

SYMPHONY OF THE REDWOODS



EARLY FALL 2020
NEWSLETTER



GREETINGS FROM EVA... *Staying in touch in trying times!*

Welcome to Symphony of the Redwoods! In an effort to stay in touch we would like to present this newsletter to you. It, and future newsletters, will include profiles of our wonderful musicians; the introduction of new board members and board activities; updates to our concert schedule; links to lectures, created especially for us by Dr. Phillip Lenberg, and much more. We hope that you'll enjoy these Symphony updates until we meet again, together experiencing live music in our community. (I invite you to also read my [2020 Season Letter](#).)

WELCOME NATHANIEL!

Our Newest Board Member



The Symphony board is thrilled to welcome our newest member, **Nathaniel Waletzko**. A native of Chico CA, Nathaniel has taken on the Fort Bragg Unified School District Band program like never before. Since moving here in 2018, his student group has grown from just a few to hundreds of children who, thanks to

his guidance, get an understanding of the importance of music in our lives. We are looking forward to many years of musical collaboration with our youth and schools. Read [Nathaniel's Bio](#).

NEW PODCAST LECTURE SERIES

With Phillip Lenberg, PhD



Starting in September, **Dr. Phillip Lenberg** will present a podcast linked to our website. In cooperation with the Ukiah Symphony, his lectures will cover music from both Symphony of the Redwoods' and the Ukiah Symphony's recent seasons. Dr. Lenberg presented the pre-concert lecture for Symphony of the Redwoods' Winter Concert to great acclaim, and he is now back in an online format to share more of his perspective on the classics. Please stay tuned for further details.

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SymphonyoftheRedwoods.org

An Interview with:

MARCIA SLOANE, CELLIST

By Todd Walton

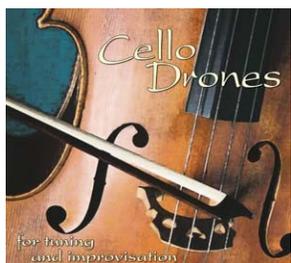
Todd: How has the pandemic impacted your musical life?

Marcia: I've been inspired to explore new ways of making music.....virtually. Along with Zoom for meeting with students and colleagues, I've started using [JamKazam](#), an online interactive platform that minimizes latency and allows for simultaneous two-way hearing, enabling musicians to play together in real time. This advance in technology makes online teaching and playing feel a little more like I'm in the same universe with whoever I'm playing with.....definitely an improvement.

Todd: How about the string camp you've been involved with for so many years?

Marcia: Marion Crombie, who played Principal Viola in Symphony of the Redwoods for many years, and I directed Navarro River String Camp for adult string players from 2004 to 2017. When the Tubbs fire in Santa Rosa destroyed our venue, the Angela Center, out of Navarro River String Camp sprang [Sabina Strings](#), directed by Marion with Cathy Aird, who is a cellist and a teacher in the Bay Area. Sabina Strings went online this summer, and we had a great time. Most of the campers and coaches have known each other for years through our previous camps, and it raised our spirits to be able to meet again this summer. Over five days there were lectures, performances, classes, and coaching sessions. I've been teaching rhythm classes at camp for many years and find exploring rhythm with others to be endlessly fascinating and fun. All of us were surprised and gratified by how well the cyberspace venue worked, which allowed us to welcome new campers joining us from Oxford, England, where Marion now lives. Our final camp activity was filming ourselves at home playing our part of a Mendelssohn chorale, which we submitted to our camp engineer who's assembling all the footage for a camp performance on YouTube. I've seen lots of group performances like this on YouTube and participating in one made me realize how much behind-the-scenes engineering goes into them.

Todd: Anything else to report on the music front?



Marcia: Yes, the pandemic has given me sufficient unencumbered time to complete a project I've had on the back burner for several years. In response to students and teachers asking for more ways to use my *Cello Drones for Tuning and Improvisation* CD, I created a book entitled *28 Great Melodies to Play with Drones*, a collection of classical excerpts and folk songs meant to be played with drone accompaniment, i.e. sustained reference pitches. Each selection is presented in twelve keys for purposes of improving intonation, exploring unfamiliar keys, and inspiring improvisation. I came up with the concept for the project several years ago, but it's an excellent resource for a pandemic...music to play with a drone as your practice partner. For more information: [28 Great Melodies to Play with Drones](#).



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