

THIRD STREET MUSIC SCHOOL SETTLEMENT

Third Street: The Beginnings

Third Street as we know it today is a bustling and vibrant music and arts school located in the heart of the East Village. The School's story begins in 1894 with Emilie Wagner, a social worker and teacher, whose dream was to bring quality music education to poor immigrant families of the Lower East Side.

Emilie Allison Wagner was born on April 11, 1867 in New Bedford, MA. She was the daughter of a minister and attended the Women's College of Baltimore (later renamed Goucher College) where she became involved with the College Settlement Association. Although her major courses of study were chemistry and biology, Emilie found her calling in the settlement worker movement. In 1894, shortly after graduating, she moved to the Lower East Side, an area she said was "the place most full of opportunity," to pursue her dream of social service. For Emilie, music was not simply a form of entertainment, it also served to bring diverse groups of people together in a collaborative and inspirational setting.

The first class ever taught by Emilie Wagner was in the basement of the Mariners' Temple

at Chatham Square. She had a total of ten students who studied the piano and violin. It was not uncommon for Emilie to ask the students to bathe, or offer to help them bathe, before a lesson. She wanted the children to associate music making with a sense of self-respect and dignity—lessons not easily learned in the impoverished neighborhoods where they lived. Soon, word of music lessons spread among children and families. To accommodate her growing number of students, Emilie became a social settlement resident at a College Settlement located at 95 Rivington Street. Classes in theory and cello were now offered, and eventually even the College Settlement building could not find room to house the growing student population. In 1898, faced with turning away even more promising children, Emilie began to teach music at University Settlement, another settlement house located nearby.

Backed by a committee numbering forty members, each contributing twenty-five dollars a year, the College and University Settlements decided to combine music schools to form the Music School of the

continued on page 3

**THIRD STREET HISTORY (from the Left):**  
 53-55 East 3rd Street, circa 1950s;  
 First Annual Report, 1901;  
 Emilie A. Wagner, date unknown;  
 Lower East Side circa early 1900s.

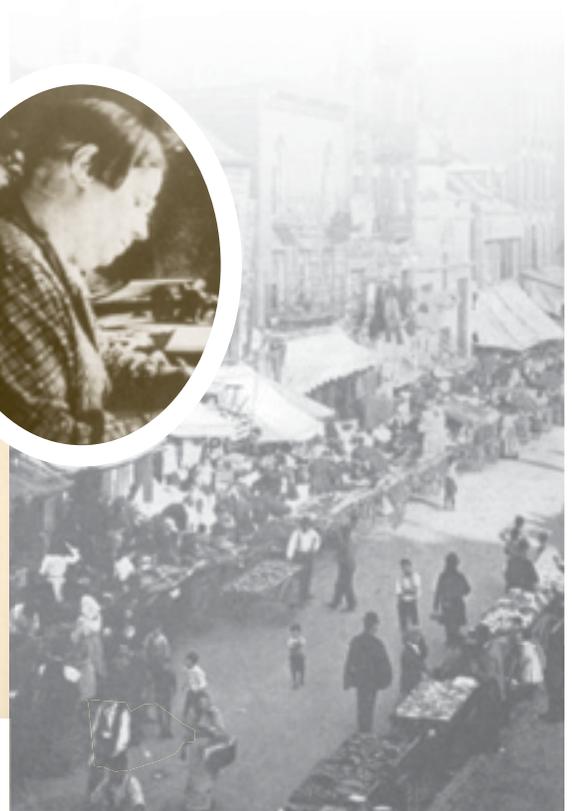
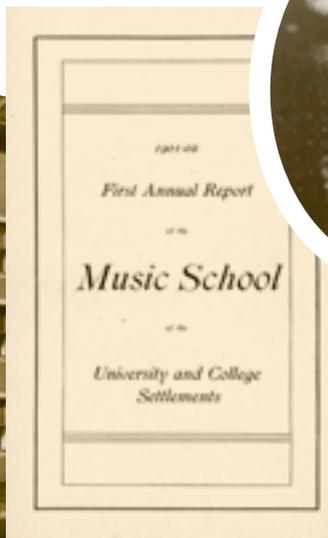
3RD STREET

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## Third Street Welcomes Three New Board Members



### Laura Chang

Laura Chang is a certified public accountant in the state of New York and joins Third Street's Board as its new Treasurer. A Columbia graduate, receiving her MBA in Finance and Accounting, Laura served as Managing Director of Citicorp, North America, for seventeen years. She went on to CIBC World Markets (US Broker Dealer of Canadian Imperial Banking Corporation) where she served as the Chief Financial Officer. However, it is her love of music that brings her to Third Street. She is currently a piano student of Mary Jo Pagano.



### Peter Flint

Peter Flint, composer, pianist, and director of The Avian Orchestra, a contemporary music ensemble, comes from a musical family, with a harpsichordist mother and an organist grandmother. He received degrees from Oberlin College and Conservatory of Music and New England Conservatory. In 2002, he

founded The Avian Orchestra to provide opportunities for emerging American composers in a series of thematic concerts and recordings. Recent works include *Double Speaking* for flute and guitar; *Freewheels*, a chamber piece with bicycle-part percussion and video; and *MicroConcerto: Spontaneous Combustion* for improvising piano and string quartet. A new CD of his songs, *On the Just Treatment of Licentious Men*, is available through his Web site, [www.peterflint.com](http://www.peterflint.com). Peter is also a Third Street parent. His daughter is currently enrolled in Third Street's preschool program.

### Teresa Longyear Bull

Teresa Longyear Bull is Vice President of Fine Art Conservation and Restoration, Inc, a private practice for the conservation of works of art based in New York. The firm offers services to private collectors, museums, dealers and auction houses worldwide. She has published and lectured on conservation and is a graduate of the University of London and Stanford University. Throughout her life Teresa has supported the arts for young people through her involvement with groups such as the Junior Arts Center, Los Angeles. She is married to David Bull and their son studies the violin at Third Street with Min Sun Kim and also plays in the Con Spirito Orchestra.



Welcome to Third Street!

## THIRD STREET MUSIC SCHOOL SETTLEMENT

BRINGING THE ARTS TO LIFE SINCE 1894

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(Anniversary Luncheon), Karen Latuchie (Bud Latuchie), Christina  
Limson (Steinway B, Nutcracker, Summer Chamber Music),  
John Abbott (Arturo O'Farrill), Karen Haight (Khristine Raymond)

## Thank You!

We are grateful to the many individuals, foundations, corporations, and government agencies that make our programs possible through their generous support.



**MetLife Foundation**

# 115th Anniversary Luncheon

October 29, 2009  
The Metropolitan Club



**EVENT SPECIAL GUESTS:** Thomas Hampson, John Corigliano, Hugh Hardy, Robert White, Joel Grey, Zarin Mehta, Barbara Field, Lee Koonce, Anna-Maria Kellen, Nicholas Firth, Edmée Firth, David Huggin and Jim Watkins pose with Third Street performers.



**THIRD STREET PHILHARMONIA:** Dhalia Amade, Sean Brekke, Olivia Comfort, Juliet Glazer, Camellia Hartman, MeiLing Roberts, Santino Stropoli, Elizabeth Trager, Lily Yarborough, Hannah Westerman, Khristine Raymond, Alexandra Southwood Smith and Bernardo Rodriguez.



**HONOREES:** Hugh Hardy on piano, Robert White (left) and Thomas Hampson (right), regale the audience with an impromptu rendition of Gershwin's *Our Love is Here to Stay*.

### *Third Street: The Beginnings* continued from cover

University and College Settlements. Emilie and her students had finally been given a home of their own.

The new music school was located at 31 Rivington Street, just a few blocks away from the other settlement buildings. In 1901, the First Annual Report of the Music School of the University and College Settlements was released. In the years to come, Emilie would work tirelessly to develop ways for older students to employ their musical knowledge and earn a living. Advanced students were given the opportunity to be “practice-

teachers” and assist the lessons of younger students. Emilie saw this as an important component to the school’s mission.

By 1903, the school was growing at such a fast rate that the decision to incorporate was made. The school was officially named The Society of the Music School Settlement and moved into two small brownstones at 53 and 55 East Third Street. The school flourished and remained there for sixty-nine years, where it took on the name The Society of the Third Street Music School Settlement. Then in 1974, once again faced with turning

away students due to lack of space and concerns about neighborhood safety, the school moved to 11th Street in the East Village where it remains today, steadfast in its mission to provide quality music and arts instruction to all.

*Many thanks to Dr. Mary Jo Pagano, whose doctoral thesis The History of the Third Street Music School Settlement 1894-1984 was heavily consulted for this article. If you want to know more, a complete copy of Mary Jo’s thesis can be borrowed from the Development and Communications Office.*

## Mary Lou Francis Retires After Thirty-Seven Years at Third Street

BY MICHAEL LYDON



**A**fter thirty-seven years of counseling students, explaining school routines to parents, developing long-term programs with faculty and staff, and attending thousands of recitals, Mary Lou Francis has announced that she will retire as Associate Director at the end of the summer term, July 2010.

"Third Street without Mary Lou will be a new era," said Director of Operations Patrick Pierre, who worked closely with Mary Lou for most of her tenure. "Her beaming smile is for many the face of Third Street. She's been a pillar of strength who helped keep the School going, even flourishing, through good times and bad." Angela Pistilli, a fifty-year faculty member who remembers Mary Lou as a piano student "with beautiful long blonde hair," put it simply: "Mary Lou is the heart and soul of the place."

A native of Ontario, Mary Lou earned her masters in music at Eastman, then joined the School in 1973, teaching theory and piano in a studio at the top of the original Third Street building. She soon joined the administration, serving as Registrar and Interim Executive Director before becoming Associate Director in 1982. "I love watching children grow up with music," she said in her office crowded with mementos. "When I hear students playing at their senior recitals and think that I first saw them on their parents' laps, I get all teared up."

"We are extremely grateful to Mary Lou for sharing with us her talents, skills and leadership," Executive Director Lee Koonce wrote announcing her retirement. "Generations of students hold Third Street dear in their hearts because of the love and concern Mary Lou has shown them and their families all these years. Mary Lou is leaving us a legacy that assures that Third Street's future will always be bright."

## Bud Latuchie—Keeping Music Alive

BY MICHAEL LYDON

**I**n 1929, at his mother's insistence, ten year-old Bernard "Bud" Latuchie began studying with a violinist from a vaudeville theater near their Williamsburg home, but he got nowhere. "Then my mother heard about a school on the Lower East Side for kids without much money," Bud remembers with a smile, "and soon I was taking the old BMT to the Bowery, walking up Christie Street to Third Street. Lessons cost \$1.50, harmony class and orchestra were free. My teacher, Mr. Haag, told me my intonation was bad, but I didn't know what intonation meant."

Now a vigorous ninety, living with his wife Bernice in Edison, New Jersey, Bud remembers the old building's creaky stairs, its gracious auditorium, and the inspiration it gave him. "I was doing fair on violin until Miss Levine, the head of the junior orchestra, suggested I try viola—I was tall with long arms—and join her group. That's when everything changed.



**BUD LATUCHIE: in the 1960s.**

Playing in a big group of kids my own age, I saw what music had to offer. And not just performing: once we played at a Toy Fair in the Essex Hotel and afterwards got to play with all the toys!"

After moving up to Third Street's senior orchestra, Bud went on to City College of New York (CCNY), a career as a chemical engineer, and raising two children with Bernice. Yet he's never stopped making music. As a teen in the Depression he played with the National Youth Orchestra, earning \$15 a month. In college he joined other amateurs to play quartets, a practice he continues to this day. Studying on his own, he copied out the viola parts of Beethoven symphonies, then played along with records. For twenty-five years Bud played with New Jersey's distinguished Colonial Symphony, conducted by Oscar Shumsky, eventually joining the union and turning pro.

"Third Street got me going. Without Miss Levine and the junior orchestra, I'd never have enjoyed this lifetime of learning music. Yes, recently I feel I've lost some technique, but I still enjoy quartets, still grab any chance to play duets, still play along with the radio and records. So I say to today's students, maybe music isn't your first career, but if you love music, you can still make it a big part of your life. Whatever you do, keep playing!"

*A self-described pack rat, Bud has collected an extensive collection of chamber music and orchestral scores, stored alphabetically in cabinets. In gratitude for the musical spark Third Street gave him, Bud is willing his invaluable collection to the School where it will surely pass the spark to future generations of students.*

**BUD LATUCHIE: with Executive Director Lee Koonce at the 2009 Holiday Concert.**





## Introducing New Piano Department Chair, Dr. Joan Forsyth

**T**hird Street is pleased to welcome new Piano Department Chairperson, Dr. Joan Forsyth. Joan's broad background, school administration experience and exceptional performance skills made her stand out from the very beginning. Particularly impressive are her lifelong pedagogical explorations, continually searching for and incorporating the best approaches to music learning in her teaching.

She currently teaches in her private piano studio and is the Co-Director of Education & Outreach for the Composers Guild of New Jersey. Prior to this, she served as the Director of the preparatory department at the Concordia Conservatory in Bronxville and taught at Bronx House Music School in New York City.

Joan is an expert in early childhood music education and is a licensed Musikgarten teacher. In addition to the "traditional" approach to piano study, Joan also teaches using the Suzuki piano method. In fact, she served as an assistant to Dr. Shinichi Suzuki and Madame Haruko Kataoka, the co-founders of the Suzuki Method for Piano, in California in the 1970s. As a Canadian, she is also well versed in the Royal Conservatory of Music system.

An active performer, she has given concerts throughout North and South America, Europe, Russia and Japan as a soloist and a chamber musician and is an active advocate for, and performer of, contemporary music. Joan received a Bachelor of Music in Piano Performance from the University of British Columbia, a Master of Music from The Juilliard School and a Doctor of Musical Arts (DMA) from Rutgers University. Welcome to Third Street!

## Alumni News & Notes

**Bobby Lopez**, a composition student of Nick Scarim, went on to co-write and compose the hit Broadway musical, *Avenue Q*. The musical ran on Broadway for more than six years and 2,534 performances and continues today off-Broadway and nationwide. **Ingrid Michaelson** is a New York-based indie-pop singer-songwriter whose albums have reached *Billboard's* Top 40 charts. Ingrid began her piano studies at Third Street when she was only four years-old. **Izzy Hanson-Johnston**, former voice student of Dale Smith and tap student of Yvonne Curry, is currently appearing in the hit Broadway musical *Billy Elliott* as a dancer and ensemble cast member. Alum and former teacher, **David Guy**, is trumpet player with Daptone-signed band, Sharon Jones & The Dap-Kings. The band has played with artists such as Amy Winehouse and has appeared on several shows including the Colbert Report, David Letterman and Jimmy Fallon.

**HAVE NEWS? Contact Andrea Long at 212-777-3240 ext. 26 or [along@thirdstreetmusicsschool.org](mailto:along@thirdstreetmusicsschool.org).**



### KHRISTINE RAYMOND

BY ROBERT ROSELLO

**F**or Kristine Raymond, Third Street cellist and Kellenberg Memorial High School senior, performing in front of First Lady Michelle Obama at the White House was all in a day's work. On November 4, 2009, Kristine was one of a select group of student musicians from the Sphinx Performance Academy to play at the White House forum on Classical Music. Although she did not get to meet the First Lady, Kristine says, "We had a chance to hear Michelle Obama speak, and she gave a very inspiring and uplifting speech about the importance of music and arts education, which really made me feel good as a musician."

However, Kristine's commitment to music does not stop at the White House. She has spent her last five summers honing her skills as part of the Sphinx Performance Academy and has been studying cello at Third Street with esteemed faculty member Maureen McDermott since the fourth grade.

"Third Street is my second home. For me, Saturday is great because I get to come into the city and go to Third Street. It's really been a pleasure because I get to get away," says Kristine.

One of the most driven students at Third Street, Kristine's plans for her immediate future include gaining acceptance into the college of her choice, earning a degree in music education, pursuing a masters degree, followed by a doctorate with an overarching goal of becoming a music professor at a prestigious college. Michelle Obama would be proud!

*In the Spotlight*



*"Third Street is my second home."*

## Q&A With Executive Director Lee Koonce

BY MICHAEL LYDON

**Lee Koonce spent his first Third Street years listening—“It’s not my vision for Third Street that matters, it’s our vision”—but now he’s putting his own stamp on the School. *3rd Street Beat* asked him for an update and look ahead.**

### Our biggest challenges?

First, lack of space and the right kinds of space. We’re bursting at the seams during peak hours. Plus, there are lots of things we should have: large ensemble rehearsal rooms, dressing room for dancers, green-room for the auditorium, dedicated art classes, a real playground, etc. We’ve looked at satellite locations for offices and the preschool program, but East Village real estate prices are sky high. Still, I believe in miracles!

Second, making our fund-raising more efficient, more effective. We now have a first-rate fund-raising staff meeting a \$1.2-\$1.5 million annual fund-raising budget. We’ve added eight new board members and hope for more. We need to identify more foundations whose goals match our programs, then write them good proposals. We are grateful for our generous and faithful individual donors.

Third, accepting that change is normal and good. Third Street is always changing. Alumni from the 40’s and 50’s might not recognize the School today, but it was great then and it’s great now. And, it will be different fifty years from now. To reach as many people as possible, we must keep our programs relevant and vibrant while staying true to our core mission.

### How are School programs changing?

By 2030, over-60’s will outnumber school age children in the City, so we’ve started adult programs like the New Horizons band, the choir at the Stein Senior Center, the band at Chinatown’s Hamilton-Madison House. “I’ve always wanted to play the clarinet,” one senior told me, “but my family had no money. Now is my chance.”

We’re still building winds, brass, and percussion: they enrich our musical environment and are good for older beginners. We now have more than 200 kids playing wind and brass in the public schools, the Wednesday Winds concert and jazz bands. The students sound wonderful, thanks to our dedicated faculty.

### The “Great Recession”?

Fund-raising did sag, but for four years we’ve had balanced budgets due to belt-

tightening. Enrollment is up now, though more students are taking group classes. Our wonderful parents have started an initiative to get the word out about Third Street. Fancy brochures, fine, but nothing compares to personal contact. We remain cautiously optimistic.

### You’ve improved the School’s Web presence.

At first I couldn’t find much about Third Street online. Now we’re on Facebook! The Web is a powerful, inexpensive communications tool. The more people who know what we’re doing, the more options we have for funding, enrollment, even a new building one day. Look for an update of the School’s Web site, shortly.

### Final thoughts?

I love Third Street and am always moved by how deeply our Board, alumni, donors, faculty and staff love the school, too. I got many holiday cards this year from students, each saying, “Thank you for Third Street.” My part of the process is getting children lessons even if they can’t afford them; in my mind, I’m in there with the teacher bringing music, dance and visual arts to deserving children and adults.

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*Before coming to Third Street, Executive Director Lee Koonce was community relations director for the Chicago Symphony Orchestra and often got asked by African Americans, “Why are there no African Americans in the orchestra?” “I didn’t know how to answer,” Koonce recalled recently, “until I realized that most of the people asking weren’t giving their own children music lessons, didn’t support neighborhood music schools. ‘If we’re not raising black musicians up,’ I started saying, ‘where will they come from?’” After this epiphany Koonce moved from the CSO to community arts education, hoping to open doors for all children to learn music. That mission led him to Third Street in 2006.*

*A pianist by training, Koonce has a Bachelor of Music degree in Piano Performance from the Oberlin Conservatory of Music and a Master degree in Piano Performance and Literature from the Eastman School of Music.*

# Center Stage

## A SAMPLING OF SPECIAL ACTIVITIES AND

**Christa Robinson**, oboe faculty, will be teaching in Pennsylvania this summer at the Wyoming Seminary’s Performing Arts Institute, a summer program for teenage musicians. **Nathan Childers**, coordinator of School Partnerships Winds & Brass and woodwinds faculty member, can be seen performing in scenes in the sequels of *Sex and the City* and *Wall Street*, both to be released this summer. Nathan is also working on a saxophone symposium to take place

in Vermont with Yamaha and Rico Reeds as sponsors. **Dr. Cara Gargano**, dance chair, will be presenting on mirror neurons and their affect on the audience during performance at the Kinesthetic Empathy Conference taking place this April in Manchester, England. **Joachim Voitun**, cello faculty, and **Anna Maria Baeza**, clarinet faculty, will be teaching this summer at Summerkeys, a summer music program for adults located in Lubec, Maine. In January, **Melissa Tong**,



## Steinway "B" Dedication

The artists during their performance.

On January 9, 2010, Third Street was honored to have world-renowned pianists Jerome Lowenthal and Ursula Oppens dedicate a special duo-performance to the arrival of the new Steinway, Model B, piano. The new piano replaced the 110-year-old Model B that has been in Third Street's auditorium since the school relocated to East 11th Street in 1974. It is only the second new piano purchased by the school in its 115-year history. The first new piano in the school's history, a Steinway, Model D, was purchased in 2007. The 2009 purchase was made possible by public funds from The City of New York through

Council Member Rosie Mendez and the Department of Cultural Affairs. Both purchases were made possible through funds specifically given for the purchase of each instrument. The event was particularly meaningful to Jerome as he recounted his own memories of having studied at Settlement Music School in Philadelphia, "As a young boy studying piano, I felt an extreme connection to my music school. Were it not for them, I would not be where I am today. I can see that same bond with Third Street and its students." Third Street is thankful to both Jerome and Ursula for donating their superb talents to such a meaningful occasion.

Piano Honors Students pose with Jerome Lowenthal and Ursula Oppens.



### ACCOMPLISHMENTS

violin faculty, played in a benefit concert for Haiti relief at the City Winery. Students **Karina Burnett, Nathan Atherly, Annie Saenger, and Alex Bactat**, participated in the NY Flute Club's Young Musicians Contest for students 17 years of age and younger. Karina Burnett received honorable mention in her category. On February 18, 2010, **Jeff Peretz**, guitar faculty, performed on the *David Letterman Show* with rising star Daniel Merriweather.

Check out our Web site at

[www.thirdstreetmusicschool.org](http://www.thirdstreetmusicschool.org)

for information about upcoming events, registration and other school dates, course descriptions and much more. A newly revamped site will launch in late spring 2010.

## 10th Anniversary Nutcracker Performance



Third Street Dance Company at the December 2009 Nutcracker performance.

In addition to performing together at community centers, nursing homes, and organizations in and around New York City, the Third Street Dance Company presents an annual chamber version of the holiday favorite, The Nutcracker. This past December marked the 10th Anniversary of this Nutcracker tradition. It was a beautiful performance given by students ranging in age from 5 to 18 years-old. A particularly touching moment came at the end of the performance when alumni from the Dance Company's first performance of the Nutcracker in 1999 were invited onto the stage. Cara Gargano, Dance Department Chair, says, "I was so touched by how connected to Third Street these returning alums were, how close they felt to each other, and how much of an impact the dance family has had on their lives." Their attendance was testament to the bond and friendships forged at Third Street. "It is clear that the Nutcracker has an important and special place in these dancers' hearts, and it was so much fun to catch up with them and hear about the wonderful things they are doing with their lives," says Kim Dooley-Kittay, Dance Faculty, when asked about the event.

The Third Street Dance Company is a thriving and growing group that teaches responsibility and builds team work and self confidence. Here's to another ten years of dazzling performances!

# 3RD STREET BEAT

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235 EAST 11TH STREET  
NEW YORK, NY 10003  
212-777-3240  
www.thirdstreetmusicschool.org

Please help us share news with all our alumni—that's *anyone* who has ever taken a lesson or class at Third Street. Parents of alumni, please send us your child's current contact information. Send to Andrea Long at [along@thirdstreetmusicschool.org](mailto:along@thirdstreetmusicschool.org) or call her at 212-777-3240 ext. 26. Thank you!



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Following are selected special events. For a complete events list visit our Web site.

Unless otherwise noted, all concerts are free of charge and take place at Third Street. Programs and schedules are subject to change without notice.

**Artist Performance Series 2009-10** Third Street's outstanding faculty members and their guests perform on most Friday evenings at 7:30 p.m. Call or visit the School to obtain a series flyer.

**Every Week!** Students of all ages and levels perform. See schedule on the Web site or subscribe to the weekly E-news.

### April

**Monday, April 26, 7:00 p.m.**  
**Voice Department Recital**

**Tuesday, April 27, 6:00 p.m.**  
**Dance Recital**

**Thursday, April 29, 6:30 p.m.**  
**Guitar Showcase**

### May

**Saturday, May 8, 1:00 p.m.**  
**Philharmonia Concert**  
Eric Jacobsen, *Guest Conductor*  
AT ST. MARK'S CHURCH-IN-THE-BOWERY,  
10TH STREET & 2ND AVENUE

**Monday, May 17, 6:30 pm**  
**Piano Honors Recital at  
Steinway Hall**

**Saturday, May 22, 4:30 pm**  
**Student Chamber  
Music Concert**

**Wednesday, May 26, 7:00 pm**  
**Stowe C. Phelps Annual  
Student Concert**

### June

**Saturday, June 5, 10:00 am**  
**String 'Stravaganza**  
AT ST. MARK'S CHURCH-IN-THE-BOWERY,  
10TH STREET & 2ND AVENUE

**Saturday, June 12, 12:30 pm**  
**Three Orchestras Concert**  
AT ST. MARK'S CHURCH-IN-THE-BOWERY,  
10TH STREET & 2ND AVENUE

### July

**Friday, July 9, 6:30 pm**  
**Summer Student Chamber  
Music Workshop Concert**

**Thursday, July 22, 6:00 pm**  
**Summer Piano Ensemble  
Concert**

**Thursday, July 29, 6:00 pm**  
**Summer Dance Workshop  
Performance**



## Music in Abe Lebewohl Park

Join us on Thursday afternoons this summer for our fun and festive summer concert series. Performances from some of New York's best popular, folk and jazz musicians, as well as Third Street's own Summer Workshop students, take place at 12:30 p.m. in front of St. Mark's Church-in-the-Bowery on 10th Street and 2nd Avenue.

**June 3** New Orleans Jazz, with trombonist Gary Valente  
**June 10** The Arturo O'Farrill Latin Jazz Group  
**June 17** Metropolitan Klezmer  
**June 24** Claire Daly's Rah! Rah! Band  
**July 1** The Gazpacho Andalu Flamenco Fusion Band  
**July 8** Third Street Music School Settlement Players  
**July 15** Art Baron & The Duke's Men  
**July 22** Latin Up, with pianist Ray Santiago