

**Wednesday, April 28, Woman's Club of Arlington  
9:45 Business Meeting, 10:30 Program**

**Jane Magrath  
Teaching Literature  
For Piano:  
Outside the Box**



The NVMTA is delighted to welcome Dr. Jane Magrath to our next meeting. She will present a workshop on unusual and effective teaching literature for various levels. Enliven and refresh your lessons with this material and learn new ways to present the pieces.

Jane Magrath is well known as an author, clinician, and pianist. Her book *The Pianist's Guide to Standard Teaching and Performance Literature* has become a classic reference work for pianists and Magrath's work in the area of the standard classical teaching literature has been central to the current revival of interest in this music throughout the U.S. She currently has more than thirty five volumes published with Alfred Publishing, and her music editions are used widely throughout the U.S. and abroad.

Dr. Magrath was named the first recipient of the MTNA/Frances Clark Keyboard Pedagogy Award for the Outstanding Contribution to Piano Pedagogy. For many years she contributed a regular column to *Clavier* and the *The American Music Teacher*. She is frequently in demand as a clinician and teacher, and during the last twenty years has performed and given presentations in over forty states including Alaska, and on three continents. Her workshops and master classes have drawn international acclaim.

A native of South Carolina, Magrath received her education at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and at Wesleyan College, and was the first person to receive the D.M. in Piano Performance and Pedagogy from Northwestern University. A faculty member at the University of Oklahoma since 1981, she has received numerous awards and citations. In 2009 she received the Neustadt Award from the University, given to an advocate for students and nominated by students. She advises masters and doctoral students in the piano pedagogy degree, and has chaired many documents and dissertations in the department. Her students have won numerous prizes and competitions.

**Inside this issue:**

President's Message	2
Board Ballot	
Concerts and Member News	3
Classes and Seminars	4
Certification and Book Sale	5
Sightreading/ Kybd. Skills Report Music Articles	6
Job Opening	7
Calendar	8

**May 26 Program:  
Achievement  
Award Performers**

**May Newsletter  
Submission Deadline:  
May 1, 2010**

**NVMTA TEACHER REFERRAL LISTING**

Please fill out the form at [nvmta.org](http://nvmta.org), and send your \$35 check payable to NVMTA, to Peggy McNulty, 1209 Stable Gate Ct., McLean, Va. 22102.

Listing is good for one year and it's up to you to check to renew your listing every year. For questions, please contact [Peggy.McNulty@verizon.net](mailto:Peggy.McNulty@verizon.net)

### President's Message

I recently returned from the MTNA national conference in Albuquerque, and was reminded once again that we have an outstanding organization in NVMTA. NVMTA was wonderfully represented by two of our members—Dr. Marjorie Lee and Ms. Nancy O'Neill Breth. Both of these fine teachers had students who performed in the national finals of the MTNA competitions and I had the privilege of hearing them. Nancy had two of her students, Niki Hua and Valerie Zetts, in the finals of the piano duet competition, and they played beautifully. Marjorie's student, Fifi Zhang, won 1<sup>st</sup> place in the Senior Piano Competition. Clearly, making it to the national finals is quite an accomplishment, but this was a special achievement for Fifi, as she was the 1<sup>st</sup> place winner in the Junior Piano Competition two years ago! Congratulations to Marjorie and Nancy and their students—they are representative of the first-rate teaching that takes place within our organization, and their outstanding commitment to excellence is inspiring. Congratulations Marjorie and Nancy!

And for those of you who've never had the opportunity to attend a national conference, I hope that you will be able to do so. It was refreshing to see so many familiar faces from NVMTA and we all had a wonderful time!

**Jim Litzelman**, President

### Vacant Member-at-Large Position

Sharon Walker and Linda Gutterman are running for the vacant, 3 year member-at-large position that Virginia Moore currently holds. Please select your candidate and cast your vote with the ballot below.

**Sharon Walker** teaches piano and marimba in Alexandria and has a theory computer lab in her studio. Sharon has music degrees from Northwestern University and the University of North Florida. Before moving to Virginia, Sharon held various offices in both the local and state associations of the Florida State MTA. Shortly after coming to Virginia, she chaired the Spring Festival, a position she held for 15 years. Sharon presently serves on the board of the Symphony Orchestra League of Alexandria, which supports the Alexandria Symphony Orchestra.

**Linda Gutterman** maintains an active piano studio in Arlington, VA. She has been a member of NVMTA since 1981 and has served the organization in many capacities, most recently as chair of Bach Baroque Festival. She was a faculty member at the Preparatory School of Peabody Conservatory from 1995 to 2000. Currently, Linda serves the Board of Directors for the Suzuki Association of Greater Washington and is a frequent clinician for Suzuki workshops throughout the country. Linda directed the Greater Washington Suzuki Piano Institute from 1986-2002, and served as piano coordinator for the 2006 Suzuki Association of the Americas national teacher conference.

### NVMTA Election Ballot

Vote by sending an email message or a copy of this ballot to Betty McGonagle, 3523 South Utah Street, Arlington, VA 22206, [bettymcgonagle@gmail.com](mailto:bettymcgonagle@gmail.com)

Per our by-laws, **ballots must reach Betty by April 20**. The votes will be counted and the results announced at the April meeting. This year there is only one position up for election.

Member at Large through 2013:

Sharon Walker \_\_\_yes \_\_\_no

Linda Gutterman \_\_\_yes \_\_\_no



## Julie Albers Presents Cello Concert and Masterclass

Julie Albers, a virtuoso cellist and master teacher, will give a concert with the Fairfax Symphony at the George Mason Center for the Arts, Fairfax Campus on **May 1 at 8:00pm**. She will play the Elgar Cello Concerto. Students in grades K-12 are eligible for the FSO free student ticket program; discount tickets are available for accompanying parents. For information contact the Fairfax Symphony at (703)563-1990, or [www.fairfaxsymphony.org](http://www.fairfaxsymphony.org)

Ms. Albers will conduct the cello masterclass on **May 1 from 10:00am-12:00pm** at Fairfax Old Town Hall,

3999 University Drive, Fairfax, VA 22030. Tickets are \$5.00 for Virginia String Teachers Association (VASTA) members and their students, \$10.00 for all others. For more information go to [www.vastaweb.org](http://www.vastaweb.org) or contact Helen Fall at [vaviola@gmail.com](mailto:vaviola@gmail.com) or (703)772-5212.



## Fifi Zhang First Prize Winner



Fifi Zhang won first prize in the MTNA High School Piano Competition held in Albuquerque, New Mexico, March 21, 2010. Fifi was also the 2008 MTNA Baldwin Junior High Piano Winner. She is a student of Marjorie Lee. Congratulations Fifi!

## Member News

Congratulations to **Carol Ann Barry** upon winning the national MTNA-Piano Technicians Guild Scholarship, for Teacher Continuing Education/Performance Studies.

**Beatrice L. Frank**, 93, a pianist and teacher for more than 40 years, died Feb. 27. Mrs. Frank was a member of the Friday Morning Music Club, an honorary member of the Virginia Music Teachers Association and the Arlington-based MusicLink Foundation.

New Member: Jeannie Choice, Piano

New email for Carol Fink, [mjfink4@gmail.com](mailto:mjfink4@gmail.com) and Julie Slingerland, [jmsvivace@verizon.net](mailto:jmsvivace@verizon.net)

## Steinway & Sons Piano Gallery Books Piano Recitals



The Steinway Piano Gallery in Tysons Corner has already started to book teachers' Sunday night recitals and we are eager to book yours. We provide a Steinway Model D Concert Grand, 150 chairs and plenty of free parking! The gallery is located at Tysons Corner Center (Lower level), 1961 Chain Bridge Road, McLean, VA 22102. For details contact Charlotte Woods, Senior Representative, 703-388-2482 Cell: 703-608-2877 or [www.steinwaypianodc.com](http://www.steinwaypianodc.com)



### GMU Piano Pedagogy Seminar:

**A Musical Tour de Force: June 7-11, 9:30 - 12:30 daily** with bonus afternoon sessions on memo-

rization, computers, practice techniques, and a Barber

lecture recital. GMU faculty explore the repertoire of Spain, Russia, Germany, France, and

the USA offering teaching strategies and interpretive ideas for intermediate level students. Details are on GMU Potomac Academy's website. Register online at [www.potomacacademy.org](http://www.potomacacademy.org).

**Deadline: May 28th.** Join us!



**GMU Degree Programs:** Interested in taking the plunge by going back to school for pedagogy? Certification or an MA degree or one of our doctorate degrees? Call Joanne Haroutounian for details about pedagogy (703-534-9490) and Linda Monson for doctorate questions (703-993-3580).

**Lecture Recitals at GMU:** The students listed below will each present a lecture recital to fulfill degree requirements for the master of music in piano pedagogy. Each recital includes the history of the composer, a pedagogical look at both student literature and its performance.

May 7 - 5:00 pm Amy Park: Prokofiev - Music for Children

May 7 - 7:00 pm Esther Kim: The Piano Music of Samuel Barber: A Pedagogical Overview

May 11 - 5:30 pm Melody Becker Kucks: Shostakovich's Student Literature



THE PREMIER SHOWCASE  
for  
GREAT CHAMBER MUSIC  
IN NORTHERN VIRGINIA

Concerts are held at the Alden Theatre of the McLean Community Center  
1234 Ingleside Avenue • McLean, VA

For information, call 703-324-6346; TTY 703-324-6386. Free Admission Sponsored by  
the Music Friends of the Fairfax County Public Library

#### 2008-2009 CONCERT SCHEDULE:

Sept. 19, 2009, 3 p.m.	Washington Saxophone Quartet
Nov. 8, 2009, 3 p.m.	National Symphony Orchestra Chamber Ensemble
Nov. 22, 2009, 3 p.m.	Young Soloists Recital
Jan. 10, 2010, 3 p.m.	Christopher Schmitt, pianist
Jan. 31, 2010, 3 p.m.	Andrey Andrist, pianist
Feb. 14, 2010, 3 p.m.	Young Soloists Recital
Feb. 21, 2010, 3 p.m.	Pro Musica Washington*
Feb. 28, 2010, 3 p.m.	Young Soloists Recital
Mar. 28, 2010, 3 p.m.	Kimberly Hou, pianist
May 30, 2010, 3 p.m.	Young Soloists Recital

\* (Hidetsuro Suzuki, violin; Zeyda Ruga Suzuki, piano; Sheldon Lampert, viola;  
Robert Novakik, cello)



Fairfax County Public Library  
12000 Government Center Pkwy.  
Suite 524  
Fairfax, VA 22035



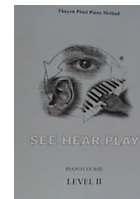
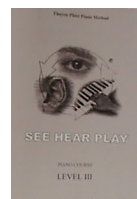
Reasonable accommodations  
will be made upon request. Call  
703-534-6389 or TTY 703-324-6386.



[www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library)

### Thuyen Phiet Piano Method

4 newly revised books emphasizing practice efficiency



Students learn to read using fingering to feel the keyboard by the rhythm to play musically.

Available at Foxes Music Company

[www.phietpianomethod.com](http://www.phietpianomethod.com)

781 431 1130

# MTNA CERTIFICATION

Congratulations to **Jeri Bennett** and **Peggy Newhall** for achieving MTNA national certification in March. Here are some inspiring words from Peggy, who also turned 80 in March:

"In the fall of 2009 I read about the national certification process for piano teachers. It interested me, but my husband said it was a crazy idea. After all, I was approaching my 80th birthday, and why did I need certification? I was encouraged, however, by Dr. Joanne Haroutounian to go for it. I decided to try.

The activities of the Christmas holidays and the loss of student lesson time due to our several snow storms complicated my efforts. I finally did get everything done and mailed in by the deadline. In early March my children gave me a lovely surprise 80th birthday party. Then on March 11, I received notice of my certification. What a great week!

To paraphrase Seymour Bernstein, who stated in the Sept./Oct. issue of *Clavier Companion* why, at his advanced age, he continues to publish ----All of us ought to do whatever is necessary to be worthy of our gifts. I applied for national certification not merely to achieve the title, but for the joy of honest effort; not for public recognition, but to know that I could continue to grow; not for self-satisfaction alone, but to make myself fit to benefit others, especially my students. For what better example could I set for my students than to set a goal and strive to achieve it? I plan to continue enjoying my students and my love of music as long as I am able."

Next month, a few words of inspiration from Jeri Bennett....

If you would like to learn more about the new certification process, please visit [www.mtna.org/certification](http://www.mtna.org/certification) or contact Diane Perett, NVMTA Certi. Chair or Martha Smith, Virginia Cert. Chair.

## Professional Development Grants Available

Do you wish to be nationally certified? Attend a national conference? Take a pedagogy class? Would a small grant help make this possible? If so, please send a letter outlining your plan to Martha Smith or Jacqua Yeomans. NVMTA has two professional development grants waiting for you.

**Deadline: April 30, 2010** for certification\* or summer workshops.

\*VMTA separately offers \$100 for successful certification.

## NVMTA Music Sale

Bring your donations and your checkbook to the April meeting, where NVMTA will hold its last used music sale of the school year. All music is 50% or less off the printed price and all of the proceeds go directly to student scholarships. Questions? Contact member Andrew Horowitz at 703 229 3109 or [ahorowit@yahoo.com](mailto:ahorowit@yahoo.com)



## Sightreading and Keyboard Skills Day

Ronda Sprague, Chair

Skills Day 2010 proved to be a productive and enjoyable day. Congratulations to all of the teachers and students who participated and we look forward to seeing everyone again next year! We had a total of 22 participating teachers and 262 events. The 2010 exam results are as follows:

SIGHT READING EXAMS	
Superior	116
Excellent	64
Good	11
Very Good	2
Pass	1
Fail	1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>194</b>

KEYBOARD SKILLS EXAMS	
Superior	18
Excellent	20
Very Good	7
Good	1
Pass	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>46</b>

## Music Articles of Interest

From Martha Smith here is a link to a New York Times article that is “. . . a wonderful tribute to music teachers that is guaranteed to make your eyes well up with tears.” And reaffirms why we coach, rehearse and teach.

<http://www.nytimes.com/2010/02/28/opinion/28lipman.html?emc=eta1>

And if you enjoyed the article in last month's newsletter about the reemergence of improvisation in classical music, check out the link below. This is a review by Anne Midgette in The Washington Post of a performance of Beethoven's First Piano Concerto given by Robert Levin and the Baltimore Symphony. Mr. Levin improvises throughout the concerto as well as some of the encores. This is an exciting new direction for our teaching.

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2010/02/26/AR2010022605618.html>

***True teachers are those who use themselves as bridges over which they invite their students to cross; then, having facilitated their crossing, joyfully collapse, encouraging them to create their own.***

**-Nikos Kazantzakis,(1883-1957)**

**poet and novelist**





**Job Opening:** Arlington Metaphysical Chapel is looking for pianists and/or organists for occasional Sunday services. This church has wonderful musical instruments and is looking for musicians who play thoughtfully and with

deep feeling. Experience is not a great consideration. Evening services pay \$50 for an hour-long service, morning services a bit more. Please contact music director Susan Tenenbaum at (703) 979-0054 or [SueTenenbaum@gmail.com](mailto:SueTenenbaum@gmail.com).

## ***FOXES MUSIC***

www.foxesmusic.com

*"The place where all  
the music teachers go"*  
Washington Post



- Huge selection of printed music
- Excellent research and special order department
- Sales and rentals of band and string instruments
- Guitars, amps and keyboards

Falls Church  
416 S. Washington Street  
(703) 533-7393

Distinguished Piano Teaching  
**Vasilios Boobas**

### **Noted Concert Pianist & Teacher**

Piano - All Levels/Ages

Advanced Coaching & Competition Preparation

Student of Mieczyslaw Munz, Peabody Conservatory;

Robert Goldsand, Manhattan School of Music;

& Erno Balogh

**703/256-0666** in Annandale, Virginia

## **PIANO TUNING AND REPAIR**

**Frank Cahill**

**(703) 239-2754**

Evening Appointments Available



## **Dr. Ronit Seter**

**Cornell Ph.D. in Musicology**

*20 years of teaching experience*

**Piano, Theory, Adult lessons**

**Historical Musicology**

[rseter@mindspring.com](mailto:rseter@mindspring.com), **703.277.1001**

**Fairfax**

**Northern Virginia Music  
Teachers Association**

***Musical Excellence since 1950***

**Laura Marchisotto Bogart, Editor**

*Deadline for the May 2010  
online News is May 1.  
Please send items by email to  
[laurapianostudio@gmail.com](mailto:laurapianostudio@gmail.com)*

**CALENDAR**

APRIL	6 Tue	POSTMARK DEADLINE: Apr 17 General Recitals
	7 Wed	POSTMARK DEADLINE: Apr 18 Judged Recitals
	9-11 Fri-Sun	<b>Piano Concerto Festival</b> at JK and WCA
	15 Thu	POSTMARK DEADLINES: Piano Achievement & Woodwind Achievement
	17 Sat	<b>General Recitals</b> , WCA, 2:30 & 3:45pm
	18 Sun	<b>Judged Recitals</b> , WCA, 2:00pm & 3:30pm
	22 Thu	POSTMARK DEADLINE: May 8 Non-competitive Judged Recitals & Repertoire Submission for May Honors
	24 Sat	<b>Voice Achievement Awards Competition</b> , WCA, 10:00am - 5:00pm
28 Wed	<b>Regular Meeting</b> , WCA, 9:45am, Program 10:30am	
MAY	1 Sat	<b>Composition Competition Honors Recital</b> , WCA, 7:00pm Newsletter deadline <b>Piano Ensemble Competition &amp; Festival</b> , RLC, 9:00am-6:00pm POSTMARK DEADLINE: Reely-Hendricks, 7:00 pm
	3 Mon	POSTMARK DEADLINE: Northern District Auditions
	4 Tue	POSTMARK DEADLINE: May 16 General Recital
	8 Sat	<b>Non-competitive Judged Recitals</b> , WCA, 2:00pm and 3:15pm <b>Honors Recital</b> , 2:00 & 3:15pm and 4:30pm
	9 Sun	<b>Strings Achievement Awards Competition</b> , WCA Young Artists Musicale, GMU, 6:00pm
	15 Sat	<b>Piano Achievement Awards Competition</b> , WCA <b>Woodwinds/Brass/Percussion Achievement Awards Competition</b> , Burke Presbyterian Church 9:00am - 3:00pm
	16 Sun	<b>General Recitals</b> , WCA, 2:30 and 3:45pm <b>Healy/Ford &amp; Student Excellence Competitions</b> , WCA, 5:00pm <b>Sonata Festival &amp; Competition</b> , GMU, 10:30am-4:30pm
	23 Sun	<b>Julie and David Slingerland Sonata Competition Honors Recital</b> , GMU 2:00pm - 4:30pm
	26 Wed	<b>Regular Meeting</b> , WCA, 9:45 Business Meeting; 10:30am Program, Achievement Award Winners
	31 Mon	Memorial Day
	JUNE	5 Sat
9 Wed		<b>Board Meeting</b> , Green Springs Gardens, 10:00a.m.
11-13 Fri-Sun		<b>Northern District Auditions, Piano (VMTA)</b> , WCA
30 Mon		Dues to MTNA today