



## February - March

[www.mcmta-md.org](http://www.mcmta-md.org)

### Contents

February Meeting	pg. 2
March Meeting	pg. 3
Tips for Teachers, Musical Camaraderie	pg. 4
Upcoming Deadlines	pg. 5
Recitals, Competitions, Theory, Exams	pg. 6
Past Events	pg. 8
Scholarships and Grants	pg. 9
Upcoming Events Calendar	pg. 10
President's Message	pg. 12
MCMTA Minutes	pg. 13

Be aware of hidden bonus questions! Can you answer them all? Results will be published in the April/May newsletter.

# February Membership Meeting

## Tuesday, 2/11, 9:30 am

### Membership Discussion

#### Facilitated by Alice Ma

Dear MCMTA members,

Our next meeting will be a discussion among the membership on topics that are of interest to all. Here are some possible discussion topics:

#### 1. STUDIO POLICIES

- make up lessons
- summer lessons
- group lessons

#### 2. REPEROIRE

- Which method books?
- For how long do you use them?
- When and how to switch from method books to repertoire?
- Learning more pieces vs. perfecting fewer ones

#### 3. THEORY

- Teaching as part of regular lessons or separately
- Using MSMTA syllabus? Other books or resources?
- How do you integrate repertoire, technique, and theory?

Other topics are welcome.

I am sorry I will not be able to participate in what I am sure will be a stimulating discussion, as I will be on a plane to Texas to do a presentation. Alice Ma will help lead the discussion.

Immanuela Gruenberg

Program Chair

#### **Bonus Question #1:**

Before "Do" was commonly used, what solfege syllable was used for tonic? **2**

Email your answers to [marcsdonnelly@gmail.com](mailto:marcsdonnelly@gmail.com).

# March Membership Meeting

## Tuesday, 3/10, 9:30 am

### Russian Piano School

### Lessons with Lev Oborin

### Lecture by Professor Larissa Dedova



Larissa Dedova has appeared in solo and chamber recitals in concert halls throughout the world at such venues as Carnegie Hall, New York; Kennedy Center, Washington DC; the Great Hall of St. Petersburg Philharmonic, St. Petersburg; Teatro Ghione, Rome; the Great Hall of Moscow Conservatory, Moscow; Neue Gewandhaus, Leipzig; Schauspielhaus, Berlin; Salle de Tanneurs, Tours; Neue Welt Hall, Zwickau; and Bulgaria Hall, Sofia; Sumida Triphony Hall, Tokyo. As a soloist, she has played with famous orchestras, including the St. Petersburg Philharmonic, Dresden Philharmonic, Kiev Philharmonic, Orchestre de Chambre de Budapest, Moscow Philharmonic and Estonian State Symphony Orchestra, among many others.

Dedova's recording credits include releases for the Melodia label as well as for ConClaRec and Morning Storm labels. Her four-CD set *Debussy: The Complete Solo Piano Music* (May 2011, Centaur Records) earned praise from Fanfare Magazine, declaring Dedova "an artist of the highest caliber ... an unerring musical instinct and flawless technique."

Ms. Dedova's two-CD set of recordings *Ravel: The Complete Solo Piano Music*, was released by Centaur Records in June 2017.

Currently, she is working on a new recording project *Schubert: All Completed Piano Sonatas*, expected to be released in early 2021.

Dedova holds both Master and Doctor of Musical Arts degrees in Piano Performance from the Moscow State Tchaikovsky Conservatory where she studied with Lev Oborin and Evgeny Malinin. She is a Professor of Music at the University of Maryland, College Park.

# Tips for Teachers

## Working on aural skills with your students?

Consider how you might more effectively teach audiation, or the ability to think in the musical language.

Sing or play a melody to your student and have them sing it back to you. Choose a new melody, but now make the student wait at least 5 seconds before responding. They may be surprised how much more difficult this is to do than immediately mimicking a melody.

Marc Donnelly



## Musical Camaraderie

The Musical Camaraderie group had a very productive and fun meeting this past January 10th. Various method books on Elementary to early Intermediate were discussed. Authors included Mark Nevin, Catherine Rollin, Jennifer Linn, Randall and Nancy Faber, Alexandre Tansman, Jane Bastien, Robert Vandall, William Gillock and others. Various internet music teacher groups were also discussed, such as: Pronto Piano, The Art of Piano Pedagogy, Piano Teacher Central, and the "Beethoven code," which is helpful with composers.

Also discussed was the importance of having a written policy and Bonnie recommended Stewart Gordon's book, *The Well Tempered Pianist* and showed her colorful calendar. It was also suggested to have a good CPA who deals with small businesses. If you want a topic to be discussed at the next meeting, please let me Bonnie know.

**Next meeting:** Friday, March 13

Contact Bonnie Kellert for more information.  
bkellert@verizon.net

### Discussed Resources:

[The Music Tree: Student's Book, Part 1: Piano Book](#)

[A Plan for Musical Growth at the Piano](#). By Frances Clark, Louise Goss, and Sam Holland Piano  
The Music Tree series continues the development of complete musicianship by providing the beginner with delightful and varied repertoire.

[The Beethoven Code: Lorenz: Musical](#)

By Geoff Lorenz and Barbara Meeks. Crack the codes to explore the lives of famous composers. Reproducible student pages. Inspired by the best-selling novel, ...

[Piano Pedagogy Questions and Answers](#)

[The Art of Piano Pedagogy](#)

[Piano Pronto®: Prelude: Jennifer Eklund](#)

Piano Pronto Prelude book is a beginning level piano method book. This book features 32 fun and motivating songs perfect for beginners of any age.

## February Deadlines

## March Deadlines

2/1  
Gail F. McDonald High School Exam

2/2  
MSMTA Theory Exams

2/6  
MTNA National Conference  
(for less expensive pricing)

2/15  
MSMTA Music Study Grants

2/16  
E. R. Davis Memorial Piano  
Competition

2/22  
Chamber Music Festival

2/29  
Spring Festival: Voice Solo



3/10  
May 12th Member's Concert  
registration

3/15  
International Young Artist Piano  
Competition registration

3/16  
Evelyn Swarthout/Patrick Hayes  
Piano Competition

3/18  
Intermediate/Advanced Recital

3/20  
April–May Newsletter  
marcsdonnelly@gmail.com

3/21  
Spring Festival Piano Solo

3/25  
Elementary "Spring Has Sprung"  
Recital

3/26  
Judged Recital

3/31  
Senior Recognition Day registration

## Early April Deadlines

4/1  
Unaccompanied Bach Competition

4/5  
Doris Chase Sonata Competition

4/8  
Adult Recital

**Please visit [www.mcmta-md.org](http://www.mcmta-md.org) for  
the full calendar including chairs  
and contact information.**

# Recitals, Competitions, Theory, Exams

## Gail F. McDonald High School Exam

Please be advised of the following changes to the 2020 high school exam program.

1. All registrations are due on **February 1**, both credit and recognition.
2. Credit applications must be postmarked no later than 2/1/2020.
3. Principles letter of permission must be sent by 2/1/2020 also.
4. No late entries will be accepted.
5. In order to make the registration of levels

more consistent we will only have Intermediate or Advanced, no I or II.

Deborah White-Bondhus,  
MSMTA High School Examination Chair

**Saturday, February 22, 7:30 pm.** Li-Ly Chang will be presenting a recital featuring the music of Schubert, Bruch, Debussy, and Chang at Montgomery College Performing Arts Series with violinist Teresa Lazar and violist Osman Kivrak. Located at Montgomery College, Recital Hall. Admission is free.

Lily 301-933-3715

Performance applications for the **May 12 Members' Concert**:

If you'd like to perform **May 12**, please submit a proposal listing the following:

- 1 Name of composer(s)
- 2 Name of work(s)
- 3 Name(s) of performer(s)

Please note the following:

- **Deadline: March 10** (that's right, March, since the newsletter is now published only every other month)
- **Timing: 12 minutes total** (performance and commentary)

Email your proposals to Immanuela at [igruenberg@yahoo.com](mailto:igruenberg@yahoo.com).

Thank you,  
Immanuela Gruenberg  
Program Chair

## NCTM Certification Study Group

This study group meeting is led by Helen Weems (VP Certification, MSMTA)

Wednesday, **March 11**, 11am-1pm at the Olney Library.

3500 Olney Laytonsville Rd, Olney, MD 20832.

[weempianostudio@gmail.com](mailto:weempianostudio@gmail.com)

# Recitals, Competitions, Theory, Exams Continued

**March 14, 7:30 pm, STRATA.** Musical Arts International is celebrating its 25th year with a concert by Audrey Andrist, Piano, Nathan Williams, clarinet, James Stern, violin—a classical music ensemble whose brilliant performances are a counterpoint of old and new, reflecting the unbridled joy they take in making music together—truly “something to get worked up about”. Strata was recently featured in Hour 2 of Performance Today, hosted by Fred Child. All holders of the Doctor of Musical Arts degree from the Juilliard School, their combined credits encompass numerous international prizes and performances across four continents including such places as Carnegie Hall, the Marlboro Festival and the Kennedy Center. Program includes Mozart Trio "Kegelstatt," Larsen "Slang," Joplin "Easy Winners," Balcom "Original Rag," Schumann "Fairy Tales", Arutiunian "Suite".

[www.musicalartsinternational.org](http://www.musicalartsinternational.org)

Latvian Lutheran Church, 400 Hurley Ave, Rockville, MD 20850

**Registration Due March 15.** International Young Artist Piano competition is celebrating its 35 anniversary. Registration is open now. Cash award, certificate, performance opportunities at Kennedy center, State Department, Washington Piano Festival, NIH and Lancaster Piano Festival.

[http://www.musicalartsinternational.org/yahoo\\_site\\_admin/assets/docs/I\\_Y\\_A\\_P\\_C\\_2020.340194939.pdf](http://www.musicalartsinternational.org/yahoo_site_admin/assets/docs/I_Y_A_P_C_2020.340194939.pdf)

This is a friendly reminder not to forget to register your high school graduating Seniors by **March 31** for our annual **Senior Recognition Day** program. Registration is online for your convenience at the MCMTA website. There is no fee to register. The only requirement is that the graduating senior has studied six consecutive years with an MCMTA teacher.

Please have your student(s) provide a brief paragraph or two (up to 1200-words) about themselves which may include events pertaining to their Senior year, music study, any awards or other activities, or future plans that they may wish to share with us at the Senior Recognition Awards Program which will be on May 3 at 4 p.m. at the Mansion at Strathmore, 10701 Rockville Pike, North Bethesda, MD 20852.

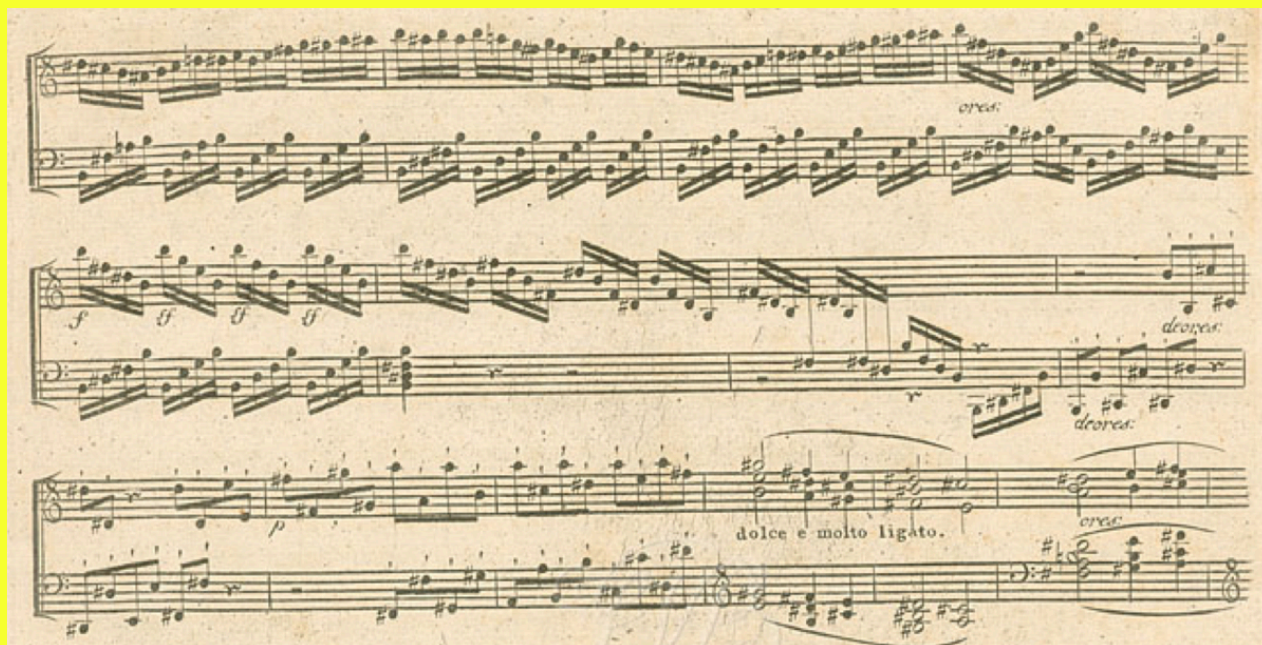
If you have any questions, would like additional information, or need help with the online registration process, please contact chairperson, Eugenia Posey-Marcos at [PianoSchoolGaithersburg@gmail.com](mailto:PianoSchoolGaithersburg@gmail.com). Remember to login online first through the MSMTA website and then select the link to the MCMTA online **7** site.

# Past Events

On December 8, we had 4 wonderful Judged recitals at the Steinway Piano Gallery. All the students played very well and performed with such good musicianship that judges awarded 13 high honors trophies and 15 honorable mention ribbons. Thirty-three students participated in the Judged recitals. They were studios of Svetlana Volkova, Junko Takahashi, Miri Frenkel-Yacubovich, Audrey Andrist, Jaewon Lee, Lara Parris, Meri Gugushvili, Svetlana Em, Eugenia Posey-Marcos, Elena Eliseeva.

Our honorable adjudicators were Mrs. Yoon Huh and Dr. Hyun-Sook Park. Special thanks to Audrey Andrist, Jaewon Lee and Lara Parris for helping with monitoring, and Mrs. Helen Koo for hosting us at Steinway Piano Gallery.

Sincerely,  
Miri Frenkel-Yacubovich  
Chair of MCMTA Judged Recitals



**Bonus Question #2:** Who is the composer of this excerpt and what is the piece?  
Email your answers to [marcsdonnelly@gmail.com](mailto:marcsdonnelly@gmail.com).

# *Scholarships and Grants*

## MSMTA Music Study Grants

Deadline: 2/15

Junko Takahashi 301-530-6203

Edwina Hunter 240-535-3070

## MCMTA Grant for High School Graduating Seniors

Deadline: 4/15

Sharon Carr

## MSMTA Grants for Teacher Continuing Education

Deadline: 4/30

Junko Takahashi 301-530-6203

## MSMTA Scholarship for High School Graduating Seniors

Deadline: 5/15

Junko Takahashi 301-530-6203

## MCMTA Grant for Continuing Education for Teachers

Deadline: 6/1

Sharon Carr

## MSMTA Student Scholarship for Performance

Deadline: 6/1

Junko Takahashi 301-530-6203

## Margaret E. Weissenfluh Fund for Musically Inclined Children, Inc.

Deadline: 6/30

Ingrid Mongini, 5709 Ogden Road, Bethesda, MD 20816



### **Bonus Question #3:**

From which country is this square coin currently in use?

Email your answers to  
[marcsdonnelly@gmail.com](mailto:marcsdonnelly@gmail.com).

February 2020							March 2020						
Sun	Mon	Tu	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
23	24	25	26	27	28	29	29	30	31				

## Upcoming Events Calendar

Judged Recital, Sunday, Feb. 9

Miri Frenkel–Yacubovich, Jordan Kitt’s Music, Rockville

MCMTA Membership Meeting, Tuesday, Feb. 11

Alice Ma, Jordan Kitt's Music, Rockville

Li–Ly Chang Recital, Saturday, Feb. 22

Montgomery College Recital Hall

Ensemble Recital, Saturday, Feb. 22 and Sunday, Feb. 23

Alice Ma, Jordan Kitt's Music, Rockville

Festival of Music, Sunday, Feb. 23

Guity Adjoodani, Steinway Piano Gallery, Rockville

MCMTA Membership Meeting, Tuesday, Mar. 10

Alice Ma, Jordan Kitt's Music, Rockville

MCTM Certification Study Group, Wednesday, Mar. 11

Helen Weems, Olney Library

Musical Camaraderie, Friday, Mar. 13

Bonnie Kellert

STRATA Concert, Saturday Mar. 14

Li–Ly Chang, Latvian Lutheran Church, Rockville

MSMTA Theory Test, Sunday, Mar. 15

Elena Eliseeva, Watkins Mill High School

continued...

# Upcoming Events Calendar Continued

MTNA National Conference, Friday, Mar. 20  
Chicago, Illinois

April–May Newsletter Deadline, Friday, Mar. 20  
marcsdonnelly@gmail.com

Chamber Music Festival, Sunday, Mar. 22  
Mark Di Pinto, Washington Adventist University, Takoma Park

E.R. Davis Memorial Piano Competition, Sunday, Mar. 29  
Junko Takahashi, Bok Hwa Kim, Washington Adventist University,  
Takoma Park

Spring Festival: Voice Solo, Sunday, Mar. 29  
Richard Hartzell, UMBC, Baltimore County

MCMTA Executive Board Meeting, Tuesday, Mar. 31  
Alice Ma, Jordan Kitt's Music, Rockville

Gail F. McDonald High School Exam, April 1 and beyond  
Deborah White–Bondhus, various sites

MCMTA Membership Meeting, Tuesday, Apr. 14  
Alice Ma, Jordan Kitt's Music, Rockville

Intermediate/Advanced Recitals, Sat. & Sun. Apr. 18 & 19  
Elena Eliseeva and Olga Soukhoveev, Steinway Piano, Rockville

Please see <https://mcmta.msmta.org> and the Student Activities Handbook at [www.msmta.org](http://www.msmta.org) for more details.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>February 2020</b>							<b>March 2020</b>						
						1	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
23	24	25	26	27	28	29	29	30	31				

# President's Message

Welcome to 2020! With the arrival of the new year, our newsletter has a new look, created by our new VP for Publications, Marc Donnelly. Marc has outstanding credentials as a piano and voice teacher, choral director, and music theorist. More importantly for us though, he is also technologically savvy. We are so happy to have him on board. Also, I hope that many of you had a nice holiday break that you are rejuvenated for the busiest season of the year.

In addition to signing up students for events, please do not forget to encourage your friends and colleagues who are in the field of music education to join MCMTA. If they are unsure whether MCMTA will meet their needs, please invite them to join you for one of our membership meetings. Our VP for Programs, Immanuela Gruenberg, has spent a lot of time planning wonderful programs for us. This year's programs are especially great with several very-hard-to-get, in demand presenters. Also, MTNA is currently offering membership at half price for new members. Please go to [www.mtna.org](http://www.mtna.org) to check it out.

In this school year, we have new members joining us almost every month. Welcome all new members! I hope to meet some of you at one of our events.

Have fun teaching and performing!

Alice MA



## **Bonus Question #4:**

One of the pages in this newsletter is color coordinated for a very specific reason. Which page number and why?

Email your answers to [marcsdonnelly@gmail.com](mailto:marcsdonnelly@gmail.com).

# Minutes From MCMTA General Meeting December 10, 2019

President Alice Ma called the meeting to order at 10:26 am at Jordan Kitt's showroom at 11726 Parklawn Drive in Rockville.

The minutes from the general meeting of November 12, 2019, were sent electronically in advance.

Alice reminded everyone we can no longer use MailChimp, the Yahoo list serve. She has sent links to members to explain how to change to the new server called groups.io. Cynthia has moved MCMTA's data over. All files, pdf's, etc. will be deleted by Yahoo on Saturday, December 14.

We no longer have a printed membership directory. Members can visit the MSMTA website to do teacher searches.

Many student activities are happening this month. The Judged Recital was held on December 8, the Keyboard Musicianship Exam is December 15, the "Let it Snow" Elementary Recital is December 21. The Elementary Recital is a lot of fun, and is not competitive. The children receive goodies, not critiques.

Entry deadlines are coming up soon for February events, including another Judged Recital, the Ensemble Recital and the Festival of Music. Those who are unsure about participating are encouraged to attend to see what the event is like. For the Ensemble Recital, any combination of instruments is allowed.

The next Musical Camaraderie is scheduled for January 10, at 10 am. Robin Schultz said a multitude of topics can be discussed in a friendly atmosphere. Alice encouraged everyone to take part.

The next meeting on National Teacher Certification will be held on Wednesday, January 15 from 11 am to 1 pm at Olney Library. Helen Weems chairs the study group to assist members in the process. Congratulations were given to MCMTA member Lily Chang who now holds the NCTM.

Alice encouraged members to register to attend the next MTNA National Conference in Chicago.

Promotional cards are being printed as a way to reach teachers who may be interested in joining. They can be distributed at colleges, MCMTA events, and businesses that teachers frequent.

Bonny Miller announced that her book is now finished and will be published in May. She will notify us when it is available.

MCMTA has inherited a large library of violin teaching materials from a teacher who has retired.

Immanuela said that the February membership meeting will be an opportunity for teacher sharing instead of having a speaker.

Alice adjourned the meeting at 10:22 am. Immanuela introduced Bradford Gowen, Professor of Piano at the University of Maryland School of Music, who gave the informative presentation "500 Years of English Keyboard Music That's Way Too Good to Ignore!," highlighting historical perceptions, composers, and multitude of good teaching pieces at all levels.

Respectfully submitted,  
Tina Sinclair Smith, Recording Secretary