

New and Familiar Faces

It's fall again, and that means we're once again excited to be welcoming two new Fellows to Community MusicWorks: cellist Ariana Falk and violist Robin Gilbert. Ariana comes from Portland, Oregon, but has studied and lived in Boston, New Haven, and Germany (as a Fulbright Scholar). She is passionate about new music, and has premiered works for New Music New Haven and as a member of the Norfolk Contemporary Ensemble. Robin is a lifelong Providence resident, and actually performed as a guest at a Performance Party years ago! Robin studied viola at New England Conservatory and has taught at the Rhode Island Philharmonic Music School's summer chamber music camp for several summers.

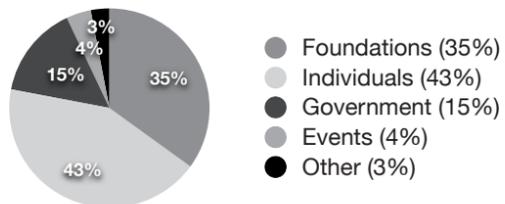


We're also thrilled that former Fellow Laura Cetilia (Laura Thomas-Merino when she was last here in 2008) is back in the area after a performance tour of Europe and Israel, and then a year in her native Los Angeles. Laura will be co-teaching Media Lab classes, and will be helping out with other events – welcome her back when you see her!

CMW by the Numbers

CMW's fiscal year ended on June 30, 2010. We enjoyed yet another successful season, and we are grateful to the generosity of so many people. Over the course of the season, CMW received over \$280,000 in donations from more than 400 individual donors. If you're interested in reviewing our financial information in more detail, please contact Heath Marlow, CMW's Managing Director.

Where Does CMW's Funding Come From?



How Does CMW Spend Money?



CMW at the White House with First Lady Michelle Obama

The big secret is finally out!

On October 20, Community MusicWorks was recognized in a White House ceremony as a 2010 National Arts and Humanities Youth Program Award winner! This prestigious national award from the President's Committee on the Arts and the Humanities is given each year to a handful of organizations across the country in recognition of "outstanding community arts and humanities programs that celebrate the creativity of America's young people, provide them learning opportunities and chances to contribute to their communities."

Founder & Artistic Director Sebastian Ruth and CMW alumna Kirby Vasquez attended the award ceremony in the East Room of the White House to receive the award in person from First Lady Michelle Obama. CMW also receives a \$10,000 grant from the National Endowment for the Arts as part of the award.

To celebrate, a contingent of teachers and Phase II students took Ground Force One (aka a big charter bus) to Washington, DC during the week of the award ceremony. Together, the musicians performed Jessie Montgomery's *Anthem*, written in response to the 2008 presidential election, and featuring lyrics by Kirby Vasquez, at the National Endowment for the Arts, the Sitar Arts Center, and at the site of the future Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial on the National Mall.

The celebrations continued back in Providence, with families, friends, and supporters braving a chilly fall wind to take part in a "Traffic Jam" in front of the office on Friday October 22. The eastbound lane of Westminster Street was shut down to allow CMW students, teachers, friends, and neighbors to play the CMW Round together, and improvise blues solos on instruments and kazoos. Among the many distinguished visitors who shared remarks with the crowd were Providence Mayor-elect Angel Taveras, Representative



photo credit: Michael Bowles

Anastasia Williams, and Mayor David Cicilline, who also presented CMW with a special citation from the city of Providence.

On Saturday October 23, the community gathered again for a film music workshop at the Met School led by composer Kareem Roustom, followed by a celebratory lunch at the West End Community Center and a concert at center court in the West End gym. The concert featured an encore presentation of *Anthem*, as well as Charles Ives' first quartet, performed by the Providence String Quartet.

Reflecting on the experience, Kirby Vasquez said, "It was really incredible to be recognized by First Lady Michelle Obama alongside Sebastian, and know just how far CMW has come. Even more amazing, though, was taking this trip with my CMW family, and realizing that even though I'm now far away, we all just continue to grow closer."

We are grateful for your generosity! In recognition of this prestigious award from the President's Committee, please consider making a donation to support our free after-school programming for Providence youth. Your financial investment is an essential ingredient in our success.

10 donate **\$10** by texting **CMW to 20222** (messaging and data rates may apply)

20 drop a **\$20** bill in the donation basket at a CMW event

2010 mail us a check for **\$2010** (or \$20.10)

DC Trip Highlights



Students and teachers jam together at D.C. hostel Shalom Place after their eight-hour bus ride from Providence



Senator Jack Reed (D-RI) welcomes CMW students, families, and teachers to his office prior to Wednesday's tour of the U.S. Capitol building



Performing Jessie Montgomery's *Anthem* (with the composer!) at the site of the future MLK, Jr. Memorial on the National Mall

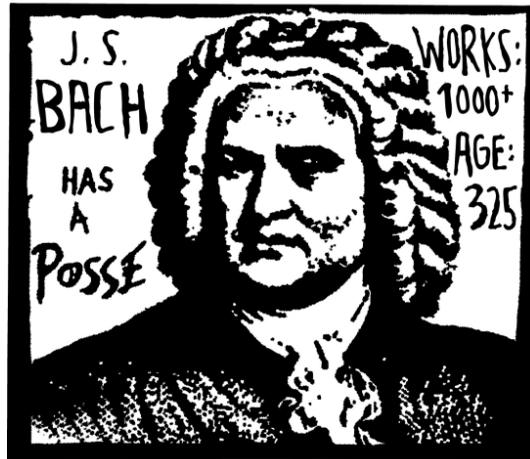
MacArthur Award for Sebastian

On September 28, CMW learned that our fearless leader, Founder & Artistic Director Sebastian Ruth, was awarded a prestigious 2010 MacArthur Fellowship. These fellowships are awarded annually to between 20 and 30 individuals who have, in the words of the MacArthur Foundation, “shown extraordinary originality and dedication in their creative pursuits and a marked capacity for self-direction.”

Sebastian had actually heard the news about two weeks earlier, pulled over on the side of the road on his way to a quartet rehearsal, but he and Minna were sworn to secrecy until the public announcement. This made for an awkward moment when he and Minna were trying to explain to Jesse and Sara why they were late for rehearsal – but all was forgiven when the truth was revealed at the end of September.

The award comes with a significant stipend over five years, and has led to tons of media interest in Sebastian and CMW, including interviews on National Public Radio, articles in local and national papers, and spots on local news broadcasts. Congratulations Sebastian!

Bach Festival Approaches



Between November 11 and 21, Providence will be blanketed by the music of Johann Sebastian Bach. In addition to a weekend-long marathon concert of Bach's solo works and a weekend of concerts featuring the CMW Players and harpsichordist Fred Jodry performing selections of Bach's orchestral music, be prepared to discover Bach performances throughout Providence where you might least expect them! All of the details, including specific repertoire and performance venues, can be found on CMW's website.



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Want to know more about the events where these photos were taken? Check out CMW's website, blog, and Flickr site!

CMW on the web:
communitymusicworks.org
communitymusicworks.typepad.com
flickr.com/communitymusicworks/collections

community music works
1392 Westminster Street • Providence, RI 02909

Welcome to The Works Volume 4, Fall 2010

Welcome to the fourth edition of The Works, the Community MusicWorks newsletter! We've had a spectacular beginning to our 14th season, including the announcements over the past month of two big awards: a MacArthur Foundation Fellowship for CMW's Founder & Artistic Director, Sebastian Ruth, and a prestigious National Arts and Humanities Youth Program Award for CMW.

In the midst of all the excitement surrounding these awards, we've also been implementing big changes to our youth programming this fall. Inspired in part by new thinking resulting from Sebastian's sabbatical last spring, and in part by the example of Venezuela's national youth orchestra program, *El Sistema*, we've added an "All-Play Day" every Friday this year, complete with studio classes and ensembles for all of our students. The All-Play Days give us the opportunity to see each of our students a second time during the week, and also explore some larger group instruction.

We're also experimenting (another inspiration from Sebastian's sabbatical) with creating more opportunities for our entire roster of resident musicians to come together in new combinations, and to perform more individually and with outside artists. In November, we'll be presenting an All-Bach Festival, and in the spring, we'll be curating an Experimental Music Festival with new and multi-media works. Throughout the season, the Providence String Quartet will also be presenting a series of string quartets written by American composers between 1896 and 1994.

We're off to a great start, and the rest of the year promises to bring many more exciting musical moments. Stay tuned, and we hope to see you at a CMW event soon!

Aaron, Ariana, Carole, Chloe, Heath, Jesse, Jori, Laura, Liz, Minna, Rachel, Robin, Sara, & Sebastian

