

Dear Fellow VMTA Members:

NVMTA has had another busy year with many exciting opportunities for the students of our more than 400 members.

NVMTA continues to offer a wide range of festivals and competitions, including the Bach-Baroque Festival, Piano Concerto Festival, Piano Ensemble Festival and Sonata Festival as well as Concerto Competitions in Piano, Strings, Woodwinds and Voice, and Achievement Awards in Piano, Strings, Woodwinds and Voice. The Concerto Competitions and Achievement Awards have endowed funds that award significant scholarship prizes to all winners at every level, and the first place winners in every level in each division of these competitions performed for us in the February and May programs.

Again, NVMA had a national winner in the MTNA Student Competitions—Fifi Zhang, a student of Dr. Marjorie Lee won 1<sup>st</sup> place in the Senior Piano Competition. This is the 3rd year in a row that Dr. Lee has had a first place winner in either the junior or senior performance competitions at the national level, and even more significantly, Fifi was the Junior Piano Competition National winner 2 years ago. We are most proud of Dr. Lee and her students for this outstanding achievement.

We presented programs at all of our monthly meetings which included presentations by Barbara Wing, Bonnie Kellert, Jane Magrath, a performance by cellist Miron Yampolsky, and a master class by Brian Ganz. And as I mentioned earlier, two of our programs featured the 1<sup>st</sup> place winners in each level of the Concerto Competitions and Achievement Awards.

We continue to publish a monthly newsletter and this past year we moved to publishing all of them online only. Most of the information in our directory was moved online, and I'm happy to say that starting next year, our directory will be 100% online-only! We're still not to the point of being able to submit the applications electronically, but we had great success with this for our piano concerto competition, and have plans to move more of our competitions to an online registration format, eliminating the need for printing and mailing hard copies.

It has been another busy and exciting year in NVMTA and we are looking forward to the future.

Respectfully submitted,

Dr. James Litzelman  
President, Northern Virginia Music Teachers Association