



Maryland State Music Teachers Association



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July 2012

From the President...



It is amazing how quickly this year has passed! By the time you get this newsletter, I hope your teaching is slowing down a bit and you are finding the time to relax.

We had a productive and prosperous year with record numbers of students participating in many events. Many thanks to all

the chairs who spent countless hours preparing and running the events this year! We are also truly blessed to have hard-working board members who are always looking out for our interests. I had a lot to learn (and I am still learning) as your president and I really appreciate everyone's support that made my first year enjoyable.

I would also like to thank our outgoing Vice President of Membership, Annie Hou, for her service and welcome our new Vice President of Membership, Ann McCandliss. She is not new to our board; as you may remember, she was a successful Conference Chair before she passed the torch to Carol Wolfe-Ralph and me. She is currently serving as a chair of the MTNA Eastern Division Junior Competition. Ann is extremely organized and just a really nice person to work with. We are already talking about how we can boost our membership for the next few years. I am very excited to be working with her.

Lastly, we have a conference date! It will be January 12th and 13th, 2013 at the University of Maryland, Collage Park. Please mark your calendar as we are planning to bring an exciting conference to you.

Have a nice summer!

Junko Takahashi

NEWS FROM THE BOARD

Eighteen board members, including Randy Reade, attended our last board meeting of the year on Monday, June 11.

Rules for Dispute Resolution: Randy Reade went over these rules, which have been accepted by the Washington Music Teachers Association to protect event chairs. If there is a dispute, it must be brought to the chair's attention before the judges begin their final deliberations, or the dispute will be waived. The rules will be available online, included in the Student Activities Handbook, referenced on entry forms and added to the next newsletter. There will be a place for teachers to sign on entry forms that they and the parents have read, understood and agreed to these rules. It was moved, seconded, and passed (msp) to add these rules to the By-Laws.



MSMTA Board members, Hyun Park, Yoon Huh and Bok Hwa Kim, relaxing after a year of hard work!

Judges' Certification Form: This will be provided to all judges prior to the competition, and will be available online, included in the Student Activities Handbook, referenced on entry forms and added to the next newsletter. It was msp that chairs of all events provide the Judges' Certification form to all judges prior to the competitions and that the judges sign a statement at the end of the results sheet that they have read, understood and agreed with the information on the Judges' Certification form.

Junko Takahashi, President

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2013 MSMTA CONFERENCE

It is not too early to start thinking about next year's MSMTA Conference which will be held January 12 and 13, 2013! Please send any ideas you might have concerning clinicians, workshops, displays, etc. to Junko Takahashi. Any input would be much appreciated. The following article is a compilation of Barbara Stumpf's impressions of the first day of the 2012 MSMTA Conference. It is a great summary!

MSMTA CONFERENCE 2012 – NOTES ON DAY ONE

The last time I attended an MSMTA conference was before going off to seminary in the 90s. Big changes have occurred in our profession since then: advances in pedagogy, better understanding of technical development, greater use of technology. Judging from the small sample of young musicians highlighted in today's master classes, students are playing better than ever, too — more musically, with greater ease, and best of all — with apparent personal "ownership" of their pieces. Enjoyment was evident among the young players, and it was infectious. From the start, I expected to learn a lot from the hard work of my colleagues and their students — and I was not disappointed!

RANDALL ("RANDY") FABER began the day with a warm, student-centered welcome, taking care to explain what a master class is ("a place where we hear you play and you hear us work together"), which stressed the collaborative nature of the occasion. He was an engaged and engaging teacher, with an on-the-move style that enabled many repetitions and elaborations of his teaching points.

Teachers are always on the lookout for new ways to be more verbally effective. Faber supplied a rich vocabulary of imagery, especially words for conveying the tactile aspect of playing:

To help Julia A. with her cantabile RH — drape fingers/weight over the keys; use arm weight to bring key to point of release; mold fingers into the phrase;
(For pedaling a whole phrase over a single bass note) – absorb
(Nocturne, Op. 9, no. 2 – Chopin)

To help Nicolas with his staccatos — pop up and off key; make an arc;
Sparkle at the top (shape phrase to the top – ping the top)
(Fluttering Leaves – Koelling)

To help Maggie achieve more variety and expressiveness — "Turn melody into color when melody has already been established – will surprise audience." Mentioned same principle with Julia A.: sometimes it is effective to "hide" emotion, i.e., to play pp when a melody returns, so audience must lean forward to hear. The intimacy has great power.
(Fountain in the Rain – Gillock)

To help Julia L. hear Bartok's dissonances — Spice tones, notes rubbing together. Bartok is often crisp and gritty. He takes off-the-rack chords and adds extra notes for color, for a contemporary edge.
(Rondo No. 1 on Folk Tunes – Bartok)

To help Philip project the melody — put metal into certain tones, not just "wood and felt."
(Nocturne, Op. Posth. – Chopin)

Some recurring themes:

GESTURE — This was an important part of his approach: "Rhythm and gesture in our muscles and sound in our ears." "Gesture" is coordinated/integrated movement of torso, arm, wrist, and fingers, a large movement that "absorbs" smaller muscle-

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movements in one impulse. Feel and sound work together. E.g., rebound in rotation, scooping several scale notes in one impulse.

DYNAMICS — not a fixed number of decibels, but always relative to hall, piano, context of piece and to other notes being played at same time.

RUBATO — a “big reach” [wide interval – an expressive moment] – take time to get there. Rolled chord, time expands, where does beat actually start?

Have patience – stay in the moment.

Sometimes a gesture will include a lift or a drop, producing a “natural rubato.”

REPEATED NOTES – which do we go towards and which do we fall away from?

(Personal note: It has taken me a lot of trial and error, reading, listening, and watching to undo the tension-filled approaches of conservatory years. Today’s students are at a great advantage – led away from “finger power” methods to ones that emphasize coordinated movements. Efficient from the start!)

TONY CARAMIA

“Improvisation is too good to leave to chance.” Paul Simon

“I’ll play it first and tell you what it is later.” Miles Davis

“It’s taken me all my life to learn what not to play.” Dizzy Gillespie

“Life is a lot like jazz, it’s best when you improvise.” George Gershwin

Caramia is laid back and full of wry, sly good humor. He recommended a number of web sites a teacher can enter and “never be heard from again” (my words). His faves:

www.allmusic.com (his favorite for teachers)

www.jazzstandards.com (his personal favorite)

Others:

www.claviercompanion.com (See spring 2007 article)

www.allaboutjazz.com

www.last.fm/tag/jazzpiano

www.jazzbooks.com (source of written material)

www.npr.org/music/genres/jazz-blues

www.youtube.com (most clips not helpful, small % very good)

Beginning jazz pianist roughly equivalent to intermediate level classical piano.

Most of his talk spun out around participants’ “aural dictation” (copycatting) of 5-finger melody from jazz textbook (with recorded combo accompaniment). Lots of fun.

Check out:

How to Play Jazz and Improvise, Volume 1 by Jamey Aebersold; www.jazzbooks.com

Jazz from Scratch: Level I by Charles Beale; distr. Hal Leonard

Jazz Piano – Level I, The Complete Method – Hal Leonard

TC concentrated on SWING STYLE, where “Rhythm trumps everything.” Note: in swing, an offbeat note/chord occurring before a rest is ACCENTED. Bup—ba-DUP!

No such thing as “oops” in jazz (however, some notes are more “correct” than others!)

I especially liked his parting assurance: “*Salvation is but a half-step away.*” (!)

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THOMAS MASTROIANNI

Mastroianni began with concepts, using more verbiage and less repetition than Faber, but this had the advantage of giving us some large thoughts to ponder afterwards (e.g., see Ravel remarks, below). He had a good-natured, hearty manner and emphasized contingent nature of his comments, i.e., use if helpful, if not, “let them go.”

To Ian: listen for variety of sound. CAREFUL! – beware of introducing “noise” in your tone (i.e., slapping keys – mechanical noise)

“See a note on the page and press a key – you’re merely a ‘translator.’ See a note and play how it makes you feel – you’ve become an ‘interpreter.’”

(Sonatina Op. 13, No. 1, Mvt. I – Kabalevsky)

To Joshua: *Liebestraum* – a “love dream” therefore, we don’t want it to be over too soon! (laughter) TM praised Joshua for his “patience” with the piece, his willingness to “be in the moment.” However, there is danger here. TM thought tempo was a tad slow; melody lost cohesion. Introduced idea of “decay” of tone – matching successive tones to decay point of previous tone.

SHAPING – Melody always has a *focal point* (a “place where you look,” also, “a place where energy comes from”) A recurring point in TM’s observations with all the students.

The FIORITUE – play with “vigging” fingers (Horowitz’s pronunciation of “wiggling”), “fluttering,” (Faber used the word “twitching”). Also, don’t chop ascending line into little two-note groups. Should be played close to keys, like “smoke rising.”

(Liebestraum – Liszt)

To Tim: I found Mastroianni’s comments on the Ravel (*Jeux d’eau*) especially inspiring. He took great pains to help Tim move away from his Romantically-inclined performance to something more characteristically French. Away from “spurts” and “squirts” (sudden crescendos) and a too-fast tempo to what TM stunningly described as the “boredom of mist.” (“Lower energy gives more space for imagining.” TM introduced the concepts of ennui (boredom, blasé-ness) and sans souci (care-lessness), saying that there is a “mist over a lot of French art, a mist over reality.” On page 2 of “Jeux” (mm. 15ff.) there is a pentatonic passage that TM likened to a “Zen experience of water.” It should be mesmerizing, present a different mode of being. [BLS note: I understood him to say that French hyper-rationality is more akin to Eastern detachment than to European emphasis on the self. The aesthetic/ethos is “less willful,” even “mystical.”] On the thirty-second notes: make the water “atomize” (spray).

CHROMATIC SCALES – Practical advice: to avoid “lumpy fingering,” avoid putting thumb on every white key. There are many ways to divide 12 keys into handfuls.

RELATED BOOKS: Paul Roberts on Debussy.
(*Jeux d’eau* – Ravel)

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picture go to: Allenorgan.com; -products;
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Cagauthier@comcast.net**

THANKS to Joanna Greenwood. (She and I traveled to the conference together.) Joanna, thank you for driving and for your insightful conversation along the way. The collegiality and “comparing of notes” was one of the pleasures of a fantastic day. Though we missed hearing LORI MCCARTHY’S workshop on technology in the studio, we will be looking for ways to catch up with what she had to say. And to President Junko Takahashi and other MSMTA officers, and to the teachers who prepared our young performers – a big THANK YOU for a fabulous event.

I hope this has given you a taste of Day One.

Best to all,

Barbara Stumpf

STUDENT ACTIVITIES

MSMTA ELEMENTARY DISTINGUISHED MUSIC ACHIEVEMENT AWARD



The new Elementary DMA award has proven to be very popular with our hard-working grade school students. In addition to the 21 students who received their awards in May, we have now received the names of 19 more winners!

Congratulations to the following students and their teachers:

- Matthew Bloom**, student of Constance Fischel
Lihua Mo Hunter, student of Li-Ly Chang
Lily Tahmassebi, student of Junko Takahashi
Khiem Doan, Bridgette Kim, Catalina Lennon, Sunaya Reddy, students of Debbie Bondhus
Caryn Law, student of Judy Dalton
Jessica Bu and Carol Wang, students of Dr. Hui-Yen Chang
Henry Layton, student of Carole Gauthier
Fjordia Akhtar, Susan Baek, students of Bok Hwa Kim
Joseph Wang, Joshua Liu, Thomas Luo, students of David Kuperstein
Bethany Kuo, student of Dr. Carol Wolfe-Ralph
Christian Kellaher, student of Edwina Hunter
Carissa Wei, student of Luba Turkevich

Note for those teachers who would like a student to receive this award: please send only the paperwork required to qualify for the award. Anything additional is not needed.

Claudette Horwitz, Chair

2012 MSMTA THEORY HONORS AWARDS

MSMTA congratulates the students and teachers who have received the 2012 MSMTA Theory Award. Ninety-one students from the studios of Bonnie Pausic, Irina Dvoynov, Susan Smith, Shisa Suskey, Constance Fischel, Carol Edison, Svetlana Volkova, Olga Kuperstein, Hyun Sook Kim, Janet S. Berg, Carole Gauthier, Jamie Pasho, Colleen Craven, Dmitri Nazarenko, Deborah Brown, Betty Guenther, Yahling Yeh, Faye Bonner, Claudette Horwitz, Lisa Bussing, Christopher W. Hall, Patricia Blanchard, Alla Merport, Susan Ward,

Hyun Park, Suzanne Hi Hon, Anne Hsueh Chen, Gary Dinn, Yevgeniya Oleshkevich, Sima Elkis, Jeanne Wernly, Ruth Peng, David Holmes, Jeannine Case, Katya Merchant, Deborah W. Bondhus, Mary Stevens, Yie-Chien Tsau, Donna Koh, Hui-Yen Chang, Jae Han, and Larissa O'Malley received the award.

Congratulations to the student recipients: Kelly Ross, Mallika Jai, Shannon Demehri, Sharlene Demehri, Stewart Mitchell, Shakira Dineshkumar, Olivia Rossi, Amanda Rossi, Josephina Oh, Alina Operchuck, Lena Sharesky, Elise McGinnis, Thorin Erb, Helena Hanson, Benjamin Moffat, Amanda Rashford, William Chen, Elleyana Simmons, Seaenna Yang, Jeremy Du, Luke Choi, Rebecca Shaw, Josh Poggioli, Alex Paluzzi, Ethan Hsiao, Varun Vivekanandan, Varsha Vivekanandan, Jada Petty, Noah Lincke, Grace Shields, Heather Huo, Connie Chen, Sophia Wang, Rhia Soni, Justin Zhang, Selena Xiao, Siddharth Teneja, Jason Cao, Tejas Gopal, David Fang, Paul Elnallal, Lauren Matcha, Caroline McWithey, Alice Wei, Mina Sun, Andrew Huang, Tracy Howse, Cullen Taylor, Joseph Choi, Kimberly Parr, Daniel Cheng, Colleen Saunders, Leah McLean, Catherine Chen, Ethan Kim, Madison Oehler, Mary Yu, Crystal Li, Justin Hung, Barbara Kim, Allison Lu, Ashley Hsu, Aaron M. K. Abshire, Benjamin A. Abshire, Danielle F. Garcia, Matisse A. Gilmore, Monet C. Gilmore, Brendan W. Harper, William R. Hogans V, Joseph M. Manual, Anthony R. Reambonanza, Nathan B. Yalung, Jenny Luo, Dylan Chao, Christopher Lee, Grace Cheung, Markia Yang, Emily Zhang, Cameron Falby, Joshua Sharo, Liesl McClintock, Tien Doan, Natalie Mroz, Sean Li, Samantha Chu, Jessica Yao, Jocelyn Yao, Lindsay Hill, Ann Marie Nolan, Helen Hawver, and Emily Hawver.

Special congratulations to students from the studios of Olga Kuperstein, Svetlana Volkova, Yevgeniya Oleshkevich, and Hui-Yen Chang who received the 2012 Distinguished Theory Award for successfully fulfilling the requirements of passing ten levels a with a score of 90 percent or higher, or passing Level 12 with a score of 90 percent or higher. Congratulations to the following students who earned the Distinguished Theory Award this year: Jamei Wang, Joshua Czerwicz, Christopher Wong, and Joyce Yang. In addition, one student from the studio of Deborah Brown who earned the Distinguished Theory Award last year, Manesha Ramanathan scored over 90 percent on both Levels 11 and 12 this year. It takes special dedication and perseverance to get through such a demanding course of study and again, MSMTA congratulates all the students and their teachers for achievement of these honors.

Lori McCarthy, Chair

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SCHOLARSHIP FOR PERFORMANCE AWARD WINNERS

Congratulations to the following 2011-2012 MSMTA Scholarship for Performance winners and their teachers.

MTA Greater Baltimore:

Showe Liou, student of Christopher Hall

MTA Bowie:

Nolan King, student of Stephen Gibson

Carroll County MTA:

Aaron Grand, student of David Kreider

MTA of Charles County:

Christina Smith, student of Patricia Blanchard

Greater Columbia MTA:

Michelle Kim, student of Bok Hwa Kim

Frederick County MTA:

Noah Strand, student of Carole Kriewaldt

Howard County MTA:

Kevin Hwang, student of Bok Hwa Kim

Greater Laurel MTA:

Sandy Yang, student of Douglas Guiles

Montgomery County MTA:

Paul Elhallal, student of Faye Bonner

Prince Georges MTA:

Joyce Yang, student of Dr. Hui-Yen Chang

Southern Maryland MTA:

Ben Paskoff, student of Barbara Graham

Junko Takahashi, Chair

KEYBOARD MUSICIANSHIP REPORT FOR 2011-2012

The Keyboard Musicianship Program had an enrollment of 1063 students from the studios of 85 teachers from thirteen chapters. With the exception of a few, all students played to receive the Gold Seal Certificate (four, five or six modules).

The Keyboard Musicianship Committee is grateful to the dedicated chairpersons for arranging testing locations, selecting the volunteer judges and monitors, scheduling mailing, record keeping etc. Many teachers contributed freely of their valuable time to make this a successful program.

I congratulate and thank the following teachers who chaired the thirteen chapters and, with their hard work and expertise, made this program so successful:

Joanna Greenwood, Jeannine Case, Carol Gauthier, Edwina Hunter, Mary G. Wolf, Erin Runkles, Olga Kuperstein, Bonnie Kellert, Hui-Yen Chang, Mary Stevens, Christopher Hall, Betsy Green and Constance Fischel.

I also thank Bonnie Kellert and Mary Ann Parker for their invaluable contribution.

During the 2011-12 academic year, 116 trophies were awarded in the categories of ADVANCED HONORS, INTERMEDIATE HONORS, FIVE YEAR HONORS and the KEYBOARD MUSICIANSHIP AWARD.

The Advanced trophies were awarded to the following:

Elizabeth Tracy (June Stevenson Miller), Sherman Leung, Serena Lao, Allyson Luo, Jamei Wang (Olga Kuperstein), Lucia Xiang (Svetlana Volkova), Hanna Dario, Shanti John (Lisa Bussing), Matthew Kim (Anne H. Chen), Nehemiah Russell (Carol Wolfe Ralph), Katherine Hao, Olivia Leung, Timothy Andrew Forbes (Hui-Yen Chang).

Congratulations to all teachers and their hard-working students. For more information about the trophies and how a student may qualify, please consult the MSMTA Student Activities Packet.

Level 11 of the MSMTA Keyboard Musicianship syllabus is now ready to be sent upon request. Please get in touch with Luba.

Luba Turkevich, Chair





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COMPETITIONS AND FESTIVALS

2012 MSMTA ELIZABETH R. DAVIS MEMORIAL COMPETITION

The 2012 MSMTA Elizabeth R. Davis Memorial Competition was held at Howard Community College, Columbia, MD from 10:30 am to 5:00 pm on June 2, 2012. There were fifteen performers in the 9th-10th Grade Division and eleven in the 11th-12th Grade Division. Participating students were from eighteen studios: Florence Ahn, Elena Arseniev, Scott Beard, Faye Bonner, Nancy O'Neill Breth, Elena Eliseeva, JeongEun Park Kang, Bok Hwa Kim, You Sang Kim, David Kuperstein, Marjorie Lee, James Litzelman, San-Qing Lu-Bennaman, Rosita Kerr Mang, Hyun Park, HyunSook Park, Kristina Suter and Hsiu-Hui Wang.

Our judges were: Professor Peter Takacs from Oberlin Conservatory, Susan Carpenter from Shepherd University, Dr. Carol Wolfe-Ralph from Bowie and Dr. Ruriko Osawa from Baltimore.

We thank these special teachers for helping us with the competition: Elena Arseniev, Dr. Bok Hwa Kim, David Kuperstein, Dr. Marjorie Lee, Dr. James Litzelman, Rosita Kerr Mang, and Hyun Park. Our heartfelt thank you goes to Dr. Kristina Suter who was at the competition and made it possible for us to use the beautiful facility. Lastly, we give our warmest appreciation to Winifred Hyson, who donated \$1,000.00 to the scholarship fund for the winners.

The winners in the 9th-10th Grade Division:

1st place:	Alisa Hwang
2nd place:	Bryan Ho
3rd place(tie):	Handong Park Motya Gershunskiy
4th place:	Miyabi Saito
HM:	Jessica Shen Michelle Kim Chun-Mun Loke

The winners in the 11th-12th Grade Division:

1st place:	Ryo Kaneko
2nd place:	Annelisa Crabtree
3rd place:	Kevin Hwang
4th place:	Jessica Liu

These winners are from the studios of Elena Arseniev, Dr. Bok Hwa Kim, David Kuperstein, Dr. Marjorie Lee, Dr. James Litzelman, Rosita Kerr Mang, Hyun Park and Dr. Hyun Sook Park.

Have a wonderful Summer!

Mei-Yu Lin and Yoon Huh, Chairs

2012 MTNA COMPETITIONS:

COMPOSITION, PIANO, CHAMBER, INSTRUMENTAL

The MTNA Competitions will take place on October 28, 2012 at Howard Community College. The submission deadline for all the competitions is 3:00 pm Eastern Time, on September 12, 2012. Specifically for the Composition Competition, this is an excellent opportunity to encourage students to compose while they have some extra summer time. If interested, more detailed information is available at the following website: <http://www.mtna.org/programs/competitions/composition-guidelines/>.

Hui-Yen Chang, State Composition Coordinator

CONCERTO REPERTOIRE FOR 2013

Junior I

Haydn Concertino, Hob XVIII:F2 Henle Edition

Junior II

Mozart Concerto, K 175 Schirmer Edition

Intermediate

Mozart Concerto, K 414 Schirmer Edition

Senior

Beethoven Concerto Op. 15 Schirmer Edition

The cadenza to play for Beethoven Concerto Op. 15 is number 1 from the back of the music, the Schirmer edition.

Hyun Park, Chair

MEMBER NEWS



Lori Davis,

MSMTA

Correspondence

Secretary and

out-going Vice-President of

Charles County MTA, and

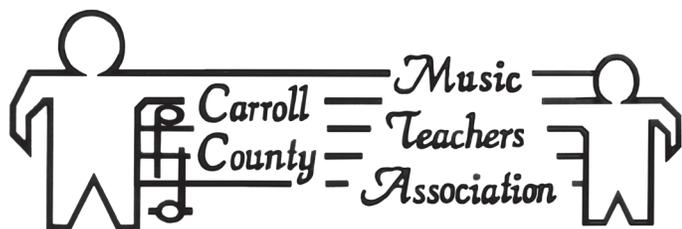
Greg Peters, President of Idaho

Falls MTA, were married on

June 16, 2012.

Best wishes to both of them!

LOCAL ASSOCIATIONS



The Carroll County Music Teachers Association held their last business meeting for the year at the McDaniel College Levine Recital Hall. Attending were David Kreider, Charlotte Young, Joan MacDonald, Karen Mihalko, Arlene Bullock, and Jane McIlvain. Lunch by Panera was enjoyed along with salads, nibbles, and desserts provided by the members. The 2012-2013 calendar through August 17, 2013, was approved, and speaker Ted Dix, McDaniel College organ instructor, informed us about a program that the AGO sponsors called "Pedals, Pipes, and Pizza." The CCMTA will help sponsor this event which will take place on September 8, 2012. This program intends to introduce young musicians (not only keyboard musicians!) to the organ, and offer them the opportunity to try out the instrument, go "behind the scenes" to see the pipes and internal workings on the two newly restored organs on the McDaniel College campus. After all that hard work, they will dine on pizza! CCMTA looks forward to the upcoming, exciting year and hopes that others will consider membership with us!

Jane McIlvain, President

MUSIC TEACHERS ASSOCIATION OF SOUTHERN MARYLAND

The Music Teachers Association of Southern Maryland ended the school year with the MSMTA Scholarship for Performance and MTASM Honors Competitions. MSMTA Scholarship Winner was Ben Paskoff (student of Barbara Graham) with second place going to Chad Baker (student of Patricia Blanchard) and third place to Michelle Zheng (student of Janet Swaney). MTASM's Intermediate Competition winners were first place, Joshua Gardner (Blanchard), second place, Liam Hinton (Blanchard) and Jia Choi (Kim). There were also five participants in the Junior Honors Recital. Participating teachers were Patricia Blanchard, Joan Chovanes, Hyun Sook Kim and Janet Swaney. Joan Chovanes served as chair for the event and our judge was Nathan LaBorie.

Patricia Blanchard, President

The Music Teachers Association of Charles County ended its teaching year with a Forum consisting of the five members who attended the MTNA National Conference in NYC this year. Each teacher brought information and materials to share from one of their favorite classes or keynote speaking sessions. We finished the meeting by surprising our outgoing Vice President, Lori Davis, with a Bridal Shower. Since she was marrying a fellow music teacher (President of Idaho



Falls MTA), we surprised her with a cake and gifts of music, both duet and solo for her to share with her future husband. Congratulations to Lori and Greg who were married in a very musical and beautiful ceremony on June 16, 2012.

Michele Avrck, out-going President of MTACC and Lori Davis, out-going Vice President of MTACC, both retired from their posts after many years serving in various offices. Treasurer, Lucy Snell and Secretary, Krista Keysar, will remain in their offices for another term. The General Membership received nominations and voted into office Mary Wolf as the in-coming President and Angela Garvey as the in-coming Vice President.

As the outgoing President of MTACC, I thank everyone in MTACC for their support and commend my fellow officers for their hard work and dedication over the last four years. It has been a privilege to serve with you, and I look forward to what the new administration will plan for our Association. I hope each of you in MSMTA will have a wonderful summer and will find some time to relax and renew your energy for the next teaching year.

Michele F. Avrck, President

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“School’s Out For Summer . . . well not quite”

As I am writing the last newsletter as President of FCMTA, I am reflecting on the past year, as well as freaking out a little at the enormity of work I have to do this summer. I gleefully think of the days when I was teaching music at Baltimore City College High School, and had summers off! I am not sure how many of you close your teaching studio for the summer, but my school runs year round. Although all six of the teachers are taking a little time off, we really are running business as usual . . . and then some.

My husband Dan and I will be going to Nashville in July for Summer NAMM 2012 (Downtown Piano Works was voted one of the Top 100 music retailers in the country). We have been invited to L.A. by Yamaha Corporate Headquarters in August, and will be supporting The Heifitz Institute with the loan of 20 Yamaha grand and vertical pianos during their summer program. Also, the pianos used at Mary Baldwin College/The Heifitz Institute will be for sale. (Please let me know if you want more specifics.)

For the Downtown Piano Works Concert Series, we welcome the return of Shai Wosner for a performance in August and Alex Kobrin in October. You can hear broadcasts by WETA, on the program Front Row Washington, in July and September. These broadcasts will be of recently-recorded programs at Downtown Piano Works (Alex Kobrin and Sara Daneshpour).

Downtown Piano Works is not “out for summer” —but many of our students and teachers will be traveling. (I’m envious of Miyakos’ summer plans). I’ll be working on the new school brochure and school calendar, updating our website, and ordering/printing our school curriculum books. We met this past week with YASI (Yamaha Artist Services Incorporated) to share ideas. There are some future plans that will have an impact on music technology and distance learning that I hope you will all be excited about. Some of our students will be preparing to attend the Frederick County Arts Communications Academy at Governor Thomas Johnson High School in the Fall, performing at weddings, nursing homes and an original music concert, as well as attending Jamey Aebersold’s Summer Jazz Workshop. I will be continuing to work with the 40 or students weekly. Inhale . . . exhale . . .

I’ve asked the teachers of FCMTA to let me know what the highlights of this year have been and what their summer plans are.

Laurel Carroll, our new FCMTA President for 2012-2013 responded:

“My family has been in town for two weeks, and I haven’t been keeping up on my studio email account. (My version of a vacation...) I think the most interesting thing I have to say is about the MTNA Convention in New York City. The presentation by Benjamin Zander was a transformational event, although it had as much to do with life as with music. I am looking forward to reading his book, “The Art of Possibility,” this summer. The composition session with Diane Higgins was another highlight, as she had very concrete and doable ideas to help even the most composer-shy teacher begin to teach composition. There were many other excellent classes, but the most exciting for me was to run into two friends I competed against in high school whom I hadn’t seen in years, and finding out what they are up to (both university piano professors). They were on their way to Murray Perahia’s concert in Lincoln Center, so of course I dropped all my plans and joined them. Talk about a magnificent concert!”

Miyako Zeng, our new Secretary, responded:

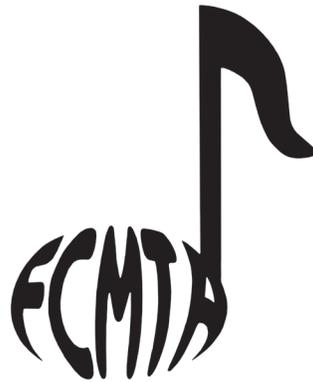
“I just sent off my husband to Germany. We’ll meet in Paris in a couple of days. Many of my students will take vacations here and there, but they will keep coming to the lessons, so my teaching days are the same. My vacation/study in three places will be special for me in this summer. In France I will visit Chopin’s house in Paris and Satie’s house/museum in Honfleur (June 27-July 6). In Princeton I am going to attend a Piano Symposium on the Taubman Technique and the International Piano Festival (July 7-14). In Vienna I will attend a Music Seminar at the music conservatory of Vienna University, taking lessons and performing in the studio recital (Aug 17-25). I’m sure that those trips will enrich my knowledge and experience, and I will be sharing many stories with my students.”

I hope that all of MSMTA’s teachers have a wonderful and productive summer. I have enjoyed serving as President of FCMTA this past year.

Best Wishes!

Theresa Shykind, President

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LOCAL ASSOCIATIONS

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The Howard County Music Teachers Association has ended a very successful and rewarding year! Kristina Suter, HCMTA's liaison with Howard Community College, and Kathryn Stansbery are now working on obtaining our dates/venues for next year's many events. Again, we are so grateful to be able to use HCC's lovely facilities.

Since the last newsletter, we held our Spring Piano Festival on April 28th chaired by Vera Yakirevich and Irina Dvoynoy, during which there were seven judged recitals. That same weekend in April, Sidney Yin chaired the Spring Recital, which included three afternoon programs. On Mother's Day, we held our annual Miriam Thomann Piano Competition, chaired by Bok Hwa Kim and Kathryn Stansbery, where students of all ages perform two contrasting pieces. There were eleven competitive groups that day. Finally, David Kuperstein chaired our High School Award Competitions on May 26th. Due to the large enrollment, we divided the entrants into two competitions: one for 9th-10th grades where students competed for cash prizes, and another for the older students who also competed for cash prizes, including the MSMTA Scholarship for Performance.

Many thanks go to the chairs of our many recitals, competitions, festivals and MSMTA centers: Irina Dvoynoy, Sima Elkis, Christopher Hall, Bok Hwa Kim, David Kuperstein, Olga Kuperstein, Alla Merport, Kathryn Stansbery, Vera Yakirevich and Sidney Yin. We could not have done it without you!

Our officers for the coming year remain the same: David Kuperstein—President, Kathryn Stansbery—Vice President/Director of Student Activities and Secretary, and Karen England—Treasurer.

Kathryn Stansbery, Vice President

Many thanks to all the dedicated chairmen of our MCMTA events for another great year. In addition to all our student events, MCMTA has had many terrific presentations at our general membership meetings this year. I know I speak for all our members when I express our gratitude to our Program Chair, Immanuela Gruenberg, for her excellent choice of presenters. While our meetings have been held at Stone Ridge School in Bethesda, we will be meeting in a new location next year. The meetings for 2012-2013 will be held

at Jordan Kitts Music, 12303 Twinbrook Parkway, Rockville, MD. We welcome all MSMTA members to come join us at our monthly meetings and presentations!

Six MCMTA Judged Recitals were held at Montgomery College in Rockville on April 22, 2012. Sixty students participated in the recitals. Nineteen trophies and twenty-eight honorable mentions were given out. Many thanks to chairmen Mei Yu Lin and Yoon Huh for their fantastic planning of these events. Intermediate/Advanced recitals were held on April 28th/April 29th at Montgomery College. Many thanks to chairmen Annie Hou and Jamie Pasho for arranging this popular event.

The MCMTA Elementary "Spring Fling" Recital was held on April 21st with six piano elementary recitals consisting of 102 students from 23 studios. Congratulations to chairman Olga Soukhoveeva for planning such a successful event.

The Evelyn Swarthout/Patrick Hayes Piano Competition was held on April 15th. The winners were as follows: 1st place: Cynthia Liu (Elena Arseniev/Dr. Thomas Mastroianni); 2nd

Montgomery County Music Teachers Association



Place: Paul Elhallal (Faye Bonner); 3rd Place: Jessica Liu (Hyun Park); MTNA American Prize: Paul Elhallal (Faye Bonner). Thanks to our chairmen, Junko Takahashi and Faye Bonner.

The Senior Recognition Awards Day was held on May 20th at Stone Ridge School of the Sacred Heart with performances by the Swarthout Hayes Competition winners. Many thanks to chairman Luba Turkevich for organizing the day. The afternoon festivities concluded with the Twelfth Annual Adult Recital with thirteen performers sharing their music with the group. Many thanks to Suzanne Ferrall, the Recital Chair, for her hard work in organizing a lovely afternoon of music. Sadly, this will be our last year holding these events at Stone Ridge but we look forward to continuing the tradition at a new venue to be determined next year.

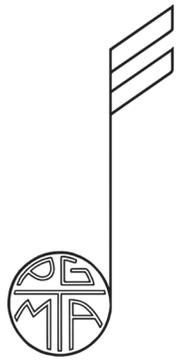
Sincerely,

Lori McCarthy, President

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LOCAL ASSOCIATIONS

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Our Spring Recital held on Saturday, May 19th at Corkran United Methodist Church, concluded with the brilliant performance of the winner of this year's MSMTA Student Scholarship for Performance Award for PGMTA, Joyce Yang, student of Dr. Hui-Yen Chang. She was given her \$100 award at that time.

Our final membership meeting of the year was held on May 31st at the home of Ann Matteson. We were pleased to honor one of our retired teachers who has served PGMTA over the years in several capacities.

Zelma Deaton was delighted when she was presented a plaque stating she was given Emeritus Membership in PGMTA. She and her daughter have been attending our final meeting each year, although she is in her 90's and lives some distance from the area. Her daughter, Joy, brought a feast for the occasion and another daughter, Janet, sent her flowers of congratulations.

The new Saul Roas Latin American test piece list was presented and performed by myself and discussed. We are always happy to have any MSMTA member put students in this exciting event. Contact me for the new test piece list, application, etc. Latin American Music has a charm of its own, and this is a good opportunity to introduce students to its beauty. It takes place early in February, so there is ample time to get involved before the spring events ensue.



Long-time PGMTA member, Zelma Deaton (center) received her Emeritus Membership from PGMTA at the final meeting of the year. Her daughter, Joy, is on the left and Ann Matteson is on the right.

June Stevenson Miller, President

WANTED!

ELEMENTARY AND INTERMEDIATE ADULT MUSIC STUDENTS



The Adult Music Student Forum was founded over 20 years ago. It is dedicated to amateur music students of all levels.

Please encourage your adult students to join us at their early stages of study, because the art of performance does not move forward unless it is practiced, just like the art of playing. AMSF will provide your students with that opportunity with support and camaraderie.

We encourage the nervous, shaky, and beginners, to grow, but never feel out of their depth within our wide range of performance opportunities.

More information is at: www.amsfperform.org

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Music Teachers Association of Bowie

Since there hasn't been an update about MTAB activities in a while, this article will recap our events for the last school year. MTAB has monthly meetings followed by a member or guest program, plus student performances in March and May.

Last October 28, we presented the annual Halloween Musicale (in four recitals with 115 students), chaired by Jeannine Case who has dressed as a composer or related musician for the last four years. Throughout each recital, she gives clues to her identity and performs some of the composer's music. Then at the conclusion the audience guesses who she is. Last year, "Domenico Scarlatti" performed and in previous years George F. Handel, Antonio Vivaldi and Nannerl Mozart were featured.

Then on Dec. 3, the Baroque Festival, chaired by Betsy Angebrannt, was presented in three recitals of 60 students plus several teachers who also performed. Each December MTAB members share holiday spirit at the December luncheon held at Outback Restaurant in Bowie.

On January 28 our annual Chamber Music Festival, chaired

by Ray Hobbs, was presented in three recitals with 50 students and seven participating teachers.

Next came the Classical Competition, chaired by Mary Ann Parker and held at three churches in Bowie. 88 students participated, representing eight teachers' studios, and the first place winners performed at MTAB's March 7 meeting and received their cash prizes. Both the MSMTA Keyboard Musicianship Exam (chaired by Jeannine Case), and the MSMTA Theory Exam (chaired by Bonnie Pausic) had record enrollments of 70 students and 180 students, respectively. After that followed the annual Spring Evaluation/Competition, chaired by Elizabeth White and committee Maxine Russell, Jeannine Case and Bonnie Pausic. 90 students from the studios of 13 teachers performed at three local churches and the winners received beautiful plaques and medals.

Our active year concluded with a spring luncheon held at Christopher's Restaurant in Crofton, and a Board Meeting/Pot Luck luncheon at the home of new President Jeannine Case. Other officers include Barbara Lancaster, vice-president; Maxine Russell, recording secretary; Marie Fulginiti, corresponding secretary; and treasurer, Bonnie Pausic.

We will keep you updated with more regularity in the next newsletters. Hopefully, each member will have a relaxing summer with varied and fun activities!

Jeannine Case, President

ADVERTISEMENTS

MSMTA is now accepting advertisements in its newsletter. Space is limited to two pages total, so ads will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. Rates are:

	Member	Non-member
1/8 page	\$20.00	\$30.00
1/4 page	\$40.00	\$50.00
1/2 page	\$80.00	\$90.00
Full page	\$135.00	\$150.00

For more information, contact **Kathy Stansbery** at:

kathy.stansbery@gmail.com

DEADLINE FOR NEXT NEWSLETTER

Please email all notices and copy for inclusion in the October 2012 MSMTA newsletter by **October 8, 2012**, to:

kathy.stansbery@gmail.com or mail to:

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