

## MCMTA October 2018 Newsletter

Visit Us on the Web <http://www.mcmta-md.org>

**Our Next Meeting is Tuesday, October 9, 2018**

**Jordan Kitt's Music in Rockville**

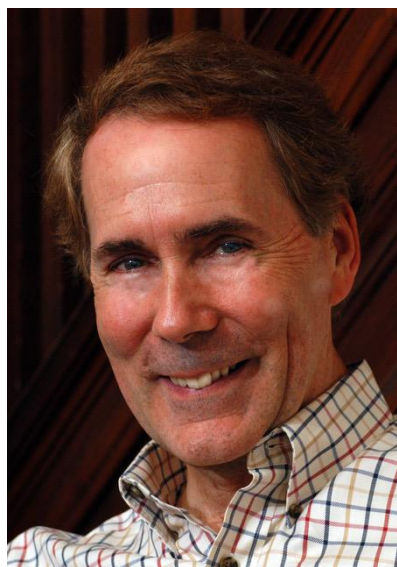
**11726 Parklawn Dr., Rockville, MD**

**9:30 Networking**

**10:00 Information**

**10:30 Presentation by Dr. Dylan Savage**

### **Entrepreneurship for Musicians**



Throughout history, musicians have had to be entrepreneurs in order to survive in their profession. Today entrepreneurial skills are more important than ever. Dr. Dylan Savage will speak about the specific qualities that make a good music entrepreneur, why musicians are prime candidates for being great entrepreneurs, and how you can nurture and develop these skills in your students.

Dylan Savage is a recording artist for the Capstone Records label, a Bösendorfer Concert Artist, and a first-place winner of the Rome Festival Orchestra Competition. He is an Associate Professor of Piano at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte and the coauthor of a piano pedagogy book called *A Symposium for Pianists and Teachers: Strategies to Develop Mind and Body for Optimal Performance*, by Heritage Music Press. It is the primary piano pedagogy text at over 40 universities in the U.S. and has received glowing reviews in the U.S. and Europe. Dr. Savage's groundbreaking research using slow-motion video filming to analyze and diagnose inefficient motion at the piano has led to master classes at leading music schools and summer camps throughout the U.S. His articles have been published nationally and internationally in *American Music Teacher*, *Clavier*, *Clavier Companion*, and *Pianoforte* magazines. Savage's research has been the topic of feature programs on NBC and BPS television affiliates. Savage teaches music-based concepts and skills to businesses using his *What's Music Got To Do With It*® consulting business.

I hope that you already have your studio events planned for the upcoming school year. If you haven't finalized your plan, please don't forget to check out all events which MCMTA offers for your consideration. If you want to know more about the events, please look at it in the newsletter. We will introduce two to three events in this and upcoming newsletters.

**Matching Benevolence Fund** for up to \$500 - Hurricane Florence has caused a lot of damages in North Carolina, South Carolina, and Virginia. Many music teachers in the affected area have lost their homes, studios, instruments and music—in fact, their very livelihoods. They will need assistance beyond the basic necessities as they reestablish their studios. Our natural reflex, as an association and as individuals, is to reach out and help. MTNA is engaged in these efforts through the MTNA Benevolence Fund, which exists to support music teachers with studio redevelopment in federally declared disaster areas. We encourage you to make donations to the MTNA Benevolence Fund to help with the hurricane relief. Your donation for hurricane relief is tax deductible.

In order to encourage more teachers to donate, MCMTA has offered matching fund with total donations, up to \$500. Please write a check payable to MTNA, specifying 'Benevolence Fund' on the memo line of the check. Then, mail it to KRIS BUTLER at 6401 Marjory Lane, Bethesda, MD 20817, and she will collect checks for several weeks and then send them all to MTNA with our check. Also, we will collect checks at October Membership meeting. Any further questions regarding this, please email KRIS at [kristinbutler05@gmail.com](mailto:kristinbutler05@gmail.com). If you have already donated to MTNA Benevolence Fund directly, please let us know the amount, MCMTA would match the amount of that donation as well.

**Our new 'Musical Camaraderie' Group Meeting is on for October 26 (Friday)** – We already have some teachers signing up for this group meeting. So this meeting is good to go! This is a new group meeting for teachers to mingle, share thoughts about different topics, and provide feedback and support for each other at a teacher's home. The first meeting is on October 26 (Friday) from 10 am to 11:30 am at the home of Mentoring Chair Bonnie Kellert. Light refreshments will be provided. RSVP to Bonnie is preferred for preparation. You are welcome to submit any topics or questions you would want to know about beforehand to Bonnie at [bkellert@verizon.net](mailto:bkellert@verizon.net).

**Your Submission is welcome for Column 'Tips for Teachers'** – Every MCMTA member is welcome to submit (can be something short) tips for the column. Topics could be: efficient measures for running a studio, how to encourage practicing, books that you found helpful in student repertoire, or your own helpful hints to keep a studio fresh and innovative. We can keep your name anonymous if you prefer. If you don't have anything to share but want to know more about certain topics, you are welcome to submit topics for discussion. Please email Carol Brody ([carol.brody6@gmail.com](mailto:carol.brody6@gmail.com)) and/or Bonnie Kellert ([bkellert@verizon.net](mailto:bkellert@verizon.net)).

**Deadline for MSMTA Mini-Conference** – Registration deadline is by September 30 (\$20 rate). Onsite registration will be accepted, but the rate will be \$25. High School and College Students are FREE. Conference will be held on October 7 (Sunday), 12:30 pm to 6:00 pm, at the University of Maryland, College Park. Dr. James Litzelman and Nancy O'Neill Breth are the conference presenters.

Alice Ma, President  
[alicemapiano@gmail.com](mailto:alicemapiano@gmail.com)

## Upcoming Student Activities

- MSMTA Mini-Conference Master Class with Nancy O’Neill Breth  
Oct. 7  
Deadline past  
Junko Takahashi  
University of Maryland, College Park
- MCMTA Judged Recital  
Oct. 21  
Deadline past  
Miri Frenkel-Yacubovich  
Jordan-Kitt’s Music, Rockville
- MCMTA Elementary recital “Autumn Magic”  
Oct. 27  
Deadline past  
Olga Soukhoveev  
Jordan-Kitt’s Music, Rockville
- MCMTA Intermediate/Advanced recital  
Nov. 10  
Deadline Oct.10  
Elena Eliseeva  
Steinway Piano Gallery, Rockville
- MSMTA Keyboard Musicianship Test  
Nov. 18  
See MSMTA website for information  
Deadline past  
Svetlana Volkova  
Washington Adventist University, Takoma Park

Most MCMTA (and MSMTA) events in 2018–2019 will be **PAPERLESS**, which means **online registration**, followed by a check mailed or delivered by the teacher to the event chair. Chairpersons will be happy to assist members with the online registration; just give them a call. In addition, a “how-to” video is available on the MCMTA website under “Video Help.”

**VOLUNTEER POLICY:** All teachers who participate in Association events are required to volunteer for these events. The organization can only function if teachers volunteer to assist with student activities. The number of volunteer hours must be commensurate with the number of students entered as specified on the application. The event chair decides the number of hours to be served and the type of service to be given. Teachers may find a substitute to work for them at the event, but the substitute **MUST be an MTNA member**. Failure to adhere to the policy will disqualify teachers from entering students in events the following program year.

**Newsletter items, information, columns, and stories are due by the 20<sup>th</sup> of the month for the next newsletter.** Your editor tries to have the newsletter delivered by the beginning of the calendar month. Send newsletter materials to Bonny Miller [bonnym@bellsouth.net](mailto:bonnym@bellsouth.net).

## Best Practices—Tips for Teachers

Match or No Match.... that is the question.....

As we begin the start of the new school year, many of us will have returning students as well as newly acquired students. Our acquisition of new students can be successful as well as challenging. With so many personality and learning styles the match between teacher and student hopefully can be one of

flexibility. Generally with your studios' rules the understanding ahead of time regarding the business is already established. The challenges arise with the learning style and goals of the individual student. Some students have been given this great opportunity by their parents to learn a new instrument and others have been told that they need to try this. Students come in with varying expectations. Some think it's another toy to have fun without investment for learning. Others know that their parents are making a financial sacrifice and focus on working with you and practicing outside the studio. Additional students use it as a forum to be heard emotionally as well as learning to play, while some use it as a babysitting time where the parent can get some additional chores done. Regardless of the use of your time in the studio with your student, it is important to have a mutual respect and share what your philosophy is within your studio class. Many of us have a mixture of students. Often I have shared with a parent if there was a bit more talking the day of the lesson than playing and the parent has felt that this was appropriate and the need for their child that day. Staying present with where your student is and sharing with parents the focus (which may change time to time according to the students needs) are important in this endeavor.

Match or no match is completely dependent on the focus that the individual teachers' needs are with their students. If you feel that timeliness with payment or attendance is an issue, then addressing these and adhering to your policy will help you determine if this is indeed a match. Respectful behavior as well as practice will be an additional determination. Regardless, we all have our standards and will adhere to them to induce a successful studio. Regards and best for a new year!

Best,  
Carol Brody

## Musical Camaraderie

We have a new event for MCMTA teachers! *Musical Camaraderie* will meet for open discussions. Bring your questions and concerns. Do you need advice on a particular matter? Or, do you have advice to offer? Topic Suggestions: Repertoire; Pedagogical concepts; How to prepare students for events; How to establish or grow a studio. Need ideas on teaching a particular piece or passage? Need new ideas to revitalize your studio? Bonnie Kellert will be hosting the first meeting in her home. Other teachers are welcome to host future meetings. Our first meeting is **Friday, October 26 from 10-11:30 am**. This is a unique opportunity to socialize on a more intimate level with other MCMTA teachers and share ideas. All levels of teachers are invited to participate! Please feel welcome to develop friendships and chat freely while noshing! Please join us! *Musical Camaraderie* is open to MCMTA members only.

Date: Friday, October 26  
Time: 10–11:30 am  
Where: Bonnie Kellert's home  
9140 Falls Chapel Way

Potomac, MD  
RSVP: October 24 - [bkellert@verizon.net](mailto:bkellert@verizon.net)  
Home Phone: 301-340-0765  
Contact Bonnie for directions.

## “Coming Attractions”

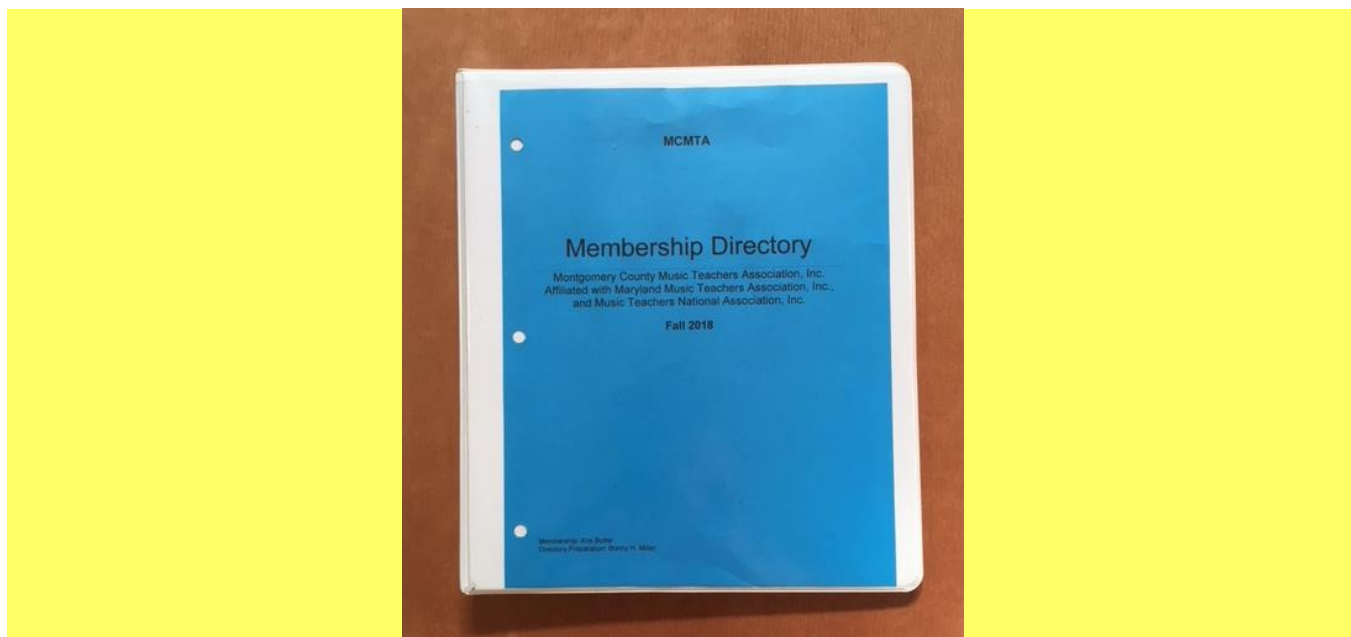
Vice-President for Programs Immanuela Gruenberg has announced the speakers for the fall meetings. Mark your calendar to attend these presentations:

**November 13\***: **Dr. Peggy Otwell** (University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee) will talk about **purposeful practicing**.

**December 11**: **Members Concert**, with focus on chamber ensembles. If interested in performing, please email your proposals to Immanuela Gruenberg, [igruenberg@yahoo.com](mailto:igruenberg@yahoo.com). *Time limit: 8 minutes. Deadline: Nov. 4.*

**\*Please note**: Presenters and topics are subject to change without notice.

## New MCMTA Directory of Members



Greetings Dear Teachers! Your MCMTA directory comes to you directly as an electronic PDF to your email address. In addition, **print copies** will be available at general meetings and from event chairs at their respective events. This year you can choose to pick up your print directory—with large, easy-to-read font—in a three-ring binder, ready to use in your studio. Or you can just take a packet of the insert pages to put in your own gently-used binder.

## MCMTA Grants to Members for Continuing Studies

### National Group Piano and Piano Pedagogy Forum 2018 (GP3)

#### Tina Sinclair Smith

I used my MCMTA Grant for Continuing Studies to attend the GP3 Forum in Oberlin, Ohio from August 3-4. GP3 is an intensive 2-day forum held bi-annually to address the specific needs of group piano and piano pedagogy professors. In 2006, GP3 became a program of MTNA, and today has a distinguished steering committee of seven leaders in piano pedagogy including Barbara Fast, Scott McBride Smith and Gary Inge. It began as a grassroots meeting of piano pedagogues in 2000 at the U. of Cincinnati. They wanted a way to continue the work of The National Group Piano Conference (which had disbanded) to gather leaders in the field of piano pedagogy to focus on the practical aspects of teaching.



Left, Tina Sinclair; Right, Oberlin Conservatory of Music

The GP3 mission covers three areas: 1) to share in concrete ways what we are doing in day-to-day teaching; 2) to discuss how the direction of our field is affecting our approach to professional development, program initiatives, and teacher training; and 3) to plan how to contribute to the course of group piano and piano pedagogy now and in the coming years.

Even though I am an independent teacher, I formerly served as director of a music school, am a passionate believer in group/ensemble piano, and share in the goals of GP3. I first attended a GP3 Forum in 2014 because it sounded so interesting. It was held at the University of Cincinnati Conservatory of Music, and was just wonderful! It's a much shorter conference than the week-long MTNA Conference, but in two days, packs a tremendous amount of information and networking with leaders in piano pedagogy from all over the country. This time I got to experience Oberlin Conservatory, a truly amazing facility, and lovely, historic town. The conference hotel was right on the beautiful college green, within walking distance of the Conservatory.

A unique aspect of GP3 is that it exposes the educator to outstanding music schools whose faculty and graduate students demonstrate current trends and cutting-edge technology. Another unique aspect is the focus is divided equally between pedagogy and group piano. The presenters range from heads of pedagogy departments to graduate students, who lecture on a wide variety of topics, and performed recitals. This year wellness and performance anxiety were a focus. Keynote speaker Noa Kageyama, a performance psychologist at Juilliard School of Music, spoke about controlling anxiety and maintaining focus for peak performance.

There were many interesting lectures I enjoyed, including Centering the Distracted Student, Using Pop Songs to Foster Creativity, Benefits of Teaching Adult Beginning Group Piano for Pedagogy Students, and Improvisation Through 18<sup>th</sup>-Century Performance Practice. A college administrator panel discussed the millennial generation, and ways to work collaboratively between institutional and independent teachers. In addition to the lectures there were a series of 5-minute “Lightning Talks”, as well as excellent Poster Sessions in the hallway, similar to those at the MTNA Conference.

MTNA has many excellent hand-outs from the Oberlin Forum on their website under the GP3 heading. I encourage you to check them out, and consider attending this enriching and worthwhile forum with me in 2020!

## September Meeting

Member **Li-Ly Chang** presented a wide range of music by women composers for pedagogical purposes. Assisted by Lois Jones, Li-Ly performed music by Cécile Chaminade, Fanny Mendelssohn Hensel, Clara Wieck Schumann, Lili Boulanger, Louise Farrenc, Maria Szymanowski, Marianna von Auenbrugger, Marianne Martinez, and Amy Beach. Every piece is a gem with possibilities for teaching purposes.



## More Opportunities for Students and Teachers

**Chopin specialist Brian Ganz will perform “Polish and French Treasures”** on October 13, 2018, for Musical Arts International. The concert will take place at 7:30 pm at the Latvian Lutheran Church, 400 Hurley Ave., Rockville, MD 20850. Ganz will perform solo piano works by Frédéric Chopin that highlight the composer’s connection to his beloved homeland of Poland, including polonaises, mazurkas, the Ballade no.1 in G minor, and the Allegro de Concert. He will be joined by colleague Li-Ly Chang in excerpts from two French masterpieces for piano, four hands: Ravel’s “Ma mère l’oye” (Mother Goose) and Gabriel Faure’s “Dolly” suite, Op. 56. Dr. Bonny Miller will present a pre-concert talk at 7 pm. Reception and Q&A follow. Free parking. \$20 adult, \$15 student/senior. Please call 301-933-3715 or email [musicalartsinternational@yahoo.com](mailto:musicalartsinternational@yahoo.com) or [www.musicalartsinternational.org](http://www.musicalartsinternational.org)

### Rockville Music Competition 2019

### Solo Piano \* Solo Strings \* Voice

Location: Montgomery College, Rockville, MD

Application deadline: April 30

Date: Competition May 19

Winners Recital: May 24

For details and questions, see [www.rockvillecompetition.com](http://www.rockvillecompetition.com) and [rockvillecompetition@gmail.com](mailto:rockvillecompetition@gmail.com)

### Alan Fraser DC Workshop

Last April, Alan Fraser's DC teaching debut left an indelible impression on many local pianists. This autumn he returns for a week of follow-up lessons at Jordan Kitt’s Music on Lee Highway in Fairfax. Professor Fraser welcomes ALL INTERESTED PIANISTS:

- students seeking more sound and agility
- teachers seeking new ways of teaching technique to their students
- professionals who wish to hone their skills even further
- amateurs seeking greater command of the instrument
- auditors welcome
- studio teachers may come with their students, observing Professor Fraser work with the students

For information, details, and applications, see <http://www.alanfraserinstitute.com/2018DC-oct.php>



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## MINUTES FROM MCMTA GENERAL MEETING SEPTEMBER 11, 2018

President Alice Ma called the meeting to order at 10:13 AM at Jordan Kitt's showroom at 11726 Parklawn Drive in Rockville.

The minutes from the general meeting of May 8, 2018, were sent electronically in advance.

**Alice said MCMTA is offering a \$20 subsidy to cover registration for up to twenty members to attend the 2018 MSMTA Mini-Conference. The conference will be held on Sunday, October 7** at the University of Maryland, College Park from 12:30- 6:00 PM. Conference presenters are Dr. James Litzelman and Nancy O'Neill Breth. Alice encouraged everyone to attend to learn, mingle with colleagues, and enjoy. To apply for the subsidy, names will be taken today, or may be **emailed to Alice by Sept. 15.**

*Musical Camaraderie* is a new activity MCMTA is sponsoring to give members the opportunity to mingle, share thoughts on topics such as repertoire and pedagogical concepts, and provide feedback and support for each other. Meetings will be in relaxed settings held at a teacher's home, and light refreshments will be served. There will be two to three meetings a year, depending on turnout. Bonnie Kellert, Mentoring Program Chair and Co-Chair of the Swarthout/Hayes Scholarship Competition Chair, will host the first meeting at her home on Friday, October 26<sup>th</sup> from 10 to 11:30AM. Those who wish to attend should RSVP to Bonnie at [bkellert@verizon.net](mailto:bkellert@verizon.net).

Registration for Student Activities events are now almost completely online. An online tutorial is available to assist teachers.

Alice attended one of Helen Weems meetings about teacher certification. The next one will be held September 24 at 10AM at the Olney Library. Alice encouraged teachers who are interested in learning more about certification to attend.

Carol Brody said that she and Bonnie Kellert are gathering information for the Tips for Teachers column in the newsletter. She is asking members to submit ideas for future articles. It can be anything, even just a short phrase, and can be anonymous. Email suggestions to Carol at [carol.brody6@gmail.com](mailto:carol.brody6@gmail.com).

Alice said our general policies have been amended. A line has been added stating that teachers must assist with events they enter students in, and if they cannot help, they must find a substitute who is an MTNA member.

Two teachers received the MCMTA Grant for Continuing Studies to attend events this summer. Richard Hartzell attended the Shenandoah University Contemporary Music Vocal Pedagogy Institute, a six-day event held from July 16-22. His summary of the event can be found in the September Newsletter. Tina Sinclair Smith attended the National Group Piano and Piano Pedagogy Form (GP3) at

Oberlin Conservatory, a two-day event held August 3-4. Her summary will appear in the October Newsletter.

Alice adjourned the meeting at 10:30 AM and introduced MCMTA member Li-Ly Chang, Pianist, composer, and chamber musician, who gave the presentation “**Women Composers’ Pedagogical Music for Late Beginners and Intermediate Level Students.**” She discussed and performed music composed by Fanny Mendelssohn, Clara Schumann, Amy Beach, Cécile Chaminade and Lili Boulanger.

Respectfully submitted,  
Tina Sinclair Smith, Recording Secretary

