

NVMTA News

December 2, 2013

Meeting and Program 12/04/13

9:30 Coffee and networking

10:00 Business Meeting

- Vote on Standing Rules Amendments
- Discussion of Copyright Release Form

Reports from

- Fall Festival
- Pecan Sales
- Spring Festival
- VMTA Presidents' Summit
- By-Laws Committee

10:45 Program: A Blast from the Past— Stephen Beck

American pianist Steven Beck continues to garner impressive acclaim for his performances and recordings worldwide. Mr. Beck made his debut with the National Symphony Orchestra and currently works with several ensembles in the New York City area.

Stephen presents this program at the December meeting:

- Haydn Sonata in C major, Hob. XVI:50,
- Beethoven Sonata in F# major, op. 78,
- Babbitt Lagniappe
- Chopin: Fantasy in f minor, op. 49;
- Nocturne in F# major, op. 15 no. 2
- Scherzo in E major, op. 54



Stephen Beck

Highlights from the October 30 General Membership Meeting

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- Discussion of Standing Rules Amendments
- Vote to increase Theory Mastery Day Fee to \$18
- Announcement of 2013 Fundraiser Raffle
- Amy Rothstein named NVMTA Most Valuable Member October 2013



Amy Rothstein

2013 NVMTA FUNDRAISER RAFFLE

Raffle sales extended through December 17, drawing held and winners notified on December 18

List of Prizes

Clyde's at Mark Center, clydes.com/mark-center : \$100 Gift Certificate

Fairfax Symphony fairfaxsymphony.org: 2 tickets to a Concert

National Symphony Orchestra www.kennedy-center.org/nso/: 2 tickets to the Family Concert "Mozart's Magnificent Journey" on Sunday, June 1, 2014 at 1:00 p.m.

Foxes Music, foxesmusic.com: \$100 in Gift Certificates (\$50, \$25, and \$25)

D.C. Coast Restaurant, 1401 K St., NW, dccoast.com : \$75.00 Gift Certificate

Bistro Vivant, McLean, bistrovivant.com: \$50.00 Gift Certificate

McKeever's Pub, McLean, mckeeverspub.com: \$50.00 Gift Certificate

Flowers & Plants, McLean, flowersplants.com: A Dozen Roses (\$75.00 value)

Ibis Chamber Music, ibischambermusic.org: Set of 3 CDs

Eclipse Chamber Orchestra, eclipseco.org: Set of 3 CDs

Laura Przepyszny: 1 gift box of artisanal Christmas cookies (\$50.00 value, available around December 15th)

Richard Ginnett: An original oil painting of a D.C. scene

Ticket Pricing: 1 for \$1 6 for \$5

 12 for \$10 25 for \$20

Members interested in selling tickets may contact [Douglas Harrington](#); others interested in purchasing tickets may contact either their music instructor or [Douglas Harrington](#).

Upcoming Registration Deadlines

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Thursday, December 5
Registration Deadline for Spring Festival, March 28-30, 2014
<http://www.novaspfestival.org/>

Friday, December 6
Registration Deadline for Piano Concerto Competition, January 25-26, 2014
mtfest.com

Monday, December 16
Registration Deadline for Strings Concerto Competition, January 18, 2014
mtfest.com

Tuesday, December 24
Registration Deadline for General Recital, January 5, 2014
[Application General Recitals](#)

Friday, January 3, 2014
Registration Deadline for Theory Mastery Day, February 8, 2014
mtfest.com

Monday, January 6, 2014
Registration Deadline for Bach-Baroque Festival, February 15
mtfest.com

Thursday, January 9, 2014
Registration Deadline for Judged Recitals, January 19, 2014
[Application Judged Recitals](#)

Amy Rothstein, Most Valuable Member November 2013, and I met at Starbucks on November 17, 2013 to talk about her life, career, and years of service to NVMTA

What is your musical background?

I started piano when I was 7 years old, taking a year of class piano before studying with my father, Louis Shub, who was the Baltimore Symphony pianist for a number of years. I moved to another teacher when I was about 11 years old. I also took up flute in high school and was principal flute in the high school marching band!

I went to Oberlin Conservatory of Music as a piano major. After Oberlin I waited eleven years before going to Manhattan School of Music for graduate school. During that time I got married and had two children.

Did you always want to be a pianist?

I was the oldest of three children, and though we all studied music, I'm the only one who made a career of it. I always wanted to be a professional pianist, from at least 6th grade. And I always knew I would go to Oberlin!

What are your favorite pieces to perform or to listen to?

I love to listen to Mahler's Fifth Symphony, the Rachmaninoff Third Piano concerto, any Brahms, especially the first Piano Concerto.

My favorite pieces to perform are anything by Bach, Brahms, the Rachmaninoff Preludes and Etudes, the Corelli Variations. From my mid-30s to mid-40s I gave a solo recital every year. Later I did a lot of accompanying and collaborative performing. My father and I performed as a team doing piano duos and duets for twenty-five years.

Can you describe your favorite professional moment?

I was chosen to perform on the Commencement Recital at Oberlin. I played *L'Isle Joyeuse* by Debussy and felt good about that performance.

You are one of the most active members of NVMTA and have been integrally involved with the running of the organization for decades. Can you describe what you do?

I love being Membership Chairman. I feel I know so much about the organization and my experience puts me in a good position to answer questions and give guidance to new members.

I also run the Young Artists Musicales with Alice Heyer, and I serve as Treasurer and Area Chair for Spring Festival. I was the first Ombudsman for NVMTA.

What do you like about living in the D.C. area? What do you like to do in your spare time?

I love living in this area! There are so many wonderful restaurants and it is so easy to get around. I love to swim, watch DVDs. My favorite movie would have to be The Notebook. I really like the TV Series "Parenthood" with Peter Krause. I like to read, and a book I read recently that I really recommend is "Queen" by Alex Haley. It is a true story about his white ancestors, but he has such a gift for storytelling and it was a great book.



Amy Rothstein at the piano as a young child

What would people be surprised to know about you?

When I was a child, my father, Louis Shub, was investigated by the House Committee on Un-American Activities. He lost his job at the Baltimore Institute of Music because of it. My mother was questioned by the F.B.I. I can remember as a child being with her in the grocery store with the F.B. I. following us. My father was very active in Maryland politics. He was chairman of a committee to abolish the state's Ober Law, which required all people hired by the state of Maryland to take a loyalty oath. In the early 1950's he was nominated for Governor of Maryland on the Progressive ticket and campaigned to overturn all segregation laws in the state of Maryland. Because he refused to sign the Ober Law, he was prohibited from running for office.

Also, I was extremely shy as a child. I was terrified of new experiences, making friends, learning new things. My mother did all she could to help me get over this shyness, but it was really the piano which did it. In eighth grade I competed and was chosen to perform on a youth concert with the Baltimore Symphony. I played the Gershwin Variations on "I Got Rhythm." I was featured in the school paper and gained acceptance with my classmates. The previous year (seventh grade) had been awful. I was bullied by my classmates, but after that performance the bullying stopped.

Do you have any "philosophy of life" you would like to share?

Try to make a connection with someone with whom you have a major disagreement. Don't judge the person with whom you disagree as evil but rather try to get inside the person's head and understand why they feel and act as they do. Try to see problem as part of a bigger picture and look for wider connections to solve the problem.



Amy Rothstein, 2013