

MMTA NEWSLETTER

JANUARY, FEBRUARY, MARCH NEWSLETTER 2023

10800 LYNDAL AVE S, STE. 120
BLOOMINGTON, MN 55420
(952) 345-0629
WWW.MNMUSICTEACHERS.COM
MMTA@MNMUSICTEACHERS.COM

MMTA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- 🎹 Camille Buddecke, NCTM
President
- 🎹 Laura Harding, NCTM
President-Elect
- 🎹 Caroline Langfeld
VP-Piano Contests
- 🎹 Dr. Tianyao Xie
VP-Convention
- 🎹 Mary Beth Millner, NCTM
VP-Piano Educational Programs
- 🎹 Lori McCauley
& Diane Jordan
VP-Voice & Instrumental Programs
- 🎹 Megan Gilles
VP-Finance
- 🎹 Kathryn Karg
VP-Marketing
- 🎹 Dr. Diana Shaprio
VP-Membership
- 🎹 Helen Marie Plourde
Recording Secretary
- 🎹 Doug Rohde
Treasurer
- 🎹 Dr. Ann DuHamel, NCTM
Immediate Past President

MMTA President's Letter

In Jeremy Denk's memoir *Every Good Boy Does Fine*, he details his musical journey, moment by moment, in captivating and powerful prose. But the most striking image is in the "Prelude" when he first hears a recording of Mozart's Sinfonia Concertante. His description is picturesque and lush, vivid and evocative. An amazing reminder that music can touch lives in so many ways! (Read the book, it's fabulous!)



Some of my favorite musical moments happen while I am teaching. We've all had those wonderful, funny, touching, embarrassing and ridiculous moments.

- When the student plays so beautifully, you're brought to tears (happened to me!).
- When there's a lightbulb moment and the student suddenly shapes phrases with crescendo and decrescendo, (and a parent gasps in the background!)
- When the student is embarrassed for a natural bodily function and you have to explain that it happens to all of us.
- When the student insists they need to know exactly how old you are...because by your wrinkles (or lack thereof) you must be older/younger than mom/dad/grandpa/grandma/etc.
- When asked about the 1st and 5th degrees of the scale, the student says they're the tonic and Dominic.
- When asked for the F Major key signature, student replies "F# and C#". "What?" I say, raising an eyebrow. "Oh right," she says, "I was thinking of F Minor".
- And when the student gives you a hug after their lesson.

These are just some of the most poignant moments that come to my mind. And I am truly blessed to have an entire family that is heavily involved in music.

One of my favorite personal moments is knowing that I chose to learn the Schubert Piano Sonata in A Major Opus Posth. 120 (3rd mvt) just because my mother was studying the entire sonata when I was a young child. I would go to sleep listening to her practice, and that music is ingrained in my heart and soul. And what joy to be able to play it myself!

And the days long past when my grandfather would come into our house, sneak to the piano and announce his entry with the first lines of the Schumann Romanze Op 28 #2. We always knew it was him! (Unless of course he opted for his college fight song.)

May your new year be filled with incredible musical moments: with your students, with your family and friends and in your hearts. Happy New Year!

Camille Buddecke, NCTM

Camille Buddecke, NCTM
MMTA President

In this issue: page

Piano Contest List Updates ..	2
Handbook Updates	2
Local Associations	3
MusicLink Playathon	5
Challenge Trophies.....	5
In Memoriam	6
Ind. Music Teachers	7
Foundation Nominations.....	7
Board Nominations	8
Early Childhood Music	9
Student Composition	9
MMTA Foundation	10
Voice & Instrumental	12
MMTA Judges.....	13
MTNA Competitions	14
Board Activity Summary	15
2023 MMTA Convention	16



Have you considered expanding your network and honing your skills by volunteering with MMTA? **MMTA contest season is the ideal time to do that!** Visit www.mnmusicteachers.com/volunteer to view opportunities and sign up.

Members are "invited to volunteer". It truly is an invitation - an invitation to lend your expertise while working with others to ensure MMTA has a bright future. Whether the volunteering happens on the day of an event, or as part of a group, MMTA needs volunteers to make all of the things we do as an organization possible.

2023 MMTA Piano Contest/Piano Solo Festival Materials List – Updates

Please note:

In general, please use the **specified editions** on the 2023 Piano Contest Materials List. Many pieces, especially in the **Junior A** category, have very reputable and popular editions with different notation than the suggested edition on the 2023 list. It is acceptable to use a different edition; but please compare it **CAREFULLY** to the edition on the 2023 list. Using different notation may cause student disqualification which is never desirable.

Junior A:

Baumgartner E. - Main at Midnight

Jazz Piano Basics, Encore; downloadable sheet (Willis/HL: 286619/HX.425422) pp. 18-19

Duncomb, W. - Fanfare Minuet from Sonata in C major

The Classical Spirit, Book 1 (Alfred:16720) p. 37

Graupner, C. - Bouree in E minor

The Developing Artist, Book 2, Revised ed. (Faber Piano Adventures/HL:420143) p. 11

NO REPEATS

Intermediate B:

Chopin - Waltz in Bm

- **NEW:** Encore edition preferred. **Take Repeat** and **da capo**. (*When playing the da capo, omit the 1st ending.*)
Do not use an edition that contains double 3rds starting in m. 82.

2022-2023 Handbook Updates

Please make note of the following changes to the 2022-2023 MMTA Handbook:

- p. 33, 35, 37: Voice & Instrumental Contest, Solo Festival, and Young Artist is March **11**, 2023.
- p. 37: Voice Young Artist student registrations will be paid for by the Dr. Shirley Holzer Endowment Fund.
- P. 40: Several Voice & Instrumental Exam dates have been added:
 - Voice Exams on April 29, 2023 in NW Detroit Lakes
 - Virtual String Exams on April 15, 2023. Registration deadline is March 12th.
- pp. 48-52: There are several changes to MMTA personnel:
 - Mary Beth Millner NCTM will now be Vice President-Piano Education. Rebecca Nelson has changed to be the Sightplaying Program Director.
 - Dr. Tianyao Xie will now be Vice President-Convention.
 - Helen Marie Plourde will now be Recording Secretary.
 - The Piano Exam Development Committee is now co-chaired by Grace Kopitske NCTM, and Jean Krinke.
 - Monica Larson will be NW Bemidji Exam Site Administrator for Spring exams. Date is TBD.
 - Diane Jordan will now be co-Vice President-Voice & Instrumental Programs. Diane will work with instrumental programs, and Lori McCauley will work with the voice program.

Local Associations

Kay Hawkins, NCTM, Chair

Bemidji Area Music Teachers Association

- Friday, Jan. 27, 10:00 a.m. - First Lutheran Church Music Room.
- Friday, Feb. 24, 10:00 a.m. - First Lutheran Church Music Room.
- Friday, Mar. 24, 10:00 a.m. - First Lutheran Church Music Room.

Central Minnesota Music Teachers Association

- Friday, Jan. 6, 8:45 a.m. social time, 9:00 business meeting, 9:30-11:00 program - "Physics of Music and Sound" with presenter Todd Johnson. Celebration Lutheran Church, 1500 Pinecone Rd N, Sartell.
- Friday, Feb. 3, 8:45 a.m. social time, 9:00 business meeting, 9:30-11:00 program - "The Lesson Notebook: A Book to Judge by its Cover" with presenter Dr. Paul Wirth. Wirth Center Recital Hall, 823 1st St. S., St. Cloud.

Minneapolis Music Teachers Forum

(MMTF and SPPTA are combining their monthly meetings. See information under St. Paul Piano Teachers Association.)

Minnesota River Valley Music Teachers Association

- Tuesday, Jan. 10, 9:30 a.m. business meeting, 10:30-noon program - "Getting Started with Group Lessons" with presenter Marie Lee. Zoom.
- Tuesday, Mar. 7, 9:30 a.m. business meeting, 10:30-noon program - "Keeping Teens Engaged" with speaker Andrea Dow. Zoom.

Minnesota Valley Music Teachers Association

- Friday, Feb. 10, 9:00 a.m. business meeting, 9:30-11:00 program - "Piano Teacher Appreciation" - Emy Frentz Arts Guild, Mankato.

Rochester Area Music Teachers Association

- Thursday, Jan. 12, 9:00 a.m. - "Master Class for Beginning and Intermediate Students" with Dr. David Shaffer-Gottschalk. Mount Olive Lutheran Church.
- Thursday, Feb. 9, 9:00 a.m. - "Educating Parents to be Effective Home Teachers" with presenter Suzanne Greer. Mount Olive Lutheran Church.
- Thursday, Mar. 9, 9:00 a.m. - "Piano Music from the Philippines" with presenter Dr. Horacio Nuguid. Mount Olive Lutheran Church.

St. Paul Piano Teachers Association

- Tuesday, Feb. 7, 10:15 a.m. - noon. TBA. Zoom.
- Tuesday, Mar. 7, 10:15 a.m. - noon. Hybrid meeting hosted by MMTF. TBA. Bloomington Schmitt Music Auditorium, 7800 Picture Dr., Bloomington 55439.

South Suburban Music Teachers Association

Tuesday, Feb. 7 - Future of SSMTA Chapter. Zoom.

West Suburban Music Teachers Association

- Friday, Jan. 6, 9:30 a.m. social time, 10:00 business meeting, 10:30-11:30 program - "The Varsity Musician's Playbook: Commitment-Building Strategies from Team Sports to the Studio" with presenter Christina Whitlock. St. Barnabas Lutheran Church, 15600 Old Rockford Road, Plymouth.
- Friday, Mar. 3, 9:30 a.m. social time, 10:00 business meeting, 10:30-11:30 program - "Preparing a Student for Public Performance" with presenter Rebekah Richards. St. Barnabas Lutheran Church, 15600 Old Rockford Road, Plymouth.

Willmar Music Teachers Association

- Saturday, Jan. 14, 9:30 a.m. - Discussion. Zoom.

MMTA Piano Young Artist

Do you have student who was declared a winner in the MMTA Piano Contest in the Senior B level who isn't quite ready for the repertoire on the Senior Young Artist recommended list? Actually, requirements for Junior & Senior Young Artist recently changed. Repertoire lists are now recommendations only and there is no longer a repertoire approval process. Choose repertoire demonstrating the student's musical ability, versatility, and technical facility.

Unchanged are time and theory requirements. Junior Young Artist (JYA) students are expected to perform a solo program for 7 minutes, representing at least two different time periods. Senior Young Artist (SYA) students are expected to perform a solo program for 15 minutes, representing at least two different time periods. The time listed is a maximum that the judges are able to hear. (There are no disqualifications for not filling the entire time listed, but using the time wisely will be to the student's advantage—that is omitting repeats.)

Theory requirements are still in effect: MMTA Theory Level 4 for JYA, MMTA Theory Level 5 for SYA, and college level theory for CYA.

See page 27 of the [2022-2023 Handbook](#) for more information.

MMTA Theory Supplemental Materials

Have you created any materials (worksheets or activities) to supplement our theory workbooks? The Theory Development Committee is compiling supplemental materials for all levels to share with teachers. Maybe you've discovered your student needs more review of a topic and you created a worksheet for that purpose. Would you be willing to share that with all MMTA teachers? If yes, please send pdf files of your materials to Rebekah Richards at richardspiano@gmail.com. We will be creating a spot on the MMTA Website to share these.



**A CHARMING VENUE NESTLED
IN HISTORIC HASTINGS**

**HASTINGS
ARTS
CENTER**

Built in 1865 and renovated in 2015, the HAC is the perfect choice to host **student recitals, workshops, concert performances and more!**

Theatrical lighting and sound accompanied by **amazing acoustics** all provide the performance experience **every student needs** and **every performer expects.**

*(Did we mention the **Steinway?**)*

Contact us **TODAY** for rates & availability!

WWW.HASTINGSARTSCENTER.ORG
216 4th Street East, Hastings, MN 55033 • 651.437.4320



MusicLink News
Sue Wege, State Chair



HOW WOULD YOUR STUDENTS LIKE TO PERFORM AT THE MALL OF AMERICA?

Looking for a fun performance opportunity for your students (or yourself)? The MusicLink Playathon will take place on the weekend of February 18-19 in the Southeast Court of the Mall of America. Students of ALL instruments and voice are invited to participate. Let's show the public ALL the wonderful ways our students make great music as the MusicLink Foundation continues to celebrate its 30th Anniversary!

Online registration is available at the MMTA website: www.mnmusicteachers.com You do NOT need to sign in to register, so your parents can register their own students. Click on "Student Programs/MusicLink". Registrations must be received by February 8th.

For hard copy registration forms and more information, click [HERE](#) and scroll down to Playathon.

Anniversary Goals

The MusicLink Foundation has set a goal of reaching 8,000 students nationwide by June 1st. The state that adds the greatest number of new active MusicLink students will be featured in the summer e-newsletter. Let's make Minnesota that state! Are you reducing your fee by at least 50% for a student because the family is struggling to pay your full fee? You are a MusicLink teacher! Register today to receive the benefits available to you and your student. If you would be open to teaching a MusicLink student at the reduced fee, register so I know you may be available should I get a student from your area. Click [HERE](#) to register.

Increase in Benefits

Last summer the MusicLink Foundation increased the amount of the Grass Roots Grant from \$300-\$500 and now it has increased the Teacher Reimbursement from \$150 to \$200 a year. Let us help you with any non-tuition expenses you might be incurring teaching a child in need.

Questions?

If you have questions of any kind about the MusicLink program or would like a Playathon registration form e-mailed to you, please contact me at: swege71@comcast.net
651-458-0143.

MMTA Teacher Original Duet Composition Contest

Mary Beth Miller, Chair

Thank you to all who participated in this year's contest!

Committee members Lillia Filler-Schloner, Corey Sevett, and Rory Thompson, met to perform the entries and offer feedback to the composers, as well as to deliberate and choose the winning entries.

Six entries were received by Fern Davidson, Sharon Kaplan, Kathryn Karg, Kathryn Schindel, Sara Smolensky, and Chris Wolf. These composers should be congratulated for their well-written ensembles.

Two winners in the Junior A category were chosen to be performed at the Honors Concert in 2023. Congratulations to the winning duets, Lazy Days by Kathryn Schindel, and Temperamental March by Sara Smolensky!

Sara Smolensky's first experience with composition came as an MMTA student, "... Winning the student composition contest when I was 10 was the catalyst for my piano studies. In fact, I still have my critique and a copy of that first composition! Being chosen as a winner of the teacher composition contest really makes it feel like things have come full circle."

Beginning with 2024 submissions due October 1st, 2023, composers are invited to submit ensembles for any level of difficulty.

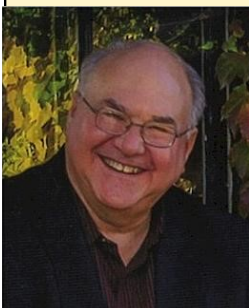
*In Memoriam*

Dorothy Sandquist was a long-time member who made her home in Rochester, MN. She was the Program Director for the Student Composition Contest for a number of years. She spent much time enthusiastically teaching her own students not only composition, but also how to present a piece that is publication-ready and often complete with cover art. That enthusiasm also shown though in everything she did.

[Read more about Dorothy's work and life](#)



Bea [Langford] was an accomplished piano teacher of nearly 60 years and member of the MMTA. Bea and Bob loved travel, skiing and tennis all of which brought them wonderful long lasting friendships. Bea was a curious person who lived for good conversation, classical music, opera and fun with friends. ... A Celebration of life Service will be held at St. Clements Church, 901 Portland Ave, St Paul, on October 13th at 3PM with a reception to follow until 6PM. Always the teacher, Bea taught us how to live and how to die with dignity and grace. ([Star Tribune October 2, 2022](#))



Dr. Edward Turley showed an interest in the piano at a young age and became active as a pianist in church, school productions and piano competitions. After high school, he began studying piano performance at Colorado School before transferring to Northwestern University in Chicago and receiving his BA in piano performance. Ed held both the Master and Doctoral Performance degrees from the University of Colorado-Boulder and has served on the board of the Minnesota Music Teachers Association as a chairperson for Original Composition and as the College Liaison [as well as the Program Director for Level 11 Piano Exams.] Ed has influenced countless students and was an important part of the CSB/SJU community. We will miss Ed's smile, positive attitude, boundless joy, and his friendly greeting and hearty handshake.

([MMTA Facebook Page](#), [WJON AM](#))

Independent Music Teachers Forum - What I Learned from Water Aerobics

Jenna Huntoon, Chair



I love water aerobics! I love it so much that despite teaching until 9:00 pm, I get up several days a week and get myself to the gym for a 7:00 am class. Even on cold, dark, winter mornings, I manage to leave the comfort of my warm bed, bundle up and drive to the gym. It's a great workout, and I love the camaraderie that has developed with all of my fellow waterbugs!

Recently one of our favorite teachers left her position and was replaced by a new teacher. We all loved "Ms. M" and were sad to see her go. Ms. M provided a great workout, pushing us to work just a little harder at each class, and was always encouraging. She was a workout instructor and motivational speaker in one. But life moves forward, and we came to the pool excited for class with the new teacher. The new teacher, "Ms. J", did not seem to want to be there. She had no enthusiasm, didn't make eye contact with any of us, and didn't smile, she simply went through the motions of her job. The workouts became drudgery, and there were no positive feelings floating around this class. This caused quite a stir with us early pool workout lovers, with many of us quitting the class.

This really hit home for me in regards to teaching. Of course I know that having a good teacher makes an impact, but the huge difference in attitudes between the two was so startling, that it made me reflect on my own teaching. I have been teaching piano for many years now, and love my job, but I am human and therefore have good days and bad days like everyone else. My students also have good days and bad days, and this experience was a great reminder that when I am teaching, it is not just about piano. I am a role model for these students, and my attitude has a big impact on them. It is my job to be encouraging and motivating while I share my love of music and help students work through the challenges of learning their instrument.

Am I the encouraging teacher that makes my students excited to come to lessons each week, to put in the practice time needed to keep growing? Do I teach with enough spark that my students will make time amongst all their other commitments and options of sports, homework, friends, etc.? I sure hope so! I aspire to always be the kind of teacher that motivates my students to work hard and come to lessons excited to share their love of music with me.

MMTA Foundation Board of Directors - Open Positions

The Foundation Board has the following positions to fill beginning August 1, 2023. Please consider serving on the board to assure continuing the vital charitable arm of MMTA.

- President
- Vice President
- Treasurer
- Secretary
- Director

You can contact anyone on the current executive board:

Gina Skule langfeldpiano@gmail.com

Caroline Langfeld, langfeldpiano@gmail.com

Sue Krebsbach, sakrebs@comcast.net

Megan Gilles, gillesmusicstudio@gmail.com

Call for Nominations — Deadline: March 1

Offices to be filled by election in 2023 (two-year terms):

- President-Elect
- VP Voice & Instrumental
- VP Piano Education
- Recording Secretary

Please tell us about your nominee. Include information such as: name, address and email; position for which they are being nominated; former MMTA positions held; participation in MMTA programs; and why you think this person would be a good candidate for the position. *Please include this information for each nomination submitted.* Use one of the following options:

- [Submit online](#)
- **Mail to:** MMTA ▪ 10800 Lyndale Ave. S, Ste. 120 ▪ Bloomington, MN 55420
- **Email to:** mmta@mnmusicteachers.com

Nominees are voted into office at the Annual Meeting during Convention. The MMTA Board meets monthly, currently by Zoom. Even if you've never held a position within MMTA before, please consider asking a fellow member nominate you so you can have your chance to shape the future of our organization!

MMTA CHALLENGE AWARD TROPHIES

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

- Go to www.mnmusicteachers.com/products.
- Locate the correct trophy, then complete the [Customization Form](#).
- Add the trophy/trophies to the cart.
- Complete the check-out process. The MMTA Office will notify you when trophies come in.

See 2022-2023 Handbook for more information. The next trophy order deadline is March 20th.



MARANATHA BAPTIST UNIVERSITY
PRESENTS

MUSIC & DRAMA CAMP

JUNE 12-16, 2023
SUMMER CAMP FOR AGES 12-18

Choose from one of the following
specialized tracks:

- ✓ Band
- ✓ Musical Drama
- ✓ Piano
- ✓ Stage Crew
- ✓ Strings

SAVE BIG!

REGISTER BY APRIL 10
VISIT MBU.EDU/CAMPS



745 W. MAIN ST.
WATERTOWN, WI



INSPIRING YOUR PASSION



Imagine enjoying the passion of the University Orchestra, playing in a string quartet with your friends (while receiving a full-tuition scholarship), or learning historical performance practices in the Baroque Chamber Orchestra! This is all possible at UW-Eau Claire.

AUDITION DATES for acceptance in 2023-24

Wednesday
Jan. 25, 2023

Saturday
Feb. 25, 2023

Saturday
March 11, 2023

Learn more about the String Program in
the Music and Theatre Arts Department at
uwec.ly/mus-the

University of Wisconsin
Eau Claire

Early Childhood Music

Emily Ireland, Chair

What is it like to teach the "littles"?

Sitting in front of a room full of babies, toddlers and preschoolers this week just brought a huge smile to my face. Every one of the babies, toddlers and preschoolers were in their own world. Babies were looking wide-eyed around them, one was looking for his mom. Another was finding a musical instrument to mouth. Toddlers were exploring so many different ways to try out instruments and moving their body in different ways, completely focused on having the color or the instrument they want. Preschoolers were trying to change the lyrics of the "Finger Family" rhyme to something about turkeys for the holiday. I loved it.

This is one of the beautiful challenges about teaching this age group - how do you reach these students where they are at? And that is one of the biggest challenges for every educator - how do you meet a student where they are at and guide them to become the best they can be?

This past week we were doing our major tonal patterns (i.e. do - mi - sol; sol - mi - do, etc.) and one of the toddlers who rarely speaks, took his turn and sang on pitch. The adults were surprised and quite impressed. You never know when a child will amaze you.

I'm always on the lookout for ways that I can reach students by finding the basic parts of music, so that all can participate where they're at and bring them to the next stage. One of my favorite activities is using a utility song to experiment with musical contrasts. For example, use the tune from the song, "Here We Go 'Round the Mulberry Bush," and use the phrase "This is the way we" change the verb to different actions (i.e. ... tap our sticks, tap so loud / quiet, walk / run around) The ideas are endless. The students will show you what they can do, what they're ready for, and what might be challenging now but you know will be easier in the future. Does that sound familiar with what you do with older students as well?

How would you take a musical concept and adapt it for babies, toddlers and preschoolers? I would love to hear your thoughts! Feel free to connect on the MMTA member Facebook group: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/MinnesotaMusicTeachersAssociation>

See you soon!

MMTA Student Composition Contest & Solo Festival

Greetings from Cheri Sykes, coordinator of the Student Original Composition Contest and Festival!

It's time to entice your students towards new avenues of musical creativity!

Composition is an expressive and exhilarating application of music study. It's where "the rubber meets the road" in music theory! All levels of students, Primary through Senior High, are eligible. Compositions may be for more than one instrumental medium, but not involve more than ten performers. The score must be on computer-generated notation software.

Winning composers will be invited to perform their piece at the MMTA State Convention in June 11-13, 2023.

Secondarily is the non-competitive "Festival" option, where pieces receive feedback, but are not scored or eligible for performance at the Convention. Submissions may be hand-written.

Go to p. 41-42 in the Handbook for more details.

The deadline for registration AND composition submission is March 1, 2023. Contact Cheri Sykes, cheri@cherisykes.com, 651-335-0048, with any questions.

Introduce your students to the thrilling world of composition!

MMTA Foundation
Megan Gilles, Board Director

Donations can be made via snail mail and check made payable to the MMTA Foundation, 10800 Lyndale Ave. S., Ste. 120, Bloomington, MN 55420 or you can donate online at: <https://www.mnmusicteachers.com/donate-or-submit-payment-mmmta-foundation>

**Local Association Grants Awarded by the MMTA Foundation**

The MMTA Foundation is pleased to award \$200 grants for 2022-2023 to the following local associations:

- Rochester Keyboard Club
- Alexandria Area Music Teachers

Deadline to apply each year is July 1st. MMTA Local Associations are encouraged to apply for assistance in funding educational programs.

2022 Donors to the MMTA Foundation

The MMTA Foundation is extremely grateful for the donors over this past year. This donation list is what we have records of from December 2021 until November 23rd. If we are missing your donation from this list please contact us at mmtafoundation@gmail.com

Virtuoso Level \$250-\$499

Debra Tucker
Esther Wang-gift given in honor of Sue Leonard
Caroline Langfeld
Sue Ruby

Professional Level \$100-\$249

Sherriebelle Brinkworth
Stella Branzburg Sick
Marcia Vahl
Aimee Willoz
Douglas and Megan Gilles
Vanessa Cornett-Murtada
Central Minnesota Music Teachers Association-Jeanette Benson Scholarship Fund
Jeannene Simonson
Susan Kahn-in memory of Pat Langer
Kay Koehnen-in memory of Jean Hegland
St. Paul Piano Teachers Association
Wendy Nelson-in memory of Pat Langer
Theresa Bruncker-in memory of Pat Langer
Rebekah Richards
Debra Tucker
Judy Sherman

MMTA Foundation, continued

Prodigy Level \$50-\$99

Katherine M. Semple-in memory of Jean Hegland

Laurie L. Etchen-in memory of Jean Hegland

Kathleen M. Phillipp

Nicholas Susi

Irina Stene

Kirsten Levorson-in memory of LeAnn House

Sondra Howe

Kay Koehnen-in memory of LeAnn House

Performer Level \$10-\$49

Mary Hanley

Douglas and Karla Johanson-in memory of Portia M. Johnson

Diane Steen-Hinderlie-in memory of LeAnn House

Lorna Wolthoff-in memory of Pat Langer

Ronald and Brenda Kaihoi-in memory of Georgia Hanson

Gina Skule

Megan Gilles-in memory of Ruth Mae King, mother of MMTA Member Elizabeth Richter

Dorothy and John Hutchens-in memory of Georgia Hanson

Gina Skule-in memory of Jean Hegland

Sue Krebsbach-in memory of LeAnn House

Sue Krebsbach-in memory of Jean Hegland

Ruth Borash

Michelle Sisler

Did you know that nearly \$20,000 is given out annually to deserving students by the MMTA Foundation? The Foundation is able, because of you, to support funding the MMTA Achievement Awards for high scores in Comprehensive Exam and Theory Exam Awards, Junior and Senior Young Artist Awards, Popular Styles, Elaine Kingsley Award for Highest Level 11 Piano Exam score, Ruth Anderson Award for Highest Level 11: Capstone Piano Exam Award, Gladys Markley and Jeanette Benson Theory Awards, and the Student of the Year Award. The student awards are received with great appreciation from the students and are an encouragement to keep pursuing their musical studies.

Beyond the amount given for student awards, your contribution funds teacher education via our Local Association and Professional Development Grants. Donations can be made in honor of, in memory of, or with no specific designation. All donations are appreciated.

The MMTA Foundation is a 501(c)3 tax-deductible organization committed to improving the quality of music education in Minnesota by supporting the educational and charitable objectives of MMTA.



The MMTA Foundation congratulates Alaina Hearne, student of Sue Wege who was named Student of the Year 2021-2022. The application deadline for this is May 1st of each year. The award is given to a senior in High School, the Student of the Year Award honors a music student who demonstrates involvement in MMTA programs. The candidate should display a strong record of service to his or her community through music; participation in musical ensembles; and skill as a performer and creative musician. The winning student is awarded \$1,000. This award is presented at the MMTA Foundation Award Winners Recital held the Sunday evening prior to the MMTA Convention.

Shirley Holzer Voice Young Artist Endowment



*Dr. Shirley Ann Holzer
(1935-2018)*

Dr. Shirley Holzer generously gifted the Minnesota Music Teachers Association (MMTA) Voice Young Artist program \$75,000 to help the program GROW. The Voice Young Artist program is extremely thankful for the opportunities her gift makes possible. Shirley taught voice and piano lessons and was a member of MMTA for numerous years. She had a beautiful high soprano voice and was involved in music education her entire life. Shirley worked diligently to help the MMTA Voice program grow! She revised the MMTA Voice Syllabus and Voice Contest Repertoire List, she was the Vocal & Instrumental Vice President and was a member of the Vocal & Instrumental Council. Because of Shirley's gift, her Legacy, enthusiasm and musical knowledge will live on for decades to come through MMTA!

Quotes from Shirley's students:

"I had the privilege of being one of Shirley's voice students. She had an amazing gift that she passed on to so many people."

~Alyssa Dittmann

"I had Shirley for voice for approximately 18 years. Her enthusiasm and dedication to music was truly an inspiration."

~Micki Loeffler

"Shirley was my voice teacher for 37 years. She was always challenging me and wanting me to be at my best. She helped me with many concerts, musicals, recordings and competitions."

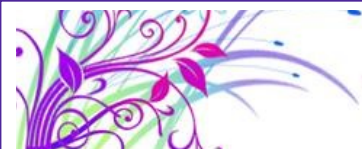
~Fr. Kevin Anderson

Voice & Instrumental Contests & Solo Festival

The registration deadline for Voice and Instrumental Young Artist Contest, Solo Contest and Solo Festival is January 15. The Contests and Solo Festival are in St. Cloud this year. Young Artist awards for each category in guitar, strings, clarinet, flute, organ & voice are as follows:

- Senior Young Artist 1st Place - \$400
- Senior Young Artist 2nd Place - \$300
- Senior Young Artist 3rd Place - \$200
- Junior Young Artist 1st Place - \$150
- Junior Young Artist 2nd Place - \$100
- Junior Young Artist 3rd Place - \$75
- College Young Artist 1st Place - \$265

Voice teachers, please note that Young Artist expenses for competing singers are covered by the Shirley Holzer Endowment. These expenses include their registration fee and accompanist fee up to \$125



Congratulations to Rishab Naik, student of Gene Swanson, for receiving an award on the MMTA Classical Guitar Exam Level 9.

Judge Assignments for MMTA Events

Jill Kilzer, NCTM, Judge Education Committee Chair

MMTA uses Endorsed Judges, trained by the Judge Education Committee (JEC), to give you and your students the beneficial experiences expected. MMTA's Endorsed Judges attend continuing education seminars every few years to stay up to date with judging procedures. Endorsed Judges are experienced teacher members who serve as knowledgeable and supportive judges for our events.

How are MMTA judges assigned?

1. Endorsed Judges receive a judge signup webform link from the JEC for fall, winter and spring.
2. The judge uses the signup web form to indicate which events/dates/ locations they are available and interested in judging. A judge may indicate more than one event/location on the same date. Judges are asked to "save the date" on their own calendars.
3. The JEC and the Event Site Administrator work together selecting possible judges from among those completing the judge signup. An estimate for number of needed judges is made.
 - a. Preference is given to those judges who regularly attend judge education seminars.
 - b. JEC tries to provide judges from various parts of the state to events state wide.
 - c. Selection process distributes opportunity to all available qualified judges.
 - d. A few site administrators choose to procure judges several months in advance and prior to JEC seasonal signup via webform.
4. The JEC contacts possible judges to double check availability for assignment roughly 4-6 weeks before event date. Various circumstances may make the confirmation of availability contact earlier or later.
5. Contacted Endorsed Judges confirm their availability.
6. Endorsed Judges receive notice from the Event Site Administrator as to the assigned room/level and start and end times. A notice of assignment details will be sent roughly 2-4 weeks before an event. Those judges contacted by JEC/Event Site Administrators with specific date and details are "Assigned Judges".

What are "Stand-by Judges"?

Stand-by judges are selected and informed of their "stand-by" status 4-5 weeks prior to an event. Stand-by judges are asked to "save the date" for a specific event in case there is a need. Stand-by judges may become "Assigned Judges" if there are more registrations than anticipated or if there is a judge cancellation due to illness or emergency.

Questions?

If you have further questions about judging assignments contact Jill Kilzer, NCTM, JEC Chair at jill.kilzer@me.com or 612-709-5703. For more information about becoming a MMTA Endorsed Judge, see the [Judging Information](#) page on the MMTA website. *(Log in first to view the page.)*

Now Accepting Your Nominations for MMTA Volunteer of the Year



The MMTA Volunteer of the Year could be that person who has cheerfully and generously served on countless committees or boards, or served as chairperson with dedication. It could be that person who provides support and encouragement to individual members and is dedicated to providing students with the very best musical experiences possible. Your candidate could be an enthusiastic person who is very active in his/her local organization who helps to develop opportunities for professional growth for Local Associations and MMTA members.

Complete the [online form](#) by **April 1**, or email to the MMTA Office. The Volunteer of the Year Award will be presented at the 2021 Convention.

Thank you for taking the time to consider who would be deserving of the award. Volunteerism is the life-blood of our organization; it makes important contributions both economically and socially, and keeps MMTA running.

2022 MTNA Performance Competition - State Winner List

Place	Name	Instrument	Teacher(s)
-------	------	------------	------------

Minnesota Junior Performance Piano - 8 entries

Winner	Ella Wan	Piano	Alexander Braginsky
Alternate	Edward Ojard	Piano	Diana Shapiro
Honorable mention	Andre Peck	Piano	Joseph Zins
	Gaia Daniel	Piano	Joseph Zins

Minnesota Junior Performance String - 2 entries

Winner	Lorelei Schoenhard	Violin	Bonnie Sorensen-Ernst
Alternate	Blair Bartels Sperry	Violin	Lucinda Marvin

Minnesota Senior Performance Piano - 5 entries

Winner	William Gannon	Piano	Joseph Zins
Alternate	Aurora Wang	Piano	Alexander Braginsky
Honorable mention	Noah Greenstein-Sheppard	Piano	Paul Wirth
	Tingchung Chang	Piano	ChunChi Chang

Minnesota Senior Performance String - 1 entry

Representative	Vladimir Tsiper	Violin	Lucinda Marvin
----------------	-----------------	--------	----------------

Minnesota Senior Performance Voice - 2 entries

Winner	Adelina Mukhametzhanova	Voice - Soprano	Melissa Holm-Johansen
Alternate	Ahan Devgun	Voice - Baritone	Siri Caltvedt

Minnesota Young Artist Performance Piano - 1 entry

Representative	Hui Chen	Piano	Alexander Braginsky
----------------	----------	-------	---------------------

Minnesota Young Artist Performance Woodwind - 2 entries

Winner	Jaxon Dewald	Saxophone	Russell Peterson
Alternate	Ellie Chang	Flute	Debora Harris



Welcome back! There is a place for you at the 2023 MTNA National Conference in Reno, Nevada. Mark your calendars to attend this grand, in-person reunion of the music teaching profession March 25–29, 2023.

from www.mtna.org

MMTA Board Minutes Highlights—October 2022

- The mask policy was reviewed and changed to: MMTA recommends the use of masks for all in-person events.”
- Mary Beth Millner was voted in as the new VP Piano Education. Helen Marie Plourde was voted in as the new Recording Secretary.
- Updates were made to the Chart of Accounts to allow for better tracking of income and spending.
- Research is being done to determine if there is an affordable plan MMTA could purchase to allow for alerts and reminders to be sent to members by text message.
- A search is being conducted for a bookkeeping firm to replace our current bookkeeper, Pat Schroedl, who is retiring. A new accountant was selected to prepare MMTA’s 2021-2022 tax return.

MMTA Board Minutes Highlights—November 2022

- The MMTA Board voted to publish the 2nd edition of the Theory Exam Level 6 workbook.
- The Board also voted to add an additional theory requirement for Senior A and Senior B categories for Piano Contest beginning in 2024. More information will be shared in the coming months.
- A Human Resources company has been contracted to work with the MMTA Board and staff members. Forms from this service will be used when interacting with employees.
- State dues will increase from \$50 to \$53 for 2023-2024.
- Lori McCauley and Diane Jordan will now be co-VP Voice & Inst.

MMTA Board Minutes Highlights—December 2022

- Revisions to the MMTA Bookkeeping procedures are being considered to increase efficiency.
- A conductor has been contracted for the 2023 Honors Concert.
- The Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee is reviewing all language used in MMTA documents to make sure any outdated language is reconsidered.
- The Board reviewed the four-year plan created early in Fall 2022 and discussed priorities for implementation.
- Expenses for convention are being reviewed to see if any adjustments can be made. The committee is considering purchasing more materials to cut down on rental costs.
- Colors and styles for the 2023 Logowear items were discussed and selected.



THE MMTA NEWSLETTER

*Official Publication of the
Minnesota Music Teachers Association
affiliated with the
Music Teachers National Association.*

Mission Statement

The mission of the Minnesota Music Teachers Association is to advance the profession of music teaching through education, certification, networking and advocacy.

MMTA Purpose

The purpose of the Minnesota Music Teachers Association is to enhance the professional status of its members, to sponsor and participate in programs for the enrichment of music education, and to encourage music performance and creativity. All members are committed to the highest standards of music teaching and are dedicated to upholding and improving the standards of all music education in Minnesota.

Statement of Function

The function of the MMTA Newsletter is to reflect the Purpose of MMTA, to serve as a vehicle of communication to the membership, to inform the membership of events and ideas; to report musical activity in the state and to stimulate and encourage active interest, participation and support for the MMTA as it maintains a role of leadership in the State of Minnesota.

MMTA NEWSLETTER POLICY

Promotions of recitals, workshops or other events of interest to music teachers which have a charge or fee must be inserts as advertisements. Exceptions are MTNA and MMTA-sponsored events, and the fall education classes on contest materials (i.e., SPPTA, MMTF, St. Cloud, New Ulm, etc.).

ISSUES AND DEADLINES

Oct./Nov./Dec.	September 1st
Jan./Feb./Mar.:	December 1st
April/May/June:	March 1st

PAID ADVERTISEMENTS

The statements of the advertisers are not necessarily those of MMTA.

ADVERTISEMENT RATES

Full Page	7 1/2w x 10 h	\$175
Half page	7 1/2 w x 4 3/4 h	\$115
One-fourth page	3 1/2 w x 4 3/4 h	\$80
One-eighth page	2 1/4 h x 3 1/2 w	\$45

WANT AD RATE SCHEDULE

6 Lines \$20 3 Lines \$10
(MMTA members pay half price on Want Ad rate.)

SUBMIT ARTICLES & ADVERTISEMENTS TO:

MMTA@MNMUSICTEACHERS.COM

OR

MMTA, 10800 LYNDALE AVE. S, STE. 120
BLOOMINGTON, MN 55420

2023 MMTA Convention



**Keynote Speaker:
Dr. Leah Claiborne**

*Photo and text credit:
www.leahclaiborne.com*

Leah Claiborne, D.M.A. promotes diversity in the arts by championing piano music by Black composers in her performances, research, and teaching. She was the first pianist at the University of Michigan to be awarded the Rackham Predoc fellowship which is the most prestigious fellowship awarded by the graduate school. This fellowship allowed her to further research, compile, and edit piano music by Black composers.

Dr. Claiborne received her undergraduate degree from Manhattan School of Music where she received the Josephine Whitmore graduation award. This award was given to a graduating senior "whose personal qualities enriches the spirit of the school and community at large." She received her Masters of Music and Doctorate of Musical Arts degree at the University of Michigan.

June 11-13, 2023

Join fellow members and guests at the
Hilton-Minneapolis/St. Paul Airport in Bloomington
for sessions, networking, recitals and more.

Visit www.mnmusicteachers.com/convention for information.