



Russian Heritage

NEWSLETTER

Volume XVIII, Issue 6
February – March 2014

Pianist Elizaveta Ukrainskaya to Perform at St. Petersburg College on February 27 and at Eckerd College on February 26

Russian Heritage and St. Petersburg College present a concert by Elizaveta Ukrainskaya, an outstanding student of the Special Music School at the Rimsky-Korsakov Conservatory in St. Petersburg, Russia, on Thursday, February 27 at 12:30 pm in Room HS-117 on SPC Gibbs Campus (6605 5th Avenue North in St. Petersburg, 33710). Admission is free and open to the public.

A second performance will be given on Wednesday evening at 7:00 pm in the Music Center at Eckerd College (4200 54th Ave. S.). For directions to the Music Center, inquire at the front entrance gate.

Elizaveta was born in 1996 and began her musical education at age 5. In 2011 she entered one of the best musical schools in Russia where she began studying with Liubov Rudova, a Distinguished Artist of the Russian Federation (who is accompanying Elizaveta on this tour). She has frequently performed in St. Petersburg, Russia, Switzerland, Germany, and the Czech Republic. She is a prize-winner at many international competitions, including the first prize for interpretation of Schumann and Chopin at the Third International Chopin Youth Competition. In 2008 and 2009 she was awarded a “Talented Youth” prize in St. Petersburg. In 2012 she won third prize at the Sixth International Competition for Pianists in Serbia. In 2008 she produced a CD to mark the 200th anniversary of the birth of Chopin.



Two Celebrations for Maslenitsa

Russian American Club. February 22 at 3 pm in Gulfport. **Reservations required.**

22-го февраля клуб устраивает Масленицу, конечно с блинами и со всем что к ним полагается. Цена \$25. Убедительно просим заказывать и платить заранее, так-как по закону штата в нашем помещении не может быть более 55-ти человек. Звонить — Жанна [\(727\) 367 2092](tel:7273672092)

USF Russian Club. March 1 about 2 pm in Tampa.

USF's Maslenitsa will be held on Saturday, March 1 at the USF Riverfront Park on Fletcher Avenue. All RH members are invited. We ask those who come to bring a dish or a modest contribution. Directions from St. Petersburg:

1-275 North to Fletcher Ave. in North Tampa; East (= Right) on Fletcher.

The USF Riverfront Park is located on the left on the West Side of the Hillsborough River, about 1/2 mile East of the intersection of Fletcher and 56th Street.

RUSSIAN HERITAGE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President: Victor Peppard

V. P.: Vladimir Khokhlov

Secretary: Laura Flesch

Treasurer: Bill Parsons

Board Members:

Tamara Burns

Zina Downen

Eugene Lel

Galina Malkin

Gene Stenov

Nadia Velez

Nadia Yevstigneyeva

SPIFFS International Ball

The SPIFFS International Ball will be held on Friday, February 28 at the St. Petersburg Women’s Club (40 Snell Isle Blvd NE, 33710). The dress is semi-formal, or ethnic dress, and it is a colorful event. Dance music is provided by the Dazzlers. The price for tickets is \$40. **For more information and to order tickets, please call 727-867-9148 by February 24.**

Each ethnic group selects one “person of the year” to be honored at this ball. This year’s selection for Russian Heritage is Vladimir Khokhlov. See p 3.

Elizaveta to perform.

Gene Stenov Improving

See page 3.

OLYMPICS: OPENING CEREMONIES. There were many special events and presentations at the opening ceremonies in Sochi, but the alphabet show gives members and friends of Russian Heritage a chance to test your knowledge of Russian culture. How many of the following people and “achievements” can you recognize? You might want to look up the rest.....

A Russian girl is sleeping and dreams about the Russian alphabet...

Девочка спит, ей снится алфавит.

А — азбука	alphabet
Б — Байкал	Baikal
В — вертолет Сикорского	Sikorsky’s helicopter
Г — Гагарин	Gagarin
Д — Достоевский	Dostoevsky
Е — Екатерина II	Catherine the Great
Ё — ёжик в тумане	“Hedgehog in the Fog”
Ж — Жуковский	Zhukovsky
З — зерноуборочная машина	Combine Harvester
И — империя	Empire
Й — Чайковский	Tchaikovsky
К — Кандинский	Kandinsky
Л — луноход	Lunokhod
М — Малевич	Malevich
Н — Набоков	Nabokov
О — орбитальная станция	Space Station
П — периодическая таблица	Periodic Table
Р — русский балет	Russian Ballet
С — спутник	Sputnik
Т — Толстой и телевидение	Tolstoy and television
У — ушанка	Ushanka
Ф — Фишт	Fischt
Х — хохлома	Khokhloma
Ц — Циолковский	Tsiolkovsky
Ч — Чехов	Chekhov
Ш — Шагал	Chagall
Щ — Щусев	Shchusev
Ъ — ПушкинЪ	Pushkin
Ы — Мы	We
Э — Эйзенштейн	Eisenstein
Ю — парашют	Parachute
Я — Россия	Russia



Vladimir Khokhlov has been selected as the Russian Heritage “person of the year” for 2014. He will be honored at the SPIFFS International Ball on February 28 (see page 1). The article below appears on the website of the Orfeo Summer Music Festival in the Italian Alps where Khokhlov has been a member of the faculty for the past several years.

Vladimir Khokhlov’s life is as interesting as his playing is exquisite. He was born at St. Anthony hospital in St. Petersburg, Florida, where his father, a Soviet naval officer, was on temporary assignment during the American lend-lease program during the WWII. After three years stint in the States, the family returned to Leningrad (now St. Petersburg, Russia). His musical gift was discovered when Vladimir’s father brought a piano from Germany in 1947. When in the second grade, Vladimir entered the Special Music School for Gifted children at the Leningrad Conservatory, and later studied at the same Conservatory where he remained (except for a six months served at army) until he received a Master’s degree. A vibrant, successful musical career followed, including numerous concert trips throughout Soviet Union, including the most prestigious concert halls in Moscow and Leningrad-St. Petersburg as well as concerts in Japan, Finland, England and Bulgaria. Three times he was awarded Honor Diplomas as best accompanist in vocal competitions. All of this was practically squelched by KGB when Vladimir spoke out against conditions in Soviet Union, especially regarding the emigration of so many fine artists for better opportunities elsewhere. The first coup attempt in January 1991 was the catalyst for Vladimir’s desire to return to the land of his birth. From the American side, he had no problem entering the United States, passport in hand. Requesting a return to St. Petersburg, Florida, he reached the Bay area in March of 1991.

During his years in Florida he performed extensively within the state as well as in New York (Steinway Hall debut in 1996 as award for prize winning at the Pinault Society International Competition), Cleveland, Minneapolis, and Alexandria, VA. During his Doctoral studies at the Florida State University he won the First Prize at The Graduate Students’ Competition. Currently, Vladimir runs a successful private Russian Piano School. His students received over fifty awards at different local, state and international competitions. For sixteen years he also conducts Latvian Community Chorus in St. Petersburg, and for eleven years serves as a Music Director of the Russian Heritage Society. “Great traditions of Russian pianists... he literally plumbs the depths of the music – the tonal resources inexhaustible and fire and ice via unforgettable remembrance. Eloquence is the word. Mozart and Schubert unforgettably beautiful ... He discourses, he reveals, he explains. He truly communicates the meaning in Music.” (Jacques Abram, Professor Emeritus, USF). “He has requisite qualities in a musician... delicate touch ... extremely sensitive true rubato rare among pianists today... wonderful addition to cultural community in Tampa Bay area... immense talent.” (Edward Cumming, Music Director, Hartford Symphony).

Gene Stenov Improving After Accident

Gene Stenov has been moved from the intensive care unit at Bayfront Medical Center to a rehabilitation center on Pasadena Avenue (across from Palms of Pasadena hospital) after being run over by a car in a Publix parking lot on January 23. He has multiple broken bones in his right leg, his ribs, and his right shoulder. Gene is faced with months of rehabilitation after this accident. He can be reached by phone in his room (727-350-0234).

Updates on other Members of Russian Heritage

Victor Peppard has returned to teaching at USF after his triple by-pass surgery in the summer of 2013.

Peter Sidorenko has returned home from the hospital after suffering from serious infections.

Nadia Velez has returned from an extended stay in Russia as a proud new babushka.

Membership Dues 2014

All who are interested in Russian culture are welcome to join Russian Heritage by simply paying the yearly dues. Members receive the Russian Heritage Newsletter and discounts on certain events such as the Old Russian New Year Celebration.

Please fill in the following form, and send it with your dues, to:



Russian Heritage
PO Box 14552
St. Petersburg, FL 33733

Please check one:

Student \$0; Individual \$15; Family \$25; Sponsor \$100 or more.

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Telephone _____

E-mail _____

If you are a new member of Russian Heritage, we would enjoy hearing more about your interest in Russia: Is your ethnic heritage Russian? Were you born and raised in Russia? Where? How long have you been in the United States? Etc. etc. (несколько слов о себе) in English or Russian.