

The Friday Morning MUSIC CLUB



136TH SEASON

MARCH 2022

VOL. 56, NO. 7

From the President

Leslie Luxemburg

Seems like most of us have experienced *deja vu* over the past few months. Just when we think our lives could be almost normal, along comes another variant that curtails our activities yet again.

Call me cautiously optimistic but I cannot help but anticipate better days ahead. One technique I have found helpful to get through these sometimes draggy days is to prepare for special and exciting events ahead. There are two in particular I want to share with you as they both relate directly to the FMMC. The first is the joint performance by our Avanti Orchestra and our Arioso Chorale of the Brahms Requiem, which will be on Saturday, April 30 at 7:30 PM at the Montgomery College Performing Arts Center in Silver Spring. The second is the oft-postponed, but now again rescheduled, Arioso tour and participation in the Amalfi Coast Music Festival in Maiori, Italy, which will take place from Tuesday, June 28, to Tuesday, July 5.

To begin locally, we hope many of you will join us for the Brahms performance. This is a perfect repertoire choice to celebrate the end of our 135th year, as well as to memorialize those we have lost over the course of the past two years. Our combined Avanti and Arioso forces will be joined by the Montgomery College Chorus, as well as two most outstanding soloists, Annie Schwartz, soprano, and Javier Arrey, baritone. Both Annie and Javier have sung in previous FMMC concerts, and we are excited to have them with us again. This concert provides a perfect opportunity to show appreciation for our loyal membership. Stay tuned for further details as they become available.

Registration is still open for participation in the Amalfi Coast Festival tour. The program repertoire will include two concert performances: The first is Paul Leavitt's emotionally stirring Requiem with orchestra, and the second a July 4th, themed concert. Rehearsals for participants will begin on Wednesday, May 4th and there will be two local Bon Voyage performances on June 16th and 18th. The week includes extensive touring opportunities in this beautiful area, as well as optional travel to Rome with an optional stay there. You do not need to be a member of the Chorale to participate.

More complete information is available on the Festival website: www.amalfi-festival.org/choral

In addition to these two special opportunities, our chamber concerts and all our many competitions, both FMMC and Foundation sponsored, will be taking place over the next several months. We also are planning for membership auditions to start up again on March 16. Help us by spreading the word among colleagues and friends who may have been putting off recent auditioning. Now would be a great time to check in with our auditions chair Marta Howard (auditions@fmmc.org) and let her know of your intent to participate. And for current members, don't forget to schedule your participation in the Outreach Program to incentivize getting your performing skills in gear!

Join me in turning those dreams of better days ahead into a reality! 🎶

Leslie



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 2 From the Foundation Director
- 2 Auditions
- 3 From the Managing Director
- 3 Ross-Roberts High School Competition for Woodwinds, Brass, and Percussion
- 4 FMMC Concert Calendar
- 5 Thank You to Our Donors
- 6 Arioso Chorale: Bach Is Next and Then It's on To Brahms
- 6 Calling all FMMC instrumentalists and singers!



FRIDAY MORNING MUSIC CLUB

Calvary Baptist Church Chamber Music Series

SELECT WEDNESDAYS
@ 12 NOON

fmmc.org/chamber

755 8th St. NW
Wash. DC 20001



**Spring
2022 Dates:**

March 2

April 6

May 4

Admission is free and open to the public, but there is very limited parking available. Enter the building at 733 8th Street and follow the signs for the concert.

Gallery Pl-Chinatown 





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If you do not have
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From the Foundation Director

Grace McFarlane

Anxiously we await the promise of the spring equinox and the renewal which accompanies this new season after the two-year hiatus from live competitions brought on by COVID. The Johansen International Competition (JIC) will take place from March 21 through 24 at Live! at 10th and G (First Congregational United Church of Christ) in DC. After the preliminary auditions, which were held virtually, we look forward to welcoming 30 talented young string players to Washington, DC, for the 2022 competition. Thanks to the tireless efforts of Harriet Kaplan, Administrative Director of the JIC, and the superb steering committee – Michael Casassa, Judy Silverman, Judy Shapiro, Eunju Kwak, Connie Milner, Paul Silverman, Joanna Taylor, and Ann Franke – all committed to making this event a huge success, the JIC will continue to reveal and showcase the bright new stars of tomorrow.



With the application deadline extended to February 15, the WIC Strings Competition Chair, John Kaboff, fielded many inquiries regarding applications. Semifinalists are being selected by the preliminary judges – Kathy Judd, Alexandra Preucil, and Krista Smith (violin); Matt Lipman, Chris Rutledge, and Caeli Smith (viola); Wes Baldwin, Julian Schwarz, and Matt Zalkind (cello). The contestants' names will be announced in early March. Plans for the May 27-29, 2022, competition will then kick into high gear. Stay tuned.

The judges for the WIC Composition Competition are evaluating the applicants' submissions. Mark Simon, WIC Composition Chair, will announce the results by April 1.

These competitions sponsored by the FMMC Foundation all continue to serve as a platform to provide encouragement and support to help young artists launch their careers. We hope you will consider attending some of these events to cheer on these budding young musicians. 🎵

Grace

Auditions

Marta Howard

In-person Solo and Chamber Auditions for Club membership are still planned for March 16 in the sanctuary at Calvary Baptist Church. Candidates for voice, woodwinds, and strings have all submitted applications as of the February 16 deadline. Video submissions for audition are accepted throughout the season, so it is not necessary to wait until the next live date in October to audition as a performance member of the FMMC! For more information on how to become a performing member, look for details at <https://fmmc.org/membership/auditions/>. 🎵

*“In difficult times,
people just like to
hear music. They
like to be moved
by what they hear.
And music speaks
different languages.”*

Itzhak Perlman

CURIOUS ABOUT COSTS?

Our membership dues cover **less than 15%** of the year's budget.



\$236

Cost of postage for one newsletter.



\$210

Cost of one piano tuning.



\$600

Printing costs for one Arioso Chorale Concert.



\$2,280

Cost to rent the Cultural Arts Center for one Avanti concert.



\$2,736

Cost of annual Yearbook mailing.



\$6,300

Typical yearly venue rentals for the Chamber Program.



\$60,000+

Income deficit due to free admission policy.

WAYS TO GIVE

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TIERED GIVING

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From the Managing Director

Jennie Weyman

First and foremost, I am relieved to see case counts in the DC area decrease significantly and quickly this past month. Although we could have presented several of our concerts safely in February, we felt it was safest to postpone live events until we saw what would happen with pandemic conditions. We are hopeful that activity will resume in March.

In the meantime, I am pleased that we could record a Virtual Chamber Concert in person this past month, albeit without an audience and with expanded safety precautions in place (including rapid testing). The performance premiered on Friday, February 25 at 12 noon on our YouTube Channel ([fmnc.org/youtube](https://www.fmnc.org/youtube)), and featured performances by several determined members of both our Chamber Program and Composers Group, who met in mid-February to present this music. It took a great deal of logistics to make it possible to record this concert despite the circumstances, so I am grateful to them for their flexibility and enthusiasm.

Spring is a busy time for FMMC, and



Jennie Weyman

we are looking for some key volunteers to enrich our already active board and committees. Many of you will likely receive an email asking if you are willing to assist us with certain tasks. We recognize that everyone is busy and connected to multiple different organizations, so we understand that not everyone we reach out to will

be able to assist. That said, if you can do a little more for FMMC, please say yes. We welcome your help! And, as a reminder, you do not need to be a musician to be a member of FMMC. Audience members and enthusiasts are just as welcome, and your support is important. If you value what FMMC does and would like to help us carry that work forward, we welcome you as a member, a volunteer, a donor, or as an advocate.

Last, I am currently working with FMMC Membership Chair Michelle Fegeas to develop a group of young members and patrons (approximately 21-40 years old) that will gather socially, attend concerts, and help lead important conversations regarding the future of the organization. FMMC's founding president, Madeleine Beckwith, was 32 when FMMC was founded in 1886, and we hope this initiative will follow proudly in her footsteps. If that is of interest to you, please reach out! We want to make this group something that has value for everyone involved. 🎵

Looking forward to seeing you again in person this month,

Jennie

Ross-Roberts High School Competition for Woodwinds, Brass, and Percussion

Applications are being accepted for the 2022

Ross-Roberts High School Virtual Competition for Woodwinds, Brass, and Percussion.

Application with video submission deadline: Saturday, March 12, 2022

For additional information with specific requirements, instructions, application form and the optional provided accompanist (request deadline Feb 5), visit www.fmnc.org or contact highschoolwind@fmnc.org

Encourage Students to Apply!

FMMC Concert Calendar

March and Early April 2022 Please check the website before attending

Wednesday, March 2, 12 noon at Calvary Baptist Church.

- J. S. BACH: Partita No. 1 in B-flat Major, BWV 825. **Steven Schwarz**, piano.
- BRAHMS: Sonata in F Minor, op. 120, no. 1. **Albert Hunt**, clarinet; **John Sutherland Earle**, piano.
- PROKOFIEV: Sonata in C Major, op. 119. **Janet Frank**, cello; **Vera Danchenko-Stern** (guest), piano.

Thursday, March 3, 11:00am at The Mansion at Strathmore.

- PEIXUN CHEN/WENCHENG LU: *Autumn Moon on the Calm Lake*. YINGHAI LI: *Spring on the Moon Light River*. JIANZHONG WANG: *Colorful Clouds Chasing the Moon*. DEBUSSY: *Clair de Lune*. **Yao Lin**, piano.
- SCHUMANN: *Three Romances*, op. 94. LUTOSLAWSKI: *Dance Preludes*. **Albert Hunt**, clarinet; **Jung-Yoon Lee**, piano.
- PROKOFIEV: Sonata in C Major, op. 119. **Janet Frank**, cello; **Vera Danchenko-Stern** (guest), piano.

Thursday, March 3, 8:00pm at Lutheran Church of the Reformation. Arioso Chorale

- J. S. BACH: *St. Matthew Passion* (Part 1).

Saturday, March 5, 8:00pm at Lutheran Church of the Reformation. Arioso Chorale

- J. S. BACH: *St. Matthew Passion* (Part 1).

Sunday, March 6, 7:30pm at Riderwood Community Chapel.

- BEETHOVEN: Sonata in A-flat Major, op. 110. **Simon Finlow**, piano.
- MOZART: Quintet for clarinet and strings, K. 581. **Albert Hunt**, clarinet; **Makiko Taguchi** and **Eunju Kwak**, violins; **Bonnie Cohen**, viola; **Janet Frank**, cello.

Wednesday, March 9, 12 noon at Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial Library.

- KATE VANNAH: Cradle Song; CLARA KATHLEEN ROGERS: Sudden Light. FLOYD LITTLE BARTLETT: A Boy's Philosophy. AMY ALDRICH WORTH: Little Lamb. FLORENCE B. PRICE: Travel's End. GLADYS RICH: American Lullaby. MARY HOWE: Men. **Polly Baldrige**, soprano; **Jeongseon Choi**, piano.
- SCHUBERT: Sonata. **Felicia Weiss**, piano.

Thursday, March 10, 8:00pm at Lutheran Church of the Reformation. Arioso Chorale

- J. S. BACH: *St. Matthew Passion* (Part 2).

Saturday, March 12, 8:00pm at Lutheran Church of the Reformation. Arioso Chorale

- J. S. BACH: *St. Matthew Passion* (Part 2).

Wednesday, March 16, 12 noon at Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial Library.

Please check the website for up-to-date information.

Thursday, March 17, 12 noon at Old Town Hall.

- BEETHOVEN: Sonata in A-flat Major, op. 110. **Simon Finlow**, piano.
- SPOHR: Six German Songs. **Nancy MacArthur Smith**, soprano; **Albert Hunt**, clarinet; **Barbara Peterson Cackler**, piano.
- SCHUBERT: Sonata for violin and piano in A Major, D. 574. **Eunju Kwak**, violin; **Jeongseon Choi**, piano.

Tuesday, March 22, 10:00am at Live! at 10th & G.

Johansen International Competition for Young String Players: Semifinals

Tuesday, March 22, 12 noon at the Woman's Club of Chevy Chase.

- SCHUMANN: *Märchenerzählungen* (Fairy Tales). **Albert Hunt**, clarinet; **Bonnie Cohen**, viola; **Joan Mizrahi**, piano.
- MENDELSSOHN: *Songs without Words* (selections). **Bonnie Kellert**, piano.
- FRANK E. WARREN: *The Traveler* (song cycle; text by Rosalie Calabrese). **Liana Valente**, soprano; **Albert Hunt**, clarinet. *Premiere performance.*

Wednesday, March 23, 10:00am at Live! at 10th & G.

Johansen International Competition for Young String Players: Semifinals

Wednesday, March 23, 7:00pm, at Friendship Heights Village Center. Student Recital

Thursday, March 24, 10:00am at Live! at 10th & G.

Johansen International Competition for Young String Players: Finals

Friday, March 25 12 noon Friday Virtual Series on YouTube.

- Filmed at Old Town Hall.

Saturday, March 26, 12 noon at Dumbarton House.

- J. S. BACH: Suite No. 1: Prelude and Courant. TELEMANN: Fantasia No. 10 from Twelve Fantasias, TWV 40:20. **Hyejin Kim**, viola.
- MOZART: Quintet for clarinet and strings, K. 581. **Albert Hunt**, clarinet; **Makiko Taguchi** and **Eunju Kwak**, violins; **Bonnie Cohen**, viola; **Janet Frank**, cello.

Sunday, March 27, 2:00pm at The Lyceum.

- NIKOLAI MEDTNER: *Fairy Tales*, op. 51 (selections). **William Bloomquist**, piano.
- SELECTED SONGS BY CONTEMPORARY COMPOSERS. **DEBORA MADSEN**, SOPRANO; **GEORGE PEACHEY**, PIANO.
- FRANCIS POULENC: SONATA for flute and piano. **Gwyn Jones**, flute; **Rosanne Conway**, piano.

Wednesday, April 6, 12 noon at Calvary Baptist Church.

- BRAHMS: Trio in B Major, op. 8. **Michael Casassa**, violin; **Jan Timbers**, cello; **Enoch Gordis**, piano.
- BARTOK: *Contrasts*. **Albert Hunt**, clarinet; **Makiko Taguchi**, violin; **Immanuela Gruenberg**, piano.

Thursday, April 7, 11:00am at The Mansion at Strathmore.

- SCARLATTI: Two Sonatas. **Steven Schwarz**, piano.
- DEBUSSY: Trio in G Major. **Marion Li Richter**, violin; **Keng Siong Sim**, cello; **Chen-Li Tzeng**, piano.
- POULENC: Sonata for flute and piano. **Gwyn Jones**, flute; **Rosanne Conway**, piano.

Venues

Calvary Baptist Church

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

Church of the Reformation

212 East Capitol St. NE
Washington, DC
(Metro: Capitol South or
Union Station)

Dumbarton House

2715 Q St. NW
Washington, DC

Friendship Heights Village Center

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

Live! at 10th & G

(First Congregational UCC)
945 G St. NW
Washington, DC
(Metro: Metro Center)

The Lyceum

201 S. Washington St.
Alexandria, VA

The Mansion at Strathmore

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

Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial Library

901 G St. NW
Washington, DC
(Metro: Gallery Place)

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

Woman's Club of Chevy Chase

7931 Connecticut Ave.
Chevy Chase, MD

Thank You to Our Donors

The Friday Morning Music Club is deeply grateful to the following generous donors who supported our efforts to promote musical culture among our members and the community from February 10, 2021, through February 11, 2022. And we thank *all* FMMC donors, regardless of their gift amount.

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

Arioso Chorale: Bach Is Next and Then It's on To Brahms

Peter Baum

Arioso Chorale went back to work in October to prepare for a four-concert performance of Bach's *St. Matthew Passion*. This work calls for double everything - two orchestras, two choruses, two sets of soloists, and enough material to make two different ninety-minute concerts. As usual, the Chorale will perform each major part twice over the course of two weeks starting with Part 1 on Thursday, March 3, and Saturday, March 5. The second part of the work will be performed on Thursday, March 10, and Saturday, March 12. All four concerts will start at 8:00 PM in the Sanctuary of the Church of the Reformation (212 E. Capitol Street, NW). Proof of vaccination status will be checked at the entrance and masks will be required.

As soon as the Chorale has completed the performances of the Bach, it will turn its attention to preparing the Brahms Requiem, one of the more popular choral and audience favorites, and will perform this work in a joint concert with Avanti on Friday, April 29. The first rehearsal for this effort will be on Sunday, March 20 starting at 1:30 PM taking place at the Church of the Reformation (212 E. Capitol St., NW). Street parking is available in the area and the nearest Metro stop is Capitol South on the Orange, Blue and Silver lines. Rehearsal schedules are posted on the Chorale Page of the FMMC website (FMMC.org). If you are a singer and interested in joining the Chorale for this masterpiece, please contact Peter Baum at Chorale@fmmc.org.

Calling all FMMC instrumentalists and singers!

It's not too late to sign up to perform this spring at an Outreach venue! We have accompanists interested in playing with you. Your program should run 30 to 45 minutes. Please email Joanna Taylor at outreach@fmmc.org for more information. 🎵

POSTPONED