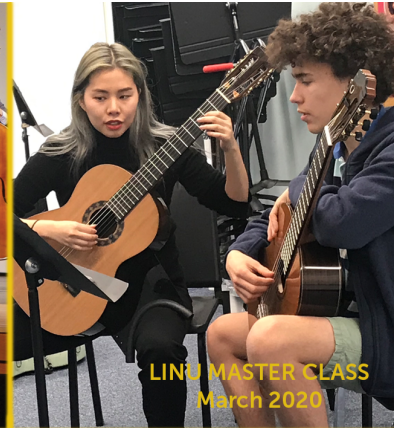


Essex Winter Series

Mihae Lee, Artistic Director



In 1978, Essex Winter Series (EWS) was founded and became a nonprofit organization dedicated to bringing the finest music, in live performance, to the Connecticut River Valley and Shoreline regions during the winter months and to cultivate its appreciation to the widest audience. This is a mission we have maintained and work to expand through each season.

Our goal each year is to present at least four musical events of a high artistic and professional level, which have included concerts by individuals, chamber groups and symphonic orchestras as well as opera and choral performances. The majority of our offerings are classical, one of which during a season will feature young, talented artists for the Fenton Brown Emerging Artists Concert. Jazz is highlighted annually in the Stu Ingersoll Jazz Concert. For 2022, our concerts are Patricia Schuman, soprano, and Bradley Moore, piano, on January 30; Vince Giordano and The Nighthawks on February 20 (jazz); Resurgam Quartet on March 20 (emerging artists – saxophonists); and Brentano String Quartet with Mihae Lee, piano on December 18.

(Continued on next page.)

During the pandemic, when it became very clear that in-person events were not likely to happen, EWS successfully ventured into the world of online video concerts for its 2021 season. With no ticket sales, financial support received helped to enable us to look for alternatives to our usual live events and to produce these recordings, which were offered free to our audience, schools and senior communities.

Another significant part of our annual commitment is our outreach program to provide entertainment, learning opportunities and master classes to engage a greater audience in our community. EWS Artistic Director Mihae Lee coordinates with schools in New London and Middlesex counties to arrange outreach sessions with the current year's emerging artists. Over a three-day period in the spring, the artists reach nearly 3,000 students at eight schools and seniors at four different facilities. In the fall, EWS Jazz Artistic Advisor Jeffrey Barnhart arranges for a jazz group and visits New London area schools, particularly engaging students in lessons on early jazz music and musicians. While hampered during the pandemic, the hope is that more schools can be added in 2022 and our outreach expanded.

As a nonprofit organization, ticket sales cover only a portion of all of our various program costs. Our desire is not to increase rates, but to keep prices affordable. To this end, we have not raised our prices in years and still maintain a \$5 ticket price for students. Without the generosity of donors and sponsors, both individual and corporate, our concerts could not be of the level of quality we offer each year, so we are extremely grateful for the opportunity that Essex Savings Bank provides through its CIP giving program. When casting your vote, please consider Essex Winter Series as one of your recipients.