

The Friday Morning MUSIC CLUB



131ST SEASON

FEBRUARY 2018

VOL. 52, NO. 6

From the President

Yvonne Sabine

In the glum days of February, I find one bright spot—Friday Morning Music Club with our opportunities to make music and to share our music with the community. In the past several months, the Club has been very busy. In addition to our regular weekly programming, we held a Composers' Concert in December and Chorale concerts in January. Avanti continues to practice as they prepare for another concert this spring.

In December, the Board held an all-day strategic planning session to prepare for the future with the help of specialist Pat Peyser. The purpose of the meeting was to set the Club's goals for the next 5 years and beyond, and to prepare for the continuing governance and administration of the Club. The full report is still in draft, but when it is finalized we will share it with the membership.

One standout item that I can share with you now is the need to increase the number of members who volunteer for



Yvonne Sabine

the administrative work of the organization. Producing over 80 events a year and running the Club and Foundation

takes a huge amount of effort. That work is done almost entirely by volunteers. Yet, only about 1% of the over 500 members volunteer for non-performing activities. How many of you have been members of the Club for 10 to 50 years and have only performed in the chamber series, the orchestra, or in the chorale? If so, it is my guess that you find membership rather a bore. Perhaps you know only a few people, those with whom you perform. I have a suggestion as to how you can make membership in the FMMC more meaningful—volunteer. You can usher for 2 hours, or seek a position on the Board—or anything in between.

On the last page of this newsletter you will find an article entitled *Volunteers Needed! Please turn to the last page and read this brief article* to get ideas on how you can help the Club. The first category is that of ushers. Ushers are needed in all

continued on page 4

Piano Master Classes in Spring of 2018

Mary K Traver

Two internationally renowned pianists/pedagogues will present master classes for FMMC in the spring. The first will take place Thursday March 8 with Santiago Rodriguez, and the second on Thursday April 12 with Alan Chow.

Both sessions will take place from 10:00 AM until noon at the International Piano Archives located in the Clarice Center for the Performing Arts Library at the University of Maryland. There is no charge for these events. Solo pianists who wish to perform should contact Dina Fleming.



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- | | |
|---|---|
| 2 | From the Foundation Director |
| 3 | Johansen International Competition Winners: Where Are They Now? |
| 3 | Obituary: Sally West Potter |
| 4 | The Dallas Morse Coors Foundation Awards Grant to FMMC |
| 4 | Membership Update |
| 5 | Suggestions for Performers |
| 5 | L'Exchange |
| 5 | Ross-Roberts High School Competition for Woodwinds, Brass, and Percussion |
| 6 | FMMC Concert Calendar |
| 7 | Santiago Rodriguez To Present The Next Piano Master Class |
| 7 | Double Your Impact! |
| 8 | Volunteers Needed! |



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YVONNE SABINE

FMMC President
fmmc@fmmc.org

CAROL FROMBOLUTI

Newsletter Editor
newsletter@fmmc.org

For address changes,
please go to
www.FMMC.org
and update your
member profile.

If you do not have
access, send changes to:

JULIA MOLINE

Membership Chair
membership@fmmc.org

From the Foundation Director

Leslie Luxemburg

It is always extremely gratifying when previous winners of the Washington International Competition offer their support for the current competition. Such will be the case this year when 2009 WIC cello winner Hee-Young Lee presents a benefit recital for the WIC on Saturday, April 7th, at 3:00 PM at the National Presbyterian Church. This one-hour program will be followed by a festive reception on the portico, catered by our Foundation Board member and chef extraordinaire Katie Katinas. Those of you who have previously been impressed by Katie's creations will not want to miss this event. Hee-Young, currently principal cello of the Rotterdam Philharmonic, will be recording a selection of French cello concertos with the London Symphony Orchestra for release next year. In anticipation of this, she will play all French music of La Belle Époque on this program, including the Saint-Saëns Concerto #1. We will be offering a reduced suggested price for students and hope many string teachers will take advantage of this special opportunity.

Hee-Young was one of the many musicians who benefited from Sally West Potter's generosity in funding all our WIC first prizes for the past several years. Sally, who passed away at her home on October 22nd at the age of 98, was memorialized in December. An article about her is included in this newsletter.

Several FMMC members joined with Sally's friends and family to participate in a warm and loving funeral service for her on December 11th at Wesley United Methodist Church on Connecticut Avenue. The musical selections included a Chopin prelude, an arrangement of a hymn "Be Still My Soul," based on the melody of Finlandia by Sibelius arranged for violin, cello, and piano, and a



Mendelssohn vocal duet, "Sontagsmorgen." These composers were ones Sally particularly loved and she had requested their music be included in the service. All three strands of the Washington International Competition, strings, voice, and piano, were represented in the selections. Special thanks to Yvonne Sabine who read scripture, to Lois Jones who spoke movingly of her friendship with Sally over the years, and to Eunju Kwak, Joanna Taylor, Chen-Li Tzeng, and Ben Wallis for providing the beautiful music.

It is time to put March 14-17 on your calendar for the Johansen International Competition for Young String Players. The opportunity to listen to these outstanding teenagers play only comes around every three years. This year, we are challenging those of you who are already fans of the JIC to help spread the word by bringing a music-loving friend who has never attended one of our competitions. We expect to get lots of converts this way. Like all FMMC events, the competition is open to the public at no charge.

We would love to see you there as well as at the benefit on April 7, 2018. 🎻

Leslie

*"To send light in the darkness of men's hearts—
such is the duty of the artist."*

Robert Schumann

find us on **facebook**

Johansen International Competition Past Winners: Where Are They Now?

Harriet Kaplan

Junping Qian, viola (2006, second prize tied), sent us an update on his career in 2014, which was published in this newsletter. He described how winning his JIC prize “was a door opener” and how “as the winner of this competition, I began to feel confident in my work.” He noted that after winning the JIC prize, he won first prize in the China National Viola Competition and then was accepted at Curtis Institute. After his very successful beginning on the viola, he began pursuing his interest in conducting. He graduated from Curtis in 2013, earned his Master of Music in 2014 from the University of Cincinnati, and currently studies conducting at the Hochschule für Musik “Hanns Eisler” in Berlin.

He has participated in several international competitions, winning first prize in the 2017 JM International Conducting Competition in Bucharest. He tells us he has several concert engagements for 2018–2019: Konzerthausorchester Berlin; Timisoara, Targu Mures, and Iasi orchestras in Romania; and Rzeszow orchestra in Poland. 🎧



Photo from the 2017 JM International Conducting Competition Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/InternationalConductingCompetitionBucharestJM/>).

Obituary Sally West Potter

Sally West Potter passed away at the age of 98 in her home on Legation Street NW on Sunday, October 22, and was memorialized at a service at the Wesley United Methodist Church in Washington DC on Monday, December 11.

According to her official obituary, “she was the beloved sister of the late Judy C. Wyss, aunt of Margaret A. Wyss, step-mother of Louis A. Potter, Jr. and Thomas Van Potter, and grandmother of Susan Jackson. Mrs. West was a lifetime Washingtonian who taught thirty years in the DC public schools.” Bruce Caviness, the organist who played at her service, had been a student of Sally’s in junior high school and remembered her with great fondness. She was a graduate of Wilson Teachers’ College and the Washington Musical Institute and received a master’s degree from George Washington University.

For more than fifty years she was a performing member of The Friday Morning Music Club and had been elected to Honorary Membership in 2002. She was an active participant in Piano Group III up until travel became too difficult for her. Sally was performing very challenging pieces on FMMC outreach programs in her late 80’s. She had a large repertoire of memorized works and was constantly learning something new. She prided herself on being able to play even in old age, which



she attributed to avoiding arthritis in her hands. She had played a Chopin Nocturne from memory at her sister Judy’s funeral earlier in the year, and a recording of this performance was played at her own service in December.

For many years she was the sponsor of the Foundation’s annual Washington International Competition First Prize award in memory of her late husband, Louis A. Potter, a prominent DC musician. In recent years this award amounted to \$10,000 that Sally fully funded. Each year one of her piano colleagues would go to her house to pick up the check in person.

The 2018 Washington International Competition for Strings will be dedicated to Sally West Potter in order to honor this very special member of our FMMC community. We hope many of you who knew and loved Sally will join us at the WIC finals in the Terrace Theater at the Kennedy Center on Sunday, June 24th. 🎧

The Dallas Morse Coors Foundation Awards Grant to FMMC

Anne Zim

The Dallas Morse Coors Foundation for the Performing Arts has approved an FMMC grant request for \$4,000 for the November 19, 2017, concert held at the Cultural Arts Center, Silver Spring. The concert was presented by the Avanti Orchestra of the FMMC and featured Yi-Yang Chen, the first prize-winner of the 2017 Washington International Piano Competition last spring. This is the 18th year in a row that the Dallas Morse Coors Foundation has generously supported the FMMC.

Mr. Coors established the Dallas Morse Coors Foundation for the Performing Arts

in 1990 for the purpose of supporting the performing arts, principally in the greater Washington, D.C. area, and at Cornell University.

A trustee administers the Foundation with the assistance of an advisory committee knowledgeable about the performing arts in the Washington area. Successful applicants need to have demonstrated artistic excellence, innovation, community outreach, and strong management and financial stability.

The FMMC is extremely fortunate to have such a loyal supporter of our Club. 🍷

President's Message...continued from page 1

five venues listed: Lyceum series, Calvary Baptist Friday series, Old Town Hall series, Greenspring series, and Avanti Orchestra Concerts. Ushers are needed to greet attendees as they arrive and make them feel comfortable, to hand out programs, to take contributions from attendees, and to answer questions as they arise. As an usher you are the face of the FMMC, a very important role facing the public. If each member would agree to usher for at least one program per year, the jobs of those who are in charge would be so much easier. PLEASE!

The second category of need is Competition Assistant. The FMMC is known all over the world for the two international competitions that we sponsor: the Johansen International Competition (JIC) and the Washington International Competition (WIC). This is the most challenging year for the Foundation. In 2018 we will be holding both the JIC for Young String Players from March 14-17, and the WIC for Composition from June 22-24.

We are also looking for a Program Director to start next year. Jeongseon Choi has been remarkable in that position for 3 years and, although she will be a hard act to follow, someone must follow. Without a new Program Director we will not be able to run our concert series.

Another category where volunteers are needed is the Outreach Program, which provides music to some 125 venues. This program brings music to those who may be unable to attend FMMC programs in person. It is a great way to try out a program that you may be planning to perform later in the year in a regular series. Contact Sheyna Burt at outreach@fmmc.org to join this program.

Finally, we are starting a new auditing program that will take place at a variety of our performance venues. For this, we need Performance Auditors. If you are interested, please contact me at president@fmmc.org.

I hope that 2018 will bring all of you a happy new year and much happiness. 🍷

Yvonne

Membership Update

New Members

Michael Travis
Greenbelt, MD 20770
Associate

Juliette Appold
Washington, DC 20008
Violin, Orchestra Performance

Jerome Glick
Silver Spring, MD 20906
Orchestra Cello,
Associate Piano
Junior

Myung Ja Oh
Silver Spring, MD 20910
Associate Alto

Andrea Ricka
Chevy Chase, MD 20815
Violin, Orchestra Performance

Zachary Whitaker
Woodstock, VA 22664
Chamber Cello
Junior

Renewing Members

Barbara Marks
Violin, Orchestra Performance
Voice Alto, Associate

Tingyun (Linda) Zhang,
Violin, Orchestra Performance

Suggestions for Performers

Public Relations Committee

The Public Relations committee has been hard at work creating materials that we hope will increase attendance at our performances. One suggestion we think will enhance the appeal of our performances to a wider audience is to ask performers or moderators to give a brief introduction to the works to be performed. Following is a document we prepared for this purpose.

WRITTEN GUIDANCE FOR FMMC PERFORMERS

FMMC performers should consider providing a few, brief introductory remarks about the musical program, just

prior to their performance. Providing introductory remarks may facilitate greater engagement and understanding among audience members. These remarks can be given either by the performers themselves or by the event moderator, depending on the situation and circumstances.

Ideas for brief, introductory remarks:

- ♪ Keep remarks brief (2–3 minutes) and on the lighter side. Remarks should be focused to a general audience—some will have no knowledge of the work, others will be intimate with it.
- ♪ Provide guidance about what the audience members can listen for (e.g., how the composer modulates from a major to minor scale; fast versus slow movements). Refer to the musical score for further explanation and/or to emphasize background information about the composition or composer. If relevant, explain how the composition might relate to the other works on the program.
- ♪ Highlight one or more interesting aspects about the composer, including information about his life, particularly at the time the piece was written. Are there aspects about the historical timeframe when the composition was written that would be interesting to note? Sometimes critical contemporary commentary is available and can be amusing.
- ♪ The performer could provide remarks about his/her personal feelings about the piece, why he/she chose to perform it, and what it means to them in particular.
- ♪ The moderator can express why he/she is excited to hear the performance. 🎵

L'Exchange

For Sale: This teak cabinet has served well for keeping sheet music in the slide-out drawers on the right. The left side has shelves for things like a turkey feather for cleaning your oboe, as shown in the photo. Asking \$350.

Barbara Goff, 240 669-3354. 🎵



Ross-Roberts High School Competition for Woodwinds, Brass, and Percussion

March 24, 2018

Applications are now being accepted for the 2018 Ross-Roberts High School Competition for Woodwinds, Brass, and Percussion. The competition will be held on Saturday, March 24, 2018, from 9 AM to 3 PM at the National Presbyterian Church, 4101 Nebraska Avenue, NW, Washington, DC. The application deadline is March 1, 2018.

For additional information and application forms visit www.fmnc.org or contact highschoolwind@fmnc.org.

FMMC members are cordially invited to help as host/usher the day of the competition. Please reply to highschoolwind@fmnc.org.

Encourage Your Students To Apply!

“... something that makes the whole live performance fun for me is that I love my music.”

GRiZ

FMMC Concert Calendar

FEBRUARY and EARLY MARCH 2018

Thursday, February 1, 11:00 am in The Mansion at Strathmore

- SCHUMANN: *Fairy Tales*, op. 132. **Hyejin Kim**, viola; **Jihoon Chang** (guest), clarinet; **Aejin Kim** (guest), piano.
- MENDELSSOHN: Trio No. 1 in D Minor, op. 49. **Eunju Kwak**, violin; **Sarah Hover**, cello; **Stephen J. Brown**, piano.

Friday, February 2, 12:00 noon at Calvary Baptist Church

- ALBINONI: *Adagio*. **Huai-En Tsai**, trombone; **Wan-Chi Su** (guest), piano.
- RICHARD STRAUSS: Sonata, op. 18. **Shu-Ting Yao**, violin; **Wan-Chi Su**, piano.
- YSAÏE: Sonata, op. 27, no. 3 for solo violin, "Ballade." **Shu-Ting Yao**, violin.

Friday, February 9, 12:00 noon at Calvary Baptist Church

- SCHUMANN: *Fairy Tales*, op. 132. **Hyejin Kim**, viola; **Jihoon Chang** (guest), clarinet; **Aejin Kim**, piano.
- MENDELSSOHN: Trio No. 1 in D Minor, op. 49. **Eunju Kwak**, violin; **Sarah Hover**, cello; **Stephen J. Brown**, piano.

Sunday, February 11, 3:00 pm at the Lyceum, Alexandria

- HAYDN: Sonata in G Minor, Hob. XVI/44. **Judith Block**, piano.
- SCHUMANN: *Fairy Tales*, op. 113. **Hyejin Kim**, viola; **Eunhye Jung** (guest), piano.
- DEBUSSY: *La sérénade interrompue*; *Les collines d'Anacapri*. SCHUMANN: *Davidsbündlertänze*, op. 6 (selections). **Charles Timbrell**, piano.

Thursday, February 15, 12:00 noon at Old Town Hall, City of Fairfax

- J.S. BACH: Cantata *Non sa che sia dolore*, BWV 209. **Deborah Thurlow**, soprano; **Susan Hayes**, flute; **Barbara Gholz**, violin; continuo TBA.
- FRANCK: Sonata. ENESCU: Concert Piece for viola and piano. **Shearom Chung**, viola; **Nikola Paskalov**, piano.
- MARTINU: Sonata for flute, violin, and piano, H 254. **Susan Hayes**, flute; **Eunju Kwak**, violin; **Barbara Peterson Cackler**, piano.

Friday, February 16, 12:00 noon at Calvary Baptist Church

- HINDEMITH: Sonata for solo violin, op. 25, no. 1. RIMSKY-KORSAKOV: *Flight of the Bumblebee*. **Hyejin Kim**, viola.
- Piano music from South America. **Alvaro Puig**, piano.
- Selections TBA. **Katherine Riddle**, flute.

Thursday, February 22, 1:00 pm at the Jewish Community Center of Northern Virginia

- MENDELSSOHN: Sonata in E Major, op. 6. **Steven Schwarz**, piano.
- MILHAUD: Suite for clarinet, violin, and piano. **Albert Hunt**, clarinet; **Shearom Chung**, violin; **Nikola Paskalov**, piano.
- Selected songs on traditional Hebrew and Ladino texts. **Leslie Luxemburg**, soprano; **Albert Hunt**, clarinet; **Benjamin Altman**, guitar.

Friday, February 23, 12:00 noon at Calvary Baptist Church Composers Concert

- SHARON GUERTIN SHAFER: *Variations on Brother James Air*. **Sharon Guertin Shafer**, piano.
- EMMANUEL M. DUBOIS: *Happiness, three duets for soprano and baritone*, op. 27; *Songs for soprano*, op. 30. **Yulia Petrachuk**, soprano; baritone TBA; piano TBA.
- STEVEN SCHWARZ: *Two Vocalises Elegiacues*. **Steven Schwarz**, piano; digital keyboard TBA.

Thursday, March 1, 11:00 am in The Mansion at Strathmore

- KATHERINE HOOVER: Trio for flutes. **Teresa Meeks**, **Deborah Hazel Johnson** and **Deborah Weinberger**, flutes.
- RUPERT IGNAZ MAYR: *Beati omnes*. GEORG CHRISTOPH WAGENSEIL: *Memoriam* (from *Confitebor tibi*). **Karen Mercedes**, contralto; **Hua-En Tsai**, trombone; **Sharon Ollison**, harpsichord.
- BEETHOVEN: Sonata in C Minor, op. 30, no. 2. **Eunju Kwak**, violin; **Jeongsgeon Choi**, piano.

Friday, March 2, 12:00 noon at Calvary Baptist Church

- KROMMER: Quartet in D Major, op. 75. **Susan Hayes**, flute; **J. David Brown**, violin; **Caroline Brethauer**, viola; **Sarah Hover**, cello.
- BRAHMS: Sonata No. 3 in D Minor, op. 108. **Robyn Tessin**, violin; piano TBA.

Sunday, March 4, 7:30 pm at Riderwood Retirement Community

- Program TBA

Friday, March 9, 12:00 noon, Calvary Baptist Church

- Program TBA

Friday, March 9, 8:00 pm, at Schlesinger Concert Hall

- Avanti Orchestra**, **Pablo Saelzer**, conductor; **Javier Arrey**, baritone, **Metropolitan Opera**
- SCHUBERT: *Symphony in B Minor*, D.759 ("Unfinished Symphony").
 - MAHLER: *Lieder eines fahrenden Gesellen*.
 - RICHARD STRAUSS: *Aus Italien*, op. 16, movements 1 & 2.

Saturday, March 10, 9:00 am at Bethesda Presbyterian Church Sue Goetz Ross Memorial Competition for Voice

Saturday, March 10, 1:00 pm at National Presbyterian Church Student Composition Competition Finals

Sunday, March 11, 3:00 pm at The Lyceum, Alexandria

- DEBUSSY: *Deux Romances*; *Quatre Chansons de jeunesse*. **Debora Madsen**, soprano; **Gillian Cookson**, piano.
- LIEBERMANN: Sonata, op. 23. **Gwyn Jones**, flute; **Rosanne Conway**, piano.
- CHOPIN: Selections TBA. **Immanuela Gruenberg**, piano.

VENUES**Bethesda Presbyterian Church**

7611 Clarendon Rd.
Bethesda, MD

Calvary Baptist Church

755 Eighth St. NW
Washington, DC
(Metro: Gallery Place)

Jewish Community Center of Northern Virginia

8900 Little River Turnpike
Fairfax, VA 22031

The Lyceum

201 S Washington St.
Alexandria, VA

The Mansion at Strathmore

10701 Rockville Pike
N. Bethesda, MD
(Metro: Grosvenor)

National Presbyterian Church

4101 Nebraska Ave. NW
Washington, DC

Old Town Hall

City of Fairfax
Corner of Main St. (Rt. 236) &
University Drive
Fairfax, VA

Rachel M. Schlesinger Concert Hall

4915 East Campus Lane
Alexandria, VA

Riderwood Village Chapel

3110 Gracefield Rd.
Silver Spring, MD

Santiago Rodriguez To Present The Next Piano Master Class

Mary K Traver

FMMC members are cordially invited to attend a piano coaching session/master class on Thursday, March 8, at the Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center, University of Maryland, beginning at 10:00 AM. The class will take place at the International Piano Archives in the Performing Arts Library.

Presenter Santiago Rodriguez is the highly acclaimed Professor and Chair of the Keyboard Performance Department at the Frost School of Music, University of Miami. Professor Rodriguez has been hailed as “a phenomenal pianist” by the New York Times, and singled out as “among the finest pianists in the world” (Baltimore Sun).

His international credits include performances with the world’s leading orchestras, and his talents have taken him all over the world from Carnegie Hall, Avery Fischer Hall, Kennedy Center, Elizabeth Hall in London, and Leipzig’s Gewandhaus, to the prestigious Ravenna Festival in Italy and concerts in Finland, China, and Taiwan.

Cited as one of today’s foremost interpreters of the music of Sergei Rachmaninov, Mr. Rodriguez is currently recording

the entire catalogue of Rachmaninov’s original solo piano compositions. Three volumes already released have received international acclaim. Awarded the Silver Medal at the Van Cliburn International Competition in 1981, he subsequently received a special prize for the best performance of Leonard Bernstein’s *Touches*, a work commissioned by the competition.

Mr. Rodriguez enjoys a distinguished reputation as teacher and master clinician. A past member of the Piano Division at the University of Maryland, he held rank as Professor and Artist-in-Residence. He has served as Chair of the Jury at several international piano competitions and serves as Artistic Director of the Florida International Piano Competition and Artist-in-Residence at the Endless Mountain Music Festival in Pennsylvania.

Three FMMC Performance Pianists will perform. Admission is free; however contributions to the Master Class Fund are welcome. Parking is available at Stadium Parking Lot across from the Center. For further information, you may contact Dina Fleming (dinatfleming@gmail.com) or Mary K. Traver (maryktraver@gmail.com). 🎵

Double Your Impact!

An anonymous donor will match up to \$1,000 of donations in honor of Avanti’s 75th anniversary. Donors can double their impact and help Avanti with its music programs by donating online at fmmc.org/donations or by sending a check to Avanti Orchestra/Friday Morning Music Club, 755 8th St NW, Washington, DC 20001. 🎵



Friday Morning Music Club
755 8th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20001

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Because you are a member of FMMC we know you love making music and sharing music—through performing, listening, and perhaps even teaching. Another important way to share your love of music is to help our organization produce wonderful, free, musical events. Producing over 80 events a year takes a lot of work. Your contribution of even a few hours is greatly needed. The following is a list of tasks. Please let us know if you can help.

Ushers

Lyceum Series – Alexandria, contact
J. Mizrahi

Calvary Baptist Friday Series, contact
A. Stein-Ericson

Old Town Hall Series – Fairfax VA, contact
C. Kharazian

Greenspring Series – Springfield VA, contact
J. Choi

Avanti Orchestra concerts, contact
N. Cooper

Competitions Assistants

Johansen International, contact
J. Silverman at johansencomp@fmmc.org

Washington International Strings, contact
L. Luxemburg at wicstrings@fmmc.org

Performers

Outreach Program, 125 venues, contact
S. Burt at outreach@fmmc.org

Performance Auditors

We are just starting this program, which will take place at a variety of venues. Contact Y.Sabine at president@fmmc.org. 🎧