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President's Notes

Wanda M. Hall, NCTM, VMTA State President

Another teaching year has begun for us all. I trust everyone had an enjoyable and productive summer. In January, I attended the Southern Division Competitions at Lee University in Cleveland, Tennessee, and was able to hear all but one of the Virginia competitors. Virginia did quite well again. We had one winner to participate in the competitions at the National Conference.

In April, I attended the MTNA conference in Austin, Texas. Because of a large power outage, there were several of us who were unable to attend the Southern Division meeting. I was able to attend the session by VMTA member Tracy Cowden and the Junior Piano competition performance by Rosita Mang's student Alexander Stabile. He played beautifully, in spite of the sound system going crazy and broadcasting conversation from other rooms. Alex placed second in the competition.

The VMTA Spring Conference was held in June. Be sure to read the minutes from the business meeting for complete details. We are entering into an exciting period for our website. It was decided at the business meeting to place our syllabi on the website. This will make each syllabus easily accessible by our membership. Those who do not have internet access may request a copy from the local chairmen. We hope to have at least the Theory Syllabus on the website by fall. Once the syllabus is on-line, you will receive instructions on how to access it. Sight Reading, Keyboard Skills, and Skills for Single-line Instruments will follow shortly thereafter. *NewsNotes* will also be placed on the website. However, it will continue to be mailed to each member. Another new feature on the website is found under Local Association Presidents. A map has been added that shows the location in the state for each local chapter. Please check out the website periodically to see if anything new has been added. If you have any suggestions for improving our website, please let me know. We will see what can be done.

Our 2006 Fall Conference will be held at George Mason University, October 26–29. Deborah Gunnerson has planned an excellent conference for us. Please read Debra's article elsewhere in this newsletter for all the details.

Since the 2005 Fall Conference, I have made the following appointments: MTNA Foundation Chairman—Belinda Stevens, NVMTA (replacing Nancy Longmyer); State Auditions Chairman—Gabiella Ryan, RMTA (replacing Fay Barss); Yearbook Chairman—Bonnie Western, PMTA (replacing Martha Smith); IMTF Chairman—Samantha Luck, PMTA (replacing Jeanne Jackson); and Theory Chairman—Virginia Moore, NVMTA (replacing Pauline Pompeii). We appreciate so much the diligent work done by Nancy Longmyer, Fay Barss, Martha Smith, Jeanne Jackson, and Pauline Pompeii in these jobs. We are still in need of someone to serve as Parliamentarian and Historian. If you are interested in any of these positions please contact me. ■

VMTA Conference

October 26–29, 2006

George Mason University, Fairfax, VA

Deborah Gunnerson, VMTA President-elect

From the rolling hills of Virginia to the shinning Atlantic Ocean, Virginia Music Teachers will swarm the campus of George Mason University. Heading to Northern Virginia is a delightful trip through the fall colors and countryside.

To start the conference off on the right foot, come join in the fun with Kathryn Rapier in some simple stretches and a short walk around the beautiful campus of George Mason University followed by an on-the-go breakfast. Kathryn will dazzle the group with inspiration for yourself and your students before heading off for a serious discussion group on all those questions music teachers ask with Marjorie Lee and Terry Compos-Falk. Lunch is a time to shop, browse and buy. Vendors will be here to appeal to all your senses. The afternoon plans are packed with motivating talks with Julie Slingerland and Audrey Peterbark followed by a relaxing recital atmosphere. Run to catch some dinner because the Orchestra Concert begins at 8:00 PM with our own Concerto Winners. End the day with good conversation and a cookie or two at the reception and it is off to bed. Set your alarm clock for that walk in the morning.

Melody Bober will attract many teachers far and wide for the Saturday's clinics. Her talks on "The Healthy Musician" and "Melody's Melodies" are just a few highlights. There will be a history lesson or two from Andrew Horowitz before Allan Blank debuts the Commissioned Composer piece. Don't forget to browse the Vendors for that Melody Bober piece, or music software, maybe a music trinket or two. VMTA would not be complete without the Business Meeting. Come share new ideas and volunteer to make VMTA #1 across the country.

Saturday night is the time to relax and put on your Sunday best for a delicious meal and superb concert given by George Mason University's Performing Professors, featuring John Healey and Linda Monson as two of the stand out artists.

Whatever your pleasure, be it education, networking, or camaraderie, you will find it at George Mason University at the end of October. Mark your calendars, book the hotel, and bring your friends for the biggest event of the season. Come and have a great learning experience that you will share with colleagues and students. ■

2006 Conference: Schedule

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2006

12:00–5:00 MTNA Competitions Junior High and High School Woodwinds

6:00 VMTA Executive Committee Dinner

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 27, 2006

8:00–4:30 Registration

8:30–5:00 Vendor Displays

8:45–12:15 Certification Exams

9:00–12:00 MTNA Competitions: Junior High Piano; Collegiate Woodwinds and Chamber Music

1:00–5:00 MTNA Competitions: Junior High and High School Strings, Brass, Percussion, Voice

9:00–10:00 Wake Up with Music and Movement!—Kathryn Rapier

Breakfast of Pastries and Coffee/Tea included

10:15–11:30 Panel Discussion with Marjorie Lee, Terry Compos-

Falk, and other guests
—Jeri Bennett, moderator

11:45–1:45 General Lunch
Vendors
Certification Lunch

2:00–3:00 Motivating Students to Practice—Julie Slingerland

3:15–4:14 Recital—GMU students

4:30–5:30 Stepping Stones: Bridging the gap between Festival and Competition
—Audrey Peterbark

6:00–7:30 Dinner on your own

8:00 Orchestra Concert

9:30 Reception

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2006

8:00–1:00 Registration

8:30–3:00 Vendor Displays

9:00–4:30 State Auditions

8:00–8:45 Wake Up with Music and Movement!—Kathryn Rapier

Breakfast of Pastries and Coffee/Tea included

9:00–10:15 Melody's Melodies
—Melody Bober

10:15–11:00 Teaching Music History through Performance Practices in the Piano Lesson
—Andrew Horowitz

11:15–12:45 General Lunch
Vendors
Council of Presidents Lunch

1:00–2:15 The Healthy Musician
—Melody Bober

2:30–3:15 Commissioned Composer
—Allan Blank

3:30–5:00 VMTA Business Meeting

6:00–7:30 Banquet

8:00 Conference Artists, GMU Performing Professors

9:30 Reception

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 29, 2006

9:30–11:00 Master Class with John Healey

11:30 Winners Recital

The 2006 VMTA Conference Adjourns!

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2006 Conference: Artists & Clinicians

MELODY BOBER



Piano instructor, music teacher, composer, clinician—**Melody Bober** has been active in music education for over 25 years. As a composer, her goal is to create exciting and challenging pieces that are strong teaching tools to promote a lifelong love, understanding, and appreciation for music. Pedagogy, ear training, and musical expression are fundamentals of Melody's teaching, as well as fostering composition skills in her students.

Melody graduated with highest honors from the University of Illinois (Champaign-Urbana) in music education, and later received a master's degree in piano performance from Minnesota State University. Her career has included teaching music in public school and at the university level; church music director; soloist and accompanist. Currently, she teaches private piano lessons and conducts workshops across the nation. She and her husband Jeff reside near beautiful Detroit Lakes, Minnesota. ■

DR. SONYA SUHNEE KIM



Dr. Sonya Kim, an International Steinway Artist, celebrated the opening of her 2006 concert series with a Mozart program during a concert in Vienna, Austria, on Mozart's 250th Birthday, January 27, 2006. She continues to celebrate his 250th Birthday—the Spirit of Mozart—in various concert venues.

Over the last decade she has lived in Germany, Austria and the United States. She performed solo recitals and chamber music concerts in these countries. While living in Germany, she conducted post-doctoral studies at Frankfurt's University for the Performing Arts for two and one-half years. At this time she performed in various cities to include Frankfurt, Oberammergau, Wiesbaden, and Mainz, including a successful benefit concert for Bosnian children. While in Vienna, she

conducted research at the Vienna University, and continues to maintain close relations with her professors, Alexander Jenner and Paul Badura-Skoda.

In addition to recording for KBS Radio and MBC Television in her native Korea, she has performed solo recitals for Washington, D.C.'s classical music station, WGMS. While a faculty member with Keimyung University, she performed solo recitals and appeared with numerous chamber music ensembles throughout Korea.

Dr. Kim served as chairman of the Youth Orchestra Exchange between U.S. and German Cities from 2002 to 2003 to enrich the lives of young musicians through cultural outreach. She performed as a guest pianist in a chamber music program with musicians of the Aachen Philharmonic Orchestra in 2002. She also performed in a chamber music concert, sponsored by the America Haus, Cologne, Germany, with the musicians of the Aachen University, which critics lauded as "brilliant...elegant."

In the Nation's Capital area, Dr. Kim has performed diverse solo recitals in various concert halls to include the U.S. State Department, museums, the World Bank, and universities. She taught piano at the Catholic University of America and currently is on the faculty at the George Mason University.

Dr. Kim performed Schubert compositions in the Austrian Embassy on FOX TV's morning show at the invitation of the Austrian Embassy. Dr. Kim recently performed a chamber music concert with Austria's acclaimed Aron Quartet in Vienna and a "Spring Concert" in Tyrol, Austria, where she is invited to return every year. She will return this June to Vienna, Austria, to further celebrate "Mozart's 250th Birthday – the Spirit of Mozart" by performing a Mozart's Concerto for Two Pianos and a solo recital during Vienna's Festwochen 2006."

"...the Adagio passage of the Mozart brought the sensibility of audience into a rare state of harmony." *Weghaupt*, Vienna, Austria, January 27, 2006. ■

KELLY KER HACKLEMAN

Kelly Ker Hackleman is adjunct music professor at George Mason University, where she teaches piano, sight singing and ear training, and keyboard literature. She has also been on the faculties of Shepherd College in Shepherdstown, West Vir-



ginia, Frederick Community College in Maryland, as well as Rhodes College and the University of Memphis in Tennessee. Dr. Hackleman currently holds the position of organist at Kirkwood Presbyterian Church in Springfield.

Before moving to the Washington, D.C. area in September 2000, she was an active freelance musician in Montréal. She frequently played keyboard for the Montréal Symphony Orchestra and has performed with them in Europe, in the Canary Islands, and at Carnegie Hall. She has also played orchestral keyboard with the Philadelphia Orchestra, the National Symphony Orchestra, the Washington Concert Ballet, the Washington Choral Society, and the Kennedy Center Opera Orchestra. She is currently principal pianist with the Alexandria Symphony and held the same position with the Memphis Symphony Orchestra for six years.

She is pianist for the Washington Symphonic Brass, and recorded a CD, "Voices with Brass," with them which was released last fall, and includes Carl Orff's *Carmina Burana*, and Saint-Saens' Organ symphony. In July of this year, she recorded two CD's for french horn and piano with her husband, Martin Hackleman, both of which are scheduled to be released in early 2007.

An accomplished chamber musician and accompanist, Dr. Hackleman was a founding member of the Peabody Trio of Memphis and has worked with such artists as Kallen Esperian and Richard Vernon, (Metropolitan Opera) Martin Hackleman, Tim Morrison, Scott Hartman, and Ofra Harnoy.

Dr. Hackleman has won or placed in numerous solo piano competitions, notably, the National Masters Piano Competition and second prize in the International Beethoven Sonata Competition. She holds a Masters of Music degree in performance with "Distinction in Performance" from the New England Conservatory and a doctorate in piano performance from the University of Memphis. Her teachers and coaches have included Anthony di Bonaventura, David Bar-Illan, Seymour Lipkin, Walter Trampler, Peter Wiley, Louis Krasner, and Menahem Pressler. ■

(continued on page 5)

2006 Conference: Registration

Please mail this registration with check for total amount no later than **September 20** to Julie Slingerland, VMTA Treasurer, 6616 Braddock Road, Annandale, VA 22003. Daily registration will also be available at the Conference.

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

VMTA Member Student Member Non-Member First time attendee

Certification: National State Master Teacher Will help monitor

Conference Registration Fee (VMTA Member \$30; Non-Member \$45; Daily \$20) _____

Thursday Executive Board Dinner (pay at restaurant) I will attend..... Yes No

Friday luncheon for members of Certification committee (please check one): \$12.00..... _____

Sandwich of Turkey, Ham, Roast Beef, or Veggie

Salad of Pasta, Fruit, Potato Salad, Broccoli & Walnut, Waldorf, or Potato Chips

Drink of Coke, Diet Coke, or Sprite

Saturday luncheon for Council of Local Association Presidents (please check one): \$12.00 _____

Sandwich of Turkey, Ham, Roast Beef, or Veggie

Salad of Pasta, Fruit, Potato Salad, Broccoli & Walnut, Waldorf, or Potato Chips

Drink of Coke, Diet Coke, or Sprite

Saturday Banquet Buffet at GMU Mason Hall (please check one): \$36..... _____

Flank Steak Rosette with Port Wine Sauce, Mango Chicken, or Vegetarian

All dinners come with Mesculen Mix w. Fresh Raspberries, Feta Cheese, Candied Walnuts

w. Raspberry Vinaigrette, Basamtic Rice, Tiramisu, Rolls & Butter, Coffee, Decaf, Iced Tea, Iced Water

Total amount of your check payable to VMTA \$ _____

(Keep copy for your records)

THE SEPTEMBER 20 DEADLINE WILL BE STRICTLY FOLLOWED

Best Western Fairfax

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Convention Rate: \$89 + 9% tax if reservations are made by **October 12, 2006**. Please contact the hotel directly and identify yourself as a VMTA member to obtain this special rate. Room amenities include hair dryers, irons and ironing boards, cable TV, coffeemaker. Free Parking .

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

Arrival Date: _____ Departure Date: _____

Guarantee by Check (enclosed) or Credit Card

Card No. _____ Exp. _____ Signature _____

2006 Conference: Artists & Clinicians

JULIE SLINGERLAND

Julie Slingerland grew up in the Rochester, New York, area and attended the Eastman School of Music Preparatory Department where she studied flute and voice. After receiving her Bachelor of Music degree from Syracuse University as a music education/piano major (George Mulfinger, piano teacher), she obtained an MA degree from Teachers College, Columbia University as a vocal music education major.

Julie taught vocal music education in the New York State public school system in Westchester County and in the Syracuse region. She was also active as a church organist and choir director.

Since moving to Annandale, Virginia, almost thirty years ago, she has maintained an active piano studio. While living in this area she has been working on a second masters degree at both Catholic University and George Mason University. Her piano teachers at Catholic University have been James Litzelman and Thomas Mastronni. She has studied with Anna Balakerskaia at George Mason University.

A Nationally Certified Music Teacher (MTNA), Julie currently serves as the treasurer of the Virginia Music Teachers Association, and the president-elect of the Northern Virginia Music Teachers Association.

ANDREW HOROWITZ

Asought-after teacher in Northern Virginia, pianist **Andrew Horowitz**, NCTM, is also an active soloist and collaborator. He holds a Bachelor of Music degree in piano performance from George Mason University and has studied with Dr. Joanne Haroutounian, Dr. Robert Wyatt, and the late Andrew DeGrado. In addition to solo performances at the Kreeger Museum and George Mason University, he has performed at numerous private functions throughout the Washington area. As an accompanist and instrumental coach, Mr. Horowitz has done work for musicals, choirs, and student instrumentalists of all levels. Devoting the majority of his time to teaching, Mr. Horowitz maintains an active studio of over fifty students in Alexandria and Falls Church. ■

WAKE UP WITH MUSIC AND MOVEMENT!



Sing, stretch, walk and eat to start off your day. (Comment that the reward of attending is a great breakfast, as well as the camaraderie).

Kathryn Rapier is a Piano and Musikgarten Instructor in Vienna, VA. She received her Bachelor of Arts degree from Gardner-Webb University where she studied music with a concentration in piano. She was among the first to earn George Mason University's College of Visual and Performing Arts Professional Certification in Piano Pedagogy in May 2006. She also possesses a Master of Arts degree from Reformed Theological Seminary and is the Director of Worship at McLean Presbyterian Church in McLean, VA. Ms. Rapier recently co-represented George Mason University's Music Department with Dr. Joanne Haroutounian as a presenter at the Music Teachers National Association convention in Austin, TX in March 2006 where she instructed music professionals how to match innovative teaching strategies with student learning styles. She has developed an online resource for music teachers to discuss student learning styles and share teaching strategies: www.kathrynrapier.com. ■

DR. LINDA APPLE MONSON

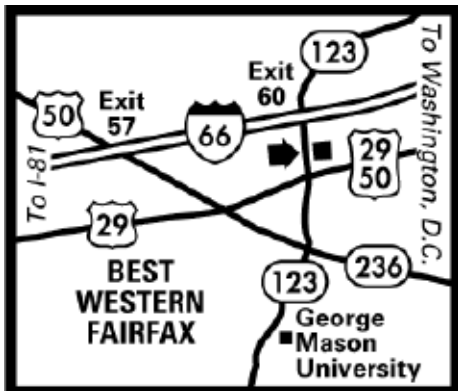


Dr. Linda Apple Monson, pianist, Associate Chair of the Department of Music at George Mason University, also serves as Coordinator of Keyboard Studies at GMU. In addition, she is the Director of Music at Springfield United Methodist Church. Dr. Monson has previously served on the music faculties of Peabody Conservatory of Music of the Johns Hopkins University, College of Notre Dame of Maryland, and Northern Virginia Community College. Professor Monson received the Doctor of Musical Arts degree in Piano Performance, the Master of Music degree in Piano, and the Bache-

lor of Music Education degree (with a double-major in piano and bassoon), all from the Peabody Conservatory of Music of the Johns Hopkins University. She also earned a Diploma in Piano from Música en Compostela, Santiago de Compostela, Spain. Dr. Monson has given numerous performances throughout the United States and Europe as piano soloist, accompanist, and chamber musician. Dr. Monson presented solo piano recitals and piano master classes in 2004-2005 at Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge; Davidson College in Charlotte, North Carolina; and Mary Baldwin College in Staunton, Virginia. Recent invited lecture-recital performances for international, national, and regional conferences of the College Music Society include: University of Costa Rica in San Jose; University of Miami, Florida; and Meredith College in Raleigh, North Carolina. She has performed often at George Mason University in solo and chamber music, including a performance with Richard Stoltzman and the Metropolitan Jazz Orchestra. In addition, she served as a panelist and concert commentator for the 2003-2004 Virginia Chamber Orchestra satellite broadcasts, *Music of the Romantic Era* and *Music by Modern Masters*, which were broadcast to all community colleges in the U.S. during the 2003-04 seasons. Dr. Monson also served as collaborative pianist for the International Clarinet Festival/Competition at the University of Maryland during July of 2004. She also performed in Madrid, Spain in June of 2005 as a featured lecture-recitalist for the International College Music Society Conference. In addition, she performed as piano soloist with the GMU Symphony Orchestra in October of 2005 in Turin's Rapsodia Sinfonica. She recently performed a lecture-recital for the Hawaii International Conference on Arts and Humanities (Honolulu, January 2006). Additional recent lecture-recital performances include: Puerto Rico Conservatory of Music (February 2006), University of California at Berkeley (March 2006), Wilkes University in Wilkes Barre, PA (March 2006). She also presented a lecture-recital in Hanover, Germany (June 2006) for the Alban Berg Symposium/Festival. ■

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2006 Conference: Directions & Parking



DIRECTIONS TO BEST WESTERN FAIRFAX

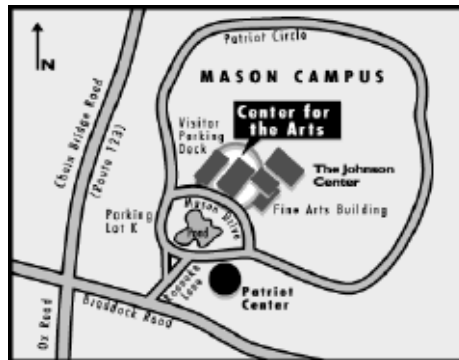
3535 Chain Bridge Road, Fairfax, VA

- **From Interstate 495:** Take Interstate 66 West via exit 49C—on the left—toward Vienna/Front Royal. Take the VA-123 South exit number 60 toward Fairfax. Stay straight to go onto Chain Bridge Road/VA Route 123 South. Turn left onto Eaton Road at the first traffic light. The Hotel will be immediately on your left.
- **From 66 East:** Take the Chain Bridge Road/VA-123 South exit number 60 toward Fairfax. Stay straight to go onto Chain Bridge Road/VA Route 123 South. Turn left onto Eaton Road at the first traffic light. The Hotel will be immediately on your left.

DIRECTIONS TO GMU FROM BEST WESTERN FAIRFAX

(Distance Approximately 2-1/2 miles.)

- Turn Right onto Eaton Road as you exit the Hotel parking lot.
- Turn Left onto Route 123/Chain Bridge Road.
- Follow Route 123 through the City of Fairfax,
- Turn left at “University Drive.”
- Take first right on to “Occoquan River Lane.”
- Turn right at the stop sign onto “Patriot Circle.”
- At the pond, bear left to stay on “Patriot Circle.”
- Take the first left onto “Mason Pond Drive.”
- Parking is available in the Parking Deck, the last building on the right just past the “Center for the Arts.”



- Drive to the THIRD Level, and park, or park elsewhere and take elevator to THIRD level. An information kiosk is located outside the Third Level of the deck. At the kiosk, follow the sidewalk on the right to the Performing Arts Building directly behind the Center for the Arts Concert Hall. Enter the main entrance to the Performing Arts Building, which faces the Johnson Center across a courtyard. The Choral Room is the first room on the right.

DIRECTIONS TO GMU'S FAIRFAX CAMPUS FROM THE CAPITAL BELTWAY (I-495)

- Take exit 54, “Braddock Road West” (Route 620)
- Follow Braddock Road West for approximately six miles.
- Pass the first entrance to the university.
- Turn right at the stoplight at “Roanoke River Road” (sometimes signed as Roanoke Lane).
- Bear right at the fork in the road.
- Take the first left onto “Mason Pond Drive.”
- Parking is available in the Parking Deck, the last building on the right, just past the “Center for the Arts.”
- Drive to the THIRD Level, and park, or park and take elevator to 3rd level. An information kiosk is located outside the Third Level of the deck. At the kiosk, follow the sidewalk on the right to the Performing Arts Building directly behind the Center for the Arts Concert Hall. Enter the main entrance to the Performing Arts Building, which faces the Johnson Center across a courtyard. The Choral Room is the first room on the right.

DIRECTIONS TO FAIRFAX CAMPUS VIA I-66E FROM WEST (CENTREVILLE OR MANASSAS)

- Exit at the Fairfax County Parkway South (Route 7100).
- Exit the Parkway at Braddock Road, and turn left (East) onto Braddock Rd.
- Cross Route 123 (also called Chain Bridge Road or Ox Road).
- Take the first left onto “Roanoke River Road” (Sometimes signed as “Roanoke Lane”).
- Bear right at the fork in the road.
- Take the first left onto “Mason Pond Drive.”
- Parking is available in the Parking Deck, the last building on the right, just past the “Center for the Arts.”
- Drive to the THIRD Level, and park, or park elsewhere and take elevator to THIRD level. An information kiosk is located outside the Third Level of the deck. At the kiosk, follow the sidewalk on the right to the Performing Arts Building directly behind the Center for the Arts Concert Hall. Enter the main entrance to the Performing Arts Building, which faces the Johnson Center across a courtyard. The Choral Room is the first room on the right.

DIRECTIONS TO FAIRFAX CAMPUS VIA I-66W FROM WASHINGTON, DC OR ARLINGTON

- Take exit 60 at Route 123 South, Chain Bridge Road.
- Follow Route 123 through the City of Fairfax.
- Turn left at “University Drive.”
- Take first right on to “Occoquan River Lane.”
- Turn right at the stop sign onto “Patriot Circle.”
- At the pond, bear left to stay on “Patriot Circle.”
- Take the first left onto “Mason Pond Drive.”
- Parking is available in the Parking Deck, the last building on the right, just past the “Center for the Arts.”
- Drive to the THIRD Level, and park, or park elsewhere and take elevator to THIRD level. An information kiosk is located outside the Third Level of the deck. At the kiosk, follow the sidewalk

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SCHOOL TO HONOR EVANS

by Nancy Moore, Gaston Gazette Staff Reporter

The 97-year-old piano teacher remembers those who taught her in Russia and Czechoslovakia and almost cries when she recalls her own young students who just disappeared in Nazi-occupied Prague.

Genie Evans also dreams about her current students who she hopes will carry on the tradition by becoming piano teachers.

"I am transferring what I'm used to to the children," Evans said. "I give them what my teachers gave to me."

More students might have that opportunity, thanks to a scholarship the Gaston School of the Arts is creating and naming after Evans.

The school will announce the scholarship formally at a surprise party today, begun with donations of \$20,000 from Charles and Helene Pearson, Pearson Inc. and the Petty Family.

Born in Odessa, Ukraine, Evans began taking piano lessons when she was 4. She studied at the Conservatory in Odessa, then moved on to the State Conservatory in Prague, where she studied the Theodor Leschetizky method.



He broke the traditional mold of playing primarily with the fingers while maintaining a relatively stiff posture.

"He was a romantic and freed himself," Evans said. "The first thing I teach my students is to free their arms."

Evans said she doesn't believe in children starting piano lessons as young as she did.

"I like to start about 6 and work at a slow tempo," she said.

Can a student be too old to start? "Never," Evans proclaimed. "I had a student in Virginia who drove one-and-a-half hours for his lessons when he was 81."

She sees differences in mature and younger students.

"The adult is in a hurry," she said. "They want to be able to play right away. No matter whether you're 100 or 4, it still takes time. You can't learn overnight."

Students need talent, she said, but

even the most talented player must be devoted to practice to reach their full potential.

"In Europe, where I lived and taught, there was a certain time every day for practice," Evans said. "Too many of my students come for a lesson and they haven't seen the music during the week."

Evans has announced she is retiring later this year, but school director Nan Murphy said she's hoping to persuade her to continue on a limited basis.

"She has a home here as long as she wants it," Murphy said.

Moments in a teacher's life...

Growing up in Europe, Genie Evans came in contact with two very different men in history before coming to America in 1940.

As a child, she saw the Russian royal family. As a young woman, she heard Hitler making a speech in Prague, then fled Nazis to begin a new life in Chicago.

"I was little," Evans said, so she was lifted on someone's shoulders so she could see the czar when he visited a hospital near her home. "I saw the whole family, the girls were sitting in the back."

(continued on page 15)



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Certification Profile: Ellen Reynolds Nordlof

by Anne James, NCTM



Many certification applicants take their three-hour pedagogy exams during the VMTA Fall Conference. Ellen Reynolds Nordlof chose to have hers proctored at a Sylvan Learning Center. This option, though very expensive, offered anonymity and allowed her to take the exam in February at a convenient location.

"The test contained information that any of us with experience have in our heads already. The biggest barrier was that even at top speed I couldn't put in the amount of detail I wanted to—that would have taken five hours! My answers at the end were very incomplete." Ellen suggests reading the test through first and plotting out time for each question.

Ellen's piano professor at Muskingum College was Dr. Jack Peterson, a student of Dohnanyi. In graduate school at Ohio State she studied with Sylvia Zarembo. A piano teacher since 1988, Ellen has 30 to 35 students in her Centreville studio, mostly of high school age. The middle schoolers are her favorites right now because of their enthusiasm.

Some of Ellen's pet ideas have to do with beginners. She believes we need to create better sight-readers right from the

start. Her sight-reading flashcards begin with simple intervals, then larger ones and eventually to intervals that include accidentals. A \$10 materials fee covers purchases for a sight-reading library. Among her favorite sight-reading series are Let's Sight-play by Kathleen Massoud, Right at Sight by T. A. Johnson, and the Donald Waxman Pageants books, which she likes because the pieces are unpredictable. Early technique books by Kohler and Czerny also provide good sight-reading material.

Same-clef music is really overlooked in most methods, Ellen believes. Using John Robert Poe's Assorted Chocolates and A Baker's Dozen helps fill this gap. A Day in the Jungle by Jon George is a good follow-up to the Poe pieces.

"I like working out of single-composer collections with all ages. The student gets a better feel for a composer and his style that way." The neo-Romantic pieces in Tansman's Pour les enfants are particularly appealing to students.

Active in both NVMTA and the Springfield Music Club, Ellen has held many offices in the latter club, an NFMC affiliate.

"We ought to be producing self-sufficient musicians who can eventually teach themselves, with technique sufficient for an elegant style. And we need to pass on the traditions of classical music." ■

Visit VMTA's web site at www.music-usa.org/vmta.

Longwood University

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Other Audition Dates:
November 11, 2006
February 17, 2007
March 24, 2007

**Scholarship Audition
Deadline -- March 1**

Reports

VMTA MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Denise Adkins, VMTA Membership Chair

We gained 89 new members, reinstated 12, renewed 780 and received 6 by transfer. We received 17 fewer new members than last year but had 20 more renewing members. We have 764 active members, 107 senior members, 14 student members, and 2 associates. This year's total is 887 (only 12 less than the membership of last year). [Reported June 3, 2006, at the Spring Conference.] ■

VMTA CHAIR FOR LOCAL ASSOCIATIONS REPORT

Myrenna A. Kickasola, State Chair for Local Associations

Since December 1, 2005, the VMTA chair for local associations has been updating all local chapter presidents with communications from MTNA headquarters. There have been reminders of the MTNA elections, special information concerning the national convention in Austin, TX, ways to help music teachers affected by Hurricane Katrina as well as a notice regarding an agreement between MTNA and ASCAP for performances of copyrighted music. Local chapters send two copies of all programs to the MTNA Deputy Executive Director by June 30th of each year. You may contact Rachel Kramer at rkramer@mtna.org with questions concerning this policy.

We have also fielded questions from the local presidents. One helpful issue was the umbrella insurance policy that MTNA has for our local chapters who hold events in buildings which inquire about our insurance coverage. There is a form from national headquarters which can be filled out before the event. For more information contact Judy Eitel at jeitel@mtna.org. Thanks to Sharon Stewart for sending me the details of her inquiry.

Local presidents will be submitting their annual reports at the Spring Conference in Charlottesville on June 3, 2006. They will also be updated on any proceedings from the executive board meeting of that day. ■

VMTA KEYBOARD SKILLS TEST REPORT

Lynn Kleisler, NCTM, Chairman

Five local chapters of the Virginia Music Teachers Association participated in the Keyboard Skills Test for the 2005/2006 school year. A total of 228 students representing 35 teachers participated.

Many thanks to the local chairmen for their work this year and also to all the teachers who participated!

The results of the testing for each chapter are listed below:

| Chapters | No. Students Participated | Sup. | Ex. | VG | Good | Poor | Fail | No. Teachers Participated |
|-----------|---------------------------|------|-----|----|------|------|------|---------------------------|
| Tidewater | 73 | 54 | 16 | 5 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 10 |
| Northern | 74 | 38 | 22 | 11 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 6 |
| Richmond | 36 | 22 | 5 | 6 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 9 |
| Central | 32 | 22 | 10 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 7 |
| Piedmont | 13 | 9 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 |

Teachers should be using the 2002 revised Keyboard Skills Syllabus. If you are interested in a copy of the syllabus, you can either obtain one from your local chairman or me. The cost of the syllabus is \$10 and should be made payable to VMTA. ■


THEORY REPORT—2005–2006

Pauline V. Pompei, VMTA Theory Chairman

Ten local chapters participated in the VMTA State Theory Test this year. A total of 1006 students participated. Thank you for all the effort given by each local chairman and all the teachers that were involved. The results of the tests for each chapter are as follows:

| Chapters | Sup. | Ex. | VG | Good | Pass | Fail | Absent | TOTAL |
|-------------------|------|-----|----|------|------|------|--------|-------|
| Central Virginia | 13 | 17 | 2 | | | | | 32 |
| Charlottesville | 6 | 2 | 2 | 1 | | | 1 | 11 |
| Harrisonburg | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | | 1 | | 13 |
| Northern Virginia | 98 | 108 | 38 | 20 | 12 | 13 | 36 | 325 |
| Peninsula | 23 | 30 | 8 | 4 | 2 | | 7 | 76 |
| Piedmont | 1 | 3 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 5 | | 15 |
| Richmond | 32 | 67 | 38 | 19 | 9 | 5 | 22 | 192 |
| Roanoke Valley | 48 | 44 | 12 | 6 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 116 |
| Shenandoah | 12 | 6 | 5 | 1 | | | | 24 |
| Tidewater | 67 | 80 | 41 | 23 | 10 | 7 | 7 | 235 |

(continued on page 10)



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CENTRAL DISTRICT AUDITIONS

Jennifer Scott, Chairman

The Central District Auditions for piano took place on May 20, 2006, in Perkinson Recital Hall, University of Richmond. Twenty-one piano students representing eleven teachers participated. The judges were Dr. Charles Hulin, Dr. Eric Ruple, and Dr. Lisa Kinzer. The winners of the piano competition are as follows:

Level 1A

First Place: David Lu, student of Kim Cho
Alternate: Emily Wu, student of Ruta Smedina-Starke
Second Place: Diane Hwang, student of Kim Peachy
Third Place: Yilang Peng, student of Kim Cho

Level 1B

First Place: Maggie Zhang, student of Ruta Smedina-Starke
Alternate: Brittany Hsieh, student of Kim Cho
Second Place: Stephanie Hwang, student of Kim Cho

Level II

First Place: Danielle Hu, student of Ruta Smedina-Starke
Alternate: Samuel Welborn, student of Lynn Redford
Second Place: Kathryn Marqueen, student of Sharon Stewart
Third Place: Colette Haskins, student of Hope Armstrong-Erb

Level III

First Place: Serena Tang, student of Natalya Vornovitsky
Alternate: Angela Wang, student of Zhuping Ling
Second Place: Jessica Anne Cox, student of Anne James ■

VMTA CONCERTO COMPETITION

There were 23 entrants in the VMTA Concerto Competition. Thank you to George Mason University for the use of their wonderful facilities, and a special thank you to our outstanding judges: Landon Bilyeu, Elizabeth Caluda, Joanne Haroutounian, Peter Haase, William Haroutounian, Juliana Evans Arnold. The results are:

High School Strings

First Place: Erin Phelps, violin, student of Ronda Cole
Alternates:
Eric Perreault, cello, student of Miron Yampolsky
Jessica Kim, violin, student of Natalia Yampolsky

High School Woodwinds

First Place: Sarah Kim, clarinet, student of Kenneth Lee

High School Piano

First Place: Jesse Wong, student of Nancy O'Neill Breth
Alternate: Fifi Zhang, student of Marjorie Lee
2nd Tie: Rebecca Zhang, and Risa Kaneko

Collegiate Piano

First Place: Oh Sung Choi, student of Anna Balakerskaia, GMU
Alternate: Trevor Mano, student of Gabriel Dobner, JMU
HM: Deborah Heaton, student of Eric Ruple, JMU ■

(continued on page 17)

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RU
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MINUTES

Virginia Music Teachers Association General Board Meeting

June 3, 2006

Westminster Canterbury of the Blue Ridge • Charlottesville, VA

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Denise Adkins, Pat Brady, Tracy Cowden, Debra Gunnerson, Wanda Hall, Laura Hoffman, Lise Keiter-Brotzman, Myrenna Kickasola, Gret Kidd, Samantha Luck, Melissa Marrion, Kama Miller, Sarah O'Brien, Kimberly Peachy, Corky Sablinsky, Martha Smith, Sharon Stewart, Lisa Stogosi, Catherine Valley, Jacqueline Yeomans.

CALL TO ORDER

The General Board meeting was called to order by President Wanda Hall at 11:14 a.m.

The **motion** was made and seconded to adopt the agenda; the motion passed.

Secretary Jacqueline Yeomans summarized the minutes of the October 2005 meeting. The **motion** was made and seconded to approve the minutes of the October 2005 meeting as printed in *NewsNotes*. The motion carried.

REPORTS

Treasurer Julie Slingerland presented her report (on file). The **MOTION** was made by Corky Sablinsky to approve the budget. The motion was seconded, voted on, and carried.

President Wanda Hall summarized the earlier Executive Committee Meeting. WMTA wishes to enroll and participate in the NVMTA Theory exams. Minor changes will be made to the yearbook. Three recommendations from this earlier meeting were presented for consideration. **Secretary Jacqueline Yeomans** read the three recommendations: 1. (investment): removing \$7,000 to \$10,000 from the checking account and investing it with the aid of an investment committee; 2. (website additions): making *NewsNotes* as well as syllabi for Theory, Skills & Sight Reading accessible from our website; 3. (donation): \$500 to be sent to MTNA Hurricane Katrina fund. There was a separate vote in the general meeting on each of these recommendations. The three motions carried. Three new chairs have been appointed: **MTNA Chair Belinda Stevens**, **State Auditions Chair Gabriela Ryan** and **Yearbook Chair Bonnie Western**.

Council of Presidents Chair Myrenna Kickasola reported that she had been forwarding information of interest from MTNA to local Presidents. She particularly advised those planning to attend the National Convention get their passports ready. Her report is on file.

President-Elect Debra Gunnerson announced plans for the **VMTA Conference to be held at George Mason University on October 26–29**. Thursday will start with some competitions and the Executive Board meeting. Both Friday and Saturday mornings will begin with a walk around campus and exercise plus light breakfast. On Friday there will be a panel discussion. Also that day, Julie Slingerland will present a discussion on motivation; Audrey Peterbark of NVMTA will also give a

presentation. There will be an orchestra concert and two receptions: one hosted by VMTA; another hosted by a GMU "Friends" committee. On Saturday, after the exercise breakfast, the whole day will be "Melody Bober Day." She will be doing "Melody's Melodies" and "The Healthy Musician." We will have our commissioned composer performance, our meeting, our banquet. The evening concert will be four GMU concert artists playing in a variety of performances. On Sunday morning we will have our concert of our winners and John Healey, President of NVMTA and GMU faculty member will conduct the master class.

Membership Chair Denise Adkins reported that we gained 89 new members, reinstated 12, renewed 780 and received 6 by transfer. We received 17 fewer new members than last year but had 20 more renewing members. We have 764 active members, 107 senior members, 14 student members and 2 associates. This year's total (only 12 less than the membership of last year) is 887.

Certification Chair Martha Smith announced that a certification test will be given at the Fall Conference. She wants to increase the percentage of certified teachers, urging that there are several paths to certification.

REPORTS FROM STANDING COMMITTEES

MusicLink Chair Martha Smith announced an upcoming week long fundraiser entitled "Promise to Practice" whereby MusicLink students will get sponsors to donate money for practicing, which will go to the Music Link fund. Virginia has a \$500 reimbursement fund for MusicLink teachers.

Commissioned Composer Chair David Shaffer-Gottschalk was not present but submitted his report. Allen Blank of Richmond will premiere his composition at the VMTA Fall Conference.

VMTA Concerto Competition Chair Marjorie Lee sent in her report which was read by **Wanda Hall**. There were 23 entries.

VMTA State Auditions: no report was available. It will appear in *NewsNotes*.

Theory report was sent in. There were 1006 participants. The breakdown will appear in *NewsNotes*.

Keyboard Skills report was sent in. A total of 228 students representing 35 teachers participated.

Sight Reading—Single line Instruments: no report was available.

MTNA Foundation: Outgoing Chair **Nancy Longmyer** has made brochures available. **Belinda Stevens** will be taking over this position.

REPORTS FROM LOCAL ASSOCIATIONS

The following associations gave reports; the reports are on file. Please also email reports to the web site.

Blue Ridge, Harrisonburg, Peninsula, Roanoke Valley, Central Virginia, Highlands, Piedmont, Tidewater, Charlottesville, Northern Virginia, and Richmond.

(continued on page 14)



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A TRIBUTE TO YVAINE DUISIT

JULY 13, 1930–MAY 25, 2006

by Content ("Corky") Sablinsky



Yvaine Duisit died on May 25, 2006, at the age of 75, after a five-year battle with cancer. She was my two-piano partner and dearest friend for over thirty years. Our first two-piano recital took place at the University of Virginia in 1974, and subsequently we played all over the state and appeared as soloists with the Charlottesville University Symphony orchestra. We both joined VMTA in the early seventies, the only teachers in the Charlottesville community who belonged, and Yvaine helped Barbara Moore and me co-found the Charlottesville Music Teachers Association twenty-six years ago. To the best of my knowledge—since we always roomed together—Yvaine never missed a VMTA State Conference except lately when she was too ill. She had

many students over the years compete in the State Auditions and in the National Competitions. She was CMTA's Theory Chair for many years and was deeply committed to ensuring that young people have a grasp of theory and counterpoint, no doubt due to her own training at the Paris Conservatoire. At the Conservatoire she studied piano with Armand Ferté and organ with Maurice Duruflé. She was a superb teacher of both piano and organ; indeed, one of her prize organ students—Christopher Jacobson—has just been appointed an organ scholar at the National Cathedral in Washington, DC. She has left a musical legacy beyond price in the hearts and minds of her students, about whom she cared passionately. Let me close by sharing something especially poignant for music teachers. One of her most gifted students won the CMTA Piano Concerto Competition last fall and was scheduled to perform the first movement of the Grieg Concerto on Mother's Day, May 14, with our Charlottesville Youth Orchestra. In December Yvaine had a major crisis which she survived, but her doctors gave her approximately three months to live. She was bound and determined to be alive for this child's performance, and indeed, she not only was, but she attended it—albeit in a wheelchair. Ten days later she was gone. ■



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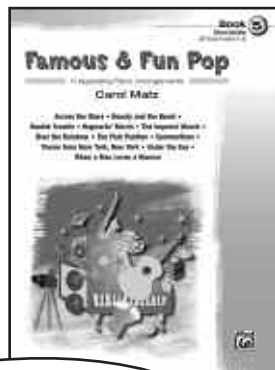
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ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Sarah O'Brien of RVMTA described the Galbraith Series at Hollins University where an endowed fund pays to bring in a distinguished guest each year to talk to piano teachers. This year the guest was **Dr. Scott McBride Smith**. The attendance was surprisingly low. She encourages state teachers to attend this very wonderful free event. Possible speakers being considered for next year are Katherine Rollin, Melody Bober, Kevin Olson.
- Insurance benefits available for MTNA members include General Liability, Medical, Dental, Prescription, Auto and Home. Information is available on the website.
- Members are responsible for updating contact information on VMTA website—contact webmaster **John Winsor** if you encounter difficulties.
- The revised Theory Syllabus will be distributed to the local chairs in June.
- Send officer changes/updates to **Wanda Hall** as soon as possible.
- E-mail copies of Local Chapter Reports to **Jeanette Winsor** and request posting to website.
- Deadline for submitting reports and articles to *NewsNotes* is July 15—send to **Jeannette Winsor** and it will be put on the website by **John Winsor**.
- Deadline for submitting information for Yearbook is July 1—send to *Bonnie Western*.
- **Corky Sablinksky** announced, with sadness, the passing of **Yvaine Duisit** in May 2006. Information about her life and her contributions to the music community will appear in *NewsNotes*.

President **Wanda Hall** closed the meeting by presenting a plaque in appreciation to outgoing President **Kim Peachy**.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:07 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Jacqueline Yeomans, Secretary

REPORTS ON FILE

| | |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Blue Ridge Chapter | Treasurer |
| Central Virginia Chapter | VMTA Membership |
| Charlottesville Chapter | VMTA Chair for Local Associations |
| Harrisonburg Chapter | VMTA Concerto Competition |
| Highlands Chapter | Commissioned Composer |
| Peninsula Chapter | Theory |
| Piedmont Chapter | Keyboard Skills |
| Richmond Chapter | Roanoke Valley Chapter |
| Tidewater Chapter | |

Local chapter reports are posted on the VMTA web site at www.music-usa.org/vmta. ■



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6 pm Preparatory division
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2 pm Recital of Roanoke Valley
students

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VMTA Fall Festivals



It's time again for the Fall Festival! Encouraging your students to participate is a great way to get them off to a fast start this fall. In Lynchburg, Richmond and Winchester, the festival will take place Saturday, November 18, 2006. In Roanoke, the festival will take place Saturday, November 11, 2006 and in Northern Virginia the festival will be held on Saturday, November 4, 2006. See below for the postmark deadline and chairman for each location. No late applications will be accepted.

You may enter students in piano, piano duets, organ, strings, woodwinds, brass, percussion, classical guitar, accordion, or voice. Students must play one

piece from the Contemporary Period containing at least one contemporary idiom. The second piece must be chosen from any historical period other than the Contemporary Period. In certain localities, pieces which are traditionally composed (perhaps from a method book) are accepted for the non-Contemporary piece, but only for beginning students. Please check with your local Fall Festival Chairman concerning this. Both pieces must be memorized. There are only two exceptions to this rule: 1) students in Levels III or IV who play an avant garde piece may use their music if this has been cleared by the local chairman prior to the registration deadline or 2) entries in piano duet or organ. No photocopied music is allowed. Only originally composed music is accepted, no simplifications or popular music.

Festivals will be held in the following

locations with these postmark deadline dates:

Lynchburg (CVMTA): November 1; Julia Sansone, Chairman; held at West Lynchburg Baptist Church

Northern Virginia: October 2; Diane Perett, Chairman; held at Cherrydale United Methodist Church, Arlington, VA.

Richmond: October 14; Debbie Martin, Chairman; held at the University of Richmond.

Roanoke: October 13; Susan B. McDowell, Chairman; held at Hollins College.

Winchester (Valley): November 6; Dr. Sue Boyd, Chairman; held at Shenandoah University. ■

Debbie Sacra

VMTA Fall Festival Coordinator

Evans (continued from page 7)



Genie Evans, 97, instructs student Granger Kat during her piano lesson at the Gaston School of the Arts. "She knows how to bring passion out of her students," Kat said.

She was living in Czechoslovakia right before World War II, when Hitler spoke. But she and her friends were more interested in secretly listening to radio broadcasts from England.

"We would go down in the coal cellar," she said.

Evans left Europe on the USS Washington, the last boat to leave Italy before the outbreak of hostilities.

She remembers sneaking into a bar in the afternoon to play the piano during the eight-trip ocean voyage.

"But one day a young man was sitting there at my piano," Evans said. "It made me so mad. That was my piano."

But she struck up a conversation with the player, who turned out to be the

grandson of a famous pianist, who offered to help her get started in Chicago.

[*The Gaston Gazette*: Date: Feb. 19, 2006; Section: Arts; Page Number: 6E] ■

City of Gastonia, Office of the Mayor "A Commitment to Excellence"

Today is a most special day in the City of Gastonia. It is the day we honor a lady who, though small in stature, stands tall around the world.

As a teacher, musician, hero and role model, Eugenia Evans has lived in many places. Every place she has lived is a more beautiful place because she touched it.

When it comes to music, she has performed with and taught the best of the best, from grand concert halls to tiny living rooms.

We honor Mrs. Evans today for her music, her gifts, her generosity, her enthusiasm, her youthful vision, and her contribution to life and the world!

Therefore it is my pleasure and honor to proclaim Sunday, February 19, 2006, as Eugenia Evans Day in The City of Gastonia, NC.

—Jennifer T. Stultz, Mayor

Directions & Parking

(continued from page 6)

on the right to the Performing Arts Building directly behind the Center for the Arts Concert Hall. Enter the main entrance to the Performing Arts Building, which faces the Johnson Center across a courtyard. The Choral Room is the first room on the right.

Note to Northern Virginians:

To figure out your own short cuts from your home use the "ADC Map of Northern Virginia" or www.MapQuest.com. ■



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John O'Brien, accompanying

- DMA, MM, BM, University of Southern California
- Conductor of the Eastern Carolina Youth Orchestra, codirector of the Early Music Ensemble

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VALLEY DISTRICT AUDITIONS

The Valley District Auditions were held April 29, 2006, at Shenandoah University in Winchester, Virginia. Judges for the auditions were Dr. Lori Piitz and Mr. Eugene Mishustin.

Level 1A

Student
1st Carolyn Manion

Teacher
Beverly Carow

Level 1B

Student
1st Kristen Herring
Alt. Jay Horton
H.M. Evan White

Teacher
Kama Miller
Sandra Williams
Sandra Williams

Level 2

Student
1st Christine Choi
Alt. Hannah He
H.M. Perry Maddox

Teacher
Dr. Patricia Brady
Content Sablinsky
Dr. Patricia Brady

Level 3

Student
1st Marianna Cutright
Alt. Asherah Capellaro
H.M. Arielle McWhinney
H.M. Emma Potter
H.M. Emily Cutright

Teacher
Content Sablinsky
Beverly Carow
Beverly Carow
Sandra Williams
Content Sablinsky

SINGLE-LINE CENTRAL DISTRICT AUDITIONS

Alice M. Hammel, Chairman

The Central District had a total of 17 students enter the single-line sight-reading testing. Of these 17 students, 14 were students of Dr. Alice M. Hammel and one was a student of Dr. Bruce Hammel, and two were students of Hope Armstrong-Erb.

The Single-Line Central District Auditions were held May 17th, 2006, at Virginia Commonwealth University. A total of four students were entered in the Auditions. Of those, two were flute students who study with Dr. Alice M. Hammel, one entrant was a clarinet student who studies with Dr. Bruce Hammel, and one was a violin student who studies with Hope Armstrong-Erb. The adjudicator was Francile Bilyeu, flute professor at Virginia Commonwealth University. The 2007 Single-Line Central District Audition date will be: Wednesday, May 16, 2007 at Virginia Commonwealth University.

The students and placings were:

Level IB:

Kevin Niu – flute – First Place Winner (woodwinds)

Level II:

Hannah Hammel – Flute – First Place Winner (woodwinds)

Level III:

Brian Condit – Clarinet – First Place Winner (woodwinds)

Level III:

Katie Wooldridge – Violin – First Place Winner (strings) ■

CERTIFICATION OPPORTUNITIES

You've seen NCTM after the names of teachers you admire. You've investigated the requirements for becoming a Nationally Certified Teacher of Music at www.mtna.org. You really want to be listed on MTNA's Directory of Certified Teachers, so that you'll always have a constant stream of prospective students. So take the next step—get help!

In **Tidewater**, Jeanette Winsor is offering a two-hour workshop on what one has to do to get certified. It will be held Friday, January 5, 2007 from 9:30 - 11:30 am at the Music Staff in Chesapeake, VA—\$15/person. The registration deadline is December 20. Walk-ins will be welcome, but will not have the benefit of the teacher-specific handouts until a few days after the workshop. Refreshments, too!

In **Richmond**, several members of the VMTA Certification Committee stand ready to answer your questions: Anne James (Teacher-of-the-Year, no less); Melissa Marrion (who knows all the ins and outs); and Sharon Stewart, who doubles as Richmond MTA President. They're proud to be certified and you will be, too.

In **Northern Virginia**, Joanne Haroutounian incorporates certification requirements into her pedagogy courses at George Mason University. Diane Perett is the new NVMTA Certification Chair. Andy Horowitz, Ellen Reynolds Nordloff, and René Johnson are recently certified and helpful resources.

Statewide: Martha Smith, State Certification Chair, is ready to help you take this important step to becoming a true professional.

MusicLink Reimbursements

Did you know that VMTA has set aside funds to reimburse teachers of MusicLink students for music purchases and festival fees? At the end of each semester, send your request for reimbursement with attached receipts to VMTA Treasurer Julie Slingerland, 6616 Braddock Road, Annandale, VA 22003. For more information about becoming a MusicLink teacher visit www.musiclink-foundation.org or contact State Coordinator Martha Smith at martha.smith@comcast.net. ■

2005-06 VMTA/MTNA COMMISSIONED COMPOSER

Congratulations to composer **Allan Blank** of Richmond. He has been selected to receive the commission for a new work in the 2005-2006 Virginia Music Teachers Association/Music Teachers National Association Composer Commissioning Program. Mr. Blank's entry was one of nine entries from throughout Virginia.

(continued on page 18)

2006 Conference: Artists & Clinicians



Teresa Compos-Falk, a resident of Yorktown, Virginia, received her earliest piano training in her Pennsylvania hometown at the Bethlehem Conservatory of Music,

studying with Alma E. Hoch. During teen years, she studied with Eleanor Sokoloff of the Curtis Institute of Music and later, received Bachelors and Masters degrees from Juilliard School of Music, studying with famed pedagogue, Adele Marcus and also Ania Dorfman. Her extensive professional experience includes New York Times critically-acclaimed solo recitals at Town Hall, NY, Carnegie Recital Hall, NY, and Alice Tully Hall in Lincoln Center. College and university concerts were given as Teri was a faculty member for fourteen years at 3 colleges in the New York/New Jersey area. As a piano soloist, she gave Faculty Exchange concerts at Dartmouth (Hopkins Hall), Seton Hill, Moravian College, numerous colleges on the Eastern Seaboard, and in the Midwest.

Chamber music programs at Tanglewood, Aspen Music Festivals, Federal Hall, and Alice Tully Hall in Lincoln Center were also a part of her performing experience. Concerts followed in Korea as part of securing a visiting professorship in Seoul, Korea. In 1987, Teresa received an MTNA Master Teacher certification and returned to the United States after having lived in Korea while her husband, John, served 2 years as an Army Chaplain in Seoul. In 1988, Teri opened a piano studio in Hampton Roads, VA and became VMTA treasurer shortly after. She has served as a VMTA Baldwin and Yamaha judge before her studio yielded MTNA State, Southern Division, and National Baldwin and Yamaha winners. More recently, she served as local Peninsula Music Teachers president, and would like to "trim" her 50-plus student body in order to travel with husband John, a recent retiree, and son Jonathan who attends the University of Virginia. ■

AUDREY PETERBARK ROSS

Audrey Peterbark Ross has established herself as a new independent

piano teacher in Northern Virginia. She is a graduate of Westminster Choir College of Rider University where she received a BM (2001) and a MM (2003) in Piano Performance and Pedagogy. While at Westminster, Audrey participated in a honors recital at Weill Recital hall and performed with the Westminster Community Orchestra. In addition to performing, she has received many prestigious awards for her outstanding achievement in the area of pedagogy. Audrey was a piano student of Ingrid Jacobson Clarfield and is a former student of Rosita Kerr Mang. She studied pedagogy with Phyllis Alphert Lehrer, Lillian Livingston, Marvin Blickenstaff, Betty Stoloff, Jean Stackhouse, and Jim Goldsworthy. She currently teaches from her private studio in Burke, Virginia. Audrey will present *Stepping Stones: Bridging the gap between Festival and Competition*: Pieces that challenge and help prepare your students for advanced repertoire. ■

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Reports... (continued from page 17)

Judges for the competition were James Wiznerowicz of Charlottesville, Thomas Albert of Winchester, and Emory Waters of Midlothian. Mr. Blank's new composition will receive its premiere at the 2006 VMTA Fall Conference.

Allan Blank was born in New York in 1925. His early musical training was on the violin. He attended the High School of Music & Art where an interest in conducting and composition was fostered. Further studies were at the Juilliard School of Music (1945-1947), New York University (BA, 1948), University of Minnesota (MA, 1950) and the University of Iowa. He was a violinist with the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra (1950-1952) and has taught at a number of schools and universities. He is Professor Emeritus of Composition at Virginia Commonwealth University (1978-1996) and currently teaches there part-time. He has a number of published works distributed among the following publishers: Boosey & Hawkes, Associated Music Publishers, Carl Fischer & Co., Smith Publications, Theodore Presser & Co., Seesaw Music Corp., Music For Percussion, Dorn Publications, Nichols Music Co., Roncorp Inc., Falls House Press, Association for the Promotion of New Music, International Opus and Edition Pro Nova. A number of his works have been recorded and are on the following labels: CRI, Orion, Advance, Open Loop, Centaur, Contemporary Society, Titanic Records, Pro Viva and North/South Recordings.

Awards include First Prize in the George Eastman Competition (1983) sponsored by the Eastman School of Music for his

DUO FOR BASSOON & PIANO, and a grant (1983) from the National Endowment for the Arts in support of his one-act opera, THE MAGIC BONBONS. He was commissioned by the Virginia Shakespeare Festival at Williamsburg to write music for their production of Measure for Measure. In 1985 he received a commission from the New York State Council on the Arts' Presenting Organization to write a clarinet quintet for the Roxburg Chamber Players. This work has been recorded and released on the OPUS ONE label. He has received three commissions (1979, 1988, 1991) from the Virginia Music Teachers Association. In 1988 he won both the ERIC SATIE MOSTLY TONAL AWARD for his string trio, FANTASY ON CANTILLATION MOTIVES, and the ANNUAL CHORAL COMPETITION CONTEST sponsored by the Chautauqua Chamber Players for his setting called POOR RICHARD'S ALMANACK. In 1989 Mr. Blank was a winner in the LIND SOLO SONG COMPETITION sponsored by Cornell University, and in 1990 he was awarded a grant from the Virginia Commission of the Arts for a CONCERTO FOR CLARINET & STRING ORCHESTRA.

Mr. Blank is listed in a number of references including the NEW GROVES DICTIONARY OF MUSIC & MUSICIANS. He has been invited to deposit manuscripts in the Hans Moldenhauer Archive and the Diehn Composer's Room of Old Dominion University in Norfolk, Virginia. Two recent CDs include his MUSIC FOR BASSOON (Centaur CRC2485) and CHAMBER WORKS (Arizona University Recordings, AUR CD 3103). ■

ADVERTISING INFORMATION FOR VMTA'S *NEWSNOTES* AND YEARBOOK

Please send your electronically prepared* ad on CD with a printout, a check made payable to VMTA, and the completed form to: Kim Peachy, 11506 Crestmoor Court, Richmond, VA 23236, 804-897-3727, peachy-d@comcast.net.

Ads may also be submitted via e-mail (**stuffed or zipped**) to Rose Brown, *NewsNotes* Graphic Artist, at rosebrown@comcast.net, **please fax a printout** (toll free: 866-622-1319). Call Rose at 571-276-7577 (cell) if you have any questions about preparing or submitting your ad.

*Any combination of QuarkXPress (preferred), Illustrator, Freehand, PageMaker, InDesign, and PhotoShop files are accepted. **Do not send PDF, Microsoft Word or Publisher files. Include all fonts, imported graphics, and a printout.**

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Please complete the form, make your check payable to VMTA, and mail to: Kim Peachy, 11506 Crestmoor Court, Richmond, VA 23236.

Spring Conference Highlights



Kim Peachy, President 2003-05 accepted an honorary plaque from President Wanda Hall.



Dr. Jeffrey Brown, Christopher Newport University, spoke on preparing music students for college auditions.



Four Local Association Presidents who attended the Spring Conference are L-R: Sarah O'Brien, Roanoke Valley; Laura Hoffman, Harrisonburg; Lucy Morrow, Highlands; Sharon Stewart, Richmond.

Artists & Clinicians

(continued from page 18)

JOHN PAUL HEALEY



A native of Missouri, John Paul Healey received degrees in piano from Truman State University and Texas Christian University before completing his doctorate at the Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music. His principal teachers have been John Owings, Henry Meyer (chamber music) and Frank Weinstock. He has played chamber and solo concerts in America and Europe, including performances of Holocaust composer Viktor Ullmann's piano music in German and Austrian synagogues. While in Europe he recorded a compact disc of solo piano music by the 20th century Romanian/French composer Henrik Neugeboren (Rayuela Records, Stuttgart, Germany). A resident of the Washington, DC area since 1997, Dr. Healey acted as a visiting instructor of piano at the University of Nebraska at Omaha in 1999-2000 and as a vocal coach in the German for singers program at Middlebury College (Middlebury, Vt.). He currently serves on the keyboard faculty of George Mason University in Fairfax, VA, and as President of the Northern Virginia Music Teachers Association. He maintains a private piano studio and freelances throughout the area as a collaborative and solo pianist. He lives with his wife and son in Alexandria, Virginia. ■

Virginia Music Teachers Association

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