

The Friday Morning MUSIC CLUB



128TH SEASON

FEBRUARY 2014

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The FMCC Foundation – What it Does

LESLIE LUXEMBURG

Founded in 1948 to sponsor the annual Washington International Competition to advance the careers of young musicians not yet under management, the Friday Morning Music Club Foundation expanded its program in 1997 when the Johansen International Competition for young string players was established. The JIC was funded primarily by a charitable trust set up by the estate of Mrs. Anna Johansen. In 1976, a composition competition to be held once every three years was added. All three competitions fall under the umbrella of the Friday Morning Music Club but each has its own Board, Director and budget.

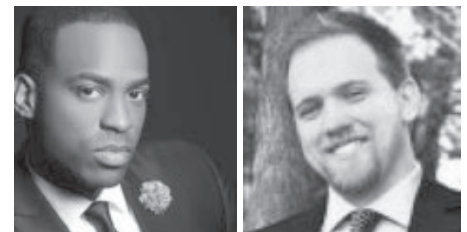
While the JIC takes place once every three years and is only for string players between the ages of 13-17, the WIC takes place annually and alternates between strings, piano and voice. The minimum age for the WIC is 18, but winners tend to be in their late 20s.

From the very beginning worthy young artists have participated, most of them going on to careers as performers and teachers at the highest levels. Recently, former winners have returned to serve as judges for a competition that meant so much to them when they were establishing their careers. A few examples of this are Toby Saks, a 1959 cello winner and judge in 2006, Jane Coop, a 1975 piano winner and judge in 2011, and Marc Johnson, a 1970 cello winner and 2012 judge. And of course we have Bonnie Kellert, a 1966 winner of the piano competition, who is

serving this year as the competition chair. In order to secure the most talented and qualified applicants for this year's competition, Bonnie is not leaving anything to chance. Already by the end of December she had arranged for announcements to be sent out to all piano faculty members across the United States and Canada via the College Music Society. Bonnie followed this up with personal messages to colleagues who teach piano at the college level to see whether they might have any qualified students. Even before the DecisionDesk.com site opened officially on January 1st, several inquiries had come in.

The competition has also set up its own Facebook page: "2014 Washington International Competition." Please "like" us on Facebook and come back often for updates. We are confident this will be a worthwhile tool for spreading the word about the competition among talented young pianists.

It is gratifying to see the consistently high caliber of our finalists each year and interesting to note the slim margins which separate the award



Soloman Howard

Eric Jurenas

winners. Our 2013 vocal winner, charismatic bass Soloman Howard, has gone on to major roles with the Washington National Opera and other national companies. One of our finalists, countertenor Eric Jurenas, recently won a 2014 Sullivan Music Foundation grant that involves both a large financial award as well as preparation grants for new roles for the next five years. The chance to work with such wonderful young artists as well as to get to know them on a more personal level is rewarding both for Foundation Board members and for many other members of the FMCC community as well.

Please consider the opportunity to serve as a host or a backstage helper in this year's competition in June. I promise you will be very glad you did! 🎧

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President's Message

CAROL WOLFE-RALPH

As with every message I write, I am struck with the realization that there is always a flurry of activity between the composition of the President's messages and their publication. As I write this, our local weather has "been frightful" (to quote a song!). In fact, one of our January concerts had to be cancelled. And it's not over . . . our temperatures are about to take a plunge into the single digits. So I'm hoping that we all find ways to stay healthy and warm. It's a good time for our musical indoor activities and concerts – I'm sure they bring comfort to many during these gray days of winter! I have to say a special thank you to the members of our wonderful Board of Governors for everything they do. They are an active and caring group, always looking for ways to support the organization. We have some exciting happenings, the most important of which are the upcoming events to "audition" a new Chorale Director. If you can, please support this endeavor with your vocal cords or your instruments . . . it should be fun! We are also on the road to giving our FMMC website a much-needed face-lift. We will keep you posted, but feel free to check the website periodically for changes. I also assume that everyone received our fundraising letter. I hope you will give thoughtful consideration to what you can do for the Club in its 128th season.



Take care, and stay warm.

Carol

News From the Board

The FMMC Board of Governors met on December 20.

- **Grant Received.** We are pleased to announce that the Dallas Morse Coors Foundation for the Performing Arts awarded the FMMC a generous grant of \$4,000 to support our Avanti Orchestra's Kennedy Center concert. This is the fourteenth year in a row!
- **Chorale Conductor Search.** We are excited to announce that we have four finalists under consideration. Although our first event was in January, there are three others for which we could use some volunteer singers. If you are available, please contact Peter Baum, peterbaum@cox.net for more information.
- **Website.** The proposed contract for website creation and migration was approved and signed. Work has begun, and it is anticipated that it will take 6-8 months over the span of a year to complete. All suggestions concerning site development should be addressed to Anne Zim, annewzim@comcast.net.
- **Our Vice President of Auditions.** Jeffery Beaudry, presented violinist Henry Flory for consideration for membership without audition. After a careful review of his credentials, his recommendation was approved by the Board.
- **Suggestion Box.** The Board approved a new "Suggestion Box" in the Newsletter to solicit in-put and feed-back from the whole FMMC membership. Check it out in this issue!

Choral Workshop on March 8

Improve Your Skills and

Review our Second Candidate for the Chorale Director

PETER BAUM

Save the date March 8 for the second of four all-day choral workshops led by outstanding conductors. These are free to members of FMMC, whether singer or instrumentalist. Sign up for a joyous day of music coaching. Bring your non-FMMC guests as well at a fee of \$25 per person.

The second workshop will be held in the Fellowship Hall of the First Baptist Church (1328 16th Street, NW, Washington, DC 20036). Registration will start at 9:00 am for the chorus. The chorus will rehearse at 9:30 am, break for lunch at 12 noon – bring your own lunch or eat out at one of the many restaurants in the area – and continue to rehearse at 1:00 pm. Orchestra members will begin a separate rehearsal at 1:00 pm, the chorus joining them at 2:30 pm. The concert will begin at 4:00 pm and should last no more than one hour. Be sure to invite your friends and

family to join us for the concert. The committee will respond with a final list of music so you can check your own library for parts. (The committee will have copies available to rent to singers if you don't).

People interested in singing in the chorus should email Peter Baum (peterbaum@cox.net). Be sure to indicate the voice part you want and whether you are an FMMC member and whether you wish to rent a part. Orchestra members should also contact Peter Baum and indicate their instrument. The director for this workshop will be Dr. Stephen Caracciolo. Dr. Caracciolo is Assistant Professor of Choral Conducting and Voice at the University of Maryland Baltimore County and is actively composing works for vocal ensembles. He also had experience as an adjudicator. His program for this workshop had not

been established as of press time. It is expected that there will be a good mix of accompanied as well as a cappella works that will prove to be of interest to all.

This workshop marks the half-way point in the Club's review of the Chorale Director candidates. The remaining two workshops will be held in May and July. The purpose of the workshops is to allow the singers, instrumentalists, the search committee and FMMC's Board of Governors to evaluate the candidates chosen by the committee from over 15 people who submitted applications in October and November. Participants in the chorus and orchestra will be offered the chance to complete a survey after each workshop to see how well they thought the candidate did as a teacher and leader in this highly compressed event. 🎧

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 15, 2013 concert held at the Kennedy Center Terrace Theater. The concert was presented by the Avanti Orchestra of the FMMC and featured Abigail Mitchell, soprano finalist in the 2013 Washington International Voice Competition last

spring. This is the fourteenth year in a row that the Dallas Morse Coors Foundation has generously supported the FMMC.

The Dallas Morse Coors Foundation for the Performing Arts was established in 1990 for the purpose of supporting the performing arts, principally in the greater Washington, D.C. area and at Cornell University.

The Foundation is administered by a trustee with the assistance of an advisory committee knowledgeable about the performing arts in our area. Successful applicants need to demonstrate artistic excellence, innovation, community outreach, strong management and financial stability.

The FMMC is extremely fortunate to have such a loyal supporter of our Club! 🎧

FMMC Concert Calendar

FEBRUARY AND EARLY MARCH 2014

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 7:30 PM

Riderwood

- BEETHOVEN: Sonata No. 3 in A Major, op. 69. **Valerie Matthews**, cello; **Victoria Bragin**, piano.
- ERIC EWAZEN: Sonata No. 2. **Laura Benning**, flute; **Roy Hakes**, piano.
- SHARON GUERTIN SHAFER: *Poems of a World War II Veteran*. **Sharon Guertin Shafer**, soprano and piano.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 11:00 AM

The Mansion at Strathmore

- MOZART, RACHMANINOFF, DONIZETTI. Selected songs and arias. **Nancy Peery Marriott**, soprano; **David Chapman**, piano.
- GRIEG: Sonata in E Minor, op. 7. **Soyoon Yim**, piano.
- POULENC: Sextet. **Gwyn Jones**, flute; **Jeff Kahan**, oboe; **Alisha Coleman**, clarinet; **Wendy Chinn**, horn; **Eric Hall**, bassoon; **Rosanne Conway**, piano.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 12:00 NOON

Calvary Baptist Church

- J.S. BACH: Fantasia in C Minor.
- MOZART: Sonata in D Major, K.576, mvmt I, Allegro.
- FELIX BLUMENFELD: Etude in A-flat Major for left hand alone. **Deborah Brown**, piano.
- LAITMAN, COPLAND: Selected songs. **Anne Hagan Bentz**, soprano; **David Chapman**, piano.
- SCHUBERT: Fantasy. **Hidetaro Suzuki**, violin; **Zeyda Ruga Suzuki**, piano.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 4:00 PM

Montgomery College Cultural Arts Center, Silver Spring

- Avanti - the orchestra of the Friday Morning Music Club, Pablo Saelzer, conductor.*
- HAYDN: Symphony No. 94 in G major ("Surprise").
 - VAUGHAN WILLIAMS: Fantasia on a Theme by Thomas Tallis.
 - BEETHOVEN: Allegretto from Symphony No. 7.
 - GINASTERA: *Variaciones Concertantes*.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 12:00 NOON

The Steinway Gallery

- BACH: Partita No. 6 in E Minor, BWV 830. **Hanyin Chen**, piano.
- DELIBES: *Le Rossignol*. LAITMAN: *The Silver Swan*. CALDARA: *Quell' usignuolo*. **Deborah Thurlow**, soprano; **Susan Hayes**, flute; **Barbara Cackler**, piano.
- GLIÈRE: Duets for violin and cello, op. 39. TCHAIKOVSKY: Selections from *Variations on a Rococo Theme*, op. 33. **Destiny Hoyle**, violin; **Michael Mermagen** (guest), cello; **Jinqhua Pu** (guest), piano.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 12:00 NOON

Calvary Baptist Church

- SCHUBERT: Fantasy in F Minor. **Li-Ly Chang** and **Chieh-Ming Lee**, piano four hands.
- BRUNETTI: Sonata for viola. GLAZUNOV: *Elégie*. **Helen Fall**, viola; **Betsey Fountain**, piano.
- BRAHMS: Three Vocal Quartets, op. 64. **Marjorie Coombs Wellman**, soprano; **Miriam Radakovich** (guest), alto; **Ben Wallis**, baritone; **Ina Mirtcheva** (guest), piano. Tenor TBA.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 11:00 AM

Fairfax Old Town Hall.

- CAMBINI: Trio in C Major, op. 26, no. 5. **Heidi Schuller**, flute, **Wendolyn Olson Posner**, violin, **Caroline Brethauer**, viola.
- SHARON GUERTIN SHAFER: *The Soul of Things*. **Sharon Guertin Shafer**, soprano and piano.
- SCHUMANN: *Fantasiestücke* 1, 2, 7, 8. **David Fram**, piano.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 12:00 NOON

Calvary Baptist Church

Composers Concert.

- LESLIE BENNETT: *Words Never Spoken*. **Leslie Bennett**, soprano; **Rosanne Conway**, piano.
- AN MING WANG: *Seascapes*. **Mary K. Traver**, piano.
- SHARON GUERTIN SHAFER: *Butterflies and Bumblebees*. **Sharon Guertin Shafer**, soprano and piano.
- WINIFRED HYSOON: *Under the North Portico*. **Melissa Coombs**, soprano; **Virginia Rice Sircy**, piano.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 12:00 NOON

Calvary Baptist Church

- SCHUMANN: *Fantasiestücke* 1, 2, 7, 8. **David Fram**, piano.
- MOZART: Trio in E-flat Major, K. 498 ("Kegelstatt"). **Kenneth Latchis**, clarinet; **Darlene Murphy**, viola; **Barbara Teng**, piano.
- HINDEMITH: Three Pieces for cello and piano, op. 8. **Igor Zubkovsky**, cello; **Irina Koulikova**, piano.

THURSDAY, MARCH 6, 11:00 AM**The Mansion at Strathmore**

- TCHAIKOVSKY (arr. Rachmaninoff): Fantasy on *The Sleeping Beauty*, op. 66a. **Hsien-Ann Meng** and **Wei-Der Huang**, piano four hands.
- GRIFFES: Three Poems on texts of Fiona McLeod. **Seyoung Jeong**, soprano; piano TBD.
- STRAUSS: Sonata for Violin and Piano. **Hidetaro Suzuki**, violin; **Zeyda Ruga Suzuki**, piano.

FRIDAY, MARCH 7, 12:00 NOON**Calvary Baptist Church**

- BERG: *Vier Stücke*. SCHIKELE: Elegie. **Albert Hunt**, clarinet; **Felicia Weiss**, piano.
- BRAHMS: Trio in B Major, op. 8. **Cecilie Jones**, violin; **Jan Timbers**, cello; piano TBA.
- LEHAR, RODRIGO and MOORE: Selected songs and arias. **Lucy Chen**, soprano; **David Chapman**, piano.

VENUES**CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH**

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

THE MANSION AT STRATHMORE,

10701 Rockville Pike, N. Bethesda, MD
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MONTGOMERY COLLEGE CULTURAL ARTS CENTER

7995 Georgia Ave., Silver Spring, MD.

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STEINWAY GALLERY

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

FRIDAY MORNING MUSIC CLUB**P R E S E N T S****ROSS-ROBERTS HIGH SCHOOL COMPETITION
FOR WOODWINDS, BRASS & PERCUSSION**

(open to high school students grades 9-12 who live within 50 miles of DC)

March 8, 2014

National Presbyterian Church, 4101 Nebraska Ave, N.W., 9 am - 3 pm

Applications due by February 24, 2014.

See www.fmmc.org – Competitions – Local Student Competitions

J U D G E S :

Charles Ostle (percussion)
Susan Hayes (flute)
Mark Simon (Sax/Clarinet)

P R I Z E S :

First prize - \$700
Second prize - \$500
Judges' Discretionary Award - \$300

For more information, visit www.fmmc.org

Or email highschoolwind@fmmc.org

Where Are They Now?

Johansen International String Competition Updates

FELICE KORNBORG

Cellist Brannon Cho, who won First Prize at the 2012 Johansen International String Competition, was awarded the Bronze Medal at the 2013 Gaspar Cassado International Cello Competition in Japan, First Prize at the Lennox International Competition in 2011 and Grand Prize at the 2010 ASTA National Solo Competition. He also captured the Silver Medal and Audience Award at the 2012 Stulberg International Competition, the Silver Medal at the 2013 National YoungArts Festival, was a runner-up in From the Top's "Big Break" contest in 2009 and performed with Christopher O'Riley in Carnegie Hall.

Brannon has performed as a soloist with the Tokyo Philharmonic, the Colonial Symphony, the Richardson Symphony Orchestra, the Western Michigan University Symphony Orchestra, the Massapequa Philharmonic and the Capital City Symphony.

In 2012, he gave a master class and performed as a guest artist at the Eastern Washington University's "Cellobration". Later that year, he was also a guest artist for the "Kids in Tune" program in Kalamazoo, MI. He also earned several film festival awards after making the music video "Julie-O."

Brannon attended the Heifetz Music Institute in 2011 and 2012, working with such esteemed artists as Ralph



Brannon Cho

Kirshbaum, Frans Helmerson, Timothy Eddy, and Lynn Harrell. He now studies at Northwestern University with Professor Hans Jensen.

Cellist Santiago Cañón Valencia, who was a prize-winner in the 2012 Johansen International String Competition, was born in 1995 in Bogotá Colombia, and commenced his musical studies at the age of 4 with his mother, Rocío Valencia and the Polish cellist Henryk Zarzycki. He moved to New Zealand in 2007 to study with the American cellist, James Tennant, and since has performed over 100 recitals around the Pacific region with pianist Katherine Austin. He has won major prizes at every international cello competition he has entered. Most recently he won the Best Performer of the Cassado work at the



Santiago Cañón Valencia

2013 Gaspar Cassado International Violoncello Competition in Japan. His other competitions include the 2011 Gisborne International Music Competition in New Zealand, the 2010 Beijing International Cello Competition in China, the 2009 Adam International Cello Competition in New Zealand and the 2006 Carlos Prieto Competition in Mexico. In 2012, Santiago received his Bachelor of Music (Soloist Specialization) from the University of Waikato, NZ and was awarded the Sir Edmund Hillary Medal for the Creative and Performing Art Person of the Year.

Santiago now has a full scholarship at Southern Methodist University where he is pursuing a Performer Diploma Degree with the renowned cellist Andres Diaz. 🎻

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Pianist Ching-Yun Hu To Play Benefit Concert

CHRISTINA HANNA

Taiwanese Pianist Ching-Yun Hu will perform works by Chopin, Ravel, Albéniz, and Scriabin in a concert next month to benefit the Washington International Competition sponsored by the Friday Morning Music Club Foundation. The concert will take place on Sunday, March 2nd at 3 pm at the Steinway Piano Gallery, 11611 Old Georgetown Road, North Bethesda, Md. The suggested donation is \$50, with piano students and teachers welcome at no cost. The proceeds will support the Foundation's 61st WIC event which this year features pianists age 18 to 30. Finals will take place Sunday, June 8th at 2 pm at the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C.

Ms. Hu has had an impressive touring and recording career, capturing the top prize and audience-favorite prize at the 2008 Rubenstein International Piano Competition in Tel Aviv and winning the 2009 Concert Artist Guild International Competition in New York. Her debut album, "Ching-Yun Plays Chopin," was named Best Classical Album of the Year at the 2012 Golden Melody Awards.

Hu has played with the Philadelphia Orchestra, the Israel Philharmonic, the New York Concerti Sinfonietta, the National Taiwan Symphony Orchestra and other orchestras across Europe, Asia, the United States, South America and

South Africa. She has appeared in recitals at the Lincoln Center, Carnegie Hall, the Kennedy Center, Wigmore Hall in London, the Herkulesaal and Gasteig in Munich, the Salle Cortot in Paris and the Concertgebouw in Amsterdam. She has also performed at the Duszniki-Zdrój Chopin Festival in Poland, the Klavier-Festival Ruhr, and the Aspen Music Festival.

In addition to a career that has spanned five continents, Hu has presented the works of numerous award-winning contemporary composers including Jennifer Higdon and Carl Vine. She has collaborated and performed with the Szymanowski Quartet in Germany, with members of the Philadelphia Orchestra in Philadelphia, and with her mentor Sergei Babayan in Taiwan.

Hu studied at the Juilliard School of Music, the Cleveland Institute of Music, and the Hochschule für Musik, Theater und Medien in Germany. A keen advocate of classical music, Hu founded the Yun-Hsiang International Music Festival in Taipei and the Philadelphia Young Pianists Academy that takes place at the Curtis Institute of Music where she serves as artistic director. She is also on the faculty of the Esther Boyer College of Music at Temple University in Philadelphia.

The Jerusalem Post hailed Hu's performances as having "superstar quality



Ching-Yun Hu

that everybody looks for. . .musical, energetic, and full of flair." For her benefit concert she will perform Scriabin's *Sonata No. 2 in f-sharp minor*, Op. 19 (Sonata-Fantasy); Chopin's *Rondo in e-flat major*, Op. 16; *Ondine* from Ravel's *Gaspard de la Nuit*; and *Evocación, El Puerto*, and *Tirana* from Isaac Albéniz's *Iberia*.

FMMC members and their family and friends are urged to support this concert that promises to be a highlight of the Washington area's early spring musical season. 🗨️

*"Listening to music,
our souls undergo
a change."*

— ARISTOTLE



THE SUGGESTION BOX

The FMMC Newsletter is starting a new "Suggestion Box." If you have suggestions about how to improve existing programs, expand the opportunities we now offer, or create new ones, we want to hear from you. Please send your suggestions to newsletter@fmmc.org.



Friday Morning Music Club
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The Exchange

The FMMC has a new service for members called “The Exchange.” This is where members (and members only) can place announcements for music and/or instruments they want to buy, sell or give away, or for musicians they need for ensembles or specific performances. Announcements must be as brief as possible. Because space is limited, the Exchange will operate on a “first come, first served” basis. Send submissions to newsletter@fmmc.org. 🎵

Student Recital

CHRISTINE KHARAZIAN

Please note that the Student Recital originally scheduled for January 21st has been rescheduled to February 6th at 7:30. The recital will take place at Goodwin House of Alexandria. This program will feature some of our outstanding young performers, many of whom are winners of local and international student competitions. Please let your students know about this exciting program. We can’t think of a better way to inspire them to practice more than hearing a masterful performance by a musician as young as they are. 🎵

