

Music for Plucked Strings

The Providence Mandolin Orchestra (PMO)

Barrington Public Library
281 County Road, Barrington RI 02806

Thursday, May 28, 2026 @ 7:00 PM

Mark Davis, Director

Dances for the Mandolin in the Moon	Richard Charlton
The City Awakens	Emiel Stöpler
Tanzstück	Cesar Bresgen (1913 – 1988)
	The Al Fresco Quartet
Serenade d’Hiver	C. Saint-Saens (1835 – 1921)
Grooves #1	Owen Hartford
Prelude to “The Gadfly”	Dmitri Shostakovich (1906 – 1975, arr. Mark Linkins (1964 – 2024)
Lieder ohne Worte	Konrad Wölki (1904 – 1983)

*Allegro Moderato – Andante sostenuto –
Allegretto – Allegretto moderato*

Program Notes by Robert Margo:

We open this evening with “Dances for the Mandolin and the Moon” by the eminent Australian composer, Richard Charlton, followed by “The City Awakens” written for the PMO by the Dutch composer, Emiel Stöpler, in his characteristic rhythmic style derived from minimalism and popular music. We continue with “Tanzstück,” an original work for mandolin orchestra by the Austrian composer, Cesar Bresgen. Following the Bresgen, we continue with the “Serenade” by the French composer Camille Saint-Saens, originally for quartet of male voices, arranged for the quartet by Daniel K. Moore (PMO emeritus). We continue with a PMO “classic,” “Grooves #1,” by our resident composer emeritus Owen Hartford. The Shostakovich prelude (arranged by the late Mark Linkins) is from the score to the popular 1955 film by Alexander Faintsinner. Our concert concludes with one of the classic works of German “zupfmusik” – Konrad Wölki’s “Lieder ohne Worte,” in four movements.

The Providence Mandolin Orchestra is:

Music Director: Mark Davis

First Mandolin: Lynne Bell, Christine Chito, Lisa Newby

Second Mandolin: Mark Chuoke, Paul Wilde, Damon Frazier May, Cedwyn Morgan

Mandola in C: Gayle Raposa

Mandola in G: Robert Margo, John Rufo

Mandocello: Oliver Reid

Classical Guitar: Mark Armstrong, Beverly Davis

Bass: Peter DiCicco, Hiatt Knapp

Al Fresco Quartet: Christine Chito (M1), Mark Chuoke (M2), John Rufo (Mandola in G), Oliver Reid (Mandocello).

The original **Providence Mandolin Orchestra** was founded in 1911 by William Place Jr, one of the leading mandolinists in early twentieth century America. The modern PMO dates from the early 1970s, when it was revived by Hibbard Perry, a former student of Place, Jr's. Since then, the PMO has become one of the leading American mandolin and guitar ensembles with regular performances throughout the eastern United States and multiple tours to Europe. The PMO is dedicated to the performance of original contemporary music, including many pieces written for the ensemble. **Mark Davis**, who pursues an active career as a conductor and performer on guitar and mandolin, has served as the PMO's music director since 1989. Visit the PMO online at <http://www.providencemandolin.org/>.