

# The Friday Morning MUSIC CLUB



137TH SEASON

OCTOBER 2022

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## *Kudos to Student Performer Harrison Benford*

Christine Kharazian

Outstanding student performer, Harrison Benford, performed in all five concerts on FMMC's 2021-22 Student Recital Series at venues including Strathmore Mansion, Chevy Chase Village Center, Goodwin House in Alexandria, and Riderwood Chapel in Silver Spring. We appreciate his passion for public performance, and in thanks for his contribution to our programs, welcome him as an honorary member for the coming year.

Harrison brings a high level of student performance to FMMC. Just last month, he was awarded the Gold Medal and a \$5,000 prize by adjudicators of the inaugural Rubato International Piano Competition. This was a week-long program for jazz and classical pianists, with 21 semi-finalists from ten countries juried by a stellar panel of concert pianists from throughout the United States including Drs. Yakov Kasman, Luis Sanchez and Janet Landreth. Harrison was pleased to champion the contemporary music of Bela Bartók and Louise Talma, whose works he had previously performed for FMMC audiences, and which were extremely well received and admired by



Right to left: Harrison Jude Benford with Simone Gallion, soprano and HyunWoo Song, baritone

fellow competitors and audience members alike. Closer to home, Harrison was also awarded first prize this year at regional events including the Lichtenberg, Gottlieb,

and Hungarian Music Piano Competitions, and with duet partner Nathan Shan and fellow FMMC performer, the Misbin Award at the Misbin Family Memorial Chamber Music Competition.

Harrison studies with former FMMC member Nancy O'Neill Breth in Washington, DC and credits his six years under her guidance with transforming his development as a musician and a human being. A rising senior at Winston Churchill High School in Potomac, the biggest joy in Harrison's life to date has been working collaboratively with other musicians at summer music intensives including Tanglewood, Indiana University's Piano Academy, Point CounterPoint, Greenwood, and Interlochen. Outside of music, Harrison is beginning his sixth year of Mandarin study and is nationally ranked in both QuizBowl and tournament Scrabble, being named one of the top ten youth players in North America in 2022. 🎵

### *Share your Music in the FMMC Outreach Program!*

Outreach performance opportunities are available at our venues in DC, Virginia, and Maryland. Musical outreach is a vital part of the FMMC mission to provide free music in the DC area. Please consider signing up! See <https://fmmc.org/performance-opportunities/all-members/outreach>. We look forward to hearing from you soon! Please email Joanna Taylor at [outreach@fmmc.org](mailto:outreach@fmmc.org) for information. 🎵

#### INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 2 From the Foundation Director
- 3 Outreach In Action
- 3 Meet our new Program Director Yooni Lee
- 4 Johansen International Competition News
- 5 Celebrating 25 Years! Inception of the JIC
- 6 FMMC Concert Calendar
- 7 A Music Garden: The Asian Women Composers Project
- 8 From the President



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## From the Foundation Director

Grace McFarlane

**B**y the time you receive this newsletter the new season will already be underway. We anticipate an exciting year as we resume in-person events, meet new colleagues, and celebrate the joy of sharing music.

Two of the most anticipated events this fall will feature the return to Washington DC of the first-prize winners of the two major international competitions sponsored by the FMMC Foundation: the Washington International Competition and the Johansen International Competition. Both concerts will feature concerto performances. On October 30, JIC 2022 winners Jinan Laurentia Woo, violin; Emad Zolfaghari, viola; and Luka Coetzee, cello will perform with the National Philharmonic Orchestra in the Music Center at Strathmore. On November 11, two of our WIC 2021 and 2022 winners – Vivian Chen, piano and Sydney Lee, cello – will perform with the Avanti Orchestra in the Terrace Theater of the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, in a program which will

include the Beethoven 2<sup>nd</sup> Piano Concerto and the Tchaikovsky Rococo Variations. Both performances will begin at 7:30 pm. We hope to fill the halls, so mark your calendars and plan to attend.

These concerts are open to the public and there is no admission charge, but patrons will be invited to RSVP and reserve tickets. Contributions are welcome in support of the post-competition performances showcasing these outstanding young artists.

The application process for this year's WIC 2023 Voice competition will open on October 1<sup>st</sup> on the Getaccepted website. Questions regarding the competition should be directed to the Chair, Chen-Li Tzeng, who is assisted by a dedicated advisory team— Katie Katinas, Leslie Luxemburg, and Junko Takahashi.

### *News updates on WIC Winners:*

Korean-American cellist **Sydney Lee**, First prize WIC 2022 cello winner, has been named the inaugural recipient



of the Meadowmount School of Music's Gurrena Fellowship. With a value of \$50,000, the fellowship, donated by music lover Gurrena Barnebl in memory of her husband David A. Barnebl, will provide housing allowance, concert opportunities, career consulting, and more. First prize WIC 2022 violin winner **Jaewon Wee** was awarded 2<sup>nd</sup> prize in the 37<sup>th</sup> Irving M. Klein International String Competition at the San Francisco Conservatory of Music. She also won the Weiss prize for the best performance of the commissioned work.

*Bravo, Sydney and Jaewon!*

I am most grateful for your continued support of the FMMC Foundation and look forward to seeing you at one of our events this Fall. 🎶

*Grace*

## Outreach In Action

Joanna Taylor

During July and August, FMMC Outreach performers shared their music with large appreciative audiences at the Arlington Central Library in Virginia and at the Brighton Gardens Retirement Community in Friendship Heights, MD. We look forward to a full calendar of Outreach concerts this fall. 🎶



Singers Leslie Luxemburg and Leslie Jacobson pictured, with accompanist Frank Conlon, presented "Ah yes, I remember it well" on August 6 at Brighton Gardens Retirement Community

[Photo courtesy of Lou Jacobson]



Countertenor Andrew Ogbuchiem with accompanist Grace Joy Reid at the Arlington Central Library on July 24.



The Morpheus Chamber Players at the Arlington Central Library on July 24, with Alisha Coleman (clarinet), Gwyn Jones (flute), Jeff Kahan (oboe), Wendy Chinn (French horn), and Lisa Eckstein (bassoon)

## Meet our new Program Director, Yooni Lee

Jung-Yoon (Yooni) Lee began her piano studies in South Korea. Her pursuit of music brought her to the US to study piano performance at esteemed institutes such as Cleveland Institute of Music, Oberlin Conservatory, Manhattan School of Music, and Teachers College at Columbia University. She moved to the DC area almost 20 years ago due to her husband's job relocation. While raising two young children, she reconnected with a college friend and FMMC member, Daryl Yoder, who introduced her to FMMC and the love of musical collaboration. She has a special place in her heart for the song repertoire, but continues expanding her repertoire into chamber music as well. She lives in Vienna, VA, with her husband and two children.

When she struggled to find ways to return to music, FMMC was the answer. It provided venues and fellow musicians with whom to meet and collaborate in the most encouraging atmosphere. She finds it amazing that members from all different backgrounds, professions, and stories can come together because we all love music. This year as Program Director, she is thrilled to give back what she has enjoyed in the past years as a member. The chamber program has added three new exciting venues this year: St. George's in Arlington, Live! at 10th & G in DC, and Westminster at Lake Ridge in VA. As we come out of the volatile years of the pandemic, she hopes in-person concert attendance will increase and become more vibrant as we return to our concerts which are always beautifully prepared by all our performers. 🎶

# Johansen International Competition News

By Harriet Kaplan

As we prepare for the fall season, those of us involved with the JIC are excited about a special concert coming up on October 30: We will be presenting three of the 2022 JIC winners performing full concertos with the National Philharmonic at Strathmore Music Center. Bios of the soloists and the conductor can be found below.

There is no admission charge, and free tickets may be reserved through Strathmore's website (<https://www.strathmore.org/what-s-on/in-the-music-center/2022-johansen-international-competition-for-young-string-players/>) or obtained at the box office just before the concert. Strathmore is offering a "pay what you can option" when tickets are reserved, and all donations will go toward JIC expenses for the concert. Although Strathmore and National Philharmonic are supporting this event generously, there are other items for which we are responsible, including staff and facility fees and soloists' expenses, so any donations will be much appreciated. Donations may also be made through the FMMC website (<https://fmmc.org/donate/>) or by mailing a check to 755 8th Street NW, Washington DC 20001; please write "Johansen International Competition" in the memo line.

Violin soloist **Jinan Laurentia Woo** (1<sup>st</sup> prize and Best Performance of Commissioned Work) performing the Sibelius concerto, is 15 years old and the youngest winner in the JIC's history. She recently completed 9th grade at Columbia Preparatory School and studies with Li Lin and Stella Chen at the Pre-College division of the Juilliard School. Laurentia made her solo concert debut at age 10 and her orchestral solo debut at age 12, and she has been invited to perform with numerous orchestras in Asia, Europe, and North America. In 2021, Laurentia was accepted into the Perlman Music Summer Program as the youngest student.



Left to right: Jinan Laurentia Woo, Emad Zolfaghari, Luka Coetzee

An avid chamber musician and humanitarian, Laurentia founded the Trio Camelia in Hong Kong, giving concerts and raising money to support the "Build a Music School" Foundation, providing opportunities for young children in Myanmar to learn instruments.

In 2019, she won 1st Prize at the Zhuhai International Mozart Competition for Young Musicians and in 2022 was a finalist in the 2022 Stulberg International Competition.

Viola soloist **Emad Zolfaghari** (2<sup>nd</sup> prize), performing the Bartok concerto, is 17 years old and is based in Toronto. He was accepted into the Curtis Institute of Music at age 16, where he currently studies with Hsin-Yun Huang and Misha Amory. Emad has been the recipient of many prestigious awards and has appeared as a soloist with several major symphony orchestras, most recently with the Toronto Symphony Orchestra and with the Oakville Chamber Orchestra. He will also be a guest soloist with l'Orchestre Metropolitain in Maison Symphonique twice and with the Guelph Symphony Orchestra in the 2022–2023 season.

In 2018 Emad was accepted into the Phil and Eli Taylor Performance Academy for Young Artists on full scholarship where he studied with Theresa Rudolph. He was also a member of the Toronto Symphony Youth Orchestra, where he often performed as principal viola. Emad has been accepted as a student at the Morningside Music Bridge international summer festival on full scholarship since 2019, attended the 10th Center Stage Strings festival in summer of 2020 on full scholarship,

and attended the Perlman Music Program in summer of 2022.

Seventeen-year-old Canadian cellist **Luka Coetzee** (1<sup>st</sup> prize) is performing the Dvořák concerto. Luka made her solo debut at age 11 with the Calgary Civic Symphony. In January 2022, she received the special prize for "the most promising semifinalist" in the 6<sup>th</sup> UNISA International Strings Competition in Pretoria, South Africa. She is a finalist for the Pablo Casals International Award and will be competing in November 2022. In the summer of 2021, she received first prize in the Morningside Music Bridge International Concerto Competition as well as third prize in the 2021 Shean Strings & Piano Competition. Luka also received second prize at the 2019 Orchestre Symphonique de Montréal Manulife Competition as well as receiving the Public's Choice Stingray Rising Stars Award. She is a six-time winner of the Canadian Music Competition. As a member of the Echo Klassik-nominated LGT Young Soloists, Luka has performed in numerous concert halls around the world. In January 2020, Luka recorded and premiered a new arrangement for cello and strings of the Beethoven A Major Cello Sonata on NAXOS. Luka's playing was praised by *Fanfare* magazine as "sublime, with an interpretative grasp . . . playing of rare quality."

She has worked with and performed alongside numerous distinguished artists and string quartets, among them Johannes Moser, Nicholas Mann, Frans Helmerson, Jens Peter Maintz, Hans Jorgen Jensen, Laurence Lesser, the Calidore

*continued on page 5*

# Celebrating 25 Years! Inception of the JIC

Joanna Taylor

Every three years for 25 years, the Johansen International Competition for Young String Players Ages 13–17 (JIC) has celebrated extraordinarily gifted young musicians at a time when they are making important decisions about their musical futures. The first competition took place in Washington DC in March 1997. But the circumstances that made this competition possible started many years earlier.

Anna Storch Johansen (1908–1998), a lifelong FMMC member, and her husband Gustave (Joe) had one child, a disabled adult son, Gustave (Gus) Johansen Jr., who lived with them in Arlington, Virginia. Gus had been badly injured in an automobile accident while a student at Princeton University and depended on his parents' care and support. Concerned about his continued well-being should he survive them, Anna created a trust for him in 1973, added to it regularly, and allowed it to grow for the rest of her life. It exceeded \$1 million in value at her death. Gus predeceased his parents in 1989, however, and thus ended the purpose of the trust.

Anna was born into a musical family. Her father was a violinist with the Metropolitan Opera in New York, and three of her uncles played stringed instruments professionally. Anna started out on piano, moving to the violin before her 10th birthday. She studied with Victor Kuzdo, attended both the Baltimore Conservatory of Music and the Peabody Institute, and graduated from Hunter College in 1929.



Anna Storch Johansen

She credited an award she won at age 17 with encouraging her to make music her vocation and with inspiring her to sponsor a string competition for young people.

She married Joe, a midshipman at the U.S. Naval Academy, in 1929, with one of Anna's uncles performing on the violin at the wedding. But her musical ambitions had to be postponed during Joe's 23-year naval career and the constant moving to new duty stations. Later, back in the Washington area, she played with the Baltimore Symphony.

An FMMC member for over 50 years, she performed at its concerts, and was elected to Life Membership in 1994. The Club by then had achieved international prominence with its Washington International Competition (WIC). But Anna believed it lacked similar opportunities for younger string players.

After Gus died, Anna began to think about how to honor his memory using the trust. Discussions ensued with FMMC leaders Judy Shapiro, Mary Hulen, Clair

Rozier, and Mary Kay Traver about funding a competition for young teens. To ascertain interest in a competition for this age group, in 1990 they decided to start with a local high school string competition, through the FMMC's Student Division, to "test the waters." The success of this competition led to the establishment of the Johansen International Competition through the FMMC Foundation. Anna participated throughout in planning and fine-tuning the concept, and provided funding to initiate the JIC competition in 1997.

Anna's trust supports exclusively the JIC via an annual distribution, with the FMMC Foundation assigned as the competition's producer and steward, and with independent trustees who ensure the funds are carefully managed.

Anna died on March 30, 1998, at age 89. She and Joe had been married nearly 69 years. Joe's death followed in 2003. Both remained healthy, alert, and involved until their deaths. Anna, Joe, and Gus are buried together at Arlington National Cemetery.

Supported by the trust, and with input from Joe in 2000, the JIC has evolved and earned international recognition, while always remaining true to Anna's vision.

The achievements of JIC winners and semifinalists in the years after the competition have been stupendous, many with principal positions in renowned orchestras or significant solo careers. There is no doubt that Anna would be pleased. ♪

## *Johansen International Competition News...continued from page 4*

String Quartet, the Kronos Quartet, the Schumann Quartet, Andrés Cárdenes, Simon James, Danielle Belen, and Ning Feng. At the age of one, Luka had her first cello lesson with Christine Bootland; other mentors include John Kadz, Johanne Perron, and Horacio Contreras. Luka also started playing piano at the age of 3 and finished the Royal Conservatory of Music ARCT piano exam with First Class Honours. She is currently pursuing her bachelor's degree in cello performance at the Hochschule für Musik Franz Liszt

with Wolfgang Emanuel Schmidt in Weimar, Germany.

**Rebecca Bryant Novak** is the Associate Conductor of National Philharmonic. Last season, she guest-conducted the Baltimore Chamber Orchestra and the Sheboygan Symphony Orchestra and studied at the Cabrillo Festival of Contemporary Music and the Romanian Chamber Orchestra Conductor Master Class with Cristian Măcelaru. She studied conducting at the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music and the Peabody Institute.

She is the creator and conductor of SoundWebs, a concert series and commissioning project that explores wordless music in surprising sonic spaces, and The Listening Lab, an educational concert program that teaches intentional listening skills. A first-generation college graduate, she is committed to access in education and has served as a teaching artist with Baltimore Symphony Orchestra's Orchestral Kids, MyCincinnati, and the Peaslee Neighborhood Center. ♪

## FMMC Concert Calendar - October 2022

### Sunday, October 2, 3 pm, at The Lyceum

- BEETHOVEN: Woodwind Quintet op. 71, first movement; JACQUES IBERT: *Trois pieces breves*. **Teri Manolio**, (guest), flute; **Andy Tangborn**, clarinet; **Leila Duman** (guest), bassoon; **Susan Ashmore** (guest), oboe; **Anthony Wrenndt** (guest), horn.
- MOZART AND RIMSKY-KORSAKOV: selected works. **Deborah Thurlow**, soprano; **Renee Roberts**, violin; **Gillian Cookson**, piano.
- BEETHOVEN: Piano Sonata op. 110; RAVEL: *Jeux D'Eau*. **Ryan McNamara**, piano.

### Thursday, October 6, 7:30 pm, Ingleside at King Farm

- JS BACH: Sonata No. 3 in C Major, BWV 1005, Largo and Allegro Assai. **Makiko Taguchi**, violin.
- PURCELL: Songs and Duos. **Polly Baldrige**, **Jolene Baxter**, sopranos; **Katherine Williams**, piano.
- BEETHOVEN: Sonata in A flat Major, op. 110. **Ryan McNamara**, piano.

### Friday, October 7, 12 noon, at St. George's Episcopal Church

- ALESSANDRO ROLLA: Duet No. 1 in B flat Major; No. 4 in G Major from Six Duos for Two Violas. **Bonnie Cohen**, viola, **Hyejin Kim**, viola
- AMY BEACH, BETTY JACKSON KING, RICHARD HUNDLEY, EMMA LOU DIEMER, AND DOMINICK ARGENTO: *Shakespeare in American Songs*. **Polly Baldrige**, soprano, **Jeongseon Choi**, piano
- SCHUBERT: Sonata in A Major, D959. **John S. Earle**, piano

### Saturday, October 8, 4 pm, at Westminster at Lake Ridge

- COMPOSERS SHARON SHAFER AND LESLIE BENNETT present their latest works with insights into their individual creative process.

### Thursday, October 13, 7 pm, at Dumbarton House

- JS BACH: Suite No. 2 in D Minor. **John Kaboff**, cello.
- BEETHOVEN: Duet No. 1 in C Major, Wo027. **Andy Tangborn**, clarinet, **Teri Manolio**, flute
- BEETHOVEN: Trio in C Major, Op.87. **Rachel Hixson**, violin, **Erin Ryan**, violin, **Corby Johnson**, viola.

### Thursday, October 13, 8 pm, at Lutheran Church of the Restoration, Arioso Chorale, Paul Leavitt, director

- BLOCH: *Sacred Service*
- LEAVITT: *Oseh Shalom; Hannukkah Blessings "Al HaNissim"* commissioned by the Congressional Chorus, 2004

### Friday, October 14, 12 noon, at St. George's Episcopal Church

- ALESSANDRO ROLLA: Duet No. 1 in B flat Major; No. 4 in G Major from Six Duos for Two Violas. **Bonnie Cohen**, viola, **Hyejin Kim**, viola
- GASPAR CASSADO: Suite for Solo Cello. **John Kaboff**, cello.
- SPOHR: Six German Songs, op. 103. **Marjorie Wellman**, soprano, **Carole Falvo**, clarinet, **Sarah Himmelfarb**, piano.
- MYKOLA LYSENKO: Second Rhapsody on Ukrainian Themes, op. 18. **Keng Siong Sim**, piano.

### Saturday, October 15, 8 pm, at Lutheran Church of the Restoration, Arioso Chorale, Paul Leavitt, director

- BLOCH: *Sacred Service*
- LEAVITT: *Oseh Shalom; Hannukkah Blessings "Al HaNissim,"* commissioned by the Congressional Chorus, 2004

### Sunday, October 16, 3 pm, at Collington Retirement Community

- JS BACH: Violin Sonata No. 3 in C Major, BWV 1005, Largo and Allegro Assai. **Makiko Taguchi**, violin.
- MOZART: Duo for Two Violins No. 5, opus 70. **Makiko Taguchi**, **Eunju Kwak**, violins,
- OBRADORS AND GRANADOS: Songs. **Daryl Yoder**, baritone, **Jung-Yoon Lee**, piano.
- BEACH: *Romance* op. 23; SOFI MIKAYELY: *Ethnodance*; BARTOK: *Romanian dances*. **Christine Kharazian**, violin, **Andrew Kraus**, piano.

### Friday, October 21, 12 noon, at Live! at 10<sup>th</sup> & G

- BEETHOVEN: Violin Sonata No. 8 in G Major, op. 30, no. 3. **Robyn Tessin**, violin, **John S. Earle**, piano
- MOWER: *Deviations on The Carnival of Venice*. **Gwyn Jones**, flute, **Rosanne Conway**, piano.
- BACH-D'ALBER: Passacaglia in C minor, BWV 582. **Immanuela Gruenberg**, piano

### Friday, October 28, 1 pm, at Pozez Jewish Community Center of Northern Virginia

- MENDELSSOHN: Andante and Variations, op. 83 A. **Felicia Weiss**; **Jack Stabile** (guest), piano duo.
- MARIO CASTELNUOVO-TEDESCO: Sonata, op. 128. **Albert Hunt**, clarinet; **Jung-Yoon Lee**, piano.
- MENDELSSOHN: Songs Without Words, op. 67 No. 2 in F sharp Minor; op. 102 #4 in G minor. **Judith Block**, piano.
- BERNSTEIN: Selections from "Mass" and "Peter Pan." **Marjorie Coombs Wellman**, soprano; **Yanghyo Yoo**, piano.

### Saturday, October 29, 3 pm, at Greenspring Retirement Community

- GRIEG: Violin Sonata No. 3, op. 45. **Eunju Kwak**, violin; **Jeongseon Choi**, piano.
- MOWER: *Deviations on the Carnival of Venice*. **Gwyn Jones**, flute; **Rosanne Conway**, piano.
- BEETHOVEN: Seven Variations on a Theme from Mozart's "Magic Flute," WoO6. **Youbin Jun** (guest), cello; **Jung-Yoon Lee**, piano.

### Sunday, October 30, 3pm, at the Music Center at Strathmore

- Concert presenting three winners of the 2022 Johansen International Competition playing complete concertos with the National Philharmonic, conductor **Rebecca Bryant Novak**.
- SIBELIUS: Violin Concerto in D Minor, op 47. **Jinan Laurentia Woo**, violin
- BARTOK: Concerto for Viola and Orchestra in A Minor Sz.120, BB 128. **Emad Zolfaghari**.
- DVOŘÁK: Cello Concerto in B Minor, op 104. **Luka Coetzee**, cello

### Venues

**Collington Retirement Center**  
10450 Lotsford Rd.  
Mitchellville, MD

**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

**Greenspring Retirement  
Community**  
7410 Spring Village  
Springfield, VA

**Ingleside at King Farm**  
701 King Farm Blvd.  
Rockville, MD

**Live! at 10th & G**  
(First Congregational UCC)  
945 G St. NW  
Washington, DC  
(Metro: Gallery Place 9th St. exit)

## A Music Garden: The Asian Women Composers Project.

Li-Ly Chang

### The Lyceum

201 S. Washington St.  
Alexandria, VA.

### The Mansion at Strathmore

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

### Pozez Jewish Community Center

8900 Little River Turnpike  
Fairfax, VA

### St. George's Episcopal Church

915 Oakland Street  
Arlington, VA

### Westminster at Lake Ridge

12191 Clipper Dr  
Lake Ridge, VA

Thanks to FMMC for all the inspiration and encouragement in the Asian Women Composers Project. Despite the challenges in music caused by the pandemic, it has been a busy year for me, with more time and opportunities to play, record, and present lectures for the Asian Women Composers Project. Along with myself, I am happy to share these other four women composers with you today.

**Chen Yi** is a prolific composer who blends Chinese and Western traditions, transcending cultural and musical boundaries. She is a recipient of the Guggenheim Foundation, Ives Living Award from the American Academy of Arts and Letters, and Finalist for the Pulitzer Prize. She has been the Distinguished Professor at the Conservatory of Music and Dance in the University of Missouri-Kansas City since 1998, and taught composition at Peabody Conservatory of Johns Hopkins University (1996–98). One of the popular pieces *Guessing for Piano*, based on a folk song and a simple and rustic feeling is in an obviously strong Chinese musical style. I have recorded her *Singing in the Mountain* through the FMMC Composers Group. Her music is published by Theodore Presser Co.

As a national and international award-winning composer, **Stella Sung's** compositions are performed throughout the United States and abroad. She is Composer-in-Residence for the Orlando Philharmonic Orchestra, and Dance Alive National Ballet. Since 2003, Sung has been using digital and multi-media applications in her concert, symphonic compositions, and in music for dance and ballet. She is Professor of Music at the University of Central Florida. Her composition includes chamber, orchestra, instrumental, dance band, choral, voice, and piano. Her music is published by Theodore Presser Co. and Southern Music Company.

**An-Ming Wang**, a FMMC member, grew up in China where her parents exposed her to Western music throughout her childhood. An-Ming holds a Bachelor

of Engineering degree from Central China University; Bachelor of Music from Wesleyan College, and a Master of Arts degree from Columbia University. She has won many awards. Her compositions include chamber, vocal, choral, opera, and piano pieces such as *Petite Waltz* and *Mahjong Suite*.

**Chee Hwa Tan** has a passion for nurturing the art and love of music-making in pianists of all ages and levels. Her compositions encourage students to explore and express sound images at the piano while developing specific technical skills necessary for artistic playing. All pieces are for the late elementary to early intermediate level of teaching. Her music can be purchased through Piano Safari. She was the Head of Piano Pedagogy at the University of Denver Lamont School of Music. Over the years, her students have distinguished themselves as performers, teachers, and lifelong music makers.

**Li-Ly Chang** grew up in Taiwan with parents who were both excellent amateur Erhu players from China. During her early years, she was inspired and excited to hear them play this ancient music. This contributed to a mix of traditional sounds and folk songs from her native land in her compositions. She was also inspired by the works of Bartok, Kabalevsky, Albeniz, and Ginastera and how they captured the spirit of their native folk songs and dances. In addition to her advanced pieces, she is known for creating motivational pieces that foster understanding and the love of music for students. She holds a Bachelors degree from National Taiwan University and a Master's degree from the University of Texas. Her compositions have been listed with *Modern Piano Music* by Nancy Breth (former FMMC member) and *Inclusive Piano Repertoire* by Annie Jeng. She was the commissioned composer for the Maryland State Music Teachers Association in 2011. For her music and recordings, please visit [www.lilychangpiano.com](http://www.lilychangpiano.com). 🎹



Friday Morning Music Club  
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## From the President

Leslie Luxemburg

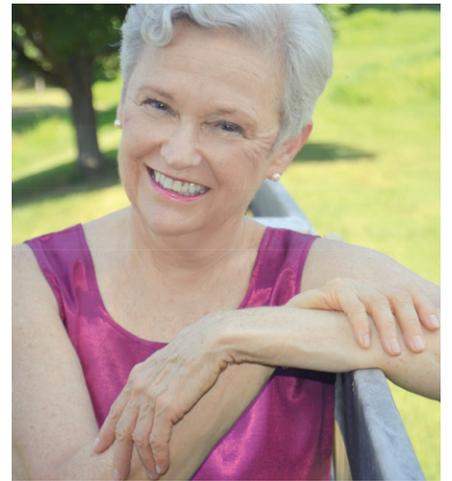
Now that we have moved into a more active phase of our concerts and activities, let me review our current COVID policy to make sure we are all on the same page. Due to the makeup of our membership and ongoing concerns about the emergence of new variants, we have decided to keep our policy requiring vaccinations and boosters (when available by age group) for all FMMC members who wish to participate in club events. This applies to situations under our direct control. When we are using external facilities or presenting programs for the general public, we rely on the venues themselves to set their individual policies, but will continue to encourage the use of masks by both participants and audience members.

This continues to be an evolving situation, which most likely will become less stringent during the coming year.

However, we are gratified that all our local gatherings over the past year provided a safe environment for our members. Truly a significant accomplishment which hopefully will continue.

It is exciting to see our chamber concert series come back to life under the capable and caring direction of our new Program Director Yooni Lee. The venues which have been added this year all promise to be outstanding. Make sure to keep up by checking the calendar, making a note of convenient locations, and coming out to support your fellow performers. We all know how much thought and practice go into preparing these performances and how very gratifying it is to be supported by your musical colleagues and fellow FMMC members.

I want to also remind you to consider taking your show on the road by participating in our Outreach program. Having recently returned for the second time to do a performance at Brighton Gardens of Friendship Heights, I can personally attest to how rewarding it is to entertain such a receptive audience. It is much less stressful and so much more fun to put



together a program for the sheer joy of sharing repertoire you love, and knowing you are enriching peoples' lives at the same time. Our website has a dedicated Outreach section which has a list of possible facilities including information about the availability of a piano. Joanna Taylor has been hard at work making sure this is updated with the latest information. Please consider this as one of your musical opportunities for the year! 🎵

*Leslie*