



*Nancy Laupheimer, Founder*

The Taos Chamber Music Group was founded in 1993 by Nancy Laupheimer, who served as its director and principal flutist for 30 years. Her vision and legacy were to make chamber music a year-round presence in Taos and to share her passion for the art form with the community and beyond.

During her tenure, Laupheimer created and performed in many hundreds of concerts and educational programs, working with New Mexico's finest musicians as well as artists from around the world. In addition to crafting one-of-a-kind programs that often reflected the natural beauty and unique cultures of Taos, Laupheimer nurtured numerous collaborations with poets, photographers, filmmakers, dancers, composers, student and non-classical musicians, bringing multi-disciplinary and world premiere performances to a concert series that garnered a reputation for first-class artistry and innovation. Because of her dedication to sharing chamber music with those who had no previous exposure or limited access to it, TCMG also presented hundreds of programs for Taos County schoolchildren.

Prior to founding TCMG, Laupheimer initiated and performed in several other chamber music series in Taos, such as Garden Concerts at the Stables and Pillow Performances at the New Gallery. It was for a concert she organized presented by Spring Arts Festival at the TCA that she came up with the name "Taos Chamber Music Group." After many requests for more TCMG concerts, the treasured performing arts organization was born.

In addition to TCMG, highlights of Laupheimer's career as a flutist since moving to Taos in 1979 have been with the Santa Fe Symphony, Musica de Camera Orchestra, Santa Fe Festival Ballet, Desert Chorale, New Mexico Music Festival, Serenata of Santa Fe, Music from Angel Fire, the Dorian Wind Quintet, and the American and Helios String Quartets. As an improviser and composer, she was part of numerous jazz (including a tour of New Mexico State prisons), world music, dance and theatrical performances. A life-long outdoor enthusiast, Laupheimer has played in many unusual concert halls, from a sculpted ice cave at the top of Taos Ski Valley to amphitheaters in the canyons of the Dolores and Green Rivers on musical raft trips with members of the Los Angeles Philharmonic.

Recognized as A Remarkable Woman of Taos, Laupheimer has been featured in the book "A Precarious Balance: Creative Women in Taos" and "Ordinary Mysticism, Your Life as Sacred Ground," as well as in articles for Backpacker Magazine and National Geographic Traveler. She was also featured on the Foundation for Modern Music's Music of Today Series in Houston (where her composition "BitterSweet" was given its Texas premiere) and has been a guest lecturer at Rice University's Shepherd School of Music and the University of Arizona. Laupheimer holds BA and MM degrees from Vassar College and Boston University's School of Music and received fellowships to the Tanglewood and Aspen Music Festivals.