

September 2009

September Meeting: Winning with Beginning Piano Students



The objective of Ellen Chalfin Winner's "Winner Music" presentation is to introduce a variety of solos, duets and ensemble pieces designed to spark interest and enable students to participate in making music from the earliest days of study, and to enjoy it. She will present a number of teaching aids that introduce concepts to beginners in easy-to-grasp segments, enabling students to understand and absorb the material. Ellen will perform a number of early level solos and will elicit audience participation to demonstrate duets and ensembles.

Ellen Chalfin Winner studied piano, theory and composition at the Juilliard School of Music (Preparatory Division). She graduated from New York City's High School of Music and Art, received her Bachelor's Degree in music from Queens College (City University of New York) and earned a certificate in Orff Schulwerk at George Mason University in Fairfax Virginia.

Ellen has been an accompanist and duettist since high school. She taught elementary school music for three years in New York City and music for preschoolers for ten years in Northern Virginia. She has taught piano for forty-two years and composition for seventeen years.

She is author of over thirty pedagogical works for early level piano study, including solos, duets, duet arrangements, workbooks, teaching aids and theory games.

The September meeting
is Tuesday
September 8, 2009 at
Stone Ridge School

9101 Rockville Pike, Bethesda, Maryland

9:30 Coffee
10:00 Business meeting
10:30 Program

Brian Ganz in concert

Brian Ganz will be playing Beethoven's Concerto No 5, (the Emperor) and J.S. Bach's Concerto No 5 in F minor in a free concert, open to the public.

The date is Sunday, September 20, 2009 at 4:00 pm at the Ernst Community Cultural Center at 8333 Little River Turnpike, on the Annandale Campus of Northern Virginia Community College in Annandale, Virginia.

This will be Emil de Cou's first appearance as Virginia Chamber Orchestra Music Director. Maestro de Cou is well known to area audiences as Associate Conductor of the National Symphony Orchestra.

Brian Ganz has made solo appearances with several major orchestras, establishing him as one of the leading pianists of his generation.

The concert will be followed by a complimentary reception. Parking is free. Additional information is available at www.virginiachamberorchestra.org.

This is a perfect opportunity to take some of your students to a great concert.

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The Friday Morning Music Club

The Friday Morning Music Club sponsors a highly competitive High School String Competition, dedicated to the memory of Gus Johansen. This event attracts many of the finest string players in the Washington D.C. metropolitan area. The 2009 competition, for students in grades 9 through 12, will be held Monday, November 2, 2009 at the Sumner School and Museum, 1201 17th Street NW in Washington, D.C.

Prize awards are \$700, \$500 and \$300. The first place winner will participate in a recital at Strathmore Hall on Friday, November 27, 2009. Other prize winners will have an opportunity to perform in FMMC events throughout the year.

The deadline for applications is October 14, 2009. For information please call Suzanne Richardson, 202-232-4355 or email torichardson@verizon.net.



Senior Recognition Awards and Recital of the Scholarship Winners

The annual Senior Recognition Award reception was held on May 16, 2009 at Stone Ridge School. The success of this festive occasion is, as always, attributed to the volunteer contribution of the participating teachers. This year, the winners of the Evelyn Swarthout and Patrick Hayes Scholarship Competition for Piano performed for the capacity audience. Trophies and certificates were awarded to thirty-three graduating students from the studios of seventeen teachers.

Many guests stayed on after the closing for a chat and exchange of ideas. The students shared their plans for coming years and their aspiring professions.

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MCMTA Piano Concerto Competition

The Competition will take place in November in three divisions. Winners from each division are scheduled to perform with the Blair High School Orchestra early in 2010.

Junior (up to 8th grade):

Competition: November 1, Rehearsal: October 31

Piece: J. Haydn, Concerto in C Major Hob. XVIII:10 (Henle ed.)

Division Chairperson: Hyun Park, 301-983-0156

Intermediate (up to 10th grade):

Competition: November 8, Rehearsal: November 7

Piece: W. A. Mozart, Concerto in F Major, K.413 (Schirmer ed.)

Division Chairperson: Elena Arseniev, 301-217-5926

Senior (up to 12th grade):

Competition: November 22, Rehearsal: November 21

Piece: W. A. Mozart, Concerto in C Major, K.467 (Schirmer ed.)

Division Chairperson: Li-Ly Chang, 301-933-3715

Contact Music & Arts, Rockville (301-881-6440) for music.

Application fee is \$35 per student (winners will pay \$50 additional fee). See full details in the Student Activities Packet. For general questions, contact Concerto Competition Chairperson Hyun Park, via email (hparkstudio@gmail.com) or phone (301-983-0156).

Jessica Han (student of Jeong Eun P. Kang), the first prize winner and Scott Yu (student of Jiayue Yang), the second prize winner performed compositions by Beethoven, Chopin and Debussy. Jessica Han, winner of the best performance by an American composer also played Fantasia by Benjamin Lee. Both winners performed brilliantly.

Ziona Tuchler, member of MCMTA, improvised Broadway melodies and folk songs on the piano before the opening of the event.

This event is open to all music students of MCMTA teachers on all musical instruments and voice. Please consult the Student Activities Packet for more information. Many thanks to all for a beautiful afternoon. – Luba Turkevich, chair



Notes from our President

I hope everyone had a wonderful and restful summer! MCMTA general membership meetings start back on September 8th at Stone Ridge. Thanks to our new program chair Immanuela Gruenberg for lining up our presenter Ellen Chalfin Winner, noted composer of teaching materials, who will undoubtedly give us great new ideas for the upcoming year.

Our members have been hard at work this summer. Jean Lauderdale worked on the Student Activities Bulletin and the new directory. It's a monumental job and I'm sure I speak for everyone when I express our gratitude for Jean's work. I encourage all members to read the "Rules Governing All MCMTA Events" in the Student Activities Bulletin to make sure that all our events are run as smoothly as possible this year.

Olga Souhoveeva, Junko Takahashi, and Jamie Mitchell worked hard to secure a new venue for our elementary recitals, which will be held at Montgomery College this year. Thanks also go to Marina Ovtcharenko for working to secure dates (March 7 and 14) for the Theory Exam that do not conflict with MSMTA events.

We have new co-chairs, Faye Bonner and Junko Takahashi, for the Swarthout Hayes Scholarship Competition, which will now be held at Piano Craft in Gaithersburg on April 25. Thanks, Faye and Junko, for agreeing to chair this important MCMTA event.

The Montgomery County Keyboard Musicianship Exam is confirmed for November 22, 2009. Thanks go to MCMTA member Phil Hosford, director of The Academy of Fine Arts, for allowing us to hold the event there once again this year.

Many of our chairs and board members have been working behind the scenes this summer to plan events. Please know all have my utmost gratitude. In my short time so far as president, I have a new appreciation for the time and dedication it takes to put together all that we do.

– Lori McCarthy
MCMTA President

International Young Artist Piano Competition

The 24th International Young Artist Piano Competition was held at the Catholic University of America at the end of June. There were 70 finalists from 133 contestants. Many Montgomery County students won, and some were invited to perform at the State of the Arts Cultural Series of the U.S. State Department on August 12.

The winning teachers from MCMTA are Elena Arseniev, Sanqing Lu-Bennaman, Mei Yu Lin, Svetlana Volkova, Jia Yue Yang, and Li-Ly Chang.

For next year's brochure, please check web www.geocities.com/musicalartsintl, or call 301-933-3715.



Upcoming Events:

The next MCMTA meeting is September 8, 2009

The October meeting will be Oct. 13, 2009

Upcoming meeting dates are:

November 10 and December 15, 2009.

Board Meeting: September 15, 2009

We're on the web: <http://MCMTA.MSMTA.org>

Please join us at YahooGroups.com (List name is MCMTA)

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Montgomery County Music Teachers Association

1419 Fallswood Drive
Potomac, MD 20854

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Newsletter Deadline is September 15, 2009

Please submit information for the
next newsletter before September 15, 2009.
Please send submissions to :
Cynthia Cathcart, phone 301-587-6267.
email Cynthia@PotomacTalent.com
(please put MCMTA in the subject line)

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Member News

Congratulations to MCMTA member Li-Ly Chang, who was voted MSMTA Commissioned Composer for 2009-2011 by the MSMTA Board of Directors at the June board meeting. Hopefully we can soon hear Li-ly's composition!

Early Notice from MSMTA

Please note that the Maryland State Music Teachers Association Piano Ensemble will be later this program year than it has been in the past. Kathy Stansbery, LA Chair has notified us that it is scheduled for Sunday, March 21, 2010. The Piano Solo Festival will take place Saturday, May 22, 2010.