



April Meeting at George Mason University

Michael Mizrahi, pianist

Business 9:45; Program 10:45 a.m.

For our program this month, we are honored to have pianist Michael Mizrahi perform a concert. His name will be familiar to some of our members, because as a young student he was a competitor in many of the events sponsored by NVMTA, and his mother, Joan Mizrahi, is a member of NVMTA. As you can see from his bio below, Michael is a very accomplished pianist who is developing quite a career for himself. The program is still being finalized, but it will include Beethoven's *Waldstein* Sonata and likely Debussy's *Estampes*. This is a wonderful opportunity for us to support a former NVMTA competitor who has chosen music as his life's work, and is a testament to the many good things that happen in our organization. I hope to see you there!

Jim Litzelman, program chair

Hailed for his "splendid powers of concentration" (*The Washington Post*) and performances that are "exciting to watch and hear" (*The San Diego Union-Tribune*), Michael Mizrahi has won acclaim for his compelling performances of a wide-ranging repertoire and his ability to connect with audiences of all ages. He has appeared as concerto soloist, recitalist, chamber musician, and music educator across the United States and in Europe.

Mr. Mizrahi has performed as soloist with several orchestras, including the Houston Symphony and the National Symphony Orchestra. Mizrahi is a founding member of the Moët Trio, which is in residence at the New England Conservatory this season. Equally at home with contemporary music, Mizrahi is a founding member of NOW Ensemble, a chamber group devoted to the commissioning and performing of new music by emerging composers.

In January 2007 Mizrahi was selected to join The Academy: A Program of Carnegie Hall, the Juilliard School, and the Weill Music Institute. Under the auspices of this ground-breaking two-year fellowship, Mizrahi teaches music at a New York City public school one and-a-half days a week, participates in workshops with leading classical musicians and entrepreneurs, and appears with other Academy members in chamber music concerts at Carnegie Hall and throughout New York City. Michael Mizrahi began piano studies at the age of four. He will receive his Doctor of Musical Arts degree in this spring from the Yale School of Music, where he studied with Claude Frank.

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Apply Now for NVMTA Professional Development Grants \$\$\$

Each year NVMTA's Scholarship Endowment Fund provides grants of up to \$300 to members for attending conferences, enrolling in summer workshops, applying for certification or taking lessons. See page 31-32 of the Yearbook. Applications for these grants are due April 30.

NVMTA ELECTION BALLOT

Vote by sending an email message or a copy of this ballot by U.S. Mail to Andrew Horowitz, 13A E Chapman St., Alexandria, VA 22301 AHOROWIT@YAHOO.COM

Ballots must reach Andy by April 20th, 2008. The votes will be counted at the April meeting and the results will be announced at the meeting. This year there is only one position up for election.

Member at Large through 2011: Nancy Breth ___ Yes ___ No

President's Message

Greetings at this busy time of year. I hope you are enjoying the daffodils, tulips and cherry blossoms! While the blooming cherry trees were awesome in the outdoors, the same beauty "flowered" indoors with over 2000 students playing in the Spring Festival ably co-chaired by Marilynne Jost and Sharon Walker.

Many other student events are "blooming" in the NVMTA Calendar as we sail through the spring season. Thanks go to all teachers who are working behind the scenes to make all this happen.

The NVMTA March program drew a huge crowd as we delighted in a very informative Master Class presented by Marjorie Lee. **Fifi Zhang**, a student of Marjorie who performed that Wednesday, went on to win First Place in the National Junior Piano Performance Competition at the MTNA Conference in Denver the following Saturday, March 29. **Jessie Wong**, student of Nancy Breth, teamed with George Fu, student of Scott Beard in Maryland, to take First Place in the National Piano Duet Competition, a brand new event, in Denver.

As we approach what is fast becoming the end of the NVMTA year, there are several openings for positions on the Executive Board. Please get in touch with me to find out about these opportunities. You will find it very rewarding to work with other teachers in our various and varied activities.

Best wishes for all the work you do with your students.

Julie Slingerland



Julie Slingerland presents a plaque and a plant to Dave Yaccino of **Jordan Kitt's** in honor of their new showroom and in appreciation for all the NVMTA events they host. Jordan Kitt's Music is now open and ready for business at their new location, 8500-A Lee Highway. In addition Jordan Kitt's is providing a recital space at 8626 Lee Highway Suite 200.

Thank You

Quick Report from Spring Festival

Spring Festival is over and all is well. Sixteen events were represented. There were 2200 juniors and 24 adults. There were 336 no shows. Ratings totaled 1,753 Superiors, 113 Excellents, and 9 Satisfactories.

Many thanks go to all the people that helped put this event together and worked so hard March 28 – 30: Sharon Cantwell was judging and room chairman; Andy Horowitz and Julie Hixon managed the audit room, Frances Hollans and Rosa Van Stavoren provided the lunch and snacks; Helen Lin worked in the audit room and helped with the lunch; Belinda Stevens, Hongjoo Lee and volunteers worked the front desk; Virginia Moore administered the theory exams. The Area Chairmen work many months of the year and then come in and judge, going far beyond the hours required. Suzanne Smith the gold cup chairman will be busy soon. And of course, the many teachers that judged and put in extra time when called to do so. Kudos to you all!

Please watch the newsletter in the coming months as our computer team will be putting together the online program for next year. We will be giving you information as we progress so you will see what is expected of you and how the system is going to work.

Thanks to all. Sharon Walker and Marilynne Jost

Teacher Intern Needed

Laurel Learning Center is Reston Interfaith's after school childcare program for moderate to low income families. They seek a college music intern to help with their ongoing piano program for the summer or the school year. For the last eight years piano lessons have been given after school to many children ages 6-11 on a donated piano. Volunteers, including high school students, have helped teach the lessons. Several children have received donated keyboards and pianos for practice at home. We feel this program is a wonderful opportunity for a music major interested in teaching. The children are eager to learn and delightful to teach!

Contact Courtney Park, Director, Laurel Learning Center, 571 323 1414 or Kathleen McGillicuddy 703 759 3470 (volunteer)

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.

?????

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.

More questions about J.S. Bach

(See answers to March Quiz on page 5; answers to these questions will be in the May Newsletter)

1. Who was the organist that Bach walked 200 miles to hear?
2. Which Bach piece is engraved on a gold-plated record aboard the *Voyager* spacecraft?
3. Name two keyboard instruments that Bach played.
4. What Beatles tune shows the influence of Bach's style?

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Christopher Hite, Music Director

Inaugural Concert

featuring

Winners of the NVMTA 2008 Concerto Competitions

Sunday, May 4, 2008

7:00 pm

St. Paul's United Methodist Church

1400 G Street, Woodbridge, VA

Program

Overture to "Giovanna d'Arco"

Giuseppe Verdi

Premier Rhapsody, *Sarah Dickson, Clarinet*

Claude Debussy

Rhapsody on a Theme of Paganini, *Hanbo Liu, Piano*

Sergei Rachmaninoff

Concerto for Cello in D Minor, I, *Daniel Tavani, Cello*

Edouard Lalo

Symphony No. 5 in C Minor op. 67

Ludwig van Beethoven

Tickets

Adults \$15 Seniors \$10 Students \$8

Orders of 10 or more tickets of any price will receive a 20% discount.

Make check to "Dominion Symphony Orchestra" and send order to:

Dominion Symphony Orchestra

8521 Pappas Way

Annandale, VA 22003

Answers to Bach Quiz in March Newsletter

1. In what town was Bach born? **Eisenach, Germany**
2. Name another famous German composer who was born in 1685? **Georg Friedrich Handel**
3. How many wives did Bach have? **two**
4. How many children did Bach have? **20 children total (10 survived childhood)**
5. Which of Bach's children became well-known musicians? **Carl Phillip Emanuel, Johann Christoph, Johann Christian and Wilhelm Friedmann.**
6. Which one of Bach's sons lived in London and influenced Mozart? **Johann Christian Bach**
7. Bach wrote a concerto for King Frederick the Great. What instrument did the King play? **Flute**
8. In what city did Bach spend his last 27 years? **Leipzig, Germany**
9. What year did Bach die? **1750**

See more questions on page 3.

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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 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.

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 2008 Alma Grayce Miller Composition Competition

Twenty-five students from 16 different studios were chosen to perform in the **Composition Honors Recital** on **Sunday, April 27 at 4 pm** at the new Jordan Kitts recital room, 8626 Lee Highway Suite 200, Fairfax. You are invited to experience the creative talent of the following Composition Honor Students (with teacher's name in parentheses): Linda Lulu Lin (Titova), Stephen Artner (Longmyer), Kate Reiss, Teresa Poirier, Ian McConnell (McConnell), Athena Feng (Epstein), Camille Thornton (Rosenberg), Amelia Eggerton (Davis), Shani Cave (Jost), Analee Bekmezian (Dillon), Mitchell Downing (Johnson), Nalini Singh, Keira Mora, Nathan Hughes (Horowitz), An Ton (Slingerland), Patrick Weaver, Kelly Pratt, Erin Suidikas (Hollans), Christopher Carey (Copping), and Gary Poon (V. Moore).

The **McLean Symphony** will perform an orchestrated arrangement by Dingwall Fleary entitled "Melodies of Youth" of the following students' waltz compositions. We hope you will attend the concert on **Sunday, April 6 at 3:00 pm.** (See www.mclean-symphony.org for tickets.) These students will also be featured on the Honors Recital: Dominic Olivera (Epstein), Abigail Tam, Darya Tahan (Jost), Joseph Blair (S. Smith), and Jacqueline Anders (Gallo).

The following students received honorable mention for their compositions: Sabrina Barker, Ellen Barker, Clare McConnell, Adam Reiss, Oliver Zufall (McConnell), Adam Ashley, Kelvin Nguyen, Melissa Pratt, Katy Maher, Kaitlyn Goudey, Emma Puranen, Jeremy Day (Hollans), Julia Nguyen (Slingerland), Abigail Clayton (Derr), Matthew Monos (S. Smith), Anne Gent, and Kolina Sheng (V. Moore).

Co-Chairs: Frances Hollans, Sheila Epstein, Libby McConnell

ELMAR OLIVEIRA VIOLIN MASTERCLASS

The Virginia String Teachers Association (VASTA) is teaming up with the **Fairfax Symphony** and **George Mason University** to present a master class with the world-famous violinist, **Elmar Oliveira on May 10.** Mr. Oliveira's fee has been generously funded in full by the **Potter Violin Co.** Six soloists will be selected to perform in this master class: two finalists from Fairfax Symphony's Feuer Young Soloist Competition, two violin students at GMU, and two students of VASTA members. Mr. Oliveira will be performing *Scottish Fantasy* by Max Bruch with the Fairfax Symphony later that evening. Discount tickets are available, and all students are eligible for the FSO free tickets.

*For more information, go to www.vastaweb.org.
For further information, please contact VASTA President Helen Fall at VAViola@aol.com or (703)425-9279.*

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.

Virginia Chamber Orchestra

Luis Haza, Music Director

Sunday, April 20th, at 4:00 P.M.

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Barbara Gholz 703-354-4555

Welcome New Members, Member Performance

Christopher Almond, 7826 Marthas Lane, Falls Church 22043. 703-402-1207, chrisalmond@cox.net. Piano, Theory.
Sara Callanan, 2468 Freetown Dr, Reston 20191. 703-620-8907. scallanan@zzapp.org. Voice, Piano, Accompanying.
Antoinette McNeil Purdon, 1053 Edwards Ferry Rd NE, Leesburg 20176. 703-777-7789. acpurdon@aol.com. General Music, Music Education.
Meg Owens, 5528 Paxford Ct, Fairfax 22032. 703-425-1126. mowens1@gmu.edu. Oboe. (Reinstating)
Ben Powell, 302 Great Falls St, Falls Church 22046. 703-909-5682. Piano, Guitar, Theory.
Sharie Lynn Stegeman, 47325 Middle Bluff Pl, Sterling 20165. iflyabus1@aol.com. Piano, Flute, Elementary Music.
Performance by Diane Winter Pyles, pianist: Chamber Concert April 11, 8 pm, Old Town Hall, Fairfax. Free.

The Woodbridge Flute Choir, Debbie Gilbert, Artistic Director, presents a

**Master Class and Concert with
 John Barcellona**

Saturday, April 26, 2008

Master Class 2:30 pm Dinner 5:30 Concert 7:30

Abiding Presence Lutheran Church, 6304 Lee Chapel Rd., Burke 22015 Master Class is free; Concert tickets are \$10 adult and \$7 students and seniors; Dinner: \$10

Odeon Chamber Music presents

**Brooke Evers, soprano & Michael Gallant, tenor
 Sunday, April 13, 2008 at 4 p.m.**

Works by Purcell, Rossini, Schumann,
 Beethoven and Rachmaninoff

at: **St. Patrick's Episcopal Church**
 3241 Brush Drive, Falls Church, VA 22042

Admission: Free (Donation of \$10 or more is appreciated.)
 Contact: Mariko Hiller at (703)200-7489

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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 May Newsletter is May
1. Please send items by email to
martha.smith@comcast.net

Upcoming Events

April

- 5—6 Piano Concerto Festival, Jordan Kitt's & Woman's Club of Arlington
- 6 (Sun) **McLean Symphony** features Composition Competition Winners, 3 pm
- 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 at George Mason University**
Applications for Professional Development Grants due, see p. 1

May

- 3 (Sat) Achievement Awards Competition: Strings
Piano Ensemble Competition and Festival
- 4 (Sun) **Dominion Symphony Orchestra** Concert features NVMTA Concerto Winners,
7 pm—reproducible flyer on page 4
- 10 (Sat) Chamber Music Festival
- 17 (Sat) Achievement Awards Competitions: Piano & Woodwinds
- 18 (Sun) Sonata Festival; General Recital; Healy/Ford Scholarship Competition;
Student Excellence Competition
- 23—25 VMTA District Auditions
- 25 (Sun) Sonata Honors Recital, GMU
- 28 (Wed) **General Meeting & Achievement Award Winners Recital**, Woman's Club of Arlington