



Born into a musical family **Fanny Mendelssohn Hensel** (1805-1847), the elder sister of Felix, was a pianist and composer. Though she was highly accomplished and prolific, her family dissuaded her musical endeavors as they were not suitable for a woman in the upper class of society. Prevented from a professional career as a composer, Fanny instead used her parlor to host performances of her own works. Her brother, Felix, saw to it that several compositions were published after her death.



Though largely forgotten today, **Margaret Ruthven Lang** (1867-1972) was the first American woman to have her work performed by an American orchestra. The daughter of Benjamin Johnson Lang, a prominent figure in the Boston music community, Lang received extensive training in harmony, counterpoint, and orchestration. Her *Dramatic Overture* was premiered by the Boston Symphony in 1893. She went on to compose several other orchestral works, which have been lost, as well as dozens of popular art songs, which were published by the Arthur P. Schmidt company.



**Princess Anna Amalia of Prussia** (1723-1787) was one of ten surviving children of King Frederick William I of Prussia, who was notoriously cruel and disapproved of her interest in music. Anna Amalia was only able to pursue composition after his death, and devoted her life to music as a composer and patron. Most of her compositions, including many notable chamber works, have been lost to time. She is also remembered as a collector of music, preserving over 600 volumes of works by J.S. Bach, Handel, Telemann, and others.



American composer, conductor, and educator **Mabel Wheeler Daniels** (1877-1971) was part of the Second New England School in Boston, Massachusetts. Born into a musically prominent family, Daniels sang from an early age and began composing at only 10 years old. In her autobiography, *An American Girl in Munich*, Daniels recalls being the first woman ever permitted in a score reading class at the Munich Conservatory. Upon returning to America she became the head of music for Simmons College and composed (primarily choral works) throughout her life.



Canadian born composer, pianist, and educator **Gena Branscombe** (1881-1977) studied and later worked primarily in the United States. After completing her degree from the Chicago Musical College in 1903 she became the director of the piano department at Whitman College in Walla Walla, Washington. Branscombe later continued her studies in Berlin. Her work would lead to many awards and honors, including becoming president of the Society of American Women Composers. Her manuscripts were donated upon her death to the New York Public Library.

Women's Philharmonic Advocacy [www.wophil.org](http://www.wophil.org)

# November 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2 ■ Hilary Tann (b. 1947)	3 ■ Gabriella Cecchi (b. 1944)	4 ■ Gena Branscombe (1881-1977)	5
6 ■ May Hannah Brahe (1884-1956)	7 ■ Ruth Lomon (b. 1930)	8 ■ Judith Lang Zaimont (b. 1945)  Election Day	9 ■ Anna Amalia (1723-1787)	10	11  Veterans Day	12 ■ Patty Stair (1869-1926)
13 ■ Margaret Lucy Wilkins (b. 1939)	14 ■ Wendy Carlos (b. 1939) ■ Fanny Mendelssohn (1805-1847)	15 ■ Leopoldine Blahetka (1810-1887)	16 ■ Florence Maud Ewart (1864-1949)	17	18 ■ Lillian Fuchs (1903-1995)	19 ■ Betty Beath (b. 1932)
20 ■ Meredith Monk (b. 1943)	21 ■ Judith Shatin (b. 1949)	22 ■ Dika Newlin (1923-2006)	23 ■ Fredrikke Egeberg (1815-1861)	24 ■ Emma Lou Diemer (b. 1927)  Thanksgiving Day	25 ■ Maria Teresa Luengo (b. 1940)	26
27 ■ Mabel Wheeler Daniels (1877-1971) ■ Margaret Ruthven Lang (1867-1972) First Sunday of Advent	28	29	30			

Notes:



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