As I write my last MMTA Newsletter article as President, I reflect on how grateful I am to be part of an organization that provides so much support to me as a teacher by providing me with not only wonderful opportunities for my students, but also a myriad of ways in which I can grow as a teacher. One of the most fulfilling experiences for me is to attend State and National Conventions. I was fortunate to be able to attend the MTNA Conference in Baltimore, Maryland this past March.

If you haven’t been to a National conference, make plans to go now! Next year will be in Disney’s Coronado Springs Resort in Lake Buena Vista, Florida, March 17–21, 2018. Florida will be a great destination in March.

As always, MTNA puts on an excellent conference. My favorite part is to watch the Piano Competitions – it is so exciting to hear these young artists perform. We should be very proud of our Minnesota teachers and students as they did very well in representing our state and the West Central Division! Congratulations to both Shuen Wu, student of Alexander Braginsky, who won the Chopin Prize in the Junior Piano Competition and Collin Jinks, student of Jo Anne Link, who won First Place and the Chopin Prize in the Senior Piano Competition. All of our Minnesota Divisional winners performed with energy and passion at the National level.

Another highlight was the Leon Fleisher Master Class. Some of the key points I took away from the Fleisher Master Class were regarding how to shape time (rhythm) in music as well as how to direct students in honing their ability to listen to themselves, which I believe is the most important and critical thing I do as a music teacher. Fleisher eloquently said, “Memory becomes difficult because of self-consciousness. When you play, there should be a series of tasks in connection with the music…..I want it to sound like this, this is the character, what am I saying with this phrase? Let everything you do at the piano be intentional. Be able to alter your intention the more you learn and the more you listen.”

Amy Immerman said in her practical session on Tips for Teaching the Young Child, “Our first job is to get our students to fall in love with the sound and loving the piano and music.” We do this by first loving the music and the sound ourselves and second, by having enthusiasm, positivity and patience in nurturing our students and parents. Remember that childhood is a journey, not a race.

Lastly, I got to meet David Cutler, author of The Savvy Musician: Building a Career, Earning a Living, & Making a Difference and The Savvy Music Teacher: Blueprint for Maximizing Income & Impact. He interviewed me for a short vignette on my studio for Continued on p. 2
his book, *The Savvy Music Teacher* so it was really fun to get to meet him in person. He gave an inspirational keynote address on Tuesday morning, where he challenged teachers to think outside of the traditional box of music lessons to meet the needs of today’s changing society. He said, “Change is hard, but not changing is suicide.”

This quote reminded me not only that I need to change and grow in my studio, but that our state and local associations will likely need to change as well. As we move forward in MMTA, change is necessary for our organization to grow.

May we all work together to find innovative ways in which to attract and retain members so that our organization continues to thrive.

*Suzanne M. Greer, NCTM*

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**2017 Annual Meeting**

The MMTA Annual Meeting will be at our MMTA Convention on Tuesday, June 6th at 11:15 AM in the Scandinavian Ballroom – Crowne Plaza Minneapolis West in Plymouth.

Please join the MMTA Board at the Annual Meeting as we will be voting on an important By-Law amendment: add the position of Vice President-Marketing to the Slate of Officers.

**Rationale:**
Marketing is an essential component of a business, connecting the business to the world. A Vice President of Marketing for MMTA would work with other members of the Board to connect our organization with colleges and universities, other Arts groups, and other entities to accomplish the following:
- Increase membership, especially at the Collegiate level
- Work with other organizations to promote and advocate for the Arts
- Connect with other organizations in order to provide more services to members (business advice, continuing education, etc.)
- Promote MMTA programs, resources, and events to non-members and other states
  ...and more!

Hope to see you on June 6th!

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**Job Opening in MMTA**

Site Administrators for metro theory and piano exam testing sites (St. Catherine, St. Thomas, Northwestern, Bethel, Univ. of MN, and a south metro site TBD)

Site administrators are needed at every metro site next year. (2017-2018)

**Job description:** Good organizational skills are needed. Site Administrator coordinates with the site, recruits volunteers, orders lunches, organizes judges packets, records scores, and mails out critiques and exams to teachers. Registration and scheduling is handled by the MMTA Office. The job could be shared by two co-administrators.

Compensation is based on the number of students participating and ranges from $140 to $350. Perks: working with fantastic volunteers and judges, promoting great MMTA programs to parents and students and gaining intimate knowledge of the exam programs.

Contact Sarah Mensen, Gina Skule or Rebekah Richards if interested.
Local Associations
Kay Hawkins, NCTM, Chair

MMTA members and non-members are generally welcome to attend any of the events listed below:

Alexandria Area Music Teachers Association
  • Saturday, Apr. 22, 11:00 a.m. – Annual Meeting.
  • Thursday, June 15, 9:00 a.m. – Meeting at Karen Erickson’s home, 910 Westwood Dr. SW, Alexandria. 10:30 AM Brunch Potluck.

Central Minnesota Music Teachers Association
  • Friday, Apr. 7, 9:00-11:00 a.m. (Coffee 8:45) – “Applications for I-Pads” with presenter Heidi Hansen. Location: home of Gayle Gunnerson, 1003 Marcella Ct., Sauk Rapids.
  • Friday, May 5, 11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. – Spring Luncheon. Location: Old Chicago Restaurant, St. Cloud.

MMTF/MFMTA
  • Tuesday, Apr. 4 – All-Association Spring Luncheon – Lecture/Recital of the American composer John Knowles Paine, with presenter Christopher Atzinger. Location: Crowne Plaza Minneapolis West-Hotel and Conference Center. Cost: $25. Deadline March 27.
  • Tuesday, April 18, 10:00-noon – Performance/Listening Session. Location: home of Rebecca Shockley, 18 Barton Ave. S.E., Minneapolis.
  • Friday, Apr. 21 – Topics in Teaching – “Popular Repertoire”. Location: TBD. Contact Donna Engel if interested in attending.
  • Friday, Apr. 21, 10:00 a.m.- Composition Group. Location: home of Sondra Howe, 135 Chevy Chase Dr., Wayzata.
  • Tuesday, May 2, 10:00 a.m. - Mini Topic: “Theme-related Student Notebooks” with presenter Marlene Adams. Member Performance: Deanna Andersen. Student Performances: Winners of Ninth Grade Music Award, Mozart Piano Concerto Competition, Senior Honors Award. Location: Schmitt Music Southdale Square.
  • Tuesday, May 16, 10:00-noon - Performance/Listening Session. Location: home of Sondra Howe, 135 Chevy Chase Dr., Wayzata.
  • Friday, May 19 – Topics in Teaching – Open Discussion. Location: TBD. Contact Donna Engel if interested in attending.

Minnesota River Valley Music Teachers Association
  • Tuesday, May 9, 10:30-noon (Business Meeting 9:30) – Member Performance – Election of Officers. Location: home of Patricia Langer, 7101 Antrim Ct., Edina.

Minnesota Valley Music Teachers Association
  • Friday, Apr. 14, 9:30-11:00 a.m. (Business Meeting 9:00) – Book Discussion: The Music Teaching Artist’s Bible by Eric Booth. Location: Twin River Arts Center, Mankato.

Rochester Area Music Teachers Association
  • Thursday, Apr. 9, 9:30 a.m. – Spring Brunch and Humoresque: Light-Hearted Ensembles of Members and Friends. Location: Mount Olive Lutheran Church.

St. Paul Piano Teachers Association
  • Tuesday, May 9, 10:00 a.m. – “Russian Piano Music – a Pedagogical Approach” with presenter Dr. Gabriel Quenneville-Belair.

South Suburban Music Teachers Association
  • Tuesday, Apr. 4, 10:00-noon – Keeping Things Fun – Using Games to Teach Music (Group Discussion). Location: Grace Lutheran Church, 7800 West Cty Rd 42, Apple Valley.
  • Tuesday, May 2, 10:00-noon – End of Year Brunch. Location: home of Kathy Williamson, 14115 Garland Ave, Apple Valley.

(continued on p. 4)
West Suburban Music Teachers Association
- **Friday, May 5**, 10:30-11:30 (Business Meeting 10:00) – Roundtable Discussion. St. Barnabas Lutheran Church, 15600 Old Rockford Road, Plymouth.

Willmar Music Teachers Association
- **Saturday, Apr. 22**, 9:30-10:30 a.m. – “Mindfulness in the Piano Studio” with presenter Dr. Shannon Wettstein Sadler. Location: Bethel Lutheran Church, 411 Becker Ave SW, Willmar.

**MMTA Convention: June 4-6, 2017**

**Top Ten Reasons to Attend the MMTA Convention June 4-6, 2017:**

10. Take home solid, practical teaching tips that you can implement with your students the very next day.
9. Explore the exhibit hall to view the latest releases from music publishers.
8. Learn to implement the latest technology in your studio, both to support learning and to add efficiency to your administrative tasks.
7. Stock up on MMTA materials, theory and sightplaying workbooks, and support the MMTA Foundation’s used music sale.
6. Take in six great recitals:
   - MMTA Student Programs Showcase at 4:30 PM Sunday, June 4
   - MMTA Foundation Award Winners Recital at 7:30 PM Sunday, June 4
   - MMTA Student Composition Recital at 4:15 PM Monday, June 5
   - Reed Tetzloff, pianist at 7:30 PM Monday, June 5
   - MMTA String Recital at 4:15 PM Tuesday, June 6
   - MMTA Members Recital at 4:15 PM Tuesday, June 6
5. Observe master teacher Dr. Scott McBride Smith in action:
   - Intermediate Masterclass at 4:15 Monday, June 5
   - Advanced Masterclass at 1 PM Tuesday, June 6
4. Enjoy the fabulous hospitality and award winning dining at the Crowne Plaza Minneapolis West Hotel and Conference Center in Plymouth.
3. Meet Reed Tetzloff, the Minnesotan who was declared the “Lyric Hero” of the XV International Tchaikovsky Competition, hear his story, and enjoy his Monday evening recital.
2. Learn how to incorporate MMTA programs into your studio curriculum. MMTA Theory, Contest, Exams, Ensemble Festival and Music Bridges are a great value for your students.
1. Enjoy reunions with your colleagues from around the state!

Register online before May 15 to take advantage of early bird discount rates. Reserve your room at the Crowne Plaza by May 4; call 877-270-1393 and ask for the “MN Music Teachers Association Room Block.”

Interested in helping our 2017 MMTA convention run smoothly? Meet speakers and convention attendees, and contribute to the success of our convention by volunteering today! Watch for instructions in the Weekly Update on how to sign up. Once you have signed up, you will be notified of how you can help.

Want to see what sessions are being offered at this year’s convention before you sign up? The schedule is also available on the Convention page.

Feel free to contact me with any questions. See you at the convention!

Pat Dymacek Volunteer Chair (651) 438-0304, pat@dymacek.net
Sunday, June 4

MMTA Student Programs Showcase Recital: 4:30 PM
MMTA Foundation Award Winners Recital: 7:30 PM

Monday, June 5

Continuous Beverage Break begins 7:30 a.m.
With Breakfast Buffet
Exhibits Open 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Sessions 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Lunch 12:00 p.m. Dinner 5:30 p.m.

Recital: Reed Tetzloff, pianist – 7:30 PM

The Power of Efficient Practice
Dr. Scott McBride Smith

A Conversation with Reed Tetzloff
Sue Freeman Dopp Haugen

Romantic Music
Dr. Scott McBride Smith

Teaching Tomorrow’s Musicians:
Building the Foundation for Musical Independence
Emily Ireland

CCM Pedagogy for Voice
Maureen Mullaney Vu

Using GarageBand for iPad
Sean Roderick

Studio Organization
IMTF Panel

Summer Music Study
MMTA Member Panel

MMTA Theory: Aural Skills
Jacob Fitzpatrick

4:15 PM: MMTA Student Composition Recital

Tuesday, June 6

Continuous Beverage Break begins 7:30 a.m.
With Breakfast Buffet
Exhibits Open 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Sessions 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Lunch 12:00 p.m.

MMTA Members Recital 4:15 PM

Musical Punctuation and the Art of Interpretation
Dr. Scott McBride Smith

Tips for Praise Band Keyboardists
Cheri Sykes

Voice Explorations Class
Clif Ware

The Nature of Music Cognition
Dr. Rebecca R. Johnston

Heitor Villa Lobos’ Letters for Posterity:
Elementary to Advanced Piano Works
Vicente Della Tonia

Teaching Tips: Taming Tricky Teens
Camille Buddecke

Why Johnny and Suzy Can’t Read Music (very well)
Rebekah Richards

Teaching Collaborative Skills to Pianists
Gail Olszewski

MMTA Theory: Analysis
MMTA Theory Development Committee

4:15 PM: MMTA String Recital

See the complete schedule and register at www.mnmusicteachers.com

Member’s Recital: Tuesday, June 6!

We want YOU to share your music with all of us! The Members Recital will be the final event of the convention on Tuesday! Please submit name of repertoire (solo or ensemble), length and performers by April 15 online with this link or contact Linda Seime, 507-269-2799.
Join us for the 4th annual
Avivo 2017 Summer Teacher Training Institute

Avivo
Transforming Education for Musicians

U of M – Twin Cities, July 14–18
Learn more & register now at www.avivo.com

July 5-11, 2017, Minneapolis, MN, USA

Virtual Auditions
Join us at the University of Minnesota School of Music, March 13-15, 2017
to hear the preliminary performances by 49 young pianists from all over the world.
All performances are free. Schedule will be available in March at
www.ecompetition.org.

e-Piano Junior Festival
All performances and masterclasses are free and open to the public.

Masterclasses with the members of the International Jury

Application Forms NOW AVAILABLE
Applications due MAY 24, 2017

www.ecompetition.org
Junior Young Artist Winners
1\textsuperscript{st} place: Emily Deng, student of Horacio Nuguid
2\textsuperscript{nd} place: Daniel Nycamp, student of Jean Krinke
3\textsuperscript{rd} place: Garrett Teoh, student of Elizabeth Karelse

Senior Young Artist Winners
1\textsuperscript{st} place: Austin Cheng, student of Alexander Braginsky
2\textsuperscript{nd} place: Mina Yuan, student of Natalie Thaler
3\textsuperscript{rd} place: Kimberly Shen, student of Alexander Braginsky

Vocal & Instrumental Contest and Young Artist Vocal & Instrumental Contest Winners
Elizabeth Raihala, Program Director
Saturday, March 18, 2017 was the Vocal & Instrumental Final Contest, held at St. John’s University in Collegeville.

Voice Contest: 23 voice students registered and 20 competed.
- **First place:** Level I: Madelyn Elzen, student of La Rae Mills; Level II: Sophie Treanor, student of Siri Caltvedt; Level III: Dayo Ogunmamede, student of Char LeBel; Level IV: Myla Lewis, student of Diane Jordan.
- **Second place:** Level I: Lily Riese, student of Katie Phenow; Level II: Greta Schulberg, student of Lori Paakh; Level III: Chidera Osuji, student of Dr. Melissa Culloton; Level IV: (none selected)
- **Honorable Mentions:** Level I: Ahan Devgun, student of Siri Caltvedt; Eve Pfannkuch, student of Kristin Donovan; Level II: (none selected); Level III: Delaney Majekja, student of Ashley Morben; Level IV: Erin Grabinger, student of Diane Jordan; chosen by judges Elias Mokole and Maureen Mullaney Vu.

Seven Senior (High School) **Young Artist Voice** competed:
- **1\textsuperscript{st} Place:** Olivia Baldzicki, student of Dr. Melissa Culloton
- **2\textsuperscript{nd} Place:** Jackie Resh, student of Dr. Melissa Culloton
- **3\textsuperscript{rd} Place:** Siri Torvik, student of Dr. Melissa Culloton
- **Honorable Mention:** Sydney Prussia, student of Lori Paakh.

Seven **Strings** competed:
- **First Place:** Elementary II: Melody Ma, student of Dr. Jackie Lo; Junior B: Joey Wu, student of Dr. Jackie Lo; Senior A: Stephen Ma, student of Dr. Jackie Lo; Senior B: Zach Pederson, student of Char LeBel.
- **Second Place:** Junior B: Joyce Zhu, student of Dr. Jackie Lo; Senior A: Mike Cao, student of Dr. Jackie Lo;
- **Honorable Mention:** Junior B: Hunter Lo, student of La Rae Mills.

Three **String Young Artists** competed:
- **Junior String Young Artist:** Stephen Ma, 1\textsuperscript{st} Place, student of Dr. Jackie Lo
- **Senior String Young Artist:** Jeremy Yeung, 1\textsuperscript{st} Place, student of Dr. Jackie Lo
- **College String Young Artist:** Jonathan Yeung, 1\textsuperscript{st} Place, student of Dr. Jackie Lo

There were sectional practices prior to the Vocal & Instrumental Performance Festival which featured the 1\textsuperscript{st} Place winners in each category; String Ensemble and a Finale featuring all students singing/playing in “Cindy” by Shaw and “O Music” arr. by Rao. The Finale was directed by Dr. Axel Theimer and accompanied by Diane Jordan.

Special thanks to sectional leader Dr. Jackie Lo, string director; Voice sectional leader/Finale Director and host Dr. Axel Theimer, St. John’s University for the use of their facility; Lori Paakh, Performance Festival Chair and the teachers, students and their families for making all of this possible.
Join world-renowned pianist and composer Stephen Hough at the majestic Basilica of Saint Mary in Minneapolis. Stephen will play solo works by Claude Debussy in between performances of his two masses by the VocalEssence Chorus & Ensemble Singers and organist Aaron David Miller. Select Debussy works will include Clair de lune, Images Book II, La terrasse des audiences du clair de lune, and Images Book I. Use code MMTA for 10% off tickets.
MusicLink News
Sue Wege, State Chair

The MusicLink Foundation is proud to honor Sue Krebsbach as a Teacher of Distinction with Honors. This means that Sue has been an active MusicLink teacher for 15 years. Congratulations, Sue, and thank you for your years of service in bringing your gift of music to children in financial need!

Ruth Stenson MusicLink Award
If you have a MusicLink student who is graduating this spring and has been in the MusicLink program for at least 3 years, please encourage him/her to apply for the Ruth Stenson MusicLink Award. This $1,000 award is given to a student who shows outstanding achievement in music, has attained an advance level of performance and intends to go on to college. The student does not have to major in music, but should plan to use this award to help continue musical study or personal involvement in music. Click HERE to access the Application Form. The application deadline is May 16, 2017.

Summer Music Camp Scholarship
If you have a MusicLink student that has been in the MusicLink program for at least 6 months, he/she would qualify for a $250 Summer Music Camp scholarship. If you feel your student would benefit from this type of experience, please encourage them him/her to submit an application. Click HERE to access the Application Form. The application deadline is May 16, 2017.

If you have questions about these awards or any aspect of the MusicLink program, please contact Sue Wege at swege71@comcast.net

MusicLink Playathon
This year the MusicLink Foundation is celebrating its 25th Anniversary of bringing musical instruction to low income children. I asked for your participation to make this the biggest and best Playathon ever and you responded. A record 53 teachers sent over 260 students to perform and we raised over $12,000—a new Playathon high!

Our third Popular Styles Hour had the place rockin’ with 14 students performing either piano solos or opting to perform with “The Katzen Jammers”, our live band which included James Towns on bass, Beth Varela on drums and led by Doug Rohde on the keyboard. Special thanks to Doug for coordinating and emceeing this special hour. What a treat for these students to have this opportunity!

I owe a great debt of thanks to all my wonderful volunteers. MMTA teachers who gave of their time: Kirsten Levorson, Emily Feld, Doug Rohde, Mitch Grussing, Karen Stiles, Linda Seime, Sara Diedrich, Kathryn Karg, Kim Nichols, Suzanne Greer and Cindy Nelson. I also had a lot of help from the Minnesota royalty who volunteered at the desk and emceed: Madeline Van Ert, the reigning Miss Minnesota, Rachel Weyandt, 2015 Miss Minnesota Outstanding Teen and Michelle Bergh, Int’l Miss Midwest Teen 2016. Other guest emcees included singer/songwriter, Joe Filipovich and Lillie Imm, my MusicLink Ambassador. Thanks also to Hilary Imm and Gary Wege, my faithful photographer.

I would also like to recognize with thanks the 3 top fundraising studios:

Kathryn Karg with 26 students: $1,092
Kim Nichols with 18 students: $945
Rory Thompson with himself & 1 student: $755

Many thanks to Schmitt Music for providing us with a beautiful Boston grand piano, to the MMTA Office for helping with online registration and publicity, to the Mall of America for hosting our event and to all MMTA teachers who participated by sending students. The money raised at this event will go a long way in providing more lessons, music, instruments and other musical opportunities to students in need.
Thursday Musical has a legacy of featuring some of some of the most talented classical musicians in Minnesota in a recital setting.

Become a member and receive a season subscription that includes the Thursday Morning Artist Series and Home Programs for just under $8 a program.

Your membership also supports:

- Scholarship and recital opportunities for developing musicians through the Young Artist Scholarship Competition and Young Artist Recitals
- Teaching opportunities for music educators through the Music In Our Schools Program

For more information, visit thursdaymusical.org 612-333-0313

Kick off the season with a FREE concert on October 6th! Preconcert reception at 9:30 am

Thursday Morning Artist Series
10:30 am

October 6, 27
November 3, 10
December 1
January 19
February 2, 16
March 2, 16
April 6, 13

MacPhail Center for Music
Complimentary Coffee and Donuts
10:00 am

Membership $95, Seniors $85
Single Tickets $15 (at the door)

612-333-0313
thursdaymusical.org

Presenting Minnesota’s Finest Classical Musicians since 1892
Independent Music Teachers Forum - Studio Organization
Laura Harding, NCTM, Chair

Papers, books, games, instruments – how do you organize it all? On Monday, June 5th, join us at the MMTA Convention for the IMTForum: Studio Organization. In this interactive session, hear perspectives from a panel of independent teachers regarding how they organize their physical studio space. Topics addressed will include organizing paperwork, books, games, instrument set-up as well as layout of the studio. View photos of studio spaces, ask questions about organization and walk away with new ideas to revitalize your studio space.

As a preview of this session, I thought I would share three items that I use daily in my teaching studio: 3-ring binders, Pendaflex® Desktop Files and Post-It® Notes.

After shuffling papers here and there and trying to keep better track of my students’ books, events, repertoire and theory requirements, I finally found a solution that works for me: a 3-ring binder! Although I have much of this information in electronic form, I find that I work better with a physical piece of paper. I took a 3-ring binder and added divider tabs for each student. The top sheet lists the current books that the student is working on as well as their keyboard skills, event plans for the year and repertoire pieces for recitals, festivals and assessments. On the following page, I include a copy of their technical requirements and repertoire selections for their current assessment level. If the student is preparing for a theory exam, I include a copy of the weekly assignment plan. I also keep copies of their contest or assessment pieces so that I can mark them up in lessons or just have a back-up copy readily available if needed. This binder has been such a life-saver because not only do I have the bulk of my students’ information in one place, but it is portable and easily changeable!

Going back to the shuffling of papers, I had been trying to find a way to sort assignment sheets and books for my students. Stacking piles of books only created a big mess, until I realized that vertical storage was the solution! I ordered two desktop files (shown in photo above) and now have easy access to my students’ assignment sheets and books. These files are located right next to my piano, so the materials are easily accessible. Each student has a labeled file folder where I keep copies of registration forms, exam results and upcoming books.

Last, but not least, my absolute must: Post-It® Notes! I use post-it notes for so many things so many times a day. Perhaps it is a quick note about what to review at next week’s lesson or a reminder to me or the student. I have also found that if I place a post-it note on top of a paper in my to-do file, I can easily label the quick requirements such as due date, contact person, etc. For a simple check-list of technique skills, I created labels with technique requirements and stuck it to a Post-It® Note. The use of Post-It® Notes is endless.

Join us on Monday, June 5th at the MMTA Convention to hear more about studio organization! We are looking forward to seeing you there!

One of the reasons MMTA programs are so beneficial for students is because of the supportive and motivating evaluations received from top quality MMTA judges.

If you love teaching and would like to be an MMTA judge, please contact Jill Kilzer, Judge Education Chair, at jill.kilzer@me.com for more information. Judges are especially needed for 2017 Spring exams, as well as for events during the 2017-2018 school year.

Training and guidance provided free of charge. Start today!
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- Duluth • Virginia • Fargo • Rochester • Sioux Falls • Eau Claire • Omaha

Accessories, books and sheet music
Acoustic and digital pianos
Service and Repair • Financing
Guitars and Amps • Lessons
New and Used instruments
Drums and Percussion
Ethel Arlene Hascall, age 95, passed away February 28, 2017 at Friendship Village in Bloomington, MN. She was born in Linton, North Dakota, on September 18, 1921, and began taking piano lessons when she was five years old. After graduating from high school, she attended St. Olaf College, graduating in 1943 with a double major in English and Music.

She married Robert Hascall, and they moved to Edina in 1954 with their three children. In 1959, she began her career as piano teacher, teaching hundreds of students over the next 50 years, including her children and grandchildren.

Ethel was a member of the Minneapolis Music Teachers Forum, and served as president of the Minnesota Music Teachers Association from 1965-1967, receiving their Honorary Lifetime Membership Award in 2011.

She became historian of MMTA and helped develop the first Piano Theory Examination Syllabus. She was an adjudicator in Minnesota for statewide piano competitions for many years. In 1973, with the support of MMTA and other piano teachers, she helped create the Edina Applied Music Program, allowing students to receive education credit for their study with independent music teachers.

In retirement, she played piano recitals in Sun City, Arizona, and played for Vesper and memorial services at Friendship Village until the age of 94.

Ethel lived a rich life as wife, mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother, teacher, and musician. She was preceded in death by her husband, Robert. Survivors include her 3 children, Diane, Richard, and Peggy, 6 grandchildren, and 8 great-grandchildren.
April, May, June 2017

**MMTA NEWSLETTER**

**Got awards?**

Deadline for ordering trophies for students who have earned them is: **May 20th.**

- Go to www.mnmusicteachers.com/Events.
- Scroll to November, View Details, Add number of trophies needed to cart. Then, go to the Shop to add the trophy/trophies to the cart.
- Begin the check-out process, then enter Student Names.
- Complete the check-out process. The MMTA Office will notify you when trophies come in.

All other Challenge awards may be ordered at any time.

All points earned after **September 2010 or September 2015** may be applied toward Challenge Awards, including the trophy.

For more Information, see the 2016-2017 Handbook p. 33.

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**MTNA Performance National Competition**

Congratulations to Collin Jinks, student of Jo Anne Link, who took First Place in the MTNA National Senior Piano Competition! Collin was also awarded the Chopin Prize for his brilliant performance of the Scherzo No. 3 in C-sharp Minor!

Congratulations to Shuen Wu and teacher, Alexander Braginsky on representing Minnesota at the MTNA National Junior Piano Competition! Shuen was awarded the Chopin Prize for his amazing performance of Etudes Op. 10, No. 1 and 2!

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**MTNA Foundation Fellow**

Congratulations to Dr. Paul Wirth, 2017 Minnesota MTNA Foundation Fellow! Dr. Wirth accepted his award at the 2017 MTNA National Conference in Baltimore in March.

**MMTA Foundation Grants**

The MMTA Foundation offers three different grants to MMTA members. Consider applying for one this spring! Information about the grants is available on the [MMTA Foundation page](#) on the website, and in the [MMTA Handbook](#) beginning on p. 15. Below is a list of the grants and application deadlines:

- **Robert Schmitt Professional Development Grant** Deadline is April 15, 2017
- **Local Association Grant** Deadline July 1, 2017
- **Student of the Year** Deadline May 1, 2017

**Presenting**

**MMTA Challenge Award**

*Participate in MMTA programs and earn awards for doing what you love!*

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**MTNA Performance National Competition**

**MTNA Foundation Fellow**

**MMTA Foundation Grants**

**Got awards?**

**Presenting**

**MMTA Challenge Award**

*Participate in MMTA programs and earn awards for doing what you love!*
MMTA Board Minutes Highlights — January 2017

- Dr. Vanessa Cornett submitted the MMTA Judge Education Committee’s “Writing a Great Critique” to the Clavier Companion for their May/June issue.
- College Young Artist Piano Contest was cancelled due to the low number of registrations. VP-Piano Contest and VP-Marketing will work with college faculty to grow interest in the program for the future.
- VP-Vocal & Instrumental Programs is working to create a Voice track for the Popular Styles program.

MMTA Board Minutes Highlights — February 2017

- Value of Patron Membership was reviewed. It was decided that we need more conversation about the benefits and a need to revisit our Bylaws (Article IV, Section 6) as a Membership Classification.
- Performance time requirements for the Young Artist Piano Contest were discussed. More thought will be given as to whether the performance times will be changed to recommendations instead of requirements.
- Questions were raised as to whether MMTA should use 2 judges instead of 3 for level 11 exams. This will be further discussed by the Ed Council.
- A motion was made and passed to hire Kristin Yost for the 2018 MMTA Convention. 2018 Convention will be held at the Crowne Plaza Aire in Bloomington by the Mall of America.

MMTA Board Minutes Highlights—March 2017

- A motion was made to add a VP Marketing position to the MMTA Board pending approval at the annual meeting in June.
- Program registrations are higher this year in several categories, expenses are lower in others.
- Nominating Committee reports that we have almost a full slate, with a candidate considering President Elect; Jacob Fitzpatrick accepted VP Piano Ed; the current Treasurer, Convention VP and VP VIP have all accepted nominations for second terms.
- Dr. Marianne Bryan has accepted the position of MTNA Certification Chair for Minnesota.
- A revised Chart of Accounts has been created and will be used to plan the budget for 2017-2018.

The MMTA Office will be closed on the following dates:

⇒ June 5-9, 2017 for the 2017 MMTA Convention

Calls and emails will be responded to and orders will be processed the week following each closure period. Unless otherwise announced, the office will be open regular hours throughout the summer.
Dr. Scott McBride Smith, Featured Guest

Scott McBride Smith is a recognized leader in worldwide music education. As the Cordelia Brown Murphy Professor of Piano Pedagogy at the University of Kansas (since 2010), he focuses on national issues of teacher training and piano pedagogy. As President and CEO of the International Institute for Young Musicians, he leads a summer program offering specialized training for gifted young performers from around the world. And as co-author of the groundbreaking new series *American Popular Piano*, he has helped create a course of study for today’s student – providing tools that inspire the necessary hard work while playing music they love.

Scott McBride Smith is President-Elect of the Music Teachers National Association of the United States.

Reed Tetzloff, Guest Artist

Reed Tetzloff has been praised as a “young American to watch” by The Cincinnati Enquirer, which lauded his “magical tone” and “richly communicative” playing. At the XV International Tchaikovsky Competition in 2015, Reed was one of twelve semi-finalists, receiving wide acclaim in Russian media as the “lyric hero of the competition”.

Born in 1992 in Minneapolis, Minnesota, he studied with Dr. Paul Wirth and won over ten first prizes in state, regional, and national competitions prior to college. Reed earned his Bachelor’s degree at Mannes College, studying with Piano Department Chair Pavlina Dokovska. He currently pursues his Master’s degree at Mannes on a full scholarship as the recipient of the Nahum Guzik Piano Award.