
May, 2009

Mike Lythgoe Selected as 2009 Kauffmann Award Recipient

The Academy presents the Earl Kauffman Award annually to recognize outstanding individual contributions to the organization. This year's honoree is Mike Lythgoe.



Mike has served the Academy as President-Elect in 2005-2006, President in 2006-2007 and Immediate Past-President in 2007 – 2008. Mike is presently on the Curriculum Committee and has taught several Academy classes in literature with his popular series on spy

novels, as well as classes in poetry, history and government.

A native of Indiana, he received his undergraduate degree from St. Louis University. He earned a Master's Degree in International Studies from the University of Notre Dame and a Master's of Fine Arts (specializing in writing and literature) from Bennington College.

Mike retired as an Intelligence Officer, after serving in the Air Force for 24 years. He had been posted to Vietnam, Turkey, Spain and England.

After his military service he was Vice-President of Development at Christendom College in Front Royal, Virginia, then Director of Development for the American Production Inventory Control Society. Mike also has coordinated cultural programs for the Smithsonian and taught at Syracuse University. Somehow he also managed to find time to teach high school history for two years.

Mike belongs to the Author's Club of Augusta and the Poetry Society of South Carolina. He is on the Board of the Aiken Choral Society and he volunteers

at St. Mary's Catholic Church. Several volumes of his poetry have been published. His chapbook "Brass" won the 2006 Kinloch Rivers Chapbook Prize from the Poetry Society of South Carolina.

Mike's wife Louise is also active in the Academy as our Spanish teacher and member of the Curriculum Committee. Mike has two sons, living in Virginia and Colorado.

Mike is a true renaissance man and a valued member of, and significant contributor to, our Academy.



Mike Lythgoe (left) receives Kauffmann award from Academy Past President Vince Coughlin

President's Message

Andrés Segovia the world renowned classical guitarist of the twentieth century was born near Jaen, Granada, Spain in 1893. He made his debut at the Centro Artística in Granada at the age of 15. He played his last concert at age 95 in 1987. From 1912 until his death in Madrid June 2, 1987 he traveled throughout the world to engage audiences with the dulcet sounds of his beloved instrument.

His playing forever changed the image of the guitar from café accompaniment instrument to a solo voice in the salon recital or in concerto with the orchestra. He expanded the guitar repertory with more than 150

transcriptions of works originally written for Lute, Vihuela and Harpsichord by Baroque composers from Couperin to Bach. His transcriptions and playing of this ancient musical genre inspired new compositions for the guitar by 20th century composers including Tedesco, Casella, Villa-Lobos, Rodriguez and Ponce, to name a few.

During the seventy-five year period of his professional life he committed himself to practice five hours each day. He would begin each session by applying techniques to scale and arpeggio studies before studiously analyzing and perfecting his then current repertory pieces.

In 1953, at the age of 60 his wife passed away. The following year he remarried to a younger woman who year later bore a child whom they named Carlos. Six years hence Carlos began his formal education in the first grade at a public school in Madrid.

On the first day at school each first grade student is asked, "What does your father do?" In response, each child identifies his or her father's occupation. Most responses typify answers one would find in any public school throughout the modern world: "My father is a Taxi Driver"; "My father is a School Teacher"; "My father is a Brick Layer"; "My father is a Lawyer", etc. to the last pupil.

When it came time for Carlos to respond to the question he did not think to mention the days and weeks his father was away from home concertizing. He did not identify importance with the name 'Maestro' his father was called by the adoring public and the many musical artists who visited his home. He did not think to identify his father's occupation and a musician. The image and sounds of his father's daily practice gliding over scales and arpeggios followed by patient perfecting of sections in his repertory stood foremost in his mind.

Think of it, what is the essence of seventy-five years a renowned musical talent, interpreter and innovator, premier performer of recitals and concerts before hundreds of thousands, instrumentalist recording classical music composed by over twenty of the world's great and obscure composers, inspiration to modern classical music composers who write romantic music for this 'café' instrument transformed. The truth resides in the mind of his six year old son Carlos Segovia who responds to his first grade teacher's query saying, "My father is a Guitar Student".

Larry Peyser, Academy President

Courses and Events for May

With the 2008/2009 academic year coming to a close, there are no courses beginning in May and only one event. To enroll, return the form in the published catalog or contact Laura Anderson at USCA (641-3563 / lauraa@usca.edu).

- **Special Event: Aiken Garden Tour**
See Four of the Most Talked About Gardens in Aiken! – A carpool tour of the gardens of some of Aiken's best known Master Gardeners, plus lunch at Rose Hill and a tour of Rose Hill's renowned gardens. **Limited to 32 participants.**
 Date: Friday May 15
 Time: 9:30 am – 4:30 pm
 Cost: \$24 (includes lunch)
Your reservation is not secure until payment is received. Prepaid trip events fill quickly and cannot be refunded. If you are unable to attend you are asked to find a replacement.

Fall 2009 Preview

Here are the courses and events on the schedule for the upcoming Fall term. Please consider all dates and times as tentative at this point and subject to change. See the official catalog when it is published in August for final schedules, locations, and full details. Enrollment will begin after the Fall Catalog is published.

- **Course Name** – (Instructor) Dates and Time
- **Eating for Vitality** – (Cynthia Catts) 4 Tuesdays at 3pm, beginning Sept. 1.
- **The Literature Of Espionage: Spies, Secret Agents, North Korea, Gaza, and Pakistan** – (Mike Lythgoe) 4 Mondays at 1pm, beginning Sept. 7.
- **Meeting Emily Dickinson in Poetry** – (Don Blount) 4 Mondays at 3pm, beginning Sept 7.
- **Endemic Political Violence of the 20th Century - The Political Ideas of Eric Voegelin** – (Dr. Steve Millies) 4 Tuesdays at 10am, beginning Sept 8.
- **Aiken Community Performing Arts Behind the Scenes** – (Dr. Sandra Field, Marcia Harris, Thurmond Whatley) 3 Tuesdays at 2pm, beginning Sept 8.
- **History and Development of Mathematics** – (Dr. Jennifer Rodin) 3 Wednesdays at 9am, beginning Sept 9.

- **Evolution Since Darwin** – (Dr. Harry Shealy) 3 Thursdays at 1pm, beginning Sept 10.
- **Square Dancing** – (Ruth & Lester Paxton) 3 Wednesdays at 2:30pm, beginning Sept 16. Held at Cedar Creek Community Center.
- **Sri Lanka Rebel** – (Dr. Mark Whitaker) 2 Wednesdays at 11am, beginning Sept 30.
- **Islamic Culture and Muslims** – (Dr. Mohammad Hailat) 4 Thursdays at 1pm, beginning Oct 1.
- **Japanese Flower Arranging -- Ikebana** – (Hideko Rainey) 4 Thursdays at 2pm, beginning Oct 1.
- **Native Americans and the Law** – (Dioné Carrol) 4 Tuesdays at 10am, beginning Oct 6.
- **Do Not Kill That Critter!** – (Sean Poppy) 2 Thursdays at 10am, beginning Oct 8. Held at Savanna River Ecology Lab.
- **Wilderness Writing** – (Dr. Jill Brady Hampton) 3 Wednesdays at 11am, beginning Oct 14.
- **Fall Steeplechase** – [Special Event] Saturday, October 24.
- **Taste of the Valley** – [Special Event] (Owen Cleary) Tuesday, October 27, 10am to 2pm.
- **Birding, Birdwatching, and Twitching** – (Chuck Braun) Tuesday, October 27.
- **Understanding Criminal Law** – (Vince Coughlin) 4 Tuesdays at 12:10pm, beginning Nov 3.
- **The Saga of Jacob's Family** – (Judith Evans) 4 Tuesdays at 1:30pm, beginning Nov 3.
- **Health and Humor** – (Dr. Linda Johnston) 3 Wednesdays at 10am, beginning Nov 4.

- **West Virginia Blenko Glass** – [Special Event] (Rick and Ellen Huston) Friday, Dec 4.
- **Holiday Luncheon** – [Special Event] Friday, Dec 4.

The Spiral going on hiatus

The Spiral is not published during the summer months. The next issue will be in September 2009.

The Spiral is published monthly, except June, July, August, and December by the Academy for Lifelong Learning at the University of South Carolina – Aiken, 471 University Parkway, Aiken, SC 29801. 803-641-3587. Doug Wilson, Editor

Academy Officers: Larry Peyser, President; Vince Coughlin, Immediate Past President; (Vacancy), President Elect; Glenn Knowles, Secretary, and (Vacancy), Treasurer.

Chairpersons and Other Members of the Academy:

Board of Directors: Erna Arkin, Curriculum Chair; (Vacancy), Curriculum Chair-Elect; Judy Perkins and Elizabeth Majors, Publicity Co-Chairs; Kathy Shulz, Membership Chair.

Non-Members: Mary Anne Cavanaugh, Director of Conferences & Continuing Education; Dr. Elaine Lacey, Faculty Liaison; Dr. Deidre Martin, Vice Chancellor for University Advancement.

Academy on the Web:

<http://web.usca.edu/conted/academy/>

ACADEMY CALENDAR – May 2009						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1	2
3	4 <i>Springing into Poetry</i> 11 am [P106]	5	6	7	8	9
10	11 <i>Springing into Poetry</i> 11 am [P106]	12	13	14	15 <i>Aiken Garden Tour</i> 9:30 a – 4:30 p	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

[Location Codes] B = Business & Education Bldg @ USCA H = Humanities & Social Sciences Bldg @ USCA
 N = Nursing Bldg @ USCA P = Penland Bldg @ USCA CC = Cedar Creek Community Building