

VALLEY PUBLIC RADIO

audiophile

Winter • 2020

vpr
VALLEY PUBLIC RADIO

A Chanticleer Christmas

Sunday December 21st - 7:00 PM

Plus more holiday specials inside



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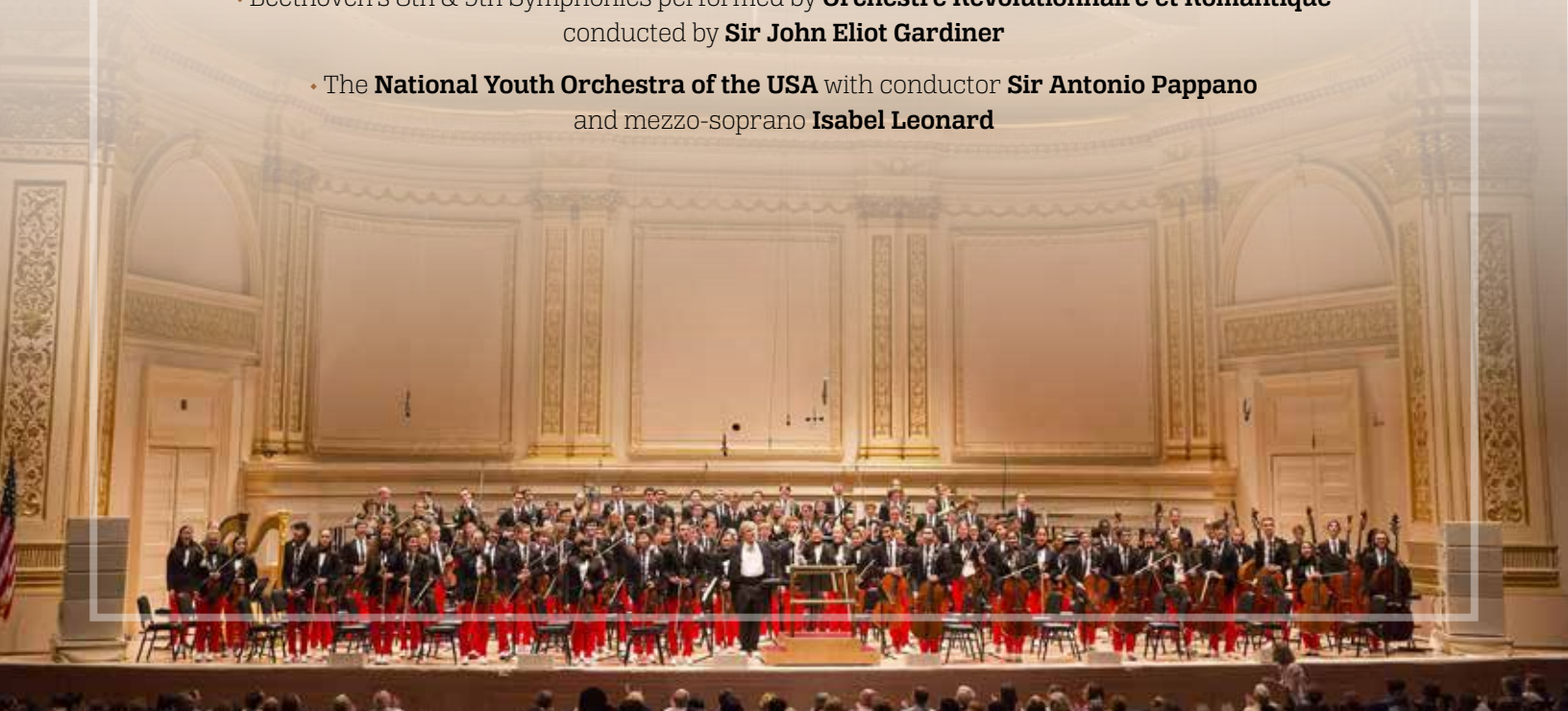
A New Season of Carnegie Hall Live Debuts

Wednesdays at 8:00 p.m. on KVPR FM 89 in 2021

Valley Public Radio is pleased to offer a new season of Carnegie Hall Live as we start the new year. The 13 week series will consist of 7 concerts recorded during the abbreviated 19-20 season, supplemented by 6 concerts from the archives. The broadcasts will air on KVPR FM 89 Wednesday nights from 8:00 p.m. till 10:00 p.m. beginning Wednesday January 6, 2021 and will continue through Wednesday March 31, 2021. These performances feature some of the classical music world's most esteemed artists in a wide range of styles, from early music to recitals to orchestral programs.



- Opening Night Gala concert with the **Cleveland Orchestra** and soloists **Anne-Sophie Mutter**, **Yefim Bronfman**, and **Lynn Harrell** in Beethoven's Triple Concerto, led by **Franz Welser-Möst**
 - The **Bavarian Radio Symphony Orchestra** conducted by **Mariss Jansons** - his final performance before his passing just a few weeks later
 - **Valery Gergiev** and the **Munich Philharmonic**, with violinist **Leonidas Kavakos**
- The **Chicago Symphony** led by **Riccardo Muti**, featuring mezzo-soprano **Joyce DiDonato** in Berlioz' *La mort de Cléopâtre*
 - The New York recital debut of cellist **Sheku Kanneh-Mason**, accompanied by his sister, pianist **Isata Kanneh-Mason**
- Beethoven's 8th & 9th Symphonies performed by **Orchestre Révolutionnaire et Romantique** conducted by **Sir John Eliot Gardiner**
- The **National Youth Orchestra of the USA** with conductor **Sir Antonio Pappano** and mezzo-soprano **Isabel Leonard**



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KPRX-FM 89.1 Bakersfield

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Early on Saturday September 5, 2020, a small fire near Big Creek, a mountain community about an hour east of Fresno, exploded into what is now the largest single wildfire in modern California history. The "Creek Fire" which began the night before, would go on to burn nearly 400,000 acres destroying over 850 structures.

Early that Saturday morning (Labor Day weekend) I saw a post on Twitter about the fire, and had a feeling that this would not end well. The transmitter for KVPR is located in the community of Meadow Lakes, at the top of the ridge above the "Four Lane" section of Highway 168. Throughout that day I monitored the fire closely, with increasing concern over the evacuations issued by the Fresno County Sheriff for Big Creek, Shaver Lake and beyond. And given the massive smoke column generated by the fire, we began to prepare for the worst.

On Sunday, I called NPR's emergency operations department to let them know that our KVPR transmitter could be at risk if the fire continued on this pace. While the property owner at our broadcast site has done incredible work in the last five years to clear dead trees and remove brush, a megafire is a broadcaster's worst nightmare. Fortunately NPR has three portable broadcast kits, designed to deploy across the country if a station is destroyed by fire, hurricane, earthquake or some other disaster. Despite it being a holiday weekend, and NPR staff in Washington D.C. working from home due to COVID-19, we made arrangements to rent one of the kits, including an emergency transmitter, a portable tower and a temporary broadcast antenna. With the fire approaching fast, we opted to ship the large, heavy equipment overnight, at great expense. We did not want to wait for the fire to hit our site before taking such steps, as we could have faced a situation where we would be off air for days.

By Tuesday September 8, the flames had moved within a mile or two of Meadow Lakes. I remember nervously watching a live video feed from a nearby tower maintained by PG&E, as flames grew closer. Our operations staff continued to check the transmitter remotely, and we continued to stay on the air. But then things began to happen. First we lost power at the site, kicking us to our backup generator. Then we lost telephone and internet service. Then the PG&E camera went offline, as well as one operated by KSEE-24. It was clear that we were directly in the path of the fire.

Fortunately by this time our backup equipment from NPR had arrived. We spent hours on the phone with our engineers and other broadcasters who also use that mountaintop considering our options. After considering the possibility of several different transmitter sites, each with their own challenges, longtime station supporter Pat Fennacy made a generous offer to let us use his facility at Bear Mountain off of Highway 180. Plans were made to deploy our equipment and find a way to get our signal to that location.

By now it was Wednesday, and the fire had finally reached our area. The night before, the flames devastated the landmark Cressman's store, just up Auberry Road from our site, and dozens of homes and buildings in the area were destroyed. Thick smoke was preventing aerial attack on the fire, and though we were still on air, we feared the worst. But soon the winds shifted, allowing air tankers to take to the skies. I remember watching flight radar that day, as a Boeing 747 airtanker, as well as a 737, DC-10, and two smaller jet-based tankers, and several helicopters all were dropping Phos-Chek and water on both sides of our ridge. A check of the radio indicated we were still on-air, and our team for once breathed a sigh of relief.

Ultimately the fire spared our facility and those of the other broadcasters at Meadow Lakes. However, just a short walk down Auberry Road, the community of Alder Springs was not as lucky, as so many homes in the area were destroyed. We owe a huge debt of gratitude to the firefighters of CalFire, the USFS and all of the other agencies who helped battle this massive blaze. Ultimately we did not need to utilize the emergency gear rented from NPR, but it was the right thing to do to be prepared. The rental and shipping alone cost us around \$5,000, an unexpected expense, but one that was absolutely necessary, so we could ensure our service is uninterrupted.

A year like 2020 has made one thing clear: no matter what happens, from a pandemic, to a wildfire, we will do whatever it takes to serve our community, and stay on the air. That's our promise to you as we enter a new year, but it's also a request: can you help to support the station, so that we can continue to be there for you? As you consider your year-end giving, please remember the many times you've relied on Valley Public Radio to stay informed and entertained this past year. Your gift makes what we do, and what you hear every day possible. Thanks for your generous support.



jmoore@kvpr.org • 559-862-2481

Valley Public Radio PROGRAMS

MUSIC

For a listing of our music selections, visit KVPR.org or contact the station.

CARNEGIE HALL LIVE Recorded performances from New York City's most famous stage. January-March 2021. Wednesdays at 8:00pm.

CHICAGO SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA The weekly broadcasts offer a unique format that illustrates the fascinating stories found inside the music. Broadcasts are Tuesdays at 8pm.

CLASSICS ALL NIGHT with Peter Van De Graaff Host Peter Van De Graaff plays sweet and soothing selections for late night and early morning listening. Late nights & early mornings: weekdays until 3am; weekends until 5am.

CLASSICAL 24 Timeless classical music. 24 hours a day, 365 days a year on KVPR Classical digital stream.

CONCIERTO Classical music by Spanish and Latin American composers and performers, presented in English and Spanish. Hosted by Frank Dominguez. Saturdays at 9pm.

EARLY MUSIC NOW Music from the Medieval, Renaissance and early Baroque eras. Sundays at noon.

JAZZ NIGHT IN AMERICA Host Christian McBride takes listeners on a tour of live jazz performances from today's top stars. Saturdays at 8pm.

NEW YORK PHILHARMONIC Recorded performances of the New York Philharmonic hosted by Alec Baldwin. Mondays at 8pm.

SUNDAY BAROQUE This program celebrates the current wealth of recorded Baroque music. Suzanne Bona hosts every Sunday from 9am to Noon.

SUNDAY NIGHT JAZZ Hosted by FM89's David Aus with jazz classics to new recordings. Sundays from 9pm to midnight.

THE THISTLE & SHAMROCK Host Fiona Ritchie's weekly program has become a gathering place on the radio for those that love music with Celtic roots. Sundays at 8pm.

WEEKEND CLASSICS Musical selections from FM89.

NEWS & INFORMATION

1A Daily talk program from WAMU and NPR, exploring issues in a changing America, and encouraging you to "speak freely." Hosted by Jenn White, weekdays from 9am-11am.

ALL THINGS CONSIDERED News magazine from NPR. Weekdays 3:30pm to 6:30pm. Weekends 5pm to 6pm.

THE CALIFORNIA REPORT This statewide newscast is heard weekday mornings at 6:50am and 8:50am. The California Report Magazine, a half-hour news magazine program, is heard Fridays at 6:30pm.

FORUM A statewide look at the issues facing California, hosted by KQED's Mina Kim. Monday-Thursday 1pm to 2pm.

FRESH AIR WEEKEND Hosted by Peabody Award-winning Terry Gross. Sundays at 6pm.

HERE AND NOW News and features from NPR and WBUR in Boston. Mondays through Thursdays 11am to 1pm.

LEFT, RIGHT & CENTER A fast-paced hour of smart, witty, and serious talk that takes on the week's front-page issues. Saturdays at 6pm.

LATINO USA Hosted by Maria Hinojosa. The only national, English language news and culture program from a Latino perspective. Saturdays at 7pm.

MARKETPLACE Business news with host Kai Ryssdal. Weekdays at 3pm, rebroadcast Monday-Thursday at 6:30 pm.

MORNING EDITION National and international news from NPR. Weekdays from 3am to 9am.

VALLEY EDITION Hear the issues that matter to Valley residents each week with a mix of in-depth reports, studio discussions and more. Valley Edition airs live on Fridays at 1pm, and is repeated Fridays at 7pm.

SCIENCE FRIDAY with Ira Flatow. Talk about science and the environment. Fridays 11am to 1pm.

WEEKEND EDITION The Saturday and Sunday edition of NPR's most popular news program. Weekend mornings from 5am to 9am.

STAR DATE Weekdays at 6:19am, 2:58pm and 10:00pm.

TALK & ENTERTAINMENT

IT'S BEEN A MINUTE NPR's Sam Sanders brings us casual conversations about the connections between pop culture and current events. Saturdays from 4pm-5pm.

MILK STREET RADIO Host Christopher Kimball explores the wide world of food. Saturdays at 10am.

THE MOTH True stories told live, from professional and amateur storytellers based in New York. Tuesdays and Sundays at 7pm.

PHILOSOPHY TALK On this program hosts Joshua Landy, Debra Satz, and Ray Briggs, "question everything except your intelligence." This fun and thought provoking program explores philosophy and how it shapes our lives. Thursday nights at 7pm.

RADIOLAB Radiolab believes your ears are a portal to another world, where sound illuminates ideas and the boundaries blur between science, philosophy and human experience. Mondays at 7pm.

TED RADIO HOUR Innovative ideas from the world's top thinkers. Sundays at 4pm and Fridays at 8pm.

THIS AMERICAN LIFE Hosted by Ira Glass. Themed stories with a unique focus on our everyday experiences. Wednesdays at 7 pm, Saturdays at noon.

THINK Host Krys Boyd brings us conversations about current events, culture, history, food, wine and the arts. From KERA. Weekdays at 2pm.

TRAVEL WITH RICK STEVES Explore with with travel expert and author Rick Steves as he talks with friends from around the globe. Saturdays at 9am.

WAIT WAIT...DON'T TELL ME! Join host Peter Sagal for this fun-filled hour of mind-stretching fun, based on the week's news. Saturdays at 11am.

**Listen to our live audio streams online at KVPR.org
or on your favorite connected device.**

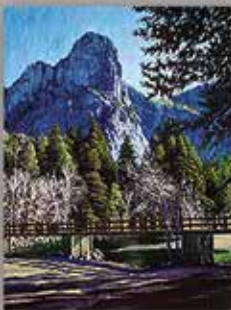
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General correspondence may be sent to: (Specific Program Name), c/o National Public Radio, Washington, DC.

{ Winter 2020 **AUDIOWEEK**

	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY		
12 am								12 am	
1 am								1 am	
2 am	CLASSICS ALL NIGHT WITH PETER VAN DE GRAAFF							2 am	
3 am								3 am	
4 am								4 am	
5 am								5 am	
6 am	WEEKEND EDITION	MORNING EDITION					WEEKEND EDITION	6 am	
7 am								7 am	
8 am								8 am	
9 am								9 am	
10 am	SUNDAY BAROQUE	1A					TRAVEL WITH RICK STEVES	10 am	
11 am							MILK STREET RADIO	11 am	
Noon	HERE AND NOW					SCIENCE FRIDAY	WAIT WAIT...DON'T TELL ME	Noon	
1 pm	EARLY MUSIC NOW						THIS AMERICAN LIFE	1 pm	
2 pm	WEEKEND CLASSICS	FORUM: CA EDITION					VALLEY EDITION	WEEKEND CLASSICS	2 pm
3 pm		THINK							3 pm
4 pm		MARKETPLACE							4 pm
5 pm	TED RADIO HOUR	ALL THINGS CONSIDERED					IT'S BEEN A MINUTE	5 pm	
6 pm	ALL THINGS CONSIDERED						ALL THINGS CONSIDERED	6 pm	
7 pm	FRESH AIR	MARKETPLACE				THE CALIF. REPORT	LEFT RIGHT & CENTER	7 pm	
8 pm	THE MOTH	RADIOLAB	THE MOTH	THIS AMERICAN LIFE	PHILOSOPHY TALK	VALLEY EDITION	LATINO USA	8 pm	
9 pm	THE THISTLE & SHAMROCK	NEW YORK PHILHARMONIC	CHICAGO SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA	CARNEGIE HALL LIVE (2021)	CLASSICS ALL NIGHT WITH PETER VAN DE GRAAFF	TED RADIO HOUR	JAZZ NIGHT IN AMERICA	9 pm	
10 pm	SUNDAY NIGHT JAZZ	CLASSICS ALL NIGHT WITH PETER VAN DE GRAAFF	CLASSICS ALL NIGHT WITH PETER VAN DE GRAAFF	CLASSICS ALL NIGHT WITH PETER VAN DE GRAAFF		CLASSICS ALL NIGHT WITH PETER VAN DE GRAAFF	CONCIERTO	10 pm	
11 pm									

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Meet Joe Goetz, Music Director For Classical 24

*Hear Classical 24 on KVPR Classical,
your home for music 24/7*

By APM Media Relations



Programming the music for a large classical radio station is already a major undertaking. Doing it at the same time for a national service that reaches more than 1.5 million listeners a week — plus curating more than a dozen streams and other digital products — takes the endeavor to new dynamic levels.

That's the challenge facing Joe Goetz, the new classical music director for Classical Minnesota Public Radio and American Public Media, the network which produces the Classical 24 programming heard locally on KVPR Classical.

It's a charge he doesn't take lightly.

"Classical music listeners very generally look to their radio stations as a source for relaxation and comfort. It's often an accompaniment to their work or study, a means of falling asleep at night, or a way to stay sane while sitting in bumper-to-bumper traffic. These are all activities I envision when I'm programming music," he says.

"At the same time, though, we also know that classical music listeners are intellectually curious and don't mind an occasional challenge. My job is to strike that balance between the familiar and the surprising, to create a sound that is unobtrusive but can also give the occasional jolt."

Goetz is experienced at providing jolts — in a good way. He joins MPR/APM after six years as music

director at WFTU, the public radio station associated with Indiana University in Bloomington, Ind., where he revamped the music library, launched nationally syndicated programming and produced broadcasts from the Jacobs School of Music. He also partnered with Grammy-winning soprano Sylvia McNair to produce a weekly music show.

For seven years before that, he hosted classical music programming at Vermont Public Radio, where he promoted the work of local grade-school composers and interviewed internationally recognized classical artists. He also has an extensive performance background as a choral singer and chamber music pianist.

One of Goetz's first goals in his new gig is to answer the clarion call to diversify programming as part of the dismantling of systemic racism in classical music, which remains firmly rooted in the Western European tradition. MPR/APM's classical services actually have been working on that for a few years, recently revealing publicly for the first time that 24 percent of the music

KVPR Classical Program Highlights

While KVPR Classical brings you music 24/7, you can also hear special re-occurring segments throughout the week, featuring new music, historical insights, even classical music for kids. Here are some highlights to look forward to.

Each weekday at 4:01 a.m. at 2:01 p.m., John Birge offers historical musical insights on "Composer's Datebook."

Each Wednesday night at 10:00 p.m. and Saturday evening at 6 p.m. host Scott Blankenship offers an exclusive live performance of European orchestras on our bi-weekly "Euro-Classic."

Each Wednesday night at 8 p.m. Steve Seel shares two hours of the best new and contemporary classical music on "Extra Eclectic" – a program "where classical music is always arriving."

Each Wednesday at 3:01 p.m. and Saturdays at 7:01 a.m. Julie Amacher hosts a five-minute exploration of new classical tracks and artists called "New Classical Tracks." (Also an extended podcast that listeners can download!)

Each Saturday morning at 6:01 a.m. Melissa Dundis presents "Classical Kids Corner," a special feature for classical music's youngest fans (and their adults). Each week, explore basic music concepts, instruments, different cultures and composers, and more. Classical Kids Corner – "where classical music meets your imagination."

Each Saturday morning at 8:00 a.m. Lynne Warfel dives deep into film scores for "Saturday Cinema," an hour of movie music.

How to listen to KVPR Classical

- Listen online at KVPR.org & the KVPR App
- In the Fresno area, listen on HD Radios at FM 89.3-2
- Listen on your smart speaker or connected speaker
- Connect your existing audio system to a PC or smartphone with a wireless adapter, (available for around \$23)
- Find more ways to listen online at KVPR.org

they play features a woman and/or a Black person, Indigenous person or person of color.

Goetz appreciates that effort but aims to redefine what "diverse programming" means.

"Right now, we define it as any piece of music that features a woman or person of color who is either the composer, conductor or performer (or some combination thereof)," he explains. "That means that Hilary Hahn playing Bach or Mitsuko Uchida playing Mozart qualify as 'diverse.'"

He admires that they are both women thriving in what has been a male-dominated arena for centuries, but he thinks the approach can be better.

"These recordings have been on classical radio for decades," he says. "Just because we are using them to check a box that qualifies them as 'diverse,' doesn't mean they are adding *true* diversity to our playlists. I want to make sure that our commitment to diversity includes new voices performing new music, not just new voices performing the same pieces we've heard for years."

That means partnering with diversity-focused institutions such as the well-respected Sphinx Organization and historically black colleges and universities to help spot promising talent and content.

"It's going to take creativity and a commitment to look beyond the traditional recording industry, which still hasn't quite caught up with where we need to be," he says.

For now, Goetz will oversee music programming from Indiana, where he is working remotely during these COVID-19 times. But he says his family — wife Meghann and young kids William and Allison — are "extremely excited" about relocating eventually to the arts-driven Minneapolis-St. Paul area, where MPR/APM is based.

Meet The On-Air Hosts of KVPR Classical:



Julie Amacher

Julie Amacher's desire to introduce others to great music is what led her to radio. She began her professional broadcast career at a station in Sun Prairie, Wis. She went from rock 'n' roll to the Rocky Mountains, where she

found her niche in public radio at KUNC in Greeley, Colo. Julie spent 13 years at KUNC, where she managed the announcers and their eclectic music format. During that time, she earned four national awards for best announcer. She joined Minnesota Public Radio in 1997 as an on-air host and also produces New Classical Tracks, a weekly podcast critiquing a new release each week.



Jeff Esworthy

Jeff Esworthy has been with MPR since 1996. A public radio veteran with more than 25 years behind the microphone, Jeff has hosted everything from jazz to folk to progressive rock. Jeff is a hobbyist musician and minor-league collector of musical instruments

from around the world. He has a long-time interest in the classical music of Northern India and plays banjo, fiddle and bad guitar in an old-time square-dance band. Jeff was the overnight disc jockey at MPR for the better part of a decade and is very grateful these days to be

seeing the sunrise at the beginning of his day instead of the end.



Valerie Kahler

Valerie Kahler started playing cello and piano in 3rd grade, but didn't officially fall under the spell of classical music until

high school when she began exploring her parents' LP collection. There, tucked between the Herb Alpert and an abandoned children's record, she found an album of the Los Angeles Philharmonic with Zubin Mehta. She played the A side (Ravel's Bolero and Tchaikovsky's Marche Slave) over and over again, mesmerized by the changes of color the composers could produce with different instruments, and by the images the music conjured in her imagination.

Thanks to teachers and professors with high expectations and a taste for demanding repertoire, Valerie was able to explore orchestral, chamber and vocal music from the inside out, all through high school and college. At some point during an unfocused pursuit of a bachelor's degree, she wandered into the studios of KNAU (now Arizona Public Radio) in Flagstaff, Arizona. A stint as a volunteer in the music library inevitably led to being placed, unwillingly, in front of a microphone. It became surprisingly less terrifying each time, so she stayed. Ten years later, she packed her bike and her cat into a small pickup truck and drove to St. Paul, Minnesota to work for Classical 24. When she's not playing classical music or talking about classical music, she's likely to be reading, sewing, singing or cooking. Valerie shares her life with her partner John, an artist, and their two cats: Mirra and Dieter.



Bill Morelock

Bill Morelock fell into radio as a refugee from graduate school. This was in Pullman, Washington, where Murrow learned how to speak like Murrow. A permanent inferiority complex developed. In 1988, he conspired with Bob

Christiansen to create the daily classical music show, Bob & Bill. It was distributed nationally by NPR from 1991-1996. In Minnesota, Morelock has worked at WCAL in Northfield, and at Minnesota Public Radio in St. Paul. He writes an occasional piece of prose, occasionally funny, but not often enough to really annoy anyone.



Steve Seel

Steve Seel possesses a broad knowledge of many musical genres, having hosted radio programs ranging from classical to jazz and even avant-garde music at public radio stations

around the country. Steve came to Minnesota Public Radio in 1999 to be a part of its nationally-syndicated classical music programming. In 2005, he became one of the founding voices on MPR's eclectic station The Current, and has hosted various time slots from mornings to late nights, and conducted in-depth interviews with pop music luminaries ranging from Brian Eno to David Byrne to Tori Amos. Steve is an avid reader of political and social commentary as well, and he emcees The Current's popular Policy and a Pint community series, featuring discussions with noted scholars, politicians, community leaders, authors and big thinkers on important issues of the day. Steve is also a basement composer obsessed with all things both minimalist and slow, and might actually be incapable of writing anything that exceeds 75 beats-per-minute.



Steve Staruch

Prior to joining the staff of MPR in 2004, Steve presented a variety of radio programs on WCAL in Northfield, Minn., where he created an immensely popular call-in program, and

on WXXI in Rochester, N.Y. Outside radio, Steve also enjoys work as a freelance tenor and violist. Steve and his wife, Naomi, enjoy traveling, gardening and hosting dinner parties.

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'It's Just Hard To Take' – Kerman Beekeeper Loses Hundreds Of Hives In Creek Fire

By Alice Daniel

A cup of coffee in one hand, David Blair rolls up the garage door to his warehouse and points out a few remaining 55-gallon barrels filled with honey.

"We send it off to Sue Bee as soon as we can. We don't really store it here," says the third generation beekeeper from Kerman.



Fall is honey harvesting season. Each summer, Blair, 61, hauls truckloads of bees to various spots in the state to shield them from the Valley heat. This year, he and his father, also a beekeeper, brought about 1500 hives up to the forests in the Sierra Nevada.

After Labor Day, Blair typically removes the honey from the hives before he brings the bees back to the Valley. But this year, the Creek Fire erupted before he could get to them. He and his father lost about 540 hives; that's more than a third of what they had in the mountains.

Blair says he couldn't help but cry after witnessing the devastation.

"Yeah a little bit," he says. "Because it's just a loss, the work you put into them. The way of life. It's just hard to take something like that."

Cal Fire escorted Blair up to see two of his locations near Mammoth Pool near the end of September. About a week later, he saw where another load of hives had burned. It was all just ash, he says.

"Just devastated. Nothing left. It's just a mess. Nails, staples," he says. "It's demoralizing to see as a beekeeper."

The California State Beekeepers Association says it doesn't keep track of the number of hives lost to wildfires each year but Associate Director Brooke Palmer says she's heard from several beekeepers who have suffered recent losses. She encourages all



beekeepers to register their hives with their county and the USDA.

"So when this happens they have the opportunity to apply for programs available for natural disasters," she says.

But Blair's wife Vicki, also a beekeeper, says it's not just about losing honeybee hives. As she sorts through before and after photos of the bee locations that burned up, she says she worries about the future of beekeeping in the state.

"Every year we find that we either lose a location because of development, or a fire or this drought. It's harder and harder for beekeepers to run businesses in California," she says.

And each time there's a wildfire, it takes several years before the vegetation grows back and the area can be used as a bee location again, she says.

Blair worries too. He says the drought has been particularly hard on bees. It's one reason why he and

his father brought so many hives up into the mountains this year; other places were just too dry.

Blair lives with his family on a farm surrounded by almond trees. Not far from his warehouse are several bee boxes with bees flying around.

"I call them my pet hives," he says smiling. "Only a beekeeper would do that."

Right now he feeds them a pollen substitute because they can't find enough food on their own.

He'll use his "pet bees" to pollinate his 16 acres of almond trees in February. As a beekeeper, he also contracts with many other almond growers. This year, he says, he'll have to make up for his losses by renting some bees.

"We'll get bees to cover our contracts this year until we rebuild," he says.

Rebuilding the hives takes time, he says, and that won't happen until next spring.



Valley Public Radio Celebrates The Holidays

From the spoken word to classical music and jazz, help celebrate the holiday season with an eclectic blend of holiday specials from Valley Public Radio. This year, our lineup features familiar favorites like *A Christmas Carol* and *Hanukkah Lights*, as well as new programs like *A Chanticleer Christmas* and *Hygge Holiday*.

Plus join us for broadcasts of everything from Handel's *Messiah*, to contemporary favorites like David Sedaris reading from his *Santaland Diaries* on *Tinsel Tales*, and *Pink Martini's A Holiday In Pink* radio special, and New Year's Day live from Vienna.

Mark your calendars for these special broadcasts as we celebrate the holidays. You can find more info on these holiday specials online at KVPR.org.



WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 9TH – 8:00 P.M.

Hygge Holiday: Cozy Classics

Join host Elena See as she plays a mix of wintry and nostalgic classical pieces designed to accompany listeners as they enjoy cozy wintertime activities.



THURSDAY DECEMBER 10TH – 2:00 P.M.

Hanukkah Lights 2020

The NPR favorite returns for 2020 with all new Hanukkah stories. Hosted by Susan Stamberg and Murray Horwitz.

SUNDAY DECEMBER 13TH – 12:00 P.M.

Candles Burning Brightly

A one-hour celebration of Hanukkah, the Jewish Festival of Lights with an exploration of Hanukkah foods and traditional activities ... and plenty of music.

Hosted by Classical 24's Mindy Ratner.

WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 16TH – 8:00 P.M.

A Hanukkah Celebration with Chicago a cappella

An inspiring and informative show featuring choral music set to Hanukkah texts, performed by Chicago a cappella.



WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 16TH – 9:00 P.M.

A Soulful Christmas

A Soulful Christmas celebrates classical music by Black artists, while exploring Spirituals, Gospel Music, Jazz and other Black musical traditions.

SATURDAY DECEMBER 19TH – 1:00 P.M.

Apollo's Fire presents Christmas on Sugarloaf Mountain: An Irish-Appalachian Celebration

In this one-hour special, the listener is transported from Christmas Eve in medieval Scotland to the folk carols and shape-note hymns at a toe-tapping Christmas gathering in Virginia.

SATURDAY DECEMBER 19TH – 2:00 PM – 4:00 P.M.

The Nutcracker

The famous ballet by Tchaikovsky, with a narration from Kevin Kline, performed by the New York City Ballet Orchestra, David Zinman conducting. Followed by other holiday favorites from the FM89 music library. Hosted by Jason Scott.

SATURDAY DECEMBER 19TH – 8:00 PM

Jazz Night In America: A Holiday Celebration

Jazz Night in America brings you holiday classics featuring the Jazz At Lincoln Center Orchestra and special guests. Christian McBride hosts.

SUNDAY DECEMBER 20TH – 12:00 P.M.

A Choral Christmas With Stile Antico

Featuring the soaring voices of Stile Antico, the award winning choir from London, with a concert of radiant sacred music for the Christmas season.

SUNDAY DECEMBER 20 – 1:00 P.M. – 4:00 P.M.

Christmas Classical Showcase: Handel's Messiah

Featuring a broadcast of Handel's *Messiah*, followed by other Christmas favorites from the FM89 music library.

Holidays With Special Programming



SUNDAY DECEMBER 21 – 7:00 P.M.

A Chanticleer Christmas

Celebrate the season with song, with a concert by Chanticleer, the superb 12-man ensemble known as “an orchestra of voices.”



MONDAY DECEMBER 21ST – 2:00 P.M.

Tinsel Tales: NPR Christmas Favorites

David Sedaris, Bailey White, John Henry Faulk and other bring us stories from the NPR archives that touch on the meaning of Christmas.

MONDAY DECEMBER 21ST – 8:00 P.M.

A Paul Winter Solstice

Celebrate the return of the sun - and the warming of the heart with Paul Winter's 40th Annual Winter Solstice Celebration.

MONDAY DECEMBER 21ST – 9:00 P.M.

Winter Holidays Around the World with Bill McGlaughlin

Winter holidays are celebrated around the world, and their music is wonderful to hear, regardless of which tradition you observe.

TUESDAY DECEMBER 22ND – 2:00 P.M.

Tinsel Tales 2

Hear moments of joy, hope, and childhood memories as NPR voices, past and present, tell stories of the season. Hosted by Lynn Neary.

TUESDAY DECEMBER 22ND – 8:00 P.M.

Joy To The World – A Holiday in Pink

The internationally acclaimed “little orchestra” Pink Martini bedecks the airwaves with festive holiday songs from across the globe, hosted by All Things Considered's Ari Shapiro.

TUESDAY DECEMBER 22ND – 9:00 P.M.

The Film Score: Music for the Winter Holidays

An hour-long special devoted to holiday and wintertime movie music.

WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 23RD – 2:00 P.M.

Tinsel Tales 3

Audie Cornish, Ken Harbaugh, Nina Totenberg and other voices from NPR's past and present tell stories of the season in this hour-long special.

WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 23RD – 8:00 P.M.

Jazz Piano Christmas 36

Join the Kennedy Center and NPR Music for this annual holiday tradition highlighting jazz pianists and their favorite seasonal music. The line-up will be announced soon. Fresno's Felix Contreras hosts.

WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 23RD – 9:00 P.M.

An Afro Blue Christmas

Howard University's premiere vocal ensemble Afro Blue and special guest jazz pianist Cyrus Chestnut with one of a kind arrangements on traditional holiday songs plus new compositions.

THURSDAY DECEMBER 24TH – 2:00 P.M.

Tinsel Tales 4

NPR's fourth collection of extraordinary Christmas stories that will transport you to unexpected places. Hosted by Lynn Neary.

THURSDAY DECEMBER 24TH – 7:00 P.M.

A Christmas Carol

Master comedian Jonathan Winters presents a distinctive reading of Dickens' holiday classic, with a special performing edition prepared by Dickens for his own presentations.

THURSDAY DECEMBER 24TH – 8:00 P.M.

A Choral Christmas With Stile Antico

Celebrate Christmas with the sound of soaring voices. Stile Antico, performing the intricately woven music of Thomas Tallis and William Byrd.

THURSDAY DECEMBER 24TH – 9:00 P.M.

Christmas with Morehouse and Spelman Glee Clubs

Two of the most prestigious historically black institutions in the nation get together to present a spine-tingling concert of spirituals and carols.

FRIDAY DECEMBER 25TH – 1:00 P.M.

Tinsel Tales 2 (rebroadcast)

FRIDAY DECEMBER 25TH – 7:00 P.M. – 9:00 P.M.

The Nutcracker (rebroadcast)

THURSDAY DECEMBER 31, 2020 – 7:00 P.M. – 1:00 A.M.

Toast of the Nation

A NPR tradition every New Year's Eve since the 1970s, Toast of the Nation is the perfect audio complement for the occasion. It's festive jazz you can party to, all night long, even on lockdown.

FRIDAY JANUARY 1, 2021 – 8:00 A.M. – 10:00 A.M.

New Year's Day From Vienna LIVE

Live featuring the Wiener Philharmoniker under the baton of Maestro Riccardo Muti. Hosted by WBUR's Lisa Mullins.

In Mendota, Latinx Businesses Struggle To Survive In The Pandemic

By Madi Bolanos

The TV station Univision plays in the background at Las Morenitas, a small Salvadorian restaurant on Mendota's main street. Maria Morena has owned the place with her husband, Francisco, for 12 years. After frying pupusas for a few lunch customers, she takes a quick break to talk about the business.

"We aren't making any profits," Morena says. "We're just paying the bills and well, we have no employees except for the family that has stepped up to help us out."

In this small farming town, Latinx owned small businesses have struggled to stay afloat in the pandemic. Maria and Francisco's three adult children all pitch in with the day to day operations at the restaurant.

Morena says it's been a struggle but at least it's better than it was at the beginning of the pandemic.

"There were three months that we were only doing take-out, March, April, May," she says. "And of course that meant we were making far less than we would have if we were able to open fully."

In June, one of her children went online and applied for a small business loan grant.

"They are still telling us that they will let us know, but we have not heard from them," Morena says. "They said it would take three to six months but here we are still waiting."

Still waiting with their savings already emptied. And even after opening the restaurant with some restrictions due to COVID-19, Morena says she's uncertain about the future of Las Morenitas.

"We opened, but if they say there are more cases, then we have to close again, so we are nervously waiting it out," she says, adding that she still hopes to get a loan.

Yvette Salas with Camino Financial, an online small business lender, says Morena's situation isn't unique. Camino Financial released a survey in October that showed many Latinx owned businesses struggled to receive government aid.

And "because of lack of securing funds, relief funds, during the pandemic, a lot of these small businesses had to go into their reserve funds and carry over those losses," Salas says.

The survey found many Latinx small business owners were hesitant to reach out to organizations like the Better Business Bureau or a bank.

"They're not plugged into mainstream financing," says Salas. "A lot of times they don't have a relationship to their bank."

Salas says participants in the survey also attributed language and documentation status as barriers.

But at another Salvadorian restaurant in Mendota called Antojitos Guanacos, the owner was able to take out a loan. Miguel Urias says he had depleted his savings trying to keep his restaurant going when he saw an ad on TV from the Better Business Bureau offering small business loans.

"I was already three months late on the restaurant's PG&E bill so at the very least that helped pay that off so I could continue working," Urias says.

The family has owned the restaurant for 20 years and Urias says the pandemic has been catastrophic for his business.

"At the beginning of the pandemic I closed the restaurant for two weeks and I was thinking of closing completely because we weren't making anything," he says. "We didn't have any money to pay the bills."

He says being able to open at 25% capacity has helped but now it's down to him and one other employee running the restaurant.

A New Chapter For David Greene

By NPR Extra staff

"One employee left because she didn't want to work for just two hours and run the risk of catching COVID," he says.

And that's another challenge these restaurants face, keeping customers and employees safe from the virus. At Las Morenitas, Morena says they try to follow the CDC guidelines as best they can.

"In the kitchen, we wear masks and the customers are in charge of protecting themselves and others with a mask," she says.

But some customers refuse to wear them. Like 52-year-old Juan Ruiz, who's a regular at Las Morenitas. He's sitting at a table drinking a beer while waiting for his food. When he finishes his meal, he won't put on a mask.

"For me, that doesn't help at all, at all. As humans we all have rights," Ruiz says.

He says his sister contracted COVID earlier this year even though she wore a mask. And in spite of the fact that public health experts say masks do reduce the spread of the virus, Ruiz thinks the government should suspend their use.

"Nothing is going to happen," he says. "As humans we've engrained it in our minds that if we don't wear the mask we are going to get sick. No no no no."

Morena says she asks her customers to follow safe practices. And for those who feel safer eating outside, Morena has also created an outdoor sitting area.

After 8 years as host of Morning Edition, David Greene is stepping back from hosting to focus on other projects. In what he calls the 'hardest decision in his career', David will leave NPR and his sleep-defying schedule on December 29, 2020. NPR will be undertaking a national search to find David's successor.

Here's an excerpt from his note to NPR staff:

So many colleagues feel like - and ARE - friends. During my years in Moscow, the foreign desk was such a tight-knit group, having each other's backs even time zones apart. And being part of the Morning Edition family has been a lesson in collaboration and collegiality you find nowhere else in the business. I just think of working on a segment or interview, seeing producers and editors bring their own ideas and approaches, all valuing one another's contributions and working together to make a work of art - sometimes with minutes to spare, sometimes at 2:30am! But that's just the news department. I just think of the relationships I have been lucky to build across this company. I have colleagues in engineering, IT, operations, facilities, HR - the list goes on - who became friends, went to bat for me or saved my butt in the scariest moments and all worked alongside news and programming with our singular mission of serving our audience.

And here's what EP of Morning Edition Kenya Young and VP for News Programming Sarah Gilbert said in their note:

People always ascribe 'mixed emotions' to moments like these, but for us, this is one of those times when the cliché rings true: Because we'll miss David and the boundless joy he brings to the work every day - and because we're as pleased and excited as he is to see him embark on a new chapter in life.

Prior to taking on his current role in 2012, David was NPR's correspondent in Moscow covering the region from Ukraine and the Baltics east to Siberia. He also spent a month in Libya reporting riveting stories in the most difficult of circumstances as NATO bombs fell on Tripoli. He was honored with the 2011 Daniel Schorr Journalism Prize from WBUR and Boston University for that coverage of the Arab Spring.

His voice became familiar to NPR listeners from his four years covering the White House. Covering former President George W. Bush's second term, David spent hours in NPR's booth in the basement of the West Wing and reporting on White House visits to places like Iraq, Afghanistan, Mongolia, Rwanda, Uruguay - and, of course, Crawford, Texas. He was an integral part of NPR's coverage of the historic 2008 election, reporting on Hillary Clinton's campaign from start to finish, and also focusing on how racial attitudes were playing into voters' decisions. The White House Correspondents' Association took special note of his report on a speech by then-candidate Barack Obama addressing the nation's racial divide and awarded it the Association's 2008 Merriman Smith Award for deadline coverage of the presidency.



Despite Distance Learning Limitations, Choir Teachers Find Ways To Make Music Happen

By Laura Tsutsui

With public schools still operating remotely, one subject particularly challenging to teach online is music. Despite the limitations, choir teachers in Fresno County are brainstorming new ways to instruct, even through a screen.

On one Thursday morning, halfway through the high school choir class that Jacob Bailey is teaching on Zoom, he leads the students through a warm up.

"Reach up nice and high to wake up that voice a little bit," Bailey tells the students while stretching. "Wake up those ribs."

As they exercise their voices, he jokes, they might wake up their neighbors: he lets out a "Whoo, whoo, whoo!" like a siren.

"Bug our neighbors, here we go!"

One student puts in the chat, "My poor dog is trying to sleep, I feel bad." But of the few students who turn on

their videos during the Zoom class, you can tell they're still singing.

Bailey has been teaching with Selma Unified School District for two years now, and says he's approaching distance learning like he did when he started at the district.

"I'm gonna throw a lot of spaghetti against the wall, and see what sticks," says Bailey.

So far, some trends are forming: the students like group projects and working together in breakout rooms, which, he says, makes sense.

"The big starting point has to be relationships," Bailey explains. "They did some getting to know you assignments, and I was in there responding and asking questions about the things that they said. I think they're kind of starved for that kind of interaction."

In addition to maintaining the choir program, Bailey is also trying to plan ahead. As the district's visual and performing arts coordinator, he's working on Selma Unified's Five-Year Visual and Performing Arts Plan, to be implemented in the fall of 2021. It includes goals like more community engagement and bringing in more arts staff.

"We only have one and a half full-time teachers covering all of the elementary schools in the district," Bailey says.

While he irons out the plan with other arts faculty, Bailey is facing major barriers to teaching through distance learning. For example, reliable Wi-Fi access



Choir director Michael Gutierrez stands before empty risers in the Firebaugh High School choir room. Gutierrez has been trying out new styles of music lessons.

and even electricity remain problems, although Selma Unified has distributed devices and Wi-Fi routers. One student said during the class that she has to go to her sister's home to use her Wi-Fi for school.

"The struggle we have, especially as a rural district is that, even if you've done everything right, and our district has tried, but I don't think anybody is doing this 100 percent right right now," Bailey says. "There are kids that are gonna be out of reach."

In Firebaugh Las Deltas Unified School District, Michael Gutierrez, the middle and high school choir director, says he encountered the same access problems early on in the pandemic. These days, he tries to also be mindful of students' home lives, and says there are still other barriers that make it difficult for his students.

"A comment that I hear often from students is that they love being here because they can sing out, but at home it's very different," says Gutierrez. "Sometimes it's a situation of, they have a younger sibling like an infant that they have to make sure they're not singing around or waking up."

In the meantime, Gutierrez is focusing on other skills during his classes.

"This is a respiratory virus. Singing is a respiratory activity, so clearly there's a chance that choir might not be possible, that it will be very limited, which it is," says Gutierrez. "So I asked the kids, besides singing, what other skills do you want to learn in music?"

The suggestions Gutierrez adopted this year are music production, songwriting, vocal skills and piano skills.

One of his high school students, Adrian Ortiz, says he was initially skeptical about being in choir during a pandemic.

"I didn't really think this was gonna work well," Ortiz admits. "But it actually has."

Ortiz has been focusing on songwriting, and says it's been one way to process his feelings. But he does miss singing.

"One hundred percent, I really miss it," he says. "When we're singing, it's like emotional and like, just to know that we're just gonna be on computers, just doing these assignments, it's not really what we joined choir for. We joined it to sing all together as one."

Once the kids get more comfortable singing on Zoom, Gutierrez does plan to record a distanced version of their winter concert. It's something the

students and community look forward to every year and he wants to make sure it still happens.

"I told my students that our motto this year essentially is that anything's possible. It just takes more creativity."

More creativity, and a daily reminder of good health practices.

"Every moment I get, I remind the kids, 'Wash your hands, wear a mask, social distance,'" says Gutierrez. "And if your family asks why you should wear a mask, your answer should be, 'Because I want to go back to school.'"

The California Report Celebrates 25 Years

With its sprawling territory, climatic and cultural extremes, and teeming and diverse population, California is tough to cover. Yet, for the last 25 years, The California Report has knit together this vast and varied state, bringing you news stories and culture that define California's role in American life.

Produced by San Francisco's KQED, in collaboration with public radio stations and reporters throughout the Golden State, The California Report has chronicled the biggest stories of the last quarter century, from fires and earthquakes, to climate change, same-

sex marriage and the growth of the internet. But beyond the headlines, the

program has also served as the on-air chronicle of California's daily concerns, evolving culture, and ongoing heart. The program has also served as a launching pad for national talent, with TCR alums including All Things Considered co-host Ailsa Chang and NPR White House correspondent Tamara Keith. Visit KVPR.org to find a link to archived video of an online event held earlier this year to celebrate the program's birthday.

Hear The California Report weekdays at 6:50 a.m. and 8:50 a.m. and Friday evenings at 6:30 p.m.



Masked, In Cars, With Radios On: Fresno Community Chorus Gathers For Parking Lot Singalong

By Laura Tsutsui

The Fresno Community Chorus stopped singing in March just ahead of shelter-in-place orders and the county's adoption of COVID-19 restrictions. Seven months later, the group reunited in person to sing, not in a concert hall but in a parking lot.

On Tuesday evening, dozens of cars drove into the Calvary Chapel parking lot in Central Fresno. They parked in neat rows close to the church buildings before a small stage and sound system.

On this night, they're singing via FM transmitter, like at a drive-in movie theater.



Alan Peters, president of the Fresno Community Chorus board, holds a sign telling singers what radio station to tune into during Tuesdays parking lot singalong.

Alan Peters, board president of the Fresno Community Chorus, held a microphone to his masked face as he gave some opening remarks to the group.

"Welcome to this first of what may be a long string of parking lot singalongs," Peters said. "We have chosen to attempt to see how well we can make our voices ring through open windows in our cars. We ask that you all stay in your car."

Choir member and retired music teacher Elizabeth Layous stood before the cars with a guitar, singing into a microphone patched into the transmitter system.

The folk song, "This Land is Your Land," rang through the lot, with the singer on the microphone singing a line, and waiting for choir members to repeat it back to her.

At first there was a bit of a lag between the sound system and speakers, where the guitar came through, and the radio where the singing was happening, but it eventually got worked out.

Seated alone in his truck, the windows rolled down, choir member Rodney Lyon sang out, "Oh, when the saints go marching in," with the radio.

Since the pandemic hit, Lyon said he and his wife have missed singing in the Fresno Community Chorus, their church choir, and attending live music and performances. That's why he jumped at the chance to sing along in person.



Over 40 cars parked in the Calvary Chapel lot Tuesday night so members of the Fresno Community Chorus could sing together from their cars with their windows open.

"It's one of these things, they said we'll meet in the parking lot," said Lyon. "It's an opportunity to get part of my life back. You bet, I'm here."

Singing alone at home, he said, is just not the same. Especially when part of the fun is hearing everyone's voices under the director, Anna Hamre.

"Being in the Fresno Master Chorale is probably one of the most rewarding things I've ever done in my life," Lyon said. "Singing with Anna specifically, because she's such an inspiring and wonderful director. We could sing crappy music and she'll make it sound good."

The songs they sang Tuesday night weren't very technical or difficult, like their usual repertoire. The choir sang familiar hymns and folk songs. At one point they even sang in a round the songs, "I'm Gonna Sing, I'm Gonna Shout," "This Train," and "When the Saints Go Marching In."

For just a few seconds, listening to the live music, it felt like the pandemic wasn't hanging over them, restricting voices and ability to gather.

In between the singalongs, the choir's five-person, all-male group called Quintus performed a cappella.

"I love a cappella music," Lyon said. "The different groups, all of it. A cappella music is awesome."

The five men in the group stood at the front with microphones, spaced out, and sang while wearing masks. It's also how they've been practicing.

In his fifty years with the choir, "This is the first time that we've ever had anything like this happen," said Peters, the choir board's president.

He said it was difficult to stop practices, but it felt necessary when it became clear singing in choirs was spreading the virus.

"We had a rehearsal on March the 10th, and we said we're gonna stop until we know that it's safe to sing," said Peters. "Shortly after we heard a choir in Washington state that rehearsed that night had more than half the choir come down with the virus and two of them die."

Fresno's 180-member choir has been testing other ways of gathering remotely, like Zoom meetings, but the lag time and poor connection make the experience subpar.

As the night ended, Anna Hamre, the choir's director, said the parking lot sing-along seemed to be a success.

"It was great fun, just seeing everybody and having voices tra-la-la together just kind of makes our heart feel good," she said.

Peters said out of the 42 cars that signed up to come, all 42 showed. Hamre added, this won't be the last parking lot singalong.

"We wanted to limit the first time cause we didn't know how it was gonna work, but we got a better idea now!" she said. "We're gonna keep singing, you can't stop us!"



Rodney Lyon stands before cars lining up for the choir's parking lot event.

DUE TO COVID-19 IN-PERSON EVENTS MAY HAVE CHANGED FOLLOWING PUBLICATION.
PLEASE CONSULT EVENT ORGANIZERS AND OUR ONLINE CALENDAR FOR CURRENT INFORMATION.

DECEMBER

EVENTS/EXHIBITS

Thru 23	Annual Holiday Show and Sale Arts Visalia, 214 E. Oak Ave, Visalia artsvisalia.org
Thru 1/2	18th Annual Holiday Lights at CALM CALM Zoo, 10500 Alfred Harrell Hwy., Bakersfield calmzoo.org
3	1/3 Fantasy of Lights Holiday Lights Show Fresno Fairgrounds, 1121 S. Chance Avenue. fresnofair.com
23 & 30	Feliz Fitness: Latin Dance and Workout Class (Virtual) Arte Americas, Fresno arteamericas.org
11	Swede Fest 20 (Virtual) Community Media Access Collaborative (CMAC), Fresno cmac.tv
17	Brewlights Fresno Chaffee Zoo, 894 West Belmont Avenue fresnochaffeezoo.org
30	Full Moon Bike Ride Beach Park Loop, Bakersfield bikebakersfield.org

MUSIC

4	Episode 5: Michael W. Smith & Wayne Kirkpatrick, All Is Well (Musical Uplink) Sequoia Symphony Orchestra, Visalia. sequoiasymphonyorchestra.com
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EVENTS/EXHIBITS

Thru 6/27	Winter/Spring Exhibitions Fresno Art Museum, 2233 N. First St. fresnoartmuseum.org
28-5/1	Winter Exhibitions Bakersfield Museum of Art, 1930 R Street bmoa.org

MUSIC

8	Episode 6: Stravinsky, Dumbarton Oaks Movement 1 (Musical Uplink) Sequoia Symphony Orchestra, Visalia. sequoiasymphonyorchestra.com
16	Intersections of Past and Present: Hailstork and Haydn (Livestream Premiere on YouTube) Fresno Philharmonic fresnophil.org

EVENTS/EXHIBITS

Thru 3/1	Open Call For Entries: 8th Annual Arts Alive In Agriculture Fresno Arts Council fresnoartscouncil.org
2	Distinguished Speaker Series: Gordon Bellamy (Virtual) Bakersfield College. bakersfieldcollege.edu

MUSIC

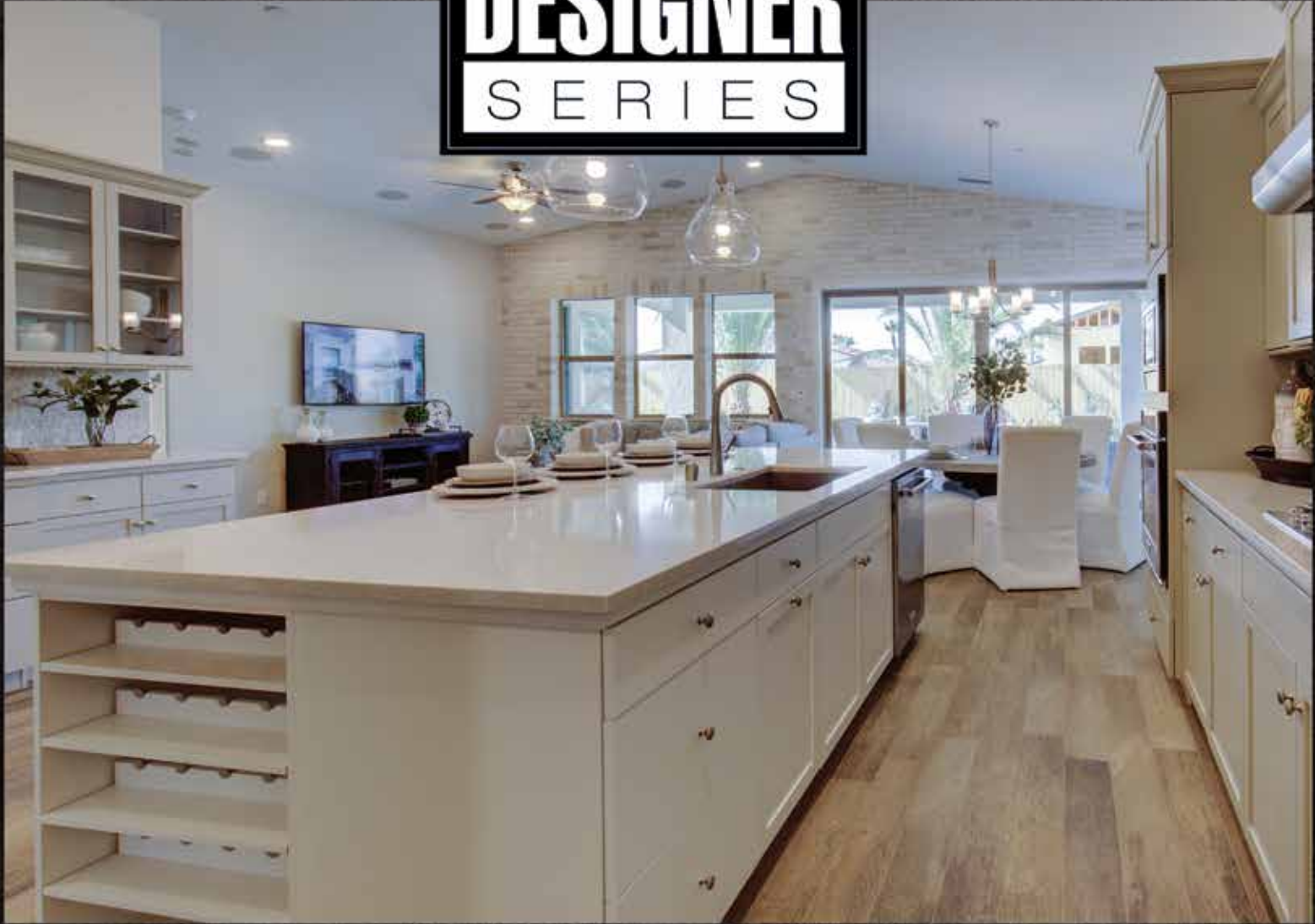
20	American Visions: Copland Appalachian Spring (Livestream Premiere on YouTube) Fresno Philharmonic fresnophil.org
21	Philip Lorenz Keyboard Concerts: Ran Dank & Soyeon Kate Lee Fresno State Concert Hall keyboardconcerts.com

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