



Washington International Piano Arts Council

The 2019 Festival of Music &
The 17th Washington International Piano Artists Competition

July 17-21, 2019



Images of Music

Painting by Susanne Eisinger

Courtesy of Henri and Lisa Polgar

In cooperation with The George Washington University
and Corcoran Gallery of Arts and Design



*The Festival of Music 2019 &
the 17th Washington International Piano Artists Competition*

Competition Committee Chairs

Judith Ramage and John Dassoulas

Jury Chairs – Georges Mihaies and John Dassoulas

Competition Committee Members

Francis Berkman ♦ Nicole d'Amecourt ♦ Portia Davidson
Suzanne Finney ♦ Wendy Graham ♦ Danielle Lucca ♦ Diane Merriam
Maria Zelmira Nedelcovic ♦ Rhoda Septilici ♦ Judith Ramage
Jean Wigham ♦ Karl Woelflein

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Washington International
Piano Arts
Council

Established in 2001

*Dedicated to creating a
Renaissance of interest
in the
Art of Piano Performance*



*Making music flourish
in Our communities*



*Promoting International Friendship
and Cultural Understanding
through the Art of
Classical Piano Music*



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Washington International
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The Festival of Music 2019 & The 17th Washington International Piano Artists Competition

Welcome to the Wonderful World of Music!

The past year was a sad way to end and to start the New Year as WIPAC lost a devoted patron, G. Austin Hay, a week short of his 103 years birthday. We miss him!

WIPAC continues to present The Festival of Music and the international piano competition, now a music tradition in Washington, DC. We are truly honored and our privilege to welcome 26 talented and gifted international pianists participating in this 2019 competition.

May I express sincere thanks to our President Michael Davidson, Esq. for his dedicated service along with his better half Portia Davidson, WIPAC Board Secretary for her outstanding work.

Personal thanks to John Dassoulas who will do a double job as Co-Chair of this year's Committee and as Co-Chair of the Jury of the Competition. WIPAC has been truly fortunate to have supporters such as our very talented Board member and friend, Robin Phillips, whose contribution to the arts has no bounds. We are looking forward to the Fall project up on her sleeves, watch out Virginia!

Sincere appreciation to the blushing bride, Dr. Joyce Silverman-Wright, who stepped up the plate to cover the First Prize Award. Thank you Gioia. My special gratitude to all the sponsors of awards and donors for their unselfish support of WIPAC and its mission.

To the most distinguished panel of judges, led by the UNESCO member Georges Mihaies and retired physician, rocket scientist and pianist Dr. John Dassoulas Co-Chairs of the Jury, we thank you for overseeing the most difficult task of picking the winner of this year's piano competition! Last but not the least, to our competitors...

OUR CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL THE PIANISTS!!!!

A toast to these pianists from three continents! We wish you luck and fortune as there are so many awards to take home. A unique and definitely one-of-a-kind is the "Spencer Huffman Award," for the World Premiere of Spencer Huffman's work from Baltimore, MD donated and offered by his widow, Priscilla Huffman.

Thank you for all your efforts and our heartfelt thanks for your participation and in making this 17th year to be so memorable.



Best wishes,
John and Chateau Gardecki
WIPAC Founders



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Dear Friends and Contestants,

As former Parliamentarian and Chairman of the jury, I have the privilege and honor to serve as WIPAC's President and on behalf of WIPAC members, it is my pleasure to welcome you to the 17th annual WIPAC Competition and Festival of Music.

A heartfelt and massive thank you to all WIPAC members for their hard work and long hours expended to make these events possible. I cannot begin to list all of them, but these people have donated their precious time to make all of this happen, without their support and commitment none of us would be here. It is an incredible effort and I am certain all will join me in thanking them again.

To the competitors, WIPAC salutes you and extend best wishes for the enormous task at hand. We realize that the countless hours of practice have prepared you for this opportunity to showcase your passion and talent. We applaud you for your dedication to the art of piano music.

To the families and friends of the competitors, we say thank you for all you have done to assist and encourage each competitor in developing these extraordinary skills.

WELCOME, WELCOME, WELCOME and BEST OF LUCK!!



Michael Davidson, President



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John and I are honored to welcome all the outstanding pianists and renowned judges to the 17th Annual Washington International Piano Artists Competition (WIPAC). We want to thank Chateau and John Gardecki, founders of the WIPAC, for selecting us as Chairs of the 2019 Piano Competition.

To the competitors, you are amongst a group of pianists, both national and international who have been selected to compete in this competition so that you can excite, educate and engage the community at large with the joy of classical piano by presenting, promoting and nurturing classical music through live piano performances. It is most impressive that you have chosen musical performance as an adjunct to your successful professional careers. We are grateful for your dedication, hard work and piano music performances that, I am sure, are rewarding to yourselves, your fellow competitors and the listening audience.

To our esteemed judges, your critiques of these very talented competitors each day during the competition requires great concentration and the multitude of personal talents that you have acquired during your careers as Educators, Professors, and Performers, all distinguished in your respective fields. Thank you so much for your dedication to WIPA and your talents that help make this competition so special.

Our heartfelt appreciation goes out to John and Chateau Gardecki who have been completely dedicated and have worked tirelessly since inception making the WIPAC piano competition the most outstanding amateur international competition. Their outstanding efforts have made the WIPAC competition, a very popular, sought after and a most recognized amateur piano competition. John and Chateau, your dedication, love of classical piano music, interest in spreading diplomacy and good will throughout the world is an outstanding achievement and has been accomplished with great joy and enjoyment both for participants and attending audience.

Best of Luck,



Judith Ramage and John Dassoulas
2019 Competition Co-Chairs



The Festival of Music 2019 &

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Co-Chair of the Jury _____ **GEORGES MIHAIES**

Georges Mihaies holds various degrees and diplomas: in Computer Science from Romania; French Culture and Civilization from the Sorbonne; an MBA from INSEAD, Fontainebleau; and a diploma from the ITP International Teachers Program, London Business School. He has been a founder of numerous start-up corporations in Scandinavia focused on culture and education and has coordinated over fifty international corporate projects, based on partnerships with university research groups, local communities, and government agencies.



He has been a writer in Harvard Business Review (French edition), Futuribles (France), Le Moniteur (France), Nikkei Weekly (Japan), Journal of CIB (Washington), taught at Helsinki University of Technology. He has lectured in Japan, Europe, USA, and South Africa, and been a speaker at over fifty international conferences organized by the World Bank, UNESCO, EC/EU, WWW Conferences, CEBIT, EVA (European Visual Arts) Conferences International, governmental agencies, research institutions, universities, corporations and local communities worldwide.

In 1999, he was a Founding Member of UNESCO Task Force for Intangible Cultural Heritage and is currently President of an International Competition for Violin and Piano in France.

Co-Chair of the Jury _____ **JOHN DASSOULAS**

Born in Washington, D. C. in 1926, John began playing piano as soon as he could reach the keyboard. His early studies were with a neighborhood teacher, William J. Oates. Performance opportunities abounded! Musical activities were interrupted by military service during World War II. Piano studies were resumed with Westervelt Romaine at American University and John Paul at Catholic University in the late 1940's. John graduated from American University in 1949 with a double major in Physics and Music. His scientific career spanned over 42 years with the Johns Hopkins University, Applied Physics Laboratory where he was one of the pioneers of the American Space Program. He still performs both as a soloist and chamber music pianist.



Jury for All Rounds

PROF. FRANK CONLON

Professor Francis Conlon has served many years on the faculty of the Music Department of GWU until 2015. He has performed at colleges and concert halls in the Washington area and in throughout the United States, Canada, Mexico, Europe, India and Japan. He has played at Carnegie Recital Hall, New York, at the Gardner Museum, Boston, at the Robin Hood Dell, Philadelphia and in Washington at the Kennedy Center, the Smithsonian Institution, the Library of Congress, the National Gallery, the Phillips Collection, the Corcoran Gallery of Art, the Pan American Union, and Dumbarton Oaks.



Prof. Conlon has performed concerti with many orchestras, including the Montreal Chamber Orchestra, the Washington Sinfonia, Washington Pro Musica and Washington Chamber Orchestra, the Alexandria Symphony, the Georgetown Symphony, and the Amadeus Orchestra. Prof. Conlon has won the National Society of Arts and Letters and the Jordan Awards Competitions in Washington and the Brewster-Allison Competition in Austin, Texas. He served as official accompanist for the National Symphony Young Soloist Competition, the National Opera Institute Auditions, and the National Federation of Music Clubs Contest. Prof. Conlon has accompanied students in departmental recitals, served as music director for the Department's opera productions. He teaches at the Levine School of Music and is director of music at the Church of the Annunciation and at the Temple Rodef Shalom in Falls Church. Prof. Conlon has previously taught at the Catholic University School of Music and the Ellington School of the Arts and served as artist-in-residence for the DC Public School System, and he is one of the most sought-after accompanist in the region.

DR. RAYMOND JACKSON

Professor of Music, Howard University. Born in Providence, Rhode Island, concert pianist, and educator Raymond Thompson Jackson, has been a recipient of numerous awards and has won top honors in national and international piano competitions. He was the first African American and musician to be inducted into the Rhode Island Heritage Hall of Fame. Dr. Jackson's musical talent surfaced at an early age. Graduating from Hope High School, he played the bass violin, organ, and piano and was active in the young artists club, orchestra, band, and glee club. Dr. Jackson attended the prestigious New England Conservatory of Music in Boston. He and fellow classmate, Coretta Scott King, were among a handful of African Americans who attended the Conservatory, where Dr. Jackson earned his Bachelor of Music degree in piano performance. In addition to graduating first in his class, he was the recipient of the Conservatory's highest award, the "George Whitfield Chadwick Medal." He earned his Bachelor of Science degree in piano from the renowned Juilliard School of Music in New York and went on to receive Master and Doctor of Music Arts degrees. He went to France and studied at the American Conservatory of Music in Fontainebleau. After studying in France, he worked as an organist and choir director for several churches in New Jersey. He received a fellowship that allowed him to perform a series of debut piano recitals in Vienna, London, Stockholm, Geneva, Berlin, and Munich. He immediately captured the hearts and applause of European audiences. In 1970, Jackson began teaching at Mannes College of Music in New York and Concordia College, Bronxville. In 1977, he was offered a faculty position at Howard University, where he continues to teach music today.



LAURENCE BERMAN

A professor of the history and theory of music, Laurence Berman was involved in fulltime teaching for over thirty years. Although he took early retirement from the University of Massachusetts/Boston in 1994, he occasionally continues to give courses. Author of a number of articles on Debussy, he has written two books, *The Musical Image: A Theory of Content* and *The Mimetic in Music*.



As a pianist, Mr. Berman enjoys equally the roles of soloist, accompanist, and chamber player. In repertoire, too, he prefers variety to concentrating on any single area, the works he plays ranging from the Elizabethan virginalists to Schoenberg and Bartok. His performances have taken him to Europe and India as well as throughout the United States. In recent times he has given numbers of lecture-recitals for philanthropic events.

THOMAS PANDOLFI

American pianist Thomas Pandolfi is an exciting virtuoso who, with each passing season, is becoming more and more sought after by audiences worldwide, and showered with superlatives by critics for his passionate artistry and amazing technique.



His engagements during the 2015-16 season, included as guest soloist with The National Philharmonic at Strathmore, Ohio Valley Symphony, North Charleston Pops, Cheyenne Symphony, Maryland Symphony, Alexandria Symphony, Symphonicity, Amadeus Orchestra, McLean Orchestra and the Frederick Symphony. During 2016-17, he was guest soloist with The Paducah Symphony, the Charlotte Symphony (FL), the Washington Metropolitan Philharmonic, the Amadeus Orchestra, The Tiraspol Philharmonic, The Alexandria Symphony, and the Maryland Symphony at The Garrett Lakes Arts Festival. Thomas will also be the Artist in Residence at The Black Rock Center for the Arts in Maryland during this season, and his recital touring schedule will take him across the United States on a twenty-state tour. His international concerts have included those in China and Europe, and last season, he also made his Canadian debut in British Columbia.

An outstanding cross-over artist, Mr. Pandolfi's virtuoso transcriptions of the music of Andrew Lloyd Webber, Marvin Hamlisch, George Gershwin and Leonard Bernstein are much in demand. Mr. Pandolfi earned both his Bachelor and Master degrees from the Juilliard School of Music as a scholarship student. He is the proud father of a wonderful son and daughter, and resides in Washington, DC.



Semi-Finals And Final Rounds Jurors

PASCAL SALOMON

Pascal Salomon has been widely acclaimed in Europe, China, Israel, and the USA, both as a soloist and a refined collaborate pianist. “Real presence...the wonderful Lisztian sonority is long, smooth and without superfluous effects” (from Bien-Public, France), “excellent and talented” (from 24-Heures, Switzerland), “Beautiful Sound” (by Murray Perahia). Some of the major concert venues include the Ernest Ansermet Studio at the National Swiss Radio (Geneva, Switzerland), Stravinski Auditorium (Montreux, Switzerland), Toulouse Capitole (France), Chisinau Organ Hall (Republic of Moldova), Iasi Philharmonic Hall (Romania), Forbidden City Concert Hall (Beijing, China), the Hungarian Embassy in Washington DC, Lotte Lehman concert hall in Santa Barbara. He has recorded two CDs: “Pascal Salomon plays Schumann” (with ArtRecords) and “Czech Portraits” for viola and piano (Centaur Label), and a third one is on its way with Czech repertoire for horn and piano.



Pascal Salomon has studied at the “Conservatoire National de Musique de Paris” with Gabriel Tacchino. He was granted the virtuosity degree at the “Conservatoire Supérieur de Musique de Genève” where he studied with Edson Elias and Nelson Goerner. He then taught at the same conservatory for 10 years before moving to California. Winner of the scholarship for young performers from the Société de Musique d’Yverdon-les-Bains (Switzerland), he also received the prize for best French pianist in the Senigallia International Competition (Italy), as well as the Honor Diploma in the Maria Canals International Competition (Barcelona, Spain). Pascal Salomon obtained his Doctor of Musical Arts in 2017 at UC Santa Barbara with Paul Berkowitz. He dedicated his research and dissertation to the fascinating topic of Music Phenomenology. Currently, he lives in Santa Barbara with his family, where he is Piano Faculty at Westmont College. He is faculty member at SoCal Chamber Music Workshop and Santa Barbara Chamber Music Society. He was recently invited to teach at the Central Conservatory of Music in Beijing, and regularly gives masterclasses in other countries (Europe, USA, China, etc.)

The Press Jury

JAN DU PLAIN

President and CEO, Jan Du Plain is a public relations and special events executive who has worked in the Washington, DC area for over 40 years. Her career began in California as an advertising executive in her father’s newspaper, a literary agency in Hollywood, and then in New York City as publicist for CBS Films, a motion picture company that produced such hits as “Little Big Man” with Dustin Hoffman and the “Reivers” with Steve McQueen. She came to Washington DC in 1971 and served as the PR Director at historic Ford’s Theater promoting such shows as “Godspell,” David Wayne in “An Unpleasant Evening with H.L. Mencken,” and Hal Holbrook in “Mark Twain Tonight.” Ms. Du Plain enjoyed a short career as an actress with a repertory theatre in northern California, starring in the hit show “Same Time Next Year.” She returned to Washington and for 15 years was the PR Director of WETA, the 3rd largest producer of public TV shows for P B S , promoting such luminaries as award-winning documentary filmmaker Ken Burns (The Civil War) talk show hosts Bill Moyers, Charlie Rose and David Frost. She is a graduate of the School of Public Affairs and Government of American University, Washington, D.C., and has received many honors during her prestigious career. For the last 13 years, she is the CEO of Du Plain Enterprises Inc., a PR and special events firm, and the Du Plain International Speakers Bureau. Her company has handled the successful speakers program for the Smithsonian Institution’s highly acclaimed 150th anniversary celebration on the national mall, Broadway’s smash hit musical, “Chicago”, at the National Theater in Washington, DC. Also they handled the Shakespeare Guild’s “Sir John Gielgud Award” featuring Kenneth Branagh and Judi Dench, Robert Mondavi’s American Center for Wine, Food and the Arts, and helped launch Cultural Tourism DC’s “Passport DC,” a citywide open house in Washington DC featuring over 30 embassies.



HENRI POLGAR

Henri Polgar is a 1968 Charter-Trustee and current Executive Director of the Panamerican-Panafrican Association (the PaPa), which is a NGO in Consultative Status with the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations. Henri Polgar and his PaPa colleagues administer programs that foster multiculturalism in the arts and humanities.

As a pianist, Henri Polgar has toured in the USA, Africa and the Pacific Rim with the Pritchard Concert Ensemble, founded by American pianist Robert Pritchard. He was the recipient of the President's Artist Award at Lincoln University. Mr. Polgar is a contributing writer to www.FestivalDC.com, which highlights and promotes the richness of the culturally and ethnically diverse communities of the Washington, DC metropolitan area.



Congratulations
To
Washington International Piano Arts Council
2019 Festival of Music &
The 17th WIPAC
Competition

Dr. Joyce Silverman-Wright



Washington International
Piano Arts
Council

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CASH AWARDS AND HONORS

Grand Prize	<i>Solo Recital- Underwritten by Reinsch-Pierce Family Foundation</i>
First Prize	\$3,000 <i>Sponsored by Dr. Joyce Silverman-Hagel</i>
Second Prize	\$2,000 <i>Donated by Dr. James Trefil and Dr. Wanda O'Brien-Trefil and Michael Davidson</i>
Third Prize	\$1,000 <i>Donated by Judith Ramage and John Dassoulas</i>
Finalists 4th-6th	\$250 <i>Donated by Dr. Wayne and Linda Sharp and Angeles Khana de Leon Grant</i>

COMPOSERS AWARDS - \$250 and Donors

Best Performance of Bach work	– <i>Monika Petter</i>
Best Performance of Mozart work	– <i>Darlene Lebedev-Matulka</i>
Best Performance of Beethoven work	– <i>Dr. Joyce Silverman-Wright</i>
Best Performance of Chopin work	– <i>Dr. Wanda O'Brien Trefil</i>
Best Performance of Paderewski work	– <i>Dr. Wanda O'Brien Trefil</i>
Best Performance of a Liszt work	– <i>Carolyn Fuller</i>
Best Performance of a Latin American Composer	– <i>Erik and Alix Sundquist</i>
Best Performance of S. Huffman work \$300	– <i>Priscilla & David Huffman</i>

SPECIAL AWARDS - \$250 and DONORS

Best Performance Baroque Period	– <i>Khana de Leon Foundation</i>
Best Performance Classical Period	– <i>Clayton and Susanne Eisinger</i>
Best Performance Romantic Period	– <i>Dr. Wayne and Ms. Linda Sharp</i>
Best Performance Contemporary Period	– <i>In Memory of Col. Raymond Shreckengost</i>
Most Imaginative Programming	– <i>Suzanne Finney</i>

The Press Jury and Audience Choice Awards

In Memoriam Dr. Robert Pritchard- sponsored by PaPa, Inc.

TROPHY, PLAQUES and GIFTS

First Prize - *Miniature Piano - donated by Mr. and Mrs. Leonid Kelner*
First, Second and Third Place Plaques- *Ieva and Frank O'Rourke*
Competition Certificates - *donated by Diane Merriam*
Flowers and Miscellaneous gifts – *Portia Davidson*



July 18 - Preliminary Round First Set
The George Washington University Music Dept. B120

CANDIDATES TIME OF PERFORMANCE

1. Ruth M. Corbin 10:00
2. Michele Hermes 10:15
3. Ron Jordan 10:30

Mid-morning Break - 10:35-10:45AM

4. Vivienne Fleisher 10:50
5. Judy Darst 11:05
6. David Caldine 11:30

Lunch Break - 11:50-1:30PM

7. Andre Leonard..... 1:30
8. Melinda Morse 1:50
9. David Doran 2:10
10. Reiko Osawa..... 2:30

Mid-afternoon Break - 2:50-3:00PM

11. Sayuri Kubota..... 3:05
12. David Leehey..... 3:25
13. Jeanne Craig..... 3:45

Late afternoon break - 4:05-4:15PM

14. David Lee..... 4:20
15. Andrew Celentano 4:40

5:00PM - End of First Round - no host dinner



July 18 - Preliminary Round Second Set

The George Washington University Music Dept. B120

CANDIDATES

TIME OF PERFORMANCE

-
- 16. Kathleen Penny..... 1:30
 - 17. Jon Lee 1:50
 - 18. Deirbhile Brennan..... 2:05
 - 19. Carl Rosser 2:30

Mid-Afternoon Break - 2:50PM-3:00PM

- 20. Utako Tanigawa..... 3:05
- 21. Juliette Lu 3:25
- 22. OP 3:45
- 23. Robin Stephenson 4:05

Late-Afternoon Break - 4:25-4:35PM

- 24. Wei Ling 4:40
- 25. Max Sung..... 5:00
- 26. Jeni Kong..... 5:20

Second Set ends -- Jurors' deliberation: 5:35pm-6:30pm
 Followed by Announcement and Reception: 7pm-9pm
 Argentine cuisine

Note: All information may be changed without prior notice.



The 2019 Competitors

Pianists and Repertoire

Deirbhile Brennan, Chartered Accountant

Dublin, Ireland



Deirbhile is a Chartered Accountant (CPA equivalent) who works as the Head of Internal Audit for an Irish Government Agency and is a mum of four children aged 11 to 19 years old. Having completed a degree in music at Trinity College Dublin, there ensued a long absence from playing the piano. Deirbhile resumed her piano studies with Dr. Hugh Tinney, alongside a busy career, and since then has won first prize at a number of international amateur piano competitions: Ile-de-France (Paris), Chicago, Boston and St. Petersburg (Russia). In recent years Deirbhile has given recitals in Dublin, Paris, New York (at Carnegie Hall and other venues presented by *New York Concerti Sinfonietta*), Munich (at the Gasteig), Washington DC, Boston, Tangiers (Morocco), Shanghai (China) and looks forward to performing in Bayreuth (Germany) later this year.

Anecdote: On a serious note: *"It's never too late to follow your dreams, and there's no time like the present to start"* - Anon. On a lighter note: *"Life is like a piano. What you get out of it depends on how you play it."* - Tom Lehrer

REPERTOIRE

PRELIMINARY ROUND

Domenico Scarlatti
Fryderyk Chopin

Sonata in F minor, K.481
Scherzo in E major, Op. 54

SEMIFINAL ROUND

Ludwig van Beethoven
Fryderyk Chopin
Maurice Ravel

Sonata No. 21 in C major, Op. 53, *Waldstein*
I: Allegro con brio
Nocturne in E major, Op. 62, No. 2
Ondine (fr. Gaspard de la Nuit)

FINAL ROUND

Josef Haydn
Franz Liszt

Andante con Variazioni in F minor, Hob XVII:6
Après une lecture du Dante: Fantasia quasi Sonata
(Années de Pelerinage II, S.161)





David started clarinet at age 7 but changed to piano at age 18. From 1982 to 1992 he studied with Elvin Schmitt at George Mason University. At GMU David finished the performance requirements in the Bachelor of Music program, as well as receiving a Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering. He played about 20 solo recitals in the Washington Area and in St. Petersburg and Moscow, Russia, and participated in many amateur piano competitions, David is the Grand Prize winner of the 2018 Chestnut International Amateur Piano Competition in Kiev, Ukraine, as well as finalist in the 2014 PianoBridges Amateur Piano Competition in St. Petersburg, Russia. In 2017, he was semifinalist in the WIPAC competition. He also performed many times for the New York Piano Society. David has studied with Eric Himy for the past 12 years. Now he works as Senior Software Engineer on US Navy messaging projects at the Washington Navy Yard. He has travelled to Russia and Ukraine many times and is writing a book on history of Crimea in the post war years of 1944-54. David also composes for solo piano and orchestra.

Anecdote: When I was performing Chopin's second scherzo in the Kiev competition, I felt myself becoming distracted. At that point, I remembered some advice that the famous pianist, Martha Argerich, attributed to her teacher, Fredrich Gulda. He said, "Concentrate or die!" So, I tried to concentrate harder on my playing and the inspirational words helped me to win the Grand Prize.

REPERTOIRE

PRELIMINARY ROUND

Domenico Scarlatti
Fryderyk Chopin

Sonata-Fugue in F major, K82, L30
Scherzo in B flat minor, Op. 31

SEMIFINAL ROUND

Sergei Taneyev
Franz Liszt

Prelude and Fugue in G sharp minor, Op. 29
Hungarian Rhapsody No. 14

FINAL ROUND

David Caldine-Sammy Fain
Ludwig van Beethoven

From Three Octatonic Etudes: No. 3, Secret Love
Sonata No. 31 in A flat major, Op. 110





Andrew Celentano studied electrical engineering at MIT and then worked at IBM for 13 years in various sales, marketing and management positions. He founded and ran an interactive agency for 12 years (SkyWorld.com), grew it to 27 people and sold it to his employees in 2007. He has consulted for several years after that and now works as a Senior Innovation Consultant for Boston Engineering.

Andrew studied violin and performed at Carnegie Hall with the MIT Symphony Orchestra under the direction of Brian Epstein. He was self-taught on the piano starting at age 13 and started taking serious classical lessons about 15 years ago. Andrew plays regularly at the BSO Café in Symphony Hall and also composes his own material, some of which is featured on his

CD “Wanderer in Dreamland”, (see www.ThoreauCD.com and www.celentano-music.com) Andrew and his wife, Hilary, have 3 children, and three grandchildren. He also is an active “Big Brother” in the “Big Brother” program where he teaches seminars in solving Rubik’s cube and memorizing large numbers. In his spare time, he is building a gravity engine.

Anecdote: Playing at the Boston Symphony restaurant is a wonderful privilege as we have such an appreciative audience. Sometimes people will come up and ask what pieces we have played that they enjoyed so much; and on occasion they are my own, in which case I’ll say: “Oh some composer named Celentano. “I never heard of him”, they’ll say. And then I’ll say, “That’s me!”

REPERTOIRE

PRELIMINARY ROUND

Gluck/Sgambati	Theme from Orpheus
Sergei Rachmaninoff	Prelude in G, Op 32 No 5
Claude Debussy	Reflets dans l’eau

SEMI-FINAL ROUND

Edvard Grieg	Notturmo Op 54 No 4 (from the Lyric Pieces)
Fryderyk Chopin	Nocturne in B-flat minor Op 9, No. 1
Franz Liszt	Valse Oubliée No. 1
Claude Debussy	La Fille aux cheveux de lin
Sergei Rachmaninoff	Polichinelle No.4 (Morceaux de Fantaisie, Op.3)

FINAL ROUND

Fryderyk Chopin	Nocturne No 20 in C-sharp minor, Op. Posth.
	Berceuse Op 57
Maurice Ravel	Pavane for a Dead Princess
Franz Liszt	Consolation No. 3
Andrew Celentano	Ode to Lajos Delej – A Holocaust Story





Dr. Ruth M. Corbin is a forensic psychologist and mediator living in Toronto Canada with her husband of 47 years. She received a Bachelors' Degree in mathematics at the University of Toronto, and Masters' and Ph.D. degrees in cognitive psychology from McGill University. Later in her career, she obtained an LL.M. from Osgoode Hall Law School where she continues to teach as an Adjunct Professor. In 2015 she was awarded a Doctor of Laws from Carleton University for career contributions to intellectual property and forensic evidence.

Among her corporate director roles, Ruth has served on the Board of Canada's Royal Conservatory of Music and remains an active supporter of its programs.

A proud mom of three talented kids, Ruth began studying piano after the age of 40, and accompanied her daughter in duets at Toronto-area festivals—leading to an invited performance at Kiwanis Festival's "Showcase of the Stars." She now sings endlessly to her one-year old grandson.

REPERTOIRE

PRELIMINARY ROUND

Johannes S. Bach
Claude Debussy
Isaac Albeniz Asturias

Partita in B flat major, BWV 825
La Fille aux Cheveux du Lin, from Preludes, Book 1
Asturias (Leyenda), Opus 232, No. 1

SEMI-FINAL ROUND

Johannes S. Bach
Claude Debussy

Robert Muczynski

Prelude and Fugue in C Major, BWV 846
The Little Shepherd, *Children's Corner*, L.113
Golliwog's Cake Walk, *Children's Corner*, L.113
Desperate Measures, Op. 48

FINAL ROUND

Franz Josef Haydn
Fryderyk Chopin
Franz Schubert
Herman Hupfeldt

Sonata No. 59 in E flat, Hob. XVI:49
Etude in C Sharp Minor, Opus 25, No. 7
Impromptu Opus 90, No. 1
As Time Goes By





Jeanne Backofen Craig began piano studies at the age of six and made her orchestral debut with the Cincinnati Symphony at the age of twelve. Jeanne holds a B.A. (Music) from Virginia Tech and a M.Ed. (General Elementary/Middle Education) from Marymount University. After college, she did not compete or perform for 25 years. Since 2016, Jeanne has been a semifinalist at the Cliburn Competition for Outstanding Amateurs and a prizewinner at WIPAC, Bradshaw & Bueno, and the PianoTexas Concerto Competition, where she performed with the Fort Worth Symphony Orchestra. She has appeared in recital at Carnegie’s Weill Recital Hall and the Gasteig in Munich, Germany. Jeanne works for Bedford County (VA) Public Schools as a member of the faculty of Forest

Middle School. Every day, she shares her love of music by directing the 8th Grade Show Choir and teaching Classical Music Appreciation to 6th and 7th graders. She is extremely grateful to her husband, three children, and her FMS colleagues and students for being so supportive as she pursues performance opportunities as an amateur pianist.

Anecdote: You are never too old to set another goal or dream a new dream. (C.S. Lewis)

REPERTOIRE

PRELIMINARY ROUND

Johann Sebastian Bach

French Suite in G major, BWV 816

Allemande, Courante, Sarabande, Gigue

Claude Debussy

Estampes

2. La soirée dans Grenade

3. Jardins sous la Pluie

SEMI-FINAL ROUND

Franz Joseph Haydn

Sonata in E-flat major, Hob. XVI:52

1. Allegro (Moderato)

2. Adagio

3. Finale: Presto

FINAL ROUND

Fanny Mendelssohn Hensel

Notturmo in G minor

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

Sonata in B-flat major, K. 333

1. Allegro

Fryderyk Chopin

Ballade No. 1 in G minor, Op. 23





Judy Darst has a degree in Piano Performance from the University of Colorado, Boulder, and taught piano for 42 years as a nationally accredited member of the Music Teachers National Association. She wanted to be a veterinarian, but women were discouraged in the days of yore. Presently, her life revolves around caring for four cats, a horse and a husband. She showed her horse in the Hunter Division (over fences). Judy has been participating in Amateur Piano Competitions for nine years and has met many wonderful people and grown musically, as well.

Anecdote: If at first you don't succeed.....

REPERTOIRE

PRELIMINARY ROUND

Franz Schubert
Fryderyk Chopin

Sergei Rachmaninoff

Enrique Granados

Scherzo fr. Sonata No. 10, B-flat Major
Prelude No. 9, E Major
Mazurka Op. 59, No. 2
Prelude Op. 32, No. 5

Spanish Dance No. 1, Minuetto

SEMI-FINAL ROUND

Franz Schubert
Johannes Brahms
Sergei Rachmaninoff
Enrique Granados
Serge Lancen

Andante fr. Sonata No. 3.
Intermezzo Op. 117, No. 1
Prelude Op. 32, No. 5
Mazurka fr. Scenas Romantic
Zweifache No. 1 (Memory of Schubert)

FINAL ROUND

Franz Schubert
Fryderyk Chopin
Franz Liszt
Sergei Rachmaninoff

Scherzo No. 2, F Major
Variation on Diabelli Waltz
Etude Op. 25, No. 1 (Harp)
Prelude No. 17, A-flat major
Consolation No. 5
Prelude Op. 23, No. 4, D Major





David Alan Doran retired from a position as Organist/Choirmaster of the Greek Orthodox Church of St. Nicholas in St. Louis, Missouri in August 2014. During his time in that position, he received the Athenagoras Award for excellence in Church Music from the Metropolis of Chicago.

A life-long avid pianist, Mr. Doran graduated from the University of Missouri Columbia with a Master of Music degree in Piano Performance in May 2017, where he was a student of Dr. Peter Miyamoto. He is currently studying with Alla Voskoboinikova, Director of Keyboard Studies at the University of Missouri-St. Louis.

REPERTOIRE

PRELIMINARY ROUND

Wolfgang A. Mozart

Sonata in D Major, K. 576

1. Allegro
2. Adagio
3. Allegretto

SEMI-FINAL ROUND

Franz Liszt

Au bord d'une source, S. 161/4

Claude Debussy

from *Années de Pèlerinage* Première Année

Estampes, L. 108

1. Pagodes
2. La Soirée dans Grenade
3. Jardins sous la pluie

FINAL ROUND

Ludwig van Beethoven

Sonata in D minor, Op. 31, No. 2 ("Tempest")

1. Largo - Allegro
2. Adagio
3. Allegretto





Vivienne Fleischer started playing piano when she was 3 years old. Growing up in an artistic and musical household, piano lessons were a must. Growing up, she attended Mannes College of Music Prep Division followed by The Juilliard School Prep Division. She earned a Bachelor of Music at Oberlin Conservatory in piano performance. She began to experience pain and fatigue when playing due to Repetitive Strain Injuries related to her piano playing. In fact, when she reported this to her professor at Juilliard, the response was “Great! No pain, no gain. You are developing muscles.” So, she continued to practice and perform until she couldn’t hold a cup of coffee. Thankfully she discovered the work of Dorothy Taubman and committed to retraining her piano technique. This also sparked a deep passion for helping others with injuries in the workplace. She co-founded her ergonomics

consulting company and has since helped tens of thousands of people recover from their work-related injuries.

After a 12-year hiatus at the piano, she resumed lessons in NYC with Taubman Master, Robert Durso and has since been performing and competing in International Amateur Piano competitions. She is very proud to be a 2time semi-finalist at the International Competition of Outstanding Amateurs in Paris in 2017 and 2019.

Anecdote: When I’m not practicing or running my business, I love to take spin classes, create doodles and short animations, write, green juice, discover new vegan recipes and spend time with my awesome family.

REPERTOIRE

PRELIMINARY ROUND

Pierre Sancan
Sergei Rachmaninoff
Sergei Rachmaninoff
Alexander Scriabin

Toccata
Etude Tableau Op 39, No 5, E-flat Minor
Prelude Op 32 No. 5, G Major
Etude Op 8, No 12, D-sharp minor

SEMI-FINAL ROUND

Moritz Moszkowski
Franz Liszt

Etude, Op. 72, No. 11
Après Une Lecture de Dante (Fantasia quasi Sonata)

FINAL ROUND

Robert Schumann

Etudes Symphoniques, Op 13





Michelle grew up in Overland Park, Kansas and is the third of seven children. She began playing piano at the age of five and has not stopped since. She received a Bachelor of Music and a Master of Music in piano performance from DePaul University and studied for a year at the Ecole Normale de Musique in Paris, France. Her teachers have included Andre Gorog, Michael Lewin, Gyorgy Sandor and Mary Sauer. She currently studies with Max Levinson in Boston and has recently participated in Ya-Fei Chuang's piano seminar at the New England Conservatory. Michele works as a nurse anesthetist in the Boston area. She received her nursing degrees from New York University and Columbia University. Michele owns three horses- two Arabians named Fire on Ice and Pistola Bey and a Thoroughbred cross named

Socrates and has competed in jumping and endurance riding with them.

Anecdote: Growing up in Kansas our family owned five donkeys amongst numerous other pets. Our donkey Pedro was broken to drive a cart. I worked as a horse carriage driver in Kansas City, Chicago and Central Park in New York City while in school. A horse carriage driver in NYC said to me, "If you don't make it as a horse carriage driver in NYC, you can always fall back on being a concert pianist." I attended the Cornell Farrier School in Ithaca, New York.

REPERTOIRE

PRELIMINARY ROUND

J.S. Bach (arr. Busoni)

Chaconne in D Minor

SEMI-FINAL ROUND

Edward Elgar
Sergei Rachmaninoff
Fryderyk Chopin
Claude Debussy

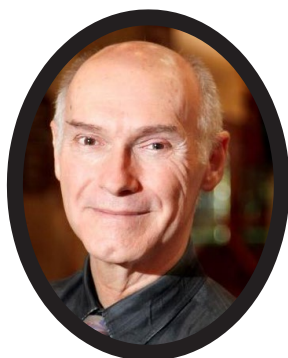
Nimrod, from the Enigma Variations, Op. 36, No. 9
Prelude in G Sharp Minor, Op. 32, No. 12
Ballade No. 1 in G Minor, Op. 23
L'isle Joyeuse

FINAL ROUND

Isaac Albeniz
Samuel Barber

El Puerto from Iberia Suite, Book 1
Sonata, Op. 26
Allegro energico
Allegro vivace e leggero
Adagio mesto
Fuga





Ron has been highly regarded in the Toronto area as an organ recitalist and accompanist, performing and recording with instrumentalists, vocalists and choral groups throughout Canada and the United Kingdom for over forty years. Recordings with the Choir of Yorkminster Park Church in 1991 and 1994 are still being broadcast regularly by Radio New Zealand.

In 2003, Ron returned to solo piano, performing in concerts and competitions in Canada and the US. He is a graduate of the Performance Program at the University of Toronto and a Fellow of the Royal Canadian College of Organists. Now retired as an organist and additionally as a financial consultant to the film and television industry, Ron spends a good deal of his time assisting charities and non-profits with fund-raising performances and recordings, as well as spending the occasional moment to write and perform his own music.

REPERTOIRE

PRELIMINARY ROUND

Ludwig van Beethoven

Sonata in A major, Op.2, No. 2

First movement – Allegro vivace

Sergei Prokofiev

Sonata No.6, Op. 82 - Fourth movement -Vivace

SEMI-FINAL ROUND

Johannes Brahms

Walzer, Op. 39

FINAL ROUND

Johann Sebastian Bach

French Suite No. 6 (BWV 817)

Fryderyk Chopin

Phantasie, Op. 49





Jeni Kong started playing the piano at the age of 5, and she immigrated to the United States at the age of 12 from South Korea. She received her undergraduate degree in Piano Performance from The Cleveland Institute of Music in Cleveland, OH and has performed as a soloist with numerous orchestras, including The Atlanta Symphony Orchestra, Naples Philharmonic, and Kansas City Symphony.

A few years after finishing her undergraduate degree in music, she decided to pursue a career in dentistry and went on to become a Board-certified Pediatric dentist. She is a proud owner of her own pediatric dental office in Georgia and her patients call her "Dr. Jeni".

In her spare time, she enjoys traveling and being outdoors with her wonderful husband and their 2 children, ages 10 and 8.

Anecdote: If I could practice the piano every day, I would be a much better pianist. But often-times I choose to spend that time being with husband and kids or needing to do work for the office. After all, I'm really "OK" not being able to play the Chopin double thirds etude.

PRELIMINARY ROUND

Johann S. Bach
Franz Schubert
Domenico Scarlatti

Partita No. 2. Movements: Sarabande, Rondo, Capriccio
Impromptu Op. 90 No. 4 in A flat major
Sonata in D major, L.465/K. 96

SEMI-FINAL ROUND

Spencer Hoffman
Fryderyk Chopin
Fryderyk Chopin

Mazurka No.1 in C major (Chopin Studies)
Mazurkas Op.24, No. 2, No. 4
Ballade No. 1, Op.23

FINAL ROUND

Franz List/Ferruccio Busoni
Claude Debussy
Felix Mendelssohn

Paganini Etude S.161 No. 3, *La Campanella*
Feux d'Artifice (Fireworks) Prelude
Variations Sérieuses, Op.54





Sayuri Kubota was born and raised in Tokyo, Japan. She began piano studies at the age of four and continued until she immigrated to Canada. She did not play piano for a while but felt something important was missing so resumed taking lessons about 12 years ago. Sayuri enjoys performing at her annual recital as well as the local music festival.

Anecdote: I look forward to meeting people playing piano for fun and being inspired by them.

REPERTOIRE

PRELIMINARY ROUND

Johann Sebastian Bach
Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

Partita No. 2 in C Minor: Sinfonia, Sarabande, Capriccio
Sonata in B Flat Major, K.333, 1st Movement

SEMI-FINAL ROUND

Edvard Grieg
Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky
Fryderyk Chopin

Sonata in E Minor, Op. 7, 1st Movement
October: Autumn Song in D Minor from the Seasons, Op. 37a
Ballade in F Minor, Op. 52

FINAL ROUND

Ludwig van Beethoven

Sonata in F Minor, Op. 57, *Appassionata*
Allegro assai
Andante con moto
Allegro, ma non troppo





David Lee asked his parents for piano lessons at age 12, and since then, his love for the instrument has only deepened. While pursuing his bachelor’s in computer science at Stanford University, he studied with Thomas Schultz. After an interlude that saw Mr. Lee receive his master’s degree in predictive analytics from Northwestern University, the software engineer resumed lessons in 2013 with Corey McVicar of the San Francisco Conservatory of Music. The lessons led to participation in the Cliburn International Amateur Piano Competition in 2016. Since then, he took on the additional job of raising twin children. He practices whenever he can. Luckily the kids enjoy everything from Bach to Boulez - even if an occasional phrase startles them a bit.

Anecdote: Music has been my life’s companion since immigrating to the U.S. Not speaking any English when I first arrived, I am fortunate to have discovered music and its power to communicate. The discovery will never cease as long as I remind myself to stay open. I would love to share this love with the twins someday.

REPERTOIRE

PRELIMINARY ROUND

Pierre Boulez
Claude Debussy
Franz Schubert

Douze Notations, selections
Bruyères (Mist or Heather)
Piano Sonata in A minor, D. 784
3rd Movement, Allegro vivace

SEMI-FINAL ROUND

Ignaz Paderewski
Spencer Huffman
Fryderyk Chopin
Franz Liszt

Mazurka in B-flat major, Op.9, No.4
Mazurka in A minor, from Chopin Studies
Barcarolle, Op.60
Transcendental Etude, No.10

FINAL ROUND

Heitor Villa-Lobos
Johann Sebastian Bach

Bacchianas Brasileiras no.4, 4. Dansa – Miudinho
Prelude in B minor, trans. Siloti
Gavotte in E major, trans. Rachmaninov
Chaconne in D minor, trans. Busoni





Jon Lee began his piano studies in Brookfield, Wisconsin, with Elaine Bliss and Donald Walker. His family later moved to Salt Lake City, Utah, where he studied under Gary Amano. He pursued a computer science degree at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, during which he studied piano performance under David Deveau. In addition to participating in master classes with Leon Fleisher, André-Michel Schub, and Russell Sherman, Jon has performed with the Utah Symphony and Boston Pops Orchestra.

Now residing in San Francisco, Jon continues his pursuit of music while working as a software engineering manager in the Bay Area. He participated in festivals PianoTexas and the St. Lawrence String Quartet Chamber Music Seminar, and received awards at the Boston International Piano Competition. Jon performs as part of the Alden Trio and continues his piano study with Yoshikazu Nagai.

Anecdote: By the time I moved to San Francisco from Boston, my piano playing lay dormant for almost a decade. I credit my renewed interest in music to a weekly classical music jam a friend told me about called Classical Revolution, which is still hosted at the Revolution Cafe in the Mission district. The community I met there led to the formation of the Alden Trio.

REPERTOIRE

PRELIMINARY ROUND

Domenico Scarlatti	Sonata in D Major, K. 435
Fryderyk Chopin	Sonata in D Minor, K. 9
	Scherzo No. 2 in B-flat Minor, Op. 31

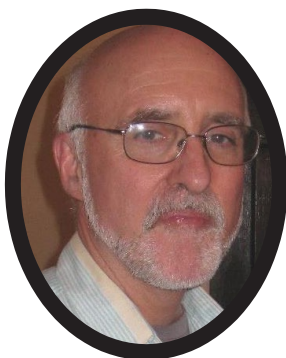
SEMI-FINAL ROUND

Alexander Scriabin	Prelude in B Major, Op. 16, No. 1
Sergei Prokofiev	Sonata No. 7 in B-flat Major, Op. 83
	Allegro inquieto
	Andante caloroso
	Precipitato

FINAL ROUND

Johann Sebastian Bach	Partita No. 1 in B-flat Major, BWV 825
	Prelude
	Allemande
	Courante
	Sarabande
	Minuet I & II
	Gigue
Franz Liszt	Mephisto Waltz





David Leehey is President of the Symphony of Oak Park & River Forest in Illinois. He performed the Brahms D minor Concerto in October 2001, Beethoven Choral Fantasy in April 2011 and the Dvořák Concerto in May 2015 with the Symphony. He also serves as its orchestral pianist and rehearsal/choral accompanist. He was a semifinalist in the 2001 and 2003 Boston amateur competitions and the 2009 and 2011 WIPAC competitions. He was a founding board member of Pianoforte Foundation in Chicago, serving as chair of the competition committee for the first Chicago amateur competition held in June 2010.

Anecdote: I came to the 2013 WIPAC but never competed as I had a bicycle accident a few hours before I was supposed to play the Chopin F minor Fantasy in the PRELIMINARY ROUND. After seven broken bones healed (with the help of two surgeries) I resumed playing again several months later. I still ride a bike but not the day of a competition.

REPERTOIRE

PRELIMINARY ROUND

Franz Liszt
Johannes Brahms

Harmonies du Soir
Rhapsody in E-flat Major, Op. 119, No. 4

SEMI-FINAL ROUND

Franz Schubert

Sonata in G Major, D. 894 (movts. 1 and 2)

FINAL ROUND

Franz Schubert
Fryderyk Chopin

Sonata in G Major, D. 894 (movts. 3 and 4)
Fantasy in F minor, Op. 49





Andre Leonard, an extremely versatile and accomplished musician, is the Director of Worship and Fine Arts at Shepherd Park Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in northwest Washington, D.C. Since taking on this role in 2014, his professionalism and passion for music has sparked renewed enthusiasm in not only the various church choirs and musicians, but also in the members of the congregation.

Andre graduated from the Berklee College of Music, as well as the Westminster Choir College, and has had many notable achievements throughout his professional music career. Following are examples of his most recent awards, accomplishments, and professional activities: 2017 - Gold Medal Recipient, Aloha International Piano Competition, Piano Instructor, Guitar Center, Member of the Washington Piano Society; 2016 - Finalist, Washington International Artist Piano Competition (Best Classical Period Award), Music Director, Icon Awards honoring Jesse Jackson and Cathy Hughes, Music Director, Off Broadway show "The Christians"; 2015 - Vocal Coach, Choral Ensemble, Andrea Bocelli Concert, Verizon Center. Also, Mr. Leonard was the Gold Medal Recipient at the Act-so National Competition for Music Composition for three years, consecutively.

REPERTOIRE

PRELIMINARY ROUND

Fryderyk Chopin	Prelude No. 15 in D-flat major, Op. 28
Ludwig van Beethoven	Sonata Op .2, No. 3 (1st movement)

SEMI-FINAL ROUND

Johann Sebastian Bach	Italian concerto Allegro – Andante – Presto
Sergei Rachmaninoff	Prelude in G minor, Op. 23, No. 5

FINAL ROUND

Franz Liszt	Liebesträume (Dream of Love)
Robert Schumann	Widmung (arr. Liszt)
Felix Mendelssohn	Variations sérieuses, Op. 54





Juliette Lu began studying the piano at the age of 7. She received her Bachelor of Arts in Mathematical Economics and Bachelor of Music in Piano Performance as a double-degree student from Oberlin College and Conservatory. After graduating college, Juliette worked as a research assistant at the Federal Reserve Board of Governors in Washington DC. She currently works as a senior analyst for a private economics consulting firm. Juliette has been a prizewinner in the Tuesday Morning Music Club Young Artist Competition, the Connecticut International Young Artist Competition, and the Bradshaw & Buono International Competition. She has participated and performed in summer music festivals such as the Brevard Music Festival, Casalmaggiore International Music Festival, and Salzburg International Music Festival.

REPERTOIRE

PRELIMINARY ROUND

Johann Sebastian Bach
Fryderyk Chopin

Prelude and Fugue in D major, BWV 850
Nocturne in C minor, Op. 48 No. 1
Etude Op. 25 no. 11 (Winter Wind)

SEMI-FINAL ROUND

Ludwig van Beethoven
Francis Poulenc

Sonata No. 26 in E flat Major, Op. 81a
(Les Adieux); 2nd and 3rd Movements
Bourree, au Pavillon d'Auvergne
Presto in B-Flat Major

FINAL ROUND

Joseph Haydn
Franz Liszt
Fryderyk Chopin

Sonata in D Major, Hob. XVI:37
Grandes etudes de Paganini, No. 3
(La Campanella)
Ballade in F minor No. 4 Op. 52





A native of rural Arkansas, I grew up within a community of music making. After completing a B.A. from Hendrix College, I acquired an M.M. from Memphis State University while teaching. I retired after completing 37 years in public school instruction, teaching general music, sixth grade science and achieving National Board Certification in math. Now sharing my time between Nevada and California, my interests include running on a racing team, participating in civic and church events as well as enjoying friends and family (including two grandchildren under age six.) I am pleased to share that my grandmother taught piano and voice in the Cherokee Female Seminary in the early 1900's and that I am a member of both the Delaware and Cherokee Nations.

Anecdote: Studying piano has brought me not only beautiful music but also beautiful friends and family.

REPERTOIRE

PRELIMINARY ROUND

Alexander Scriabine
Maurice Ravel

Prelude, Op. 11, No. 9, Andantino
Miroirs Suite, No. 4, Alborado del Gracioso

SEMI-FINAL ROUND

Ludwig van Beethoven

Fryderyk Chopin

Sonata No. 24, Op. 78
Adagio Cantabile/ Allegro ma non troppo/Vivace
Berceuse, Op. 57

FINAL ROUND

Heitor Villa- Lobos
Maurice Ravel
Ludwig van Beethoven

Poeme Singelo
Miroirs Suite, No. 3, un Barque sur l'ocean
Sonata No. 23, Op. 57, 3rd Movement
Allegro ma non troppo/ Presto





Reiko Osawa received a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Composition from the Osaka College of Music in Osaka, Japan. She has been composing contemporary music of various instrumental and vocal combinations since graduate school. While living in San Jose, California, from 2001 to 2009, she took piano performance class at De Anza College, and she played in masterclasses at the Piano Texas International Academy and Festival on several occasions. She has participated in various amateur piano competitions in Texas, Colorado, Boston, Washington and Japan. Now Reiko lives in Hyogo, Japan, where she plays piano duets with friends and enjoys swimming every day.

Anecdote: Everything in our lives is meaningful.

REPERTOIRE

PRELIMINARY ROUND

Franz Joseph Haydn

Sonata, Hob.XVI-34 in E minor

Presto

Adagio

Vivace molto

Sergei Prokofiev

Sarcasmes, Op.17 -1,4,5

SEMI-FINAL ROUND

Johann Sebastian Bach

Tocatta in C minor, BWV 911

Bela Bartok

Suite Op.14

FINAL ROUND

Dimitri Kabalevsky

Sonata No.2, Op.45 in E Flat Major

Allegro moderato -Festivamente

Andante sostenuto

Presto assai





Kathleen Penny is a senior partner at the Canadian business law firm of Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP with a full-time practice in corporate income tax law. Kathleen learned piano as a child, sang in choirs and played violin in her school orchestra. After a lengthy gap in her musical education to pursue university degrees in Chemical Physics and in Law, have two children and build her law practice, she resumed serious piano study in 1998. Kathleen earned her diploma in Piano Performance (ARCT) from the Royal Conservatory of Music in 2005 and gave her first full-length solo recital in 2006. She has been a semi-finalist at Boston amateur piano competitions and a finalist and prize winner at Washington piano artist competitions and Toronto musical festivals. Kathleen organizes and performs in charity and community concerts. She is also active in the Toronto amateur piano community as the leader of the “Ivory League”.

Anecdote: I am the organizer of an amateur piano performance group in Toronto that is now named “the Ivory League”. After mentioning this name at one of my concerts, I got a strange look from one of the audience members. It turns out that their first impression was that “the Ivory League” was some sort of white supremacist organization, but I was able to reassure them that everyone is welcome to come to our piano meetings and “tickle the ivories”.

REPERTOIRE

PRELIMINARY ROUND

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart	Variations on Salve tu, Domine, K398
Felix Mendelssohn/Franz Liszt	On Wings of Song
Robert Schumann/Franz Liszt	Widmung (Dedication)

SEMI-FINAL ROUND

Ludwig van Beethoven	Sonata, Op. 57 (<i>Appassionata</i>) Allegro assai Andante con moto Allegro ma non troppo – Presto
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FINAL ROUND

Frederic Chopin	Ballade No. 1 in G Minor, Op. 23 Scherzo No. 1 in B Minor, Op. 20
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Carl Rosser has just retired from his job at Central Washington University, where for almost thirty years he taught international students the English language. He holds a Master's degree in teaching ESL from the University of Michigan and a Ph.D. in literature from the University of Iowa.

As for the piano, he began taking lessons in second grade and has been playing ever since. He enjoys giving recitals for family and friends every year, and--bitten by the competition bug--he has taken part in numerous amateur piano competitions over the years.

Anecdote: Carl's mother used to enjoy telling the following story about him as a child. After he had been taking lessons for only about two years, she came to the conclusion that she had not given birth to a little Mozart, so she said to him, "Carl, maybe you don't need to take piano lessons anymore. Would you like to discontinue your lessons?" Little Carl looked up at his mother with great indignation and declared, "When I want to quit taking piano, I will let you know!"

REPERTOIRE

PRELIMINARY ROUND

Fryderyk Chopin
Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

Nocturne, Op. 62, No. 1
Sonata in F major, K. 332, (1st movement)

SEMI-FINAL ROUND

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart
Felix Mendelssohn

Rondo in D major, K. 485
Songs Without Words, Op. 85, No.4
Songs Without Words, Op.38, No. 6 ("Duetto")
Grande Valse Brillante in A-flat Major, Op.34, No. 1

Fryderyk Chopin

FINAL ROUND

Fryderyk Chopin
Johannes Brahms
Scott Joplin
Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

Waltz in C-sharp minor, Op. 64, No.2
Intermezzo in E-flat major, Op.117, No. 1
Solace: a Mexican Serenade
Rondo in A minor, K. 511





Robin Stephenson is a researcher in mathematics. He did all of his studies in Paris and obtained a PhD in 2014. Since then, he has held post-doctoral research positions in Zürich and Shanghai, and is currently at the University of Oxford, working on scaling limits of random graphs.

A pupil of the French master Olivier Cazal, Robin is passionate about sharing the joy of music in all of its forms. Not only does he regularly play in solo recitals and join amateur competitions, leading notably to first prizes in Paris (2011) and St. Petersburg (2013), he also revels in playing with others. He notably has his own chamber group “Trio Philéa,” accompanies singers such as Julie Pelletier and Judith Sturza, and also plays as a soloist with orchestras.

Anecdote: On occasion, Robin will play live on his Youtube channel. A fun way of sharing music around the world!

REPERTOIRE

PRELIMINARY ROUND

Ignacy Jan Paderewski	Intermezzo Pollaco, Op.14 No.5
Nikolai Kapustin	Impromptu, Op.66 No.2
Maurice Ravel	Ondine

SEMI-FINAL ROUND

Nikolai Kapustin	Prelude and Fugue in C Major, Op 82, No. 1 Etude, Op. 40, No. 3, “Toccatina”
Ludwig van Beethoven	32 Variations in C Minor, Woo.80

SEMI-FINAL ROUND

Fryderyk Chopin	Sonata No. 3, Op. 58
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Max Sung is a physician who also enjoys practicing on the piano. Prior to his medical career, he studied piano with Helmut Roloff at the Hochschule fuer Musik in Berlin for one year on a German Academic Exchange Fellowship. At Harvard University, he took courses in chamber music with Leon Kirchner, Earl Kim and Patricia Zander. His interest in solo piano performance was rekindled after a chance meeting with Pedro Carbone, with whom he studied for a year.

Anecdote: A man of few words. “The more he saw, the less he spoke. The less he spoke, the more he heard.”

REPERTOIRE

PRELIMINARY ROUND

Johann S. Bach

Sarabande, Rondeau & Capriccio
from Partita No. 2 in C minor

Claude Debussy
Fryderyk Chopin

Cloches a travers les feuilles, from Images II
Ballade in A flat major, Op. 47

SEMI-FINAL ROUND

Wolfgang A. Mozart

Sonata in F, K. 332
Allegro – Adagio - Allegro assai

FINAL ROUND

Ludwig Van Beethoven

Sonata in F minor, Op. 57, “Appassionata”
Allegro assai
Andante con moto
Allegro ma non troppo





Utako Tanigawa, born in Japan, started playing the piano at the age of three, however, she gave up playing in ten years. In Japan, she owned a private school and a restaurant. She later came to the U.S. and earned additional degrees in Mathematics, Computer Science, Software Engineering, Management Science and Engineering, and a Ph.D. in Computer Information Systems. Dr. Tanigawa has been engaged in executive positions in global corporations for more than three decades, while simultaneously serving as an academic lecturer and researcher at multiple universities such as Stanford, Boston, Chicago, and Colorado University.

Several years ago, her life had a dramatic turn due to a life-threatening illness. Although it severely damaged her body, her love of music returned and provided a tangible lifeline. Today music continues to play a key solace and therapeutic role as her recovery continues.

She has been a contestant at several competitions including Van Cliburn Outstanding Amateur, Chopin Competition for Amateur Pianists in Warsaw, Poland, and Washington International Piano Arts Council. She is honored to be selected as a finalist or awarded at several competitions.

After moving to Georgia, she founded a non-profit organization, Georgia Musicale Group (GMG) in 2016 to share the joy of classical music with others. The members, who are from various backgrounds, are pianists, vocalists, and several instrumentalists. Our mission is to increase appreciation of classical music through listening and performing opportunities. We are kindred spirits who support and encourage each other.

Anecdote: I'm so grateful and happy to have reconnected with the joy of music and to have made so many wonderful music friends around the world. This would not have happened if my illness hadn't given me the opportunity to rediscover my love of music. Ironic...

REPERTOIRE

PRELIMINARY ROUND

Jean-Phillipe Rameau
Joseph Haydn
Fryderyk Chopin

Sarabande from Nouvelles Suites
Sonata Hob:xvi 50; 1st movement
Nocturne Op. 27, No. 2

SEMI-FINAL ROUND

Domenico Scarlatti
Joseph Haydn
Robert Schumann-Franz Liszt

Sonata L.415/K.119
Sonata Hob:xvi 46
Widmung

FINAL ROUND

Ludwig Van Beethoven

Sonata Op. 53 Waldstein; 1st movement

Fryderyk Chopin

Nocturne Op. 55 No.2 E-flat major
Scherzo No. 2 Op. 31 B-flat minor





Wei Ling Wang studied piano privately since grade school. After graduating from Rice University with a degree in computer science, Wei Ling has been building computer networks for telecommunication companies to transport voice, data and video for consumers and corporations. In addition to music, Wei Ling enjoys outdoor activities such as canyoneering in Zion National Park, zip lining through West Maui Mountain with a view of the Pacific coastline, and hiking in Majorca, Spain where Chopin composed the “Raindrop” prelude.

Anecdote: World renowned cellist, Yo Yo Ma, recently discussed how to approach performances to a group of students. He asked the students to think of performing as if you are the host at a party. It’s the host’s job to make the guests feel special. To the audience, “Welcome to the party! I’ll do my best to make everyone feel special!”

REPERTOIRE

PRELIMINARY ROUND

Domenico Scarlatti
Fryderyk Chopin
Tan Dun

Sonata in D Minor K. 213
Nocturne in B-Flat Minor Op. 9 No. 1
Eight Memories in Watercolors
No. 3 Herdboy’s Song
No. 8 Sunrain

SEMI-FINAL ROUND

Fryderyk Chopin
Federico Mompou
Sergei Rachmaninoff

Waltz in A Minor Op. Posthumous
Paisajes: El Lago (Landscapes: The Lake)
Morceaux de fantaisie, Op. 3
No. 1 Elegie
No. 4 Polichinelle

FINAL ROUND

Arvo Part
Fryderyk Chopin

Für Alina
Polonaise in G-Flat Major Op. Posthumous
Mazurka in A Minor Op. 17 No. 4
Ballade Op. 47 in A-Flat Major





Washington International
Piano Arts
Council

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Above listed amounts stand by themselves and benefits are not related to the Special Awards being offered at the competition.



Notes on the Piano Bench



SPECIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

"Music gives a soul to the universe, Wings to the mind, Flight to the imagination and Life to everything."
— Plato

Welcome to the Wonderful World of WIPAC and Music!

Washington International Piano Artists Competition is the longest running annual competition for non-professional piano artists in the USA. Second, only to the longest running competition of its kind, the granddaddy of them all, *Le Concours des Grands Amateurs de Piano*, in Paris, France. The difference between us is that WIPAC accepts pianists 31 years and older, whereas the French start at 18.

For 17 years, WIPAC always enjoys a diplomatic cooperation but this year we are going solo. We extend sincere gratitude to H.E. the Ambassador of Kazakhstan and lovely wife Danara for hosting WIPAC's Winter Interlude Concert in April and the Ambassadors of Romania, Bulgaria and Argentina.

To our gracious Honorary Board Members and supporters, we couldn't do it without your generous support of WIPAC!

This year's competition is co-chaired by two dedicated members of WIPAC, both long-time supporters of WIPAC, Judith Ramage and John Dassoulas. To our double agent Jean Wigham, chairing the hospitality and as

WIPAC Board Member, thank you. Also, thanks to Jerome Barry, member of WIPAC Artistic Advisory Council and Executive Director of Embassy Series, who will be doing us the honor of serving as Master Ceremonies at the Final Round. Big thanks to our donors of Champagne for the Three days of Receptions, Nina Un and Patrick Juergensen, The Juergensen Group of Merrill Lynch. To complete the set-up, Flowers for the Competition were donated by Portia Davidson.

The success of every event belongs to the talent and the dedication of our staff and volunteers! To the following individuals: Stage Dad, Keng Seong Sim, Sunday Hosts Grace and Dan Sunihiro, Saturday Hostess, Nuria Planas, and Public Relations and Editor, Danielle Lucca, our gratitude.

Below listed are donors and sponsors of SPECIAL AWARDS and various events, who share our passion for music with their generous contributions, without whom this annual competition would have not been possible.

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Lola C. Reinsch

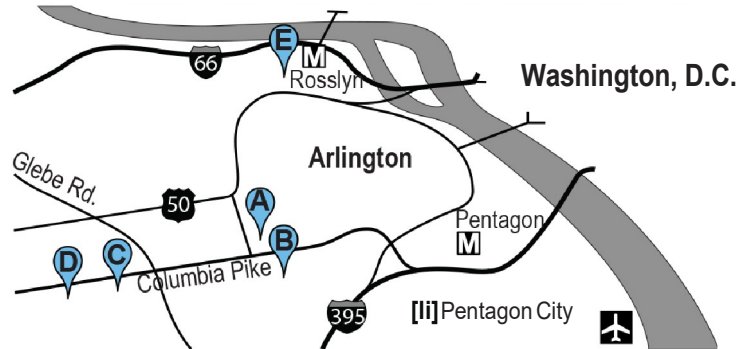
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