

Access to Art, Inc.

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Press Release/for immediate release

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Music is the Stuff of Love...

Dinner Never Hurt Either

*Juilliard Musicians Perform for Access to Art on Feb. 15th at Church of the Advent,
Cape May*

Followed by a romantic dinner at the Washington Inn

Cape May. Celebrate the President's Birthday, or Valentine's Day on Feb. 15th, Sunday, at 4 p.m at the Church of the Advent, in Cape May with a romantic concert featuring two celebrated Juilliard artists, who tour the world together. It is presented by Access to Art, Inc. "They came here in their early 20's and performed for Access to Art. I have known Aurelia "Mika" Chang since she was 19 and performed for the first time down here...at the Christian Admiral, for the Cape May County Art League's 60th anniversary. She brought Kathryn here, once, in her early 20's, and they performed at Cape Island Baptist Church. I decided to roll back the prices to what we charged then in honor of the recession which is taxing people. Bargain prices at a concert with world renowned musicians will be followed by a three course meal at the Washington Inn for \$35. inclusive. Michael Craig was nice enough to set that up for us." Beitel said. "We wanted to celebrate life, give people a break in all this continual rant of bad news, and enjoy some beautiful music to lift up our hearts. Wonderful music, wonderful food, a lovely ambience, and a great way to spend a February afternoon." said Barbara Beitel, Access to Art, Inc. Director. In March, Access will be 17 years old. So we reached back into our early days, and charged the same amount for the concert as we did then. It's a Valentine's Day gift." Beitel said. Reservations are requested. Call 465-3963. Access to Art will hold a musical reunion with Aurelia Mika Chang, on the piano, and Kathryn Krueger on the violin. Friends since they were 15, when they met at a boarding school near New York City, they have toured on three continents together. The Church of the Advent is located on Washington St. on the corner of Franklin St. in Cape May, next to the Post Office. Tickets are \$12. at the door, and \$10. in advance. For \$35., attendees can join the musicians for a dinner at the gourmet Washington Inn which will include choices of four entrees including chicken, veal, vegetarian, and shrimp. It will follow the concert. Reservations must be in advance for the dinner. Call (609) 465-3963 to reserve.

Chang and Krueger will perform works by W.A. Mozart, 12 Variations on “La Bergere Celimine” KV359, Pablo de Sarasate Romanza Andaluza”, Massenet, Meditation on Thais, Kriesler Liebeslied (and other pieces) and Franz Waxman’s Carmen Fantasy. “Kathryn Krueger, who studied violin, at Juilliard, where she held a four year scholarship, currently resides in Vienna. She has been touring since she was six when she toured both Germany and the U.S. She received violin and chamber music lessons with many renowned teachers including Galamian, Milstein, Celibidache and Stern. Two major mentors in her musical development were Misha Mischakoff and Sacher Bron. She has performed concerts in many important music venues including the Berlin Philharmonie, the Rudolfinum in Prague, Chicago Symphony Hall, Campos do Jordao in Brazil, the George Enescu Hall in Bucharest, Auditorio Nacional in Madrid, Muskihalle in Hamburg, the Bosendorfer and Brahmassaal in Vienna, the Royal Albert Hall in London, in Lincoln Center in New York, in Salle Pleyel in Paris, as well as Tschaikovsky Hall. She has appeared on shows and radio programs across the world. She celebrated the Millennium with a CD of a live concert recording of Bruch’s Violin Concerto and “The Lark Ascending” from Vaughan Williams. Aurelia Mika Chang, a pianist, met Kathryn at boarding school which was close to NYU, and they spent their weekends at Juilliard precollege taking lessons and playing with Juilliard’s youth orchestra.

Both will perform for Access to Art, Inc., on Sunday, Feb. 15th. “It’s Valentine’s Day weekend, so we wanted to give people a treat without breaking the bank. We also negotiated a three course dinner (choice of salad, soup, or two appetizers, entrée, and dessert) with the Washington Inn to follow. The whole thing, concert and dinner, is \$35. Individual concert tickets are \$12. at the door, or \$10. in advance. Call Access to Art, Inc. at (609) 465-3963 for reservations.

“The nice part of it, the concert will be after the Valentine’s crush and the food will be better, the restaurant more relaxed, the music splendid and it’s affordable.” Beitel said. “It’s a midwinter opportunity to lift your spirits. We need more than the bad news of the economy for the human soul,” Beitel said. Access to Art, Inc. will celebrate 17 years as a not for profit in the area in March of this year.

Mika played for me for the Season of Light, in 1987-8, with Anne Akiko Myers, also in Juilliard at the time, when Alice Steer Wilson was President of the Art League and she was in college Juilliard. Sam Maitin brought her here when he was assisting me in developing the programming for the art league. He felt that the area should be an “Aspen of the East.” Mika played at Aspen, and studied there. He thought that the East Coast needed something like that. So that’s when we first brought Chamber music to the area, although the Chalfonte had done it prior. We had the musicians here in 1992 for the first year of Access to Art, and then Kathryn left for Vienna. They were in their early 20’s. They came back once in 1998. Now they both have two children: Kathryn is married to a psychologist and has two daughters; Mika is married to a lawyer, and they have two sons.” said Beitel. All of the children study music.

“We toured all over Germany together...for years.” said Aurelia Mika Chang. “We have also been performing in Vienna together for the past three years (with other musicians as well.) We have played concerts together in China and will be back there again, I think, next season. We started playing together while at the Masters School in Dobbs Ferry and Juilliard precollege. They had a music building with eight or nine Steinways. The

schools encouraged us to get all of our practice in. They facilitated us to go to Juilliard School at the same time. We took the train down to Juilliard on Friday night and took our lesson. Then we would stay with friends and their parents. On Saturday, we would spend the day at Juilliard, and then take the train back to school. We must have been around 15. The boarding school was near the city. We played in a trio for a long time. Kathryn's daughters also play—the older one, who is seven, plays piano and violin, and the younger one, who is five, plays cello. Kathryn told me that traveling with them is great, but a lot of instruments to carry! Also, the younger one models professionally. They are both exceptionally beautiful kids!" she said. Kathryn went to England and studied with Sasha Braun, and then continued her studies in Germany. She just spent a few weeks in Denmark as a concert master for an orchestra there. Mika's two sons, Ari and Leo study violin at the Thurnauer School in Tenafly, N.J. Call 465-3963 to reserve. Both women have performed at major venues across the world.