



# THE ENGLISH-SPEAKING UNION OF THE UNITED STATES

*Creating Global Understanding Through English*

NATION'S CAPITAL AREA BRANCH

JUNE 2006

## *News & Announcements*

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## **A CONCERT BY THE DUMBARTON CHAMBER ENSEMBLE** *Performers Offer a Varied Menu of Selections by Mozart, Franck, and Key*



You're invited to hear some of Washington's most talented musicians — cellist **Thomas Blackburn**, pianist **A. Graham Down**, bassoonist **Alan Karnovitz**, oboist and composer **Stephen Nicholas Key**, clarinetist **Jerry Schwarz**, and horn player **Volker Treichel** — as they present **KEY's Oboe Sonata 1 for Oboe and Piano**, **WOLFGANG AMADEUS MOZART's Quintet for Piano and Winds, K. 452**, and **CESAR FRANCK's Sonata in A Major for Cello and Piano**. This

gathering will be another celebration of the 250th anniversary of Mozart's birth. It will take place in one of Georgetown's most resonant interiors, and it will be followed by a light reception.

**SUNDAY, JUNE 11**

**4:00 p.m.**

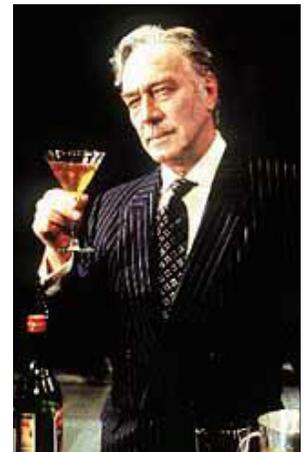
**EPIPHANY CATHOLIC CHURCH**  
**2712 Dumbarton Street NW**

*No Admission Charge*

## **A MANHATTAN TRIBUTE TO CHRISTOPHER PLUMMER** *Toasts by JULIE ANDREWS, ROBERT MACNEIL, LYNN REDGRAVE, and Others*

In association with the **ENGLISH-SPEAKING UNION OF NEW YORK** and the **NATIONAL ARTS CLUB**, **ESU WASHINGTON** requests the pleasure of your company at a lustrous black-tie revel during which

**THE SHAKESPEARE GUILD** will present its 2006 **GIELGUD AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN THE DRAMATIC ARTS** to the man whose **Barrymore** prompted critic **John Simon** to declare him "the greatest living actor in the English language." All but \$100 of the price per ticket is tax-deductible, and 5% of the proceeds from **ESU** orders for the event will support efforts such as our **SHAKESPEARE COMPETITION FOR THE NATIONAL CAPITAL**



**REGION.** For information about the festivities, which will feature remarks and vignettes from stars such as **KEVIN KLINE** and **AUDRA McDONALD**, and about special discounts available to those who opt to affiliate with **THE SHAKESPEARE GUILD**, you may either contact the **ESU** office by phone or by e-mail or get in touch with the Guild directly at (202) 483-8646 or at [shakesguild@msn.com](mailto:shakesguild@msn.com).

## *Visit "Lincoln's Other White House" on June 28*

For details on that and on other **COMING ATTRACTIONS**, among them a luncheon with **MEXICO'S AMBASSADOR**, see the pages that follow.

## LADY MACBETH REVEALED, A STRIKING NEW PLAY BY THE ESU'S RACHAEL BAIL

ESU member RACHAEL BAIL is attempting to cast old light on one of Shakespeare's most celebrated characters. Rather than a temptress who seduces her husband into regicide, Queen

Gruoch, as Ms. Bail tells us before she became immortalized in *Macbeth*, turns out to have been a beautiful and loyal Scotswoman who had a better claim to the throne than did the powerful warrior she married.

For a challenging, fresh perspective on a tale that has long been legendary, Ms. Bail and her director, JAMES ROBERTS, hope that you will attend the MCLEAN DRAMA COMPANY's world premiere of *LADY MACBETH REVEALED*. General admission is \$15; senior citizens and students may purchase tickets for \$12 each; and groups of ten or more may book them for \$10 apiece.

**WEEKEND OF JUNE 16-18**  
Friday & Saturday, 8:00 p.m.  
Sunday, 2:30 p.m.

**ALDEN THEATRE**  
1234 Ingleside Avenue, McLean  
BOX OFFICE (703) 790-9223

## AFRICA IN THE 21ST CENTURY: A STRONG LEADER OUTLINES AFRICARE'S RESPONSE

Along with our friends in the WOMAN'S NATIONAL DEMOCRATIC CLUB, we anticipate a thought-provoking dialogue when the

President of AFRICARE addresses a luncheon devoted to what the rest of the world can, and should, do to alleviate the difficulties that now confront one country after another in Africa. JULIUS E.

COLES directed the Ralph Bunche International Affairs Center at HOWARD UNIVERSITY from 1994 to 1997. From there he went to MOREHOUSE COLLEGE in Atlanta, where he headed the Andrew Young Center for International Affairs. Most of Mr. Coles' career has been spent as a senior official in the Foreign Service with the UNITED STATES AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT (USAID). In that capacity he served as Mission Director in Swaziland and in Senegal. His postings also took him to Liberia, Morocco, Nepal, and Vietnam. He'll tell us about the work of an organization that Nelson Mandela has referred to as "one of America's greatest gifts to Africa."



## THE EMBASSY OF NEW ZEALAND HOSTS ANOTHER "DOWN-UNDER" BARBECUE

Under the kind patronage of the AMBASSADOR OF NEW ZEALAND AND MRS. FERGUSON, the AUSTRALIA AMERICA ASSOCIATION and the SOUTHERN CROSS CLUB invite constituents of the ENGLISH-SPEAKING UNION to join them for an open-air barbecue at the NEW ZEALAND EMBASSY. Those who've been on hand for previous visits to this leafy setting will know that dishes with Red Hot & Blue's Antipodean flavorings have become summer favorites.

Casual attire is the norm. Young people and children are more than welcome. Free parking is available on the grounds. And there will be live music, with performers from the MCGRATH ACADEMY OF IRISH DANCE. Reservations are being handled once again by COLLEEN GREER, who requests that you let her know by June 17 if you wish to attend. You can reach her by e-mail at [greerca2@yahoo.com](mailto:greerca2@yahoo.com) or by phone at (703) 524-1381.

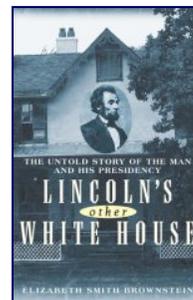
**SATURDAY, JUNE 24**  
5:30 to 8:30 p.m.

**EMBASSY OF NEW ZEALAND**  
37 Observatory Circle NW  
Adults, \$40 Pro-Teens, \$20

## AN ON-SITE CHAT WITH THE AUTHOR OF LINCOLN'S OTHER WHITE HOUSE

In collaboration with the NATIONAL TRUST FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION, which administers the SOLDIER'S HOME, a retreat to which President Lincoln and his family resorted for relief

from the unbearable heat and humidity of Washington summers in the 1860s, we're delighted to co-host an event at which historian ELIZABETH SMITH BROWNSTEIN explains the significance of that bucolic setting. In her influential volume on



*LINCOLN'S OTHER WHITE HOUSE*, Ms. Brownstein notes that our 16th chief executive sorely needed the peace he found in this quiet dwelling. It was here, for example, that he drafted the Emancipation Proclamation. Our gathering will occur, not in the Presidential cottage itself, which is undergoing restoration, but in Stanley Chapel. Light refreshments will be served. And after her presentation Ms. Brownstein will be happy to sign copies of her book, which may be purchased in advance by means of an order form on the back page. A site map and directions to the Chapel are available upon request.

**WEDNESDAY, JUNE 28**  
10:00 a.m.

**UPSHUR ST. AT ROCK CREEK RD. NW**  
Admission \$10

## A LUNCHEON WITH CARLOS DE ICAZA, MEXICO'S AMBASSADOR TO THE U.S.

We're pleased to join the WOMAN'S NATIONAL DEMOCRATIC CLUB for a midday gathering with His Excellency CARLOS DE ICAZA, MEXICO'S AMBASSADOR TO THE UNITED STATES. Mr. Icaza entered the MEXICAN FOREIGN SERVICE in 1970 and was promoted to the rank of ambassador in 1982. Before his arrival in Washington in 2004, he'd enjoyed earlier postings in Japan, Belgium, Luxembourg, Argentina, and Ecuador. Mr. Icaza has repre



represented his country in multilateral meetings of the UNITED NATIONS, as well as at the ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES, the INTERNATIONAL LABOR ORGANIZATION, and APEC, an association to foster ASIA-PACIFIC ECONOMIC COOPERATION. Ambassador de Icaza has written two books on diplomacy and international relations and has received honorary decorations from eighteen nations. He'll discuss immigration and other border issues, and he'll also deal with trade and additional topics.

**THURSDAY, JUNE 29**  
*Cash-Bar Reception, 11:30*  
*Lunch, 12:30 Program, 1:00*  
**1526 NEW HAMPSHIRE AVENUE**  
*Lunch and Program, \$25*

## SIR DAVID AND LADY MANNING HOST A LOVELY BRITISH EMBASSY RECEPTION

For many ESU constituents no year is complete without the special pleasures that have long attached to an evening in the beautiful residence of the BRITISH AMBASSADOR. It was thus with immense relish on Thursday, May 18, that nearly 200 members of the ENGLISH-SPEAKING UNION and their guests accepted the gracious hospitality of SIR DAVID AND LADY MANNING and enjoyed the charms of a garden that seemed all the more refreshing in the aftermath of some gentle rain that had fallen a few hours earlier but had providently spared the late afternoon.

As usual, the Ambassador's remarks were elegant and timely. He noted with gratitude that the Embassy had benefited from a long association with the ENGLISH-SPEAKING UNION, a relationship for which he discerned an apt symbol in the Churchill statue that ESU WASHINGTON had placed in front of the compound four decades earlier. He went on to observe that the language Sir Winston had deployed with such eloquence had become increasingly potent as an instrument of global communication, and thus that the ESU itself had now evolved into a powerful embodiment of those values which had figured so prominently in Churchill's leadership.

ESU President Gerry Kauvar touched on several of the highlights of an eventful year. He thanked those who had contributed to the success of such ESU endeavors as its ENGLISH IN ACTION program, its annual SHAKESPEARE COMPETITION, and its various awards for teachers, actors, and scholars. He singled out two philanthropic organizations, the MARPAT FOUNDATION and the MORRIS & GWENDOLYN CAFRITZ FOUNDATION, and he extended particular thanks to Dr. Marjorie Williams and her late husband, Walter L. Wright III, who died in late April. He then concluded with a couplet from A. E. Housman that seemed perfect for the clement weather that all of Sir David and Lady Manning's guests were savoring: a reminder that "fifty springs is little room / In which to look at things in bloom."

## NEW OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS ELECTED AT ESU'S ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Thanks to the hospitality of ESU's associates at the PHI BETA KAPPA SOCIETY, the branch of the ENGLISH-SPEAKING UNION that serves the Washington area held its ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING for the third consecutive year in that organization's welcoming quarters. Proceedings commenced at 10:30 a.m., and they were followed by a light luncheon for those who had the opportunity to linger and converse with their fellow attendees.

The primary purpose of the event was to review the branch's accomplishments over the last twelve months, outline plans for the year ahead, and elect officers and directors to fill several slots that were to become available on June 1. A NOMINATING COMMITTEE, headed by Ian S. McDonald and including Stephen F. Black, Diana Nicholson, Lee Viccellio, and Sarah Williams, proposed that Gerald B. Kauvar stay on for a second year as President, that James C. Ledyard be elevated to First Vice President to succeed Thomas M. Pazzi, who had resigned, and that C. Braxton Moncure serve another term as Treasurer. The Committee also recommended that two members of the Board of Directors who had completed a pair of three-year terms, William FitzGerald III and William L. Renfro, be designated as Vice Presidents. In a related proposal, the Committee recommended that A. Graham Down, a former President of ESU WASHINGTON, be moved from the Advisory Board to a position as Vice President. The Committee recommended, finally, that Celia Josephs, who had completed the last two years of an unexpired three-year term, be rewarded with a full three-year term on the Board of Directors, and that three other leaders be added to the Board as new members: the Honorable E. R. Braithwaite, Jay Coupe, and Willee Eskew Lewis. This slate was moved, seconded, and enthusiastically approved by the membership, which also gave its endorsement to the Committee's recommendation that the Nominating Committee which would report to the May 2007 Annual General Meeting consist of Stephen F. Black, D. Elizabeth Crompton, A. Graham Down, Ian S. McDonald (Chair), and Sarah Williams.

In his report on the season's activities, Executive Director John Andrews noted that an unusually impressive array of prominent speakers had addressed ESU audiences, among them two (former Time correspondent Bonnie Angelo and British historian A. N. Wilson) whose remarks had been shared with viewers nationwide over C-SPAN2's weekend Book TV service. He pointed to several authors whose volumes were on the best-seller list when they spoke here, among them Taylor Branch, Judith Martin, Deborah Tannen, and Garry Wills. He was also pleased, he said, with the number and variety of venues in which events had occurred, and with the collaborative relationships that had been established with such organizations as Borders Books & Music, the British-American Business Association, the Churchill Centre, the Corcoran Gallery of Art, Dacor-Bacon House, and the Woman's National Democratic Club. His comments were reinforced by Program Committee chairman Celia Josephs, who noted a jump from 30 gatherings in 2004-5 to more than 45 in 2005-6. Graham Down observed that the Education Committee had been gratified by an increase in the number of schools that took part in the 2006 SHAKESPEARE COMPETITION, but was disappointed by the small turnout of attendees from the ESU membership. Treasurer Braxton Moncure commended the Branch's prudent fiscal management, but he noted that more efforts would be needed in the year to come to generate revenues to offset a persistent pattern of deficits. His comments were seconded by President Gerry Kauvar, who said that he would focus on finding ways to improve our financial position. The gathering culminated on a high note with a delightful presentation from art historian Colette Crossman, a doctoral candidate at the University of Maryland, who talked about the research she'd just completed in England as a recipient of the branch's 2005 HELENE GLADSTONE WILLIAMS AWARD.



THE ENGLISH-SPEAKING UNION  
OF THE UNITED STATES

*Creating Global Understanding Through English*  
NATION'S CAPITAL AREA BRANCH

1604 New Hampshire Avenue NW Washington, DC 20009-2512

*Since 1920, when it originated in response to a parallel organization that had been established two years earlier in Great Britain, the English-Speaking Union of the United States has sought to foster social and cultural cohesion through the resources and traditions of a language that has become increasingly indispensable as a means of international communication. Through a diverse array of offerings, some of which are shared with audiences around the world through radio and TV, the national capital's ESU endeavors to advance a noble mission.*

## In Memory of Tony Wright

On April 23 the ENGLISH-SPEAKING UNION lost one of its most dedicated and generous benefactors. **WALTER LIVINGSTON WRIGHT III**, whose name adorns a prize (lovingly referred to as the ESU "Tony Award") that is presented each spring to a promising young professional at the **ACADEMY FOR CLASSICAL ACTING** (a joint endeavor of George Washington University and the Shakespeare Theatre Company), will be greatly missed by his affectionate friends. We extend heartfelt sympathy to his widow, **Dr. Marjorie Williams**, to his brother, **Frederick Fenning Wright**, and to his other relatives and loved ones. We also wish to record our deepest gratitude to the many admirers who have made donations in Tony's memory to the ESU.

## Thanks for Your Generosity

Everyone associated with the ENGLISH-SPEAKING UNION is enormously grateful for your willingness to facilitate its offerings with your support. The ESU now girdles the planet, with a stately London address at **DARTMOUTH HOUSE** near Berkeley Square, and those who take part in any of its local, regional, and national communities are nourished by a vibrant global network.

In an effort to keep our members alert to the broader dimensions of the ENGLISH-SPEAKING UNION, we now offer everyone who affiliates with the ESU at the **Contributor** level or above a colorful periodical, **ESU NEWS**, which comes out six times a year from our headquarters in Mayfair. If you're not yet receiving it, why not upgrade your membership with a call to **(202) 234-4602**?

Through an enticing assortment of edifying events, and through such enterprises as an annual **SHAKESPEARE COMPETITION** for secondary-school students, a variety of **FELLOWSHIP AWARDS** to encourage substantive exploration in academic and artistic settings, and a volunteer-based tutoring service, **ENGLISH IN ACTION**, for those who aspire to better command of a tongue that is not native to them, **ESU WASHINGTON** is dedicated to extending a precious legacy. To help sustain this legacy, all you need to do is supply the information requested in the form to the right and submit it by post, phone, fax, or e-mail. Below are the ENGLISH-SPEAKING UNION's present membership categories.

### ASSOCIATE (Individual \$45, Dual \$65)

*Event notices, local and national  
ESU member publications*

### SUBSCRIBER (Individual \$75, Dual \$100)

*All ASSOCIATE-level benefits plus 1 coupon  
for a regular ESU event (that is, an  
event priced at \$40 or less)*

### CONTRIBUTOR (Individual \$125, Dual \$150)

*All SUBSCRIBER-level benefits plus 1 additional  
coupon to be used at a regular ESU event  
plus 6 issues a year of ESU NEWS*

### DONOR (\$250)

*All CONTRIBUTOR-level benefits plus 2 additional coupons  
to be used at regular events and 1 coupon for a special  
occasion (that is, one priced at more than \$40)*

### BENEFACTOR (\$500)

*All DONOR-level benefits plus 4 additional coupons to be used at  
regular events, 1 additional coupon for a special occasion,  
and recognition in selected print materials*

### PATRON (\$1,000)

*Free admission for 2 persons to all regular events,  
4 coupons for use at special occasions, and  
recognition in selected printings*

### SPONSOR (\$2,500)

*All PATRON-level benefits plus free admission for up  
to 4 additional guests at all ESU gatherings*

## Response Form

I wish to  renew or  enroll in the ENGLISH-SPEAKING UNION at the \$\_\_\_\_\_ level. I wish to make a tax-deductible donation to the ESU of \$\_\_\_\_\_ to support its educational and cultural endeavors.

For **June 12 (Plummer)**, please reserve  space(s) at \$150,  space(s) at \$250,  space(s) at \$500. I understand that everything above \$100 per ticket is tax-deductible, and that 5% of the proceeds go to the ESU.

For **June 20 (Africare)**, please reserve  space(s) at \$25.

For **June 28 (Brownstein)**, please reserve  space(s) at \$10. I'd also like  copies of *Lincoln's Other White House* at \$25 apiece.

My check for \$\_\_\_\_\_ to The English-Speaking Union is enclosed.  
Charge  MC  Visa \_\_\_\_\_ (\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_).

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone, Fax \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

*Member rates for ESU events are available to anyone affiliated with BABA, CantabDC, LSE Alumni, the Royal Society of Arts, the Shakespeare Guild, the Washington Society for Churchill, the Woman's National Democratic Club, and various other organizations that cooperate with the ESU.*

*Please visit us online, and check for calendar updates, at [www.esuwdc.org](http://www.esuwdc.org).*