

# ROBERT BRADFORD NEWMAN NEWSLETTER 01

S T U D E N T A W A R D F U N D

## NEWMAN FUND HAS NEW ADDRESS IN 2002

As of January 1st, 2002, the Robert Bradford Newman Student Award Fund has a new official address, moving to the Headquarters Offices of the Acoustical Society of America, in Melville, New York.

From the outset in 1984, the Newman Fund has been operating out of the Newman residence in Lincoln, Massachusetts, under the sponsorship of the Greater Boston Chapter of the Acoustical Society. During these eighteen years, 145 Newman Medals have been given to students at 35 universities around the world.

Several Newman medal recipients have begun careers in acoustics, working for acoustical consulting firms or teaching at schools of architecture. We now have three members of the Fund Advisory Committee who are medallists; Lincoln Berry, Donna Ellis and Lily Wang.

Although the address has changed, the same volunteers will still be working "...to diffuse knowledge in architectural acoustics, and to promote the design of buildings that incorporate good acoustics".

## TEN NEWMAN MEDALS AWARDED IN 2001

During 2001, the sixteenth consecutive year that Newman Medals have been awarded, there are ten new medalists. These medalists, their schools and the titles of their student projects are listed below:

### Scott Adams

Washington University  
"Club Tangerine: Acoustical Design With A Peel"

### Jorge R. Carbonell

Massachusetts Institute of Technology  
"A Musical Garden in a Big City:  
Performing Arts Center for a Small  
College"

### Donna Anne Ellis

The Catholic University of America  
"Koubek Auditorium: A Technical  
Analysis and Personal Study"

### A. Brooks Fischer

Roger Williams University  
"A New Theater and Art Building for St.  
Andrews School"

### Cynthia Gibson

Roger Williams University  
"New West End Branch Library,  
Providence, RI"

### Chin Kim

Roger Williams University  
"A New Theater and Art Building for St.  
Andrews School"

### Jessica Morgan

Washington University  
"Club Tangerine: Acoustical Design  
With A Peel"

### Kerry Schuerer

Roger Williams University  
"New West End Branch Library,  
Providence, RI"

### Mona V. Tamari

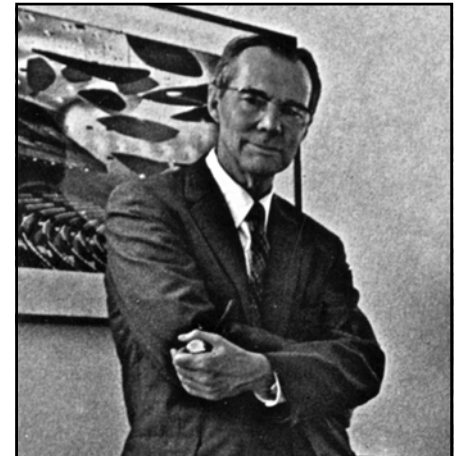
Massachusetts Institute of Technology  
"Buildings and Music: the Relationship  
Between Musical Composition and  
Architectural Design"

### Rebeka Vital

University of Southern California  
"A Case Study Comparing Measured and  
Simulated Acoustical Environments:  
Acoustical Improvements of Verle  
Annis Gallery"

## FUND BENEFIT CONCERT PLANNED FOR MAY 29th

On Wednesday evening of May 29, 2002, there will be a concert at the home of Mary Shaw Newman, in Lincoln. This annual Fund Benefit welcomes all who are interested in enjoying an evening of music, refreshments and good conversation about Newman Fund activities, acoustics in general or other pleasant topics.



**RICHARD H. BOLT**  
1911 – 2002

## FUND ADVISOR AND NEWMAN MEDAL DESIGNER

In the very first issue of the Annual Newman Fund Newsletter 1988, Dick Bolt wrote this in describing the design of the

## A NOTE OF THANKS FROM MARY NEWMAN

The Newman Student Award Fund was the outgrowth of a suggestion by William J. Cavanaugh, after the death of Robert B. Newman, to continue interest and research in architectural acoustics at the student level.

The program was launched in 1984 and has continued very successfully to engender innovation among professors and their students in many parts of the world.

As I am now transferring the basic operations of the Fund to the national headquarters of the ASA, I want to express my deep appreciation to William J. Cavanaugh, Carl J. Rosenberg, John A. Curtis, and M. David Egan for their substantial help, as well as to the other members of the Advisory Committee for their encouragement and support during these many years. I am grateful also for the monetary contributions from so very many former students, colleagues and friends.

I now look forward to keeping in close touch with the program as it moves forward to continue its goals.

Newman Medal: "When Bob Newman died in 1983, I lost a professional colleague, a former student, a distinguished partner and a treasured friend. No wonder that I welcomed the opportunity to honor Bob when Mary Newman asked if I would design the projected medal for the Robert Bradford Newman Award.

At the same time, Mary asked if I might include a tuning fork in the design, because Bob always carried one with him. Her suggestion seemed especially appropriate, because the tuning fork offers a rich mixture of attributes and symbolic implications relevant to the purpose of this medal.

The tuning fork is used extensively for tuning musical instruments and for ascertaining standard pitch of musical sounds. Also, the tuning fork can serve as a convenient tool in connection with audiometry and other acoustical measurements. As a device for controlling quality in the frequency domain, the tuning fork could symbolize the achievement of quality in acoustical endeavors. Further, the continuous flow of sound from the fork could symbolize the continuously expanding knowledge in architectural acoustics. Taken together, these attributes and symbolic possibilities of the tuning fork provided inspiration for the design.

I sought a solution that would be both aesthetically satisfying and objectively correct. Bob and I persistently pursued this pair of criteria in our projects together. He was especially outspoken against the phoney. Some preliminary sketches for the medal indicated that these criteria might be met by using contours of sound pressure level to portray the sound field radiated by the tuning fork. I was unable to find such contours in the literature. So I bought a new tuning fork, 440.0 Hz, and prepared to measure its sound field. ...."

Dick went on to describe carefully the detailed final design of the medal which through 2001 has been awarded to and has been treasured by nearly 150 students at some 35 schools throughout the world. Now with this 2001 Newsletter we are saddened to report that Dick passed away on January 13, 2002 at the retirement home where he resided near Rochester, NY to be close to his son, Dr. Richard Bolt and his family.

The abundant lifetime achievements of Richard Henry Bolt have been eulogized in the Boston Globe, the Los Angeles Times and other international media and will be reported further in the Journal of the Acoustical Society of America as well as in other scientific journals. Dick would have been 91 on April 22nd.

It is difficult to say just a few words about a man who accomplished so much. His daughter, Bea Scribner, describes him as "A Renaissance Man, who was a musician,

a painter and sculptor, as well as a scientist." At the 50th anniversary meeting of the Acoustical Society in June 1979, he was awarded its highest honor, the Gold Medal, "For outstanding contributions to acoustics through research, teaching and professional leadership, and for distinguished administrative and advisory service to science, engineering and government."

A memorial service will be held at the First Parish Church, Bedford Road, Lincoln Center, MA on Saturday, April 20, 2002 at 2 PM.

The Newman Fund will greatly miss his wise counsel and boundless enthusiasm. Our sympathy is extended to his daughters, Bea Scribner and Deborah, his son Richard and his seven grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren.

## Schultz Grant for 2002

Applications for the seventh Theodore John Schultz Grant to be awarded by the Newman Fund will be received up to December 31, 2002. The Grant will be made in early 2003.

The grant, typically \$3,000, provides partial support for the development of improved teaching methods, new curricula, or research in architectural acoustics education. Applicants must have teaching experience in acoustics and should manifest a strong desire to develop improved methods and materials for teaching architectural acoustics.

Previous Schultz Grants were as follows:

**1990, Gary W. Siebein**, "Demonstration of Basic Acoustical Principles using Scale Models" (36 min Video Tape)

**1992, K. Anthony Hoover**, "An Appreciation of Acoustics" (Paperback)

**1994, M. David Egan**, "Architectural Acoustics Workbook" (Paperback)

**1996, Gary W. Siebein**, "Acoustical History of Theaters and Concert Halls" (Book, Slides and Audiotape)

**1998, Neil Thompson Shade**, "Sound System Design Guide" (Paperback)

**2000, Lily M. Wang**, "A Web Based Guide to Concert Hall Acoustics" (CD ROM)

Applicants should send a curriculum vitae, a letter describing how the grant will be used, and an outline budget indicating expenses for which support is being sought. Applications and attachments should be postmarked no later than 31 December 2002 and mailed to:

**Newman Student Award Fund  
Acoustical Society of America  
Attn: Schultz Grant  
2 Huntington Quadrangle, Suite 1 NO1  
Melville, NY 11747-4502**

## Robert Bradford Newman Student Award Fund

### Advisory Committee:

Mary Shaw Newman, Honorary Chair  
William J. Cavanaugh, Co-Chair  
Carl J. Rosenberg, Co-Chair  
Lincoln B. Berry\*  
Christopher H. Blair  
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Ronald R. Freiheit  
J. Christopher Jaffe  
Gary W. Siebein  
Lily M. Wang\*  
Ewart A. Wetherill

\*Past Newman Medalists

### Sponsor:

The Technical Committee on Architectural Acoustics of the Acoustical Society of America with the cooperation of:

The Association of Collegiate Schools of Architecture  
The Boston Architectural Center  
Harvard University Graduate School of Design  
MIT School of Architecture and Planning  
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National Council of Acoustical Consultants  
The Acoustical Society of America:  
Committee on Education in Acoustics,  
Committee on Regional Chapters,  
Greater Boston Chapter  
Technical Committee on Noise  
Riverbank Acoustical Laboratories  
Institute of Noise Control Engineering

### Please address correspondence to:

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