

Presidents Report on Woodbridge Music Club for October 20, 2023, VFMC Meeting:

It is early in our 2023-2024 season, but the Woodbridge Music Club has already sponsored three extraordinarily successful events:

On September 10, twelve students taught three of our teachers presented a wonderful student piano recital for the Arts Alive Festival, which is an annual event held at the Hylton Center for the Performing Arts. The students gave wonderful performances and the audience applauded enthusiastically.

On September 30, the Woodbridge Music club sponsored two events featuring music by Mark Hayes. The first event was a choir workshop. The Saint Paul UMC Chancel Choir, the New Dominion Choraliers, and the Franconia UMC Chancel Choir each presented works composed by or arranged by Mark Hayes, and Mark commented following each choir's performance on each choir's interpretation, dynamics, diction, etc. It was a fun and very educational experience.

Also on September 30, following a brief "intermission," Mark Hays presented a piano concert in which he performed several of his arrangements and compositions. Three pieces on the program were for cello and piano. Local Woodbridge Virginia native, virtuoso cellist Roman-Olivier Gray, performed the cello part beautifully. Programs for both the choir workshop and the concert are attached.

Our next event will be our November 18 student recitals. Because we normally have approximately one hundred students participating, we have three separate forty-five-minute recitals, with approximately one-third of our student participants in each.

For the November 18 recitals, duet (and trio) performances are encouraged, but solo performances are also welcome.

On Friday, December 8, our club will meet at the home of Paul and Elaine Brady for our annual Christmas potluck dinner and party. This is always a very enjoyable event.

On January, Woodbridge Music Club member Faith Zuniga will present a solo piano concert. She is an exceptionally fine pianist and teacher, and we are looking forward to her performance.

I will conclude by mentioning that our club meets monthly on Zoom. The meetings have proven to be very productive, fun, and popular with our members. They provide a less formal and more convenient way to conduct and discuss the business of our club. (I am attaching a “calendar of events,” which contains additional details on events planned for 2024.)

Submitted by Dr. Robert Vernon Shuffett
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