

## Franz List, 200 Year Celebration



There were many extremely good programs this month. Let me tell you why I chose this one. The music of Franz Liszt.

This year is the anniversary of his birth. Liszt was a Hungarian composer and conductor and is thought to be one of the best pianists ever. His compositions are some of the most difficult pieces to play. Some of these were played during this concert.

While many in this young generation are focused on Lady Gaga, or singing along with Justin Bieber, there are those who are dead serious about complex classical music, including Liszt's.

It seems that since the Music College and Cearte Art Center arrived, the interest in classical music has really grown. Two of the young piano virtuosos from the college are Ivanna Gutierrez Garcia and her brother

Omar Salvador Gutierrez. In part, their focus on Liszt led to this series of concerts.

Ivanna and Omar have been busy playing in concerts, on radio, on television and in piano competitions. Omar won a state piano prize against stiff competition.

The Russian Ambassador to Mexico, Dr. Igor Sodorov spoke about their passion for classical music and how well they work together. They put their love and strength into the music and support one another. The Ambassador commented that he had never seen a brother and sister work so well together, and he complemented them, saying they did a good job.

This was the Ambassador's first visit ever to Ensenada. He attended the concert and afterward spoke to the audience saying how pleased he was to be here. He congratulated the pianists and their teachers, both highly regarded in Russia, Dr. Evgeny Korolkow and Ella Korobchenko. He seemed to run out of words if not enthusiasm. He said the most important thing in our lives is to support the best of our culture. "Culture unites us," he said, and this must be seen as a sacred responsibility.



As a musician and pianist I could not agree more. By Dave Uranga, music teacher at Art Beat, and Eco Tour Guide.