

# The Friday Morning MUSIC CLUB



133RD SEASON

MARCH 2019

VOL. 53, NO. 7

## Avanti Orchestra Concert

Nan Cooper

Avanti Orchestra's third concert of the season on Friday, March 8, 2019, at Church of the Epiphany in Washington, DC will feature works by Handel, Mozart, and Elgar. We are pleased to present both pianist Christopher Schmitt performing Mozart's Piano Concerto No. 17, and Strings Avenue Quartet joining us for Elgar's Introduction and Allegro, op. 47. Also on the program is Handel's Water Music.

Described as "carefully colored" and "sensitive" by *The Washington Post* in November of 2015, Christopher Schmitt was also hailed as a "formidable talent" and "mature beyond his years" by *The Santa Barbara News-Press*, regarding his performance of Liszt's Piano Concerto No. 1 with the Music Academy of the West Festival Orchestra. Having completed his doctorate at The Juilliard School in 2016, he has been sponsored for concerts by the Chopin Foundation of the United States in Miami, the Stecher and Horowitz Foundation in New York, Concerts at the Alden Series in Virginia, and for many performances in the Boston, New York, and Washington DC metropolitan areas. In the summer of 2011, Dr. Schmitt performed 14 chamber music concerts at the Music at Menlo festival. For the last three summers he has performed and taught at the festival *Málaga Clásica* in Spain as well as performing in July of 2016 in the inaugural year of his own chamber music festival in Barcelona, *Classics in Catalan*. Dr. Schmitt currently resides in Washington DC, and as pianist of the "President's Own" US Marine Chamber Orchestra, performs regularly in the White House and in concert halls across the Washington DC metropolitan area, leading a multifaceted career as chamber musician, pedagogue, and soloist.



Christopher Schmitt

Bio and photo courtesy of [www.christopherschmitt.org](http://www.christopherschmitt.org).

The Strings Avenue Quartet members are Jorge Orozco, violin; Jennifer Lee, violin; Maria Montaña, viola; and Vasily Popov, cello. The ensemble performs regularly throughout the DC metro area.

Violinist Jorge Orozco has performed as a soloist and chamber musician in Cuba, Venezuela, Germany, Austria, and Italy. He is a member of the National Chamber Ensemble and is the concertmaster of the Masterwork Festival Orchestra. Currently he is the director of the instrumental ensembles at Georgetown Visitation School and conducts two orchestras at Maryland Classic Youth Orchestras. Mr. Orozco is a former faculty member of the Levine School of Music and the Valencia Conservatory in Venezuela and former Assistant Concertmaster of the Pensacola Symphony Orchestra. He has performed with the Alexandria Symphony, Mobile Symphony, and the Philadelphia-based Baroque ensemble Vox Amadeus. Mr. Orozco holds a master's degree in music performance from the

University of Southern Mississippi, where he studied with Stephen Redfield and a bachelor's degree in music performance and pedagogy from the Instituto Superior de Artes, Havana, Cuba, where he studied with Roberto Valdés. He has participated in numerous festivals and workshops including the Texas Music Festival, Victoria Bach Festival, Havana Contemporary Music Festival, Vicksburg Chamber Music Festival, the Sterling-Delay Seminar, and the Juilliard Conducting Workshop.

Violinist Dr. Jennifer Lee maintains a diverse teaching and performing career with solo, chamber, and orchestral engagements throughout the United States and abroad. As an orchestral musician, she has performed with the Portland and Baltimore Symphonies, and on international tours with Maestro Christoph Eschenbach and pianist Lang Lang.

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Membership Chair  
membership@fmmc.org

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## FMMC Members Perform a Benefit Concert for *Sinfonía por la Vida*

Albert Hunt

On March 24, 2019 at 3 PM at Alexandria's Lyceum, Robert Chen, the Chen Family String Quartet, and clarinetist Albert Hunt will present a benefit concert for *Sinfonía por la Vida*, an Ecuadorian El Sistema organization dedicated to social inclusion through music. A generous donor has pledged to match donations up to \$2000.

Robert Chen, Concertmaster of the Chicago Symphony, will perform a solo,

*Ballade* by Eugène-Auguste Ysaÿe. Also on the program are Beethoven's String Quartet op. 18, No. 6, and Mozart's Clarinet Quintet, K. 581.

The concert is free and no tickets are required, although donations are gratefully accepted. For more information, email [AlbertHunt@AlbertHunt.net](mailto:AlbertHunt@AlbertHunt.net).

We are excited to offer music to support a great cause. 🎵

### *Avanti Orchestra Concert...continued from page 1*

Recent collaborations include performances with the Dover Quartet at the Artosphere Festival, and with members of the Aeolus and Left Bank Quartets at the Smithsonian Chamber Music Society on the Stradivarius and Amati instruments of the Smithsonian Collection. Dr. Lee has recorded for the Naxos Label with the Post Classical Ensemble of Washington, DC and Hansler Classic of Germany with Rolf Beck. Upon graduating *summa cum laude* at Northwestern University with a Bachelor of Music degree as a student of Almita and Roland Vámos, Dr. Lee received her Master of Music degree in Violin Performance at the Manhattan School of Music under the tutelage of Lucie Robert. In 2015, she completed her Doctor of Musical Arts degree at the University of Maryland while serving as teaching assistant to David Salness. Dr. Lee is adjunct faculty at Montgomery College, sectional coach at Georgetown University and she has given residencies and master classes at the University of Arkansas and State University of New York at Geneseo. She has also taught at Brooklyn College and Ithaca College's Summer Music Academy, and is a former teaching artist for the Midori and Friends Foundation in New York City.

Violist Dr. Maria Montañó started her musical studies in the youth orchestra network known as El Sistema, in her home country, Venezuela. She came to the United States to continue her music studies and has been actively involved in the musical scene in the Washington metropolitan area. She has established a studio both as a faculty member of the Levine School of Music and privately. She enjoys working with the Maryland Classic Youth Orchestras

(MCYO) as a viola coach and strings coach. She is also involved with the Youth Orchestra of the Americas and a former faculty member of the Landon School. Dr. Montañó is an active orchestra player with the National Philharmonic and the Alexandria Symphony Orchestra and an active chamber musician with her husband, violinist Jorge Orozco and with pianist Carlos Rodríguez. She is a former member of the Vox Amadeus Ensemble, Mobile Symphony Orchestra, and Assistant Principal Viola of the Pensacola Symphony Orchestra. Dr. Montañó holds a D.M.A. and M.M. in Viola Performance from the University of Maryland and a B.M. in Viola Performance from the University of Southern Mississippi. She has studied with Katherine Murdock, Daniel Foster, Michael Tree, Hsiao-pei Lee, Michael Kimber, Roberto Valdes, and Tomás Fajardo.

Cellist Vasily Popov maintains an active concert schedule including appearances as a soloist, recitalist and member of chamber ensembles in concert halls in Europe, Japan, Russia and U.S.A. His CDs are produced by Arte Nova Records, BMR and appear under the Excelsior, Intercount Music, Madacy Records, and Melodia labels. Vasily Popov studied with Natalia Gutman, Valentin Elin, Konstantin Kucherov, Anatoly Nikitin, Walter Nothas and Daniil Shafran. His performance style was influenced by chamber music collaborations and studies with pianists Tamara Fidler and Elisso Virsaladze and flutist Andras Adorjan.

Mr. Popov held an associate principal cello position with the Soloists of St. Petersburg chamber ensemble and a cello section position with the St. Petersburg Philharmonic Orchestra

*continued on page 3*

## From the Foundation Director

Leslie Luxemburg

March brings with it some exciting concerts featuring both Johansen and Washington International Competition participants. First of all, on Sunday March 17th at 5:00 PM, the 2018 JIC viola winner Beatrice Chen will be playing the Bartok Viola Concerto with the Capital City Symphony at the Atlas Performing Arts Center on H Street NE. Conducted by Victoria Gau, the program is entitled "Mythical Melodies" and is part of the orchestra's "Great Masters, Young Stars" series. The powerful program will also include works inspired by Greek mythology.

Beatrice played for FMMC last March, at the JIC winner's concert in October, and on December 6th in concert with other Chen family members on the FMMC Strathmore Concert Series. Those of you who have heard any of these concerts are already aware of her prodigious skill. Others will not want to miss this treat. The Capital City Symphony is offering a special discount on tickets of 25% off the regular price for FMMC members. You may order your tickets online on their website [www.capitalcitysymphony.org](http://www.capitalcitysymphony.org) or by calling the Atlas Box Office at 202-399-7993x2. Use discount code FMMC25. There is no charge for anyone 16 and under.

As promised last month, I can now share more details about pianist Fanny Azzuro's FMMC several appearances in April. To start, Fanny will be presenting a benefit recital to raise money for this year's Washington International Competition. This will take place on Monday April 22nd and will feature piano works by Debussy, Ravel, and Rachmaninov at the Steinway Gallery on Old Georgetown Road in North Bethesda. The event will begin at 6:30 PM with wine and hors d'oeuvres followed by a one-hour program from 7:00 to 8:00 PM. In order to make this special evening accessible to as many FMMC members and friends as possible, we are suggesting a donation of \$30. Of course, we are grateful for your support at whatever level makes you comfortable. All students may attend at no charge. Reservations are recommended and may be made by emailing Marta Howard at [azzuro@pupworks.com](mailto:azzuro@pupworks.com).

Next, Fanny will also be giving a master class as part of our FMMC Piano Master Class series on Thursday, April 25 from 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM at the International Piano Archives at the University of Maryland Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center. The participants will be three recent winners of the FMMC student piano competition. This is a wonderful



opportunity for piano teachers and their students. In between these Washington engagements, Fanny will be in New York City presenting a spring concert at the French Consulate, and then returning to France. In June she will return to the US to make her Carnegie Hall debut as part of the New York Piano Festival.

As always, we are so happy to have had a hand in providing these performing opportunities for our competition participants and hope that as many of you as possible will be able to attend. 🎵

*Leslie*

### *Avanti Orchestra Concert...continued from page 2*

under Maestro Yuri Temirkanov. He also collaborated with the Live Music Now and Villa Musica concert organizations and performed with various chamber and symphony orchestras in Germany. Mr. Popov served on the cello and chamber music faculties of the St. Petersburg Conservatory in Russia and Georgetown University in Washington DC, teaching cello, chamber music, and a variety of classes that he designed to help students prepare for orchestral auditions. Currently living in Washington DC, Mr. Popov serves on the cello and chamber music faculties of the Levine School of Music in Washington DC where he is also an associate chair of Chamber Music and Artistic Director and conductor of the Levine Chamber Orchestras. He leads various workshops and master classes and adjudicates national and international competitions.

He performs on a French cello made in 1870 presented to him by Stephen and Susan Low. Vasily uses his Zeta E-Cello for his jazz, rock and contemporary music performances. 🎵

### *Ross-Roberts High School Competition for Woodwinds, Brass, and Percussion March 23, 2019*

Applications are being accepted for the 2019 Ross-Roberts High School Competition for Woodwinds, Brass, and Percussion. The competition will be held on Saturday, March 23, 2019, from 9 AM to 3 PM at the National Presbyterian Church, 4101 Nebraska Avenue, NW, Washington, DC. The application deadline is March 2, 2019.

For additional information and application forms, visit [www.fmmc.org](http://www.fmmc.org) or contact [highschoolwind@fmmc.org](mailto:highschoolwind@fmmc.org).

**FMMC members are cordially invited to help as host/usher the day of the competition. Please reply to the chair at [highschoolwind@fmmc.org](mailto:highschoolwind@fmmc.org). 🎵**

*Encourage Your Students to Apply!*



# FMMC Concert Calendar

**MARCH and  
EARLY APRIL 2019**

## March

### Friday, March 1, 12:00 noon at Calvary Baptist Church

- BEETHOVEN: Sonata in F Minor, op. 2, no. 1. **Immanuela Gruenberg**, piano.
- J. S. BACH: from Sonata No. 3 in C Major, BWV 1005, Largo and Allegro assai. **TELEMANN**: Fantasia in B-flat major. **Hyejin Kim**, violin.
- VIVALDI, HANDEL, MOZART and BRAHMS: Selected solos. **Anne Bentz**, soprano; **Julie Pointing** (guest), oboe; **David Chapman**, piano.

### Sunday, March 3, 7:30 pm at Riderwood Retirement Community

- MOZART: Trio in E-flat Major, K.498 ("Kegelstatt"). **Albert Hunt**, clarinet; **Bonnie Cohen**, viola; **Joan Mizrahi**, piano.
- RAVEL: String Quartet in F Major. **David Brown** and **Sheyna Burt**, violins; **Caroline Brethauer**, viola; **Sarah Hover**, cello.

### Thursday, March 7, 11:00 am in The Mansion at Strathmore

- GINASTERA: *Cinco canciones populares Argentinas*. **Polly Baldrige**, soprano; **Mark Pfannschmidt**, piano.
- GLUCK: Ballet from *Orphée et Eurydice*, arr. Greg Anderson. **ARENSKY**: *Silhouettes*, op. 23 (selections). **BARBER**: from *Souvenirs*, op. 28, VI: *Galop*. **Irina Koulikova** and **Alice Ji**, piano four hands.
- ROGER FISKE: Sonata for clarinet and piano. **Phyllis Crossen-Richardson**, clarinet; **Janet Crossen**, piano.

### Friday, March 8, 12:00 noon at Calvary Baptist Church

- BACEWICZ: *Capriccio*. **Christine Kharazian**, violin.
- DAVID RUBENSTEIN: *Shifting Sands; Dance of the Sprites at Daybreak*. **Jeffery Beaudry**, piano.
- RAVEL: Sonata no. 2 in G Major. **Eunju Kwak**, violin; **Jeongseon Choi**, piano.

### Friday, March 8, 8:00pm at the Church of the Epiphany

- Avanti Orchestra**, **Pablo Saelzer**, conductor, **Christopher Schmitt**, piano.
- HANDEL: *Water Music* Suite No. 1.
  - MOZART: Piano Concerto No. 17, K.453.
  - ELGAR: Introduction and Allegro, op. 47, with the Strings Avenue Quartet.
  - HANDEL: *Water Music* Suite No. 2

### Saturday, March 9, 9:00 am at Bethesda Presbyterian Church

**Sue Goetz Ross Memorial Competition for Voice**

### Sunday, March 10, 3:00 pm at The Lyceum, Alexandria

- BEETHOVEN: Trio in B-flat Major, op.11. **Kenneth Latchis**, clarinet; **Harry Rosen**, cello; **Joan Mizrahi**, piano.
- ALBÉNIZ: *Granados* (selections). **Charles Mokotoff**, guitar.
- HULL: Sonata. **Jeongseon Choi**, piano.

### Tuesday, March 12, 12:00 noon at Dumbarton House

- TELEMANN: Fantasy in B Minor. **Mary Findley**, unaccompanied baroque violin.
- SCHUBERT: Quartet in D Major, D. 94. **Barbara Gholz** and **Eunju Kwak**, violins; **Adrian Stover** (guest), viola; **David Pearl**, cello.
- MOZART: Quartet in F Major, K.590. **Michael Casassa** and **Willem Van Eeghen**, violins; **Patti Reid**, viola; **Jonathan Gershfeld**, cello.

### Wednesday, March 13, 12:00 noon at the Steinway Piano Gallery, Bethesda

- Selection TBD. **Vicki Bragin**, piano.
- RAVEL: Sonata no. 2 in G Major. **Eunju Kwak**, violin; **Jeongseon Choi**, piano.
- GARWOOD: Six Japanese Songs. **Angela Winter**, soprano; **Albert Hunt**, clarinet; **Barbara Peterson Cackler**, piano.

### Thursday, March 14, 12:00 noon at Old Town Hall, City of Fairfax

- MENDELSSOHN: *Songs without Words*, op. 30, no. 1 and op. 19, no. 5. **Tanya Lee**, piano.
- GARWOOD: Six Japanese Songs. **Angela Winter**, soprano; **Albert Hunt**, clarinet; **Barbara Peterson Cackler**, piano.
- DEBUSSY: *Estampes*. **Joan Mizrahi**, piano.
- SCHUMANN: Trio No. 2 in F Major, op. 80. **Michael Casassa**, violin; **Jan Timbers**, cello; **Enoch Gordis**, piano.

### Friday, March 15 12:00 noon at Calvary Baptist Church

- FISKE: Sonata. **Phyllis Crossen-Richardson**, clarinet; **Janet Crossen**, piano.
- SCHUMANN: Trio No. 2 in F Major, op. 80. **Michael Casassa**, violin; **Jan Timbers**, cello; **Enoch Gordis**, piano.

### Sunday, March 17, 5:00 pm at Atlas Performing Arts Center

**Beatrice Chen**, 2018 JIC viola winner, will play the Bartok viola concerto with the Capital City Symphony. The program also includes music by Pender and Hovhaness. There is an admission charge for this concert, with a discount for FMMC members.

### Friday, March 22, 12:00 noon at Calvary Baptist Church

- MENDELSSOHN: *Songs without Words*, op. 30, no. 1 and op. 19, no. 5. **Tanya Lee**, piano.
- ARGENTO: *To Be Sung Upon the Water*. **Marjorie Coombs Wellman**, soprano; **Carol Falvo**, clarinet; piano TBA.
- CRUSELL: Quartet in D Major, op. 8. **Heidi Schuller**, flute; **David Brown**, violin; **Caroline Brethauer**, viola; **Sarah Hover**, cello.

### Saturday, March 23, 9:00 am at the National Presbyterian Church

**Ross-Roberts Student Competition for Woodwinds, Brass, and Percussion**

### Saturday March 23, 3:00 pm at Greenspring Retirement Community

- MOZART: Duo, K.422. **Eunju Kwak**, violin; **Susan Russo**, viola.
- HANDEL, VERDI, RUBINSTEIN, SECUNDA: Selected works. **Mark Bublitz**, tenor.
- BEETHOVEN: Trio in B-flat Major, op. 11. **Kenneth Latchis**, clarinet; **Harry Rosen**, cello; **Joan Mizrahi**, piano.

### Tuesday, March 26, 12:00 noon at the Woman's Club of Chevy Chase

- BERNSTEIN: Sonata. **DEBUSSY**: *Petite Pièce*. **Carole Falvo**, clarinet; **Larry Vincent**, piano.
- DEBUSSY: *Estampes*. **Joan Mizrahi**, piano.
- DUKE, HUTCHINSON, HEGGIE, DOUGHERTY, SHAFER: Humorous songs. **Liana Valente**, soprano; **Sharon Guertin Shafer**, piano.

**Wednesday, March 27, 7:30 pm**  
**Friendship Heights Community Center**  
 Student Recital

**Friday, March 29, 12:00 noon at**  
**Calvary Baptist Church**

- KLINT: Sonata in D Minor. **Steven Schwarz**, piano.
- SCHUBERT: Quartet in D Major, D. 94. **Eunju Kwak** and **Barbara Gholz**, violins; **Tae Kwak**, viola; **David Pearl**, cello.
- PIAZZOLLA: Selections from *Histoire du Tango*. **Tianlai Lu**, clarinet; **Jeongseon Choi**, piano.

**Thursday, April 4, 11:00 am in**  
**The Mansion at Strathmore**

- DVOŘÁK: CIGANSKÉ MELODIE (Gypsy songs), op. 55. **Daryl Yoder**, tenor; **Jung-Yoon Lee**, piano.
- RAVEL: String Quartet in F Major. **David Brown** and **Sheyna Burt**, violins; **Caroline Brethauer**, viola; **David Pearl**, cello.

**Friday, April 5, 12:00 noon at**  
**Calvary Baptist Church**

- SCARLATTI, CHOPIN: Selected works. **Donna Baldwin**, piano.
- DVOŘÁK: CIGANSKÉ MELODIE (Gypsy songs), op. 55. **Daryl Yoder**, tenor; **Jung-Yoon Lee**, piano.
- WEBER: Concerto No 2. **Russell Gross**, clarinet; **Rosanne Conway**, piano.

**Saturday, April 6, 9:00 am at the**  
**National Presbyterian Church**  
**Stubbs-Henbest-Davis Student Competition for Piano**

**Wednesday, April 10, 7:00 pm at**  
**Jordan Kitt's Music, Rockville**

- FRANCK: Sonata in A Major. **Lydia Leong**, violin; piano TBD.
- POULENC: Suite. **Jeffery Beaudry**, piano.
- AMERICAN SONGS FROM WORLD WAR I: **Karen Mercedes**, contralto; **Gwyn Jones**, flute; **Ruth Locker** (guest), piano.

**Thursday, April 11, 11:00 am at**  
**Collington Retirement Community**

- Program TBA

## VENUES

**Atlas Performing Arts Center**  
 1333 H St NE  
 Washington, DC 20002

**Bethesda Presbyterian Church**  
 7611 Clarendon Rd.  
 Bethesda, MD

**Calvary Baptist Church**  
 755 Eighth St. NW  
 Washington, DC  
 (Metro: Gallery Place)

**Church of the Epiphany**  
 1317 G St. NW  
 Washington, DC  
 (Metro: Metro Center)

**Collington Retirement Community**  
 10450 Lottsford Rd.  
 Mitchellville, MD

**Dumbarton House**  
 2715 Q St. NW  
 Washington, DC

**Friendship Heights Community Ctr.**  
 4433 S. Park Ave.  
 Chevy Chase, MD  
 (Metro: Friendship Heights)

**Greenspring**  
 7410 Spring Village Dr.  
 Springfield, VA

**Jordan Kitt's Music**  
 11726 Parklawn Dr.  
 N. Bethesda, MD 20852

**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 Dr.  
 Fairfax, VA

**Riderwood Village Chapel**  
 3110 Gracefield Rd.  
 Silver Spring, MD

**Steinway Gallery**  
 11611 Old Georgetown Rd.  
 N. Bethesda, MD  
 (Metro: White Flint)

**Woman's Club of Chevy Chase**  
 7931 Connecticut Ave.  
 Chevy Chase, MD

## Woman's Club of Chevy Chase to Host FMMC Concert

Lois Jones

On Tuesday, March 26, from 12 PM to 2 PM, the Woman's Club of Chevy Chase will host a concert by FMMC artists. The program will feature works by Debussy and Bernstein for clarinet and piano played by Carol Falvo and Larry Vincent; Debussy *Estampes* by pianist Joan Mizrahi; and humorous songs by various composers, sung by Liana Valente with piano by Sharon Shafer.

The Woman's Club of Chevy Chase is a leading community services organization. It was founded in 1913 and has been musically active since its early days, having formed a Music Section by 1920. The Club presents concerts open to the public, raises scholarship funds in support of music students at Montgomery College, and regularly hosts appearances by The Friday Morning Music Club.

The location, at 7931 Connecticut Avenue, Chevy Chase, MD, is conveniently inside the Beltway, with a large parking lot behind the building and a bus stop in front. The Club hosts a welcoming atmosphere, offering a reception and refreshments following the concert so music lovers have a chance to meet and mingle.

Call or email Lois Jones if you have any questions about the venue or the program. 📞

### Newsletter To Be Emailed Via MailChimp Starting This Month

As of this month, the FMMC Newsletter will be emailed to FMMC members via MailChimp instead of through the Yahoo listserv. By now you should have received it. If you don't see it in your inbox, please check your promotions or spam folders and move to your inbox. And, as always, you can find the digital newsletter online on the FMMC website under the "About FMMC" tab. 📧



# Thank You to our Donors!

The Friday Morning Music Club is deeply grateful to the following generous donors who have supported our efforts to promote musical culture among our members and the community. Many thanks also to *all* FMMC donors, regardless of their gift amount.

## Maestro

### (\$5,000 or more)

The estate of Sally West Potter  
Stephen S. Roberts, in memory of  
Sue Goetz Ross

## Concertmaster

### (minimum \$1,000)

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## First Chair

### (minimum \$500)

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Chesapeake Asset Management Company  
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Linda A. Mundy  
Benzion Rosenblum  
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Jeanne Rosenthal  
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### (minimum \$100)

Arts Club of Washington  
Carol Bartholomew  
Judith Block  
Joyce Bouvier  
Patricia D.W. Clark  
Alan T. Crane  
Janet S. Crossen  
William G. Dakin, in memory of  
Marjorie B. Dakin  
Bruce Davies  
Ruth Doherty  
Donald G. Evans  
Maria Friedman  
Barbara Gholz  
Frona Hall  
Evelyn Harpham, in memory of  
Virginia Harpham

# A BENEFIT CONCERT FOR *Sinfonía por la vida*

PROGRAMA SOCIAL DE ORQUESTAS SINFÓNICAS JUVENILES DEL ECUADOR  
(Symphony for Life)

featuring

**ROBERT CHEN**  
concertmaster,  
Chicago Symphony Orchestra

with

**THE CHEN QUARTET**

and


**ALBERT HUNT**  
clarinet

Performing the music of Mozart,  
Beethoven, and Ysaÿe



Sunday,  
**MARCH 24**  
3:00 PM

201 S Washington St  
**THE LYCEUM**  
Alexandria, VA

All proceeds from the concert go directly to the children of Symphony for Life, providing musical instruments, lessons and performance opportunities.

Donations are tax deductible and matched 100% up to \$2000.

[www.sinfoniaporlavida.com](http://www.sinfoniaporlavida.com)

for more information, please contact Albert Hunt,  
International Coordinator: [AlbertHunt@AlbertHunt.net](mailto:AlbertHunt@AlbertHunt.net)

# JIC News: Updates on Winners

By Harriet Kaplan

Violist Matthew Lipman (2009 JIC, first prize), an Avery Fisher Career Grant recipient, recently published an article in *Strings* magazine in which he wrote about learning a new work he commissioned to honor his late mother. The title is *Metamorphose for Viola and Piano*, composed by Clarice Assad in 2017 and published in March 2018 by Virtual Artists Collective Publishing. He also has performed in recital at Lincoln Center and with the Minnesota Orchestra.

Cellist Michał Balas (2018 JIC, first prize tied) performed Tchaikovsky's *Variations on a Roco Theme* with the DC-area-based Apollo Orchestra on January 20, 2019 and received a favorable review by Joan Reinhaller on the website Washington Classical Review:

The hit of the afternoon was 17-year-old cellist Michał Balas, whose sweet-toned take on the opening theme of Tchaikovsky's *Variations on a Roco Theme* belied a fearlessly acrobatic technique in succeeding variations. Most impressive was the varied repertoire of attacks on individual notes, from gorgeous legatos and soft mini-slides to steely snaps.

This young artist, who has studied in the U.S. and in his native Poland, has been winning his way through the requisite competitions. He is still taking a literal approach to this music's phrasing, but that may relax as he matures.

Don't forget the upcoming concert featuring 2018 JIC first-prize viola winner Beatrice Chen with the Capital City Symphony concert on March 17, 2019, at 5 PM performing the Bartók *Viola Concerto*. See The Foundation Director's column for details. Beatrice will also be performing with her family in several local concerts: Monday, March 18, 2:00 PM, Goodwin House Bailey's Crossroads (3440 South Jefferson Street, Falls Church, VA), Mozart *Clarinet Quintet* with Albert Hunt and the Chen String Quartet (Robert Chen, Laura Park Chen, Beatrice Chen, Noah Chen); Sunday, March 24, 3:00 PM,



Matthew Lipman  
Photograph by Jiyang Chen



Michael Balas  
Photograph by Cecilia Larkin

The Lyceum (201 S. Washington Street, Alexandria, Virginia), same program as March 18; and Sunday, May 5, Riderwood Village (3140 Gracefield Road, Silver Spring, MD), Beethoven String Quartet Opus 18, No. 6 (Chen String Quartet) and "Eyeglasses" Duo (Beatrice and Noah Chen); Dohnányi *Serenade* (Laura, Beatrice, and Noah Chen); Ysaÿe *Ballade* (Robert Chen). 🎶

## The Chorale Second Concert a Complete Success

Peter Baum

The Chorale's second concert set of the 2018-2019 season was held as scheduled on January 25 and 26 at the Lutheran Church of the Reformation and was attended by approximately 200 highly appreciative people. The two works, Poulenc's *Stabat Mater* and Mozart's *David Penitente*, on the program were very different in both style and content, as could be expected from compositions written approximately 170 years apart. The four soloists (Tenor Tae Kwak, and Sopranos Michelle Fegeas, Rhiannon Vaughn, and Annie Schwartz) selected by Director Paul Leavitt to sing on the two pieces were all in excellent voice and clearly enjoyed demonstrating their vocal skills to the audience.

Comments from attendees after each performance included some very laudatory remarks about how well the orchestra and the chorus worked together to produce a polished and pleasing performance.

With the completion of this concert, the Chorale has turned its attention to the preparation of music for its third concert. The theme of the final concert of the season will be Opera Meets Broadway and present music from an number of well-known works. Soloists (all voice parts) interested in singing should contact Paul Leavitt at [chorale@fmmc.org](mailto:chorale@fmmc.org) to schedule an audition. 🎶

## Membership Update New Members

Carolyn Osborne  
Bethesda MD 20817  
Associate Piano

Topher Ruggiero  
Falls Church, VA 22042  
Solo Piano



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

## *From the President*

Yvonne Sabine

The 2019 Annual Membership meeting and Spring Luncheon is right around the corner—May 10<sup>th</sup>, at the Chevy Chase Club in Chevy Chase, Maryland. We are happy to announce that Peter Russell, General Director of Vocal Arts DC, has agreed to be our luncheon speaker. Those of you who have attended Vocal Arts DC concerts know what an entertaining speaker he is. You will not be bored! You should be receiving luncheon reservation forms in early April, but please plan to attend the membership meeting prior to the luncheon where we will have a number of important matters to discuss.

The Nominating Committee has worked very hard to come up with an excellent slate of nominees to fill those jobs that will be open at the end of this season. The job of the Nominating Committee seems to get more and more difficult with each successive year. All members will be asked to vote on these nominees.



The weekend of January 25–26, 2019, the FMMC Chorale and the Chorale Orchestra under the direction of music director Paul Leavitt gave a splendid performance of Francis Poulenc's *Stabat Mater* and Mozart's *Dauid Penitente*. These two interesting works are not performed often, possibly because they are both so difficult. In addition, we had four excellent soloists who put the icing on the cake! In early May the Chorale will be singing a fun program of opera and Broadway.

On Friday, March 8, 2019, we're all looking forward to the Avanti Orchestra under the direction of Pablo Saelzer playing two of Handel's Water Music Suites, Mozart's Piano Concerto No. 17, K. 453 with pianist Christopher Schmitt, and Elgar's Introduction and Allegro, op. 47. Sounds like a great evening! See you at the Church of the Epiphany. 🎵

*Yvonne*