

Alumni Chapter of Mu Phi Epsilon Celebrates 100 Years

In celebration of its centennial, the Ann Arbor Alumni Chapter of Mu Phi Epsilon presented a public concert last April titled "Music with Ann Arbor Connections: Celebrating 100 Years," featuring works by alumni composers and performers. Two vocal compositions anchored the concert: *Grandma's Clock* by **Kathryn Mueller** (BM '11), commissioned by the chapter in memory of **Margaret Fox** (BM '41), and featuring her poetry, was premiered by the Mu Phi Centennial Choir directed by member Karin White accompanied by **Andrew Meagher** (DMA '10); and *Riding Past Grief*, a song cycle set to music by former U-M Professor Henry Flurry using poetry written by **Deborah Rebeck Ash** (MM '77, DMA '99) and performed by mezzo-soprano **Nancy Murphy** (BM '70) and pianist and associate professor emeritus **Janice Clark** (MM '56). The works of composers **Laurel Federbush** (DMA '94), **Catherine McMichael** (BM, MM), and **Anita Denniston Bassett** (MM '41), rounded out the concert, which also included arrangements for flute choir by Ash and for solo hand bells by **Joan Starkey** (BM '62).

In addition, a gala centennial luncheon, titled "A Century of Music Friendship and Harmony," was celebrated in September, emphasizing the chapter's connections in the community. Among the many important U-M guests in attendance were Pulitzer Prize-winning composer and emeritus professor of composition William Bolcom, and his wife, emeritus musical theatre professor Joan Morris, who performed music from 1913 and beyond.



NANCY MURPHY, WILLIAM BOLCOM, JOAN MORRIS, AND DEBORAH REBECK ASH AT GALA CENTENNIAL LUNCHEON

The Ann Arbor Alumni Chapter is an outgrowth of U-M's *Gamma* chapter of Mu Phi Epsilon International Professional Music Fraternity and supports the collegiate chapter through scholarships and a commitment to advancing music in the community. Nancy Murphy is immediate past president and Deborah Rebeck Ash is the current president. For more information, visit muphiepsilon.org/annarbor ➤