

Judges selected for Musicale auditions

Five judges have been announced for the annual Award Auditions sponsored by the Farmington Musicale on Saturday, March 29 at Nardin Park United Methodist Church in Farmington Hills.

Pianists will perform for Loretta Popoff-Parks, Chairman of the music department at Madonna University. Popoff-Parks teaches piano, theory and humanities at Madonna.

She holds degrees in music from Marygrove College, Eastern Michigan University and currently studies with Edna Golandsky in New York. Popoff-Parks is widely recognized throughout Southeastern Michigan as a soloist and chamber musician. She is a performing member of the Tuesday Musicale of Detroit, the Livonia Area Piano Teachers Forum and often appears with the Chamber Music Society of Detroit and the Birmingham/Bloomfield Symphony Orchestra.

Cellist Nadine Deleury will judge the string participants. Born in France, Deleury studied at the Paris Conservatory. While in Paris, she taught at



Deleury



McDonald



Popoff-Parks

Chamber Music at the Scarab Club. A much sought after soloist, Deleury often appears with the Pontiac and Livonia Symphonies and the Tuesday Musicale of Detroit.

the Arras Conservatory and became principal cellist of the Dijon Chamber Orchestra.

She completed her graduate studies in music at Yale University. Before coming to Detroit, Deleury spent five seasons performing with the Santa Fe Orchestra.

She now sits as principal cellist of the Michigan Opera Theater. As a chamber musician, she performs in many concert series and is co-artistic director of Chamber Music at the Scarab Club.

Vocalists will perform for Shawn McDonald. He is vocal instructor and coach/accompanist at Marygrove College. He earned a bachelor of music degree from Eastern Michigan University, trained at Brevard Music Center, the North German Organ Academy and Elizabeth Mannion's Institute for Vocal Studies.

An accomplished singer, Mr. McDonald has performed many leads in major operas and co-founded Arbor Opera Theater and serves as its artistic director.

He will lead the company in mounting a fully staged production of Mozart's *The Marriage of Figaro*. McDonald also maintains a private studio and serves as an accompanist for the Michigan Opera Theater.

Richard Cardaccia and Paul DeRubeis will be judging the wind, brass and percussion applicants.

Cardaccia earned his bachelor's and master's degree in music education from Wayne State University. He began his music career in Detroit at Post Intermediate School. Cardaccia

taught band and orchestra students in Farmington schools for 35 years and has also been a member of the Farmington Community Band for the past 34 years.

A graduate of Wayne State University, DeRubeis is an active clinician and adjudicator throughout Michigan and is in demand as a private instructor in the Rochester area. He has led many award winning high school bands and is teaching elementary band in the Bloomfield Hills School District. DeRubeis is a member of the Music Educators National Conference, and the American and Michigan School Band Directors Associations. He has performed with the Metropolitan Symphonic Band, the Warren Concert Band, and currently plays with the St. Mary's of the Hills Brass Ensemble.

In addition to the Awards for Musical Excellence, the Strey-McCallum Memorial Piano Award will be presented at the winner's recital at Antioch Lutheran Church at 3 p.m. Sunday, April 13.

The public is cordially invited to attend.

BY JONI HUBBARD
STAFF WRITER

Evening celebrates freedom, Exodus story's women

Women young and old will spend an evening, April 2, indulging their spirits and celebrating freedom during the sixth annual Women's Seder, held at Adat Shalom in Farmington Hills.

With the theme, "Indulging Our Spirit," the evening will be sprinkled with morsels of wisdom, tradition - and chocolate.

"Beyond our recipes, rituals, and traditions, women have always brought to the Seder table something that is spiritually unique," explains Carol Weintraub Fogel, chair of the event. "It's our right to sit back and enjoy, while we reflect on our special place in Jewish history."

The event is sponsored by the Women's Campaign and Education Department of the Jewish Federation of Metropolitan Detroit. Melissa Bronstein, a staff associate, explained that in a normal seder, women are generally left out and the focus is on the men. Passover or Pesach is the first of three major Jewish festivals. It commemorates the story of the Exodus from Egypt after generations of slavery (Exodus 1-15). The name "Pesach" comes from the Hebrew root Pch-Shmch-Chet, which means to pass through, to pass over, to exempt or to spare. It refers to God passing over the houses of the Jews when he was slaying the firstborn of Egypt, the final plague that convinced Pharaoh to set the slaves free.

The seder includes foods specially prepared and served to commemorate different aspects of this time in Jewish history.

"Women generally work hard to prepare the seder and don't have a chance to sit down and enjoy it," Bronstein said.

And enjoy they will, as traditional seder foods are transformed into indulgent treats.

Normally during the meal, Bronstein explained, four cups of wine are served. Instead, women will enjoy chocolate phosphates or sodas. Where vegetables are normally dipped in salt water to commemorate the sadness or slavery, foods will be dipped in chocolate.

"The idea is not to duplicate the solemn religious event, Bronstein stressed.

"Since this is before Passover, it's not actually a seder. It's modeled after a seder," she explained. "We can be more ourselves."

The Women's Seder will be led by Rabbi Lauren Berkun, with musical accompaniment by Lisa Sobie Siegmann of Oak Park. Dietary laws will be observed.

"We invite women 12 and older, which is considered adult in the Jewish tradition," Bronstein said.

Involved in the volunteer-driven event since its inception, Weintraub Fogel said she often sees intergenerational groups sharing in the experience. A granddaughter might bring her grandmother along, for instance.

"What is exciting is this is truly a community-wide event," she said. "It's important to me because it's an opportunity for the members of the community together."

The Women's Seder, she added, celebrates freedom and the role of women in the Exodus. "This is one night we can indulge, and we can cheer the fact that we're free."

Registration for the event begins at 6 p.m. The Seder and festive meal begin promptly at 6:30 p.m. Cost is \$36 per person.

Adat Shalom Synagogue 2901 Middlebelt Road, Farmington Hills

Reservations can be made by calling (248) 642-5260, Ext. 183, or online: www.thisfederation.org

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TYNAN
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Carrie Tynan lives in Livonia. She writes a column for the Observer Newspapers on disability issues. Contact her by e-mail at carriewrites@yahoo.com or her Web site, <http://cix.it/writer-fiction>.

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A Word From Your Pharmacist
Robert M. Marsh, R. Ph.

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By using generic drugs when they are available, consumers can save themselves money and help reduce the overall costs of healthcare in this country. It's important to talk to your doctor about what generic medications are available and appropriate for you. Making greater use of generic drugs is one of the smartest things you can do to reduce your expenses without compromising the care you receive. For more information, call WESLEY DRUGS.

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