

# The Friday Morning MUSIC CLUB



133RD SEASON

DECEMBER 2018

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## News from the Johansen International Competition

### Post-Competition Concert with Charlotte Marckx

Violinist Charlotte Marckx, who won second prize in the 2018 JIC, performed the Tchaikovsky concerto with the Prince George's Philharmonic on Saturday, October 13. Susan G. Pearl, president of the orchestra's board of directors and member of the violin section, sent us this note about Charlotte's visit:

The audience at the October 13, 2018 concert of the Prince George's Philharmonic had a special treat – the Tchaikovsky violin concerto, with violinist Charlotte Marckx, one of the winners of the 2018 Johansen

International Competition. The 16-year-old Ms. Marckx brought the house down with her thrilling performance of the concerto, and the audience clearly communicated its absolute approval! Ms. Marckx flew in from Seattle on Wednesday, October 10, and rehearsed with the Philharmonic at the Bowie Center for the Performing Arts on Thursday and Friday evenings. She also met with admirers after Thursday's rehearsal, including high school music students, and answered their many questions about her life as a teenage music prodigy; she charmed them all with both her seriousness and her joyous enthusiasm.



Charlotte with a High School Student

*continued on page 2*



From left to right, The Prince George's Philharmonic *future, present, and past*: Charlotte, Maestro Berard, and Rita Souweine (the incredible, delightful "mother" of our orchestra, who single-handedly got our orchestra started back in 1964); Rita is exactly 80 years older than Charlotte, and the two of them bonded instantly!

On Thursday, December 6, 2018, at 11:00 a.m., violist Beatrice Chen, who won first prize in the 2018 JIC, will perform a variety of chamber works at the Mansion at Strathmore. Beatrice is taking advantage of her winner's FMMC membership to participate in this member concert with her mother, violinist Laura Chen, and brother, cellist Noah Chen. Beatrice will also be performing Bartok's *viola concerto* with the Capital City Symphony on Sunday, March 17, 2019, at 5:00 p.m. The concert will take place at the Atlas Performing Arts Center, 1333 H Street NE, Washington, DC.

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*News from the Johansen International Competition (JIC)...continued from page 1*

On Sunday, January 20, 2019, at 4:00 p.m., cellist Michał Balas, who won first prize in the 2018 JIC, will perform Tchaikovsky's *Variations on a Rococo Theme* with the Apollo Orchestra. The concert will take place at Chevy Chase Presbyterian Church, 1 Chevy Chase Circle, Washington, DC. 🎻



Beatrice Chen



Michał Balas

## *The Chorale Kicks off its 2018-19 Season with a Bang*

Peter Baum

The Chorale kicked off its 2018-2019 season on November 2 and 3 singing to an appreciative audience at the Lutheran Church of the Reformation on Capitol Hill. The concert theme was a commemoration of the 100th Anniversary of the signing of the 1918 Armistice that marked the end of World War I. The Chorale shared the stage with ChorusB from Paris, France, a 20-voice choir making its first tour in the US.

Opening the program, ChorusB sang several *a cappella* works that featured solos by tenor Cyril Laporte as well as a reading of a letter, dated March 18, 1918, from Roger

Martin du Gard to his young daughter. Roger du Gard would go on after the war to be awarded the Nobel Prize in Literature.

The rest of the first half of the concert included *a cappella* works by composers from a number of countries including Russia, France, Germany, Italy, and Norway and ranging from the Baroque to the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Both Paul Leavitt and Béatrice Estellon Florentin shared the honors conducting this part of the program.

The second half of the concert was dedicated to works by Gabriel Fauré and culminated with the

performance of his *Requiem*, accompanied by Frank Conlon on the organ with solos by Annie Schwartz, soprano, and Daryl Yoder, baritone.

The Chorale is now preparing for its January Concert when it will present Poulenc's *Stabat Mater* and Mozart's *Dauid penitente* (KV 469). Soloists (soprano and tenor) interested in singing should contact Paul Leavitt at [chorale@fmmc.org](mailto:chorale@fmmc.org) to schedule an audition. 🎻

## From the Foundation Director

Leslie Luxemburg

We at the Foundation continue to make strides with our many competitions. Our 2019 Washington International Competition (WIC) for Voice is now open for business. As with every WIC, we are curious to see which singers will apply and from where. Our efforts to publicize our competition internationally can always benefit from the support of FMMC members. Please share the information with your professional colleagues who may know of qualified singers. We know that personal contact continues to be a valuable tool in this process. As a reminder, all the information can be found on our website: [www.fmmcfoundation.org](http://www.fmmcfoundation.org).

It is exciting to welcome our outstanding judging panel for the semifinals and the finals. In 2019, it will be the esteemed artists Vinson Cole, Peter Kazaras, and Carol Vaness. However, before we get to the semifinals/finals stage we need the expert assistance of our five preliminary judges. Since switching over to an all online preliminary judging process in 2013, we have not needed to sit in committee to pick the semifinalists, which has enabled us to cast a wider net to fill the preliminary judges positions. Even so, we continue to call upon longtime FMMC member soprano Elizabeth Vrenios, as well as two very

highly regarded local musicians, tenor Robert Baker and pianist and vocal coach Thomas Reilly. Rounding out the group are mezzo-soprano Kay Belich and soprano Christine Isley-Farmer.

Dr. Isley-Farmer is a professor of voice at Middle Tennessee State University in Murfreesboro, Tennessee. She has had an extensive career in both opera and concert work in the US and abroad, most notably including engagements in Austria, Switzerland, England, and Ireland. Kay Schoenfeld Belich, who resides in New York City, has had a distinguished career as a music educator and singer, primarily with the New York City Opera Company and with the Skylight Opera Theatre in Milwaukee. We are delighted to have these two wonderful singers join us to round out our preliminary judging panel and bring their unique perspectives to our screening process.

Once the preliminary judges have listened to and rated all the applicants, using both a numerical score and an additional pro or con vote, selecting the semifinalists becomes a fairly simple and transparent process. Each year, it is exciting to await the outcome that we anticipate announcing in the middle of March.



I want to remind you of the very special concert coming up on Thursday December 6th at 11:00 a.m. at the Mansion at Strathmore that will feature our 2018 Johansen International Competition viola winner Beatrice Chen along with her mother Laura on violin and her brother Noah on cello. You will definitely not want to miss this one!

This concert will serve as a wonderful introduction to the holiday season and the wealth of musical events that are always found at this time of the year. May you all have harmonious and happy holidays! 🎶

*Leslie*

## December FMMC Master Class with Pianist Brian Ganz

Mary K Traver

International Piano Archives (IPAM), located in the Performing Arts Library of the University of Maryland's Clarice Smith Arts Center, will be the setting for the next piano master class on Thursday, December 6. The presenter, pianist Brian Ganz, is an acclaimed performer who is recognized for his pedagogical skills. He returns by popular demand, to present this class.

The session will take place from 10:00 am until noon. Three pianists from the performance membership will present the following: Beethoven Sonata in F # major, op. 78, Rachmaninoff Prelude in D major, op 23, No. 4, and works by Chopin (TBD). There is no admission fee; contributions to the master class fund are welcome. Parking is available across the street from the Center in the Stadium Garage. For further information, call Dina Fleming or Mary K. Traver.



## Membership Update

### New Members

Bonnie Cohen (Solo Viola)  
Alexandria, VA 22301-2525

Frank B. Roys (Chorale Bass)  
Frederick, MD 21703-4528

Hyewon Ryou (Solo Piano)  
Baltimore, MD 21202-2278

Reed Trevelyan  
(Orchestra Violin)  
Bethesda, MD 20816

# FMMC Concert Calendar

DECEMBER 2018 and  
EARLY JANUARY 2019

## December

### Tuesday, December 4, 12:00 noon at Dumbarton House

- MAYR: Beati Omnes. WAGENSEL: Memoriam. **Karen Mercedes**, contralto; **Hua-En Tsai**, trombone; **Ruth Locker** (guest), digital organ.
- CRUSELL: Quartet in D Major, Op. 8. **Heidi Schuller**, flute; **David Brown**, violin; **Caroline Brethauer**, viola; **Sarah Hover**, cello.
- MOZART: Quartet III, op. 79, for clarinet and strings (after KV496). **Carole Falvo**, classical 5-key clarinet; **Connie Milner**, violin; **Barbara Gholz**, viola; **Harriet Kaplan**, cello.

### Thursday, December 6, 11:00 am in The Mansion at Strathmore

- FALLA: Dance No. 1 from *La Vida Breve*. PIAZZOLLA: *Libertango*. **Julian Trail** and **Sophia Pallas**, piano four hands.
- BEETHOVEN: Duo for viola and cello "With Two Obligato Eyeglasses", WoO 32, I. Allegro. **Beatrice Chen**, viola; **Noah Chen** (guest), cello.
- PIATTI: Caprices for solo cello, op. 25, nos. III and IX. **Noah Chen**, cello.
- LIGETI: from Sonata for solo viola, IV, V, VI. **Beatrice Chen**, viola
- DOHNANYI: Serenade in C Major, op. 10. **Laura Chen**, violin; **Beatrice Chen**, viola; **Noah Chen**, cello.

### Friday, December 7, 12:00 noon at Calvary Baptist Church

- FAURÉ: Claire de lune; Les Berceaux; Chanson d'amour; Fleur jetée. **Liana Valente**, soprano; **Yuri Chayama**, piano.
- STRAVINSKY: *The Rite of Spring*, part 1: **Jeongseon Choi** and **Misoo Lim**, piano four hands.
- ERIC EWAZEN: *Roaring Fork* for wind quintet. **Gwyn Jones**, flute; **Jeff Kahan** (guest), oboe; **Alisha Coleman** (guest), clarinet; **Eric Hall** (guest), bassoon; **Wendy Chinn** (guest), horn.

### Sunday, December 9, 3:00 pm at The Lyceum, Alexandria

- BRUCH: Eight Pieces for clarinet, viola and piano (selections). **Nancy Genovese**, clarinet; **Caroline Brethauer**, viola; **Amy Rothstein**, piano.
- BRITTEN AND WARLOCK: Selected songs. **Daryl Yoder**, bass-baritone; **Jung-Yoon Lee**, piano.
- HAYDN: Andante with variations in F Minor, Hob.XVII:6. Beethoven: 32 Variations. **Guity Adjoonani**, piano.

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

- BEETHOVEN: Sonata in A-flat Major, op. 110. **Charles Timbrell**, piano.
- FAURÉ: Selected chansons. **Liana Valente**, soprano; **Yuri Chayama**, piano.
- J. S. BACH: Sonata in A Major. FRANK MARTIN: *Ballade*. **Joan Cobbs**, flute; **Maribeth Gowen**, piano.

### Friday, December 14, 12:00 noon at Calvary Baptist Church

Composers Concert with  
Holiday Reception

### Wednesday, December 26, 7:30 pm at the Friendship Heights Community Center

Student Recital

## January

### Thursday, January 3, 11:00 am in The Mansion at Strathmore

- BRUCH: from Eight Pieces, op. 83 for clarinet, viola and piano, I, II, IV. PAQUITO D'RIVERA: *Afro* (Arranged by Gustavo Tavares) for clarinet, viola and piano. **Albert Hunt**, clarinet; **Bonnie Cohen**, viola; **Felicia Weiss**, piano.
- STRAVINSKY: The Rite of Spring. **Jeongseon Choi** and **Chen-Li Tzeng**, piano four hands.
- EMIL SJÖGREN: Six songs from Julius Wolff's *Tannhäuser*, op. 12. TURE RANGSTRÖM: Flickan under nynån; Pan. **Debora Madsen**, soprano; **George Peachey**, piano.

### Sunday, January 6, 7:30 pm at Riderwood Retirement Community

- SCARLATTI, LOVELADY AND YORK: Selections for classical guitar. **Charles Mokotoff**, guitar.
- PROKOFIEV: Sonata for clarinet and piano, op. 94. **Albert Hunt**, clarinet; **Barbara Peterson Cackler**, piano.

## Venues

### Calvary Baptist Church

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

### Dumbarton House

2715 Q St. NW  
Washington, DC

### Friendship Heights Community Ctr.

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

### The Lyceum

201 S Washington St.  
Alexandria, VA

### The Mansion at Strathmore

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

### Riderwood Village Chapel

3110 Gracefield Rd.  
Silver Spring, MD

### Steinway Gallery

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

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

Applications will be 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. Application form and works for the competition must be received (via mail or email) by March 2, 2019. For additional information, please contact [highschoolwind@fmmc.org](mailto:highschoolwind@fmmc.org).

FMMC members are cordially invited to help or host/usher on the day of the competition. ♪

# Outreach Performance Program

Sheyna Burt

I don't know about you, but the world has been pretty exhausting lately. Conflicts, violence, discord...we could use a reminder that beauty still does exist. As a participant in Friday Morning Music Club's Outreach Performance Program, you can be a part of that beauty.

By way of reminder, the FMMC Outreach Performance Program facilitates small ensemble concerts of approximately one hour at senior facilities and other non-traditional performance spaces. The Outreach Program allows the musician's autonomy and flexibility in scheduling the concerts. FMMC's role is limited to tracking productions, facilities, and volunteer musicians. The rest is up to you: you select the music, the venue, and the players; you coordinate dates and times with the venue; and you bask in the warmth of sharing your gifts with music lovers who are sincerely grateful to hear you.

You can find a list of venues on the list serve notice and on the website. We have worked to confirm the accuracy of the contact information, but if you discover that a venue has made a change, let me know and we will update our database. We encourage those of you who are music teachers to invite your students to become members of FMMC and use Outreach performances as mini-recitals.

What follows are a few tips for you as you plan your recital and communicate with the venues:

- Describe the length and type of program you have in mind and confirm that this is what is desired by the audience.
- Alternatively, find out what type of program would be enjoyed by the audience: all classical, a mix with popular, old favorite songs, or simply background music? If songs, are they likely to want to join in singing?
- Who will be the audience? Are they low or high functioning, or perhaps a mix of both? What is the likely size? Would they like interaction with the performer, such as a description of each program item?
- Will there be another activity taking place at the same time, such as a tea, or a wine and cheese event?
- Will venue staff members introduce the performers and be there to close it?
- What are the space details? What are the room size, acoustics, temperature, and noise level?
- If a piano is involved, what are its type and condition? When was it last tuned?
- The performer should contact the activity professional at the venue a day or two ahead to confirm date and arrival time, directions to the site, and to whom to report.

After you complete each performance, please email me (outreach@fmmc.org) or Valerie Matthews (VHMatthews@terpalum.umd.edu) and let us know the following information about your Outreach performances: performer(s), venue name and location (City/County, and State), and performance date. This reporting is critical to our ability to paint a full picture of the Club's activities for grant purposes. I also encourage you to celebrate your contributions as FMMC ambassadors in the

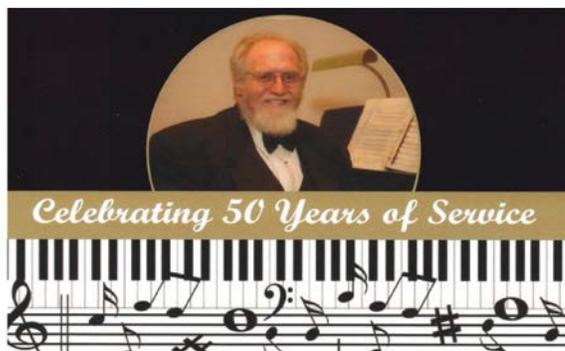
community by taking a moment to send pictures and brief descriptions of your performances to the FMMC Facebook page administrator (admin@fmmc.org) or send them to the newsletter (newsletter@fmmc.org); if you prefer, feel free to email that content to me and I'll take care of it for you. Let's overwhelm the Club with the good news of your outreach.

Should you wish to seek other players for the purpose of forming an Outreach ensemble, please let me know! You also may request a notice in the FMMC monthly newsletter about your interest in creating an ensemble.

Now go out and be a source of beauty! 🎵

## Frank Conlon Was Celebrated for 50 Years as Music Director of Annunciation Parish

All of us at FMMC are delighted to lend our good wishes to Frank Conlon, The Annunciation Catholic Church celebrated Frank's 50 years of service. Frank is a cornerstone of the Friday Morning Music Club, and we add our praise to that of Annunciation. 🎵



**Join us for a Musical Tribute  
Followed by a reception  
In appreciation of**

**Frank Conlon**  
*for 50 years of service*

**Sunday, October 28<sup>th</sup>, 2018  
5 pm**

**Annunciation Catholic Church  
3810 Massachusetts Avenue NW  
Washington, DC 20016**

**RSVP BY A.S.A.P**  
[parish@annunciation.org](mailto:parish@annunciation.org) or 202-362-3323



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

## From the President

Yvonne Sabine

Now that the holiday season is upon us, I want to wish you all the very best. Enjoy the season, enjoy your families, and enjoy making and listening to wonderful music.

I hope that I will see many of you at our programs this month, especially at our Holiday Reception on Friday, December 14th, following the Composers Concert. Thank you all for your hard work for the Club.

The nominations committee continues its task of soliciting volunteers for the several important Board positions that need to be filled for next year. Please consider donating your time to this wonderful organization. We need you.

There have been a few changes in our administration that I hope will improve our efficiency: Sadly, Melissa Ezelle resigned, after only a month, to take a full time job elsewhere. In her place, we

have hired our own Joanna Taylor, who will tackle many of the administrative tasks, particularly those relating to membership. We are very fortunate to have Joanna's skills and commitment to the Club.

The FMMC Board of Governors voted in September to hire a full-time FMMC General Manager. The position requires attendance at all Board meetings on the third Friday of the month (excluding July and August) and emphasizes increasing membership and developing new sources of revenue. We hope that this will take some of the pressure off of our current and future volunteers and make volunteering more accessible.

Please be sure to read the notice from Sheyna Burt in this newsletter regarding our Outreach Performance Program. This is a great way to share



Yvonne Sabine

your love of music with others, especially during this holiday season. Again, my very best to all of you. Happy Holidays! 🎵

*Yvonne*