

# HIDDEN TALENTS

## LOCAL AMATEURS TAKE ON THE PIANO CLASSICS

Sunday, November 17, 4:00 p.m.

Four local pianists - **Judy Biehler, Bette Covington, Paula Osborne and Roland Stoughton** - will give 15 minute solo recitals, presenting works by Bach, Brahms, Schumann, Chopin, Debussy, Grieg, Janáček and Prokofiev. Refreshments and conversations with the musicians follow the performance. The program will provide diversity of music and of musical approach.



Hidden Talents (L-R): Judy Biehler, Roland Stoughton, Bette Covington, Paula Osborne

The word ‘amateur’ in the title of this event does not apply equally or precisely to each of the four performers. For example, Ms. Covington taught piano privately for 30 years, and she and Ms. Biehler and Ms. Osborne have fairly extensive performance experience. Both Ms. Covington and Ms. Osborne were long time students of Roy Bogas, who local concert goers will know from his frequent Chamber Music Series appearances at the Gualala Arts Center. However, each of the four would eagerly admit the gap between them and concert artists who have pursued performance for a living and made it the highest life priority.

Most members of the audience will remember some personal experience with performing classical music as a child, and will appreciate how difficult this is; the event should be even more enjoyable for this empathy. Be glad that they are up there and you are in the audience! Mr. Stoughton, who began serious piano study only after retiring to The Sea Ranch in 2010, recalls one of his twin sons remarking after their first childhood recital “I felt like my teeth were going to fall out.”

Classical piano is often a lonely endeavor. Amateur orchestras do not typically include piano, and chamber music (classical music for small ensembles) almost always requires a very high level of skill to undertake it. Unlike most other instruments, piano music contains multiple voices at once which have to be learned, so it is particularly difficult to break into chamber music as a pianist. The violinist and cellist are always turning to you and saying “is that ALL you’ve learned since last week?!” Hence the predominance in classical piano of solo music, solo performance and solo practice! This event is a great opportunity for the performers to share these efforts, and some wonderful music, with their community.

**\$10 advance; \$5 more day of concert**  
**Ages 7 through 17 free with adult**

**For advance purchase:**

- Go online to [GualalaArts.org](http://GualalaArts.org) or
- Phone Brown Paper Tickets at (800) 838-3006 or
- Visit Gualala Arts Center or the Dolphin Gallery
- Call 707-884-1138 for more info