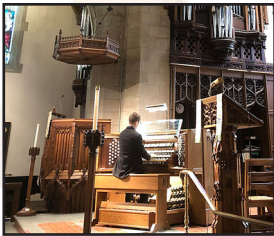


During January we will confirm our winter and spring program plans as state health guides restrict or allow. Contracted artists and tentative planned dates are outlined below.

Scheduled Artist programs:

Aaron Patterson, Organ

Aaron Patterson, from Philadelphia, entered the Curtis Institute of Music in 2018 and studies with Alan Morrison. A familiar face to organ enthusiasts who have enjoyed Mr. Patterson’s playing on the February series, MAA is thrilled to welcome Aaron back for a featured recital program.



Aaron Patterson

Arcadian Trio

To hail the centenary of the 19th Amendment giving women the right to vote, the Arcadian Trio presents a program of outstanding music by women composers titled “Women’s Work” featuring music from the late 18th century to the present by Clara Schumann, Cécile Chaminade, Maria Theresia von Paradis, Lili Boulanger, Margaret Bonds and Anne Dudley. The program includes commentary and historic images to enrich the presentation by violinist Igor Szwec, cellist Vivian Barton Dozor and pianist Diane Goldsmith.



Arcadian Trio

Jelena Dirks, Oboe

Jelena Dirks, Principal Oboe of the St. Louis Symphony Orchestra, is the third generation of professional, female musicians in her family. A San Diego native, she grew up in a profoundly musical household. Her mother, retired Chicago Symphony Violinist Karen Dirks, as well as her father and maternal grandmother (who were both cellists and stand partners in the San Diego Symphony) made sure music was a part of her life from the beginning. Known for her “luminous solos” (Chicago Classical Review), she is highly sought after as both a teacher and performer. Jelena is scheduled to perform the Strauss Oboe Concerto with the Abington Symphony Orchestra.



Jelena Dirks

Watch for flexible programming including these dates:

February, Tuesdays at 12:00 Noon

AGO Organ Recitals

Take a musical lunch break each Tuesday during February as area organists offer noon recitals. We hope to include familiar and new faces and to highlight the new APC organist once the search and hire are complete. February 2, 9, 16, 23.



Sunday, March 21, 4:00 P.M.

Annual Memorial Concert

This annual tradition to remember loved ones with a musical tribute will be especially important in this year which has seen so many interrupted traditions. We are planning an instrumental program building on both traditional repertoire and pieces with hymn tunes or spiritual themes.

Friday, May 14, 7:30 P.M.

Abington Symphony Orchestra

Jelena Dirks, Principal Oboe of the St. Louis Symphony Orchestra is scheduled to solo with the Abington Symphony Orchestra. If travel and performance in planned works is not possible, we will reschedule this solo visit and create a chamber program to round out the spring for our players and listeners.

June

A possible community music event (outdoors) and Silent Movie/ Organ night are in our plans as we look to continue favored traditions and celebrated musical gatherings.

detach and mail

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I would like to have the following remembered in the Memorial Concert Program (please write clearly):

() In Memory of: _____ () In Honor of: _____

Please make checks to: *Music at Abington*, 1082 Old York Road, Abington, PA 19001
(Please include church envelope number on checks if applicable.)