

# The Friday Morning MUSIC CLUB



132ND SEASON

SEPTEMBER 2018

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## From the President

Yvonne Sabine

Greetings to all FMMC members and welcome to a new season of FMMC concerts and other events! As I write this column, I am just recovering from a week's vacation in the mountains where we enjoyed slightly cooler air and less crowded spaces than we are used to in the DC area. I hope that all of you have gotten away for a similarly refreshing break and are ready to participate again in the club's activities.

Over the summer we received the donation of the late Sally West Potter's grand piano. With no permanent safe place to keep it for performances, we

luckily sold it to our wonderful pianist Frank Conlon. Frank was a friend of Sally's and we're all delighted that it now resides with him. I am also delighted to report that we have hired Ms. Melissa Ezelle as a part-time Membership Assistant, who will assist the Club with membership matters. Welcome, Melissa!

I want to thank our longtime member Charles Mokotoff who has assumed the web liaison duties formerly handled by Carol Fromboluti. Welcome! 🎵

My best to all of you,

*Yvonne*



Yvonne Sabine

## Video Audition Applications Now Accepted Year-Round

Michael Casassa

Applicants for Solo or Chamber Performance Membership now have the option of submitting video auditions at any time throughout the year. Beginning in the 2018-2019 season, applications for video auditions will be accepted and judged on a rolling basis. Our judges will review these auditions at their convenience, and new performance members will be accepted year-round. We will also continue to hold in-person auditions twice a year, if applicants prefer that option. In the past year, half of all applicants requested video auditions; many have been musicians just starting their graduate studies or careers in the Washington area and they've had videos suitable for audition already prepared. We anticipate that this new process will enable more musicians to audition for solo and performance membership, ease scheduling constraints that performers and judges experience, and encourage young performers to apply.

Details about the new virtual audition process and video requirements, as well as application information, repertoire requirements, and dates for the 2018-2019 in-person auditions are posted on the FMMC website at [fmmc.org/auditions](http://fmmc.org/auditions). If you have been considering auditioning for Chamber or Solo Performance status, perhaps this new process will encourage you to take the plunge. Please let your musician friends know about our solo and chamber performance program, and how they can participate! 🎵

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## From the Foundation Director

Leslie Luxemburg

For those of us involved in the Foundation, summer doesn't really start until after the close of the Washington International Competition (WIC), which this year meant not until June 25th. But the late start to summer was well worth it. This year, WIC was honored to have an especially gifted group of string players entering the competition.

We did not envy the judges who had to choose among the gifted semifinalist string players. Somewhat exceptionally, we ended up with seven finalists, 3 violinists, 2 violists, and 2 cellists. Faced with further difficult decisions, the judges decided not to send any of them home with less than a third place finish. We ended up with our usual first prize in each instrument, Youjin Lee in violin, Muriel Razavi in viola, and Tony Rymer in cello. However, second and third prizes were each shared with two competitors: Second prize was split between Maya Buchanan, violin, and Zhanbo Zheng, viola; third prize was split between Felicitas Schiffner, violin, and Zhihao Wu, cello. Youjin Lee also won the special audience prize.

We are very grateful for our gracious and caring judges, Dmitri Berlinsky, Paul Katz, and Rita Porfiris; our truly outstanding team of accompanists, Hui-Chuan Chen and Joy Schreier; and our host families and volunteers who made all of this possible.

After our somewhat curtailed summer break, we now move on to preparations for



our 2019 Voice Competition, which will take place next May 25-26, 2019. And as we start the season we welcome our new Foundation Board members Ruth Doherty, Janice Rosen, and Carol Sikkelee and look forward to their participation in the months ahead.

I encourage you to start checking the FMMC Foundation website, [www.fmmcfoundation.org](http://www.fmmcfoundation.org), on a regular basis if you haven't been doing so already. Starting in the fall there will be an outstanding array of concerts showcasing last March's JIC winners. Leading off on Sunday, September 30th at 3:00 PM, first-place violinist Julian Rhee will play the Tchaikovsky violin concerto with the Avanti Orchestra. On Sunday, October 7 at 5:00 PM, all four JIC first-place winners will perform at the Church of the Annunciation with Frank Conlon at the piano.

In addition to Julian, you will hear Beatrice Chen, viola, and the two young men who split the first-prize for cello, Michal Balas and Krzysztof Michalski. Both concerts are free and open to the public. Come, bring friends, and get the fall concert season off to a great start! 🎶

*Leslie*



From left to right: Felicitas Schiffner, Zhihao Wu, Maya Buchanan, Zhanbo Zheng, Youjin Lee, Tony Rymer, Muriel Razavi



# Avanti Orchestra Launches Season by Welcoming Julian Rhee, Johansen Competition Winner

Nan Cooper

Avanti Orchestra of the Friday Morning Music Club begins its 2018–2019 season on Saturday, September 30, at 3 pm, at Montgomery College's Cultural Arts Center, Silver Spring, MD. Conductor Pablo Saelzer and the orchestra will present violinist Julian Rhee performing Tchaikovsky's Violin Concerto. Also on the program are Rossini's Overture to *L'Italiana in Algeri* and Kodály's *Dances of Galánta*.

Mr. Rhee, 18, is the first-prize winner of the 2018 Johansen International Competition for Young String Players. Recently he has earned major awards including Finalist Winner of the 2018 National YoungArts Foundation, the 2018 Pablo Casals Prize for the Best Performance of Solo Bach, the 2018 Allen R. and Susan E. Weiss Memorial Prize for the Best Performance of the Commissioned Work, the Elaine H. Klein Second Prize Award at the 2018 Irving M. Klein International String Competition, and winner of the 2018 Aspen Music Festival Violin Concerto Competition.

Mr. Rhee debuted at age 7 with the Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra, then the Madison Symphony Orchestra at age 10, and the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra at age 15. In 2017, he toured Argentina and Uruguay as the guest soloist performing the Brahms Violin Concerto, appeared with the Wisconsin Chamber, La Crosse, and West Suburban symphony orchestras, among others. In addition to Avanti Orchestra, upcoming engagements include performances with the Wisconsin Philharmonic Orchestra, San Jose Chamber Orchestra, and

Piedmont Center for the Arts and Eugene Symphony Orchestra.

As a chamber musician, Mr. Rhee's performance on violin and viola earned him and his string quartet First Prize at the Rembrandt Chamber Players Chamber Music Competition, Grand Prize at the A.N. & Pearl G. Barnett Chamber Music Competition, and Silver Medal at the St. Paul National String Quartet Competition. They also won the Junior String Division of the M-Prize International Chamber Arts Competition, and the Gold Medal in the Junior String Division of the Fischhoff National Chamber Competition.

Mr. Rhee studied with Almita and Roland Vamos and Hye-Sun Lee as a scholarship recipient at the Music Institute of Chicago's Academy. He attends New England Conservatory studying with Miriam Fried.



Julian Rhee


*Avanti is planning three more concerts this season including:*

Sunday, November 11, 2018, 3 pm, Cultural Arts Center, Silver Spring, MD. Mozart Serenata notturna, K. 239; Beethoven Symphony No. 1; Beethoven Violin Concerto, Youjin Lee, violin, 2018 Washington International Competition winner.

Friday, March 8, 2019, 8 pm, Church of the Epiphany, Washington, DC. Handel Water Music, Suite No. 2 in D; Mozart Piano Concerto No. 17, Christopher Schmitt, piano; Wagner Siegfried Idyll; Elgar Introduction and Allegro, op. 47 with the (Strings Quartet), Strings Avenue Quartet.

Saturday, June 1, 2019, 7:30 pm, Cultural Arts Center, Silver Spring, MD. Masterwork Festival, Mozart Symphony No. 40 and Mozart Symphony No. 41.

For concert information please contact Nan Cooper, [avantiorchestra@gmail.com](mailto:avantiorchestra@gmail.com)



**JOHANSEN**  
International  
Competition  
for Young String Players  
(Ages 13–17)

*Presents the*  
**2018 JIC Winners**  
*in Concert*

**Sunday, September 30, 2018, 3:00 p.m.**  
Julian Rhee, first prize violin, with FMMC Avanti Orchestra


**Friday, October 5, 2018, 12:00 noon**  
Michał Balas and Krzysztof Michalski, first prize cello  
Joint Recital at the Arts Club of Washington

**Sunday, October 7, 2018, 5:00 p.m.**  
2018 JIC Winners' Concert  
Julian Rhee, violin; Beatrice Chen, viola; and  
Michał Balas and Krzysztof Michalski, cello

**Saturday, October 13, 2018, 8:00 p.m.**  
Charlotte Marckx, second prize violin,  
with Prince George's Philharmonic

**Sunday, January 20, 2019, 4:00 p.m.**  
Michał Balas, first prize cello, with Apollo Orchestra

**Sunday, March 17, 2019, 5:00 p.m.**  
Beatrice Chen, first prize viola, with Capital City Symphony



For details, please check our website ([fmmcfoundation.org](http://fmmcfoundation.org))  
or contact us at [johansencomp@gmail.com](mailto:johansencomp@gmail.com)

## Using the FMMC Online Membership Directory

Many members do not realize that they are responsible for updating their own membership profile, and can do so on line. Please check your membership profile to make sure it is accurate and up-to-date. Here are instructions on how to make changes and how to use the on line membership directory to search by member type, instrument, type of performer, etc.

### HOW TO MANAGE YOUR MEMBERSHIP PROFILE

**STEP 1:** Go to [www.fmmc.org/memberprofile](http://www.fmmc.org/memberprofile)

**STEP 2:** Login with your email address and the default password, which is FMMCMember2018!

*For example:*

User Name: nkahan7996

Password: FMMCMember2018!

**STEP 3:** You will see your profile filled in. You will be able to make edits to your profile and change the information that you would like to share with other FMMC members.

*For example:*

Name: User Name\*: nkahan7996

First Name: Nancy Last Name: Kahan

Nickname: \_\_\_\_\_

Display name publicly as: Nancy W. Kahan

Contact Info: E-mail\*: nkahan7996 Website: \_\_\_\_\_

**STEP 4:** Update the password with something that you will remember. The new system has an "I forgot my password feature" so you will never be locked out.  
Password\*: \_\_\_\_\_  
Repeat Password\*: \_\_\_\_\_

**STEP 5:** Click the update button and you're all set. If you would like to see your changes and how they appear to other members, please visit the membership directory by going to the URL below. The information displayed in this section of the site is only shared with FMMC members.  
[www.fmmc.org/membershipdirectory](http://www.fmmc.org/membershipdirectory).

*\*Required*

### HOW TO UPDATE YOUR MEMBERSHIP PROFILE

If you want to update your membership profile in the directory, you can do so by visiting the following URL: [www.fmmc.org/memberhsipprofile/](http://www.fmmc.org/memberhsipprofile/)

### HOW TO SEARCH THE DIRECTORY

The membership directory has a number of handy features. Members are listed according to the type of their membership (Solo, Orchestra, etc.), the instrument they play, etc. The information in the directory is secure and will be shared only with other Club members. You can search for a member in various ways.

**STEP 1:** Go to [www.fmmc.org/membershipdirectory/](http://www.fmmc.org/membershipdirectory/)

**STEP 2:** The Membership Directory will allow you to search by name, type of membership, instruments, etc.

If you have any questions regarding the website, please email Melissa Ezelle at [memberasst@fmmc.org](mailto:memberasst@fmmc.org). 📧

## FMMC Welcomes Melissa Ezelle

Julia Moline

FMMC is pleased to welcome Melissa Ezelle as our first-ever, part-time Membership Assistant. In her new role, Melissa is responsible for streamlining and maintaining membership processes, helping us to expand our membership base, assisting with outreach and public relations, and other related areas. Melissa brings several years of experience with arts-related organizations including volunteer coordination, development, and outreach, and brings wonderful energy and enthusiasm to the position. In her first short month on the job, Melissa has already done a fantastic job improving our processes, cleaning up our systems, and suggesting better ways to get things done. We look forward to all of the good work she will do. Melissa is a visual artist specializing in printmaking. In addition to her FMMC duties, she creates prints in her studio and teaches at Pyramid Atlantic Art Center. 🎨



Melissa Ezelle

## Charles Mokotoff, Our New Web Liaison

Guitarist and long-time FMMC member Charles Mokotoff has graciously agreed to take over the duties of FMMC web liaison. Charles will also be working with an FMMC committee as they look for a new web contractor to replace Robert Wade, who recently resigned from FMMC. Cathy Wade is still working for us and will continue to process the updates. If you need a web page update, please send it to Charles at \_\_\_\_\_ and he will get the job done. If you are a web page owner, please make sure that your page is current, as we are in transition yet are making every effort to draw people in to our great organization. That means we need to always have an up-to-date web presence. 🎨

# FMMC Concert Calendar

## SEPTEMBER and EARLY OCTOBER 2018

### Sunday, September 16, 3:00 pm at The Lyceum, Alexandria

• BRAHMS: Clarinet Quintet, op. 115. **Karin Caifa** (guest), clarinet; **Lydia Leong** and **Benjamin Bodnar**, violins; **Michael Garrahan** (guest), viola; **David Pearl**, cello.  
• RODRIGO: *Dos Poemas de Juan Ramon Jimenez*. RON WARREN: *Quatro Sonetos de Amor*. **Deborah Thurlow**, soprano; **Susan Hayes**, flute; **Barbara Peterson Cackler**, piano.

### Tuesday, September 25, 7:30 pm at Dumbarton House

• PURCELL, SCARLATTI, WEISS, AND BACH: Selected works. **Charles Mokotoff**, guitar.  
• MOZART: *Exsultate Jubilate*, K.165, arr. Barbara Garvey Jackson. **Deborah Thurlow**, soprano; **Barbara Gholz** and **Joyce Rizzolo**, violins; **Robert Huesmann**, viola; **Virginia Atwood**, cello.  
• BEETHOVEN: Serenade, op. 25. **Lorie Scott** (guest), flute; **David Brown**, violin; **Caroline Brethauer**, viola.

### Sunday, September 30, 3:00 pm at the Montgomery College Cultural Arts Center, Silver Spring.

Avanti Orchestra, Pablo Saelzer, conductor, with soloist **Julian Rhee**, violin, 2018 Johansen International Competition winner.  
• ROSSINI: Overture to *L'Italiana in Algeri*.  
TCHAIKOVSKY: Violin Concerto. KODÁLY: *Dances of Galánta*.

### Monday, October 1, 7:00 pm at Miller's Grant Retirement Community, Ellicott City

• MUSIC BY MOZART, BELLINI, MAHLER, DEBUSSY, TCHAIKOVSKY, RAVEL, WAGNER AND VERDI: **Mark Bublitz**, tenor; **Michelle Fegeas** (guest), soprano; **Jeongseon Choi**, piano.

### Friday, October 5, 12:00 noon at Calvary Baptist Church President's Reception to follow.

• BEETHOVEN: Sonata in F-sharp Major, op. 78. **Joan Mizrahi**, piano.  
• SELECTED SONGS FROM 17TH- AND 18TH-CENTURY COMPOSERS. **Marjorie Coombs Wellman**, soprano; **Ruth Locker** (guest), piano.

• BRUCH: Eight Pieces for clarinet, viola and piano (selections). **Nancy Genovese**, clarinet; **Caroline Brethauer**, viola; **Amy Rothstein**, piano.

### Friday, October 5, 12:00 noon at the Arts Club of Washington

A short recital by two cellists, **Krzysztof Michalski** and **Michal Balas**, winners of the 2017 Johansen International Competition. Free admission.

### Sunday, October 7, 5:00 pm at the Church of the Annunciation

**Roth Concert Series presents winners of the 2017 Johansen International Competition.**

• BRAHMS, JOEL FRIEDMAN, CHOPIN, WIENIAWSKI, J.S. BACH, SARASATE: Selected works. **Julian Rhee**, violin; **Beatrice Chen**, viola; **Michal Balas** and **Krzysztof Michalski**, cellos; **Frank Conlon**, collaborative pianist.

### VENUES

#### Arts Club of Washington

2017 I St. NW  
Washington, DC  
(Metro: Foggy Bottom)

#### Calvary Baptist Church

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

#### Church of the Annunciation

3810 Massachusetts Ave., N.W.  
Washington, DC

#### Dumbarton House

2715 Q St. NW  
Washington, DC

#### The Lyceum

201 S Washington St.  
Alexandria, VA

#### Miller's Grant Retirement Community

9000 Fathers Legacy  
Ellicott City, MD

#### Montgomery College Cultural Arts Center

7995 Georgia Ave.  
Silver Spring, MD

## Where They Are Now

Judy Silverman  
(from the ViolinChannel.com)

**Z**latomir Fung, first prize JIC cello winner, 2015, has just been awarded First Prize and \$30,000 for the Schoenfeld competition at the 2018 Schoenfeld International Cello Competition in Harbin, China.

Zlatomir is a scholarship student at The Juilliard School, currently studying with Richard Aaron and Timothy Eddy. He has also won first prizes at the George Enescu International Cello Competition, the Stulberg and Irving Klein International Music Competitions, and Astral Artists and Young Concert Artist (YCA) International Auditions.

Zlatomir will be returning to the DC area to perform as part of the YCA series at the Kennedy Center on April 9, 2019. 🎻

## From the High School String Competition Chair

Jeongseon Choi

**T**he High School String Competition In Memory of Gustave E. Johansen, Jr., will take place on Saturday, November 10, from 9 AM to 3 PM at the National Presbyterian Church.

The application form must be submitted by October 27. Please spread the word to your students and colleagues. Volunteers to assist with the competition are welcome. For more information or questions, contact Jeongseon Choi at [highschoolstrings@fmmc.org](mailto:highschoolstrings@fmmc.org). 🎻



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

## *Your FMMC Outreach Program*

Sheyna Burt

The summer humidity is thinking about breaking, the kids are back in school, and your instrument misses you. All of this can mean only one thing: the moment is right to knock the sand and other vacation remnants off your calendar and make time for some music.

The Outreach Program wants to be part of your 2018-19 musical season. By way of reminder, there are two ways to reach out:

- Performance, Associate, or Student Members of FMMC share their gifts with the audiences in our venue list. Players and singers perform small ensemble concerts of approximately one hour at senior facilities, libraries, coffeehouses, festivals, and other non-traditional concert spaces.
- Folks interested in helping FMMC grow use their gifts of gab to spread the word about FMMC's history, concerts, competitions, initiatives, and membership opportunities at schools, houses of worship, and meetings of civic and social organizations.

The demand for these performances and speaking appearances far exceeds FMMC's supply. Whether you are preparing yourself or your FMMC students for a formal recital, testing out new material, reminiscing over old material, looking for more playing time, or hoping to introduce FMMC to new communities, Outreach is a vehicle for you to express yourself and to shine a light on FMMC for grateful (and plentiful) audiences.

We promise to stay out of your way ... as a participant in the Outreach Program, the logistics are yours to arrange. We provide a list of interested venues and FMMC promotional materials for you to distribute, and then we trust you to be great ambassadors for the Club. We ask only that you report back to us to let us know what you did and how it went.

We want you to make the FMMC Outreach Program *your* Outreach Program and we thank you for making the program amazing.

*For a complete list of venues, performance opportunities, and general information about the Outreach Performance Program, contact Sheyna Burt at [outreach@fmmc.org](mailto:outreach@fmmc.org).* 📧