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President's Notes

Gabriella Ryan, VMTA State President

Dear Fellow Music Teachers:

Happy 2013 to you and your students! I hope this year brings great joy and much success to all of you. Many thanks to Paulo Steinberg and all who worked on bringing us the 2012 Annual VMTA Conference! Over 100 of our members attended. It was a great time to meet our colleagues, learn from our workshop presenters, hear wonderful musical performances from our student competitions, and be treated to the masterclass and great artistry of Alexandre Dossin.

This year, our conference will be held in the summer, July 11–14, at Wintergreen, a Virginia resort, in the beautiful mountains of the Blue Ridge. It will be held at the same time that the Wintergreen Festival of Music is scheduled, and their events will also be available to our members at a reduced rate. I hope you will make an effort to attend a summer conference, and bring your family for a mini-vacation as well. We hope that the change in timing will make it easier for more teachers to include this conference in their schedules, since the fall is such a busy time of year. (Please note that competitions will still be in the fall of the year at a separate event.)

I recently attended the MTNA Southern Division Competitions at UNCG, in which our State winners competed. I'm proud to announce that we have an Honorable Mention in the Senior Woodwinds category—**Arjun Malhotra**, clarinet, student of Kenneth Lee; and also an Honorable Mention in the Young Artist Woodwinds category—**Paul Wissman**, clarinet, student of Garrick Zoeter. We also have two 1st place winners who will compete in the MTNA National Finals in California in March. The 1st Place winner in the Junior Woodwind category is **Catherine Im**, oboe, student of Yeong Kim; and in the Junior Piano category, **Evelyn Mo**, student of Thomas Mastroianni, won 1st Place. Congratulations to all these students and teachers for their fine work, and much luck at the Disneyland Competitions! For a listing of all the winners, click on this link: <https://members.mtna.org/MTNA-Competitions2012/Reporting>.

(President's Notes...continued on page 7)

VMTA ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2013 "MUSIC AND IMAGINATION IN THE MOUNTAINS"

Paulo Steinberg, VMTA President-elect

For the first time in history, a VMTA conference will be combined with the Wintergreen Summer Music Festival and Academy. All your senses will be tickled (please pardon my Brazilian background in case this last phrase sounds funny!) You will be up for a treat, hearing beautiful music performed by world-class musicians at a breath-taking location. Moreover, you will experience a variety of delicious meals, while enjoying the pure and fresh air of the mountains, not to mention the spa amenities—all on the same weekend.

The VMTA registration form will be available online very soon, but make your reservation at Wintergreen Resort as soon as possible, as the number of rooms is limited (call 800-611-6888 and ask for the VMTA rate).

Special resort rates for VMTA (valid during the conference, and two days before and/or after):

- Single accommodation room: \$119 (plus taxes)
- One bedroom condo: \$139 (plus taxes)

For some pictures of the resort, check: www.flickr.com/photos/wintergreenresort/

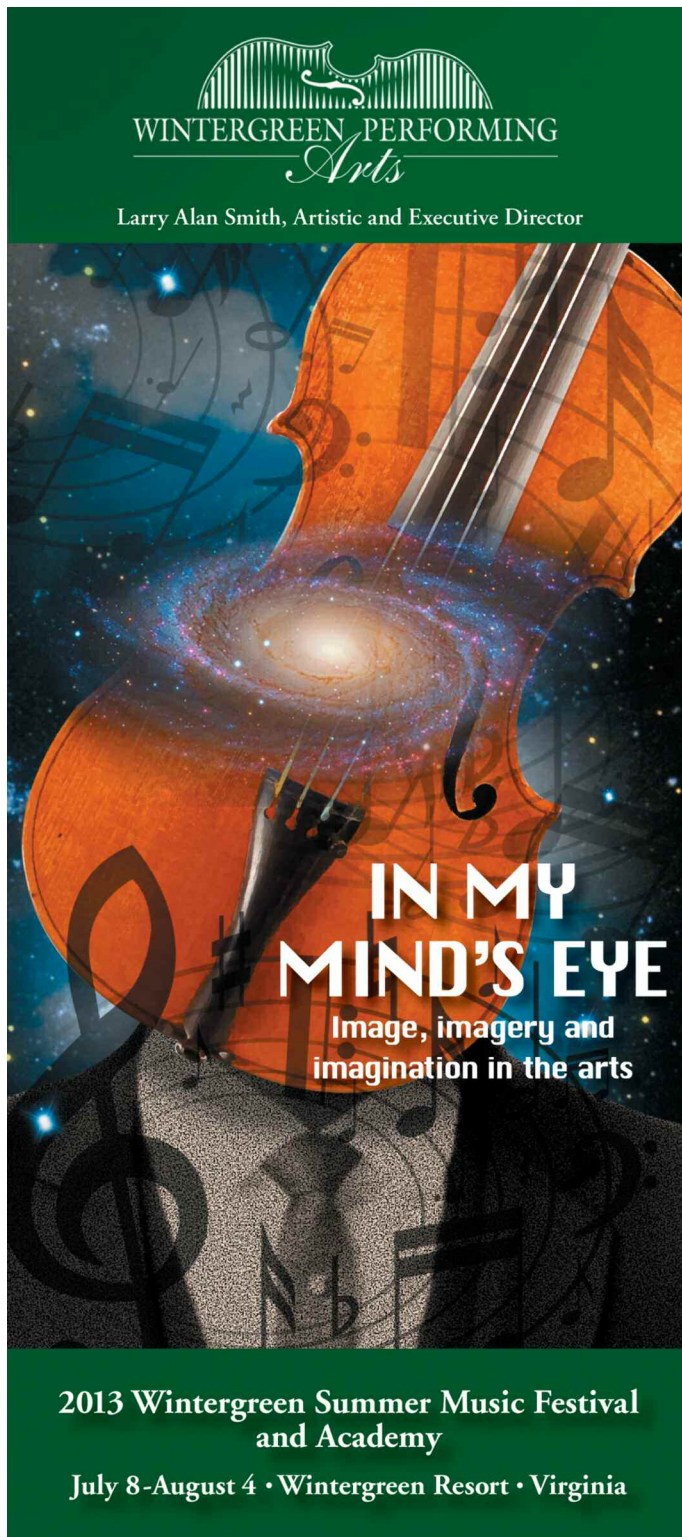
Our guest artist will be Caroline Hong, who will give a masterclass and perform a recital on Friday, July 12th. Our banquet will take place on Saturday, July 13th, immediately after an early orchestra concert (one of the many events offered by the Wintergreen Summer Music Festival and Academy). Workshop presenters include Nancy Breth, Lee Jordan-Anders, Michael White and Tonya Menard. The conference will finish on Sunday, with a workshop by Catherine Rollin, followed by a coffee concert featuring Nick Ross and Tracy Cowden.

Note that the MTNA competitions and VMTA State Auditions will take place in the fall, hosted by James Madison University. The dates are October 24–26.

This is a great opportunity for you to network with amazing musicians and teachers. You will get updated and recharged while being entertained.

Please see our tentative schedule below.

See you in July!



Wintergreen Performing Arts

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welcome the

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2013 Conference: Schedule

MUSIC AND IMAGINATION IN THE MOUNTAINS

Presented in conjunction with the Wintergreen Summer Music Festival and Academy

This schedule includes the complete listing of the VMTA Conference events in bold (as of January 29th) and a few of the highlights of the first week of the Wintergreen Summer Music Festival (WSMF). Both schedules are subject to further modification. For updated schedules and additional details, visit the VMTA website at www.virginiamta.org and the Wintergreen Performing Arts website at www.wintergreenperformingarts.org. All VMTA members (including all conference attendees) will receive the WSMF Ticket Booklet by mail at the beginning of May. The WSMF runs from Monday, July 8-Sunday, August 4, and it will include more than 200 events and performances. Tickets for all WSMF paid events go on sale at 9:00 AM on Monday, May 6.

Monday, July 8—First day of the WSMF

9:30-11:45 Morning Seminar with composer Michael White from The Juilliard School

Tuesday, July 9

9:30-11:45 Morning Seminar with composer Michael White from The Juilliard School

2:00-4:00 Cooking Class I ®

4:30-6:15 Academy Masterclass I for Strings ▲

4:30-6:15 Academy Masterclass I for Winds ▲

Wednesday, July 10

9:30-11:45 Morning Seminar with composer Michael White from The Juilliard School

6:00 Opening Night Reception

7:30 Opening Night Performance featuring the Wintergreen Chamber Players

Thursday, July 11—VMTA Conference schedule begins

9:30-11:45 Morning Seminar with composer Michael White from The Juilliard School

10:00-12:30 Wintergreen Festival Orchestra Rehearsal

1:00-3:00 **VMTA Executive Meeting Luncheon**

2:00-4:00 Cooking Class II ®

4:30-6:15 Academy Masterclass II for Strings ▲

4:30-6:15 Academy Masterclass II for Winds ▲

7:30-8:00 Overlook performance by an Academy chamber ensemble ▲ ☼

7:30-9:30 Thrilling Thursday I—Performances by the Wintergreen Chamber Players

Friday, July 12

8:00-9:30 **VMTA Conference registration**

9:30-10:45 **VMTA Workshop #1—Lee Jordan-Anders: Imagine! Using Visual Images to Spark Musical Creativity**

9:30-11:45 Morning Seminar with composer Michael White from The Juilliard School ♥

10:00-12:30 Wintergreen Festival Orchestra Rehearsal

11:00-12:15 **VMTA Workshop #2—Nancy Breth: Inside the Inventions**

Noon-2:30 **Exhibits: VMTA Vendors**

12:30-2:00 **VMTA Presidents' Luncheon**

2:30-4:30 **VMTA Masterclass with Caroline Hong in the Evans Center ▲**

4:30-6:00 **Presentations by VMTA Vendors ▲**

5:30-6:00 Performance by an Academy chamber ensemble ▲

7:30 **Solo Recital I: Pianist Caroline Hong—This program is a part of the VMTA Conference ☼**

9:30 Post-Concert Garden Party on Shamokin Terrace—Cash bar reception for everyone attending Solo Recital I ▲

Saturday, July 13

7:00-11:00 Festival Breakfast Buffet in the Copper Mine Bistro

9:00-11:00 **VMTA Business Meeting**

9:00-9:30 Performance by an Academy chamber ensemble ▲

9:30-11:00 Saturday Seminar with composer Samuel Zyman from The Juilliard School

10:00-12:30 Wintergreen Festival Orchestra Rehearsal ♥

10:00-2:00 **Exhibits: VMTA Vendors**

10:00 Nature and Wintergreen: Mornings in the Mountains—Easy-to-moderate interpretive hike ☼NF®

11:15-12:15 **VMTA Workshop #3—Tonya Menard: VMTA Theory Tests—The Next Generation**

2:00-3:00

VMTA Workshop #4—Michael White (The Juilliard School): The Art of Teaching Mozart—Putting Theory into Practice

3:00-4:30

Academy Concert I – Students of the Wintergreen Summer Music Academy ☼

4:00-5:30

Wine Tastings §

5:15-5:45

Pre-Concert Talk with Larry Alan Smith
Open to everyone attending Classics I

6:00-8:00

Classics I—Wintergreen Festival Orchestra—Lance Suzuki, flute, New York-based freelance musician; Nancy Allen, harp, Principal Harpist, New York Philharmonic; Mei-Ann Chen, guest conductor, Music Director, Memphis Symphony; Music by Copland, Mozart and Beethoven

8:00

VMTA Banquet

Sunday, July 14

7:00-11:00

Festival Breakfast Buffet in the Copper Mine Bistro

9:00-10:45

Workshop #5—Catherine Rollin: Technique and Artistry: You Can't Have One without the Other

10:00

Nature and Wintergreen: Mornings in the Mountains—Easy-to-moderate interpretive hike ☼NF®

10:00-2:00

Sunday Brunch in the Stoney Creek Bar & Grill
Reservations required: (434) 325-8110

11:00-Noon

Coffee Concert I—Featuring pianists Tracy Cowden, Nick Ross and others (coffee will served during the performance)—This program is a part of the VMTA Conference ☼

2:15-2:45

Pre-Concert Talk with Larry Alan Smith (EC)
Open to everyone attending Classics I

3:00-5:00

Classics I—Wintergreen Festival Orchestra—This is a repeat of Saturday's 6:00 pm concert (EC)

Key:

▲ Free WSMF events

♥ Events open only to holders of Festival Season Passes and major donors, but these events will be made available to VMTA Conference attendees without charge

☼ Event with a WSMF admission fee that will be waived for VMTA Conference attendees during the VMTA Conference

® WPA Event with very limited seating—reservation required (beginning May 6)

☼ Weather-dependent events that will be cancelled in the event of inclement weather

NF® TWNF Event requiring an advance reservation—phone (434) 325-8169
§ Must be 21 years or older

Pricing of WSMF Events

(VMTA Conference attendees will receive a 25% discount on performance and seminar tickets for themselves and one guest). There will be no discounts for the Opening Night Reception and Performance, wine tastings or cooking classes. The Wintergreen Nature Foundation-related events and Wintergreen Resort lunches and brunches cannot be discounted. Registered VMTA Conference attendees (only) have the option of buying a WSMF Festival Season Pass at the discounted rate of \$315 (the regular price is \$420). Check the WSMF Ticket Booklet when it comes out for details, as well as a complete listing of the Festival offerings.

Weeks II-IV of the WSMF will be filled with music, theatre and seminars, as well as events related to the visual, literary and culinary arts. To celebrate the 2013 VMTA Conference, the discounts listed above will be valid for the entire 2013 WSMF (July 8 through August 4). VMTA Conference attendees will be given an ID card that should be shown when attending the Caroline Hong Solo Recital, Academy Concert I and Coffee Concert I, as well as when purchasing tickets this summer.

* * * * *

VMTA Conference Fees

- Conference Fee for VMTA members—\$50 (\$30 per day)
- Conference Fee for Non-members (general)—\$75 (\$45 per day)
- Workshop fee for Non-members—\$15 per workshop
- Workshop Fee for holders of the WSMF Season Pass Holder—Free
- WSMF Individual Tickets...special price for VMTA Conference Attendees and one guest—25% discount
- WSMF Season Pass for VMTA members attending the Conference—25% discount

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2013 Conference: Guest Artists & Workshops

GUEST ARTIST CAROLINE HONG



Pianist **Caroline Hong** has performed throughout the world and made her debut at Carnegie Weill Recital Hall as a winner of the Frinna Awerbuch International Piano Competition. She has been noted by critics for her “expressive and powerful playing,” “formidable technique,” as well as her “keen sense of lyricism and the classical style.”

Pulitzer Prize and Academy award-winning composer John Corigliano recognized her as “one of the greatest pianists I have ever heard” after a performance of his Etude Fantasy (1976). Critics wrote that it was “breathtaking” and “hard to imagine a better performance.” She has recorded for Mark Records and Fleur de Son, which was reviewed favorably by American Record Guide. As a chamber musician, she has performed with many fine artist groups including the Vermeer String Quartet and the Dorian Wind Quintet, and toured extensively in the U.S. as a member of the piano-violin duo, Duo Viardot.

Caroline Hong is active as a guest lecturer, adjudicator, and master class teacher at universities, institutions, and competitions throughout the United States, particularly in the Northeast, and internationally in Asia. Thus, she has been engaged by Seoul National University, Tanguk University, Ewha Womens University, and Dongduk University, and numerous other colleges and universities in the United States, the Chautauqua Institute, and in Thailand. She has served on the jury of Bartok-Kabelevsky International Piano Competition and the Chicago Symphony Youth Piano Soloist Competition, among others. She is a Laureate of the Van Cliburn International Audition, the Robert Casadesus International Competition, William Kapell International Piano Competition, UNISA International Piano Competition, Beethoven Foundation, Distinguished Performer of the Palm Beach International Piano Competition, Winner of the Society of American Musicians (Chicago, IL), Winner of the Music Academy of the West Concerto Competition (Santa Barbara, CA). In her pre-college days, she was named Orange County’s Best Pianist, and was a winner in the Bach Festival of Southern California. She has been a featured performer on Robert Sherman’s “Young Artists Showcase” (New York Times Radio) and countless other radio broadcasts throughout the nation as well as abroad in Pretoria, South Africa. As winner of the Chicago Civic Orchestra Soloist Competition, she performed in Orchestra Hall under the baton of Michael Morgan. Hong has had the privilege of studying with luminaries such as Martin Canin, Jerome Lowenthal, Sergei Babayan, Dmitrii Paperno, Ann Schein, and Karen Shaw, and in solo masterclass with Claude Frank, John Browning, Leon Fleisher, and chamber masterclass with Gyorgy Sebok and Menahem Pressler. Her first teacher, with whom she began study of piano before the age of 3, was her own mother.

Caroline Hong received her training at the Peabody Institute (B.M.), Juilliard School (M.M.), Indiana University (D.M.), Music Academy of the West, and the Sergei Babayan

International Piano Academy. Prior to her appointment at The Ohio State University, where she is currently serving as Associate Professor, Dr. Hong served as an Associate Instructor in both piano and theory at Indiana University, as well as Assistant Professor at Longwood University. She was appointed the first female piano faculty in 2005 for the “Piano at Peabody” program where she returns in the summers, and will be joining faculty at the Vianden Festival in Luxembourg in August of 2013. Other professional affiliations include Steinway Artists, American Liszt Society, and Columbus Symphony where she is acting as Principal Keyboardist.

CATHERINE ROLLIN

Workshop: Technique and Artistry: You Can’t Have One Without the Other

In this session, Catherine will give clear and detailed demonstrations of a wide variety of physical skills that contribute to artistic playing. Included will be a review of basic form (posture, hand position, distance from the keyboard, etc.) This will be followed by basics about strong fingers, the elastic wrist and the distribution of arm weight. She will then demonstrate many specific skills that contribute to legato playing, such as rotation, under-over wrist rolls, pivots, rolling wrist and many more. She will also cover specific skills for detached playing such as: forearm staccato, wrist staccato, push-off staccato and portatos. Throughout, Catherine will be playing numerous examples from the masterworks to show the effectiveness of incorporating this “physical vocabulary” into our playing.



Catherine Rollin, NCTM, is a composer, pianist, clinician, author and teacher of prize-winning students. Her pre-college training was with Mischa Kottler a disciple of Cortot and von Sauer. She holds a bachelor of musical arts with distinction from the University of Michigan and the master of music from Oakland University. Oakland University honored Rollin with their alumni achievement award in 2002.

Catherine has over 250 publications with Alfred Music Publishing Company and has been honored with commissions from Clavier magazine as well as many MTNA chapters and music teachers’ festivals and workshops. Her works have appeared on many required lists, including the National Federation of Music Clubs (NFMC) bulletin where she currently has works in the solo, duet, concerto and one-hand categories. In 2011, the highly regarded college text *Creative Piano Teaching* (Lyke, Haydon and Rollin) came out in its fourth edition with Catherine Rollin as the new co-author.

Catherine’s work as a composer and her passion for teaching culminated in her nine book series: Pathways to Artistry. In this series, Rollin has analyzed and codified the physical skills

(Guest Artists & Workshops...continued on page 6)

2013 Conference: Guest Artists & Workshops

that are necessary to play musically, artistically and with physical relaxation. Her series has been reviewed and highly praised in the *American Music Teacher*. ■

NANCY O-NEIL BRETH

Workshop Title: Inside the Inventions

An appreciation of the beauty behind the genius of Bach's two-part Inventions. A brief historical setting followed by a detailed discussion of selected Inventions. Suggestions on fingering, phrasing, practicing, memorizing, mastering technical difficulties.



Nancy O'Neill Breth teaches piano in the Washington DC area. She studied with Margaret Saunders Ott in high school, and Gyorgy Sebok, Rudolf Kolish, Josef Gingold, and Janos Starker at the university level. She taught piano, pedagogy and chamber music at the Levine School of Music in Washington DC, and is a faculty member at the Kinhaven 4-hand piano workshop in Vermont. Breth students are frequent laureates in area, state and national competitions, including top levels of the MTNA and Fischhoff Competitions. Several have appeared on NPR's "From the Top", and two of her duet teams have won first place in the MTNA Senior Piano Duet competition. Her latest publication is *Practicing the Piano*, published by Hal Leonard Corporation. ■

MICHAEL WHITE

Workshop: The Art of Teaching Mozart—Putting Theory into Practice



Michael White was born in Chicago and received his musical education at the Juilliard School, where he studied with Peter Mennin and Vincent Persichetti. He has composed music in virtually every medium, with an emphasis on vocal works. He has received multiple awards and grants for his compositions, including three Ford Foundation Fellowships and a Guggenheim Fellowship; grants have come from the Soros Foundation, the Fels Foundation, the Arts Councils of New York and Pennsylvania, ASCAP, the Oberlin Conservatory and UNESCO.

Mr. White has lectured extensively for the New York Philharmonic, the New York Youth Symphony, and for several music festivals, including those in Brunswick, Maine; Rockport, Massachusetts; and Long Island, New York, among others. He has written articles on various musical subjects for the *Seattle Times*, the *Philadelphia Post-Intelligencer*, the *Musical Review* and other journals. He has taught on the faculties of the Oberlin Conservatory and the Philadelphia Musical Academy, where he

was chairman of the composition and theory department. Since 1979, he has been a member of the graduate faculty at the Juilliard School, where for 10 years he served as chair of the Department of Literature and Materials of Music. ■

LEE JORDAN-ANDERS

Workshop/Performance: "Imagine! Using Visual Images to Spark Musical Creativity"

Pianist Lee Jordan-Anders continues to entertain her passion for connecting works of art with music by exploring the collection of the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts. In this program, she pairs Degas and Debussy, Pomodoro with Prokofiev, and Watteau with François Couperin. A musical dog performs "God Save the King" in Philip Reinagle's portrait, and Beethoven's variations on that same tune accompany that painting. Monet's *Field of Poppies* comes to life with Debussy's "Mouvement," and both Robert Henri and Louis Moreau Gottschalk recall their visits to Madrid with depictions of women from that exotic place. Paintings by the Americans Helen Frankenthaler, Paul Sample, and Mark Rothko conclude the program with music by Ravel, Gershwin, and Copland.



Lee Jordan-Anders is Professor of Music and Artist-in-Residence at Virginia Wesleyan College in Norfolk, Virginia, and also serves as Music Director and Conductor of the Orchestra of the Eastern Shore. She performs frequently as a soloist as well as a collaborating pianist, and is the pianist of the Alborada Piano Trio. She has worked extensively with the Chrysler Museum of Art in Norfolk creating several different programs connecting works from their collection to music that she selects and performs. In 2013 she completed a similar project featuring works from Virginia Museum of Fine Arts in Richmond and is currently performing it throughout the state. ■

TONYA MENARD

Workshop: VMTA Theory Tests—The Next Generation

This workshop will answer many questions regarding the inclusion of contemporary idioms into the VMTA theory tests. An overview of each concept will be given along with tips on how to easily teach them to your students. These updates will help bring excitement and fun to your students as they explore different sounds and techniques, in preparation for not only the theory tests, but festivals, competitions, auditions, and personal enjoyment.

(Guest Artists & Workshops...continued on page 7)

2013 Conference: Guest Artists & Workshops



Tonya Menard is currently a doctoral student at James Madison University pursuing a degree in Piano Performance, Literature and Pedagogy. She is a nationally certified teacher through the Music Teachers National Association (MTNA), a past president of the Tidewater Music Teachers Forum, and was recently appointed as the theory chairperson for VMTA. Mrs. Menard is a collaborative and solo

artist, lecturer, and private vocal coach, piano and theory teacher. She has taught courses at JMU and Mary Baldwin College including piano pedagogy, class piano, and private lessons. Mrs. Menard is active as an adjudicator at competitions and festivals throughout Virginia and is working with a team of VMTA teachers to include contemporary idioms in the theory tests. An article will be published on her theory research in the *American Music Teacher* magazine, Spring 2013. ■

2013 Conference: Directions to Wintergreen

Due to the difficulty with mapping high-altitude roads with GPS and online mapping websites (MapQuest, Google Maps Directions, etc.), we recommend you use the following directions:

From areas northeast: From I-66, take Exit 43a (Gainesville, Rt. 29 South). Follow 29 South to I-64 West (in Charlottesville). Take I-64 West to Exit 107 (Crozet, Rt. 250) Take 250 West to Rt. 151 South, turn left. Follow Rt. 151 South to Rt. 664, 14.2 miles. Turn right and Wintergreen is 4.5 miles ahead on Rt. 664.

From areas east: Take I-64 West to Exit 107 (Crozet, Rt. 250) Take 250 West to Rt. 151 South, turn left. Follow Rt. 151 South to Rt. 664, 14.2 miles. Turn right and Wintergreen is 4.5 miles ahead on Rt. 664.

From areas south: Take Rt. 29 North to Rt. 151 North, turn left. Follow Rt. 151 for 21 miles to Rt. 664. Turn left and Wintergreen is 4.5 miles ahead on Rt. 664.

From areas west, northwest and southwest: Take I-81 to I-64 East to Exit 99 (Afton, Rt. 250). Take Rt. 250 East to Rt. 151 South, turn right. Follow Rt. 151 South to Rt. 664, 14.2 miles. Turn right and Wintergreen is 4.5 miles ahead on Rt. 664.

From the Blue Ridge Parkway: Take the Reeds Gap exit (between mileposts 13 and 14). Go east on Rt. 664 one mile to the Wintergreen entrance on your left. It is a beautiful and historic parkway and provides an alternate route get to Wintergreen. Please note that during the winter the Parkway is not plowed and is frequently closed. We also do not recommend the Parkway when there is fog. Please use an alternate route.

GPS Address: Again, we recommend use of the above directions before GPS, but if you do use it, please use Wintergreen Dr. Roseland, VA. If any mapping directions take you on the Blue Ridge Parkway, please read the notes under the directions above.

Precise GPS Coordinates: X: 37.9043 Y: -78.9692

President's Notes... (continued from page 1)

VMTA is continuing work on including theory updates which will include contemporary music questions, which will be ready for 2014. There will be a session at the summer conference for teachers to explore the new additions. Please attend this session since it will provide teaching materials for your students on contemporary music.

VMTA will now be giving matching funds to local chapters for advertising expenses, up to \$250. The money can be used for any advertising purposes, including brochures, radio and TV ads, symphony program book ads, social media ads, etc. VMTA and MTNA must be mentioned in the material. Just send a copy of your ad, along with the receipt, to our Treasurer, and VMTA will send you a check! We hope this encourages more affiliate chapters to advertise locally, giving the public an understanding of who their teachers are, and what VMTA and MTNA are all about, as well as increasing membership, students, and visibility through local promotional materials.

VMTA has hired a grant writer to apply for a Virginia Commission for the Arts grant to help defray the cost of our conference expenses. The grant application is due in March, 2013, for use after June 30, 2013, for the annual conference. We'll keep you informed as to the progress of that grant application.

VMTA donated \$500 through the MTNA Fund to help the music teachers that were devastated by Hurricane Sandy. Thank you, also, to individual members who donated to this fund. Teachers who were affected may apply online at www.mtna.org.

VMTA encourages everyone to attend the MTNA Conference this March in Anaheim, at the Disneyland hotel! Although it is an expense to travel across the country, remember that it is tax-deductible as a business expense, and the value of increasing your musical knowledge and teaching ideas is unequalled! It's also a lot of fun to meet with our colleagues in Disneyland! Check out the video Disneyland sent for us, and register for the event at <https://members.mtna.org/conference2013/index.html>. I hope to see you there! ■

2013 Conference: Registration

Please register online (www.virginiamta.org), or mail this registration with check for the total amount by **June 10** to Mun Lee Han, VMTA Treasurer, 3969 Wyckoff Dr., VA Beach, VA 23452. Daily registration will also be available at the Conference.

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____ e-Mail: _____

Certified? Yes No

Conference Registration Fee:

- VMTA Member \$50.00 \$ _____
- Non-member \$75.00 \$ _____
- Daily registration VMTA Member \$30.00 \$ _____
- Daily registration Non-member. \$45.00 \$ _____

Thursday, July 11

I will attend: Executive Committee Luncheon and Meeting—1–3 PM \$30.00 x _____ .. \$ _____
Includes London Broil, Tomato Soup, Caesar Salad, and Mountain Berry Flan

Friday, July 12

I will attend: Local Associations Presidents Lunch and Meetings—12:30–2 PM. . . . \$24.00 x _____ .. \$ _____
Buffet

I will attend: Piano Recital—Dr. Caroline Hong—7:30 PM *FREE for VMTA conference attendees*

I will attend: After-concert Garden Party—9:00 PM. *Cash Bar*

Saturday, July 13

I will attend: VMTA Banquet—8 PM \$45.00 x _____ .. \$ _____

Sunday, July 14

I will attend: Coffee Concert—11:00 AM *FREE for VMTA conference attendees*

I would like to make a donation to VMTA \$ _____

Total Amount of your check payable to VMTA \$ _____

For a complete VMTA conference schedule, please go to www.virginiamta.org

For the Wintergreen Summer Festival and Academy events, please go to www.wintergreenperformingarts.org.

Resort rates: Special resort rates for VMTA (valid during the conference, and two days before and/or after):

Single accommodation room: \$119 (plus taxes); One bedroom condo: \$139 (plus taxes)

To make reservations, call (800) 611-6888 and ask for the VMTA rate.

2013 GOAL: OBTAIN YOUR MTNA CERTIFICATION

Lisa Moxley, NCTM, VMTA Certification Chair

The new year is a wonderful time for music professionals to set goals for professional growth and development. As you contemplate goals for the year 2013 year, I encourage you to consider MTNA National Certification.

If you are unfamiliar with the program, MTNA National certification is a process which validates an individual's qualifications as a music professional. It signifies commitment to continued excellence in one's field and increases visibility, builds credibility and confirms expertise. The program is based upon five standards which define what a competent music teacher should know and be able to demonstrate. These include Professional Preparation, Professional Teaching Practice, Professional Business Management, Professionalism and Partnerships, and Professional and Personal Renewal. (<http://www.mtnacertification.org/>). Upon fulfillment of these standards, applicants are granted the MTNA Professional Certification credential with the designation, Nationally Certified Teacher of Music (NCTM).

There are two methods for certification:

1. **Administrative Verification** (for part-time and full-time college faculty)
 - Faculty member submits application to MTNA headquarters.
 - Faculty member receives notification from MTNA that application has been approved along with an Administrative Verification form.
 - Applicant's dean or supervisor completes and returns the Administrative Verification form to MTNA headquarters.
 - Applicant receives written notification from MTNA when the certification process is successfully completed.

2. **Teacher Profile Projects** (for independent music teachers)
 - Teacher submits application to MTNA headquarters.
 - Teacher receives notification from MTNA that application has been approved.
 - Applicant prepares and presents 5 Teacher Profile Projects which include: Write Your Teaching Philosophy, Analyze Four Teaching Pieces, Present Your Teaching, Share Information About Your Teaching Environment, and Discuss Your Business Ethics and Studio Policies.
 - Applicant receives written notification from MTNA when the certification process is successfully completed.

All candidates have one year from the time the application and fees are received to complete the process. The certification process is described in detail on the MTNA website (<http://www.mtnacertification.org/process/>). Because VMTA values MTNA National Certification for its members, VMTA is pleased to offer a **rebate in the amount of \$100 to each member** who successfully completes MTNA National Certification. There are also some local chapters which provide additional financial incentives. Check with your local certification chairperson or president for more information.

I hope that you will consider MTNA National Certification as a personal goal for 2013. Please feel free to contact me or one of our VMTA Certification Committee members with any questions. Committee members are Betsy Cole Wells, betslin9@verizon.net; Anne James, rjames@richmond.edu; Melissa Marrion, melissa.marrion@verizon.net; and Sharon Stewart, sharon.piano@verizon.net. ■

EUGENIA WEISMAN EVANS, 1909–2012

Mrs. Eugenia Weisman Evans died peacefully on Tuesday, December 25, at Covenant Village in Gastonia, NC, very much loved and cherished by her family, friends, teaching colleagues and students. The daughter of Ousev and Sophia Weisman, she was born in Odessa, Ukraine, on February 20, 1909. She was 103 years old. She was preceded in death by her husband, Dr. Rudolph Claude Evans, and son, Thomas Hugh Evans.

Genie's talent as a pianist became obvious at age four and she studied with eminent professors in Odessa. She began teaching piano at age 15. The next year she and her mother moved to Prague where she was the youngest student admitted to the prestigious Prague Conservatory of Music. She earned bachelor and masters degrees and became a concert pianist and teacher.

She and her mother came to America in 1940 on the last refugee ship to leave Europe and settled in Chicago where she taught and accompanied at the Chicago School of Music and also performed as a concert pianist. In 1942 she married her beloved Rudy, whom she had met in Prague. Genie was an outstanding polymer chemist, Rudy held doctor's degrees in chemical engineering from Charles University in Prague and the University of Chicago. They raised two children, Mary and Tommy.

After they moved to Winchester, VA, Genie taught private piano lessons and joined the faculty of Shenandoah University. She became an associate professor and continued to teach at Shenandoah, where she was awarded the honor of Professor Emerita, until she moved to Gastonia in 2001. She joined the faculty of Gaston School of the Arts and taught until she was 102.

In addition to her musical talents, she co-authored a children's operetta "Kittens," which was performed by students at the Gaston School of the Arts and also at Shenandoah University. She loved to paint in oils and acrylics, and gave paintings to all her friends.

She became a Democrat as soon as she arrived in the U.S., never missed an opportunity to vote, and was very proud of meeting Hilary Clinton when she campaigned in Gastonia.

Genie loved to teach and leaves behind countless former students all over the world, many of whom have used their music as vocations and avocations. They are teachers, concert pianists, composers, conductors, church musicians, choral directors or simply those who learned to love music passionately by spending time with her. ■

Reports

STATE CHAIR FOR LOCAL ASSOCIATIONS

Donna Halleck, State Chair for Local Associations

Virginia Music Teachers Association Fall Conference, 2012

The VMTA local association presidents met on Friday, November 9, 2012 for their annual meeting during VMTA Fall Conference at Shenandoah University in Winchester, Virginia. 7 presidents and 2 representatives representing Blue Ridge, Charlottesville, Harrisonburg, Richmond, Roanoke Valley, and Tidewater were present. Representatives from Central Virginia, Highlands, Northern Virginia, Peninsula, and Piedmont were not able to attend.

Yearbooks and reports for the 2012–2013 school year were shared among the presidents in attendance. Some chapters now use only websites for their yearbook and registration forms for events. Susan Adkins shared some ways that Tidewater had successfully used to increase membership in the chapter. Barbara Moore and Michele Carragan of Charlottesville mentioned a new outlet for the funds received from the Play-A-Thon that gave back to all the students by way of Music Learning Center games via computer. Several chapters are now using Facebook to promote their events by posting announcements as well as pictures of participants of events.

Ideas for the future were shared for performance events and recognition for the students.

VMTA president, Gabriella Ryan, shared updates and information from the recent Executive board meeting. She also suggested that we have a leadership summit for the local association presidents that would give more time for sharing ideas.

Chairman handed out a sheet with reminders of:

- Deadline for submitting chapter reports electronically to *NewsNotes* is January 15, 2013
- Nominations for Foundation Fellow can be accepted anytime
- Nominations for the Chapter of the Year
- Nominations for the Teacher of the Year ■

VCU DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC ANNOUNCES ITS NEW PIANO PROFESSOR AND HEAD OF THE KEYBOARD AREA



Pianist Yin Zheng enjoys a vibrant career of performing and teaching across Europe, US, and Asia. A Ukrainian Newspaper has described her playing as “an astonishing torrent of images, passages, and themes, amazing the audience with an unbelievable technical precision that was balanced by delicate melodic and dynamic nuances.” She has been featured on leading music stages such as Carnegie Hall and Steinway Hall in New York City and, in worldwide reputable music festivals in France, Belgium, Switzerland, Austria, Germany, Spain, Portugal, China and Canada. She has worked with eminent pianists such as Paul-Badura Skoda, Alicia de Larrocha, Aldo Ciccolini, Russell Sherman, and John Perry, and is

highly appraised by the legendary pianist Fou Tsong as a unique interpreter of the music of Mozart.

Following her early training in her native city Shanghai, Yin Zheng furthered her study at the Royal Conservatory of Brussels under the tutelage of Dominique Cornil. She also completed a Doctor of Musical Arts degree from the Eastman School of Music on a full scholarship with world-renowned pedagogue Nelita True.

Dr. Zheng has won first prizes in both the 28th Frinna Awerbuch International Piano Competition and the Empire State Piano Competition held in New York. Her chamber performance was recorded by La Radio Suisse Romande. In 2006, she was honored Assistant to Artistic Director of the Shanghai International Summer Piano Academy and was engaged for Mozart double and triple piano concerto performances with Nelita True in the prestigious Oriental Arts Center with the Shanghai Philharmonic Orchestra. Previously Assistant Professor of Piano and Coordinator of the Keyboard Program at Oakland University in Michigan, Dr. Zheng has been featured as guest soloist at the opening gala of 2007 State Conference of Michigan Music Teachers’ Association and has been a frequent judge at the Music Teachers’ National Association Young Artist Competitions. In the summer of 2008, she was invited as the first pianist from the North America to perform at the Kirovohrad Spring Music Festival in Ukraine that carries long history of featuring only Russian piano legends. Her performances and masterclasses at the festival garnered critical acclaims that earned her future engagements to a cross-country Ukrainian tour. Highlights of her current projects include a commercial DVD recording of the *Complete Sonatas for Piano and Violin* by Mozart with award-winning violinist Bin Huang.

Highly versatile, Dr. Zheng exercises broad vision for musical advancement in the context of the 21st century. An avid explorer for innovative art forms, she has ventured into the third-stream by working and performing with jazz violinist supreme Regina Carter. She has expanded her career in cross-disciplinary collaborations with acclaimed French-Canadian studio artist Jean Detheux synchronizing live acoustic performance and visual elements in seeking “Abstract Expressionism.” Their collaborative works have been presented at diverse film festivals and were featured at the 29th Annual New Music Festival organized by the MidAmerican Center for Contemporary Music. During the summer of 2010, she performed a piano-duet tour with German pianist Henning Vauth, presenting educative recitals, lectures, and masterclasses across Germany. Most recently she was involved in premiering and recording, under Albany Records, an experimental opera for tenor, ballet dancer, piano, percussion and string quartet.

A passionate educator, Dr. Zheng has earned a high reputation through performing guest artist recitals and teaching masterclasses at both US and international universities such as the University of Michigan – Ann Arbor, Michigan State University, SUNY Potsdam Crane School of Music, Louisiana State University, Shanghai Normal University, Kasetsart and Mahidol University College of Music in Bangkok, University of Malaya in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, to name a few. In summer 2012, Dr. Zheng appeared as faculty-in-residence at both the Lancaster International Piano Academy in Pennsylvania and the Schlern International Music Festival in the Italian Alps. ■

(Reports...continued on page 11)

FALL FESTIVAL RESULTS

Debbie Sacra, VMTA Fall Festival Coordinator

Thanks to the hard work and continued devotion of the local MTA Chairmen and members, 744 students registered and 681 students participated in the five Fall Festivals across the state in 2012. Representing 100 VMTA teachers, all 744 entries were in piano solo. Thank you all for making the Fall Festival so successful!

					TOTALS
FESTIVAL LOCATION	Registered:	All piano*	21 solos*		21 Students*
<u>Lynchburg (CVMTA) (Nov 10)</u>	<u>6 teachers*</u>				
TOTALS Played:	11 S	7 Ex			18
Northern Virginia (NVMTA) (Nov 3)	Registered:	All piano*	488 solos*	Levels*	488 Students*
	55 teachers*				
Level I				280*	
Level II				116*	
Level III				90*	
Level IV				2*	
TOTALS Played:	290 S	137 Ex	13 VG		440
Richmond (RMTA) (Nov 17)	Registered:	All piano*	122 solos*	Levels*	122 Students*
	21 teachers*				
Level I-A	30	13		46*	43
Level 1-B	13	9	1	25*	23
Level II	24	7		32*	31
Level III	11	3	1	17*	15
Level IV		2		2*	2
TOTALS Played:	78 S	34 Ex	2 VG		114
Roanoke (RVMTA) (Nov 17)	Registered:	All piano*	103 solos*	Levels*	103 Students*
	15 teachers*				
Level I	25	8		34*	33
Level II	37	3		40*	40
Level III	20	5		28*	25
Level IV	1			1*	1
TOTALS Played:	83 S	16 Ex			99
Winchester (Shenandoah) (Nov 17)	Registered:	All piano*	10 solos*	Levels*	10 Students*
	3 teachers*				
Level I	4	1		5*	5
Level II	3			3*	3
Level III	2			2*	2
Level IV					
TOTALS Played:	9 S	1 Ex			10
GRAND TOTALS (State) 2012	Played:	744 piano*	744 solos*		744 Students*
	Registered:				
	100 teachers*				
Played:	Superior 471	Excellent 195	Very Good 15	Good/Needs Work	Fair/Incomplete Not Rated 681

*Underlined entries marked with an asterisk represent registration information.

Virginia Music Teachers Association

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Dated Material Inside

Certification Profile: Dr. Lori E. Piitz

by Anne James, NCTM



In Canada the way people find good teachers is through the ARCT list. When Dr. Lori E. Piitz, a native of Comax on Vancouver Island, moved to Ottawa in high school her family used the list to find her a wonderful teacher, Helgi Fatovic. Now Dr. Piitz is herself an Associate of the Royal Conservatory of Toronto, which is the Royal Conservatory's version of certification.

Glenn Gould was perhaps the most famous holder of the ARCT.

It is small wonder, then, that Dr. Piitz decided to become certified through the MTNA. "It's wonderful to have a recognizable standard of teaching, and it's a good way to motivate others."

After studying piano performance with Jean-Paul Sezilla at the University of Ottawa, Lori Piitz earned Master's and Doctoral degrees at Indiana University under Menahem Pressler, whom she had met at the Banff School of Fine Arts.

Dr. Piitz's career next took her to Germany for nine years, where she taught at the Hochschule Augsburg/Nürnberg, was pianist for a musical theatre school in Munich and worked at a theatre. She was pianist for the Augsburg Philharmonic and was an active chamber musician.

Currently Associate Professor of Music at James Madison University School of Music, Lori Piitz cites her amazing col-

leagues Eric Ruple, Paolo Steinberg, Gabriel Dobner and Pat Brady as a great group to work with. She teaches sixteen to eighteen applied piano students and offers a class each year in the fall semester. In alternate years she presents either a graduate piano pedagogy seminar or a course called Preparing for the Job Market, featuring such topics as resumés, interviewing, conducting a master class and entrepreneurship.

Of her applied piano students she observes, "My job is to give them tools to work out a piece of music on their own. They're not just notes on a page—it has to say something and elicit some kind of emotional reaction in the listener."

An active collaborative musician, Lori Piitz participated in JMU's Debussy concert at the Kennedy Center. Currently she is preparing a joint solo program with Dr. Paolo Steinberg in which she will perform a Dutilleux Suite and works by Brahms and Ravel.

Dr. Piitz is President of the Harrisonburg Music Teachers Association and has just completed her first year as coordinator of the MTNA Junior Competitions. Hearing the auditions at the State Conference convinced her that Virginia has phenomenal teachers.

"I would encourage people to be certified. It's good to have that standard for all of our teachers." ■