

Austin District Music Teachers Association

www.austintxmusicteachers.org

February 2008

February Dates

- Feb. 2** **Baroque/Classical Festival:** UT 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Feb. 4 General Meeting: Strait Music, 9:45 a.m.
 Program: "Exploring the joys and challenges of teaching special needs students."
Feb. 10 Performance Contest – UT Recital Studio 2:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. **(Sunday)**
Feb. 15 **Deadline:** TMTA/SA Performance Contest; entries must be postmarked by this date **(Friday)**
Feb. 19 **Deadline:** Honors Recital 3 **(Tuesday)**
Feb. 19 **Deadline:** State Ensemble registration **(Tuesday)**
Feb. 19 **Deadline:** March Newsletter items: please postmark or email by this date. Send to editor,
 Paula Wong pwong1@austin.rr.com **(Tuesday)**

From the Presidents Desk...

Dear ADMTA Teachers,

All my announcements this month involve TMTA and MTNA. In preparation for my article I had to do research on the TMTA and MTNA websites. I was amazed at the wealth of information and opportunities available to teachers and local organizations through the state and national organizations. I hope you all will take time to browse these sites and see how TMTA and MTNA can benefit you and your studio.

TMTA Teacher Recognition Awards

At the February meeting we will be selecting teachers for the prestigious teacher awards, so please come prepared to nominate your worthy candidate. Nominations will be taken from the floor and voting will be by secret ballot. A member may receive only one TMTA Teacher Recognition Award in their lifetime so previous statewide winners may not be submitted again. A list of ADMTA teachers who have been honored with state awards is on page 9 of the yearbook.

Teacher of the Year is a service award given to a teacher who has contributed much to our organization during the past year.

Pre-collegiate Teacher of the Year is given to a teacher who has shown exemplary teaching through preparation of students for contests and festivals, and whose students consistently do well in events beyond our local events.

Collegiate Teacher of the Year has the same criteria as the pre-collegiate teacher but on the college level.

Our local winners' names will be submitted to TMTA by March 1 for consideration to receive the state award. State winners receive an engraved plaque at the annual state convention along with a stipend of \$600 for professional enrichment.

Coming soon is the Annual Texas Music Teachers Association State Convention. It will be held June 11-15, 2008 at the Hyatt Regency in Houston Texas. Students are needed to participate in convention ensembles. We have four elementary groups and one high school group this year. The high school group has the honor of premiering a new work by John Sharpley. Please encourage your students to participate in this fun event. Contact Flossie Young: flossiesin2n@austin.rr.com for more information and necessary forms.

And speaking of conventions, did you know the MTNA National Convention will be March 29-April 2, 2008 in beautiful Denver Colorado. More information is available at MTNA.org. I quickly scanned the list of sessions being offered and they look very interesting. Melody Bober is giving a session called "Group Lessons-Musical Learning Stations". Robert and Karen Vandall present "The More The Merrier-Preparing Four-Six Hands for One Piano". Other sessions that sound intriguing are: "Improvisation and Technology-Make Music Lessons the Excuse Your Students Use to Miss Soccer Games, Swim Meets, Dance Recitals and Much More", "Helping Your Students Maximize Their Practice Time" and "New Four Hand Piano

Literature From Brazil.” So make your plans to attend the MTNA National Convention. Remember to save a little space in your suitcase for all the FREE - hot off the press books given to those who attend the publisher showcase sessions.

News from TMTA. I have been informed that the Texas Music Teachers Association has been “taking a close look” at all local associations in Texas. Their mission was to find out what local associations are doing and how they are doing it. They are also looking to find any organizational inconsistencies between the local, state and national organizations. They looked at many different things: how many and what types of events we offer, types of awards, how we handle monitoring, levels of membership, amount of local dues, bylaws and community service.

To protect the interest of our group, a committee has been appointed to study the information gathered and prepare a report for ADMTA members containing any useful information from other associations that might benefit our group, and to look for any inconsistencies in rules or bylaws between our group and the state and national organizations. Results will be published when they are ready, hopefully in the March newsletter.

Happy Teaching!

Carol Feist
President

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. She will put the correction in the newsletter. Copy the email to Flossie Young FlossiesIn2n@austin.rr.com and Karen White 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. If you live in South Austin, contact Lindy Peterson lindy@peterson5.com.

When referring inquiries to the committee, please do not give out the Kay’s 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 telephoning, 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 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.

ADMTA Treasurer’s Report – 1/20/08

Checking Account \$10,676.34
A.G. Edwards Account \$27,501.70

The local ADMTA dues of \$25 will remain the same for 2008-2009. We have not been notified as yet of any increase in MTNA or TMTA dues, but that could still come. Plan on budgeting at least \$121 (last year’s amount) for your combined dues for next year. You will receive a dues notice in April. Please plan to pay your dues by the June 30 deadline.

Janet Russell, Treasurer

Wilcox – Maurer Contest for High School Musicians

The Wilcox-Maurer Contest for high school musicians sponsored by the Wednesday Morning Music Club is scheduled for March 15, 2008. The deadline for applying is February 15. Prizes range from \$425 to \$850. Please consult www.austintxmusicteachers.org for repertoire and other requirements.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Please welcome the following 2 new members. They are both already members of MTNA and TMTA.

Willis Glen Miller
Round Rock, 78664
willismiller@texaspianoteachers.com
codes for yearbook: Accompanist, Piano

Willis holds a BM from Virginia Commonwealth University, MM from Eastman School of Music and DMA from University of Houston.

Justyna Chesy-Parda
Austin 78751
justinita24@hotmail.com
codes for yearbook: Accompanist, Chamber Music, Group Piano, Piano, Pedagogy

Justyna holds a Master of Arts from Academy of Music in Poland, MM from University of Massachusetts in Amherst, and DMA from UT-Austin. She teaches at ClavierWerke School of Music.

Student Affiliate News

Student Affiliate Hymn Festival Report
The Hymn Festival took place on Saturday, Dec. 1st.
There were 34 participating teachers, and 204 participating students.

Grades:
45 received a rating of Superior +
112 received a rating of Superior
38 received a rating of Superior -
5 received a rating of Excellent+
0 received a rating of Excellent
2 received a rating of Very Good
2 received a "no rating"

Judges: Stephen Burnaman, Thelma Cooper, Mary Bradford, Janet Russell, John Schmidt, and Brooks Whitmore

Student Affiliate Enrollment Information

If you would like to enroll students for Spring Student Affiliate Events, you have until January 28th to do so. The fee per student is \$10.00. To enroll, please complete form F1 and make 5 copies. Send 2 copies to Ana Ortega, SA Treasurer, along with a check (made payable to "Student Affiliate") for the enrollment fees. Send 2 copies to Buffy Currens, Membership Clerk. Please remember that you cannot send an e-mail copy to Buffy. Send her the hard copy. Retain 1 copy for your own records.

Theory Test information

Just a reminder that all teachers entering students into the theory test are required to monitor the day of the test. Because of the nature of the event, theory monitors are expected to stay for the duration of each grade's test. This information is found in your yearbook on pages 40 and 41. Please note that if you hold an exemption, you are not allowed to use your exemption for the theory test. Those of you who have done the theory test in the past know how much everyone is needed the day of the event! If you have any last-minute complications, you must find an ADMTA member to substitute for you and notify the theory chairman of this change.

Kathy Rabago,
SA Chair

Student Affiliate Treasurer's Report

Checking Account Balance as of 12/31/07: \$15,244.24
Savings Account Balance as of 12/31/07: \$5,548.63

Ana Ortega
SA Treasurer

Publication Contest Results

This year's Publication Contest entries were adjudicated by Dr. Paolo Susanni, lecturer of theory and music history at Texas State University. All publications receiving Excellent or Superior ratings are eligible to advance to the state level. The distribution of scores was as follows: Superior Plus: 2; Superior: 2. Two teachers submitted a total of four student articles.

Original Composition Results

This year the local entries in the Original Composition event were adjudicated by acclaimed composer Dr. Donald Grantham, head of the University of Texas School of Music Theory and Composition Department. All compositions receiving Excellent or Superior ratings are eligible to advance to the state level. The distribution of scores was as follows: Superior: 1, Superior Minus: 3, Excellent Plus: 4, Excellent: 2, Excellent Minus: 1, Very Good Plus: 1. Six teachers submitted a total of twelve student compositions this year. Eight entries were for piano solo, and four were ensemble works.

MTNA Certification

Are you among those who'd like more information about MTNA Certification? Whether you are renewing your certification or attaining that fantastic milestone for the first time, I can help you. You can go to mtna.org and look under certification to get lots of valuable information. I also have an Adobe file of certification materials. Please contact Flossie Young at 331-8311 or flossiesin2n@austin.rr.com for more information.

PTG Scholarships: FEBRUARY 1 Postmark Deadline

MTNA is pleased to announce the creation of two new scholarships available to MTNA certified members, both of which are sponsored by the Piano Technicians Guild (PTG). PTG is dedicated to providing continuing education for piano technicians. Their commitment to continuing education also includes the credentialed professional piano teaching community. These PTG scholarships, at \$750.00 each, to two MTNA nationally certified members will provide them with advanced study opportunities.

Any piano teacher who has earned MTNA Professional Certification and uses a Registered Piano Technician (RPT) can apply for one of two \$750 scholarships from the Piano Technicians Guild. One of these annual scholarships is to be used specifically

for Recreational Music Making (RMM) training, as presented by MTNA, and the other for furthering one's teaching skills through continued education and/or performance study.

Entry forms are available on the MTNA website at www.mtnacertification.org. Applications must include the completed entry form, a one-page, typed study plan, a resume of your musical backgrounds, experience and service, and one letter of reference along with any other supporting documentation. Previous recipients, members of the MTNA Board of Directors or the National Certification Commission are not eligible. All materials should be submitted to: MTNA Certification Program, ATTN: PTG Scholarships, 441 Vine Street, Ste. 3100, Cincinnati, OH 45202-3004.

The recipients will be announced at the annual MTNA National Conference Awards Brunch. After the project has been completed, recipients should submit to the PTG and the NCC a written report detailing how the scholarships were used to advance their career or business.

IMTF NEWS

Thank you, Brian!!

Many thanks to our very own Brian Henselman for his presentation on affordable recording technology for the teaching studio at the January meeting. It was amazingly informative and helpful. Thank you, Brian, for sharing this information with us in a way that we could begin to understand!

This was our annual IMTF program, and I also appreciate all of you bringing your own ideas as well as your questions to the meeting for maximum benefit to the membership. Thanks for your participation.

Karen White
IMTF Chair

The deadline for entering students in the Honors Recital 3 is February 19. The chairman is Lillian Simmons 512-246-2597. Send entries to Lillian Simmons, Honors Recital 3 Chairman, 2008 Frontier Trail, Round Rock, Texas 78681 or lillian.martinez@usa.net
