

## February 2010

### A Philosophy of Music Learning

Our guest presenter for the February meeting will be the wonderful pianist and pedagogue Luiz de Moura Castro. Some of us have heard his inspiring lectures, practical teaching sessions, and wonderful recitals at various World Piano Pedagogy Conferences.

Mr. de Moura Castro will cover all aspects of memory: melodic, harmonic, rhythmic; prememory - listening - full memory. He will discuss the emotional concept as the magnet for full concept. The presentation will include a performance of Schumann's "Scenes from Childhood."

Luiz de Moura Castro is Professor of Piano at the Hartt School of Music at the University of Hartford, Connecticut; teacher of Graduate Piano at the Liceu School of Music, Barcelona, Spain; and visiting Professor Pro Arte Seminarios de Musica, Rio de Janeiro. He was chair of the piano department at the Juan Pedro Carrero School of Music, Barcelona, and was visiting professor at The Catholic University in Washington, D.C.

Born in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, he received his early training and graduated Summa cum Laude from the National School of Music. He continued his studies at the Liszt Academy in Budapest, Hungary. De Moura Castro made his debut recital in the Teatro Municipal, Rio de Janeiro at the age of nine. He has appeared with all the major orchestras in Brazil, as well as the Orchestre de Chambre, Lausanne, Lisbon Radio Orchestra, Filarmonichi di Turino, Bratislava & Janacek Orchestras, and others. He concertizes annually throughout the world. A review in the Spanish paper La Region called him "Master of masters – how he interpreted Bach! On stage, yes, you would see somebody playing the piano, but you heard the organ...in Villa-Lobos, the piano was almost dancing the Samba!"

His discography comprises more than 40 selections from L'Art, Educo, EMI, Ensayo and Euterpe. His CD "Modinha" received a Grammy nomination in 2002. He has a Liszt DVD from the World Piano Pedagogy Conference and Alma Brasileira, a Villa-Lobos recording for the National Educational series, Brazil.

He is on the board of the World Piano Pedagogy Conference, and the American Liszt Society.

The February meeting  
is Tuesday  
February 9, 2009 at  
Stone Ridge School

9101 Rockville Pike, Bethesda, Maryland

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



"I want to again thank our members: Sharon Carr, Li-ly Chang, Vladimir Fridman, Junko Takahashi, and their guests: Jean Crichton, Tom Leich, and Ronald Mutchnik, for sharing their time, and their talents at the December meeting. I am sorry I was unable to attend what I've been told was a great concert.  
- Immanuela Gruenberg"

# Senior Concerto Competition

The Senior Concerto competition was held at Jordan Kitts. It ran smoothly with the help of Faye Bonner, Lois Jones, Hyun Park, Conchita Jan, Chia Hshun Lee. The judges were Dr. Thomas Mastroianni and Dr. Stephanie Bruning. The concert was held December 12 at 4 pm at the Montgomery College Rehearsal Hall.

Student Name Teacher

## 1st Movement

Performer	Iris Cheng	Faye Bonner
Alternate	Jeffrey Yang	Hyun Park
Honorable Mention	Andrea Yang	Hyun Park
	Audrey Shi	Hyun Park
	Le Qi	Hyun Park
	Jackie Song	Li-Ly Chang

## 2nd Movement

Performer	Jeffrey Yang	Hyun Park
Alternate	Andrea Yang	Hyun Park
Honorable Mention	Erika Saunders	Chia Hshun Lee
	Madeline Duff	Lois Jones

## 3rd Movement

Performer	Tiffany Kang	Li-Ly Chang
Alternate	Le Qi	Hyun Park
Honorable Mention	Ting Lew	Conchita Jan
	Melinda Pandiangan	Li-Ly Chang

# December Program

MCMTA members who attended the December program heard a wonderful mixture of instrumental and vocal music. Guest violinist Ronald Mutchnik, accompanied by member Li-Ly Chang, played a program including music by Mascagni, Confrey, Block, Bernstein, and an original composition by Li-Ly. Member Vladimir Fridman played several guitar pieces including some original compositions. I was personally very moved by the piece "Waltz" that he wrote for his wife. Junko Takahashi and Li-Ly Chang played piano duets by Moskowski, Faure and Poulenc. Sharon Carr, soprano, along with guest mezzo soprano Jean Crichton and guest pianist Tom Leich performed vocal pieces by Mendelssohn and Andrew Lloyd Webber. It is amazing to think that Sharon is not only such a talented pianist and teacher but singer as well!

We were sorry our Program Chair Immanuela Gruenberg was unable to attend the program due to her trip to Israel. We are very grateful for all her work in setting up such a lovely program.

Many thanks to all the performers for a delightful morning of music that was followed by our delicious potluck luncheon. It was a nice way to start the holidays with our MCMTA colleagues.

– Lori McCarthy, President

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# December Judged Recital

Six Judged Recitals were held at the Montgomery College Rehearsal Hall on December 13 from 12:15 to 6:15 PM. It was an exciting and rewarding event with 55 participating students performing works by a variety of composers. The recitals also included guitar solos, a guitar ensemble, piano duets and violin solos. It is always wonderful to see other instruments join the Judged Recitals and we hope to see and hear more of these instrumentalists participate in the future recitals.

Twenty five studios were represented at the recital. The participating teachers were: Bonnie Kellert, Ying Ting Chiu, Jaewon Lee, Linda Benoit, Olga Soukhoveev, Sarah Resnik, JungEun Kang, Kate Rao, Florence Ahn, Yulia Diaz, Hsien-Ann Meng, Dr. Chen-Li Tzeng, Dr. Immanuela Gruenberg, Dimitri Nazarenko, Dr. Audrey Andrist, Li-Ly Chang, Mei-Yu Lin, Donna Koh, Junko Takahashi, Yen Feng Yang, Vladimir Fridman, Svetlana Volkova and Eunji Park.

We were very fortunate to have wonderful musicians as our judges: Narciso Solero from Virginia, and Karen Dalley-Jesson from Washington, D.C. After each recital, while the scores were being tabulated, the judges had a few minutes to talk to the students about their performances and the audience seemed to have enjoyed the brief comments made by the judges.

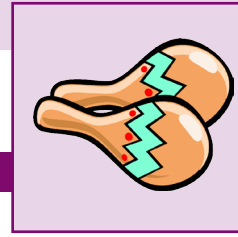
Fourteen high honors trophies and nineteen honorable mentions were awarded at the recitals to the students.

As always, our special thanks to Kristin Butler, Cynthia Cathcart and Mei-Yu Lin for their time and their unconditional love and support at every recital throughout the year. A special heart warming thank you to all the teachers who gave their time to monitor and to help out at the recitals: Ying Ting Chiu, Jaewon Lee, Vladimir Fridman, Dr. Audrey Andrist, Yen Feng Yang, Dr. Chen-Li Tzeng, Donna Koh, Hsien-Ann Meng, Yulia Diaz, Florence Ahn, Olga Soukhoveev, Ying Ting Chiu and JungEun Kang.

Our next Judged Recital will be held at the Piano Craft in Gaithersburg on February 21, 2010. We hope to have many participants join our third Judged Recital of the season.

Wishing you and your family a very Happy Holiday and a Blessed New Year!

– Yoon Huh, Co-Chair



## Notes from our President

The big news during January was the MSMTA convention on January 9th and 10th. Those of us who attended not only had a great time but learned so much as well! Presentations by Melody Bober, Ingrid Clarfield, Sylvia Eckes, Bradford Gowen, Nikita Fitenko, and Brian Ganz were both informative and inspiring. Brian Ganz played a breathtaking recital of Beethoven and Chopin on Saturday evening. Vendors included MCMTA member Michiko Yurko and the presenter at our September meeting, Ellen Winner. Many thanks to all the MCMTA members who helped man the registration desk, prepare the packets, and the many other tasks that helped make the convention the success it was. A big part of the success of the convention was due to MCMTA Past President, Junko Takahashi, who put countless hours into preparation for the convention and whose efforts clearly benefited all of us who attended!

Due to the untimely December snowstorm, our elementary recital had to be canceled. Students that registered will automatically be registered for the March 20th recital. Hopefully, Mother Nature will be more cooperative then!

A reminder that the Montgomery County center for the MSMTA Theory Exam will be held on March 7 for Levels 1-4 and March 14 for Levels 5-10 at Gaithersburg High School. Please make a note of the distribution of levels, which was listed differently in the MCMTA Student Activities Bulletin sent out in August. Please note that Level 5 will be on March 14th. It is listed correctly on our website and on the application form.

Again, if you have not done so, please consider joining the Yahoo Groups listserve for MCMTA to be notified of all new information as it comes in!

Please join us for our next general meeting at Stone Ridge on Tuesday, February 9th!

Sincerely,

– Lori McCarthy  
MCMTA President

## Intermediate/Advanced Recital

It was my pleasure to come back to chair the intermediate/advanced recital after a few years break. There were seven recitals altogether on December 5, 2009 at the Montgomery College. The first recital started at 8:00 am and we finished at 3:00 pm. Even with the first snow of the year, the absentee rate was almost zero. There were eighty one students from sixteen studios: Marilyn Briant, Sau Tai Chim, Carol Rose Duane, Elena Eliseeva, Claudette Horwitz, Annie Hou, Karina Hou, Vivian Kwok, Maxine Lewack, Jamie Mitchell, Susan Roberts, Sara Renik, Olga Soukhoveev, Luba Turkevich, Svetlana Volkova and Pin-Huey Wang.

Special thanks to Jamie Mitchell for making the arrangement with the college. And thanks, of course, to my co-chair Annie Hou, for her experience and detail oriented thoughtfulness, taking turns to help the day run smoothly. We hope to see you again in the May recital.

– Karina Hou

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## Upcoming Events:

The next MCMTA meeting is February 9, 2010

Upcoming meeting dates are:

March 16, 2010 and April 13, 2010

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

Please join us at [YahooGroups.com](http://YahooGroups.com) (List name is MCMTA)

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# Montgomery County Music Teachers Association

3911 Woodbine Street  
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## Member News

## Newsletter Deadline is February 15, 2010

Please submit information for the next newsletter before February 15, 2010. Please send submissions to :  
Cynthia Cathcart. phone 301-587-6267.  
email [Cynthia@PotomacTalent.com](mailto:Cynthia@PotomacTalent.com)  
(please put MCMTA in the subject line)

A piano recital: Come enjoy a romantic evening with pianist San-qing Lu-Bennaman, as she presents a short program including works by Rachmaninoff and Chopin on Saturday, February 13th 2010 at Piano Company's New Galleria Showroom in the White Flint Shopping Center, at 7:00 pm. Admission is free, all are welcome.

Robert Durso will again be coming to Frederick Community College March 26 and 27 for the annual workshop on the Taubman Technique. The Taubman Approach to music-making liberates pianists to play unburdened by physical restrictions. It has proven to be highly effective in the prevention and cure of fatigue, pain and injury. For further information contact Pat Franz 301-663-6197, [pfranz@frederick.edu](mailto:pfranz@frederick.edu), or John Wickelgren 301-668-0355, [jwickelgren@frederick.edu](mailto:jwickelgren@frederick.edu).

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