

December 2018 Newsletter

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

Our Next Meeting is Tuesday December 11, 2018

Jordan Kitt's Music in Rockville
11726 Parklawn Dr., Rockville, MD

NOTE TIME: 10:30 BRIEF MEETING

11:00 Members' Concert

12:00 Holiday Season Potluck Luncheon

MCMTA Members to Present

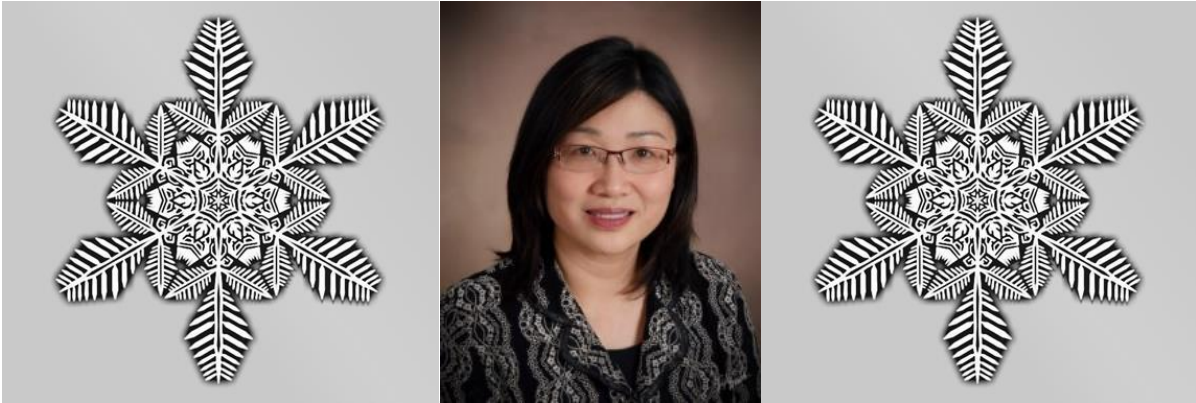
At the December 11 meeting MCMTA will present a **Members Concert** with the focus on chamber ensembles, including piano ensembles. Our performers include Barbara Wing, piano; George Peachey, piano; and Vladimir Fridman, guitar. They will perform works by Bach, Mozart, Brahms, Albéniz, and Piazzolla.

In December MCMTA holds our traditional holiday season pot luck at Jordan Kitt's. Please join us in contributing to this by bringing a salad, fruit salad, main course, or dessert. **Please no peanuts** in food options as some are allergic to these. Our most needed items are salads and main courses. Thanks and see everyone in December!

Carol Brody, Chair for Hospitality



There will be NO regular meeting in January, and there will be NO January newsletter. The next regular meeting will be February 12, 2019.



Alice Ma

President's Page

2019 MTNA Conference (March 16–20, 2019, in Spokane, Washington)—The early bird registration deadline is approaching. Please register by December 5 to receive the discounted rate. For promotional video links about the Conference, see Page 7 of this newsletter. Our VP for Programs Immanuela Gruenberg, and members Donna Koh, Nancy Breth, and James Litzelman will be workshop presenters. To find out the topics they are presenting and check out the details for the Conference, please visit www.MTNA.org.

Second 'Musical Camaraderie' Group Meeting on December 7 (Friday)—The first meeting was such a success that the attending teachers immediately asked about the next meeting. The second meeting will take place on December 7 (Friday) from 10 am to 12:00 pm at the home of our Mentoring Chair, Bonnie Kellert. Light refreshments will be provided. Please RSVP to Bonnie. You are welcome to submit any topics or questions to Bonnie before the meeting. Her email address is bkellert@verizon.net. For more details, please go to page 4 of this newsletter.

Four MCMTA Members are Pursuing the Process of Becoming NCTM (National Certified Teacher of Music)—If you have been thinking of becoming NCTM, but never got a chance to start the procedure, attending Certification Study Group meeting will be a good way to begin. You don't need to do any assignment to attend your very first study group meeting. Maryland VP for Certification (MSMTA) Helen Weems and attending teachers are very encouraging and willing to help. The next Certification Group Meeting will be on January 28, 2019 (Monday), at the OLNEY LIBRARY (3500 Olney Laytonsville Rd, Olney, MD 20832). When you arrive, ask for the room reserved for the music teachers' meeting. Hope to see some of you there.

Relaxed Time for Yourself—There will be many competitions and events starting in February; I know that many teachers will be very busy in December and January with preparations. But please don't forget to save some relaxed time for yourself, especially with all these beautiful light/decorations being set up all around for the holidays. Last week, my family went down to the National Zoo to see the lights. I felt so happy and relaxed afterward. Happy teachers = Happy students. Enjoy your winter break!

Alice Ma, President
alicemapiano@gmail.com

Upcoming Student Activities

- **MCMTA** Judged recital
Dec. 2
Deadline past
Miri Frenkel-Yacubovich
Steinway Piano Gallery, Rockville
- **MCMTA** Elementary “Holiday” Recital
Dec. 15
Deadline past
Olga Soukhoveev
Jordan Kitt’s Music, Rockville
- **MCMTA** Intermediate/Advanced recital
Dec. 16
Deadline past
Elena Eliseeva
Steinway Piano Gallery, Rockville
- **MSMTA** Gertrude S. Browne Memorial Piano Concerto Competition Hyun Park
Jan. 13, 2019
UMBC, Baltimore County
Dec. 1, 2018
- **MCMTA** Judged Recital
Feb. 3, 2019
Jan. 3, 2019
Miri Frenkel-Yacubovich
Jordan Kitt’s Music, Rockville
- **MCMTA** Festival of Music “Dance Music Through the Ages” Guity Adjoodani
Feb. 23, 2019
Jan. 26, 2019
Steinway Piano Gallery, Rockville

Most MCMTA 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. A “how-to” video is available on the MCMTA website under “Video Help.” Call the event chair if you are still overwhelmed.

VOLUNTEER POLICY: All teachers who participate in Association events are required to volunteer for these events. 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.

November Meeting

Dr. Peggy Otwell (University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee) spoke about “purposeful practicing,” something essential to every successful musician. Otwell offered thoughtful ideas for students to improve their practice and performance through self-questioning that puts them “in charge.” Worksheets encourage self-assessment items to rate from 1 to 5. Students can enter what went wrong and what went right. They can decide What’s my goal today? What’s my goal in a week? Each of us can grow into a more mindful, thinking musician. She recommended resources such as Joanne Haroutounian’s pedagogy books and *Musician’s Performance Portfolio*. For performance anxiety, try bulletproofmusician.com.

Tips for Teachers

Greetings, MCMTA Colleagues!

As the holidays approach we sometimes feel the anticipation of excitement along with the pressure of so many things to do to get ready for...holiday recitals or engaging in performances ourselves... Keeping a sense of humor is our best asset during these times. Think of some funny stories that have occurred in your studio or an unusual incident that occurred during a child's performance. For me one that comes to mind is while teaching a student I stretched back on a chair and fell completely down on the floor: flat on my back...so shocked it felt like some comic relief. The student asked if I was okay and luckily I was fine. Or the time a paper clip fell into the baby grand strings resulting in an eerily odd tone during a students' recital. Who knew?

Perhaps a small list of unusual experiences in your studio will bring a laugh to you during times of stress. Yes, a sense of humor comes in handy and can help stave off those holiday pressures! Enjoy and have a restful holiday full of laughs and gratitude!

Carol Brody. PS. Please share your funny stories at: carol.brody6@gmail.com for one of our future articles.

Musical Camaraderie

On October 26 we had our first *Musical Camaraderie* Get Together. The purpose is to meet casually and have open discussions about any topics that arise or have been suggested ahead of time. Having a small group (under 20) allows for more participation by each individual and I think we covered a lot of territory. Discussion topics included: Students having problems with understanding strong and weak beats; Students not progressing; Parental involvement; Finding new ways to inspire and motivate students; Recording devices to use at lessons; Practice ideas for productive results; Repertoire suggestions; Workshops/ Repertoire Classes. Looks like people want to talk more about repertoire at the lower levels--Please bring an armful of books! And, of course, any other questions or concerns are welcomed!

Our next meeting will be **Friday, December 7, 10 am-12 noon**, at Bonnie Kellert's home, 9140 Falls Chapel Way. Please RSVP by Wednesday, Dec. 5.

Thanks! Bonnie at bkellert@verizon.net



Elementary Recital

We had such a successful opening of the year with the MCMTA Elementary Recital “Autumn Magic” on October 27 at Jordan Kitt’s, Rockville; the Intermediate/Advanced recital took place November 10 at the Steinway Gallery, Bethesda.

We are also looking forward for the second Elementary Recital “Holiday” on December 15.

In the “Autumn Magic” recital there were 69 participants from nine MCMTA studios. Participating teachers were Ronald Butts-Boehmer, Svetlana Volkova, Elena Eliseeva, Lara Parris, Vivien Kwok, Bonnie Kellert, Lara Parris, Ekaterina Zaitseva, and Olga Soukhoveev.

On November 10, we were fortunate to listen to 45 pianists in Intermediate/Advanced recitals from eleven MCMTA teachers. Among the teachers represented the were Andrew Zatman, Svetlana Volkova, and Sara Cronan.

Many thanks to our judges: Jamie Pasho, Sharon Carr, Meri Gugushvilli, and Elena Eliseeva
And monitors: Jamie Mitchell, Elena Dubovitskaya, and Marina Ovtcharenko.

We are happy to announce that “Holiday” Elementary Recital on December 15 is fully booked! We are all eager to listen to new tunes, holiday music, classical, and pieces from method books.

Olga Soukhoveev (below, center in her “be-witching” Halloween costume)
Elementary Recitals Chair



New MCMTA Directory

Your 2018–2019 MCMTA member directory is sent to you directly as an electronic PDF to your email address. In addition, **print copies will be available at general meetings** in a three-ring binder, ready to use in your studio. And what's more, you can choose from four colors (green, pink, yellow, or blue) on the covers of your distinctive MCMTA directory.

Right: Anita Yuthasastrkosol, Alice Ma, and Bonny Miller display their new directories.



Opportunities for Students

The **MSMTA Composers/Improvers Circle** concert will take place on December 9, 2018, at 2:00 pm, University United Methodist Church, 3631 Campus Drive, College Park, MD.

The **2018 YMIC (Young Musicians Inspiring Change) Metropolitan Solo and Chamber Music** will take place on December 15, 2018, at United Korean Presbyterian Church, 7009 Wilson Lane, Bethesda, MD. The deadline is past, but for information contact ymic.metro.festival@gmail.com.

The **Friday Morning Music Club** Neva Greenwood Memorial High School Composition Competition will be held on February 16, 2019, at National Presbyterian Church, Washington, DC. The deadline for applications and compositions is December 15, 2018. For more information contact Mark Simon, hscomposition@fmmc.org, 301-526-9804.

Trios and Duets

Musical Arts International presents their annual Holiday season concert with the Newstead Trio, the ensemble in residence at the Pennsylvania Academy of Music, on Sunday, December 2, 2018, 3 pm, at Calvary Lutheran Church, 9545 Georgia Ave., Silver Spring, MD 20915. The Newstead Trio showcases pianist Xun Pan (www.xunpanpianist.com), violinist Michael Jamanis, and cellist Sara Male. The Trio will perform Haydn's "Gypsy" Piano Trio G major, Hob. XV/25; "Café Music" by Paul Schoenfield; and Mendelssohn's Piano Trio in D minor, op. 49. Pianists Xun Pan and Li-Ly Chang will perform piano duet selections from *Candide* by Leonard Bernstein to celebrate the 100 anniversary of the birth of this American icon. Pre-concert talk by Dr. Bonny Miller at 2:15 pm. Tickets \$20 adult, \$15 student/ senior. Reception and Q&A follow the concert. Free parking. For more information, please call 301-933-3715 or www.musicalartsinternational.org.

2019 MTNA Conference in Spokane, Washington



The 2019 MTNA National Conference is shaping up to be the best yet! Renowned pianist Ingrid Fliter and the award-winning Transcontinental Saxophone Quartet will highlight the evening recitals. Alan Walker, preeminent Liszt and Chopin scholar, will provide the keynote address based on his newest book, *Fryderyk Chopin: A Life and Times*.

Register on or before December 5, 2018 to receive the discounted rate of \$345.

More about the conference: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=B3scUbQj_IQ&feature=youtu.be

And: https://www.mtna.org/Conference/Conference_Home/Conference/Home.aspx?hkey=cecd079e-f62b-4ed5-8575-57e2283ba248

Learn more about Spokane: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PljPHf6vAEw>



MINUTES FROM MCMTA GENERAL MEETING
NOVEMBER 13, 2018

President Alice Ma called the meeting to order at 10:08 AM at Jordan Kitt's showroom at 11726 Parklawn Drive in Rockville.

The minutes from the general meeting of October 9, 2018, were sent electronically in advance.

Kris Butler announced that MCMTA met our goal of \$500, and exceeded it up to \$685, to provide a matching grant to MTNA's Benevolence Fund.

The new social activity Musical Camaraderie will meet again on December 7 from 10AM-Noon at Bonnie Kellert's home. This is an informal forum or discussion group where topics of interest are discussed. New ideas are welcome. Those who wish to attend or contribute discussion topics should email Bonnie.

Sharon Carr brought music and rhythm instruments for early childhood music, donated by retired member Rima Sayegh. They are available by giving a donation to the book fund.

The 2019 MTNA Conference will be held in Spokane, Washington. Alice encouraged everyone to try to attend. Early registration is \$345, which is a \$50 discount.

The next MTNA Teacher Certification study group, led by Helen Weems, will be held November 19th at the Olney Library at 11AM. Several new teachers have joined. For more information teachers can contact Helen at weemspianostudio@gmail.com.

Bonny Miller brought print copies of the new Membership Directory. She has provided binders for those who wish it. The Directory is also sent as a PDF file to all MCMTA members with an email address.

Alice adjourned the meeting at 10:21 AM. Immanuela Gruenberg introduced Peggy Otwell, music editor, author and composer, who gave an informative presentation on "Purposeful Practicing."

Respectfully submitted,
Tina Sinclair Smith, Recording Secretary