



Miró String Quartet

## Barrington's White House Welcomes Renowned Musical Performers and Barbara L. Benson for Spring Events

Barrington's White House continues its spring season of events with noted musical ensembles, and our own Barbara Benson with her ongoing historical lecture series, this time featuring the famed Octagon House Letters. We hope you'll join us.

### APRIL 9: Miró String Quartet: *Chamber Music Concert*

A rare opportunity to hear this internationally acclaimed ensemble, The Miró String Quartet, comes to Barrington on Sunday, April 9, at 3 p.m. This celebrated Austin, Texas string quartet has performed to sold-out crowds at Carnegie Hall, premiered a new Concerto for string quartet and orchestra by Pulitzer Prize-winning composer Kevin Puts, and debuted in Korea, Singapore, and Hong Kong. Taking its name and inspiration from the Surrealist artist Joan Miró, the quartet brings its unique style, while staying true to the traditions of chamber music masters. Performance works include Haydn, Bartók, and Brahms. General Admission: \$40 Adults | \$20 Students.



The Barrington White House team gratefully acknowledges its cultural events season sponsors, without whose generosity this series would

not be possible: Barrington Bank & Trust, Barrington Cultural Commission, Barrington District 220, BMO Harris Bank and BMO Wealth Management, Earle M. and Virginia M. Combs, Kim Duchossois, and The Northern Trust Company.

### MARCH 23: *Stories of Emaline with The Octagon House Letters: Afternoon Tea and Presentation*

One of Barrington's foremost historians, Barbara L. Benson, returns for another engaging presentation on Barrington's rich history on Thursday, March 23 at 2 p.m. This lecture centers on a series of 700 letters written from the Octagon House on Main Street by Barrington resident Emaline Hawley Brown to her elder daughter Laura Nightingale in Fairmont, Minn. These touching and informative letters give us a view into life in Barrington in the late 19th century and into the special love between mother and her "dear little girl beyond the Mississippi". Part of the Barbara L. Benson Historical Lecture Series. The event features Tea at 2 p.m. with the presentation at 2:30. General Admission: \$20 (Includes tea, coffee and desserts.)



Barbara L. Benson

**The ESO – Unprecedented 4-Time Winner of  
IL Professional Orchestra of the Year!**

ELGIN SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA  
presented by  
**OTTO**



**Copland and Tchaikovsky**  
Alexander Fiterstein, clarinet  
March 3, 2017  
*Prairie Center for the Arts*  
March 4 & 5, 2017  
*Hemmens Cultural Center*



**Inside the Music**  
**Brahms' Symphony No. 4**  
Andrew Grams & the ESO  
March 31, 2017  
*Hemmens Cultural Center*



**Rachmaninoff and Brahms**  
Natasha Paremski, piano  
April 1 & 2, 2017  
*Hemmens Cultural Center*



*Photo: Paolo Cascio*

**Tickets start at just \$30!**

**ElginSymphony.Org**

**847-888-4000**



*Bella Voce Camerata*

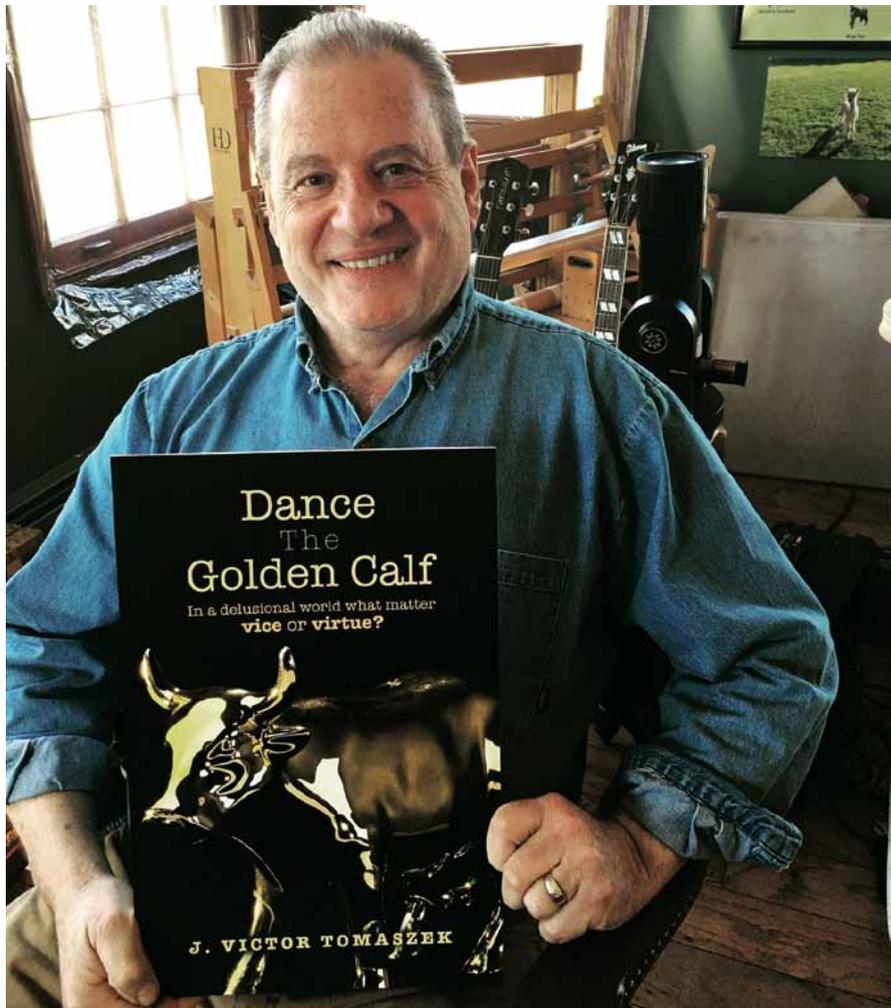
**APRIL 30: Bella Voce Camerata: Small Vocal Ensemble Performance**

Founded in 2014 to perform from the great trove of intimate works written for very small vocal ensembles, this smaller chamber ensemble of the larger Bella Voce group of Chicago will appear Sunday, April 30 at 3 p.m. The theme celebrates Shakespeare and springtime, mixing the diverse emotions of love—joy, hope, and sometimes agony—with songs from early madrigal to modern jazz. The group offers historically informed performance precision, while exploring the artistic potential of the human musical imagination. A truly unique experience! General Admission: \$20 Adults | \$10 Students.



Barrington's White House is a unique, historic venue located in the heart of downtown

Barrington at 145 West Main Street. This meticulously restored 1898 mansion hosts cultural and community events, and is also available for rental for weddings, corporate meetings, non-profit fundraisers, and family celebrations. Visit the website at [www.BarringtonsWhiteHouse.com](http://www.BarringtonsWhiteHouse.com), or call 224-512-4292.



Jim Tomaszek is the author of several novels.

## The Author Inside Us All

IF YOU WROTE A BOOK, what would the title be? We all have one in us. Some of us have more than one. The story of you is the story you know best, and we all have our own story, an autobiography or memoir. Perhaps your story is one that's been growing and growing in your head as a fiction novel. Regardless of whether your book will be an autobiography, memoir, how-to, self-help, historical fiction, or science fiction, there are steps to take and advice to seek. It's possible. Write 50 words. That's a paragraph. Write 500 words. That's a page. Write 400 pages. That's a manuscript.

There are many reasons to use what will be a significant amount of your time to accomplish the goal of writing a book, with the number one being personal accomplishment. This is the number one appeal to Jim Tomaszek—Barrington resident and

Information Technology Consultant by day, and writer by night. On business trips he welcomes flight delays because it gives him more time to write. He calls this “productive neurosis”.

Tomaszek is the author of six books, three of which have been published. He hopes that his books resonate with the world and if they don't, it won't diminish the proud feeling he enjoys as a result of his accomplishments. Tomaszek is currently writing two books at the same time, playing them off each other, much the same as Beethoven would write two symphonies at the same time in an effort to embellish a dark theme versus a light theme.

Tomaszek used Amazon to publish this book his latest book, “Dance the Golden Calf” and he appreciates the fact that in self-publishing, books are not edited or watered down to reach a wider audience, as

often happens when using a traditional publisher. He further used Amazon's creative services to illustrate his cover.

Barrington's Writer's Workshop (BWW) is an exceptional local resource for Barrington writers ([www.barringtonwriters.com](http://www.barringtonwriters.com)). Meeting every Tuesday morning and Wednesday evening, members enjoy solid feedback from established writers as well as access to three to four expert speakers per year. Tamara Tabel, local marketing expert and writer, has belonged to the BWW for 18 years. She is working on her second novel which focuses on the 1919 race riots in Chicago. Tabel uses her website, [www.tamaratabel.com](http://www.tamaratabel.com), to publish sections of the book as a way to educate her audience prior to the book's release.

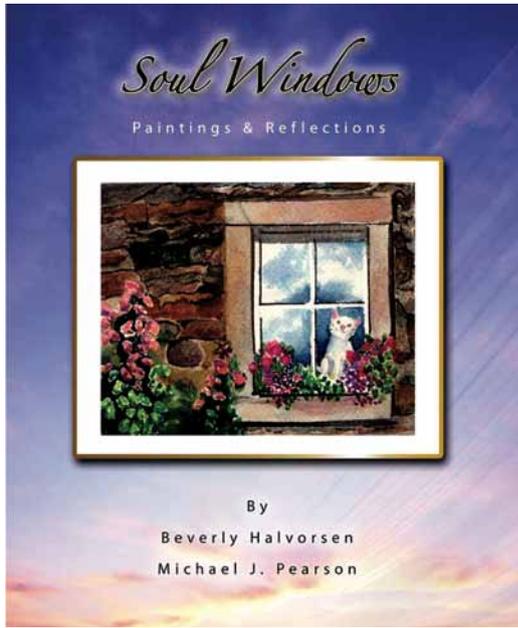
Online learning opportunities have a lot to offer. A subscriber to [www.nownovel.com](http://www.nownovel.com) receives the latest how-tos, resources, and tips for writers. A subscription to [www.writersdigest.com](http://www.writersdigest.com) promotes traditional publishing and allows access to creative exercises to improve writing skills. It also provides access to “2nd Draft”, which provides a high-level review of your writing, giving specific reasons that your work may be getting rejected from traditional publishing houses.

Writing a book, as in tackling any type of creative project, is an enormous endeavor that will teach you a lot about yourself. The topics we write about, whether fiction or nonfiction, are our obsessions and preoccupations. And while this fact often escapes a writer's realization, it's what drives writers to publish upwards of 1,000,000 books in the United States alone.

So pick your topic. Then, dive in.



Susan McConnell is a Barrington writer, photographer, and the founder of Let It Be Us, a nonprofit that helps Illinois children in foster care to find forever homes.



## Soul Windows—Paintings & Reflections

**B**EVERLY HALVORSEN AND MICHAEL PEARSON collaborated to create “Soul Windows—Paintings & Reflections”. The book combines beautiful paintings with reflections and poems. It was born when Bev Halvorsen’s friends at a women’s support group decided to choose some of her paintings, then write their thoughts and feelings about them after meditating with them for a while. Later, when several men read the writings they also chose to contribute. This process has moved people more deeply into their own spirit through their reaction to the paintings. Halvorsen’s original plan was to give each contributor a copy of the compiled work in a little booklet. Then, Michael Pearson, with his wisdom and computer skills, brought it to life as a book.

“Guardian angels help me through my life and I’m very grateful for them,” Halvorsen says. “A special thank you goes to my co-author, Michael J. Pearson, who has brought pattern to the kaleidoscope of many parts. His efforts have made this book possible. It has been challenging and fun!”



*Beverly S. Halvorsen is a retired artist who lives in Lake Barrington. She has been learning the art of painting for the past 40 years. Many of her paintings have been displayed at Advocate Good Shepherd Hospital. For many years, Halvorsen taught children in a Head Start program. She has three children, two grandchildren, and one great granddaughter.*



*Michael J. Pearson has extensive experience as a counseling and teaching professional and an executive career coach. He maintains a private practice in Lake Zurich, Ill. He is married, has three children, and one granddaughter.*

For more information, contact Beverly Halvorsen at [bevhalvo@comcast.net](mailto:bevhalvo@comcast.net).

### RAUE CENTER FOR THE ARTS

<p><b>March 4 @ 8PM</b>  <b>Pink Droyd</b>          Tickets start @ \$37*</p>	<p><b>March 5 @ 7PM</b>  <b>Switchback</b>          Tickets start @ \$25*</p>
<p><b>April 7 @ 8PM</b>  <b>Amy Grant</b>          Tickets start @ \$65*</p>	<p><b>April 8 @ 8PM</b>  <b>Jon Lovitz</b>          Tickets start @ \$35*</p>
<p><b>April 13 @ 7PM</b>  <b>Peter Yarrow</b>          Tickets start @ \$32*</p>	<p><b>May 19 @ 8PM</b>  <b>Girls just want to have Fun</b>          Tickets start @ \$20*</p>

### WSREP WILLIAMS STREET REP presents...

**Any Other Name**  
**MAR 17 - APR 2**

A wry psychological thriller about poetry, madness, and identity theft in Victorian England. Desire, envy, and deception build to the play’s surprising conclusion in this Chicago premiere by WSRep, McHenry County’s only professional regional theatre company.

**Tickets Start @ \$35.50\***  
\*additional fees apply

26 N. Williams Street | Crystal Lake, IL  
 815.356.9212 | [www.rauecenter.org](http://www.rauecenter.org)