

Press Release/for immediate release
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The Borealis Wind Quintet, a grammy nominated group, to perform for Access to Art, August 13th at 7 p.m. at the Cape May United Methodist Church

Cape May. On August 13th, at the Cape May United Methodist Church, 635 Washington St., Cape May at 7 p.m. Sam Maitin's Summer Chamber Music Festival, presented by Access to Art, Inc. will present a novel group, the Borealis Wind Quintet. They were the second grammy nominated wind quintet ever, and their recording "A La Carte," received grammy nomination status in 2006. It is only the second wind quintet ever to be considered for the honor, usually reserved for String Quartets or soloists. The major classical composers, now household names, like Beethoven, Haydn, Brahms, wrote for strings. The wind instruments developed much later, and are now the heart of the modern orchestra. But the three B's Beethoven, Brahms, Bach never knew them. Wind players have adaptations of the masters, but their members are usually found in college music libraries researching 19th century composers. As the Johnny come latelies of the music world, being nominated for an Emmy is a big deal. NPR did a story about them.

The group met in Juilliard, and have been playing together for twenty years or so. But it's not all that they do. Some of them are involved in vegetable gardens. One sails and the other cooks for the sailing voyages like the Bermuda race which they just returned from. Some play on Broadway in Beauty and the Beast, or at the Metropolitan Orchestra, some make commercials, some produce CD's. One grew up in Burlington City, and another in Cherry Hill. Another spent her youth in Philadelphia. One is a Connecticut native, a Yankee from New England. Today, four of them live in Connecticut.

Not everything they do is related to the Quintet. Dan Culpepper is in Phantom of the Opera as a horn player. Dan has done a lot of back up performing for pop singers including Frank Sinatra; Cathy Fink was the principal flute player with Beauty and the Beast on Broadway. Both Cathy Fink and Dan Culpepper were on the David Letterman Show. And Cathy Fink performs at the Metropolitan Opera. "My husband and I do ballroom dancing." Tamar Wells said. "We don't compete. Our hornplayer sails; he just did the Bermuda race. Three of us are big into our vegetable gardens. We all have families with the youngest child entering 1st or second grade, and the oldest child engaged to be married, a trumpet player who is around 25 years of age." she said.

“We perform equally between colleges and community series. We won a competition, the Artist’s International Competition at Carnegie Hall. We got some New York Times reviews, and Carnegie Hall invited us back. We’ve performed there three times.” says Tamar Wells, flutist, and one of the founding members of the quintet. “I toured with Andrea Bocelli three years ago. I live in Connecticut so I do classical stuff. I just did a recording, with a woman doing digital Christmas cards. Her Christmas cards will come with a digital C.D. of her own music. That’s a commercial venture.” she said.

Woodwinds are the heart of the modern orchestra. Their *A La Carte* CD featured works by nine composers and was grammy nominated in 2006..

“Kathy Taylor and I were originals with the group. Our newest members are horn players. Initially, we were a bunch of students at Juilliard. There were so many wind players there, and everyone couldn’t be in the orchestra all the time, for every performance. So we created a quintet to increase our performing opportunities. We got credit for doing that.” Tamar said.

The musical literature is difficult. There was a surge in the 19th century. People are still playing on Stradivarius violins. That’s 17th century. The clarinet is a new instrument; it was technically not developed until later. Oboes were an outdoor instrument; they were too loud for inside. There was a big surge with wind instruments with the French in the 19th century. Chamber Music Societies were being formed for wind instruments.” she said.

They will perform at the Cape May Methodist Church, 635 Washington Ave., (near Victorian Towers, next to City Hall) at 7 p.m. on Wednesday . Tickets are \$20. adults, \$15. seniors, and \$10. students. The event is sponsored, in part, by the Cape May County Freeholder’s Fund, and administered by the Cape May County Cultural & Heritage Commission. It is also supported by The Kyriakos Tsakopoulos Fund of the Sacramento Region Community Foundation and Sturdy Savings Bank.

The Borealis features Katherine Fink, flute; Tamar Beach Wells, oboe; Kathryn Taylor, clarinet; Wayne Hileman, bassoon, and Dan Culpepper, horn. They will perform works by Rameau, Turrin, Lefebvre, Reicha, Ewazen and Briccialdi. Call (609) 465-3963 for reservations. Send checks to Access to Art, Inc., 417 E. Pacific Ave., Cape May Court House, N.J. 08210.