

# Austin District Music Teachers Association

*www.austintxmusicteachers.org*

**April 2008**

## April Dates

- Apr. 5**      **Romantic/Contemporary Festival:** UT 8:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. (Saturday)  
**Apr. 7**      ADMTA Business Meeting and Student Affiliate Business Meeting, Strait Music, 9:45 a.m.  
Program: Dr. Mia Hines: "Making the Most of Scale/Arpeggio Practice"  
**Apr. 9**      **Deadline:** Honors Recital 4 (Wednesday)  
**Apr. 12**     **Solo Contest:** UT 12:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.  
**Apr. 20**     Honors Recital 4: Jessen Auditorium 1:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. (Sunday)  
**Apr. 21**     **Deadline:** Honors Recital 5  
**Apr. 21**     **Deadline:** Outstanding Student Awards/Senior of the Year Awards  
**Apr. 21**     **Deadline:** Spring Luncheon – Contact Patches King  
**Apr. 21**     **Deadline:** May Newsletter items: please postmark or email by this date. Send to editor,  
Paula Wong [pwong1@austin.rr.com](mailto:pwong1@austin.rr.com) (**Tuesday**)

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### *From the Presidents Desk...*

Dear ADMTA Members,

**WE DID IT!!!** ADMTA has raised the \$1000.00 necessary to bestow the honor of TMTA Teaching Fellow upon Martha Hilley. A total of \$1025.00 was donated. Thanks to all of you who contributed. This prestigious honor will be awarded to Martha at the TMTA State Convention in June. Congratulations Martha, ADMTA is excited and proud to honor you for your many talents and achievements!

**Coming up June 12-15 is the annual TMTA convention.** The convention will be held at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in downtown Houston Texas. Go to [tmta.org](http://tmta.org) and click on "convention" to see information on guest speakers and session topics. **EXCITING OPPORTUNITY!!!!** TMTA is giving each local association in the state **ONE FREE CONVENTION REGISTRATION**, worth \$70, to award to one lucky teacher who has never attended the state convention before. If you have never been to a state convention before, here is your chance! The free registration will be awarded at the April 7<sup>th</sup> general meeting. All teachers who have never attended the state convention before, and wish to attend, are invited to sign up with Nancy Driver before the meeting. A drawing will be held to determine a winner.

**The ADMTA and Student Affiliate business meeting will be held April 7, 2008.** Results of the SA Survey will be revealed. Are you curious? On the ADMTA agenda will be a recommendation from the Bylaws Committee to revise our membership bylaws so they align with the state and national membership bylaws. Proposed changes are included later in this newsletter.

I hope to see you there,

Carol Feist  
President, ADMTA

### **EVERY MONTH REMINDERS: CORRECTIONS**

If your email, phone number or address is incorrect in the yearbook, please send a correction notice to newsletter editor, Paula Wong [pwong1@austin.rr.com](mailto:pwong1@austin.rr.com). She will put the correction in the newsletter. Copy the email to Flossie Young [FlossiesIn2n@austin.rr.com](mailto:FlossiesIn2n@austin.rr.com) and Karen White [kwhite@mail.utexas.edu](mailto:kwhite@mail.utexas.edu). It takes 3 people to keep everyone connected! Your email address must be correct in order to receive monthly newsletters and announcements.

### **TEACHER REFERRAL**

Need to fill an opening in your studio? The Teacher Referral committee can help! Contact the appropriate north or south person to be included on the list of names given out to those looking for a teacher. If you live in Westlake or North Austin, contact Kay Sparks [ks@zeecon.com](mailto:ks@zeecon.com). If you live in South Austin, contact Lindy Peterson [lindy@peterson5.com](mailto:lindy@peterson5.com). When referring inquiries to the committee, please do not give out Kay and Lindy's phone number unless the person does not have access to email. Email is by far the easiest way to communicate the information to inquirers.

**CONTACTING YOUR OFFICERS**

Please contact these busy people by email if possible. If phoning, do not call between teaching hours, usually 3:30-7:30 pm.

**AGENDA**

Meeting agenda items may be submitted to Carol Feist [carol@musicroom.net](mailto:carol@musicroom.net) no later than 5:00 pm on the Saturday before each monthly meeting. Only items on the agenda will be considered at the monthly meetings.

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**ADMTA Treasurer's Report – 3/24/08**

Checking Account	\$10,410.87
A.G. Edwards Account	\$27,550.71

Janet Russell,  
ADMTA Treasurer

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**STUDENT AFFILIATE NEWS**

Dear Student Affiliate Teachers,

**The April meeting will include Student Affiliate business. If you are an active Student Affiliate teacher, or wish to know more about Student Affiliate events, please plan on attending this meeting. If you have any items that you wish to discuss at the meeting, please submit them to me no later than March 31, 2008. The following items are on the agenda so far:**

1. The results of our monitoring survey
2. Voting on Changes to our Monitoring Policy
3. Updates on the Student Affiliate Website

**Item #1.**

A big thank you to the 53 teachers who completed the monitoring survey! Your comments will help the SA committee create policies for our festivals that will ensure successful events. Here is a generalized summary of our actual survey. I have included some comments from each question. Please note that these are not all of the comments. If you would like to see the complete results from the survey, please e-mail me.

- I) 60.4% of teachers wish to keep the monitoring policy the way we have it.
  - a. Some interesting comments include:
    - i. I'd rather have all ADMTA members monitor, regardless of their students' participation in the ADMTA events.
    - ii. teachers may not enter events to avoid monitoring.
    - iii. Sometimes I'd like to enter students in an event but can't because I have a performing or judging commitment out of town.
  - b. These few comments are an eye opener for me, seeing that some SA teachers are misinterpreting the guidelines we already have in place. Please remember that if you obligations that keep you from being there the day of the festival, you *still have the option of entering students*. Simply inform the chair in advance of your situation, and you can either
    - i. help out at the ensuing honors recital,
    - ii. help out with alternate work, or
    - iii. find a substitute to cover your hours at a festival.

- II) 89.8% of teachers think that monitoring hours should be divided up on a sliding scale of how many students you enter.
- a. Some comments from this question:
    - i. I say compromise and ask for only two or three hours. This way, teachers are free to meet and guide their own students during the day.
    - ii. This didn't work and will not work - teachers are busy and cannot commit their time for these additional activities for the expense of their teaching
- III) 58.3% of teachers believe that we should use UT students as back up help for monitoring festivals with a \$30 donation to the student coming from the teacher. 39.6% of teachers think that we should use UT students and raise fees to cover paying the UT students.
- a. Comments:
    - i. I think we need to address the monitoring issues that we have. If it breaks down to \$7.50 per hour to pay a student to cover your hours, I think that's reasonable. However, paying a student \$30 for one or two hours seems high.
    - ii. It is good experience for them and it alleviates the stress that is put on the teachers and the chairs.
    - iii. The teacher who cannot monitor should be responsible for the charges. It is unfair to pass these on to students whose teachers are available to monitor.
    - iv. Using students from UT is a great idea. Each teacher who is unable to monitor may pay a student to cover their time. The student should not have to pay for teachers unwillingness to work for ADMTA.
    - v. Sounds like a good idea, one I had not thought of before. This would be a great opportunity for the college students to see how our events are done.
    - vi. I think teachers should be responsible for monitoring at events their students are in, but should have an alternative if they really can't monitor. Seems like a win/win, for the teachers and the college students.
    - vii. This seems a good option. I'd hate to ask my students to pay more to be in the event so that we could pay monitors. I think the burden should fall on the teachers who're wiggling out of their share.
    - viii. Students' parents are used to paying huge fees for sports activities. I think \$10 is still a very reasonable fee for a festival (up from the current \$7) which would allow us to pay UT students to help out with monitoring.
    - ix. Have students available to substitute, if a teacher cannot monitor or find another ADMTA teacher to substitute. I DO NOT want to raise entry fees to pay students!
- IV) For question 4, teachers could choose more than one answer. The question asked: "What is a fair way to cover monitoring hours if you cannot attend a festival?" Out of the answers available, teachers choose finding a substitute (60.8%), help out with other tasks (68.6%) and pay a student to cover your hours (66.7%)
- V) 92.7% of teachers would like to see 1 outside monitor per 2 rooms. 24.4% would like to see 2 judges per room.
- a. Comments:
    - i. 2 rooms would be too much for one person. Things would get crazy.
    - ii. I think that 2 judges in one room would be a problem, i.e. one judge listens to a student who plays for one minute, the other one listens to a student playing 8 minutes. That is not utilizing the judge's time well. Plus, it would be distracting to the student.
    - iii. These are both good ideas and I think they would both work. It seems this would work just fine, especially on the 4th floor professor studio rooms, which are very close together...it's not difficult to watch a room, and should be easy to watch two.
    - iv. I have monitored for 2 rooms many times because people have not shown up and found it not to be that difficult!

- VI) 69.2% of teachers would consider having a period festival instead of doing a Baroque/Classical AND a Romantic/Contemporary Festival.
- VII) 66% of teacher would be in favor of reducing the number of festivals per year.

a. Comments:

- i. What is our purpose for the festivals? It is to encourage the student and build on their knowledge of music. We may have more festivals than the other assoc, but ours is well rounded giving the students knowledge of many styles of music.
- ii. I'm proud that we have these events. It doesn't matter how fast we move forward, just as long as we do move forward. Cutting out events would be stepping backwards!!!
- iii. The ideas in question 6, of combining and/or alternating seem good.

VIII). When asked to rate the importance of festivals, the majority of teachers chose Romantic/Contemporary as very important, Baroque/Classical as Somewhat important, duet festival as in the middle, Jazz Pop Rock as not very important, and Hymn festival as least important.

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**Student Affiliate Treasurer's Report**

Checking Account Balance as of 2/29/08: \$16,898.38  
 Savings Account Balance as of 2/29/08: \$5,571.65

Ana Ortega  
 SA Treasurer

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**2008-2009 MTNA Dues** notices will be coming soon to your mailbox. All members are encouraged to pay their dues by June 30. It takes four weeks to for payments to be processed and our association notified. Membership for all persons paying dues after June 30 will have to be verified by email or phone. You will help save, Lori, Janet., Flossie, Paula and Karen many hours of work by getting those dues in early. These five ladies are responsible for keeping us all connected. Let's make their job easier.

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**JACK KENT COOK YOUNG SCHOLARS AWARD**

This is a very important scholarship opportunity for SEVENTH GRADE STUDENTS with a STRONG ACADEMIC RECORD and musical potential. It provides scholarship support worth thousands of dollars annually throughout their high school years. The Foundation awards approximately 50 of these scholarships each year out of approximately 1,000 applicants. The Young Scholars Program is one of the most individualized scholarships offered in the US.

Deadline is May 5, 2008 Eligibility for the award: Students currently in the 7th grade, a strong academic record, limited family income (income \$35,000.00 - \$60,000.00), determination to succeed, leadership and public service, critical thinking ability, and participation in the arts and humanities. Application materials for the Young Scholars Award are available through

this link: [www.jackkentcookefoundation.org](http://www.jackkentcookefoundation.org) . Click on the "Young Scholars" link. You can also find additional information about the scholarship on this website including answers to frequently asked questions.

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**E-MAIL ADDRESS CORRECTION:** NEW ADMTA MEMBER, Hyae-Eun Grace Cha's e-mail address was incorrectly listed in the last newsletter. Her contact information is as follows:  
Hyae-Eun Grace Cha  
[hyae\\_cha@yahoo.com](mailto:hyae_cha@yahoo.com) (There is an underscore between "Hyae" and "Cha", not a hyphen. Please make a note of this correction.

Lori Hahn,  
Membership Chair

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**It's Time for Keyboard Companion!**

Keyboard Companion is a high-quality pedagogical journal that comes out four times a year. The magazine has several departments including Rhythm, Practice, Technique, Technology, Adult Students, and many others. In each issue, each department addresses a question, and three guest authors write on the topic. You're sure to find it informative and fascinating. It's like having four workshops a year! New subscriptions will begin with the summer issue, which should come out sometime in June.

If you would like to subscribe, contact Flossie Young [flossiesin2n@austin.rr.com](mailto:flossiesin2n@austin.rr.com) The group price is \$20, and your check should be made out to Flossie Young, who will write one check for the group. Please give your check, which should include correct address information to me at the next meeting, or mail it to me. The deadline for subscribing is April 7, the day of our meeting.

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**CONVENTION UPDATE FROM MARTI DUDGEON, IMTF STATE CHAIR**

Plan to attend the TMTA State Convention at the Hyatt Regency in Houston scheduled for June 11-15, 2008. As Independent Music Teachers Forum State Chair, I'm presenting 2 sessions at the Convention and could use as many of the friendly faces from Austin as possible at these sessions:

- "What's Your Policy?" Friday June 13th 3:30-4:30
- "Are You A Copycat?" Saturday June 14th 11-12

Please let me know if you have some wonderful information that I might share with others from around the State on studio policies and copyright information at these sessions. In addition, I'll be on the panel for IMTF/Collegiate Faculty Forum scheduled for Friday June 13th 11-12:30. Marti Dudgeon [mdudgeon@austin.rr.com](mailto:mdudgeon@austin.rr.com)

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**PROPOSED REVISIONS TO ADMTA BYLAWS**

**ARTICLE IV MEMBERSHIP**

Section 1. Members of ADMTA must be residents of Austin, Texas, or neighboring counties.  
*(Section 1 will remain the same.)*

Section 2. Membership shall consist of ~~three~~ **two** classes: Active, ~~Associate~~, and Honorary.

Section 3. **Active Membership shall be open to all individuals who are professionally engaged in any field of music activity and who are also members MTNA and TMTA.**

~~Active members are qualified persons engaged in teaching performing, composing, or researching music. Active members must meet one of the following educational requirements in their major field of music:~~

- ~~\_\_\_\_\_ a. A degree in any field of music or music education from an accredited college.~~
- ~~\_\_\_\_\_ b. Certification from MTNA.~~
- ~~\_\_\_\_\_ c. Ten years of instruction from qualified private music teachers plus a minimum of one semester of music pedagogy from an accredited college and one year of applied teaching experience.~~

~~Section 4. Eliminate this class of membership. Associate members are persons interested in the art of music who are ineligible for Active membership. Associate members may not hold office or vote. Associate teachers can participate with the exception of voting and holding office. They may monitor, attend meetings, programs, workshops, and conventions. Their students will not be able to participate in events until the teacher is an active member.~~

*New text for Section 4. All ADMTA Active members shall also be members of Student Affiliate and may enter students in any Student Affiliate events. (This is also in Article XI, Section 1.)*

Section 5. *This wording of this section remains the same. Only the format is changed.*

Honorary membership may be conferred on members who have consistently given special or outstanding service in the field of music to the Association or to the community.

- a. Honorary membership is bestowed upon recommendation of the Executive Board followed by a two-thirds vote of members present at a general meeting, provided a quorum has been attained.
- b. Honorary members are exempt from local dues but must pay State and National dues if member is still teaching.

## 2. CURRENT SA MEMBERSHIP SECTION:

### ARTICLE XI ADMTA STUDENT AFFILIATE

Section 1. ADMTA/SA shall be open to active ADMTA members who choose to join the Student Affiliate division. Students shall be enrolled by the teacher of their primary performance area.

## PROPOSED REVISION TO THE SA MEMBERSHIP SECTION:

### ARTICLE XI ADMTA STUDENT AFFILIATE

Section 1. ADMTA/SA shall be open to active ADMTA members who choose to join the Student Affiliate division. **All ADMTA Active members shall also be members of Student Affiliate and may enter students in any Student Affiliate events.**

- a. Students shall be enrolled by the teacher of their primary performance area.
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