

# NVMTA News

May 2, 2014

## Next Meeting: May 28, 2014

- Installation of Officers 2014-2015
- Paulo Steinberg, VMTA President
- Program about dealing with Performance Anxiety by Barry Green, co-author of *The Inner Game of Music*

This should be a terrific meeting and program. Don't miss it!



Barry Green

Barry Green, a native Californian, served as Principal Bassist of the Cincinnati Symphony for 28 years, and more recently Principal Bassist of the California Symphony and 'Sun Valley, Idaho Summer Symphony. As former Executive Director of the International Society of Bassists, he is currently living in San Diego while teaching at the U. of Calif. Santa Cruz and active as a bass soloist, clinician and motivational speaker.

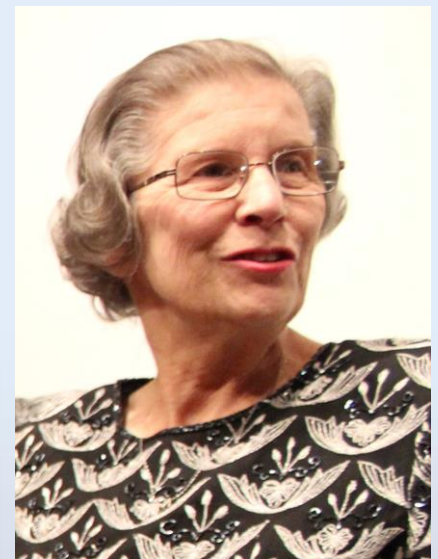
Green has written three books on the 'mind-body and spirit' of performing musicians: *The Inner Game of Music*, with W. Timothy Gallwey, *The Mastery of Music*, *Ten Pathways to True Artistry*, and *Bringing Music to Life*.

## Highlights from the General Meeting April 30, 2014

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NVMTA By-Laws Revised 2014, to go into effect on May 28, 2014, adopted by unanimous vote.

Marilynne Jost named Most Valuable Member April 2014



Marilynne Jost

# España!

Myriam Avalos Teie presented a delightful program of familiar and not-so-familiar musical selections by Spanish composers, or influenced by them. She gave commentary on each piece giving historical and cultural context as well as highlighting the pedagogical challenges of the music.

NVMTA Program  
April 30, 2014

ESPAÑA!  
Myriam Avalos Teie, pianist

|                              |                     |
|------------------------------|---------------------|
| Phoebus                      | Isaac Albeniz       |
| Tango                        | Isaac Albeniz       |
| Madrugada                    | Isaac Albeniz       |
| Andaluzia                    | Enrique Granados    |
| Allegro de Concerto          | Enrique Granados    |
| Hobartino                    | Manuel de Falla     |
| The Fire Dance               | Manuel de Falla     |
| Impressiones Intimas         | Federico Mompou     |
| Lento e cantabile espressivo |                     |
| Larghetto                    |                     |
| Grave                        |                     |
| Allegro                      |                     |
| Serenade, op. 3              | Sergei Rachmaninoff |
| Matagorda                    | Ernesto Lecuona     |

The Northern Virginia Music Teachers Association expresses its deep and abiding gratitude to the Northern District Auditions Committee, in particular to the program chair, Rosita Kerr Mang, for her generous support and assistance in the preparation of this program. We appreciate the use of the Northern District of Virginia Recital Series at the Harris Theater, GMU.



**MYRIAM AVALOS TEIE'S** performance and master classes throughout the United States, Latin America, Europe, and Asia have earned her critical acclaim as a world-class musician, clinician and pedagogue. At the age of three, she gave her first public performance, made her concerto debut with the National Symphony Orchestra of Peru at twelve, and was awarded full scholarships to the Conservatorio Nacional and the Peabody Conservatory. Ms. Avalos Teie holds a Doctoral degree in Chamber Music from the Catholic University of America. She is a collaborative pianist at the Kennedy Center and the National Symphony Orchestra, maintains a private studio in Northern Virginia, and is a faculty member and principal artist at the Applied Art Center for Chamber Music, Summer Festival, Internships and Internships include the Phillips Collection, Kennedy Center, Quattrone Concert Series, Pineda Music in London, World Masters of Music in Barcelona, Vocal of the USA, San Antonio Festival, WOMA Radio, Teatro Municipal de Lima and two State Department-sponsored tours of China and Brazil. She has received the USA Concert Artist.

In 2004, Dr. Avalos Teie was conferred the title of Cultural Ambassador by the Government of Peru.



Rosita Kerr Mang, program chair; Myriam Avalos Teie

## Upcoming Registration Deadlines



Wednesday, May 7, 2014  
Registration Deadline for General Recitals, May 17, 2014  
[Application General Recitals](#)

Friday, May 9, 2014  
Registration Deadline for Northern District Auditions  
[mtfest.com](#)

Wednesday, May 14, 2014  
Registration Deadline for Single Line Skills  
[mtfest.com](#)

## Upcoming Events



Sunday May 11, 2014  
Honors Judged Recital  
6:00 PM Woman's Club of Arlington

Saturday, May 17, 2014  
General Recitals  
2:30 and 3:45  
Woman's Club of Arlington

Sunday, May 18, 2014  
Achievement Awards Winners Recital  
6:00 PM Woman's Club of Arlington

Sunday, May 25, 2:00 PM  
Julie and David Slingerland Sonata Competition Honors Recital, Harris Theater, GMU

# On April 4, 2014, NVMTA held a recital in memory of Ruthanne Lodato, who was killed in her home on February 6, 2014.

Her continued legacy through NVMTA will be a yearly scholarship to a needy student, a promotion she would have been most proud of accomplishing. With your help, we can provide each year funds for a financially needy student that would help with the burden of expensive music lessons. Send donations to Debra Gunnerson, 4509 Hazelnut Ct., Chantilly, VA 20151. Checks should be made out to NVMTA, stating Lodato scholarship in the memo area.

*Ruthanne Lodato*  
*Memorial Recital*



The Lynxton  
Alexandria, VA  
April 4, 2014

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| <p>Page McNulty - Soprano<br/>Linda Costerman - Piano</p> <p>Caring Children - Rodgers &amp; Hammerstein</p> <p>Cary McAfee<br/>Thanks, Thanks, Thanks Too - Traditional</p> <p>John Kelly<br/>Haven't - Swain</p> <p>Old MacDonald<br/>Maggie McAfee<br/>I'm a Cowboy - M. Baker<br/>C. Kelly</p> <p>Stephen Harrington<br/>Finley - H. &amp; R. Faber</p> <p>Mary Claire Long<br/>My Innocent One - H. &amp; R. Faber<br/>DIE - H. &amp; R. Faber</p> <p>John Kelly<br/>Older Son - L. Swinburn</p> <p>Alexander Knack<br/>Pill Blues - C. Hill<br/>Bella Sorella - W. T. Ross Carter</p> <p>Carole Long<br/>Spanish Garden - H. &amp; R. Faber<br/>Back Party - H. &amp; R. Faber</p> | <p>David Kravitz<br/>Amen, Oh Amen - E. Gray<br/>Hallelujah, Oh Amen - E. Gray<br/>Nimrod, Oh Amen - E. Gray</p> <p>Madeline Jure &amp; Diane Baumgartner<br/>Beneath the Daily Sun - Faust<br/>Suzanne O. Day &amp; Robert Webb<br/>Serenade</p> <p>Andrea Harmanis<br/>Baptist Voluntary - J. Lamb<br/>Nimrod - E. T. White, Op. 15, No. 1 - F. Chopin</p> <p>John Stigler and Susan Yarnes<br/>Allegro Moderato - F. Schubert</p> <p>Beth McCann<br/>Innocent, Oh Amen, No. 19 - J. S. Bach<br/>Innocent, Oh Amen, No. 20 - J. S. Bach</p> <p>Diane Bremer - Music Supervisor<br/>Linda Costerman - Piano<br/>Chaperones - H. Chapman</p> <p>A reception will be held following the concert</p> |
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Organizer Debra Gunnerson with Norman Lodato

Scrapbook table and poster about Ruthanne



NVMTA performers



Elegant reception organized by Eve and Richard Ginnett

## *Jeri Bennett, NVMTA Most Valuable Member March 2014*

*By Ann Lee*

Jeri Bennett and I visited for a long and deep conversation at Panera in Vienna; we talked about her life, multi-faceted career, and role in the NVMTA.

### *What is your musical background?*

I took piano lessons starting at age seven – I'd say just the typical "garden variety." The most significant event happened when I was thirteen, and became the church pianist; that was my first job. That's where I really developed my reading ability. One of the best things at that job throughout high school was that the choir director, who was an accomplished singer himself, would go through all the dusty choir music, and pull out something every week at rehearsal because he wanted to hear what it sounded like. So I had to sight-read. And when you're playing for a choir, you can't stop – even if you drop your music on the floor! And that did happen – it fell on the floor, but I was keeping count, and I was able to find where they were. So when I got to college, even though I was not a music major, I took a piano ensemble class. The professor was Allison Nelson. She required that all her majors take piano ensemble; I was the only non-major, but I was the best reader, and I owe it all to that director!

### *How did you begin teaching piano lessons?*

My undergraduate degree is actually in biology and I worked in the FBI Lab. When I moved here after college, the first thing I bought was a piano. While I worked at the Bureau, I was doing a lot of musical theater work; I also found a church job. After years in these musical endeavors, one of the guys in the theater asked me to teach his kid. I didn't really know how to do it, but one of the music directors in the theater was a piano teacher, and she told me how to start, what to do. I found that I liked it! So that's how I started teaching. Eventually, I decided to change my career. I quit my job, gave up all my good government benefits, and went back to school to become "educated" in music. I earned a Master's from Shenandoah Conservatory where I had a full graduate assistantship and tuition waiver. My assistantship was to play for two choirs, and a certain number of individual recitals for singers and instrumentalists. I also had to accompany the opera program in addition to my own applied piano lessons and two graduate recitals. I had already accompanied several senior recitals as an undergraduate, even as a freshman which was really cool! It goes back to all that reading at the church.

*Can you describe your role in the NVMTA?*

I am the chair of the Piano Concerto Festival. When I started, over 10 years ago, there were only 85 students; now there are over 230. How did it start? Belinda Stevens was looking for a replacement for herself on the Concerto Festival Committee, along with Marilynne Jost and Rebecca Salt. I only agreed because Marilynne was the chair, and who better to learn from on how to run a festival? I want to credit her with showing me how to do it! I'm also on the IT Committee with Rene Johnson.

*What do you like to do in your spare time?*

Gardening! I have lots of houseplants, and my studio window faces southeast, so it's very bright! I also really enjoy gardening outside. I listen to a gardening radio show on Saturday mornings and I refuse to schedule students during that time – that's my boundary!

I also love history and traveling. I traveled a lot in Europe when I worked at the Bureau and had free time! [laughs] My favorite spot is Innsbruck, Austria. It's a little fairytale place with a lot of Baroque architecture, which I love. And I love to photograph architecture.

I don't have a lot of spare time though... in addition to my teaching and role here with NVMTA, I am the Membership Chair and Webmaster of Fairfax-Loudoun Music Fellowship, and I play organ for a Catholic church in Leesburg.

*What would people be surprised to know about you?*

Maybe my career in the FBI. For many years I worked in the lab doing DNA typing and research. I was on a team which was awarded the *FBI Director's Award for Technical/Scientific Advancement* for the development of a new DNA typing technique. I am also the leader of the women's Bible study at my church, Crossroads UMC, which I have enjoyed for many years.

*Do you have a highlight or favorite professional moment?*

I think receiving very eloquently worded thank-you letters from parents who express thanks in detail for what I've done, how I've affected their child, more than I know... it means so much.

In another vein, I also enjoyed playing the Mozart *Kegelstatt* Trio for the Loudoun Symphony Chamber Concert Series.

*What pieces do you like to play or listen to?*

I love the Brahms *Haydn Variations*; the [Saint-Saens] *Danse Macabre*; the Poulenc Clarinet Sonata, 2<sup>nd</sup> movement; the Brahms Clarinet Sonata in E-flat, 2<sup>nd</sup> movement. But Debussy is still my favorite! I love the 2<sup>nd</sup> movement of the *Estampes, La Soirée dans Grenade*. And I can't leave out the *Sanctus* from Faure's Requiem, which must be what angels in heaven sound like! Most of these are ensemble pieces, which is my preference.

*Do you have a philosophy of life that you'd like to share?*

It has to do with being grateful for everything that we have, because there are so many people in this world who have nothing. Our church has built an orphanage school in Uganda. My husband Dave, who is a contractor, has gone every year for over ten years; I went two years ago for the first time. Seeing this on TV is just not the same thing as being connected to a person, being able to touch a person who lives that life that you've only ever seen on TV. These kids have joy; in our minds, they have nothing, but they don't see it that way: they have each other. They have a joy in life and gratitude for each other that Americans just don't have. We complain because we have to sit in traffic! They have lost parents and siblings; their worldly possessions fit in a fishing tackle box; but they are still excited about life. So really, my philosophy is to be grateful for everything; ask God for guidance regularly; and find a peace in it.



Jeri and Dave



Jeri in Uganda



Nika