

**PLEASE NOTICE THE NEW EXPANDED ART SCENE WITH MORE INFORMATION AND BETTER COVERAGE OF OUR EVENTS AND OUR SPONSORS!**

## CONDOLENCES AND A LITTLE WESTLAKE HISTORY

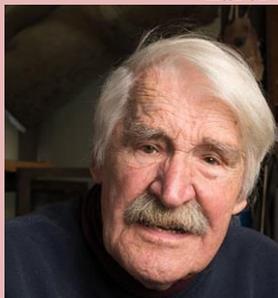
Our condolences go out to family & friends of Artist/Sculptor, **HAROLD BALAZS**, who passed away on December 30, 2017 at the age of 89. Harold was born and raised in Dover Village which became the City of Westlake.

Harold moved to Mead, Washington after obtaining Bachelors of Art degree in 1957. He excelled at enamel artwork, public art projects, and sculptures, and became a world renowned and highly accomplished artist. Harold's cousin, Roger Cooley (deceased) was a W-WAC board member at time and encouraged W-WAC into purchasing our second Public Art Project, the 16' diameter brushed stainless steel sculpture with a 4' base, at the corner of Hilliard & Dover Center. The property, now owned by the City of Westlake, ironically was part of the former Balazs family farm where Harold grew up! Balazs designed and produced the grand sculpture in his Washington state studio and delivered the sculpture to its present location in the summer of 2005. W-WAC gifted the sculpture to the City in 2005 & lighting was installed by W-WAC to enhance the sculpture in 2007.

Harold was so delighted that his art work would be on display in his "home town". He made and delivered this monumental piece of art for around \$30,000.00, which was about 1/2 of its actual value.

W-WAC had many fundraisers to purchase this sculpture. With help from the City of Westlake, the Westlake Service & Engineering Departments installing the concrete base and the erection of the sculpture, W-WAC's dream of having this important piece of artwork in our community became a reality. The American Institute of Architects awarded Balazs a gold medal in architectural crafts in 1967. He received a Washington state Governor's Award in the Arts in 1988 & a lifetime achievement award from the Enamellist Society. In 2001, Balazs was profiled in the Living Treasures Project, a video series that ran on PBS, documented the Northwest's important and influential craftsmen and artists. Harold's public art & sculptures can be found mostly in the Pacific Northwest.

For more information about Harold visit his web site, [haroldbalazsart.com](http://haroldbalazsart.com)



## W-WAC is working with **Apollo's Fire - The Cleveland Baroque Orchestra**

to create an interactive workshop with the music students at the Middle School & Westlake High School at the Performing Arts Center in the fall of 2018.

More information on Apollo's Fire can be obtained at [apollosfire.org](http://apollosfire.org)



David, Jane Mueller, & Carola

**David Bamberger, Artistic Director of CIM Opera Theater, has announced his**

**RETIREMENT** as of the end of the 2017-18 academic year. Bamberger and his wife, Carola, are moving to California to be close to their son and his family. David's Cleveland debut came in 1969 when he directed "The Golden Cockerel" at Severance Hall. Bamberger moved to Ohio in 1972 to lead the Oberlin Music Theater, and in 1976, he launched Cleveland Opera, which he and his wife led from 1976 to 2004. He has been inspiring students at CIM for 14 years. David has presented our "FYI Opera" Series for 27 years. We wish David & Carola much happiness in their retirement. We will miss David's delightful and engaging discussions.

## Condolences to the family of long term W-WAC board member and friend **ELSIE "LOLLIE" COOLEY**

Lollie was one of the original founding members of the W-WAC 34 years ago. Practically a life-long resident of Westlake, Lollie and her husband Roger (deceased) were huge supporters of everything Westlake! They were actively involved in W-WAC, the public schools, the City, Dover Congregational Church, Westlake Historical Society, business owner, & numerous other organizations. Lollie was always the most gracious and lovely lady. Her home was always an open door of warmth, fun, and enjoyment. We all miss her very much. She is survived by 3 children and many grandchildren.

*Westlake-Westshore Arts Council is celebrating 34 years of bringing wonderful youth & adult arts programs to the Westshore area. This has been made possible through your continued generous memberships & donations.*

**THANK YOU!**