

Quarter Notes

GARTH NEWEL MUSIC CENTER



Enriching lives through
inspired chamber music and
performance arts experiences.

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Fall Foliage 2022

The Fall Foliage weekends at Garth Newel are the most beautiful time of the year to spend here, with concerts Friday and Saturday, gourmet multi-course dinners, and dance workshops every Sunday.

Visit GarthNewel.org for reservations.



Comprehensive Capital Campaign

“It also takes a village to sustain a performing arts center.”

—Evelyn Grau, recently retired GNPQ Violist

Over the nearly fifty years since Garth Newel’s founding in 1973, there have been times when, but for the quietly heroic generosity of committed donors and board members willing to step in during difficult periods of leadership-change, Garth Newel might not have survived. It has been a hand-to-mouth organization over much of its history, and therefore not at all assured of having a sustainable future. At the same time, most of the other ingredients for long-term success have been in place. Exceptional music, exquisite cuisine, a beautiful natural setting, a committed and welcoming community, and a mission-driven program of educational outreach that brings people together, often from miles away. For many, Garth Newel literally took on the meaning of its name—a “new home.”

Beginning in 2015, shortly after the appointment of Shawn Puller as Executive Director, he and Garth Newel’s Board of Directors initiated a strategic planning process focused on building those qualities that have made Garth Newel exceptional and truly unique, while also substantially improving Garth Newel’s capacity to weather challenges and survive long into the future. The outcome was a bold strategic plan, the most critical element of which was the decision to embark on a significant capital campaign. If successful, Garth Newel would make major strides in (1) preserving and enhancing Garth Newel’s beautiful property and structures and (2) significantly growing Garth Newel’s endowment.

In 2020, just as the pandemic was hitting, the board authorized the formation of a campaign committee with the following goals:

1. Raise \$1.5 million dollars to augment the endowment
2. Raise \$3.5 million dollars to support needed capital improvements to facilities
3. Raise \$3.5 million dollars over five years to support annual operations
4. Raise awareness of the Herter Society, the planned giving program and seek commitments of \$1.5 million in planned gifts.

The Garth Newel community has been extremely generous and many have stepped forward to pledge support, including 100% of board members. However, there is still work to be done. Yet, they are within reach if the village participates generously.



The Tea House Series explores the historical, philosophical, and artistic aspects of tea culture, which are echoed in its nation's music.

[The Mad Hatter Tea Party](#)

2:30 doors open
3:00pm concert

A concert featuring music inspired by Lewis Carroll's *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*, followed by a tea party recreating the experience of the Mad Hatter's tea party.

Garth Newel Piano Quartet

[Persian Tea House](#)

2:30 doors open
3:00pm concert

A pianist and musicologist whose ethnomusicological research focus is in Iranian studies, Dr. Theresa Steward will give a presentation on the history and customs of tea drinking in Iran. The presentation will be followed by a concert by

Garth Newel Piano Quartet

This is a tipping point in Garth Newel's history. As the campaign moves into its culminating phase, the Campaign Committee is excited to announce that the next \$650,000 in pledged support will be matched on a 1:1 basis by an extremely generous donor. This additional stretch-goal should make it possible to accomplish the Herter Hall and office complex improvements within one programmatic year—thereby minimizing the disruption of concerts and other events in Herter Hall.

For information about Garth Newel's needs and ways in which you might be helpful to this effort, please contact Bobby Asher, Garth Newel's interim Executive Director or a member of the Garth Newel' Board.

Capital Campaign Co-Chairs John Diffey & Gene Sullivan

Dear Friends of Garth Newel,

As many of you know, Shawn Puller's partner, Gordon, is terminally ill. Shawn has spent many months working remotely in Scotland, assisting with Gordon's care while also maintaining his duties as Executive Director of Garth Newel. Unfortunately, Gordon's condition has deteriorated rapidly over the past month. Shawn has continued his work for Garth Newel while also spending more time providing both physical and emotional support for Gordon. It became apparent to Shawn and the Board that he needed to go on a leave of absence to support Gordon on a full time basis. The Board approved Shawn's request to begin a leave of absence starting on September 1st.

During this same period, the Board Extended Executive Committee formed a search group to identify and interview candidates to fill the position of Interim Executive Director. We were fortunate to quickly identify three qualified senior staff members with extensive experience in the non-profit community. The search committee interviewed the most qualified candidate, Bobby Asher, and, with Board approval, made an offer to the candidate, which he accepted with a start date of September 1st. By coincidence, Bobby was traveling to Scotland in support of a client and was able to meet with Shawn to begin the transition process. Bobby will be onsite at Garth Newel beginning August 31st for up to six months.

Bobby brings 20 years of professional experience in the arts community, including roles as Director, Duke University Performances; Director of Programming at the International Festival of Arts & Ideas, New Haven, CT; and Director of Programming at Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center, University of Maryland. Bobby has also worked as an independent artistic planning, operations and leadership consultant to a number of organizations in Boston and Washington, DC.

I hope you will join me in welcoming Bobby to the Garth Newel community and continue to offer prayers for Gordon and Shawn as they navigate this difficult time.

Gene Sullivan, Chair



Upcoming Events

[From the Borderlands](#)

Fri, Oct 14: Phantasy Piano Quartet, H. 94, Variations on Balkan Themes, Op. 60 for solo piano

Garth Newel Piano Quartet
5 pm concert

[Diwali Concert](#)

Sat, Oct 15: Jhula Jhule, for violin and piano, Piano Quartet in G minor

Garth Newel Piano Quartet
5 pm Concert

[Dance Social I-the Cha-Cha](#)

Sun, Oct 16: The Tea House Series: Learn how to do the Cha-Cha with dance instructor David Katz and his wife and dance partner Marilyn Murphy!

2-3 pm

[Moon Festival Concert](#)

Fri, Oct 21: Techno Etudes II, Shifting Landscapes for piano quartet, For Harsichord, Ma mère l'Oye (Mother Goose)

Garth Newel Piano Quartet
Francis Yun
5 pm concert

[Oktoberfest Concert](#)

Sat, Oct 22: Sonato No. 4 in C minor, GWV 1017, Bachianas Brasileiras No. 4 for solo piano, Piano Quartet in E-flat major, Op. 47

Garth Newel Piano Quartet
Francis Yun

[Social Dance II- the Cha-Cha](#)

Sat, Oct 23: The second dance workshop with dance instructor David Katz and his wife and dance partner Marilyn Murphy!

2-3:30 pm

Greetings to the Garth Newel family. As many of you know, I have been in and out of the country over the past two years looking out for my partner, Gordon Shaw as he has wrestled with the final stage of his terminal illness. Oddly enough, the pandemic allowed me to successfully work from abroad. Over the past year, Gordon's illness has progressed. The Board of Directors and I discussed the need for a full leave of absence so I could be present as Gordon begins dealing with the end-of-life process. I am immensely grateful for the Board and for the amazing Staff who have uplifted me throughout this ordeal. When I came to Garth Newel, I was told it was a family, and so it is. I am able to step back for a time to focus on the most important thing at the present moment, and that is my relationship. In my absence, Bobby Asher will be taking the reins to guide the organization over the next several months. I have had the pleasure of meeting Bobby and his strength of character and professional experience have given me the grace to step back with a clear head. I know that the Garth Newel Family will welcome Bobby with open arms and continue building on the success that supports this amazing place. And so, instead of good-bye, I will say, I will see you back on the hill soon.

With immense gratitude,

Shawn I. Puller
Executive Director

Since Gene and Shawn's updates, Gordon Shaw has passed away. It is with great sadness that since Shawn Puller wrote this Gordon Shaw passed away peacefully with Shawn and his family at his side. Shawn is going to stay in Scotland for the time being to be with Gordon's family. All of us in the Garth Newel family express our heartfelt condolences to Shawn and Gordon's family and they remain in our thoughts and prayers.



[Dożynki: Slavic Harvest Festival](#)

[Concert](#)

Fri, Oct 28: Exsistentia for violin, cello, and piano, Quartet No. 2 in E-flat Major, Op. 87

Garth Newel Piano Quartet

5 pm concert

[Día de los Muertos Concert](#)

Sat, Oct 29: Elégie in g minor, Op. 44, Trio romántico, Sonata BB 88, Sz. 80

Garth Newel Piano Quartet

5 pm concert

[Dance Social III- the Cha-Cha](#)

The 3rd dance workshop with dance instructor David Katz and his wife and dance partner Marilyn Murphy!

2-3:30 pm

Thanksgiving Holiday Concerts

[November 24th: Ellis Island](#)

Garth Newel Piano Quartet

3pm concert

[November 25th: All Saints' Day -](#)

[Día de Todos los Santos](#)

Garth Newel Piano Quartet

5pm Concert

[November 26th: Ancestry](#)

Garth Newel Piano Quartet

12 pm Concert

New Year's Holiday Concerts

[New Year's Eve Concert](#)

Jhula Jhule,
Nbiidaasamishkaamin, Piano Quartet No. 2, in A major, Op. 26

Garth Newel Piano Quartet

6:30 Cocktails, 7 pm Concert

[New Year's Day Concert: New Year, New World](#)

Piano Trio in E-flat major, Op. 70, No. 2, Piano Quartet in A minor, Op. 67 Turina

Garth Newel Piano Quartet

12 noon concert



Bobby Asher & Hannah Leatherbury

Greetings!

I'm Bobby Asher, interim executive director here at the Garth Newel Music Center, and I'm delighted to be spending some time supporting this extraordinary institution, helping to present such beautiful artistic and culinary experiences in this exquisite setting.

A little about me: Originally, from Oklahoma, my path to a career in the arts began in a fifth-grade public school band program, and so music education (and especially the students we serve in the Allegheny Mountain Strings Project!) is very

dear to my heart. For the past twenty years or so, I've worked in various leadership roles in performing arts organizations around the country, curating performing arts seasons and building programs that celebrate the crucial role that arts play in people and communities.

I live in Durham, North Carolina with my wife, Hannah, a speech pathologist, and our 14-year-old terrier Daisy, who is the real boss of the household. Outside of work, I've recently become a Master Gardener, and love growing vegetables for cooking, canning, and giving away. I'm also passionate about sailing, and when I'm away from Garth Newel you may find me aboard my 20-foot wooden sailboat LAGNIAPPE, camp cruising in the Chesapeake Bay or on the North Carolina coast.

I'll be residing at Garth Newel for about half of each month for the duration of my service, and Hannah and Daisy will join me here often as well. Let's say hello under the portico before a performance, share a meal afterwards, or just pop by for a cup of coffee and say hello! I look forward to meeting you all soon.





It is an honor to join the Garth Newel family! Although September 1 marked my official start at Garth Newel, my introduction to the Music Center and the Quartet began many months ago. I first learned about the open viola position at a BBQ in Deerfield, Virginia of all places. I thought I had heard incorrectly, but some internet browsing proved that indeed Evelyn was retiring from her post after a remarkable and impressive tenure as Violist and Co-Artistic director at Garth Newel. The position spoke to me in numerous ways; it has always been a desire of mine to perform chamber music; and as an Artistic Director, the opportunity to choose repertoire, guest artists, and essentially curate concerts for the season had only been a fantasy. Additionally, as a native of Charlottesville, close proximity to family and my hometown is a boon.

After a number of engaging interviews with Shawn and trial performances with the ensemble, it became clear this role at Garth Newel was something much more. Naturally, the position of Violist and Co-Artistic Director holds a great deal of responsibility. Moreover, the legacy and vision of Christine Herter, Arlene and Luca Di Cecco, and the many musicians, leaders, chefs, staff, supporters, and, not least of all, concert goers, have turned Garth Newel into a truly magical and musical haven, and the significance this place and these people have had on so many lives over the past fifty years is not lost on me.

Joining the Quartet is a dream come true for me, and Garth Newel is a place where I feel great pride to say I work. Josh and Hot Rod in the kitchen always put a smile on my face, and Georgia and Jenny have made everything seamless for me in the office. Teresa, Jeannette, and Isaac have been exceptionally welcoming, inspiring artistic partners, and model colleagues. I look forward to many years in their presence, on stage and off.

Evelyn, you have passed down a torch, ablaze. I hope to carry it with your grace and humor! Best wishes to you, and we welcome you back whenever you desire!

Thanks to everyone for the warm welcome, and I look forward to seeing many of you in October for "Fall Foliage"!