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**The Sound of Music**

**Soprano singer and pianist travel to A&M as part of concert.**

**BY HINA PATEL**  
The Battalion

The pristine voice of the opera singer fills the air as the audience listens intently. Although the opera may be in French or Italian, the emotion is conveyed in the same medium — music.

The Friends of Chamber Music, the support organization for community chamber concerts, are presenting a free concert on Thursday 7:30 p.m. at the First Presbyterian Church.

The Friends of Chamber Music sponsor community chamber concerts, which are free for the public.

William Rogers, member of the Friends of Chamber Music and a research scientist for the chemical engineering department, said chamber music can be defined as a small intimate setting between the musician and the audience.

"It is music that can be played in a room," he said. "It allows you to feel closer to the musician. It is just a few instruments like the violin, the piano, the harpsichord and is usually played in a trio. Now it refers to classical music, but it is not just Mozart or Beethoven.

"Our mission statement is to bring the music to the people," he said. "When I went to school we had music all the time. However, now you have to look for it because there are so few opportunities.

"This is one of the best opportunities students will have to experience chamber music. We try to reach into the community by doing lectures and workshop with the musicians who come for the concerts."

"It is serious music that lasts through the ages and it represents all cultures. You could say this about the popular music of our time, but we don't know if this music will last. It has to pass through the test of time."

The chamber music concert will feature soloist Cheryl Parrish and pianist Eugene Rowley, who currently teaches at The University of Texas.

Rowley has appeared as a recitalist, concerto soloist and in chamber music performances with many of the world's leading musicians.

Soprano Cheryl Parrish has performed in many operas, including the New York City Opera and the Zurich Opera.

"People who liked the Metropolitan Opera Council Competition winner Emily Pulley will appreciate Cheryl Parrish who also won the National award," Rogers said.



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE FRIENDS OF CHAMBER MUSIC

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Rogers said chamber music is important for the education of all students it teaches the cultural history of society.

"It is about developing the resources of the earth and the knowledge of our human experience," he said. "The arts are important because they show the basic human values. Music education enriches you."

Realizing students may not be experiencing the full diversity of music, the Friends of Chamber Music created a chamber concert series.

Rogers said the Friends of Chamber Music are trying to go beyond the typical route of concerts.

There will also be a free workshop by Parrish and Rowley today in Harrington Education Center from 11:30 a.m. to 12:20 p.m.

"We are trying to bring the music to the people, that's why the concerts and the workshops are free," Rogers said. "It is important to express oneself in the arts — it is very enjoyable."

Rogers said the workshop will stress piano and vocals.

"The workshops will focus on basic singing and accompaniments. In other words: voice," he said. "The instructor will select works that will be presented in concert."

"The concert will be interesting to anyone who has any interest in music," Rogers said. "The music will be from all periods from the

18th century to modern popular music.

"Music speaks to us today just as it did in centuries past, after all humans are essentially the same now as they were in the 18th century."

"In the past, music was solely chamber music, there were not any 100 piece orchestras. Then, with time, orchestras came about but did not replace the small groups of ensembles," Rogers said. "Even with the development of a variety of instruments and orchestras, small chamber music groups were still prominent."

"With each new generation of people, there are new tastes of music, each of which has something to teach us," Rogers said.

Rogers said the Chamber Music Concert will also include many pieces of music from around the world, including countries like Germany, America, France, Italy, and Spain.

The concert will include pieces from composers like Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, Ludwig van Beethoven, and Johann Sebastian Bach.

Rogers said in the past, chamber music concerts have attracted many people to the music.

"Our chamber music concert series in February consisted of 10 concerts for the audience, but it was considered a small ensemble. This year we are presenting a chamber music concert. There are different pressures, and chamber music is a part of all of our lives."

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**Senior Week**      April 19-24, 1999

**Ring Dance**      APRIL 24, 1999

**Monday - April 19th**  
Bowling at Wolf Pen 9 pm to 12 am  
\$1.75 per game

**Tuesday - April 20th**  
Texas Aggie Baseball vs. Houston  
7 pm - \$1 entry with Ring or 99 Shirt

**Wednesday - April 21st**  
Muster BBQ with Class of '49  
Academic Plaza - 11 am to 2 pm

**Thursday - April 22nd**  
SENIOR BASH at Hurricane Harry's  
8-9 pm Swing Lessons  
Free until 11 with Senior Ring

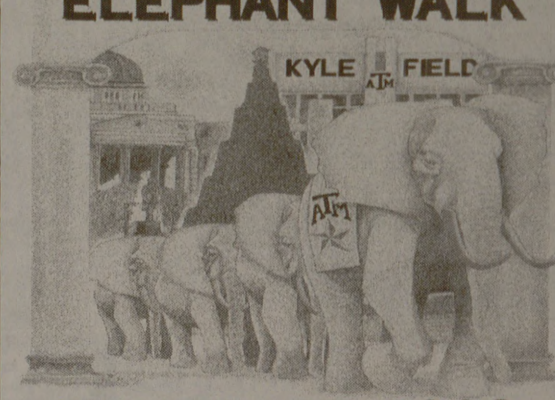


Time: 9 pm to 1 am  
Place: MSC & Rudder Complex  
Theme: Around the World in 99 days  
Tickets: Available April 5-24  
\$60-couple/\$35-individual  
MSC Box Office  
Dress: Formal Attire  
Pictures: Start at 10 am in Rudder  
Entertainment: Top 40, R&B, Latino, Country, Swing, Coffee House, Karaoke, Piano Bar & Casino  
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