



AMES TOWN & GOWN CHAMBER MUSIC ASSOCIATION
Global Connections Through Music

March 30, 2020

Dear Friends,

We at Ames Town & Gown are thinking of you and hope that you and your families, friends, and colleagues are all doing well during this difficult time.

"Music — so different from painting — is the art we enjoy most in the company of others."

Those words of composer Robert Schumann, written nearly 200 years ago, have never seemed so relevant as now, in this time of uncertainty and constantly changing circumstances. As you know, many performing arts organizations have had to make difficult decisions concerning spring events. Although it will come as no surprise, we are very sorry to announce the cancellation of the final concert of our 2019-2020 season, scheduled for May 1, when we had planned for the premiere of a new work commissioned for our 70th season!

We will simply delay this special concert featuring the premiere of Michael Shapiro's Quintet for String Quartet and Guzheng, commissioned through a gift from the Durbin-Zheng family of Ames. We have high hopes for that event, when we will welcome a renowned guzheng artist and the Telegraph Quartet for a fascinating evening of "Global Connections Through Music."

No date has yet been chosen, but tickets already purchased for the May 1 concert, by subscription or individually, will be honored at that time.

We'll miss seeing you and enjoying live chamber music together this spring, but of course we prioritize the well-being of our artists, colleagues, and audiences above all else. We look forward to enjoying great music once again *"in the company of others"* in our 2020-21 season.

Best wishes to all from our Board of Directors,

Paula Forrest, Artistic Director

Bruce Calhoun, President of the Board

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