

November 2009

It Takes A Lot More Than Practice Survival Skills for the Teacher/Performer in the 21st Century

Justin Kolb presents critical knowledge for professionals and those individuals teaching and advising students.

This is a dynamic presentation that either asserts or challenges six traditional parameters:

1. Are hours of practice and "being discovered" a thing of the past?
2. Yesterday, performances in the "hinterland" initiated a career and a commercially produced recording signaled an established career.
3. Today a produced CD, DVD or "You Tube" video can initiate a career and performances in the "hinterland" with occasional appearances in the "big leagues" signal an established career.
4. Today a "climb to the top" is theoretical but a "climb to a comfortable and reasonable income with pension" – though elusive — can be attained.
5. We live in a world of branding and product development. We must consider ourselves the brand and our teaching and performing our products. Marketing and selling this "package" is entrepreneurship.



6. As performing and teaching artists we need not create our products anew. They exist within us as a result of our rigorous training and experience. We have only to organize them, announce them, and sell them.

Justin Kolb's unusual programming has wide appeal with interesting and often humorous commentary. The pianist has appeared as soloist at

The November meeting
is Tuesday
November 10, 2009 at
Stone Ridge School

9101 Rockville Pike, Bethesda, Maryland

9:30 Coffee
10:00 Business meeting
10:30 Program

the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, Lincoln Center, Weill Recital Hall at Carnegie Hall in New York City, as well as Chicago's Orchestra Hall and the Alte Halle of the University of Heidelberg. His recordings for the Albany Records label include music by Robert Starer and William Ferris. His traditional repertoire ranges from Galuppi to Barber with special programs of Beethoven and Liszt. Justin cites German Diez as his most important musical influence. The former student and assistant to Claudio Arrau, German Diez, is Justin's close friend, mentor, teacher and artistic advisor. A distinguished alumnus of DePaul University in Chicago Kolb studied with Herman Shapiro, Alexander Tcherepnin and Paul Stacevich. Kolb has also studied with Hans Rosbaud in Baden Baden and Rolf Beyer in Heidelberg. Kolb's favorite topic of conversation involves "the innate entrepreneurship of musicians." Justin serves as the executive secretary for the American Liszt Society. "Music education of young people is a short cut to intellectual development and the key to a happy life."

Read more at www.JustinKolb.com



From the Mentoring Chair

Brainstorming with music colleagues is a great way to keep inspired and rejuvenated, while enhancing pedagogical skills. Some possibilities you could consider: Meet over a cup of coffee or lunch and share repertoire suggestions, ideas for solving parent-student issues, or how to inspire kids to practice; Contact a fellow teacher and arrange to observe lessons in their studios; Sign up for a teachers conference and combine a short get-away break and meeting new people from all over the nation with seeing the latest teaching books, new gadgets, or attending master classes.

If you need suggestions or ideas, please contact me (bkellert@comcast.net). I will be glad to connect you with a fellow MCMTA member for teacher observation.

– Bonnie Kellert

MSMTA Conference Master Classes

We are excited about our upcoming annual MSMTA Conference, scheduled for January 9th and 10th at the University of Maryland, College Park.

Following are the Masterclass descriptions:

Masterclass with Ingrid Clarfield, pianist, clinician, author and a professor of Westminster Choir College. Intermediate to early advanced, pieces to be no more than 10 minutes long.

Masterclass with Dr. Nelita True, pianist, clinician and professor of piano at the Eastman School of Music. Advanced, length of piece no more than 12 minutes.

Masterclass with Dr. Sylvia Eckes, pianist, clinician, E. Grieg specialist and a professor of piano at Ohio University. Late intermediate to advanced, pieces no more than 10 minutes, with preferred repertoire by E. Grieg but Romantic repertoire may be accepted.

Anyone interested in being on the audition committee, please contact me. We need a few people to listen to the tapes. We will meet in mid-December, so performers can be notified before the holiday.

Please contact Junko at (301) 530-6203 or Jutaka@verizon.net

November 2009

Report from October's Presentation

Gila Goldstein received well-deserved enthusiastic applause from a full house, at the conclusion of her October 13 presentation. Gila's topic was Music Must Travel: The Importance of the Musical Line. She stressed the fact that a musical line and a sense of direction do not necessarily mean legato; that there is a fundamental difference between pulse and metronomic playing; and that expressive playing does not necessarily mean romantic (Romantic?) playing. She said students should always be aware of the direction in music even when practicing scales, Czerny etudes, etc. To demonstrate the idea of a line and direction in various musical styles, Gila Goldstein performed Bach's Partita #5, in G Major – a piece that employs various dance rhythms and mostly detached playing; Liszt's transcription of Schubert's song Standchen – a song which of course flows and "travels" naturally; and Paul Ben-Haim's Five Pieces for Piano, Op. 34, to demonstrate that even in 20th century music the connection and relation between notes is crucial. The members were very much impressed by her beautiful playing, as well as by the points she made in her lecture.

– Immanuela Gruenberg

Upcoming Events:

The next MCMTA meeting is November 10, 2009

Upcoming meeting date is December 15, 2009

We're on the web: <http://MCMTA.MSMTA.org>

Please join us at YahooGroups.com
(List name is MCMTA)



Notes from our President

We had a wonderful presentation at our October meeting by Gila Goldstein, who not only gave us helpful hints for getting our students to play musically but gave an inspiring performance of several piano pieces.

Many thanks to Barbara Wing for autographing copies of her book, *Key Notes: Creative Steps to Piano Success* that members were able to purchase for the benefit of the Margaret E. Weissenfluh Fund. Please remember that we have donated music and books available for purchase at our general meetings for the benefit of the Weissenfluh Fund, which assists needy students to pursue music study.

If you have not done so, please join the MCMTA Yahoo group to receive current announcements from MCMTA. All of our applications and newsletters are posted there in the "files" section. All of the application forms for MCMTA events are now also posted on our website, www.mcmta.msmta.org.

One more reminder to all teachers that if you put your students into an event, you must assist with that event. In the event there is an unavoidable conflict, you must contact the chairman of the event to arrange for alternate service. Failure to do so will result in disqualification for participation in MCMTA events the next year.

MSMTA is looking for students to participate in masterclasses on January 9th and 10th at the state conference. Audition tapes are due December 15. Junko Takahashi is also looking for members for the audition committee. Information is listed in one of the MCMTA Yahoo groups messages and will be in the upcoming MSMTA newsletter.

Please join us on November 10 for our next general meeting at Stone Ridge School. Even if you have never attended a meeting, please consider coming as we welcome all members and would love to see you there. If you are a new member, please come and introduce yourself and meet some of our other members!

– Lori McCarthy
MCMTA President

Directory Updates

Please make the following additions to your Directory:

Shu-fen Cheng – Piano
9933 Whitworth Way
Ellicott City, MD 21042
(410) 465-4924
kschao@verizon.net

Sau T. Chim – Piano
5105 Norbeck Road
Rockville, MD 20853
(301) 460-4930
sautaichim@yahoo.com

Grace Cho – Piano & Voice
1031 Brice Road
Rockville, MD 20852
(301) 762-4592
chohojoong@yahoo.com

Ying-Ting Serena Chiu
– Piano
14549 Almanac Drive
Burtonsville, MD 20866
(240) 476-2695
tingbear@yahoo.com

Please Welcome these new members:

Kayme Henkel – Piano,
Pedagogy, Accompanying
1705 East West Highway
#310
Silver Spring, MD 20910
(414) 699-3245
kaynehenkel@yahoo.com

Laura A. Rinne – Piano
1403 Sarah Drive
Silver Spring, MD 20904
(240) 281-2088
laralemon7@yahoo.com

Please make the following corrections to your Directory:

Sarah Cotterill
Correct email is:
pscotterill@verizon.net
Sarah teaches both cello
and piano

Elena Arseniev
Correct email is:
arseniev@comcast.net

Montgomery County Music Teachers Association

1419 Fallswood Drive
Potomac, MD 20854

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Member News

Newsletter Deadline is November 15, 2009

Please submit information for the next newsletter before November 15, 2009. Please send submissions to :
Cynthia Cathcart. phone 301-587-6267.
email Cynthia@PotomacTalent.com
(please put MCMTA in the subject line)

On Sunday, Oct. 18th MCMTA member Jaewon Lee performed selections of Chopin Etudes for the Washington Conservatory's Faculty Spotlight Concert, which was the benefit concert for scholarship fund.

Michiko Yurko traveled to St. Louis to present a workshop on Music Mind Games for the St. Louis Missouri Music Teachers Association on October 23, 2009. This session was at their monthly meeting and included a PowerPoint presentation and participation in several games used to teach music reading and theory.

Musical Arts International, Inc. will present its fall concert "Triple Delight" on November 22nd, 2009 Sunday at 3 pm at Calvary Lutheran Church, 9545 Georgia Avenue, Silver Spring, Maryland with violinist Jonathan Carney, Pei Lu, and Li-Ly Chang. Tickets: Adult \$20, Student/Senior \$15. Please call 301-933-3715 for ticket information. <http://www.musicalartsinternational.org>

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