

VIRGINIA MUSIC TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

ORGANIZED AND AFFILIATED ON
OCTOBER 18, 1964, WITH MUSIC
TEACHERS NATIONAL ASSOCIATION

Volume 47, Number 2, Fall 2011



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NewsNotes

President's Notes

Dr. Lisa Withers, VMTA State President



As we see the summer days go by quickly and begin to anticipate a fresh new year of teaching and music making, we have many things for which to be thankful as an organization. Many committed individuals have volunteered their time and energies to make the past year a vibrant and active one for our organization. I would particularly like to thank the efforts of our Executive Board to advance the mission and improve the practices of our organization. Denise Adkins, Sarah Reaser O'Brien, Martha Smith, Tracy Cowden, Galla Maketova, and Samantha Luck have been a wonderful group of people with which to work during my two years as President of VMTA, and I have been the beneficiary of their sage advice on many occasions. They deserve a big round of applause!! In particular, the work of Gabriella Ryan, our President-Elect, on two wonderful Fall Conferences deserves some serious thanks and accolades. I am looking forward to seeing how our organization will grow in quantity and quality under her leadership in the coming years!

Our national organization has seen a decline in membership during the recent economic downturn, but I am happy to say that VMTA has maintained and even increased our membership during this time. I receive numerous e-mails from the national office asking us how we do it! I like to think that it is the result of all of you—our membership—creating and sustaining professional activities and relationships that attract new teachers on a regular basis. The “Each One—Reach One” campaign is alive and well in Virginia!

Another good reason for our success in this area is our constant attention to how well our organization serves its members and how well we attract others. At our June teleconference, we had

a fruitful and fascinating discussion about how to attract and maintain our membership in non-piano areas such as voice, woodwinds, strings, and brass. It was generally agreed on that these wonderful teachers would improve and enhance our organization and that we need to do a better job of publicizing our performance opportunities and workshops that reach a broader audience of musicians. Isn't it fitting, as the MTNA Year of Collaborative Music comes to a close, to imagine how much stronger our organization would be, musically, if we continue to do all that we can to embrace all of the potential members in our musical community! I encourage the local associations to consider events and recruitment activities this year that target these wonderful music teachers!

I look forward to seeing you all at our wonderful Fall Conference in Richmond, VA this October 27–30! You can register and pay for the conference online now, if you wish. Best wishes for a productive semester of lessons and performances! ■

2011 VMTA FALL CONFERENCE

Gabriella Ryan, President-elect, VMTA

It's time to register for the October 27–30, 2011 VMTA Conference, “The Art and Science of Teaching Music.” This year it will be at VCU in Richmond, and we'll be staying at the Doubletree Hotel nearby. Our guest artist is Ann Schein, who has studied with Arthur Rubenstein.

Ann Schein's amazing career has earned her high praise in major American and European cities and in more than 50 countries around the world.

She has performed with conductors including George Szell, James Levine, Seiji Ozawa, James dePreist, David Zinman, Stanislaw Skrowacewski, and Sir Colin Davis, and with major orchestras including the New York Philharmonic, the Philadelphia Orchestra, the Los Angeles Philharmonic, the Baltimore Symphony, the Washington National Symphony, the London Philharmonic, the London Symphony, and the BBC Symphony Orchestra. She has performed at the White House during the Kennedy administration.

(continued on page 6)

2011 Conference: Schedule of Events

PAC—Singleton Center for the Performing Arts, includes the Concert Hall, Room B-40, and B-15. Rooms B-40 and B-15 are downstairs.

JBMC—James Black Music Center, includes the Recital Hall and Room 3014 (upstairs).

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 27

8:00 am–6:00 pm MTNA JR/SR Woodwinds Competitions—JBMC Recital Hall
2:00 pm–4:30 pm Closed Session: Orchestra Rehearsal—Performing Arts Center
6:00 pm–9:00 pm Closed Session: Ann Schein Rehearsal—PAC Concert Hall
7:00 pm–8:30 pm VMTA Board Meeting and Dinner at hotel

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 28

8:00 am–6:00 pm MTNA JR/YA Piano Competitions—JBMC Recital Hall
8:00 am–6:00 pm MTNA YA Woodwinds and YA Chamber Music Competitions—PAC, B-40
8:00 am–4:00 pm Vendors, VCU PAC Lobby
8:00 am–8:45 am Certification Breakfast Meeting at hotel
9:00 am–10:00 am Opening Ceremonies Member Recital—PAC Concert Hall
10:15 am–11:15 am Workshop (Dr. Scott Beard “Musical Imagery—Do You Hear What I Hear?”)—PAC, B-15
10:00 am–1:00 pm Closed Session: Ann Schein rehearsal—PAC Concert Hall
11:30 am–12:30 pm Workshop (Dr. Lise Keiter, “Memorization”)—PAC, B-15
12:30 pm–2:00 pm Local Associations Presidents Lunch Meeting at hotel, (Others on own)
2:00 pm–3:00 pm Workshop (Rosita Mang, “Practicing with the Brain”)—PAC, B-15
3:00 pm–4:00 pm Workshop (Samantha Luck, IMTF “The Professional Studio”)—PAC, B-15
3:00 pm–5:00 pm MTNA String/Other Competitions—PAC, 3014
5:30 pm–6:00 pm Cash Bar at hotel
6:00 pm–7:30 pm VCU Entertainment and Banquet at hotel
7:30 pm & 7:45 pm Shuttles leave from hotel to VCU PAC for Guest Artist Recital

8:00 pm–10:00 pm Ann Schein Recital & Reception—PAC Concert Hall
9:45 pm & 10 pm Shuttles return from PAC to hotel

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 29

8:00 am–9:30 am VMTA Business Breakfast Meeting at hotel
8:00 am–3:30 pm Vendors—PAC Lobby
8:00 am–3:00 pm VMTA State Auditions—JBMC Recital Hall and PAC Room B-40 (2 venues)
8:00 am–6:00 pm MTNA Sr. Piano Competition—PAC Concert Hall
10:00 am–11:00 am Workshop (Dr. Sonia Vlahcevic “Teaching Contemporary Music”)—PAC, B-15
11:00 am–12:00 pm Workshop (Martha Smith, NCTM “The Unasked Question: How Does Understanding Overtones Enhance Musicianship?”)—PAC, B-15
12:30 pm–2:00 pm Optional Excursion and Lunch at Amuse in Virginia Museum of Fine Arts. Amuse “Restaurant of the Year” limited to first 35 online registrants only.
2:00 pm–2:50 pm Optional docent-led tour of Art Museum’s Paintings related to Music
3:30 pm–5:30 pm Ann Schein Master Class for 2nd Place Competition Winners—JBMC Recital Hall
5:45 pm–6:15 pm Commissioned Composer Greg Bowers Music Presentation—PAC, B-15
6:15 pm–8:00 pm Dinner on own
7:40 pm Shuttle leaves hotel for PAC
8:00 pm–9:30 pm Orchestra Concert, VMTA Concerto Competition Winners—PAC Concert Hall
9:45 pm Shuttle leaves PAC for hotel

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 30

9:00 am–10:00 am Workshop (Dr. Dmitri Shteinberg “The Psychology of Technique”)—PAC B-15
10:15 am–11:30 am VMTA & MTNA Winners Recital—PAC Concert Hall



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ANN SCHEIN



About Ann Schein, the *Washington Post* has written “Thank heaven for Ann Schein...what a relief it is to hear a pianist who, with no muss or fuss, simply reaches right into the heart of whatever she is playing—and creates music so powerful you cannot tear yourself away.”

From her first recordings for Kapp Records, and her highly acclaimed Carnegie Hall recital debut as an artist on the Sol Hurok roster, Ann Schein’s amazing career has earned her high praise in major American and European cities and in more than 50 countries around the world.

She has performed with conductors including George Szell, James Levine, Seiji Ozawa, James dePreist, David Zinman, Stanislaw Skrowacewski, and Sir Colin Davis, and with major orchestras including the New York Philharmonic, the Philadelphia Orchestra, the Los Angeles Philharmonic, the Baltimore Symphony, the Washington National Symphony, the London Philharmonic, the London Symphony, and the BBC Symphony Orchestra. She has performed at the White House during the Kennedy administration.

Her recent recordings include an album of solo Schumann works on Ivory Classics, featuring the Arabeske, the Humoreske, and the Davidsbündlertänze. An all-Chopin CD on MSR Classics includes the 24 Preludes, Opus 28, and the 3rd Sonata in b minor, Opus 58. In December, 2008, honoring the 100th birthday of Elliott Carter, MSR Classics released her recording of American works, including Elliott Carter’s 1945-46 Piano Sonata, the Copland Piano Variations, the Copland Sonata for Violin and Piano with Earl Carlyss, violinist. A new work by John Patitucci, “Lakes”, written for her, is also featured.

Throughout the 2010 season she has celebrated the Bicentennial of both Chopin and Schumann in performances, master classes and lectures across the United States, including New York, Connecticut, Florida, Maryland, Virginia, Georgia, Massachusetts, Colorado, Kansas and Michigan. In October, she performed the Schumann Concerto in Baltimore with the Concert Artists of Baltimore conducted by Edward Polochick.

In the June-July 2010 issue of *American Music Teacher*, in an article entitled “Chopin, The Voice of the Piano” written by the renowned author and musicologist Alan Walker, her Chopin Etude, Opus 10, No. 12, which she recorded for Kapp Records in 1958, was recommended for special listening.

She has received many distinguished honors for her Chopin performances and recordings. The Marston label has included her Nouvelle Etude in A-flat Major recorded for Kapp Records in 1958 in their special collection of outstanding Chopin performances, entitled “A Century of Romantic Chopin”, and chosen by Gregor Benko and Ward Marston where her biography reads, “Ann Schein was trained in her native United States, where she studied with both Mieczyslaw Munz and Arthur Rubinstein. Her first recordings, made when she was 18 and 19, established her as one of the premiere Chopin pianists of our time.”

Read her full biography on her website, <http://annschein.com/biography.html>. ■

GREG BOWERS

Commissioned Composer Competition Winner

Dr. Greg Bowers is active as a composer, performer, and director working in a variety of genres. He is currently Assistant Professor of Music Theory and Composition at the College of William and Mary (Williamsburg, Virginia). His creative work includes concert music, musical theater, multimedia, and performance art, and he is currently pursuing research in film music cognition and interdisciplinary performance.

He has degrees from Yale University, University of Washington, the State University of New York at Stony Brook, and Lewis and Clark College. He has taught previously at Williams College, Pacific Lutheran University, and Linfield College. Composition teachers include: Anthony Davis, Jacob Druckman, Diane Thome, Sheila Silver, and Vincent McDermott. His work has received awards from the Regional Arts and Culture Council of Portland, Oregon, and the New York Foundation for the Arts.

His concert music has been performed internationally by such diverse groups as: Halcyon Trio Oregon, ad libitum (Budapest), soprano Christine Schadeberg, FearNoMusic (Portland, Oregon) and the Sichuan Conservatory of Music (Cheng Du, PR China).

His multimedia work, which incorporates film, theater, and digital and acoustic music, has been seen at On The Boards (Seattle), Echo Theatre (Portland, Oregon), and as a featured performer at the Philadelphia Fringe Festival and Philadelphia GLBT Festival of the Arts. In New York City, Bowers performed extensively as “post-drag queen” Ginger Moloko with the group *Ultraviolet*. Billed as a “performers’ collective masquerading as a rock band” *Ultraviolet* created multi-genre, interdisciplinary “performance installations” at venues such as P.S. 122, Dixon Place, and the Knitting Factory. Moloko has received awards from the Regional Arts and Culture Council of Portland and the New York Foundation for the Arts.

Bowers is currently Director of the William and Mary *Hyper Arts Ensemble*. This innovative performance ensemble is dedicated to the creation of performance art developed students collaborating across disciplines. Recent performances have been seen at *Monkeytown* (New York), and the Yale School of Music.

In the musical theater genre, Bowers has written several production, including most recently: *Lewis and Alice: A Story of Wonderland*, commissioned by Children’s Educational Theatre (Salem, Oregon), premiered July 2009 and the satirical farce (*Don’t*) *Go Home for the Holidays*, premiered in 2007 at New York City’s June Havoc Theatre.

He currently lives in Williamsburg, Virginia, with his partner of 12 years, Patrick Teague. ■

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2011-2012 AUDITION DATES

December 3, 2011
January 21, 2012
February 11, 2012
February 25, 2012
March 24, 2012

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2011 Conference: Workshops

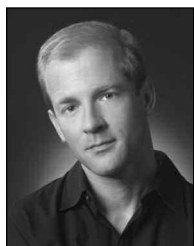
DR. SCOTT BEARD (NCTM), PIANIST

Workshop Title: Musical Imagery: Do You Hear What I Hear?
Developing Listening & Interpretive Skills in Students

Session Description:

By studying musical imagery and developing more advanced listening skills, students will be equipped with the tools to develop more creative and therefore personal connections and interpretations of their music. Participants will have the opportunity to listen to examples and describe how the music uses particular devices to help the listener “imagine” the title or poetic reference. Throughout the workshop, there will also be “mystery” pieces that the audience will describe in their own words, with the presenter then showing how the composer depicts their answer!

Additionally, teachers will be given the tools to incorporate these listening skills into studio lessons through technical exercises as well as through writing exercises. All of these tools allow the student to have more participation in the lesson and a larger role in the decision-making process regarding interpretation.



Short Bio:

Dr. Scott Beard is a nationally recognized pianist, teacher, clinician, author and recording artist. Recognized for his outstanding teaching abilities, he was named 2006 West Virginia Music Teacher of the Year and runner up for 2009 WV Professor of the Year. His students have won top prizes in numerous state, regional, national and international competitions. Concerts as a soloist, chamber musician and orchestral soloist have taken him throughout the United States and also to Canada, Croatia, Ecuador, France, Italy and Spain. His concerts and workshops have been praised for their poetry, passion and innovative programming.

Dr. Beard has published articles in several national publications and his anthologies of ensemble music for piano are published by Alfred. He is currently chair of the Department of Music and Dean of Graduate Studies at Shepherd University in Shepherdstown, WV. Dr. Beard is also very active in MTNA and is Director-elect of the Eastern Division of MTNA.

For more information, go to: www.scottbeard.com ■

ROSITA MANG (NCTM), PIANIST

Workshop Title: “Practicing with the Brain”

Session Description:

PRACTICING WITH THE BRAIN is Rosita’s answer to the biggest problems piano teachers face: the students DO NOT LISTEN! ... in fact they do not pay attention. She will share her ways to engage the students both at the lesson and at their home practice.



Short Bio:

Rosita Kerr Mang has been a leading speaker at Teacher’s conferences for many years both in Europe and the United States. Her students have been the winners of many national and international competitions and have been accepted with scholarships to the best music schools in the country. ■

DR. DMITRI SHTEINBERG, PIANIST

Workshop Title: “The Psychology of Technique”

Session Description:

The workshop focuses on the psychological aspects of playing, and especially the role these play in a public performance setting. A variety of topics, ranging from aural perception and the power of imagination to productive practicing and overcoming stage anxiety, will be discussed.



Short Bio:

Before joining UNCSA, Dmitri Shteinberg headed the piano area at the Virginia Commonwealth University in Richmond. He is also on faculty at the Green Mountain Chamber Music Festival in Burlington, VT. His solo performances include the Jerusalem Symphony and the Richmond, Charlottesville and Manassas symphony orchestras; and chamber music appearances, the Summit Music Festival, Music Festival of the Hamptons, the “Oleg Kagan” Festival in Germany, Festival Aix-en-Provence in France and Open Chamber Music in Cornwall, England, as well as the Stern Auditorium at Carnegie Hall, The Kennedy Center, The Kimmel Center in Philadelphia, Alice Tully Hall in New York and the Saunders Theatre in Boston alongside New York Philharmonic members and the cellist Natalia Gutman.

DR. SONIA VLAHCEVIC, PIANIST

Workshop Title: “Contemporary Piano Music? WHY BOTHER!!”

Session Description:

The workshop will include a comprehensive discussion about contemporary piano music. It will be a “hands-on” class, including performances of selected repertoire. The focal point of the session will evolve around choosing repertoire, analyzing the repertoire and suggestions as to how to reach the unfamiliar music. The audience will be asked to participate.

(continued on page 7)

2011 Fall Conference... (continued from page 1)

In 1980–81, Ann Schein extended the legacy of her teachers, Mieczyslaw Munz, Arthur Rubinstein, and Dame Myra Hess performing 6 concerts of the major Chopin repertoire in Lincoln Center's Alice Tully Hall throughout an entire season to outstanding reviews and sold-out houses, the first Chopin cycle presented in New York in 35 years.

We'll also have workshops on memorization, technique, contemporary music, musical imagery, practicing with the brain, and overtones. The workshops will be given by noted professors, teachers and pianists from around our state, including Dr. Sonia Vlahcevic, Dr. Scott Beard, Martha Smith, Lise Keiter, Rosita Mang, and Dr. Dmitri Shteinberg.

In addition, don't miss the Opening Ceremonies Recital on Friday morning, with performing artists Joanne Kong, Paul Hanson, Sonia Vlahcevic, Peter Martin, Dmitri Shteinberg, Hope Armstrong-Erb, Violane Myssyk, Russell Wilson, and Ruta Smdeina-Starke. And we're all excited to hear music written especially for us by our commissioned composer Greg Bowers.

And, of course, there will be State Auditions and MTNA Competitions, culminating with a master class with Ann Schein and a recital of competition winners. Finally, our concerto competition winners will perform with the VCU Orchestra under the direction of Daniel Myssyk.

Thanks to our webmaster John Winsor's new program, you can now register online at the VMTA website, www.music-usa.org, and make your payment using PayPal. Our website also has driving directions, hotel booking information, and the conference schedule.

This year, we'll have an optional excursion to the Virginia Museum of Art, with a docent-led tour of music-related artwork.

Lunch is available at the museum café, or at the restaurant of the year, Amuse, in the museum as well. The Amuse lunch is limited to the first 35 online registrants only, so be sure to register early for a special meal prior to the art tour.

Also online is a form to be a vendor or place ads in the Conference Program Book. There are various size ads available, ranging from full pages to a one-line music supporter. All of the ads help defray the cost of the conference. We appreciate your support!

So don't delay! Register and place your ad early! Come and meet your colleagues, enrich your musical experiences, and learn from our clinicians. You'll be happy you came! ■

YEAR OF COLLABORATIVE MUSIC

Tracy Cowden, Collaborative Chair for VMTA



The Year of Collaborative Music was a great success among the members of VMTA! I am pleased to report that our members were very imaginative in creating and producing events featuring collaborative music-making. Below are highlights of some of these wonderfully creative events.

Farmville: "Our studio had a great day of collaborative music on Sunday, January 23rd. Our performers included an art teacher mom, a jazz pianist grandfather, a guitar playing dad, a piano technician uncle, a college student flutist, a voice professor father (on piano duet), all sorts of student combinations at the piano, and some with me, the teacher. One pair of high school students played the two voices of a Bach Two Part Invention as a

(continued on page 16)

music@tech

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The Virginia Tech Department of Music is pleased to welcome four new faculty members for the 2011–2012 school year!

Polly Middleton, assistant director of athletic bands, earned degrees from the University of Illinois and Indiana University and most recently completed doctoral coursework at the University of Illinois.

Dr. John L. Walker, visiting assistant professor of oboe and ear training, earned degrees from Drake University, Temple University, and the University of Nebraska and most recently taught at St. Charles Community College in Missouri.

Dr. Jason Crafton, visiting assistant professor of trumpet and jazz ensembles, earned degrees from Drake University, University of Northern Colorado, and University of North Texas and most recently taught at Texas A&M University-Kingsville.

Ariana Wyatt, visiting assistant professor of voice, earned degrees from the University of Southern California and was a semi-finalist in the 2004 Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions.



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2011 Conference: Workshops



Short Bio:

Sonia Vlahcevic received her Bachelor of Music degree with honors and Master of Music degree in piano pedagogy from the New England Conservatory of Music in Boston, Mass. While a graduate student at the conservatory, Vlahcevic was awarded graduate assistantships in music history, solfeggio and theory. She earned her doctorate in theory from the Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C. At VCU, Vlahcevic has had an active role in teaching and advising students. As professor of music, she now teaches courses in form and analysis, and advanced 20th Century aural skills. She is also an active performer and clinician. ■

DR. LISE KEITER (NCTM), PIANIST

Workshop Title: "Memorization—Will It Ever Get Easier?"

Session Description:

Memorization. It is expected of every pianist. Yet let's face it—though performing from memory is rewarding and can make one feel comfortable, it is not easy (and can be downright terrifying!). Furthermore, preparing to perform from memory is both challenging and time-consuming. And when even the top concert artists deal with memory issues, what hope is there for the rest of us? How can we and our students confidently address this challenge?

This presentation shares practical tips on memorizing in different ways and performing from memory. It is suitable for teachers of any level or instrument.



Short Bio:

Pianist Lise Keiter performs nation-wide and is active as a solo recitalist, collaborative artist, and soloist with orchestra. Recent concert engagements have taken her to North Carolina, Maryland, Idaho, Wisconsin, West Virginia, Illinois, South Carolina, and throughout Virginia. She has also performed in Europe and was recently a part of the International Roussel Festival in France.

Dr. Keiter is currently Chair of the Music Department at Mary Baldwin College in Staunton, Virginia. Frequently called upon as a lecturer, adjudicator, and masterclass clinician, Dr. Keiter is active in many organizations, including MTNA and College Music Society (CMS). She is currently the MTNA Competitions Chair for Virginia and is also involved in her local chapter (Charlottesville MTA).

Dr. Keiter has a Bachelor of Music degree from the Oberlin Conservatory, where she received several top prizes. She completed a Master's Degree and the Doctorate of Music at Indiana University, where she also received the Award for Outstanding Teaching. Her teachers have included Leonard Hokanson, Gyorgy Sebok, Robert McDonald, Emile Nauomoff, and Evelyn Brancart. ■

MARTHA K. SMITH

Workshop Title: "The Unasked Question: How Does Understanding Overtones Enhance Musicianship?"

Session Description:

In a series of lectures at Harvard in 1973 entitled "The Unanswered Question," Leonard Bernstein argues persuasively that humans are born with an ability to grasp musical forms, and that rules of musical syntax are rooted in nature—in mathematically measurable relations between tones and overtones. Yet overtones are rarely mentioned in music instruction. Aided by video clips of Bernstein, the fabulous teacher in action, Martha will lead an interactive workshop to show how overtones are derived from fundamental tones and how understanding this basic physical phenomenon leads to greater musical expressivity.



Short Bio:

Martha Kirkpatrick Smith has a B.A. in History from Rice University and a M.M. in Piano Pedagogy from The Catholic University of America. She has taught piano independently in Arlington, Virginia since 1977. Past-President of Northern Virginia Music Teachers Association (NVMTA) and Virginia Music Teachers Association (VMTA), Martha has served on the Editorial Committee of the national *American Music Teacher* magazine. Currently she manages NVMTA's website and Scholarship Endowment Fund, and serves as chair of Certification for VMTA. ■

2011 Conference: Lodging



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VMTA has reserved a block of rooms at the reduced rate of \$99 plus tax, including full breakfast, at:

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Richmond Downtown, 301 West
Franklin Street, Richmond, VA
23220.

Call them directly at 804-644-9871 to reserve your room on or before 10/6/2011 or register online at this link: http://doubletree.hilton.com/en/dt/groups/personalized/R/RICFSDT-MTC-20111027/index.jhtml?WT.mc_id=POG.

The Doubletree Hotel is less than a mile from the VCU Performing Arts Center Conference site. Valet overnight parking is secure underground at the reduced rate of \$10 per day. As part of the Hilton Family, Doubletree Hotel participates in the Hilton HHonors reward program that lets you earn hotel points and airline miles. You can become a member at the above website. ■

2011 Conference: Driving Directions to VCU

Arriving from the East by Interstate 64 West—coming from Virginia Beach, Williamsburg, etc.

1. Take Exit 190 for Fifth Street and Downtown/Coliseum.
2. Turn right at the eighth traffic light, onto West Main Street.
3. Follow West Main Street for 11 blocks to Belvidere Street (turn right).
4. Go three blocks to West Broad Street (turn left).
5. Drive three blocks to Shafer Street (turn left); the entrance to the VCU West Broad Parking Deck/Welcome Center is on the right.

Arriving from the North by Interstate 95 South—coming from Washington, Fredericksburg, Kings Dominion, etc.

1. Take Exit 76B for Belvidere Street (US 1 & 301).
2. Turn left onto West Leigh Street.
3. Turn right onto Belvidere Street.
4. Turn right onto West Broad Street.
5. Drive three blocks to Shafer Street (turn left); the entrance to the VCU West Broad Parking Deck/Welcome Center is on the right.

Arriving from the South by Interstate 95 North—coming from Petersburg, North Carolina, etc.

1. Take Exit 74A onto Downtown Expressway, I-195 (The exit ramp is actually on the James River Bridge).
2. Drive 1/2 mile, take exit for Belvidere Street (US 1 & 301).
3. Drive two blocks along Canal Street to North Belvidere Street.
4. Turn right on North Belvidere Street.
5. Go three blocks to West Broad Street (turn left).
6. Drive three blocks to Shafer Street (turn left); the entrance to the VCU West Broad Parking Deck/Welcome Center is on the right.

Arriving from the West by Interstate 64 East—coming from Charlottesville, etc.

1. Take Exit 76B for Belvidere Street (US 1 & 301).
2. Turn left onto West Leigh Street.
3. Turn right onto Belvidere Street.
4. Turn right onto West Broad Street.
5. Drive three blocks to Shafer Street (turn left); the entrance to the VCU West Broad Parking Deck/Welcome Center is on the right.

Once you have parked (\$5 per day), proceed 2 blocks south on either Schafer Street or Harrison Avenue to Park Avenue. The Singleton Center for the Performing Arts, the Conference location, is at 922 Park Avenue. Registration is in the lobby. Below is a map of the VCU area around the parking deck and Singleton Center for the Performing Arts.

*Please note that time limits for street parking are strictly enforced. On Friday after 6 pm and all day Saturday and Sunday, parking on the street is free for the areas with a 1-hour parking designation.

<http://maps.google.com/maps?f=q&hl=en&q=922+Park+Ave.+Richmond+VA+23284>

The Sonia Vlacevic Concert Hall is located in the Singleton Performing Arts Center. This will be the location for all of our Workshops and most of our events. The James W. Black Music Center, which has one of the Recital Halls we will use, is across the street from the Singleton Center for the Performing Arts.

www.maps.vcu.edu/monroepark/blackmusiccenter/index.html.



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— Menahem Pressler, world-renowned pianist and guest artist

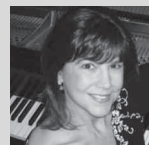
The JMU School of Music offers a B.M., M.M. and D.M.A. in Piano. Graduate assistantships are available for M.M. and D.M.A. students with full tuition waiver plus a generous stipend.

For more information, go to www.jmu.edu/music or call (540) 568-6863.

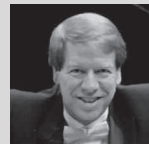
JMU PIANO FACULTY



Gabriel Dobner-USA



Lori Piitz-Canada



Eric Ruple-USA



Paulo Steinberg-Brazil

2011 Conference: Registration

Please mail this registration with check for the total amount by **October 7** to Tracy Cowden, VMTA Treasurer, 502 Mabry Lane, Blacksburg, VA, 24060. Daily registration will also be available at the Conference.

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____ e-Mail: _____

Certified? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Conference Registration Fee:

- ☐ VMTA Member. \$40.00 _____
- ☐ Non-member \$50.00 _____
- ☐ Daily \$25.00 _____

Thursday, October 27

- ☐ I will attend: VMTA Board Meeting and Dinner \$28.00 _____
- ☐ Chicken Alexander with Red Pepper, Artichokes, Cheese and a Sun-Dried Sauce
- ☐ Require a Vegetarian/Gluten-free meal

Friday, October 28

- ☐ I will attend: Local Associations Presidents Lunch Meeting. \$16.00 _____
- ☐ Chicken Cobb Salad with French Dressing
- ☐ Require a Vegetarian/Gluten-free meal

Saturday, October 29

- ☐ I will attend: VMTA Banquet at Hotel \$30.00 _____
- ☐ Chicken Marsala—Boneless Breast of chicken filled with Mushrooms, with Roasted Tomato Coulis
- ☐ Cheese and Vegetable Ravioli served over a Pomodoro Sauce and topped with a Garlic Cream Sauce
- ☐ I will attend: Museum Excursion: Docent-Guided Tour of Musical Paintings \$5.00 _____
- ☐ I will attend: Museum Excursion: Lunch on your own at “BestCafe”

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See page 7 for hotel information.

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Certification Profile: Lisa Powell Carter

by Anne James, NCTM



Becoming certified was a natural progression for Lisa Powell Carter. Growing up she had studied with Anne Edwards, an outstanding certified piano teacher. After

Carter began teaching at The Music Staff in Chesapeake, Mary Ann Medlin approached her about pursuing certification once she had fulfilled the two-year teaching requirement. She needed no persuasion, and in 2009 this goal was accomplished.

Lisa Carter majored in accompanying at Shenandoah Conservatory, studying with Dr. Sue Boyd and Elizabeth Temple. Her master's degree in accompanying was earned at the College-Conservatory of Music at the University of Cincinnati under Ken Griffiths and Michael Chertock. In addition to her piano teaching she is music director at Emmanuel Lutheran Church in Virginia Beach where she plays organ and piano and conducts the adult choir.

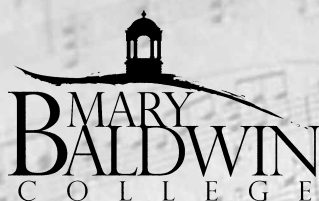
For her younger piano students Carter finds it helpful to use weekly practice logs to be signed by parents. Three good weeks of practice out of four during the month earn the student a star. Older students do best when they have plenty of goals. "If they get too relaxed I think of something for them to do." It helps greatly when there is a supportive family making sure students

get to their lessons on time and seeing that there are opportunities for practice.

The schedule is indeed very full for Carter's students. There are two big recitals, one during the winter holidays and one in the spring. Before each big recital there is a performance class to discuss proper recital etiquette and give opportunity to play for peers before appearing in a formal program. The students are taught to give positive feedback—for each performer, one really nice comment and one constructive suggestion. Each comment must be specific, not general.

In addition to the big recitals there are shorter recitals sprinkled through the schedule—a Halloween recital, a recital called "For the Love of Music" around Valentine's Day and "My Teacher and Me," a recital featuring duets. Playing at the mall and for assisted living facilities offer other performance opportunities. The students also participate in TMTF's Levels of Progress as well as theory tests and Guild auditions.

"I grew up in a household with a lot of music," Carter observes. "It was always a part of my life. Studying music is an essential part of everyone's education, whether it's general music or private lessons, whether amateur or professional. It helps students grow emotionally and creatively. 'Music takes over where the words stop.'" ■



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MINUTES

VMTA ADMINISTRATIVE BOARD TELECONFERENCE SATURDAY, JUNE 11, 2011, 10:00 AM

Sarah Reaser O'Brien, NCTM, Secretary

MEMBERS PRESENT

Lisa Withers, Sarah O'Brien, Tracy Cowden, Ronda Sprague, Denise Adkins, Gabriella Ryan, Peggy Schaaf, Jennifer Swallow, Barbara Moore, Corky Sablinsky, Kenneth Lee, Lisa Moxley, Tonya Menard, Paulo Steinburg, Martha Smith, Patricia Webb, Susan Adkins, and Roma Scriven.

CALL TO ORDER

President Lisa Withers called the meeting to order at 10:06 a.m.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Tracy Cowden moved to accept the minutes from the November, 2010, General Business Meeting as printed in *NewsNotes*. The motion was seconded and passed.

REPORTS

President Lisa Withers' report included the following items:

- MTNA has launched the "Each One Reach One Campaign." Virginia is one of the few states that has maintained or increased membership during the past few years. MTNA would like our help in spreading the word about this campaign.
- Anne James from Richmond has been nominated for a Foundation Fellow.
- Allison Dettmer, flutist, student of Jennifer Lapple, placed 3rd in the MTNA National Junior Woodwinds Competition.
- Fall Conference will take place October 27–30, 2011, at Virginia Commonwealth University.
- Division Competitions will take place January 13–16, 2012, at Mississippi College in Clinton, MS.
- National Conference is scheduled for March 24–28, 2012, in New York City. President Withers attended this past year's conference.
- Reminder: Applications for State Affiliate of the Year, Teacher of the Year, Collegiate Teacher of the Year, and Foundation Fellow are usually between November and January.

President-Elect

Gabriella Ryan reported that the theme for our fall conference is "The Art and Science of Teaching Music." The dates are Thursday, October 27, through Sunday, October 30, and the location is Virginia Commonwealth University in Richmond. We now have online registration for both the conference and lodging (at the Doubletree Hotel) on the VMTA website. The Opening Ceremonies Recital will take place on Friday morning. Anne Schein is the conference artist, and Greg Bowers is the commissioned composer. There will be an optional excursion to The Virginia Museum of Fine Arts in keeping with our theme. The excursion will include lunch at Amuse, the museum restaurant. Registration for the art museum excursion is limited to 35.

We are currently selling ads for the conference program.

Vice President's Report

Denise Adkins reported that the VMTA membership for 2010-2011 has seen a gain of 106 new members, 19 reinstated members and 9 members acquired through transfer. Our membership consists of 769 active members, 139 senior members and 19 student members making a total of 927. This is an increase of 23 members over last year.

Treasurer's Report

Tracy Cowden presented a summary of the Association's financial affairs that included the following elements:

- As of May 31, 2011, funds from checking account and certificates of deposit totaled \$39,866.29. At the same time last year, total funds were \$42,727.
- When one or more CD's mature making \$10,000 available, these funds will be put into a money market account. At this time, the interest rates for money market accounts are more favorable than those for certificates of deposit. Eventually, if all of our savings is in the money market account, we can write checks from this account while also earning interest.
- Anticipated expenses for the 2011 Fall Conference total \$10,195, while income is estimated at \$9482.
- The Expense/Income Report for fiscal year 2011 shows \$60,948.81 in expenses and \$61,226.82.

Chair of Local Association Presidents

Galla Matekova reported that local presidents submitted their reports electronically prior to the Spring Teleconference and that four chapters have new presidents.

Certification Report

Martha Smith reported that we had no new certified teachers this year. We may have a workshop at the fall conference dealing with making videos of our teaching for certification purposes.

Nominating Committee Report

Martha Smith presented the proposed slate of VMTA officers for the 2012-2014 term as follows:

President: Gabriella Ryan
President-Elect: Paulo Steinberg
Vice President: Denise Adkins
Secretary: Donna Halleck
Treasurer: Mun Lee Han

BUSINESS

- The Executive Committee voted to make a donation of \$1000 to the Alabama Music Teachers Association. This action is in keeping with gifts other states in the region are donating.

(continued on page 13)

Minutes... (continued from page 12)

- Based on a recommendation from the Executive Committee, Kenneth Lee moved to institute a deadline of two weeks prior to the event for submitting requests to the State Treasurer when judges' remuneration fee checks are needed prior to or on the date of auditions. The motion was seconded and passed.
- Barbara Moore moved to accept the slate of officers put forth by the nominating committee. The motion was seconded and passed.
- The option of replacing a paper yearbook with an online one was discussed.
- The Executive Committee has resolved to support the expansion of the theory test to include contemporary techniques. Tonya Menard is writing an article for the *American Music Teacher* magazine, and it would be nice to have this mentioned in the article, since very few states have these items in their state theory tests.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Local presidents' reports should be submitted to Jeanette Winsor for the website by July 1, 2011.
- The deadline for submitting items to *NewsNotes* is July 15, 2011.
- **The Fall Conference registration deadline is October 7**, and online registration is now available on the VMTA website.

Martha Smith moved to adjourn the meeting at 11:11 a.m. The motion was seconded and passed. ■



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Thursday, April 12

10 am: Hollins University students' master class
6:30 pm: Hollins Academy of Music students' master class

Friday, April 13

9:30 am: Coffee social, Bradley Conference Room
10 am: Teacher workshop
7 pm: Recital of works with Phillip Keveren

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FALL FESTIVAL

Debbie Sacra, Fall Festival Coordinator



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 Northern Virginia, the festival will take place Saturday, November 5, 2011. In Lynchburg and Richmond, the festival will take place Saturday, November 12, 2011. At Roanoke and Shenandoah, the festival will take place November 19, 2011. 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.

Check the VMTA *Yearbook* under "General Regulations for All VMTA Events" and "VMTA Fall Festivals," for further information and regulations.

Festivals will be held in the following locations with these postmark deadline dates:

Lynchburg (CVMTA): November 2; Dr. Rebecca McCord, Chairman; held at West Lynchburg Baptist Church.

Northern Virginia: October 1; Douglas J. Harrington and Virginia Moore, Chairmen; held at Cherrydale United Methodist Church, Arlington, VA.

Richmond: October 14; Deborah Martin and Lynn Redford, Chairmen; held at the University of Richmond, Modlin Center.

Roanoke: October 14; Peggy Schaaf, Chairman; held at Hollins University.

Winchester (Shenandoah): November 7; Dr. Sue Boyd, Chairman; held at Shenandoah University, Chapel. ■

Reports

NORTHERN VIRGINIA DISTRICT AUDITION RESULTS

João Paulo Figueirôa, DMA, Co-chairman

The Northern Virginia District Auditions took place on June 11th and 12th at the Woman's Club of Arlington (700 South Buchanan Street Arlington, VA 22204-1440). We had a total of 74 applicants and our judges were Dr. Lise Keiter, Mr. David Hill, Dr. Audrey Andrist and Mrs. Aglaia Koras.

Level IA

| | Student | Teacher |
|-------------------|--------------------|--------------|
| 1st Place | Stephanie Draughon | Jun Yang |
| 1st Alternate | Wiley Skaret | Marjorie Lee |
| 2nd Place | Evan Hu | Marjorie Lee |
| 3rd Place | Lucy Cai | Ping Hu |
| Honorable Mention | Hannah Baker | Rosita Mang |
| Honorable Mention | Lucy Chen | Rosita Mang |
| Honorable Mention | Hana Wang | Jun Yang |

Level IB

| | Student | Teacher |
|-------------------|-----------------------|------------------|
| 1st Place | Maya Cooper | Rosita Mang |
| 1st Alternate | David DiMeglio | Marjorie Lee |
| 2nd Place | Felix Fei | Rosita Mang |
| 3rd Place | Christopher Papenfuss | Yoshinori Hosaka |
| Honorable Mention | Shreya Ramesh | Rosita Mang |
| Honorable Mention | Michael Wang | Marjorie Lee |

Level II

| | Student | Teacher |
|-------------------|-----------------|-----------------------|
| 1st Place | Brian Le | Nancy Breth |
| 1st Alternate | Muli Yu | Marjorie Lee |
| 2nd Place | Rachel Chon | Narciso Solero |
| 3rd Place | Juncheng Chen | Marjorie Lee |
| Honorable Mention | Audrey Huang | Jun Yang |
| Honorable Mention | Roman Kasparian | Margarita Gramaticova |

Level III

| | Student | Teacher |
|---------------|-----------------|-------------|
| 1st Place | Sarah Barham | Rosita Mang |
| 1st Alternate | Clara Guo | Rosita Mang |
| 2nd Place | Elaine Chen | Rosita Mang |
| 3rd Place | Antonia Stabile | Nancy Breth |

CONCERTO COMPETITION

Wanda Hall, NCTM, Chairman

The 2011 VMTA Concerto Competition was held at Shenandoah University in Winchester on Saturday, May 21, 2011. The winners are:

High School Piano

Winner: Kimberly Hou (Teacher, Marjorie Lee)
 Alternate: Michelle Kyeong-Eun Park (Teacher, Anna Ouspenskaya)

Collegiate Piano

Winner: Soo Yeon Ham (Teacher, John O'Connor)
 Alternate: Meghan Roder (Teacher, Lori Piitz)
 Second Place: Ednaldo Borba (Teacher, Paolo Steinberg)

High School Strings

Winner: Shankar Balasubramanian, violin
 (Teacher, Olga Khroulevitch)

Collegiate Woodwinds

Winner: Melissa Bowles, clarinet (Teacher, Garrick Zoeter)

Please check the website for the 2012 Concerto Competition details. ■

VMTA KEYBOARD SKILLS TEST REPORT

Lynn Kleisler, NCTM, Chairman

Four local chapters of the Virginia Music Teachers Association participated in the Keyboard Skills Test for the 2010/2011 school year. A total of 195 students across the state 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 | | | | | | | No. Teachers Participated |
|-----------|--------------|------|-----|----|------|------|------|---------------------------|
| | Participated | Sup. | Ex. | VG | Good | Poor | Fail | |
| Tidewater | 144 | 97 | 42 | 5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 14 |
| Northern | 24 | 15 | 8 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 5 |
| Richmond | 14 | 10 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 |
| Piedmont | 13 | 6 | 7 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 |

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 working towards a revision. ■

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AUDITION DATES:

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January 21 *undergraduate only*

February 18 *undergraduate only*

January 28 *undergraduate only*



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Dated Material Inside

Year of Collaborative Music... (continued from page 6)

duet. The duets by Walter and Carol Noona, and Melody Bober, provided lots of fun for all. The program was followed by a pot luck dinner supplied by the parent/audience." —*Marty Dorrill*

Blacksburg: "The Department of Music at Virginia Tech sponsored an "open rehearsal" on the International Day of Collaborative Music, January 22, 2011. The event was designed to allow audiences to glimpse the 'behind-the-scenes' work that occurs in collaborative music-making. We had faculty, guest artists, and students participate in various combinations ranging from duos to quartets. Each group of performers was preparing for upcoming performances, and the works were in varying stages of preparation. We had question and answer sessions with audience members after each mini-rehearsal. The participants and audience members really enjoyed the process, and the project was featured in an article in the *Roanoke Times* by Amy Matzke-Fawcett titled "See How the Sonata's Made" (January 20, 2011)." —*Tracy Cowden*

Harrisonburg: "We (Harrisonburg Music Teachers Association) put together a recital involving precollege students on March 6. We used one of the rooms at JMU and our program consisted of music written for varied instruments (violin, flute, piano). We had seven groups (including some piano duets) who played beautifully in a very well-attended concert. In preparation for the recital, I asked Dr. Gabriel Dobner to coach the groups in a masterclass setting, which took place on February 24. The masterclass inspired students and teachers who were present. This was a very beneficial event for all of us, who learned different techniques on group coaching." —*Paulo Steinberg*

Richmond: "On February 10, 2011, the music faculty of both St. Catherine's School and St. Christopher's School held a recital which showcased music as diverse as a percussive retuned guitar and a Chopin cello/piano sonata. But to add to the audience's experience even more, some of the musicians collaborated with the visual art department to include paintings inter-



preting their music! Gabriella Ryan and Sharon Stewart's performance of Eric Satie's "Three Pieces in the Form of a Pear" was expressed visually by students of Diego Sanchez's art department in 3 large pear paintings. The artists whose works were exhibited on stage near the grand piano are Molly Rose, Holly Akers, Melina Bricker, Sara Wright and India Butler.

The paintings graced the stage during Leslie and Reggie Long's rich-sounding oboe and piano concerto, Nick Brata and Friends' harmonious barbershop quartet, Bill Comita and Anne James' masterwork Chopin cello and piano sonata, Tommy Bishop's amazing percussive guitar work, and Sally Irwin and Brian Evan's French classical flute and viola ensemble. But the pear paintings came to life with "Trois Morceaux en Forme de Poire." The Ryan/Stewart 4-hand piano duet showed the quirkiness of contemporary French composer Eric Satie's music. And the paintings expressed pears like they've never been seen before! The musicians hope to continue using multi-dimensional art to express the human soul. Collaboration in the arts became a synergistic event for artists and audience alike!"

—*Gabriella Ryan*