

## February Meeting: February 27

### Women's Club of Arlington

10:45 a.m.

## Concerto Competition Winners Recital

It's that time of year again, when we have the pleasure of hearing the winners of all the various concerto competitions that NVMTA sponsors. As you know, the first place winners of the senior division in each category—piano, strings, and woodwinds—will not be performing for us at our meeting, as they have the opportunity to perform with the Little River Symphony later in the year. This year, that concert will be Sunday, May 4 at 4:00 pm. At our meeting, however, we'll hear all of the other prizewinners of the string, piano and woodwind competitions. As you are well aware, the level of playing of these young musicians is quite remarkable, and attending this meeting is a special way that we can support them and encourage their continued growth. Please plan to attend this special performance and show your support of these youngsters—I promise you won't be disappointed. And we'll hope to see you at the Little River Symphony concert on May 4. Mark your calendars now!

*Jim Litzelman, Program Chair*

### Inside this issue:

President's Message, Spring Festival	2
News and Notices	3
Certification	4
Announcements	5
String Concerto Competition Winners	6
Member News, Concerts	7

### Highlights of the January 16 NVMTA Board Meeting

- The Board recommended establishing a savings account for a new piano or unexpected administrative or capital needs in the future.
- The Board proposed that effective September 2008, the MTNA photocopy form be used in all NVMTA events (except NFMC Spring Festival, which has its own rules). This form is a release to be signed by a teacher or parent/guardian, to allow the use of photocopies.
- The Board considered moving the Sight Reading event to the fall for the 2008-09 year and adjusting the timing of Theory Mastery Day and Piano Concerto Competition.
- Andrew Horowitz recommended replacing the existing area chair system with a single chairman for all areas and redesigning the referral area of the website to allow more control by individual teachers over their own listings using a password-protected feature, similar to the way the VMTA website referral service works.
- The Board recommended eliminating the required \$20 donation that teachers pay when they accept students from the referral service.
- The Board considered a comprehensive re-design of the NVMTA website, with the possibility of putting the entire NVMTA Yearbook on-line. Members who are interested in this project should contact Andrew Horowitz. The Board is particularly interested in suggestions on what features should be added to our website.
- The Board approved a gift to Jordan Kitt's in honor of the opening of their new store.
- Nancy Longmeyer requested a volunteer to serve as a member-auditor for the past year's financial transactions; Carol Fink volunteered.
- Nancy Breth agreed to stay on as Yearbook chairman for 2008-09.

### TEACHERS FORUM



9:15 am, February 27, at the front of the Woman's Club meeting room. Topic: "Oh, Those Dynamics — Awakening the Soul of the Student." We'll have a round table discussion in which teachers will share their ideas. This brief session is open to all NVMTA members and comes just before our business meeting at 9:45AM. Please do join us for a lively time.



## *President's Message*

Greetings at this busy mid-winter time of year! Many NVMTA events for students are pushing forward full steam and I know how loaded all of your musical schedules have become. Please give yourselves some relaxing break time even if it's only a lovely drink from your favorite coffee shop!

At the February 27th business meeting Lana Bailey, President of the National Federation of Music Clubs, will be our honored guest. Lana is a well known teacher from Woodbridge, Virginia, and has served in many leadership positions of the Virginia Federation of Music Clubs. I hope you will come hear her speak briefly about her role in leading one of our national affiliates.

In the latest issue of the American Music Teachers Magazine Gail Berenson welcomes us to the MTNA National Conference in Denver, from March 28th to April 2nd. No matter what city the Conference is held in, it feels like returning to a "hometown" because so many of you in NVMTA and VMTA attend this event.

This year's Conference will feature Lang Lang and Marilyn Horne as well as many other stellar performers and presenters. Registration for the Conference is made easy at [www.mtna.org](http://www.mtna.org) or in the American Music Teacher February/March issue, which outlines the entire program. Make your plans now. We'll see you "back home" in Denver!!

*Julie Slingerland*

### **NVMTA Establishes New Fund**

At the January meeting members approved purchasing a \$3000 CD for emergency purposes or for special future needs such as a new piano. While our Endowment Scholarship Fund is well-established, we don't have a "rainy day" fund for other purposes. We hope that we can contribute more to this savings program and see it grow as the years pass.

### **Thank You from NVMTA**

- **Virginia Moore** and **René Johnson**, for updating the VMTA Theory Syllabus and making CDs of the ear tests
- **Alice Heyer** for the growth and continued development of the Young Artist Musicales.
- **Andy Horowitz** for many years service as our Referral Chairman.

## **Spring Festival**

Spring Festival dates: March 28, 29, 30 Place: Oakton High School



Many thanks to all the area chairmen who collected Festival applications from the teachers in their areas at check-in. You provide a valuable service and the festival appreciates all the work you do.

The schedules will be mailed to you about two weeks prior to the festival so please do not start calling the chairmen the first of March to see when the schedules will be coming. Be patient--we all are working as fast as possible. Many scheduling problems need to be resolved before any information can be mailed.

Please remember, if you do not show up at your assigned work/judging time, you will be required to pay \$100.00 per session (3 hrs) that you are obligated to work. This is a new rule for all judged events in NVMTA. Please READ all the material that will be sent you concerning your responsibility as well as your student information.

We would like to remind you not to give parents the phone numbers or e-mail addresses of the Area Chairmen or Festival Chairmen. Any concerns need to come to us from the teacher. The chairmen will not accept any calls from parents.

Thank you. Sharon Walker and Marilynne Jost

**News Briefs**

**Jordan Kitt's** is moving to a new location in early February. Their new address is 8500 Lee Highway, Merrifield, Va. Their phone will remain the same.

**Piano For Sale:** 1987 Sojin console, model RS-11, Serial #109599. Asking \$900 with possible negotiation. Contact Pilar Mendez, [pilimili76@yahoo.com](mailto:pilimili76@yahoo.com), 703-678-9570.

**Quotes for Music Teachers**

*"Teaching is the highest form of understanding."* - Aristotle

*"A mind is a fire to be kindled, not a vessel to be filled."* - Plutarch

*"Setting an example is not the main means of influencing another, it is the only means."*

-Einstein

*"In all things we learn only from those we love."* - Goethe

**Monson on Memorization**

Those who attended our January Meeting heard a most informative lecture by Linda Monson entitled "Effective Memorization Strategies for Pianists-Guaranteed Results". Her enlightening hand-out included quotes from famous musicians who shared their thoughts on memorizing. She left us with these inspiring words: "We are called to music and music calls to us."

**Nominating Report**

Nominations for the NVMTA 2008-2009 slate of officers are now closed. **Nancy Breth** was nominated to run for Member At Large, 2011. Ballots will be posted on the web site this spring.

**Piano Concerto Festival Notice**

**Jeri Bennett's** correct address for concerto festival applications is 20070 Smith Cir., Ashburn, VA 20147.

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## National Certification

NOW is a good time to begin the process of becoming a nationally certified music teacher. If you are already an NCTM, now is the time to encourage a colleague to become nationally certified.

**Misconception #3:** Becoming certified would be too expensive.

**Response:** The certification application fee is \$200. VMFTA offers a rebate of \$100 to every teacher who completes the process. Fees for proficiency exams in Music Theory, Music History/Literature, and Pedagogy/Teacher Education are \$50 per exam. National certification needs to be renewed only every five years for a fee of \$75, not annually. Compared to testing and licensing fees for other professions this is not expensive!

For more inspiration make a practice of reading the certification column in each issue of AMT.

And please feel free to phone or e-mail me with any questions you might have after checking the MTNA website.

Diane Perett, NVMTA Certification Chair  
[perettduet@aol.com](mailto:perettduet@aol.com) 703-534-4124

## GMU Offers MTNA Certification Exam June 4

The George Mason University pedagogy department is offering the MTNA certification exam during the week of this year's Piano Pedagogy Seminar, Piano Plus which will feature Barbara Fast as our guest clinician.

The MTNA certification will be offered on Wednesday, June 4<sup>th</sup> beginning at 1:30 pm in the Performing Arts building. We encourage interested teachers to go to the MTNA website for details in applying for certification in ample time prior to June so you can take advantage of this exam in a location close to home.

The GMU Pedagogy program offers a non degree certification program of 16 credits that aligns with the pedagogy requirements of MTNA certification. The program of courses is specifically designed for the professional teacher, with scheduling of classes prior to teaching hours and coursework offering a chance to examine new approaches to teaching as well as opportunities to expand your own creative teaching ideas. For more details on the components of this certificate program, contact Joanne Haroutounian for a complete program description and comparison with MTNA certification requirements. [jharouto@gmu.edu](mailto:jharouto@gmu.edu), 703-534-9490.

### Lions Clubs Announce Bland Competitions

The annual **Bland Music Scholarship Program** consists of elimination contests starting at the club level and continuing through state finals. State scholarship awards total \$18,000. The **Vienna Lions Club** will be holding its club-level Bland Contest on Saturday, February 23 at 1 p.m. at the Assembly of God Church, 100 Ayr Hill Avenue, Vienna. The contest is open to students attending elementary, junior or senior high school (public, parochial, private or home) and there are vocal and instrumental categories. The registration deadline is February 13. For more information about the Vienna contest contact Peggy Smith 703-938-5829. For information about alternate Bland Contests throughout the area, contact Vickie Yanics 301-449-9153.

### George Mason University Summer 2008 Piano Pedagogy Seminar

June 2-6, 9:30 am - 12:30 pm.

The course is available for credit (graduate or undergraduate) or audit. Dr. Barbara Fast from the University of Oklahoma will be the guest presenter. GMU faculty presenters include: Dr. Linda Monson, Dr. Joanne Haroutounian, and Dr. Anna Balakerskaia. Brochures with complete information will be mailed to NVMTA members.

## Sonata Festival dates changed

Due to a conflict with Music Department events at GMU, the NVMTA Sonata Festival has new dates.

**May 18, Sunday, 9 am,-4 pm. GMU Music Department**

**Honor Recital: May 25, Sunday, 2 -5 pm, GMU Concert Hall, Grand Tier III.**

**Postmark Deadline: April 4, 2008. See p. 27 of Yearbook for further details.**

## Opportunity for Students

**Greenspring Retirement Village** would like to arrange programs for their residents given by high school students. This is an opportunity for students to perform and also to receive community service credit. If you have students who are interested, you may call Vanessa Pierce, director of volunteers, at 571 243 4641 (cell phone). The programs will be held on Friday evenings at 6:30 and Saturday afternoons at 2:00.

Nancy Longmyer, Coordinator

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## NVMTA Voice Achievement Awards

This competition will be held on Saturday, April 19, 2008, at the Woman's Club of Arlington. Please e mail Peggy McNulty ([Lynn.McNulty@verizon.net](mailto:Lynn.McNulty@verizon.net)) to advise her as to how many students you plan to enter and in which category. It is important that she has an idea of the number of singers who may participate. If there are too many teens, we may have to limit the number of students per teacher. Hopefully not! Remember that the student must have studied with their current teacher for the 6 months preceding the event. Peggy has lined up a professional pianist to accompany interested participants. She will be happy to give you the name of this musician. For more information on the competition, check page 14 of the NVMTA Yearbook.

## Scholarship Award Doubled

Maureen Hendricks, the sponsor of the Hendricks/Reely competition for graduating seniors planning to major in piano music, has increased the monetary award from \$2,000 to \$4,000 for this year. For eligibility and entry requirements, please see p. 26 of the yearbook.

Joe Inman, Chair

## Great Piano Teachers Needed!

Calling all dynamic teachers with tons of creativity and a desire to inspire: Soh~Lah Music Education is in search of traveling instructors for our Fall programs in the following areas:

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## Report of the NVMTA Concerto Competition for Strings 2008

The Strings Concerto Competition took place on Saturday, January 19, 2008. The judges were Jenny Oaks Baker, Deborah Milan Brudvig, and Pamela Lassell. Within the category of Lower Strings there were 16 entrants presented by teachers Dorothy Amarandos, James Batts, Lynne Denig, Helen Fall, Melissa Jorgensen, Vsevolod Lezhnev, Loran Stephenson, Alice Vierra, and Miron Yampolsky. The winners were

### Lower Strings: Elementary Division:

1 <sup>st</sup> Place	Bailey Jorgensen, harp	(Melissa Jorgensen)
2 <sup>nd</sup> Place	Zubin Kane, cello	(Alice Vierra)
3 <sup>rd</sup> Place	Caroline Jorgensen, harp	(Melissa Jorgensen)

### Lower Strings: Intermediate Division:

1 <sup>st</sup> Place	Jessica Ahn, cello	(Miron Yampolsky)
2 <sup>nd</sup> Place	Jacob Sanders, cello	(Miron Yampolsky)
3 <sup>rd</sup> Place	Elisabeth Clymer, viola	(Lynne Denig)

### Lower Strings: Senior Division:

1 <sup>st</sup> Place	Daniel Tavani, cello	(Loran Stephenson)
2 <sup>nd</sup> Place	Alexander Pettingell, cello	(Dorothy Amarandos)
H.M.	Jennifer Dipp, cello	(Dorothy Amarandos)

Within the Violin category there were 24 entrants presented by teachers Ronda Cole, Ricardo Cyncynates, Lynne Denig, Helen Fall, June Huang, Olga Khroulevitch, David Strom, and Natalia Yampolsky. The winners were:

### Elementary Violins:

1 <sup>st</sup> Place	Emma Sophie Moore	(Olga Khroulevitch)
2 <sup>nd</sup> Place	John Kirchenbauer	(Ronda Cole)
3 <sup>rd</sup> Place	Helen Jung	(Natalia Yampolsky)
H.M.	Jillian Khoo	(June Huang)
H.M.	Melissa Lu	(Ronda Cole)

### Intermediate Violins:

1 <sup>st</sup> Place	Aiden Kane	(Ronda Cole)
2 <sup>nd</sup> Place	Cory Rivera	(Ronda Cole)
3 <sup>rd</sup> Place	Ellen Howerton	(Helen Fall)

### Senior Violins:

1 <sup>st</sup> Place	Hoorig Poochikian	(Olga Khroulevitch)
2 <sup>nd</sup> Place	Andrew Lam	(Ronda Cole)
3 <sup>rd</sup> Place	Kaleigh Acord	(James Batts)

Of the two Senior winners Daniel Tavani, cello student of Loran Stephenson, was selected to perform on the May 4 Concert with the Little River Symphony.

Elizabeth Blakeslee, chair

## News of NVMTA Members

Two students of **Marjorie Lee** will be two of seven Division finalists in the MTNA National Junior High Piano Competition held in Denver March 29th. **Fifi Zhang**, a freshman at TJ, won the Southern Division of this competition on January 20, and **Kimberly Hou**, a home schooled 8th grader, won the Eastern Division on January 13.

**Jennifer Suragiat**, voice student of **Peggy McNulty** and a senior at Westfield High School, received an honorable mention in the MTNA Senior Performance Competition for Voice, held on January 20, at Furman University in South Carolina.

Check out [www.2kids.org](http://www.2kids.org), a website created and maintained by Sofia Shalotenko, piano student of **Anna Ouspenskaya**, and Feodor Ouspenskaya (her son). These two 12-year olds perform as a violin-piano duo.

### Virginia Chamber Orchestra

Sunday, March 2nd, at 5:00 pm

The second concert of the 2007-2008 Season, conducted by music director Luis Haza, will feature violinist Teri Lazar and cellist Suzanne Orban in Antonio Vivaldi's seldom-heard double concerto for violin and cello, plus other works by Pachelbel and Dvorak.

Ernst Community Cultural Center, Northern Virginia Community College, 8333 Little River Turnpike, Annandale.

Tickets: Adults \$18 at the door or \$15 in advance by calling 703-578-0179. Senior citizens \$12 at the door or \$10 in advance. Students FREE. Contact Barbara Gholz at 703-354-4555



**Holly Olivia Work**, was born January 12, 2008, to **Amy Work**, Chairman of the **Keyboard and Sight-Reading Sills Day** scheduled for March 8 at GMU.

### Russian Piano Pieces

Pianist **Jeffrey Siegel** will perform "Russia: Rebels on the Red Carpet!" at 7 p.m. Feb. 10 at George Mason University's Center for the Arts at Braddock Road and Route 123. The performance includes the works of Shostakovich, Prokofiev and Rachmaninoff.

A free **Young Artists Musicale** will take place at 6 p.m. in the Concert Hall lobby, featuring students in grades 3-12 and winners of the Northern Virginia Music Teachers Association Honors Recitals.

Tickets for the Siegel performance are \$38, \$30 and \$19; children 12 and under half-price. By phone, 888-945-2468, or through <http://www.tickets.com>. Paid parking in the deck adjacent to main stage; free in University Lot K. For more information, visit <http://www.gmu.edu/cfa/>.

### Corrections to January News

Susan Byram's correct email address is [susieqsmb@comcast.net](mailto:susieqsmb@comcast.net).

It was **Amy Work**, not Amy Rothstein who provided the following New Year's Resolution incorrectly identified in the January Newsletter, but worth repeating: *Stay calm, positive and encouraging through the most difficult times (recital/festival preparation). Please be as patient as possible with any student who seem to struggle a bit at times. Stay positive and give constructive feedback that's encouraging to a student's overall progress. Be firm in your directions, but use positive reinforcement to promote overall success. Please no yelling or screaming this year, teachers!* Students seem to respond better with a calm and patient, yet assertive instructor.

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Martha K. Smith, Newsletter Editor  
3550 N. 36th Road  
Arlington, VA 22207

*Deadline for the March Newsletter is  
March 1. Please send items by email to  
martha.smith@comcast.net*

## Upcoming Events

### February

- 9 Theory Mastery Day
- 9 - 10 Concerto Competition: Piano
- 16 Bach/Baroque Festival and Concert
- 16 Concerto Competition and Festival: Woodwinds
- 27 **General Meeting**, Woman's Club of Arlington, see page 1

### March

- 2 Judged Recitals, WCA 2 & 3:30 pm
- 8 Skills Day: Keyboard & Sight-reading, GMU
- 17-21 Public Schools Spring Break
- 26 **General Meeting**, Woman's Club of Arlington
- 28-30 Spring Festival, Oakton High School, see page 2
- 29—April 2 **MTNA National Conference**, Denver, CO