



**March 26 Meeting: Master Class
with Marjorie Lee
Women's Club of Arlington
Business 9:45
Program I 10:45 a.m.**

For our meeting in March, I am so happy to announce that one of our members—Dr. Marjorie Lee—will be presenting a master class for us. This will be a wonderful opportunity for us to get a glimpse into her excellent teaching. The repertoire is still being finalized for the master class, but I will send a notice via the NVMTA Yahoo group; you may also email me at litzelman@comcast.net to find out what repertoire we'll be working on that day. I hope you'll come with scores and pencils in hand, ready to get to work!

Jim Litzelman, program chair

Dr. Marjorie Lee is an Independent Studio Teacher. A prizewinner of the Kappell International, Washington International and Clara Wells Competitions, Dr. Lee has appeared in recital throughout the United States and Europe, and was chosen a United States Artistic Ambassador under the auspices of The United States Information Agency and the Voice of America. As a collaborative and orchestral pianist she has performed with Seiji Ozawa, Leonard Bernstein, Aaron Copland, Raphael Fruhbeck de Burgos, Mstislav Rostropovich, William Warfield, Alessandra Marc, William Parker and Rick Harrell.

Her students are perennial winners in national and international competitions including the MTNA Junior and Senior Piano Competitions, Stecher and Horowitz Competition, Arts Recognition and Talent Search of the National Foundation for Advancement in the Arts, Fischhoff National Chamber Music Competition, TCU Van Cliburn Institute, the Van Cliburn Competition, Chopin Competition, National Symphony Orchestra Young Soloists Competition, Clara Wells Competition of the American Matthey Association, the Connecticut International Competition, Oberlin Piano Competition, and the International Young Artist Piano Competition.

In the past decade, four of her students have been accepted to The Juilliard School of Music, and others to piano performance degrees at New England Conservatory of Music, The University of Michigan, Yale University, Shepherd School of Music of Rice University, and the University of Texas. Many of her students do not go on to major in music, but enjoy a rich musical life in addition to their professional pursuits in other fields.

Sale of Used Music Raises Scholarship Funds

Our last used music sale (at the January meeting) was followed by an aggressive liquidation of excess stock. Thanks to all the teachers who donated and bought music. We raised over \$2000 for NVMTA's scholarship funds. The next music sale will be September 2008. If you have surplus music to donate, please contact Andrew Horowitz.

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?????

Would More Members Attend Our Monthly Meetings If.....

We had meetings at a location in the central part of Fairfax County (Fairfax/Vienna) with nearby free parking? Call Ronda Sprague at **703-393-7080** or e-mail her at **cmronda@hotmail.com** with your answer. Ronda is trying to generate more participation at our monthly meetings. She is attempting to find out why many of our colleagues don't come to meetings and what we might do to entice them to attend. Tell her! Your comments and feedback are welcomed and appreciated.

President's Message

Dear Members,

This article called "Keepers" just came across my desk and I would like to share it with you as my March president's message. It was written by someone from my hometown who went to the same high school that I attended.

I grew up with practical parents who had been frightened by the Great Depression in the 1930's. A mother, God love her, who washed aluminum foil after she cooked in it, then reused it. She was the original recycle queen, before they had a name for it, before it was fashionable, or politically correct... A father who was happier getting old shoes fixed than buying new ones.

Their marriage was good, their dreams focused. Their best friends lived barely a wave away. I can see them now, Dad in trousers, tee shirt and a hat and Mom in a house dress, lawn mover in one hand, and dishtowel in the other.

It was the time for fixing things: a curtain rod, the kitchen radio, screen door, the oven door, the hem in a dress. Things we keep.

It was a way of life, and sometimes it made me crazy. All that repairing, eating, renewing, I wanted just once to be wasteful. Waste meant affluence. Throwing things away meant you knew there'd always be more.

But then my father died, and on that clear fall night, in the warmth of the hospital room, I was struck with the pain of learning that sometimes there isn't any more. Sometimes, what we care about most gets all used up and goes away--never to return. So...While we have it, it's best we love it and care for it...And fix it when it's broken...And heal it when it's sick. This is true for old cars...And children with bad report cards.....And aging parents...And grandparents. We keep them because they are worth it, because we are worth it.

Some things we keep. Like a best friend who moved away or a classmate we grew up with. There are just some things that make life important, like people we know who are special.... And so, we keep them close!

Good friends are like stars... You don't always see them, but you know they are always there. Keep them close.

We have many opportunities in NVMTA to keep things fixed and in good repair within our organization. I hope that we will continue to strive for growth and strengthen our place in our musical community. Carol Fink's thoughtful input in recognizing the new Jordan Kitts location with a meaningful opening week gift is to be lauded. Ronda Sprague's upcoming survey on how to improve our attendance at meetings and reach more members is a most worthy project. I can't begin to name all of you who make so many contributions to NVMTA- you truly are the stars-and even though we can't always see you, we hold you close.

Yours in NVMTA, *Julie Slingerland*

February Meeting Highlight

Lana Bailey, President of the National Federation of Music Clubs, was our distinguished guest at our February NVMTA meeting. She highlighted many of the programs and activities of the Federation and then presented our Concerto Winners with flowers and compliments after these fine students delighted us with their playing.

TEACHER FORUM - NEXT MEETING IN MAY

Please note that the Teacher Forum, 9:15am -9:45am meeting, will be scheduled for our May meeting, but will not meet at the March or April meetings. The forum has been meeting a half hour before our General Meetings and has been very informative and fun. Also note that the Arlington Woman's Club will be opened shortly after 9:00am on meeting days, so please come early and enjoy the fellowship of colleagues before the 9:45am meeting. In April, when our meeting will be held at George Mason University, you may also gather shortly after 9:00am for socializing.

HOW DO I GET ON THE MEETING AGENDA?

Did you know that you can just call or e-mail Julie Slingerland if you would like to make an announcement in the General or Board Meetings? She puts the agenda together the night before the meetings, so if you contact her by 8PM on the Tuesday evening before a meeting, you can be included. If you are a committee chairman, please use our general meetings to give us reports of your event. Members are interested in these events NVMTA sponsors. Having the opportunity to put a face on your name in the yearbook listing is helpful both to new members and long established members.

New Greeting Center at Meetings

Beginning in March a greeting and welcome table will be in place at our meetings. Mary Ruth Schupbach will be helping Membership Chairman, Amy Rothstein, in this project by designing name tags for us. Our goal is to have permanent name tags made for members to wear during the meetings. A drop off basket will be available for you to leave your tag with us so that you can wear it at all subsequent meetings. We'll have temporary name tags available for you until Mary Ruth transfers your name to a computer generated version. It is hoped that this will be a user friendly way for us to get to know one another. Our welcome table will distribute meeting agenda, program information, and other hands outs that members make available to those attending our meetings. Please make use of this system for your announcements of any upcoming events that you wish to publicize.

Piano For Sale: Steinway & Sons, Model O, 1918, Serial number: 194190. Excellent condition. Reconditioned in 2005, when climate control system was installed. Regularly tuned. Located in Washington, DC. Price: \$24,600. Contact: Constant Albertson, constant.albertson@umit.maine.edu; cell: 207-217-8725 or Mark Albertson, malbertson@worldnet.att.net, cell: 408-807-5119.

NVMTA Composition Competition Update

We are pleased to announce that this year's Alma Grayce Miller composition competition received a record number of 63 entries, the highest number in recent history. Our judges will announce their decisions by mid-March. We have requested that the McLean Symphony make their selection by the first of March.

Please note that the McLean Symphony concert will be April 6 at **3:00 PM**, not 7:30, as incorrectly printed on the applications. Do your best to support this concert and encourage your students to attend. The program is for the whole family, and your students will be inspired to hear orchestrations of student compositions. Tickets are available online: <http://www.mclean-symphony.org>.

Sheila Epstein, Frances Hollans, Libby McConnell

\$\$\$ Professional Development Grants \$\$\$

Grants of up to \$300 each are available each year to NVMTA members for further study, attending conferences, enrolling in summer workshops, applying for certification and more. See page 31-32 of Yearbook. Applications are due April 30.

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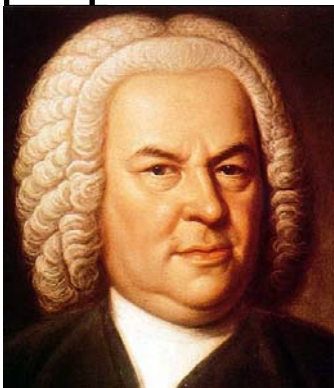
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BACH BAROQUE FESTIVAL and CONCERT

February 16, 2008, Flint Hill School

Forty-four piano teachers and two violin/viola teachers registered 357 students for Bach Baroque Festival. After withdrawals and no-shows, 314 students played and nearly half of those competed for a place in the evening recital. There were 214 Superiors, 88 Excellents, 11 Very Goods, and 1 Good.

The concert was very well attended and had a variety of ages and playing levels. It was a beautiful concert by these 21 talented and accomplished performers from the studios of Arda Andonia, Nancy Breth, Margarita Gramaticova, Debra Gunnerson, Marjorie Lee, Anna Ouspenskaya, Olga Roberts, Victoria Wyatt, and Jun Yang:

Wiley Skaret, Ashley Lee, Justin Gou, Samuel Ong, Virginia Sun, Roman Kasparian, Laura Chu, Elizabeth Hu, Maria Brock, Evelyn Mo, Ailynne Hartsell, Lucy Chu, Bryan Ho, Sooyoun In, Paul Li, Annelisa Crabtree, Lauren Huang, Jennifer Peng, Carravita Pape-Calabrese, Michael Wu and Kristina Rudenko.

We thank all the teachers who cheerfully gave of their time to judge, guard the harpsichord and work in the audit room. Eve Ginnett prepared a lovely luncheon appreciated by the judges and workers and Marilynne Jost volunteered to stay at the information desk all morning doing a great job of crowd control. Claudia Libero worked in the audit room most of the day, fielding questions from teachers, solving problems, and serving as a substitute judge whenever we needed her. We are so grateful to Vera Kochanowsky for once again lending us her beautiful harpsichord so that students could play their repertoire on a period instrument. She has graciously brought her harpsichord to this event for more than ten years. A big thank you to Susan Hayes and Flint Hill School for permitting us to use their building for the Festival.

Bach Baroque Festival is in search of a new home for next year. Due to budget and personnel issues, Flint Hill regrets that they can no longer host us. If you have a suggestion for a new venue, please let Linda Gutterman or Eve Ginnett know your ideas.

Eve Ginnett & Linda Gutterman, Co-Chairs

Editor's note: To see a newly researched and computer-generated rendering of what Bach looked like, use your search software to find an Associated Press article entitled "Bach Bust Displayed in Berlin" dated March 3, 2008. The new photo of Bach is copyrighted and could not legally be published here. Does he look as good as he sounds?

George Mason University Summer 2008

Piano Pedagogy Seminar

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

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. The course is available for credit (graduate or undergraduate) or audit. Brochures with complete information will be mailed to NVMTA members.

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 4th 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.

What do you know about Bach?

A quiz for students—Answers in April Newsletter

1. In what town was Bach born?
2. Name another famous German composer who was born in 1685?
3. How many wives did Bach have?
4. How many children did Bach have?
5. Which of Bach's children became well-known musicians?
6. Which one of Bach's sons lived in London and influenced Mozart?
7. Bach wrote a concerto for King Frederick the Great of Prussia. What instrument did the King play?
8. In what city did Bach spend his last 27 years?
9. What year did Bach die?

NVMTA Voice Achievement Awards

This competition will be held on Saturday, April 19, 2008, at the Woman's Club of Arlington. Please email Peggy McNulty (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.

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.

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Results of the Robert Spencer Memorial Piano Concerto Competition 2008

Level 1 Grades 2 – 4

1 st	Evelyn Mo (Jun Yang)
2 nd	Mali Yu (Marjorie Lee)
3 rd	Lyric Yu (Lee)
HM	Maria Brock (Anna Ouspenskaya)
HM	Elizabeth Hu (Lee)

Level 4 Grades 9-10

1 st	Rebecca Zhang (Lee)
2 nd	Alexander Stabile (Breth)
3 rd	Valerio Zetts (Breth)
HM	Kelly Hwu (Mang)
HM	Christine Shen (Lee)

Level 2 Grades 5 – 6

1 st	Ann Liu (Nancy Breth)
2 nd	Jessica Shen (Lee)
3 rd	Michelle Shin (Ouspenskaya)
HM	Lucy Chu (Breth)
HM	Bryan Ho (Lee)

Level 5 Grades 11-12

1 st	Hanbo Liu (Mang)
2 nd	David Wang (Litzelman)
3 rd	Alex Gunnarson (Lee)

Thanks to Lorie Santos and Vicki Wyatt who served as monitors, and John Healey, Denise Adkins, Amy Rothstein, and Carol Ann Barry who served as timers. Judges were Scott Beard, Bonnie Kellert, Christopher Hite and Dmitri Shteinberg.

Julie Slingerland, Chairman

Level 3 Grades 7 – 8

1 st	Kristina Hu (Lee)
2 nd	Antonia Stabile (Breth)
3 rd	Kimberly Hou (Lee)
HM	Clara Guo (Rosita Mang)
HM	Niki Hua (Breth)

Results of the 26th Annual Woodwind Concerto Competition

Sunday, February 17, Unitarian Universalist Church of Fairfax

Intermediate Division

	<u>Student</u>	<u>Student of</u>
First Place	Jeffrey Principe	Kenneth Lee
Second Place	Alice Park	Nancy Genovese
Third Place	Rachel Kim	Kenneth Lee
Honorable Mentions: Ed Cai and Stephanie Chung, students of Kenneth Lee		

Senior Division

	<u>Student</u>	<u>Student of</u>
First Place	Sarah Dickson	Nancy Genovese
Second Place	James Moon	Kenneth Lee
Third Place	Robert Bogart	Kenneth Lee

Senior Honorable Mentions: Liz Gorman, Mollie Cretsinger, and Mesum Mathison, all students of Nancy Genovese.

There were twenty-one entrants this year. Students from three studios participated in the competition. The teachers that entered students were Nancy Genovese, Kenneth Lee, and Robert Little. The judges were Lora Ferguson, Christopher Hite, and Randall Riffle. Thanks to our accompanists: Lisa Bloy, Barbara Cackler, Maria Dickson, Marjorie Lee, and Laura Bogart

Nancy Genovese, Chairperson

Theory Mastery Day Report

Thirty-three teachers entered 391 students in this year's Theory Mastery Day on February 9. The following is a list of grades achieved:

Superior	125	Pass	9
Excellent	126	Not Passing	8
Very Good	55	No Shows	33
Good	35		

We thank the teachers for their support in grading tests, helping to enter grades in the computer, and organizing tests to hand back. Everything ran smoothly on February 9 and following, and we already look forward to next year! All teachers should have not only their students' tests returned, but also the certificates, seals, and ribbons that accompany them.

René Johnson, Virginia Moore, Co-Chairs

MTNA President Gail Berenson on Value of Performance

In the February-March issue of the *American Music Teacher* Dr. Berenson mentions five steps that we as teachers can use to help our students through performances:

- 1- Help students view any public performance as a valuable learning opportunity.
- 2- Help students do the best they can at THAT moment in time. Help them realize that as they grow as musicians, their performances will also grow.
- 3- Encourage students to please themselves and not attempt to predict how others will respond.
- 4- Ensure a positive performing experience.
- 5- Promote the joy of performing.

Aileen Bassett, 1924—2008

It is with great sadness that we report the death on February 6 of Aileen Bassett, who first joined our association in 1983 and served for over a decade as Chairman of General Recitals. She was known for her gracious manner and calm efficiency. Aileen grew up in Fort Worth, Texas and became a piano teacher and organist. She played hand bells and sang in the choir at St. John's Lutheran Church in Alexandria. After teaching many years in Alexandria, she moved to Greenspring Retirement Village in 2003. Predeceased by her husband, Charles R. Bassett, she is survived by her children, Linda Fraley, Claudia Robert, and David Bassett. She was buried at Arlington National Cemetery on February 15.

Welcome New & Returning Members

Ricardo Cyncynates, 1287 Shaker Woods Rd, Herndon 20170. 703-471-1933. cyncynates@mac.com. Violin, viola.

Laurel Howard, 6900 Clifton Rd, Clifton 20124. 703-502-1572. laurelhoward@hotmail.com. Voice.

David Avram Strom, 20738 Citation Dr, Ashburn 20147. 571-291-2000. herndonsuzuki@yahoo.com. Violin.

Mei-Chung Wang, 8931 Shamrock Ct, Springfield 22152. 703-569-3815. mwang@gmu.edu. Piano.

Odeon Chamber Music presents Marcolivia

(Marc Ramirez, violin & Olivia Hajioff, violin/viola)
 Sunday, March 30, 2008 at 4 p.m.
 at St. Patrick's Episcopal Church
 3241 Brush Drive, Falls Church, VA 22042
 Program includes works by J.C. Bach, Bartok, Sarasate and Rolla
 Admission; Free (donation suggested)
 For more information, call (703)200-7489 or e-mail; Allemandemb@aol.com
www.odeonchambermusicseries.org

Furman Summer Keyboard Institute

June 22-27, 2008
 Furman University, Greenville, SC

For students ages 12 - 18 performing standard piano or organ repertoire at an intermediate level and above. Students will select one primary (piano/organ/technology) and one secondary (piano/organ/technology/ensemble/jazz improvisation) area of study, participating in small group classes, master classes, student recitals, faculty recitals and special topic sessions supplemented by daily recreational and social activities.

Primary areas meet every day for 90 minutes. Secondary areas meet twice during the week for 60 minutes. There are final showcases on Friday, with student performances and exhibits of students' technology projects. Private lessons with the institute faculty are available for an additional fee.

Partial scholarships are available. Deadline for application is May 1, 2008. Space is limited, so apply early. Please contact Dr. Derek Parsons for more information (dparsons@furman.edu) or 864.294.2099.

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

Upcoming Events

March

- 8 (Sat) Skills Day: Keyboard & Sight-reading, GMU
17-21 Public Schools Spring Break
26 (Wed) **General Meeting**, Woman's Club of Arlington (see page 1)
28-30 Spring Festival, Oakton High School
29—April 2 **MTNA National Conference**, Denver, CO

April

- 4—6 Piano Concerto Festival, Jordan Kitt's & Woman's Club of Arlington
6 (Sun) McLean Symphony features Composition Competition Winners, 3 pm (see p. 3)
12 (Sat) General Recitals, WCA 2:30 & 3:45 pm
13 (Sun) Young Artists Musicale, GMU, 6 pm
19 (Sat) Achievement Awards Competition: Voice (see p. 5)
20 (Sun) Honors Recitals (Judged Recitals), WCA, 2 & 3:30 pm
27 (Sun) Composition Competition Honors Recital, Jordan Kitt's, 4 pm
30 (Wed) **General Meeting**, George Mason University (GMU);
Applications for Professional Development Grants due (see p. 3)