

# The Friday Morning MUSIC CLUB



137TH SEASON

SEPTEMBER 2022

VOL. 57, NO. 1

## From the President

Leslie Luxemburg

Welcome to the start of our 136th year and the final year of my four years as FMMC President. I did not know what I was getting myself in for when I signed on to the job two terms ago, and it has been a wild ride. I am proud that we have gotten through all the challenges with a renewed sense of energy and commitment and grateful for all our loyal members who have stuck with us on this extraordinary journey.

The summer has provided some unusual places for members to continue to make music together. Our Arioso Chorale journeyed to the Amalfi Coast Music Festival in Italy at the end of June. There, we joined forces with other chorale singers and some outstanding soloists to present Paul Leavitt's beautiful Requiem at the Abbazia Benedettina della SS. Trinita in Cava de Tirreni, with Paul conducting. On July 4th the group gave an Americana



concert in the gardens of the Palazzo Mezzacapo in Maiori. These musical experiences were combined with amazing opportunities to tour one of the most scenic areas in the world and experience life Italian style, including eating lots of delicious pasta!

Another highlight of the summer has been the debut of our Outreach Concerts at the Arlington Central Library in

Virginia. Spearheaded by our member Ingrid Kauffman, these concerts have been extremely well attended and a wonderful chance to introduce the range of our talented members to a new community. Especially noteworthy was the debut of a new member, countertenor Andrew Eg-buchiem, well balanced by performances by several FMMC veterans.

Various changes will be starting in the fall, especially the introduction of some exciting new chamber music venues and a new and most auspicious home for our beloved FMMC grand piano. Additional concerts to make a special note of include the National Philharmonic Orchestra presenting the three first-place JIC winners at Strathmore Hall on Sunday, October 30. The Avanti Orchestra will present a program with two recent WIC winners at the Kennedy Center Terrace Theater on Friday, November 11. Stay tuned for up-to-the-minute details, which we promise to share as soon as we can.

It will be a joy to see you in person at one of our events over the next few months! 🎶

*Leslie*

## New Chamber Music Venues

Jung-Yoon Lee

Please be on the lookout for the Chamber Program concerts at these new venues we are launching this year:

- Live at 10th & G, 945 G St NW, Washington, DC 20001
- St. George's Episcopal, 915 N Oakland St, Arlington, VA 22203
- Westminster at Lake Ridge, 12191 Clipper Dr, Lake Ridge, VA 22192

Please note the time change at the Strathmore. Concerts will start at 1pm on the first Thursday of the month. Dumbarton House will be going through renovation starting in November, so some disruptions are expected.

Most importantly, join us in welcoming the new venue chairs who have generously volunteered to host the following venues:

- Collington Retirement Community (Makiko Taguchi)
- Live at 10th & G (Yooni Lee)
- Riderwood Village Chapel (Tom Tucker)
- St. George's Episcopal (Yooni Lee)
- Westminster at Lake Ridge (Leslie Bennett)

Looking forward to a vibrant season filled with great music. 🎶

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An official publication of the  
Friday Morning Music Club, Inc.

Organized in 1886

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## From the Foundation Director

Grace McFarlane

As I begin my second term as Director of the FMMC Foundation, I look back at our many accomplishments and look forward with anticipation to a new and exciting year ahead. I wish to thank the amazing team of volunteers who make up the Foundation Board of Trustees for their support, sage advice, and commitment to the goals of our organization, furthering the mission of our two primary competitions: the Washington International Competition (WIC) and the Johansen International Competition for Young String Players (JIC). Heartfelt thanks to Lydia Frumkin and Connie Milner, who have rotated off the board after two terms, for their faithful service to the Foundation, and welcome to Yuri Chayama, Katie Katinas, Valerie Matthews, and Ben Wallis, who will be joining us for the new year. Special thanks to Chen-Li Tzeng, who has agreed to continue to serve on the board as Chair of the WIC 2023 Voice competition.

I wish to express my sincere thanks to John Kaboff, who served as Chair of the successful WIC 2022 Strings competition which took place this past May. Twenty-six contestants from six countries traveled to Washington DC to compete in the semifinals on May 27 & 28, in the music building at George Washington University, and six finalists were selected for the finals in The Terrace

Theater of the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts on Sunday, May 29. The competition judges, Annie Fullard (Violin), Daniel Foster (Viola), and Emilio Colon (Cello), selected the following winners:

#### 1<sup>st</sup> PRIZE

Jaewon Wee, Violin (South Korea), SoHui Yun, Viola (South Korea), Sydney Lee, Cello, (USA)

#### 2<sup>nd</sup> PRIZE

Gabrielle Despres, Violin (Canada), Jiwon Kim, Viola (South Korea), Romain-Olivier Gray (USA)

The Audience Prize was awarded to Jaewon Wee.

The winning composition in the 2022 WIC Composition competition, *Terrarium*, for string quartet, by Sam Wu, was performed during the WIC Strings Finals by the Sunrise Quartet: Claudia Chudakoff & Teri Lazar, Violins, Osman Kivrak, Viola, Marion Baker, Cello. Sam is a graduate student at Rice University in Texas. The next WIC Composition competition, chaired by Mark Simon, will be held in 2025.

Mark your calendars! This November 11, 2022, in the Terrace Theater, we look forward to showcasing our WIC 2021 and 2022 winners, Vivian Chen, Piano, and Sydney Lee, Cello, in concerto performances with the Avanti Orchestra under the direction of Pablo Saelzer, Conductor.



The WIC Voice competition will be held on May 27-28, 2023. Applications will be open in October through the Getaccepted website with a February deadline for entry. With a distinguished panel of preliminary, semifinals, and finals judges, we anticipate an exciting event welcoming singers to DC to compete for top prizes. We hope our FMMC membership will support the competition through attendance at the semifinal and final rounds.

Despite the continued prevalence of the Covid virus in our midst, I am thankful that we can continue to keep music alive in our community. I wish you and your loved ones continued good health, strength, and peace during these challenging times and look forward to seeing you at one of our upcoming events. 🎶

Grace

## Ross-Roberts High School Competition for Woodwinds, Brass, and Percussion 2022

Carole Falvo and John Hoven

There were 21 entries for the 2022 Ross-Roberts HS Competition: 7 flutes, 3 oboes, 4 clarinets, 1 bassoon, 4 alto saxophones, 1 French horn, 1 percussion. This year's Ross-Roberts HS Competition was once again virtual. The student video submission date was March 12, 2022.

After first viewing all the submitted videos individually the three judges met and deliberated together via a Zoom meeting. The Zoom was set up by FMMC Managing Director, Jennie Weyman, with Mr. Stephen Roberts, sponsor of the competition, and competition co-chair Carole Falvo greeting the judges before turning the meeting over to them for their deliberations. The judges were Mark Simon (woodwind), Wendy Chinn (brass) and Charles Ostle (percussion).

The prize winners are shown below. We congratulate these winners and welcome them in FMMC as student members.

*Second Prize (\$1,000):*

**Jackson Bernal**, Alto Saxophone, Thomas S. Wootton High School, 11<sup>th</sup> grade.



Jackson Bernal

*Third Prize (\$700):*

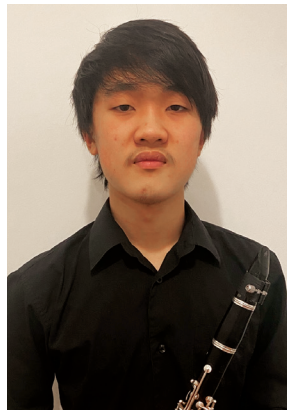
**Arturo Salvalaggio**, Oboe, Walt Whitman High School, 12<sup>th</sup> grade



Arturo Salvalaggio

*Third Prize (\$700):*

**Michael Wang**, Clarinet, Winston Churchill High School, 12<sup>th</sup> grade



Michael Wang

*Honorable Mention:*

**Angela Shen**, Clarinet, Montgomery Blair High School, 10<sup>th</sup> grade



Angela Shen

*Honorable Mention:*

**Yunah Kwon**, Oboe, Centennial High School, 11<sup>th</sup> grade



Yunah Kwon

## Arioso Chorale: A Successful Trip – Now Back to Work

Peter Baum

From June 28 to July 5, a mix of over 60 singers from the Arioso Chorale and National Philharmonic Chorus (and about 20 non-singing guests) enjoyed the sights, food, and challenges of presenting two concerts at the Amalfi Festival in Maiori, Italy. The festival is celebrating its 25<sup>th</sup> year of operations and the chorus was the “opening act.” The combined choruses presented the Italian premier of the Leavitt *Requiem* (sung in the Cathedral of a 10<sup>th</sup>-century Benedictine abbey located in Cava de' Tirreni) with Soloists Soprano Danielle Talamantes, Mezzo Madalaine Vander-Linden, Tenor Enrico Terrone Guerra, and Bass Kerry Wilkerson. The second concert, in honor of the US's July 4 celebration, presented a mixture of Broadway, Gospel, and other Americana music to a highly appreciative audience in Maiori.

The Chorale begins its 2022-23 season with their first concert in October. The principal work on the program will be Ernest Bloch's *Avodath Hakodesh* (Sacred Service). This 1933 composition draws its text, the Sabbath Saturday Morning Service, taken from the Union Prayer Book of the Jewish Reform Movement. The concerts will be given at the Church of the Reformation (212 E. Capitol St., NE) starting at 8:00 PM on October 13 and 15, 2022. Additional details will be posted on the FMMC website ([fmmc.org](http://fmmc.org)).

By the time this Newsletter is published, the Chorale and its orchestra will be in rehearsal for this concert. However, it is never too late to join in this project. Singers and instrumentalists interested in participating should contact Peter Baum at [chorale@fmmc.org](mailto:chorale@fmmc.org) for further information and the schedule. 🎶

# Johansen International Competition Updates

Harriet Kaplan

## Updates on Winners

*Samuel Rosenthal* (2018 JIC, 3rd prize viola) won second prize in the 2021 Primrose International Viola Competition this past December.

Two past JIC participants were selected for the semifinals of the Queen Elisabeth Cello Competition, which took place in May 2022: *James Baik* (2018 JIC, Finalist) and *Taeguk Mun* (2012 JIC, Best Performance of Commissioned Work). The 24 semifinalists were chosen from a field of 66. Taeguk was also among the 12 cellists selected to compete in the finals.

Strad magazine posted this interview in May 2022 with violinist Maya Anjali Buchanan (2015 JIC, 3rd prize), about her experience as a Curtis student: <https://www.thestrads.com/.../my-experience.../14840.article>

Cellist *Michał Balas* (2018 JIC, 1st prize tied) won first prize in the 2022 Classic Strings Cello Competition, which took place in Dubai, UAE in May 2022. He also won a special prize for the best performance of a Maltese piece. He was awarded a €50,000 cash prize, along with a tour of ten concerts with an honorarium of €5,000 per concert.

An article was published on the Chicago Symphony Orchestra website in May 2022 about cellist *Gabriel Cabezas* (2009 JIC, 2nd prize): <https://cso.org/experience/article/10041/cellist-gabriel-cabezas-finds-himself-at-home>

Cellist *Krzysztof Michalski* (2018 JIC, 1st prize tied) won third prize (tied) in the 2022 Kodály Competition, held in Debrecen, Hungary in June 2022.

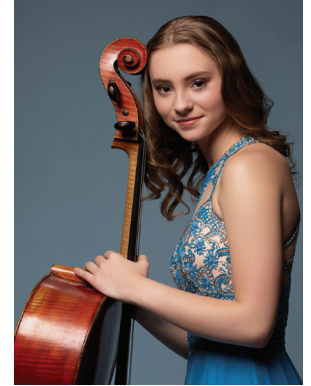
Several 2022 JIC winners participated in the 2022 Stulberg Competition, which took place in May. Violinist *Jacques Forestier* (3rd prize in JIC) won the silver medal and the Bach Prize, receiving a total cash prize of \$6,000. The win also includes a performance with the Western Michigan University Symphony Orchestra. Violinist *Jinan Laurentia Woo* (1st prize in JIC), cellist *Romain-Olivier Gray* (2nd prize in JIC), and violist *Sidney Lee* (semifinalist in JIC) were among the 12 finalists in the competition; each will receive a \$1,000 stipend.



Jinan Laurentia Woo



Emad Zolfaghari



Luka Coetzee

Violinist *Nancy Zhou* (2009 JIC, first prize and Best Performance of the Commissioned Work) performed Jiping Zhao's Violin Concerto No. 1 with the New Jersey Symphony at Lincoln Center on July 20. A review of the concert can be read at <https://newyorkclassicalreview.com/2022/07/east-meets-west-in-new-jersey-symphonys-lyrical-chinese-program/>



Romain-Olivier Gray



Seoyeon Ryu

list *Seoyeon Ryu*, and cellist *Luka Coetzee*) with pianist Frank Conlon will take place on February 26, 2023, at Church of the Annunciation in Washington, DC.

In addition, we are in discussions with the Capital City Symphony and the Apollo Orchestra for possible concerto appearances in upcoming seasons.

## A Note About Our Volunteers

Thank you to ALL the volunteers who keep the JIC going. It couldn't be done without you! During the 2022 competition, about 40 people, including FMMC members and others from the general community, volunteered to help with the competition. Their extensive efforts did a great deal to keep things running smoothly. Of particular note were Paul Silverman, who monitored and timed rehearsals with the pianists and served as stage manager for semifinals and finals; Carol Bartholomew, who served as timer for both days of semifinals; Frank Conlon

## Upcoming Concerts

Several performances featuring 2022 JIC winners will take place in the 2022-2023 season.

Violinist *Jinan Laurentia Woo* (1st prize) will perform the Tchaikovsky concerto with the Avanti Orchestra on September 23, 2022. The concert will take place at Church of the Epiphany, Washington, DC.

On October 30, 2022, there will be a concerto concert featuring three of the 2022 winners—*Jinan Laurentia Woo*; *Emad Zolfaghari* (2nd prize viola); and *Luka Coetzee* (1st prize cello)—with members of the National Philharmonic at Strathmore in Bethesda, MD.

Cellist *Romain-Olivier Gray* (2nd prize) will perform the Dvorak concerto with the Prince George's Philharmonic in November 2022.

A recital featuring all three first-prize winners (violinist *Jinan Laurentia Woo*, vio-

*Johansen International Competition Updates...continued from page 4*

and Simon Finlow, who turned pages for pianist Colette Valentine during semifinals and finals; Judy Silverman, who both organized the entire volunteer effort and provided advice based on her years of experience going back to the beginning of the JIC; and Michael Casassa, who served as Steering Committee Chair and made many of the final decisions both before and during the competition. Paul, Judy, and Michael worked four full days in addition to staying in hotels near the ven-

ue (at their own expense) to be available from early morning until late evening.

The entire JIC Steering Committee deserves thanks for helping with tasks involved in planning the JIC throughout the four years since 2018, including advising on how to postpone, evaluating the new venue, developing the procedure for managing COVID considerations, and numerous other issues. Steering Committee members, in addition to the people mentioned already, include Eunju Kwak,

Connie Milner, Judith Basch Shapiro, and Joanna Taylor as well as advisor Ann Franke and trustee John Daniel. It should be noted that Judy Shapiro has helped guide the competition since its inception in 1997 and was its cofounder along with Dorothy Jarvinen.

If you would like to get involved with this exciting competition in the future, please contact Michael Casassa at 301-946-5396 or by email at [mpcasassa@yahoo.com](mailto:mpcasassa@yahoo.com). 🎵

## Announcing a Special Concert!

On October 30, 2022, the Johansen International Competition will present three of its 2022 prize winners—violin, viola, and cello, each playing a full concerto—in a concert with the acclaimed National Philharmonic Orchestra at the world-class concert hall at Strathmore Music Center. The concert will be free and open to the public. If this effort is successful, we will make it a regular part of our triennial program, which will bring the performance opportunities we offer our young artists to a new level of excellence and will be a career-defining event for them. This opportunity is in reach because of the generosity of our partners at the National Philharmonic Orchestra and Strathmore Music Center. Together they will contribute about 75% of the amount needed to cover the costs of this concert, with JIC to contribute the balance of the required funds. These costs far exceed the usual expenses for our post-competition performances.

If you would like to support this effort, please consider making a contribution. The simplest way to contribute is online at <https://fmmc.org/donate/donate-amount/donate-online/>. Please be sure to click “FMMC Foundation International Competitions,” and then “Johansen International Competition.” You also may send a check by mail. Please make your check payable to “Friday Morning Music Club, Inc.” and designate “Johansen International Competition” on the memo line of your check. Please mail your check to Friday Morning Music Club, Inc., 755 8th St NW, Washington DC 20001. Any amount you can give will be welcome and will help toward producing this concert. We will be pleased to include your name as a donor in the concert program unless you indicate that you wish to remain anonymous. 🎵

## FMMC Concert Calendar - September 2022

### Friday, September 16, 2022, 12:00 noon at Live! at 10th & G

- POULENC: Sonata for flute and piano. **Takeaki Miyamae**, flute; **Rosanne Conway**, piano.
- FRANCK: Prelude, Chorale and Fugue. **Ryan McNamara**, piano.
- AMY BEACH: *Romance* for violin and piano, op. 23. EDUARD BAGHDARSARIAN: *Nocturne*. SOFI MIKAYELYAN: *Ethnodance*. **Christine Kharazian**, violin; **Andrew Kraus**, piano.

### Saturday, September 24, 3 p.m. at Greenspring

- EDWARD BAGHDASSARIAN: *Nocturne*. AMY BEACH: *Romance*. CLARA SCHUMANN: *Romance No. 2* (Allegretto). **Christine Kharazian**, violin; **Andrew Kraus**, piano.
- FRANZ SCHUBERT: Selections from *Winterreise*, op. 89. **Chen-Li Tzeng** and **Jeongseon Choi**, piano four hands.
- ADDITIONAL SELECTION TBD
- JOHANN STAMITZ: *Quartet*, op. 19, no. 3. **Albert Hunt**, clarinet; **Eunju Kwak**, violin; **Bonnie Cohen**, viola; cello TBD.

### Venues

**Greenspring**  
7410 Spring Village Dr.  
Springfield, VA

**Live! at 10th & G**  
(First Congregational UCC)  
945 G St. NW  
Washington, DC  
(Metro: Metro Center)



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

## Amy Rothstein: Life Member

It's hard to believe it's been 50 years since I became a member of FMMC, but having joined in 1972, it's easy to do the math to know it has been that long.

My interest in music has been lifelong. My father was a concert pianist who gave solo recitals, so I slept and awakened to his practicing. He collaborated with other musicians as well, so it was natural my love of all kinds of music literature developed as a result.

My father was my first piano teacher. I also had other teachers and decided early in childhood that I wanted to make music my career. I received my undergrad degree from Oberlin Conservatory of Music and M.M. degree from the Manhattan School of Music.

After graduating from Oberlin, my husband and I started our married life in Schenectady, N.Y. I became very involved

there as an accompanist for choral groups and a Light Opera Company. I also started teaching piano.

In 1971, as a result of my husband's work, we moved to Arlington, Va. We had a baby daughter, and life was very pleasant; but even though I practiced the piano, I had no involvement with other musicians. My mother was concerned about this and recommended I contact Jacqueline Rosenblatt. She and her family had been long-time friends of my parents and grandparents. Jacqueline recommended I audition for FMMC; so I took her advice and prepared for my audition. She was one of the FMMC members who recommended me for the Solo Piano category. I'll be forever grateful to her because I doubt I would have collaborated with amazing FMMC musicians if it hadn't been for my membership in FMMC. 🎹



Amy Rothstein