

Clef Notes

DECEMBER 2023

Judy Proud, Editor



Making a Difference Through Music

Music is an essential part of almost every event and
The Monterey County Pops!
celebrates the moment.

ALL CONCERTS ARE FREE !!!

2024 Calendar

- ❖ May 27, Memorial Day – Monterey City Hall,
Colton Hall lawn
- ❖ July 4, Devendorf Park, Carmel

Elementary School Programs featuring
Peter and the Wolf in the a.m. and
Residency School Programs for Middle and High
schools with Clinics from 1 to 6 p.m. then
FREE public “side-by-side” concert at 6:30 p.m.
- ❖ March 13, North Monterey County High School
- ❖ April 15, North Salinas High School
- ❖ May 2, Greenfield/King City

The public is invited to attend and give your support
to the students and our orchestra!!!

WE TAKE PRIDE IN WHAT WE DO...

At Monterey County Pops! we believe that music has the power of “Making a Difference Through Music”, and that's exactly what we strive to do with each and every performance. From the soaring melodies to the heart-stirring harmonies, our music is designed to uplift, inspire, and connect us all. We could not be more thrilled to have the opportunity to showcase our talented musicians!

- ❖ We have a fully professional orchestra led by award-winning conductor Dr. Carl Christensen.
- ❖ Our community concerts are designed with community partners.
- ❖ Music Education Mentoring Program by Pops! professional musicians/educators is designed with school music teachers and culminating in family-friendly concerts.
- ❖ All programs provided FREE thanks to our wonderful supporters!

This is what a Pops! orchestra is all about!!!

LIVE-STREAMING CONCERTS...

The Monterey County Pops! has been live-streaming concerts on our website for many years. We have expanded and our goal is to outreach to senior living, long-term care facilities in Monterey County in 2024.

“The Activities Directors of these facilities, without exception, were enthusiastic, excited, and appreciated the opportunity for their residents.” says Ron and Joan Breuch, MPC! Board members and coordinators for this program.

Many of the facilities are interested in reserving seating at our upcoming concerts for those that can attend in person. For our 2023 holiday concert at the Carmel High School Performing Arts Center, Park Lane transported two buses of concert goers.



The crowd from The Park Lane in Monterey, Independent Living, Assisted Living, and Memory Care Community



MCP! is so pleased that we will be able to reach over 3,000 residents and bring our orchestra to them on their facilities' big screens with images and exciting sounds, a burst of intensity, and a snap of energy!!!

THE BEGINNING OF THE POPS!

The Monterey County Pops! was formed in 1985 by a group of community members and musicians who wanted to expand and enrich the musical experiences available in Monterey County.

Guided by a board numbering between 15 and 20 members, the new symphony began with an annual subscription concert series under the baton first of Oleg Kovalenko and then of Dennis de Coteau. In the late 1980's, the symphony came under the direction of Michael Nowak. At that time, the venues expanded to include Carmel, Monterey, and Salinas.

In 1990, directed by Drs. Jack Bayes and Carl Christensen, the symphony adopted its current mission: presentation of free public pops and patriotic concerts on holidays.



Dr. Carl Christensen

Since 1990, the fully professional symphony has presented free outdoor pops and patriotic concerts annually on the lawn in front of the Old Del Monte Hotel on the campus of the Naval Postgraduate School; provided musical support for the California International Airshow in Salinas; partnered with Monterey County communities to celebrate the 4th of July; and, helped usher in the Holidays with a Children's Concert in Monterey.



Memorial Day – Colton Hall, Monterey

In 2012, the symphony rebranded itself as the Monterey County Pops! after careful study and consideration. This new name is designed to bring a clear understanding of the commitment to serve all of Monterey County with free concerts played by professional musicians emphasizing popular and patriotic music.

MEET OUR MUSICIANS...



Bassoonist, Gail Selburn is a fourth generation Californian and frequent player in many of the Bay Area's musical groups. A graduate of Saratoga High School and the Indiana University School of Music, Gail has performed with Monterey County Pops! for over 15 years and participated in the 37 virtual Zoom performances of Peter & the Wolf presented to Monterey County Elementary Schools in 2021. Gail is presently in the MCP! performing Peter & the Wolf live in elementary schools. Gail has performed recently with Santa Cruz Symphony, Santa Cruz Ballet, West Bay Opera, Fremont Symphony, Ensemble Monterey, Monterey County Pops Orchestra, and Sacramento Philharmonic.



Wind and Percussion Group

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Deep Appreciation to our Wonderful Supporters

Barnet Segal Charitable Trust, Farrell/Allen Carmel Rotary Fund of the Community Foundation for Monterey County, Monterey Rotary Club, Bill and Nancy Doolittle, Douglas C. Lee, Monterey County Pops! Board of Trustees