VIRGINIA MUSIC TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

Organized and affiliated on October 18, 1964, with Music Teachers National Association

Volume 43, Number 2, Fall 2007



Wanda M. Hall, NCTM President

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NewsNotes

President's Notes

Wanda M. Hall, NCTM, VMTA State President

This is an exciting time of the year for music teachers! A new teaching year is beginning, with the return of past students and the start of new students. I hope everyone is well-rested and ready to begin once again that exciting journey of watching students learn and grow musically.

We are so pleased to announce that **Nitza Kats**, of the Highland chapter, has been selected the 2007 VMTA **Teacher of the Year**. We will be honoring her during our banquet at the Fall Conference. We trust many of you will be there to celebrate this award with Nitza.

Time flies by so quickly, and it is hard to believe that my term of office is nearly over. I would like to thank the membership of VMTA for the privilege and pleasure of serving as your President these past two years. It is an honor I hardly feel worthy to hold. So many of you have been a tremendous help to me that I cannot begin to name everyone, but I do thank you so much for your help and support. It is the hard-working volunteers of this organization who make it a success, and VMTA would be lost without you. Thank you for making our organization successful!

President-Elect Debra Gunnerson has planned another exciting Fall Conference for us. See her article elsewhere for all the details. We hope to see many of you there. Thank you, Debra, for the many, many hours you have put into planning this conference.

Since the Spring *NewsNotes* was published, I have appointed Anna Ouspenskaya and Suzanne Guy as Co-Chairmen for the VMTA Concerto Competition. They are replacing Marjorie Lee, who has done a wonderful job for VMTA. Thank you, Marjorie, for doing such a thorough job as the Concerto Competition chair.

In March I attended the Collaborative Conference in Toronto, Ontario. It was a wonderful opportunity to meet with our neighboring music teachers. While at the Conference I represented Virginia at the Southern Division meeting. MTNA introduced its new website during the conference. One of the site's new features is a portal which state and local organizations may use (free of charge) for their website. MTNA will help you set up your site, but the state or local organization will be responsible for maintaining it. If your local chapter does not have a website and you have been contemplating creating one, contact MTNA to get started.

John Winsor gave us an excellent workshop at the June Business Meeting, showing us how to use the VMTA website more fully. I trust that many of you who attended the meeting will begin using the various features that John showed us how to use. Please look at our website often and make use of the tools it offers. There are many things on it that can be helpful to both the local chapters and to individuals. We hope to have the Keyboard Skills Syllabus on the website sometime during the fall or early winter. There were some computer difficulties which have delayed this syllabus from being placed there. We are working on the answer keys for the Theory Syllabus, but as yet do not have a target date as to when they will be available.

VMTA Conference

November 1–4, 2007 Shenandoah University, Winchester, VA Deborah Gunnerson, VMTA President-elect

A gorgeous scenic setting awaits you at Winchester, VA nestled in the Shenandoah Valley with great views of the mountains by the same name. We meet from November 1 through 4, 2007 as Shenandoah University welcomes our Virginia Music Teachers and the Shenandoah Chapter of VMTA to share the musical experience of this year's conference. Just the sheer pleasure of the drive from all parts of Virginia to this glorious location is well worth the trip. However, once you arrive, all the splendid activities you expect will provide insights, practical knowledge and just plain fun for you to enjoy.

We will begin with the students at Shenandoah University proudly showing us their campus. The growth on the campus is just amazing. Then we get down to business with Samantha Luck taking us through IMTF issues of the day and then Nancy Longmyer helping us "Teach Students to Hear & Listen." After shopping with the vendors and grabbing a bite of lunch there will be students everywhere. The afternoon starts us off with a presentation from the student chapter MTNA members of George Mason University. Dr. Anthony Olson and Eva Peng from Northwest Missouri State University will delight our musical ears with vocal arrangements of Chopin Mazurkas. Shenandoah University students are up next presenting themselves in a concert setting. What a great way to end the first afternoon of the conference by relaxing to studying artists. Revive yourself with dinner of your own choosing and make sure to return in the evening for the Concert Artist, Dr. Dmitri Shteinberg from VCU.

Saturday turns out to be busy, busy, and busy with Robert Vandall, our clinician for 2007. We start the morning MEMORIZING. Be sure to partake of a good breakfast before working those brain muscles. A surprise composition is next, a special one just for us Virginians. After lunch and buying all that Vandall music, we have a special treat from Dr. William Averitt, our Commissioned Composer. Students from the beautiful State of Virginia performing Robert Vandall's duet and trio music in a monster Masterclass follows. Amy Work then takes hold of organizing these students into performing on three pianos at once, a session not to be missed.

The business meeting finishes Saturday's afternoon. Then join us for a lovely banquet at the Best Western. The day closes with the Shenandoah University's Orchestra performing with our own winning students from Virginia.

Dr. Dmitri Sheinberg completes our conference on Sunday with insight at a Masterclass with our own Virginia students to be followed by the Winner's Recital. I am truly awe struck by the talent in our State.

Come share in the excitement of the VMTA Conference this fall—an unparalleled event not to be missed. ■

2007 Conference: Schedule

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 2007

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

School Woodwinds

6:00 VMTA Executive Committee Dinner

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 2007

8:30–4:00 Conference Registration

Vendor Displays

8:45–9:45 Walk around campus with Shenandoah University

students

10:00-11:00 IMTF-Samatha Luck

11:15–12:15 Teaching Students to Hear and Listen, Nancy

Longmyer

12:15-1:45 Lunch/Vendors

2:00–3:00 GMU students, Joanne Haroutounian

3:15–4:15 Vocal arrangements of Chopin Mazurkas,

Dr. Anthony Olson/Eva Peng

4:30–5:30 Shenandoah University student recital

5:30–7:45 Dinner on your own

8:00 Concert Artist Dr. Dmitri Shteinberg in recital

9:30 Reception

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2007

9:00–10:00 Memorizing–it takes more than muscles,

Robert Vandall

10:15-11:15 Showcase, Robert Vandall

11:30-1:00 Lunch/Vendors

1:15–2:00 Commissioned Composer Performance,

Dr. William Averitt

2:15–3:15 Master class of duets and trios, Robert Vandall

3:30–5:00 VMTA Business Meeting

6:00-7:30 Banquet, Best Western

8:00 Shenandoah University Orchestra presents VMTA

Concerto Winners

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER, 4, 2007

9:30–11:00 Master class with Dr. Dmitri Shteinberg and

VMTA contestants

11:30 Winners Recital



What's new at JMU? Almost everything!

All-Steinway School

(first in Virginia, 2005)

Center for the Performing Arts

(opens Fall 2009)

Doctor of Musical Arts Degree in Performance

(starts Fall 2007)

New Piano Faculty

Canadian pianist, Dr. Lori Piitz (2006) Brazilian pianist, Dr. Paulo Steinberg (2007)

Kennedy Center Artist Concerts

2007–08 Season Features:

Gabriel Dobner — Sept. 30 with Beth Chandler, flute; April 30 with Amadi Hummings, viola Eric Ruple — Nov. 11, "Diabelli" Variations, Sonata Op. 111

Piano Faculty: Patricia Brady • Gabriel Dobner • Lori Piitz • Eric Ruple • Paulo Steinberg



2007 Conference: Artists & Clinicians

William Averitt is the composer of more than seventy works that have received performances throughout the U.S. and around the world. He has received fellowships, grants, and commissions from numerous sources including the N.E.A. (twice), the Maryland Symphony, Opus 3 Trio (Washington, DC), the Bach Choir of Pittsburgh, VMTA/MTNA (four times), and the Atlanta Chamber Players.

In 1989, the Hans Kindler Foundation of the Library of Congress commissioned *Tripartita* for the Verdehr Trio, who performed the score extensively and recorded it for Crystal. Averitt's *Afro-American Fragments* won the 1992 Roger Wagner Center for Choral Studies Composition Competition and has been performed by numerous choruses, collegiate and professional, including Conspirare who released three of its movements on a 2004 Clarion compact disc. His two-hour *St. Matthew Passion* for choruses, soloists and orchestra (commissioned by a consortium of eleven southeastern university choruses) was premiered in April, 2000 in Columbia, SC.

In the Fall, 2002 Dr. Averitt, Professor of Music at Shenandoah Conservatory of Shenandoah University since 1973, was selected by The Virginia Commission for the Arts as the recipient of one of twelve Virginia Artist Fellowships. He is a member of ASCAP and an annual ASCAPlus Award recipient since 1991. His works are published by Treble Clef, ALRY, Gentry, Concordia, Michigan State University Press, Little Piper, and MMB.



For the past ten years, Amy Work has been a private piano instructor in the Chantilly, Virginia area and currently teaches thirty-two students at her home studio. She has received a Bachelor's degree from George Mason University in Fairfax, Virginia and a Piano Pedagogy degree from the Levine School of Music in Washington, DC and regularly attends pro-

fessional development seminars. She is a member of the Virginia and Northern Virginia Music Teachers Association, National Guild of Piano Teachers, and has been a member of the Fairfax-Loudoun Music Fellowship for the past four years. She is the chairman for Sight-reading and Keyboard Skills Day for the Northern Virginia's Music Teacher Association and specializes in theory, music history, ear training, sight-reading, group lessons, music technology, technical development, music artistry, and concert performing. She participates in numerous piano festivals throughout the year and hosts two annual recitals during the winter and spring months. She is a professional dedicated to finding new and exciting approaches for instructing students on how to become successful and skilled musicians.

Pianist Anthony Olson has performed throughout the United States and China and has even had live recordings broadcast on National Public Radio. Active as both a soloist and a chamber musician, he explores a wide range of solo and chamber works, including new music written especially for him. He also judges piano competitions, presents masterclasses and lectures at professional music conferences.



Being an active stage director and conductor as well as a pianist, he has directed and conducted numerous operas including Samuel Barber's A Hand of Bridge, George Gershwin's

Blue Monday and Mozart's Bastien and Bastienna.

A dedicated educator, Anthony Olson is currently Associate Professor of Piano at Northwest Missouri State University and an Adjunct Online Instructor at Adelphi University. In the fall of 2005, he taught at Imperial College in London and will return to Europe next summer to teach at Teikyo University in Holland. He studied at the University of Southern California, the University of Texas at Austin, the University of Minnesota—Twin Cities, and the University of North Dakota. His principle teachers have included Daniel Pollack, Arthur Houle and Greg Allen.

Lyric soprano Eva Peng served, for many years, as the resident soprano soloist for the Guangzhou Symphony Orchestra and Chorus in her native China. During her tenure with the company, she was able to sing and study under the direction of numerous world-famous conductors including the late Herbert van Karajan. She was the subject of a cover story in China's TV Guide following a nationally televised concert at Guangzhou's Friendship Theatre and appeared in a special command performance for former Chinese premier Jiang Zemin.

In the United States, Ms. Peng has appeared in many recitals and concerts with orchestras. Equally at home on the theatrical stage, she has starred in numerous productions, most recently as "Maria" in *The Sound of Music* and as "Bastienna" in Mozart's Bastien and Bastienna.

Ms. Peng currently teaches voice at Northwest Missouri State University and at North Central Missouri College. She studied at the University of Southern California, the University of Nebraska at Omaha and at the Wu Han Conservatory of Music. Her primary teachers have included Natalie Limonick, Bard Suverkrop and Xiao Yan Zhou.



Mancy Longmyer, a nationally certified, independent music teacher, maintains a studio in Falls Church, Virginia. She is a former faculty member at George Mason University in Fairfax, Virginia and is a past president of the Washington Music Teachers Association. She is author of the ear training program, *Listen and Learn*, a series of ear training CDs, tuto-

rials and tests designed to develop the student's listening skills.

(continued on page 5)

FALL 2007

2007 Conference: Registration

Please mail this registration with check for total amount no later than **October 1** 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: 🗖 Nati	onal 🗖 State 🗖 Master	Teacher	Will help monitor
Conference Registrati	on Fee (VMTA Member	\$30; Non-Member	\$45; Daily \$20)
Thursday Executive B	oard Dinner (pay at resta	aurant) I will attend	Yes No
Friday luncheon for C	ouncil of Local Associat	ion Presidents (pay a	at restaurant)
	fet at Best Western (plea nchester, VA 22601 (direc		ndoah University)
	•		Furkey, Green Beans with Country Ham, tatoes, Dessert, and dinner rolls.
	check payable to VMTA r your records)		\$
	THE OCTOBER 1 I	DEADLINE WILL	BE STRICTLY FOLLOWED
		Wingate H	otel
150	Wingate Drive, Wince	O	1-877-946-3585 or 1-540-678-9283
identify yourself as a '		in this special rate.	tober 20, 2007 . Please contact the hotel directly and Room amenities include hair dryers, irons and ironing AM, free parking.
Name:			Phone:
Address:			
Arrival Date:		Dep	parture Date:
☐ Guarantee by Chec	ck (enclosed) or 🗖 Cred	lit Card	
Card No		Exp	Signature
·			Signature

N E W S N O T E S

2007 Conference: Artists & Clinicians

Ms. Longmyer holds Masters degrees in vocal and choral music from Teachers College, Columbia University, and in music history from Temple University. She has studied at the Musik Hochschule in Cologne, Germany and has studied voice with Eleanor Steber, Jenny Tourel and Todd Duncan.

Ms. Longmyer has given many workshops and presentations to professional and college groups on such subjects as "The Skills Connection: Developing the Complete Musician," "The Independent Music Teacher: A Guide To Setting Up A Studio," "The Independent Music Teacher: A Guide To Financial Security," "Teaching Students To Hear and Listen" and "Teaching Students To Sightread And Sightsing."

Robert Vandall and his wife Karen teach 100 students in their independent studio in New Philadelphia, Ohio. Robert was born in Akron, Ohio, but now enjoys living on the dairy farm where his wife was raised. Before moving to New Philadelphia in 1977 and starting over as an independent piano teacher, Mr. Vandall taught music theory, group piano, music literature and listening, and directed the choral program at Lincoln Land Community College in Springfield, Illinois, for seven years. Prior to that, he taught music at Mineral Area College in Flat River, Missouri.

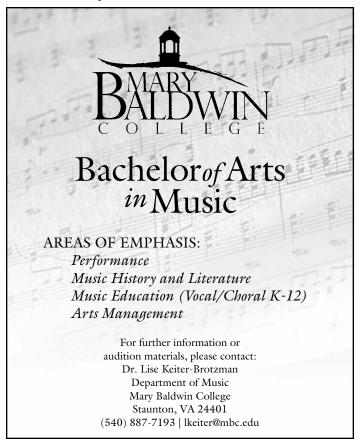
His writing and arranging of piano education materials comes directly from his contact with his own students. He currently has more than 400 works in publication. He and his wife have presented workshops for piano teachers in 30 states and the District of Columbia, and he continues to be in demand as a clinician. His compositions are on many piano teacher organizations' required lists as well as the National Federation of Music Clubs Junior Festivals Bulletin. He holds a Permanent Professional Certification as a member of the Music Teachers National Association, is an active member of his local piano teachers association, and is an active member of the National Federation of Music Clubs. He has appeared on MTNA national conventions as well as state convention programs in Ohio, Kansas, Florida, Iowa, Oklahoma, Utah, Pennsylvania, Alabama, Wisconsin, Illinois, and Texas. Additionally, he has directed large piano ensembles in New Hampshire, Oklahoma, Ohio, and Kansas. He was a faculty member of the International Workshop in Biarritz and a clinician for the Goshen College Piano Workshop, which featured him as its first Composer of the Year. Piano teacher organizations from Ohio, Wisconsin, Mississippi, Iowa, North Carolina, Kansas, California, Pennsylvania, Illinois, Missouri, and Texas have commissioned solos and duets from Mr. Vandall for their students. He and his wife have been faculty members for the Junior Student Seminars at the Rocky Ridge Music Center in Estes Park, Colorado. Mr. and Mrs. Vandall are the adult advisors of a Federation junior music club.

Robert earned his B.M. in piano performance in 1966 from Baldwin-Wallace College, Berea, Ohio, and his M.M. in piano performance in 1968 from the University of Illinois. He is a recipient of the University of Illinois School of Music Alumni Association Distinguished Service Award in 1990 and, with his wife, the Baldwin-Wallace College Conservatory of Music Achievement Award in 1991.

Dmitri Shteinberg is an Assistant Professor and Coordinator of Piano at VCU Music. He holds Doctorate and Master of Music degrees in piano performance from the Manhattan School of Music and a Bachelor of Music degree from the Tel-Aviv Rubin Academy of Music. Among his teachers are Victor Derevianko and Nina Svetlanova, both students of Heinrich Neuhaus. Before coming to Virginia Commonwealth University, Shteinberg taught elective piano at the Manhattan School of Music and was on the faculty of the Piano School of New York City.

Shteinberg has appeared across North America, Germany, England, France, Switzerland, Sweden, Italy, Portugal, Russia, Bulgaria and Israel. His career includes solo performances with the Jerusalem Symphony, the Italian Philarmonica Marchetiana, the Israel Chamber Orchestra, the Israel Camerata Orchestra and the Porto National Symphony. He was a guest artist at the Sarasota and Summit Music Festivals, the Music Festival of the Hamptons, the "Oleg Kagan" Festival in Germany and the Festival Aix-en-Provence in France, among others. He has recorded for the WQXR, WHMT radio stations, the Bavarian Radio and the Yamaha Disklavier; and collaborated with New York Philharmonic members and the cellist Natalia Gutman. Shteinberg is an active as a performer of new music, having world premieres and commissioned works to his credit. He also performs on harpsichord and period pianos.

He is a prizewinner in 20 competitions worldwide, including the first prize in "Citta de Senigallia" International Competition in Italy. In the United States, he won the Naomi Foundation Competition, the Artists International Debut Award, the Manhattan School of Music Helen Cohn Award and received the Salon De Virtuosi Fellowship Grant.



MINUTES

VIRGINIA MUSIC TEACHERS ASSOCIATION GENERAL BOARD MEETING • JUNE 2, 2007 WESTMINSTER CANTERBURY OF THE BLUE RIDGE CHARLOTTESVILLE, VA

Members present:

Corky Sablinksy, Laura Hoffman, Jeanette Winsor, Pat Brady, Denise Adins, Melissa Marrion, Sharon Stewart, Myrenna Kickasola, Kim Peachy, Samantha Luck, Beth Tomassetti, Lisa Withers, Martha Smith, Betty Ann Spiers, Debra Gunnerson, Wanda Hall, Jacqueline Yeomans

Call to Order

The General Board meeting was called to order by President Wanda Hall at 11:10. a.m.

The motion was made by Julie Slingerland, seconded by Sharon Stewart to adopt the agenda; the motion passed.

Laura Hoffman made the motion, seconded by Corky Sablinksy, to accept the minutes of the October 28, 2006 meeting, as printed in NewsNotes. The motion carried.

Reports

Treasurer Julie Slingerland passed out copies of the budget report (on file).

President Wanda Hall asked Secretary Jacqueline Yeomans to read the recommendations made in the earlier Executive Committee Meeting.

- 1. "I recommend that we withdraw \$7000 from our checking account for investment purposes." The motion passed.
- 2. "I move that we authorize Julie to investigate various investment options and place our monies where they will do best." Julie passed distributed a summary of our current investments. The motion passed. Julie clarified that the Board would first approve any selection of investment companies that she chose.
- 3. "I move that we continue indefinitely the \$100 rebate on certification fees to any person who completes the certification process and becomes nationally certified." The motion passed.
- 4. "I move that we approve the proposed changes to the Keyboard Skills Syllabus." Wanda read aloud the proposed changes (report on file). The **motion** passed.
- 5. "I move that we accept this change in the yearbook." Secretary Jacqueline Yeomans read the relevant language from page 16 of the current Yearbook, under VMTA District Auditions: "ELIGIBILITY: Level will be determined by the school grade the student is in at the time of the NEXT FALL CONVEN-TION. For example, a student in grade 4 in the spring must fulfill the requirements for grade 5." The motion passed.

After a lengthy discussion, the following motion was made by Martha Smith, seconded by Pat Brady: "I move that we form a committee to re-evaluate the progression of winners from district to state auditions." The motion passed. It is hoped that action could be taken on this for 2008.

Council of Presidents Chair Myrenna Kickasola gave her report (on file). The main purpose for the State Chair is to be a source for problem solving on behalf of local assoc. presidents. Issues which concern chapter presidents include tax reporting, newsletters, fundraising, and new creative ideas for local chapters.

President-Elect Debra Gunnerson announced plans for the VMTA Fall Conference to be held at Shenandoah University 1-4. Competitions will be on November 1st; Friday, November 2 will showcase presentations by Samantha Luck (IMTF), Nancy Longmyer, Joanne Haroutounian and GMU student chapter representatives. Also noted: vocal arrangements of Chopin mazurkas; a Shenandoah U. student recital; a concert by Dmitri Shteinberg. Saturday features Robert Vandall presenting "Memorizing, more than muscles," a showcase of works from Alfred and a master class of duets and trios. Teachers can submit names of students who wish to perform to Amy Work, coordinator. They must be proficient at their music by the Conference. Amy will coach these students in the morning; Robert Vandall will critique them in the subsequent master class. Possible venues for the banquet are being discussed. Sunday, Dmitri Shteinberg will hold a master class.

Reports from Standing Committees

MusicLink Chair Martha Smith announced a June 29-30 summit at George Mason U. Teachers of MusicLink students may submit requests for reimbursement of sheet music. As Certification Chair, Martha noted four newly certified members, whose names will be printed in NewsNotes. Commissioned Composer Chairman David Shaffer-Gottschalk submitted his report (on file). Will Averitt of Winchester has been selected to premier his work at the Fall Conference. Concerto Competition Chair Marjorie Lee submitted her report (on file). The winners were: Renfei Liu-Spohr, woodwinds, teacher Kenneth Lee; Alexander Stabile, high school piano, teacher Nancy Breth; Susan C. Ha, collegiate piano, teacher Eric Ruple. Anna Ouspenskaya, with co-chair Suzanne Guy, will replace Marjorie Lee as Chairman. State Auditions report is in NewsNotes. Keyboard Skills Chair Lynn Kleisler submitted her report (on file). Twenty four teachers presented 205 students for examination. Teachers should use the 2002 revised Keyboard Skills Syllabus, which can be obtained from the local chairmen or from Lynn at a cost of \$10. Later this year, a copy will be available online.

Sightreading (piano) Chair Fay Barss submitted her report (on file). There was participation from 8 chapters. Take note: The Chairman advises that required levels be submitted at least three weeks in advance. Deadlines for individual districts may have to (continued on page 11)

Certification Profiles:

Carolyn Higgins Bryan, Mun Lee Han, Rachel Sarrano and Marvin Western

by Anne James, NCTM

Congratulations to the four Virginia teachers who recently received \$100 rebates for completing certification during 2007! VMTA has voted to extend this offer indefinitely with no cap on the number of payments.

Piano teachers Carolyn Higgins Bryan of Norfolk and Mun Lee Han of Virginia Beach, both members of the Tidewater Music Teachers Forum, and Rachel Sarrano of Fairfax, a Northern Virginia Music Teachers Association member, each chose to create a portfolio in lieu of taking the certification test. Each candidate found she needed to fulfill certain competency exams before preparing and submitting the portfolio.



For Rachel Sarrano the first step was a performance exam in the fall of 2006 juried by other teachers and a church musician. She chose the works to be performed, and was

allowed to use the music.

At the State Conference last fall Rachel took tests in theory, music literature, history and pedagogy, all during a roughly three-hour span. She finished the tests early and says it really wasn't that difficult if you had studied for it. She had read the Norton Anthology of Music History from front to back.

Rachel joined MTNA two years ago. Becoming certified reflected her desire to raise the bar for herself as a teacher. In the process she learned a lot about available resources. "It helped me work and made me want to go back to college." This fall she will begin work towards a second bachelor's degree, then a master's.



Carolyn Higgins Bryan began studying piano in Charlotte at age five with her mother, Diane Higgins, now President of the Southern Division of MTNA. In 2004 she began teaching piano in Norfolk. In pursuit of certification Carolyn first passed competency exams in history, pedagogy and theory, proctored by her local president. She prepared by using college texts and the recommended reading on the MTNA website, as well as other materials. As part of her preparation she memorized the entire composer classification list published by MTNA. "I took the exams very seriously and studied for a year or more. I passed them on the first try."

"The portfolio was a really big project but it also helped me to think about the type of studio I want to have. Thinking about your ideal studio and what goals you want to set raises your standards for your own studio. It gets you thinking about lesson plans and studio activities and helps build relationships with other music professionals."

Like Rachel, Carolyn is pursuing a second bachelor's degree.



Mun Lee Han attended music school in Malaysia, where she performed every year for examiners from Trinity College of Music and the Guildhall and Royal Schools of Music

in London. She has been in the U.S. since 2003 and teaches group piano classes at Jordan Kitt's Temple of Music, with students from 3 to 93. She has recently qualified to teach Musikgarten classes as well.

"Coming here where everything is so different I wanted to show I actually knew everything by becoming certified." After completing the competency exams at the State Conference in theory, history and pedagogy, she prepared a portfolio including nine lesson plans, her teaching objectives, her teaching philosophy, recital videotapes and audiotaped lessons. She included videotapes of her students and herself performing in TMTF's monster concert.

"I want students to enjoy music and have fun. I didn't want it to be the way it was for me with a very strict teacher who made me cry."

MTNA offers three options for completing a certification application, once

the academic and performance competency standards are met: Option 1. Certification Examination; Option 2. Certification Portfolio; Option 3. Administrative Verification. The latter is for college professors who wish certification.

Clarinetist **Marvin Western**, a Hampton resident and member of Peninsula Music Teachers Association, teaches at several colleges in Virginia and North Carolina and chose certification by administrative verification. He submitted his academic transcripts and a letter from a responsible university official to become certified.

"I had attended a certification workshop given by Jeanette Winsor and was ready to do it by test or portfolio. I was trying to decide which when I found I could use the administrative verification path. I had thought about certification off and on over the years in connection with my private teaching practice. Most other wind and brass teachers teach in public schools and are affiliated with VMEA and MENC."

"I tell parents when students start that one of the things that's vital for me as a teacher is to help the student enjoy the process of taking private lessons and advancing on the instrument to the point that love of music becomes a major factor in their lives and they become lifelong music makers. I want them to get to the point where they have enough skills and an inner love for music that it will become part of their life for the rest of their life and keep them engaged. No matter what happens, how much time they spend, something important will be gained that will make a difference in the future. Sometimes parents think they wasted money on the lessons, but even if a child moves on to something else that investment will have been valuable." ■



FALL 2007

Reports.....

REPORT FROM THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Kim Peachy, chair, Denise Adkins, Belinda Stevens

The VMTA Nominating Committee presents the following slate of candidates for the 2007–2009 term.

President: Debra Gunnerson President-Elect: Lisa Withers

Vice President/Membership: Denise Adkins

Secretary: Sarah Reaser O'Brien Treasurer: Julie Slingerland

Elections will be held at the Conference in November.

VMTA MEMBERSHIP REPORT JUNE 2, 2007

Denise Adkins, VMTA Membership Chair

The culminating membership for 2007 includes 106 new members. Categories of membership are 765 active, 108 seniors, and 35 students. The total membership is 908 which exceeds last year's total by 21. ■

COMMISSIONED COMPOSER

David Shaffer-Gottschalk

Congratulations to composer Will Averitt of Winchester. He has been selected to receive the commission for a new work in the 2006-2007 Virginia Music Teachers Association/Music Teachers National Association Composer Commissioning Program. Dr. Averitt's entry was one of eight entries from throughout Virginia. Judges for the competition were Jason Haney of Harrisonburg, Sam Wellman of Lynchburg, and Richard Schwartz of Colonial Heights. Dr. Averitt's new composition will receive its premiere at the 2007 VMTA Fall Conference. ■

VMTA CHAIR FOR LOCAL ASSOCIATIONS 2007 SPRING CONFERENCE REPORT

Myrenna A. Kickasola, State Chair for Local Associations

The VMTA State Chair for Local Associations served this year as a resource for local association presidents to help solve problems, answer questions and research needed information. "Important Information for State and Local Presidents" (these are emails from MTNA headquarters) were forwarded to all local chapter presidents plus the state president. Any communications from the state president were also forwarded.

Local chapter presidents joined together for a luncheon meeting at the 2006 Fall Conference held at George Mason University. A number of helpful issues were addressed at that time. The state chair forward some of these on to national head-quarters. These questions mostly concerned tax reporting,

newsletters, fundraising, new and creative ideas for local chapters. The national MTNA headquarters staff have proved to be most helpful.

The next official gathering of the Local Chapter Presidents will be a luncheon meeting at Shenandoah University during the 2007 VMTA Fall Conference. ■

SINGLE-LINE SIGHT-READING TESTING AND SINGLE-LINE CENTRAL DISTRICT AUDITIONS REPORT

Dr. Alice M. Hammel

The Central District had a total of 22 students enter the single-line sight-reading testing. Students from two other Districts in Virginia also participated in the single-line sight-reading testing; including 4 students in Roanoke. This is the first year we have had students from three areas of the State participate.

The Single-Line Central District Auditions were not held this year because there were no entries.

The 200 Single-Line Central District Audition date will be: Wednesday, May 14, 2008 at Virginia Commonwealth University. ■

CENTRAL DISTRICT AUDITIONS 2007

Jennifer Scott, Chairman

The Central District Auditions for piano took place on Saturday, May 19, 2007 in Perkinson Recital Hall, University of Richmond. Nineteen piano students representing nine teachers participated. The judges were Suzanne Guy, Nancy O'Neill Breth, and Landon Bilyeu.

The winners of the piano competition are as follows:

Level 1A

First Place: Kevin Chung, student of Kim Cho Alternate: David Lu, student of Kim Cho

Level 1B

First Place: Stephanie Hwang, student of Kim Cho

Alternate: Elizabeth Bell,

student of Ruta Smedina-Starke

Second Place: Devin Li, student of Paul Hanson

Level II

First Place: Kathryn Marqueen, student of Sharon Stewart Alternate: Danielle Hu, student of Ruta Smedina-Starke

Level III

First Place: Angela Wang, student of Zhuping Ling Alternate: Jessica Chen, student of Kim Cho ■

(continued on page 9)

Reports... (continued from page 8)

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 2006/2007 school year. A total of 205 students representing 24 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	76	55	17	4	0	0	0	10
Northern	61	27	29	3	2	0	0	5
Richmond	24	8	11	3	2	0	0	3
Central	25	18	5	1	1	0	0	3
Piedmont	19	10	5	3	1	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. The state is looking to put a copy online later this year. ■

VALLEY DISTRICT AUDITION

Sandra E. Williams, Valley District Chair

Date: April 28, 2007

Location: James Madison University Judges: Gabe Dobner and Lori Piitz

Number of Students: 17 (Level 1A-2; Level 1B-4, Level II -3;

Level III–8)

WINNERS

Level IA

Winner—Douglas Ritcher, Student of Pat Brady Alternate—Jack Anderson, Student of Pat Brady

Level 1B

Winner—Ellen Atwood, Student of Pat Brady Alternate—Jay Horton, Student of Sandra E. Williams

Level II

Winner—Perry Maddox, Student of Pat Brady Alternate—Ryan McCrimmon, Student of Kay Pitt

Level III

Winner—Nicole Tackeff, Student of Eugene Mishustin Alternate—Marianna Cutright, Student of Content Sablinsky ■

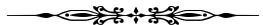
(continued on page 11)

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Minutes... (continued from page 6)

be adjusted earlier. **Instrumental Skills Chairman** Ken Lee reported participation from three chapters: NVMTA, 44; Roanoke Valley, 4; Richmond, 16. His report is attached. **MTNA Foundation:** no report was received from **Chair Belinda Stevens.**

Reports from Local Associations

The following associations gave report; the reports are on file.

Blue Ridge Harrisonburg Richmond
Tidewater Central Virginia Highlands
Roanoke Valley Peninsula Charlottesville
Northern Virginia Shenandoah

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 12:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Jacqueline Yeomans Secretary

Reports on file Blue Ridge Chapter Roanoke Valley Chapter Nominating Ctte Central Virginia Chapter Shenandoah Chapter Commissioned Composer Charlottesville Chapter Tidewater Chapter Harrisonburg Chapter Concerto Compet. VMTA Chair Local Assoc. Keyboard Skills Highlands Chapter Treasurer Sightreading (piano) Northern Virginia Chapter VMTA Membership Single Line Skills Richmond Chapter President Advertising Theory test proposed changes Valley District auditions Eastern Division auditions

Keyboard Skills Syllabus proposed changes

Central Division auditions

Central Division single-line testing ■

Reports (continued from page 9)

2007 VMTA CONCERTO COMPETITION

Marjorie Lee

This year's VMTA Concerto Competition was held at Shenandoah University on Sunday, May 20th. Congratulations to this year's winners!

Woodwinds: Renfei Liu-Spohr Concerto No. 1, movement one: Adagio, Allegro—teacher Kenneth Lee

High School Piano: Alexander Stabile, Prokofiev Concerto in C, Opus 26: Andante-Allegro—teacher Nancy Breth

Collegiate Piano: Susan C. Ha, Liszt Piano Concerto #1 in E-flat Major-teacher Eric Ruple, James Madison University

The new VMTA Concerto Chair is Anna Ouspenskaya, 1319 Hunter Mill Road, Vienna, Virginia 22182-1304. 703-759-0860, prestoanna@yahoo.com. Her co-chair is Suzanne Guy NCTM, 718 Botetourt Gardens, Norfolk, VA 23507. 757-627-5991, suzguy@cox.net.

To The Winners: the State Concerto Chairman will coordinate with the President and President Elect and the conductor of the Shenandoah Orchestra, Jan Wagner, jwagner@su.edu to give you information regarding rehearsals and performances and times. At this moment, your performance is schedule for Saturday, November 3rd at the VMTA Fall Conference -- Shenandoah University.

Judges for the competitions were: Dr. Stephen Johnston, Woodwinds, Marjorie Lee and Dr. Karen Walker, Collegiate Piano, Dr. Karen Walker, Dr. Pat Brady and Elizabeth Caluda, High School Piano. ■





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Each MusicLink Teacher receives an ID card that provides free music, discounts and many other offers available for you and your student. Join us and make a difference in a child's life! Contact Martha Smith at martha.smith@comcast.net.

FALL 2007

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, Roanoke and Winchester, the festival will take place Saturday, November 17,

2007. In Northern Virginia the festival will be held on Saturday, November 10, 2007. 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; Laura Marchisotto Bogart and Martha Smith, Chairmen; held at Cherrydale United Methodist Church, Arlington, VA.

Richmond: October 13: Debbie Martin and Lynn Redford, Chairmen; held at the University of Richmond.

Roanoke: October 12: Susan B. McDowell, Chairman; held at Hollins University.

Winchester (Valley): November 5; Karen Colley, Chairman; held at Shenandoah University.

> Debbie Sacra VMTA Fall Festival Coordinator

NEW VIRGINIA FELLOW ANNOUNCED

Belinda Stevens, VMTA Foundation Chair

Congratulations to Virginia's Martha Smith! Martha has been designated an MTNA Fellow.

Generous donors nominated Martha for her many years of teaching, contribution to professional organizations and her influence on so many students. Martha waw honored in March at the Conference in Toronto. Bravo, Martha!

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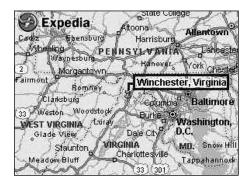
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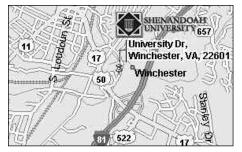
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2007 Conference: Directions

DRIVING DIRECTIONS TO SHENANDOAH UNIVERSITY:

1460 University Drive, Winchester, VA 22601





From the North:

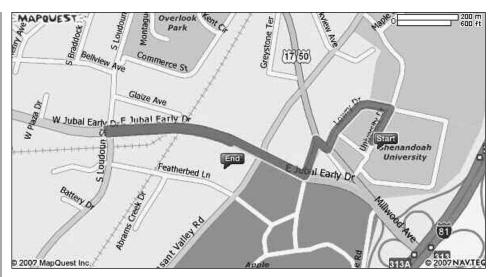
- Take Interstate 81 South to Exit 313 B.
- Off exit ramp, school is on right at bottom of the hill.
- Take first right into the school (in front of the brick Shenandoah University sign).
- Ruebush Hall (Conservatory Building) is on left.

From the South:

- Take Interstate 81 North to Exit 313.
- Off exit ramp, cross over I-81 and descend to bottom of hill. School is on right.
- Take first right into the school (in front of the brick Shenandoah University sign).
- Ruebush Hall (Conservatory Building) is on left.

Via Interstate 95 South (Washington, DC metro area):

- I-95 to Interstate 66 W to Exit 23 Paris/Delaplane (Route 17)
- Route 17 North for approx. eight miles.
- At Traffic Light, take left onto Route 50 West.
- Take Route 50 West into Winchester. Cross over Interstate 81.
- School is on right at bottom of hill.



Via Interstate 95 North (Richmond, Virginia Beach and points south):

- I-95 North to Fredericksburg.
- Take Warrenton Route 17 North Exit.
- Route 17 North to I-66 West.
- I-66 West to Exit 23 Paris/Delaplane (Route 17)
- Route 17 North for approx. eight miles.
- At Traffic Light, take left onto Route 50
- Take Route 50 West into Winchester. Cross over Interstate 81.
- School is on right at bottom of hill.

From Baltimore:

- I-695 to I-70 West towards Frederick.
- In Hagerstown, I-70 West to I-81 South
- Take Interstate 81 South to Exit 313 B.
- Off exit ramp, school is on right at bottom of the hill.
- Take first right into the school (in front of the brick Shenandoah University sign).
- Ruebush Hall (Conservatory Building) is on left.

Alternate Route from Baltimore:

- I-695 to I-70 West towards Frederick.
- In Frederick, take Exit 52 Route 340 South toward Charles Town, WV.
- In Charles Town, make sure to exit back onto Route 340 South toward Berryville, VA.
- Route 340 South to Route 7 West.
- Route 7 West into Winchester; Take Interstate 81South to Exit 313 B. (approx. 2 miles)
- I-81 South, Exit 313 B follow above directions.

From Dulles Airport (Washington, DC):

- Dulles Toll Road (Dulles Greenway) West to Leesburg.
- Route 7 West to Winchester.
- Interstate 81 South to Exit 313B.
- Off exit ramp, school is on right at bottom of the hill.
- Take first right into the school (in front of the brick Shenandoah University sign).
- Ruebush Hall (Conservatory Building) is on left.



Directions from Shenandoah University, 1460 University Dr, Winchester, VA 22601, to Wingate Inn, 150 Wingate Drive, Winchester, VA 22601-4457, US

- 1: Start out going NORTHEAST on UNI-VERSITY DR toward LOWRY DR. (<0.1 miles)
- 2: Turn LEFT onto LOWRY DR. (0.2 miles)
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- 4: Turn LEFT onto APPLE BLOSSOM DR / US-17 / US-50 / US-522. (<0.1 miles)
- 5: Turn RIGHT onto E JUBAL EARLY DR. (0.5 miles)
- 6: Make a U-TURN at S LOUDOUN ST onto E IUBAL EARLY DR. (0.3 miles)
- 7: End at 150 Wingate Dr., Winchester, VA 22601-4457

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To schedule an audition or request information, contact the School of Music, East Carolina University, Greenville, NC 27858-4353, 252-328-6851 (voice), 252-328-6258 (fax), or e-mail Debbie Gardner at gardnerd@ecu.edu.

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- · DME, MM, Indiana University
- Certificate in piano pedagogy, New School of Music Study
- BM, Cleveland Institute of Music
- Active author, clinician, panelist, and adjudicator for the Music Teachers National Association

Henry Doskey, piano

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- MM, BM, Southern Methodist University
- Award-winning performer, active recording artist, and the authoritative interpreter of the music of composer William Gillock

Janette Fishell, organ, sacred music,

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- DM, Northwestern University
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Keiko Sekino, piano

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- MM, Yale School of Music
- BA, Yale College
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2007 Highlights













- 1. Four of the 35 Virginia teachers who attended the MTNA Conference in Toronto in March: Gabriella Ryan (RMTA), Teri Compos-Falk (TMTF), a friend, and Sharon Stewart (RMTA).
- 2. Newly-certified teacher Carolyn Higgins Bryan and her mother, Diane Higgins, President of Southern Division of MTNA.
- 3. Carla Day and Diane Perett at the luncheon for VMTA members who attended the Collaborative Conference in Toronto in March.
- 4. Left to Right: Lisa Withers, BRMTA, nominated for President-Elect; Wanda Hall, TMTF, President; Debbie Gunnerson, NVMTA, President-Elect at the Spring Conference in Charlottesville, June 2, 2007.
- 5. Jacqua Yeomans, VMTA Secretary; Laura Hoffman, President, Charlottesville MTA
- 6. Beth Tomassetti and Samantha Luck, IMTF Chair.

Virginia Music Teachers Association

Jeanette Winsor, NCTM, NewsNotes Editor 6317 Brynmawr Lane Virginia Beach, VA 23464-3730

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