

Austin District Music Teachers Association

www.austintxmusicteachers.org

January 2009

January Dates

- Jan. 2** **Deadline: Original Composition – State Entries (Friday)**
- Jan. 5** 9:45 a.m. General Meeting
Program: Independent Music Teachers Forum
- Jan. 10-11** MTNA South Central Division Meeting and Competitions, University of Arkansas
- Jan. 12** **Deadline: Spring THEORY Entries**
- Jan. 12** **Deadline: Spring Student Enrollment period ends**
- Jan. 12** **Deadline: Publication Competition – State entries**
- Jan. 20** **Deadline: Performance Contests (Tuesday)**
- Jan. 20** **Deadline: February Newsletter items e-mailed by this date. Send to editor: pwong1@austin.rr.com**

From the President's Desk...

Season's Greeting ADMTA Members,

Your ADMTA Executive Board and I would like to wish you and your loved ones a warm and happy holiday season! Your newsletter is being sent to you earlier than usual because there is some important business that we need to take care of at the January general meeting.

The Executive Board has recommended an amendment to ARTICLE VI. DUES of the Bylaws. A change is needed because of the deadline set by MTNA. Local associations must notify MTNA of any change in the local dues amount annually by the beginning of Feb. Our current Bylaws specify that an increase in dues must be voted on by the membership at the April business meeting. That means that a dues increase would have to be voted on 10 months prior to the MTNA deadline. The procedure for raising dues as laid out in the proposed amendment is the same procedure used to amend the Bylaws. (ARTICLE XIV. AMENDMENTS)

This situation hit home when the Executive Board recently concluded that dues should be raised for 2009-10. Due to the expense of engaging a tax accountant to prepare the newly required tax form for 501c3 organizations, a raise in dues is being recommended. The fee for the tax accountant was \$750. We would like to vote on change to the Bylaws in January and vote on an increase in dues in February.

National and state dues have risen nearly every year. Local dues have not been raised since 2004-05 when they were raised from \$20 to \$25. The Executive Board recommends a \$5 raise, which would bring the local dues to \$30. The suggested revisions to the bylaws are included at the end of this newsletter for all members to read. In order to vote on the bylaws change in January and a dues increase in February we will need a quorum of members at both meetings. Make plans to attend so your vote will count and we can ensure that our organization is fiscally healthy for the coming year.

The New Year is right around the corner. I hope it finds you healthy, happy and musical!

Best Wishes to All,
Carol Feist
ADMTA President

MONTHLY REMINDERS

YEARBOOK CORRECTIONS

If your contact information is not correct in the yearbook please send a correction notice to newsletter editor, Paula Wong pwong1@austin.rr.com. She will announce the change in the newsletter. Also, copy Catherine Davis <catherine@capmusic.com>, Flossie Young <flossiesin2n@austin.rr.com> and Karen White <kwhite@mail.utexas.edu>. It takes all these people to keep our information correct.

TEACHER REFERRAL COMMITTEE

Do you need to fill an opening in your studio? The Teacher referral Committee can help! Email these ladies if you would like your name and contact information to be placed on the referral list. If you live in Westlake or north Austin contact Kay Sparks kay@kayandfriends.com If you live in south Austin contact Lindy Peterson lindy@peterson5.com

WEB LISTING

Are you looking for some free advertising? The ADMTA website can help. All members are invited to have their name, email address or website address listed by zip code. Check it out, go to austintxmusicteachers.org and click on "Looking for a Teacher". Contact Janet Russell, jrr@suddenlink.net to have you name added.

CONTACTING YOUR OFFICERS

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

MEETING AGENDA

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

COMMUNICATIONS COORDINATOR CHANGE. If you have information that needs to be sent out, please mail it to Catherine Davis at catherine@capmusic.com, or send your information to Carol Feist. Please add the following address to your address book: Austindmta@yahoo.com Some of the blast emails coming from ADMTA are bounced back, especially ones with Road Runner addresses. This address will be the one Catherine uses when she sends out Blast email announcements.

AUSTIN SYMPHONY YOUTH AWARDS 2008/2009

Co-sponsored by the Austin District Music Teachers Association and the Austin Symphony Orchestra

The 2008/2009 Austin Symphony Youth Awards preliminary and final round auditions took place November 8th –9th at the Austin Lyric Opera's Armstrong Community School. There were 30 auditions this year with a wide range of instrumental categories including violin, cello, piano, french horn, trumpet, harp and marimba.

Of the 30 auditions, 12 were chosen for the final round. The instrumental categories represented in the final round were: 4 violinists, 7 pianists, and 1 trumpet.

The 2008/2009 ASYA Finalists

VIOLINISTS: *Eric Chen* (Student of Jennifer Bourianoff), *Austin Harris* (Student of Jessica Mathaes), *Michelle Suh* (Student of Jennifer Bourianoff), and *Dongsoo Cha* (Student of Anna Choi)

PIANISTS: *Danielle Cordray* (Student of Susan Groves), *Edward Wang* (Student of Eric Hicks), *Brian Park* (student of Saida Kafarova), *Christopher Henselmann* (Student of Jeannie Henselmann), *Cameron Dennis* (Student of Julia Kruger), *Eric Wang* (Student of Eric Hicks), and *Jerry Chen* (Student of Marlee Dietz).

TRUMPET: *Miki Sasaki* (Student of Ray Sasaki).

Three winners were chosen from the finalists, each of whom will be featured in performances with the Austin Symphony Orchestra January 27th – 29th in Austin area high schools. Any further inquires about these performances can be sent to Diana Eblen (deblen@austinsymphony.org), the ASO outreach coordinator, or by calling the Austin Symphony at 476-6064.

The 2008/2009 ASYA Winners

Austin Harris, Violin

Brian Park, Piano

Miki Sasaki, Trumpet

We wish to thank all of those who participated this year and their teachers, and to congratulate them all on their substantial musical achievements! On behalf of the ADMTA, we would like to express our sincere appreciation to

Margaret Perry the director of Austin Lyric Opera and Armstrong school as well as to event director Rachel McIntyre for their help and generosity in enabling this event to take place.

Submitted by Eric Hicks & Irina Chernysheva-Hicks ASYA chairs

ADMTA TREASURER'S REPORT – 12/10/08

Checking Account \$10,601.16
A.G. Edwards Account \$27,329.31

DON'T PAY SALES TAX

Because we are a 501c3 organization and are tax-exempt, that means we do not have to pay sales tax on items purchased on behalf of the association. Most of the receipts that Ana and I receive include sales tax on the items. If you are purchasing anything for the association, please contact Ana or me to get the tax-exempt number so that you can provide it to the seller. You will save money for our association, which might not be that much on any individual purchase, but mounts up over the year. There is no sales tax on postage so the tax-exempt number is not needed for mail purposes.

Janet Russell
ADMTA Treasurer

HYMN FESTIVAL REPORT

The ADMTA Hymn Festival took place on Dec. 6, 2008 from 9:00am to 3:30pm. There were 163 entries, 147 participants, and a total of 29 participating teachers. The total fees collected were \$1,630. The judges for the festival included Sandra Burnaman, Brooks Whitmore, Marti Dudgeon, and Janet Russell.

Ratings for the students were as follows:

S+ 10 students
S 60
S- 66
E+ 7
E 2

Robert Centeno,
Hymn Festival Chair

STUDENT AFFILIATE NEWS

A personal thanks goes to Carol Feist for having the foresight to send all ADMTA teachers Scott McBride Smith's hand outs from his lecture on Dec. 1st. They are well thought-out and well presented; full of practical advice designed to hone our skills both as pianists and teachers. I would encourage all to take the time to read them. Happy New Year!

Tricia Romriell
Student Affiliate Chairman

STUDENT AFFILIATE TREASURER'S REPORT

Checking Account Balance as of 11/28/08: \$16,322.66
Savings Account Balance as of 11/28/08: \$5,579.53

Ana Ortega
SA Treasurer

THEORY GRADERS DESERVE A ROUND OF APPLAUSE!

Have you ever wondered what happens to your students' theory tests after they sit for the exam? Sometimes we wait for 6 to 8 weeks before we have the results, so I have often wondered what the grading process entails. Well, I now have a better idea. TMTA Theory Chair, Glenda Lanier, asked ADMTA to help out with the grading this year. Carol Feist assembled the team listed below, and I agreed to serve as the head grader for our team. We were assigned all the 4th grade tests from around the state, and since November, we have graded over 700 fourth grade theory exams. I received the tests in the mail and assigned them out to the grading team, complete with answer key and grading instructions. The grading process included a number of discussions by e-mail and phone regarding grading guidelines and the answer key. Believe me, this team of graders tried to "get it right." We discussed interesting topics such as "when does a quarter rest not look enough like a quarter rest, so as to give no partial credit?" Once graded, we sent the exams to the state recorder, who checks the scores on the grade sheet against the scores on the exam. TMTA then records the scores in the statewide database. Another team issues the certificates and medals and returns the tests to each local association. And, you guessed it; most of this is done with volunteer hours. Many thanks to this fine team of area teachers!

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|-----------------|------------------|
| Deanna Badgett | Martha MacDonald |
| Jodi Blount | Ana Ortega |
| Sandra Burnaman | Lisa Richards |
| Nancy Driver | Karen White |
| Patches King | Sukyee Woo |
| Angelica Lopez | Paula Wong |

Paula Wong,
Head grader 4th grade Theory

WILCOX & MAURER CONTEST

The Wilcox and Maurer Contests for high school musicians will take place on Saturday, March 21, 2009 in Jessen Auditorium on the UT campus. The deadline for applying is February 20, 2009. The event is sponsored by the Wednesday Morning Music Club. Prizes range from \$425 to \$850. Please consult the ADMTA web site at www.austintxmusicteachers.org for repertoire, requirements and the application form.

BY-LAWS REVISIONS

ARTICLE VI. DUES (CURRENT VERSION)

Active and Associate members are required to pay annual national, state, and local dues including a scholarship assessment. Dues shall be recommended by the Executive Board and voted upon by the general membership at the April meeting. Dues are payable upon receipt of the official dues notice. Dues are considered delinquent if not paid by July 1 and are subject to a late fee assessment. Dues paid after April 15 are applied to the coming fiscal year. Members entering the Association in February or March must pay full dues if they wish to participate in ADMTA activities; otherwise, prospective members may assume visitor status for February and March and join the Association on or after April 15, thus applying their dues to the coming fiscal year.

ARTICLE VI. DUES (PROPOSED CHANGES)

Section 1. ~~Active and Associate Members~~ are required to pay annual national, state, and local dues ~~including~~, **which include** a scholarship assessment.

Section 2. Dues shall be recommended by the Executive Board and voted upon by the general membership ~~at the April meeting.~~ **Notice of a vote to change the dues amount shall be mailed or emailed to the entire membership not less than two (2) weeks prior to the meeting at which a vote will be taken.**

Section 3. ~~Dues are payable upon receipt of the official MTNA dues notice by the renewal date of June 30. Dues are considered delinquent if not paid by July 1 and are subject to a late fee assessment.~~ **Dues are delinquent sixty days beyond the renewal date after which time members are not in good standing or entitled to any of the privileges of membership until dues are paid for the current membership year.**

Section 4. ~~Honorary members are exempt from local dues but must pay State and National dues if member is still teaching.~~ **Honorary members are exempt from local dues but must pay State and National dues if member is still teaching. (also Article IV Section 5b)**

Section 5. Dues paid after April 15 are applied to the coming fiscal year. Members entering the Association in February or March must pay full dues if they wish to participate in ADMTA activities; otherwise, prospective members may assume visitor status for February and March and join the Association on or after April 15, thus applying their dues to the coming fiscal year.