From Mariah Erken, AMP Secretary

Greetings, oh Open Ears,

As I write, the birds within my earshot sing their morning songs. Are they for me? Did I awake from a fortunate deep slumber remembering that when I stepped outside at 7:00 am I would again hear a chorus of calls, most of which I have yet to identify but am desperate to do?

I often feel the same with regard to our local music, played daily and nightly around and among us. There is more music in our community than we are often aware of. And there are plenty of musicians who we know and love who could use our support. At the moment we cannot attend live shows. But we can remember them and long for them to return. Close your eyes and take a moment to feel the giggles and the dancing with friends of events past. Recall the hush of a crowd when the stars aligned and the harmony was just right. Take a moment to appreciate the camaraderie of musicians and attendees that make our music community one of support and encouragement.

There is probably a child on a block close to you who cannot keep the words in rhythm and rhyme from erupting from their soul. Or another whose sweet crooning can be heard from the moment he rises to the moment his head hits the recess of his pillow. And yet another whose song lives so deeply inside that only the trust and accompaniment of another can birth the idea to the world. Let them beat a rhythm they cannot help but play, sing a song they cannot help but sing, and then dance as if everyone and no one were watching.

Thank you for supporting our budding, growing, and mature musicians. One of AMP's aims is to cultivate communication with and for musicians close to home. Please look within this month's Show Chime to see how you can engage. And remember, ears wide open.

With the song of a robin in my heart,

Interview with May Cover Artist Caspian Goe

Most of the reason I'm an artist is the people around me. My parents have been with me every step of the way, encouraging me to keep making art. Also thanks to my best friends, Yma and Balin, who are both very creative people, helping me become—in my eyes—a pretty good artist. My favorite medium is sharpie on paper. The art of mine in this magazine is oil pastel and sharpie.

HOW HAS THE QUARANTINE AFFECTED YOUR LIFE AS A YOUNG ARTIST?
It hasn't impacted my life in art that much. I'm keeping in touch with Yma and Balin over email and Zoom. I found this animation thing, Piskel, and I'm making 8-bit gifs of my art. In Piskel, you can either animate a still image or multiple frames. You get a grid that you choose the size of, up to like 1000 x 1000. I've animated a few of the guys I usually draw, walking or moving their head, nothing really too complex yet.

WHERE DO YOU FIND YOUR INSPIRATION?
I find my inspiration mostly in my own imagination, but I am somewhat inspired by several artists I forgot the names of. In quarantine, I've been watching the comedy show 30 Rock, though it hasn't influenced my art. My art is, however, influenced a bit by the animated show Adventure Time.

DO YOU HAVE ANYTHING YOU WANT TO SAY TO OTHER YOUNG ARTISTS WHO MIGHT BE STRUGGLING DURING THIS TIME?
To other young artists out there — keep making art! In these hard times, it might be hard to find inspiration, but if you try hard enough, you can make amazing art.
How have the school closures due to COVID-19 affected the music program at AHS and AMS?

Mr. Dyel: Well, we don’t get to play music together. It is devastating for an activity that is based on live collaboration. Live music has a special magic to it, and while having a lot of time for individual study can lead to a growth in skill, we aren’t really getting the artistic nourishment that is good for the soul.

Ms. Leander: Our year typically gears up for spring jazz festivals, our musical that was a week from opening, league choir/band contests, and other meaningful performances and enrichment activities. To lose all those after working hard the first six months of the year has been tough to digest.

What have you done to overcome the obstacles? Are music classes continuing? What does that look like?

Mr. Dyel: Music classes are continuing as of last week. We do individual-based assignments that track the musicianship of each student. This is how we grade during the year anyway so that isn’t really different from our normal homework routine.

Ms. Leander: Music education everywhere is attempting to adjust as quickly as possible. One Facebook group I follow has over 35,000 educators from all over trying to help each other navigate the closure. There are also a ton of online music resources that are giving free access to students during COVID. There definitely seems to be a shift of focus from the ensemble experience toward the skill building of individuals. For my own students, I’m designing a variety of projects to see what is easy to facilitate virtually and what is most engaging for students during this time.

How have students responded?

Mr. Dyel: About 15-20% of students join me for a weekly virtual chat session where we just stay connected by sharing birthdays, funny stories, updates about what we’ve been up to, etc. While I’ve had a good turnout of AMS students in virtual lessons, only one of my AHS students has chosen to do online lessons and coaching with me over the past five weeks. Therefore, I would say the response during this window of “non-required” learning is that the AHS music community is not motivated to learn music during the closure. That can be for so many different reasons so we can’t really address the “why” at this time.

Ms. Leander: Anacortes School District rolled out our new learning plan starting April 27th. I think for many the last month has provided time to process and, hopefully, everyone will be on board to finish the year strong. This time has been especially difficult for our seniors so the Boosters Club and I teamed up to make signs in recognition of their hard work. Keep an eye out around town!

One non-musical thing we did was a couple of choirs started time capsule documents where students left reflections, poems, the music they are listening to, honest moments, and silly stories. It’s been really lovely to have a platform to connect as a group a bit. I also think they check on each other and are honest when they are struggling. Our student musicians are very caring and tend to look out for one another, just like a team would.

What does the future look like in terms of next year and course completion?

Mr. Dyel: Business as usual for our class.

Ms. Leander: Currently, I’m getting online audition material organized to send out for next year and we are trying to recreate a couple of the special performance moments for seniors in an online format. When we have a better idea of what graduation might look like, the students are very motivated to perform/present music in some manner for that event.

Is there anything in particular that you want the local music community to know right now?

Mr. Dyel: That we appreciate their continued support and we look forward to putting on great performances for them once school is back to normal. I can’t wait!

Ms. Leander: Sing together often. Improvise lyrics and melodies. Be silly. Have a dance party. Pick up that instrument. Support your artist friends online and buy music and merch when you can. Explore new genres. Listen, listen, listen. Try something musically new. (Shout out to my 6th period middle school choir this year who wanted me to yodel. I’m not great yet, but I’ve found some decent tutorials on YouTube.) Share recordings—even if they aren’t perfect. Host a zoom open mic with friends. Let’s get creative and see what we can learn from each other and how we can bring our community together through all this.

■
Quaran-zine: Musicians of Anacortes

The COVID-19 shutdown has been tough on musicians, and our local music scene is no exception. With venues closed and shows cancelled for the foreseeable future, it’s hard to imagine when things will get back to normal. We checked in with some of our local musicians to find out how they’re doing and what they’ve been up to during this time.

**Ben Goe, Despairplane:**
The shutdown has impacted our band negatively since, of course, we have not been able to have band practice. I’ve been putting around mostly on one song, and just started working on a second. I’ve got lyrics pretty well worked out for the first one.

**Lulu Goe, 9, aspiring singer:**
The quarantine hasn’t changed anything because I haven’t really been singing with anybody. I’ve been singing a lot but mostly in my room because my brother screams at me a lot.

**Ben Starner:**
For me, I am (or was) a regular gigging musician. I play(ed) out in the public more than I play at home so for me it’s been a real struggle to practice during this time. Feeling the constant need to make sure my life and family is “secure” enough to exist. That expenditure of energy has left little for music, or art for that matter, but I’m very hopeful for a resurgence of life soon and can’t wait to be out in the public more than I play at home so for me. It’s the longest time since the 1980’s he hasn’t practiced or played a gig. With his extra time, Shane has been strumming a guitar, getting a lot of house chores done, and readying his touring motorcycle for his next epic adventure.

**Quinn K. Thompson, Fanny Alger:**
Quinn is well and making the most of his time away from his landscape maintenance job. The additional time has allowed him to tackle many home projects on his new home. Painting is another one of Quinn’s creative outlets, and he has done many acrylic paintings this past month. Whittling is an interest of his, and just last night he whittled some prototype AMP keychains. To blow off steam Quinn has been “riding hard” with The Vicious Badgers moped/scooter club.

**Vince Jackson, Ristfut:**
This quarantine has given me a lot of time to myself, and though it has hindered some of my other activities, it has helped me get back into a rhythm when it comes to practicing my instrument. After the other members of Ristfut and I won Rock the Island this year, we were set to perform at the Waterfront Festival as well as some other possible venues. Unfortunately, performing at these shows will not be possible and I am also unable to practice with the other guys due to the quarantine. Though I am sad that I no longer get to spend time with my bandmates, I’ve realized that in order to get better at the drums, I need to create a schedule so that I can practice on a daily basis. So while there are many things that I dislike about the quarantine period, it has opened up a lot of free time for me to get more in touch with my instrument.

**John Delourme:**
It’s quiet now, I play outside. People drive by and stop. Some have instruments in their car, they ask if we can play together. It is wonderful. Plans are just sand.

**Karl Blau:**
Shows were canceled and now I have performed some online through organized platforms, mostly Instagram. Getting deep into songwriting and recording an album for children of all ages. Last week I put out a drone album through Bandcamp titled Tonkunst, by my alter ego for instrumental work I call Stereoearrings, for no reason. Fav current music for anti-COVID coziness—Ever Ending Kicks catalog.

Do you have a quarantine story to share? We are collecting stories from or about musicians with an Anacortes connection. Send your story to theshowchime@gmail.com.
Music Marathon:
Twelve Songs in Twelve Hours
by Dominic and Henry Ermi

Brothers Dominic and Henry Ermi were inspired by a video of famous YouTube musician, Rob Scallon, to make an album in one day. Both boys have had lots of time to practice their instruments during quarantine and decided to give it a shot. Scallon had done 10 songs in 10 hours all written and recorded in one day but the Ermi’s wanted more. Under the name B!son?, they wrote and recorded a 12 song album in 12 hours.

The two, originally from Anacortes, have been playing music together their entire lives. They play in bands and musical programs such as School of Rock, all around the state. The writing process consisted of a constant switch of instruments to write all 12 tracks, from piano, drums, guitar, and bass (as well as a few other instruments) to record all the songs first. After all the songs were done a solid two hours went into lyrical content to finish it all up.

The resulting album is “very experimental” in its weird and strange ways, mostly due to time constraints. The two, in the end, were very happy with the album and very excited to share it with others because it turned out better than expected. The album is out now and is available on all streaming platforms. They hope you will take a listen to the wacky and experimentally fun music of B!son? ■

Share Your Story in an Anacortes Quarantine Documentary

Hello Anacortes!

My name is Will McCracken. I’m a locally-based filmmaker and I have a proposition for you. Stuck in my own quarantine and with little to do I’ve had a lot of time to observe and reflect, specifically on facing disaster and how we as a community of beings react to the upending of our lives. As this virus exposes weaknesses and truths about our national and global community, I wondered what it could reveal about our local community. Some friends of mine were having similar thoughts and we decided to band together and document the Anacortes Covid-19 experience.

Now we’re reaching out to any and all of you in the community and simply asking, “How has Covid-19 impacted your life?” We’re looking for any kind of testimony, whether that be written or recorded from your homes. We’re also free to do Zoom interviews if you’d be interested in that format.

We want to tell your stories and our town’s story. For submission or to learn more about the project and how you can help, e-mail us at will.mccracken00@gmail.com or jadevelin12@gmail.com . Stay Strong.

—Will McCracken, Jade Carter, and Corin Noronha ■
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Livestream:
An Evening of Remote Music with the Harpers

Join AMP and James Harper for a glimpse into their life during the pandemic. There will be new tunes performed by James & Tuscan Harper and classical piano live from their backyard. This FaceBook live event is hosted by AMP and details will be announced soon via FaceBook and the AMP website.

Play Bingo, Win Big:
The first person with a bingo wins an AMP t-shirt!

Support local musicians and maybe discover some new favorites this month with our Anacortes Album Bingo. All albums on the bingo board are available on Bandcamp, the artist’s website, or your favorite streaming service.

For a chance to win, send a photo of your bingo board to theshowchime@gmail.com and tell us your favorite album from the board. If you’re the first one, we’ll send you a t-shirt!

PRIZES!
FAME!
FORTUNE!
HOW IT WORKS
Verse Chorus Verse

Anyone who has ever gotten lost in the liner notes knows that reading the lyrics of a song can give you a whole new perspective on a band or musician. Here we highlight the words of one song with an Anacortes connection. This month our lyrics come from Jacob Navarro.

“I wrote this song while thinking about the poem ‘The New Colossus’ by Emma Lazarus, which is a part of the statue of liberty. I love the concept that in this country we didn’t choose a giant statue of a male warrior holding up a sword to welcome you. Instead it’s a woman, the mother of exiles, and she’s holding up a light. These days that sentiment resonates with me more than ever.”

Mother of Exiles
Lyrics by Jacob Navarro

She holds lightning in a bottle and mile after mile, we followed her light to the mother of exiles.

A little boat on the ocean under the sun hot as fire, all to live in the home of the mother of exiles.

Through the darkest night, mile after mile, we followed the light to the mother of exiles.

Oh sweet lady though the cruel winds call, to the passions of fear don’t let us fall.

Oh sweet lady children stand at your shore, do not turn them away from your golden door.

Through the darkest night, mile after mile, we followed the light to the mother of exiles.

Anacortes Music Channel

Do you know about the Anacortes Music Channel? One great pool of Anacortes music just churning away—24/7! Each sound recording played at Anacortes Music Project online radio has an Anacortes tie-in—a story that, if not rooted in Anacortes, is affected by or involves a person from our town. Tune in day and night at anacortesmusicproject.org.

Call for Contributors

Show Chime is looking for volunteer contributors to help us cover the local music scene. Lend your skills and passion to help promote the homegrown music you love and help us grow this beloved publication. Cover one show or become a regular contributor. Have ideas about what we should cover? Contact us at theshowchime@gmail.com to start the conversation.

The NeXt Show

Please join us on the first Thursday of every month for The NeXt Show, the live show where you hear the music and thoughts of artists from Anacortes and beyond. Our guest for May will be LAKE. Check the accompanying article on page 4 for more on their story.

May 7, 7:00-9:00 PM. To listen live and access podcasts go to anacortesmusicproject.org.
Music Resources

THE BUSINESS
The Business cultures Anacortes and the world with its selection of fiercely independent new music. They offer music subscriptions, curate local shows, and offer label operations and mail-order fulfillment for many self-releasing artists and labels. Located at 216 Commercial and thebusinessanacortes.com.

The Business is now closed to the public until further notice. They will still be shipping and delivering locally, so contact nick@thebusinessanacortes.com or call 360.293.9788 to make a special order. You can shop online, buy gift cards, and subscribe to their monthly new music program on their website. They also have a Discogs page: discogs.com/user/thebusinessanacortes. If you’d like to simply give a general donation you can do that at: paypal.me/thebusinessanacortes.

THE UNKNOWN: RECORDING STUDIO
It’s an amazing place to record music. It sounds huge because it is huge. Our great collection of equipment and instruments plus the skills and familiarity with the space have made consistently great albums for people from all over the world who have traveled here to record. We are currently focusing on mixing and mastering due to the pandemic. Email Nich at: nicholas@fonteefount.com

THE CONNEXTION
Since 1997, The ConneXtion has been a family-owned and operated business providing Direct2Consumer sales, marketing, and fulfillment solutions for hundreds of festivals, concerts, fashion brands, musicians and bands, filmmakers, comedians, independent labels, foodies and more. Headquartered in Anacortes, Washington, their bi-coastal team provides white gloved services to customers around the world. Learn more at TheConneXtion.com.

HOOPLA
Missing your library? Check out Hoopla, a digital media service provided by the Anacortes Public Library with support from the Manieri Endowment. Access over 300,000 music titles, 40,000 audiobooks, 13,000 movies, 180,000 ebooks, 9,000 comics, and more, all in an incredibly user-friendly interface. Sign up with your library card at hoopladigital.com. The library has temporarily increased the number of monthly Hoopla downloads to each patron.

KENNELLY KEYS MUSIC
Kennelly Keys provides instruments, supplies, lessons, rentals, repairs, and venue space for performances, private parties, and weddings. Kennelly Keys is currently closed until April 11. Check their website at www.kennellykeysmusic.com/locations/anacortes/ for updates on their operating schedule.

MANIERI JAZZ & SWING COLLECTION
The Anacortes Public Library features the Manieri Jazz & Swing Collection—specially chosen books, CDs, and DVDs on the uniquely American art of jazz and swing music. Sponsored by the Manieri endowment, the entire collection is accessible for check-out with your library membership. While the library is closed, check out the great music resources available on the library website. Go to www.anacorteswa.gov/233/Music-Movies to find out more.

Represent!
Your support amplifies the music and musicians of Anacortes. In addition to the promotion, publication, and distribution of the SHOW CHIME music calendar, AMP is committed to creating events featuring local musicians, developing a scholarship and mentoring program, continuing the development and collection of archives past and present, and shaping exciting visions for the future, such as a physical space for our community’s very own radio station and music space. Your contribution is uplifting the culture of art and music in our town. We’re doing this together!

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Thank You!
Thank you to our sponsoring businesses; Mugsy at The Red Snapper, Hal, Sheryl, and Erik at The Brown Lantern, Nick and Carolyn at Bikespot, Mark and Willy at Guemes Island General Store, Rick Star at Rockfish Bar and Grill, Barrett Community Caring Project. Thank you Manieri board, Chris Terrell, and Keith Eyer at How It Works. Thank you, community member sponsors; Laura Spehar, Victoria McNeil, Patti Pattee, Terry Velin, and DJ Browne. Thank you to The SAM Project for all they do to promote our cause. Thank you to our May cover artist, Caspian Goe, and to Veronica Crommett for interviewing him. Thank you to the Show Chime planning group and to our contributing writers and photographers for your extra flexibility, ideas, and enthusiasm this month. Thank you, Laurie Racicot, for editing and design. Thank you to everyone who banded together to get this print-at-home Show Chime into the inboxes of every Anacortes music fan. We hope you print it out and enjoy holding it in your hands this month. Getting the Show Chime to you each month is a community effort, especially in this unusual moment! We can’t wait to have the fancy printed version available again soon. Until then, thank you for being a die-hard Show Chime fan!