

The Friday Morning MUSIC CLUB



127TH SEASON

SEPTEMBER 2013

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Choral Activities for 2013-14

FMMC is offering new opportunities for vocalists during the 2013-14 season – a series of vocal chamber concerts and choral workshops.

As you know, the FMMC Chorale will not be active during this transitional year while the Chorale Restructuring Committee explores formats that hopefully will expand the vocal opportunities available to members.

During the Fall, vocalists are invited to participate in two vocal chamber concerts at Beth El Hebrew Congregation in Alexandria, VA

(Sunday, October 20 and Sunday, December 8). Each concert will feature a small chamber ensemble and groups of two or more vocalists, with accompanying instruments.

Members who would like to participate in these concerts should contact Tom Meier at harmonytom@comcast.net or 703-881-3333. This is a “first-come, first served” opportunity, so please contact Tom quickly! If you want to participate even though these two dates are not possible for you, please register your interest anyway

since the series may continue into the new year.

During the 2014 portion of the season, FMMC will sponsor a series of one-day choral workshops at which participants will take part in intensive rehearsal sessions to prepare a major choral work, or several smaller works. A performance, with appropriate instrumental accompaniment, will conclude the day. The workshops will be led by candidates applying to be the FMMC Chorale Music Director in the 2014-15 season. 🎧

Chorale Director Search

The FMMC Chorale is currently searching for a new director. Individuals interested in applying for the position should contact the Chorale Chair at choralechair@fmnc.org for further information. 🎧

Chamber Instrumental Performing Members

From September 2012 through March 2014, current chamber instrumental members (not pianists) seeking a solo performance membership may audition by presenting one major (multi-movement) work, unaccompanied or with piano. No shorter selections are required. This newly-revised policy permits solo instrumental candidates to memorize the music or not, as they choose. Solo candidates must still apply in the usual way for an audition on one of the two days each year that auditions are held. Please see the auditions page of the website: www.fmnc.org. 🎧

Inside This Issue

- 2** President's Message

- 3** Remembering Helen Byrn May

- 3** From the Foundation Director

- 4** September and Early October Events Calendar





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Organized in 1886

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CAROL WOLFE-RALPH

President's Message

As I start this term as the incoming President of FMMC, I write this from the peacefulness of the Allegheny Forest in northern Pennsylvania. It is a calm that truly contrasts with the energy of the FMMC. I am excited about what this Club provides, and am fortunate that I can count on the dedication and competence of those who make the wheels turn so smoothly. One of the items on our agenda is to rework the FMMC Web site to make it more efficient for members and those seeking information about us. In addition, I will be starting a "News From the Board" section in each subsequent Newsletter so that members can stay informed. If there are any ideas, questions or concerns from you, please know that you can contact me anytime.

Our first concert of the season will be held at the Calvary Baptist Church in Washington, D.C. on Friday, October 4th and will be followed by the President's Reception. It is a beautiful venue that is easily accessible via the Metro. I hope you can make time in your schedule to attend. It should be a wonderful start to the season. Hope to see you there! Here's to a good year!

Sincerely,

Carol Wolfe-Ralph
Carol Wolfe-Ralph

WPAS Thanks Musicians

The Washington Performing Arts Society would like to express its gratitude to the following Club musicians and their colleagues who made generous offers of performances to be auctioned off at the WPAS Gala this April, for the benefit of the educational programs (e.g., Concerts in Schools) which FMMC co-sponsors:

- Jeongseon Choi/Chen-Li Tzeng, four-hand piano recital
- Cyndy & Doug Elliott, jazz octet & jazz trio
- The Ionian Winds Quintet: Nancy Genovese, Susan Findley, Susan Hayes, Jackson Hufnagle, & Susan Wilson
- Immanuela Gruenberg, piano lecture/recital
- Jim Lieberman, cello recital
- Karen Mercedes, contralto recital
- Merrem Piano Trio, Evelyn Song
- Charles Mokotoff, classical guitar recital 🎸

Membership Dues

Don't forget your membership dues! (For details, see "Membership & Dues" in the Yearbook). The required membership form can be found on-line at fmmc.org. Click on "get involved" and then on "how to join." At the bottom of the page there will be a link to the membership form. Send it together with your payment to Susanne Stevenson (7222 Parsons Ct., Alexandria, VA 22306; office@fmmc.org) or Jo-Ann Royer (4342 Loyola Ave., Alexandria, VA, 22304-1034; jroyer@aol.com). 🎸

LESLIE LUXEMBURG

From the Foundation Director

It is an honor to assume the position of Director of the Friday Morning Music Club Foundation and to follow in the footsteps of the multi-talented and warmly regarded Frank Conlon. Frank's sure and gentle hand at the helm was celebrated at a well-attended luncheon at the Cosmos Club in June, an event that would not have been possible without the able assistance of Suzanne Richardson.

Bonnie Kellert, an extremely gifted pianist and teacher as well as a life member of the FMMC, has taken over as chair of the 2014 Washington

International Competition in piano. Having been a WIC winner herself, she has a vested interest in making 2014 an outstanding year for young pianists. Please mark your calendars for June 7 (semifinals) and June 8 (finals) and plan to join us!

I am delighted to announce that our second place WIC vocal winner, soprano Abigail Mitchell, will be singing Britten's "Les Illuminations" (in honor of his centennial) with our Avanti Orchestra on November 15th at the Terrace Theater and that our first place cellist in 2012, Matthew

Zalkind, will give a recital at the Phillips Collection next March 16th. Events such as these remind us of the worthwhile function the Foundation serves in forwarding the careers of these amazing young artists.

We welcome three new members to our Board this year: pianists Christina Hanna and Barbara Teng, and soprano Katie Katinas. They will be joining a dedicated and effective Board.

I look forward to working with the Board and other Club members to ensure another successful year! 🎶

Remembering Helen Byrn May

The Friday Morning Music Club notes with sadness the death of Helen Byrn May, 96, on July 14, 2013, in McLean, Virginia. May served two terms as President of the Club from 1969-73. She was a Life Member and was elected to Honorary Membership in 1986. May served as Chair of the FMMC Centennial Celebration Committee in 1986-87 and was a Performance Member on the piano.

Born in 1916 in Ann Arbor, Michigan, May graduated from the University of Michigan School of Music. Her husband, Donald Curtis May, Jr., Ph.D, had a distinguished career as a mathematician in the United States Navy and at Johns Hopkins University. Dr. May died in 1998.

May's presidency expanded the Club's Concerts in Schools Program

by organizing a series of workshops designed to provide close interaction between students and artists. Her presidency included several piano showcase programs, an unusual program of religious dance, and luncheons in which deans from college departments of music were featured speakers.

May was a leader in the National Symphony Orchestra's educational program and founded and directed the NSO's Young Soloist Competition. She became the friend and mentor of Jessye Norman while Norman was earning her undergraduate and graduate degrees at Howard University and the University of Michigan.

A memorial concert in honor of Mrs. Helen Byrn May will be held in the Washington, D.C. area in the fall of 2013. Condolences



and remembrances may be sent to the family in care of Roger A. Andersen, 1215 Central Avenue, North Muskegon, MI 49445. 🎶

FMMC Concert Calendar

SEPTEMBER AND EARLY OCTOBER 2013

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 7:30 PM

Dumbarton House

- FERNANDO SOR: Variations on a Theme by Mozart, op. 9. DIONISIO AGUADO: Rondo, op. 2, no. 2. **Benjamin Altman**, guitar.
- FRANZ DANZI: Duo for Viola and Violoncello. **Caroline Brethauer**, viola; **Virginia Gardner**, violoncello.
- J. S. BACH: Partita No. 3 in E Major, BWV 1006. **Destiny Hoyle**, violin.
- SIGISMUND RITTER VON NEUKOMM: *Fête de village en Suisse*. **Jean Provine** and **Miriam Goldberg**, violins; **Louise Lerner** (guest) and **Caroline Brethauer**, violas; **Valerie Matthews**, violoncello.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 8:00 PM

Church of the Epiphany

- Avanti, the Orchestra of the Friday Morning Music Club, Pablo Saelzer, conductor**
- VIVALDI: Concerto for Four Violins in B Minor.
 - PIATTI: Oboe Concerto in G Minor. **Alison Lowell**, oboe.
 - VIVALDI: Piccolo Concerto in C Major. **Jenni Miller**, piccolo.
 - J.S. BACH: Brandenburg Concerto No.1 in F Major.

VENUES

- **CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH**
755 Eighth Street NW, Washington, DC (Metro: Gallery Place)
- **CHURCH OF THE EPIPHANY**
1317 G Street NW, Washington, DC (Metro: Metro Center)
- **DUMBARTON HOUSE**
2715 Q Street NW, Washington, DC

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 4, 12:00 NOON

Calvary Baptist Church

President's Reception to follow

- POULENC: Selections from *Fifteen Improvisations*. **Soyoon Yim**, piano.
- LAVALLÉE, DESSANE, LAVIGNE, AND LALIBERTÉ: Selected songs. **Karen Mercedes**, contralto.
- MENDELSSOHN: String Quartet in E Minor, op. 44, no. 2. **David Brown** and **Sheyna Burt**, violins; **Caroline Brethauer**, viola; **Joanna Taylor**, cello.



FUNDRAISERS, GRANT-WRITERS WANTED!

The FMMC needs volunteers willing to help out with fundraising and/or grant writing. Any help would be most appreciated. Those interested should contact Anne Zim at annewzim@comcast.net. 📞

SUPERB STEINWAY MODEL "S" PIANO FOR SALE

Unique opportunity to purchase a Steinway baby grand (5'1") with deep, rich, exceptional tone. Ebony, one owner, signed. Tuned regularly, but rarely played. Tuner says "best Steinway of its size I've ever heard." Please call: 202-333-3184 in Washington, DC (near the Cathedral) to make an appointment. For price, inquire. 📞

MEMBERSHIP UPDATES

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