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NewsNotes

VMTA Conference

November 6–9, 2008

Shenandoah University, Winchester, VA

Lisa Withers, VMTA President-elect

We are extraordinarily grateful to Shenandoah University and to the Shenandoah Chapter of VMTA for agreeing to host our fall conference for the second year in a row! Our philosophy is “if it ain’t broke, don’t fix it!” Since all of our attendees had such a wonderful time in Winchester last year, we are working hard to meet the high expectations that last year’s conference engendered. I think we might just do it with this year’s line-up!

In what I think might be a first for VMTA, our convention artists are a six piano ensemble—the Oakton Six—based at Oakton Community College in Illinois and under the direction of Dr. Glenna Sprague. These fine pianists have performed to great acclaim at MTNA national convention and several other state conventions. In August of 2008, they will be featured at the GP3: Group Piano and Pedagogy Conference in Norman, OK.

Our featured pedagogy clinician this year will be Dr. Jennifer Snow from UCLA. In a Yamaha sponsored workshop, Dr. Snow will demonstrate how “Pedagogy transcends Geography” using technology to connect students and teachers across the country in a live conference lesson! She will also demonstrate the practical and pedagogically sound benefits of exciting new online communication tools for us and our students, including “blogging” and “chatting” about piano with colleagues/students that form a virtual community.

Other presentations will include professionals from within our own VMTA ranks. Bryant and Lisa Moxley of Bluefield College will talk about “Developing the Church Keyboard Musician,” while Beth Tomassetti discusses “Injury Prevention using the Taubman/Golandsky Approach.” Beverly Henkel will present a new, soon-to-be self-published piano method, and Kent Holliday, the VMTA commissioned composer and professor at Virginia Tech, will present a new work performed by the James Quartet (including VMTA member Nicholas Ross of Sweet Briar College). How exciting it is that there is such breadth and diversity within our membership!

Shenandoah University and Winchester is again guaranteed to provide us with comfortable and pleasant lodging at the Wingate Inn. Make sure that you reserve your room by October 6 to get the competitive conference rate. Our Saturday night banquet will be

held in the newly renovated Shenandoah University and promises to be an evening to remember. In addition, you will want to enjoy the SU student recital on Friday and take in a few moments of the MTNA and VMTA competitions! So, start packing your bags and come enjoy the friends and music talk at this year’s conference. ■

President’s Notes

Debra Gunnerson, NCTM, VMTA State President

HOW FAR CAN I GO? HOW HIGH CAN I JUMP?

As musicians, our ultimate goal is perfection. This time of year stirs up feelings for professional and personal change for me.

In my own studio, I prepare for students achieving their own personal best. Whether their best is competition success, performing at a festival well, or the confidence to play musically, I feel like I am steering their ship towards each student’s goals. Choosing music for these students helps me grow. I scour over old competition and festival repertoire to broaden my pool in which to assign new music for the fall. Attending Composers lectures as they move around the country also helps to broaden my repertoire list with new compositions from Hal Leonard, FJH, or Alfred.

My ramblings lead me to this: mature and grow with your profession. Musicians are ever changing from how we listen to music, how we compose it, to how we produce the sound in a recording or on a stage.

Music itself has evolved over the centuries, as well as the old fashioned idea of a music teacher.

Technology in our music field has forced the artistic mind to be more scientific. I have learned from my students, a simple task like using an iPod.

Expand your studio each year to embrace a new technique, a new venue for a recital, a more strict business approach. Evolve with forward motion.

VMTA moves forward and evolves year by year with the guidance of many insightful leaders.

JUMP HIGH into the wonderful sessions at the VMTA Conference at Shenandoah University in November.

SEE HOW FAR YOU CAN GO...

(continued on back)

2008 Conference: Schedule

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2008

12:00pm-5:00pm MTNA Woodwind/Strings Competitions
4:00pm-6:00pm Dress Rehearsal – Orchestra/Concerto Concert
6:00pm Executive Committee Dinner

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2008

8:00am-4:00pm MTNA Competitions
8:00am-3:00pm REGISTRATION
9:00am-10:00am Bryant and Lisa Moxley – Developing the Church Keyboard Musician
10:15am-11:15am Beverly Henkel – New Pedagogical Method Demonstration
11:30am-12:30pm Tour of Shenandoah University Conservatory and Campus
12:30pm-2:00pm Local Association Presidents Luncheon

LUNCH/VENDORS

2:15pm-4:00pm Jennifer Snow – UCLA/Yamaha – Transcending Geography: Exploring Online Teaching and Video Technology in Piano Pedagogy
4:00pm-5:00pm Shenandoah Conservatory Student Recital
5:00pm-7:00pm Dinner on your own
7:30pm Shenandoah University Orchestra Concert with Concerto Competition Winners

Reception to follow concert!

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2008

8:00am-5:00pm VMTA State Competitions
8:00am-4:00pm MTNA Competitions
8:00am-1:00pm REGISTRATION
9:00am-10:00am Beth Tomassetti – Injury Prevention for Pianists (Taubman/Golandsky)
10:15am-11:15am IMTF Forum – Samantha Luck
11:30am-12:30pm Commissioned Composer – Kent Holliday/James Piano Quartet
12:30pm-2:00pm LUNCH/VENDORS
2:15pm-3:15pm TBA
3:30pm-5:00pm VMTA Business Meeting
6:00pm-7:30pm VMTA Banquet – Shenandoah University Student Center
8:00pm Concert Artist Recital – Oakton 6 Piano Ensemble
Reception to follow concert!

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 2008

8:00am-12:00pm Certification Testing
9:30am-11:00am Masterclass with SU Faculty, Dr. Karen Walker
11:30am-12:30pm Winners Recital
3:00pm Concert John O'Connor (part of the SU series)



THE



THEORY

FROM PRIMER TO LEVEL XII

These books follow the VMTA Theory Syllabus. For further information please contact Fay Barss at 802 282 7725 or faysmusic@comcast.net

2008 Conference: Artists & Clinicians

Beth Tomassetti earned her Bachelor of Music degrees in both piano performance and piano pedagogy summa cum laude from Shenandoah University and a Master of Music degree in piano performance and pedagogy summa cum laude from Northwestern University. She has been on the faculty of the University of Oregon, Western Oregon University, O'Hara Catholic School, Treasure Valley Community College, the University of Louisiana-Lafayette, Frederick Community College, and Hampton University.

Since 1989, Beth has been involved with the Dorothy Taubman Institute of Piano in Amherst and Williams, Mass., where she was a teaching assistant for four years, and with the Golandsky Institute of Piano at Princeton University, both of which are leading centers in the prevention and treatment of performance injuries. She has taught on the faculty at Taubman seminars at California State University and Portland State University, and has published an article entitled "A Pianist's Experiences with Performance Injuries and the Dorothy Taubman Approach" in the *Oregon Musician*. She has performed at numerous music festivals, concert series, and recitals throughout the United States, and appears on the compact disc: Beth Tomassetti and Matt Cooper-Piano Four-Hands. She recently performed in a master class for Robert Durso, a leading exponent in the Taubman approach.

Ms. Tomassetti has served as President (2006-08), and will serve as Treasurer (2008-10) of the Peninsula Music Teacher's Association. She maintains a large private teaching studio in Newport News, VA, is a church organist/pianist at Carver Memorial Presbyterian Church, and is active as chamber musician and collaborative pianist throughout the Hampton Roads area. In August, she was a staff pianist for the New York Summer Music Festival in Albany, NY. Beth lives in Newport News with her husband and two children. ■

Currently on faculty at the UCLA Herb Alpert School of Music, **Jennifer Snow** teaches piano, collaborative piano, and pedagogy. She is also the Artistic Director of the UCLA Summer Chamber Music Institute for High School Students. Jennifer has presented at conferences including MTNA, various state conferences, EPTA, CMS, and the World Piano Pedagogy Conference. She is a member of MTNA, the Canadian Adjudicator's Association, has presented workshops and participated in panels throughout Canada, the United States and England, and is a clinician for Frederick Harris Music Company. She has taught piano pedagogy at the Glenn Gould Professional School in Toronto and is a senior examiner for the Royal Conservatory of Music and the National Music Certificate Program. Jennifer has also served on the collaborative piano faculty at the prestigious Music Academy of the West in Santa Barbara, California. Most recently, Jennifer is involved with Yamaha America integrating groundbreaking technology and pedagogical innovation.

A versatile performer who has appeared as a solo and collaborative pianist throughout Canada, the United States, Asia, and Europe. A diverse and active recitalist, Jennifer is heard on CBC and NPR and has recorded for Marquis, Amberola and Phoenix Records. She has also played for the Showtime! Net-

work, T.V. Ontario, Edmonton Symphony Orchestra series, Kilburn Artist series, Banff Centre Festival, Ottawa Chamber Music festival, Stratford Festival, and ABC Television.

Jennifer received a Bachelor of Music degree in Piano Performance from the University of Western Ontario. Pursuing graduate studies at Northwestern University, she conferred a Masters of Music and a Doctor of Music. Jennifer has also been a resident artist at the Banff Centre for the Fine Arts. A native of Corner Brook, Newfoundland she now lives in Los Angeles. ■



Kent Holliday studied composition with Paul Fetler and Dominick Argento at the University of Minnesota, where he received his Ph.D. in music theory-composition in 1968. He subsequently did postgraduate work in Paris, France, and at Dartmouth College and the University of New Hampshire. In 1969 he worked with Pietro Grossi on computer music in the Studio di Fonologia S2FM in Florence, Italy, and in 1988 studied composition on research-leave with Witold Szalonek of the Hochschule der Kunst in Berlin, Germany.

Dr. Holliday was the winner of the Virginia Music Teachers Association Composition Competition in 1983, 1996, and 1999. His *Four Evocations* won first place in the New Music Delaware Composition Competition in 1996. He taught music composition, theory, history, piano, and selected courses in the humanities at Virginia Tech since 1974. His book, *Reproducing Pianos Past and Present*, was published by Mellen Press in 1989.

More recently, Dr. Holliday has also received the ASCAPLUS award for the SCI recording of his work *Tango Exótico*. As the 2008 VMTA commissioned composer, The James Piano Quartet will perform his three movement work entitled "*Udolpho*," based on Anne Radcliffe's gothic novel "*The Mysteries of Udolpho*," written in 1794. ■



CVMTA member, **Beverly Henkel**, has a varied musical background and career. She has a BME in piano and an MM in theory and composition both from Drake University. In her early twenties, she competed in the Coupe Mondiale in Baden-Baden, Germany with her accordion. In 1992, Beverly was one of six first-time winners in the first annual composition competition sponsored by the National Conference on Piano Pedagogy. She has piano solos and arrangements published with Kjos and Heritage Music Press under her maiden name, Beverly Grace Joy. From 2006 through the present, she has received three consecutive MTNA Teacher Enrichment Grants to study Well-Coordinated, Injury-Preventive Keyboard Technique with Barbara Lister-Sink at Salem College in North Carolina. She has taught piano and/or theory at Drake University, University of Oklahoma and Liberty University. Beverly maintains an active studio in Lynchburg, Virginia with approximately 45 students. Most recently, Beverly has written an original,

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2008 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 Will help monitor

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

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

Friday luncheon for Council of Local Association Presidents (\$10-Box Lunch) \$ _____

Please check here if you require a vegetarian option:

Saturday Banquet Buffet at SU Private Dining Room: \$23..... \$ _____

Total amount of your check payable to VMTA \$ _____

(Keep copy for your records)

THE OCTOBER 1 DEADLINE WILL BE STRICTLY FOLLOWED

Wingate Hotel

150 Wingate Drive, Winchester, VA 22601 • 1-877-946-3585 or 1-540-678-9283

Convention Rate: \$70 + tax. Reservations must be made by **October 6, 2008**. Please contact the hotel directly and identify yourself as a VMTA member to obtain this special rate. Room amenities include hair dryers, irons and ironing boards, TV, microwave, pool, Continental Breakfast from 6 to 10 AM, free parking.

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

Arrival Date: _____ Departure Date: _____

Guarantee by Check (enclosed) or Credit Card

Card No. _____ Exp. _____ Signature _____

2008 Conference: Artists & Clinicians

innovative, and comprehensive beginner piano method with a new, logical, developmental approach to reading notes, establishing a strong intellectual/physical understanding of meter and of proportional relationships in rhythm. Having used this method with her own beginner students very successfully, she is enthusiastic about sharing it with the VMTA membership. ■



Bryant L. Moxley currently serves as Assistant Professor of Music and Music Department Chair for Bluefield College, Bluefield, VA. His teaching responsibilities include Music Theory, Church Music, Applied Piano and Conducting. Mr. Moxley is a graduate of Ouachita Baptist University, Arkadelphia,

Arkansas and The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Kentucky with emphases in Church Music, Piano and Music Theory. Prior to his work at Bluefield College, Mr. Moxley served as minister of music for churches in North Carolina, Virginia and Kansas.

Mr. Moxley also is the director of *Variations*, the auditioned touring choir of Bluefield College. Under his direction *Variations* has performed regularly throughout Virginia, North Carolina and West Virginia. In May of 2005 *Variations* completed their first international tour performing in Italy, Austria and the Czech Republic. In January of 2006, *Variations* joined with other select choirs for a performance in Carnegie Hall. This was the debut performance on that stage for any choir in the 82 year history of

Bluefield College. Under his direction, *Variations* has also produced a compact disc recording each year.

Mr. Moxley is a member of various professional organizations including the American Choral Directors Association, The Hymn Society of America and the Virginia Baptist Male Chorale. Additionally, Mr. Moxley serves as guest clinician and adjudicator of various events in Virginia and West Virginia. Mr. Moxley remains active in music ministry as Co-Minister of Music at First Baptist Church, Bluefield, West Virginia and maintains a busy schedule as a private studio instructor. ■

Lisa N. Moxley currently serves as Adjunct Instructor of Music and Staff Accompanist for Bluefield College, Bluefield, Virginia. Her teaching responsibilities include Music Appreciation, Private and Class Piano, Church Music and Music Education courses. Additionally, Mrs. Moxley is the director of Bluefield Singers. Mrs. Moxley holds Music Education and Church Music degrees from Ouachita Baptist University and The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary.

Mrs. Moxley currently serves as Director of Music Ministries at Trinity United Methodist Church, Bluefield, West Virginia having previously served churches in Arkansas, Kentucky, North Carolina, Virginia and Kansas. She has taught private piano for over 20 years and is a charter member of the Blue Ridge Chapter of VMTA. Mrs. Moxley has served as accompanist for a wide variety of festivals, clinics and camps throughout Virginia. ■

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Shenandoah Conservatory of Shenandoah University

The World of the Piano 2008-09 CONCERT SERIES



John O'Connor
Sunday, Oct. 19 at 3 P.M.
ARMSTRONG CONCERT HALL



Anagnoson & Kinton Piano Duo
Sunday, Nov. 16 at 3 P.M.
ARMSTRONG CONCERT HALL



Jon Nakamatsu
Sunday, Feb. 15 at 3 P.M.
ARMSTRONG CONCERT HALL
sponsored by the Adams Foundation



Alexandre Dossin
Sunday, March 22 at 3 P.M.
ARMSTRONG CONCERT HALL

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Distinguished Visiting Artist
PERFORMANCES WITH
Shenandoah Symphony Orchestra
Sunday, Feb. 1 at 3 P.M.
Audubon Quarter
Saturday, April 19 at 3 P.M.



Elizabeth Temple



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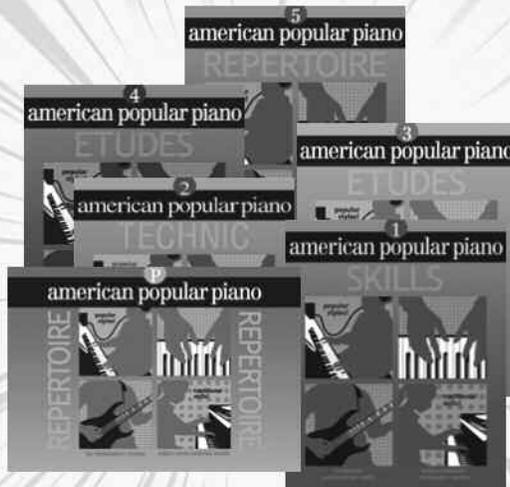
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Certification Profile: Elaine Gallo

by Anne James, NCTM



“Certification is something I’d thought of for a long time but I never thought I’d have the time for it,” says Fairfax teacher Elaine Gallo. “Preparing a portfolio is a great option. I’ve always saved programs—for certification by portfolio saving things is important. I spent three months getting things together and submitted it. I think certification is definitely worth doing and I’m glad I did it. I equate it to the engineer who gets the professional engineering license. And doing a portfolio gives you something concrete to show for your work.”

Elaine Gallo already had forty piano students by the time she graduated with a Music Education degree from Indiana University of Pennsylvania. While pursuing her MA in piano performance at the same institution she continued teaching and held a graduate assistantship which included accompanying and teaching music at the University school on campus. She met her husband, a tubist, when he needed an accompanist, and they moved to Virginia when he joined the Army band.

Almost fifteen years ago Elaine founded Contemporary Keyboard Studios, located in Falls Church. Having previously taught Yamaha group piano at a music store, she was convinced of the value of group study, and in her studio she offers both group lessons and private instruction. A typical group has six members or fewer, and she matches the students carefully as to age and ability. One-week summer camps help her assess new students and match them. “If grouped correctly they’re unstoppable,” she says.

In the one-hour classes Elaine tries for a well-rounded music education with a wide range of activities. In addition to playing from the Hal Leonard or Alfred method books students have ear training, solfege, computerized theory such as Music Ace and Alfred Theory, and ensemble using accompaniments

like the orchestrated MIDI CD’s from Hal Leonard.

In addition to Elaine there are five other teachers at the studio, including Andy Horowitz, the subject of an earlier Certification Profile. Student interns from Joanne Haroutounian’s pedagogy course at George Mason University often contribute to the mix. They observe teaching, lead activities such as ear training, and prepare videotapes of their work.

Elaine believes group instruction works particularly well for the younger students, whose parents sit in and can guide the home practice. She finds group lessons are great for retention of students because they like it. It prepares them well for any other group musical experience such as band. As the students advance they may need private instruction to allow greater emphasis on interpretation.

At Christmas and in June there are five recitals for kids and one adult recital. The students also participate in a composition festival, the Federation spring festival and a festival for the studio itself where each participant gets a certificate, a medal and treats. The June recital features many awards, including trophies for graduating seniors who have earned them.

With the help of advanced high school students Elaine teaches two summer camps. Early in August the one-week camp for 20 three- to six-year-olds features a theme. This year the studio will be decorated for a Castles and Dragons camp and all the activities will relate to the theme. From 9:30 to 11:30 each day an array of activities such as keyboard, computer, instrument making and ear training are offered in twenty-minute blocks to keep the students’ interest. At the end of the week the students present a program for the parents. The Keyboard Camp for Kids two weeks later is for ages five to ten and has similar activities, all age-appropriate.

“My main thing is I want this to be fun for them. I want my students to learn a lot but I want them to like it so much that they’ll have it the rest of their life.” ■

2008 Conference: Artists & Clinicians



Formed in 1980, **Oakton 6** performs original arrangements from the classical, ragtime and popular repertoire that are transcribed for the pianos by the ensemble’s founder and conductor, Glenna

Sprague, professor and coordinator of music at Oakton, where she teaches piano.

Each member of the Oakton Ensemble plays a different part, creating an “orchestra” of six pianos—with the melody flowing from pianist to pianist—that results in an extraordinary sound.

The highly acclaimed ensemble has performed at the International Conference of the College Music Society in Vienna, Austria; the Music Teachers National Association state and national conventions; the Chicago Civic Opera House; the College Music Society Great Lakes Conference at Michigan State University; and the Performing Artists Series at National-Louis University. ■

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

MINUTES

VIRGINIA MUSIC TEACHERS ASSOCIATION
GENERAL BOARD MEETING
JUNE 7, 2008

WESTMINSTER CANTERBURY OF THE BLUE RIDGE
CHARLOTTESVILLE, VA

MEMBERS PRESENT

Grace Milligan, Dee Booth, Lisa Stogoski, Vernon McCart, Pat Brady, Fay Barss, Sharon Stewart, Samantha Luck, Kim Peachy, Lynne Kessler, Roma Scriven, Corky Sablinsky, Debra Gunnerson, Betty Ann Spiers

CALL TO ORDER

The General Board meeting was called to order by President Debra Gunnerson at 11:05 a.m.

A motion was made and seconded to accept the agenda; the motion passed.

A motion was made and seconded to accept the minutes of the November 3, 2007, General Board Meeting as printed in *NewsNotes*. The motion carried.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORTS

President Debra Gunnerson attended the Leadership Summit in September and was grouped with large states. VA was only one of large states that has an orchestra play with concerto winners. She attended Southern Division in January in Greenville, SC, and monitored the concerto competitions. She attended the National Conference in March in Denver, CO. Virginia had 47 attendees. Marjorie Lee and Nancy Breth had national winners, and Tidewater Music Teachers Forum was awarded Local Association of the Year. Fay Barss was our second Foundation Fellow. Next year's national conference will be in Atlanta, GA, and the 2010 conference will be in Albuquerque, NM. In May, Sharon Stewart, Fay Barss, and President Gunnerson visited VSU in Petersburg where Southern Division will take place next year. Monitor chairs are needed.

President-Elect Lisa Withers announced that the VMTA Fall Conference will be held at Shenandoah University in Winchester again this year. Oakland Six, a group of six pianists using six pianos, will be the conference artists. Jennifer Snow from UCLA will do a presentation on technology and distance learning sponsored by Yamaha. Beth Tomisetti will present a workshop on injury prevention; Brian and Lisa Moxley from Bluefield College will present a workshop on developing skills as a church musician.

Vice President/Membership Chair Denise Adkins reported that VMTA gained 79 new members this year. Total membership is 936 which includes 117 senior members, 785 active members, and 34 student members. The end-of-year total represents a net gain of 28 over last year's total.

Secretary Sarah O'Brien—no report.

Treasurer Julie Slingerland distributed copies of the budget report (on file) and gave an overview of finances.

Certification Chair Martha Smith's report was presented by Sharon Stewart. There are two new certified members: Elaine Gallo and Julia Sansone.

IMTF Chair Samantha Luck urged members to contact her if they have concerns about legal issues in the studio and she will serve as liaison with MTNA.

Local Associations Chair Lucy Mauro—no report.

MTNA Junior Performance Competitions Chair Lisa Withers announced that she will no longer serve in this position and that Tracy Cowden will take her place.

MTNA Senior Performance Chair Lise Keiter-Brotzman—no report.

MTNA Student Composition Chair Judy Leonard—no report.

The **VMTA Concerto Competitions** report was given by Wanda Hall who indicated that the competitions were held at Christopher Newport University. The facilities were excellent, and it is hoped that the competitions will take place in the same location next year.

VMTA District Auditions Coordinator Ellis Dunton – no report.

VMTA State Auditions Chair Gabriella Ryan—no report.

VMTA Theory Test Chair Virginia Moore was not present, but Debra Gunnerson reported that the aural components of the tests were on CDs for the first time this year.

VMTA Sightreading (Single Line) Tests Chair — President Gunnerson announced that Alice Hammel has retired from chairing this committee, and there is a need for a new chairperson.

VMTA Sightreading (Piano) Tests Chair Fay Barss reported that the test went well this year.

MusicLink Chair Martha Smith was not present, but sent a motion that VMTA assist the family of MusicLink student Hambo Lu, who has been accepted at Julliard, with a gift of \$500. The family is in need of financial assistance in order to relocate to New Jersey. The motion was approved during the Executive Committee meeting and presented for a vote during the General Board meeting. The motion passed.

Instrumental Skills Chair Kenneth Lee – no report.

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Reports

VMTA AND MTNA COMPETITIONS WHAT ARE THEY?

Gabriella Ryan, VMTA State Auditions Chairman

There's VMTA District and State Auditions, and there's MTNA Junior and Senior Performance Competitions. What are they? What's the difference?

In the VMTA District and State Auditions, students in levels IA (K-4th grade), IB (5-6th grade), II (7-9th grade) and III (10-12th grade) perform three piano pieces by memory for judges. The repertoire must be from 3 stylistic periods and have time limits of 5, 10, 15 and 20 minutes respectively. The other performing media includes voice, strings, woodwinds, brass, percussion, accordion, classical guitar and organ. These instruments have guidelines to conform to their own traditional teachings and are detailed in the state yearbook. All students must have passed appropriate theory and sightreading skills tests for their grade level as outlined in the state yearbook. The first place winners and alternates (actually ties) of the District Auditions are eligible to compete at the VMTA State Auditions at the VMTA State Fall Conference (no entry fee). The winners of the state auditions perform at the Winners' Recital at the conference. The second place winners (time permitting) are in the Master Class at the conference. Both also receive cash prizes. There is no further competition in the VMTA State Auditions. The State Audition is the last level of competition. Complete instructions and application forms can be found in the state yearbook, in local chapters' yearbooks, and on the VMTA website: www.music-usa.org/vmta.

The MTNA Junior and Senior Performance Competitions are held at the VMTA State Fall Conference. There is no previous entry competition, and no requirement of theory or sightreading testing. Complete information and application forms are at www.mtna.org. Teachers must complete applications online with the number of entrants and instrument by the postmark deadline. The winner in each category also performs at the VMTA Fall Conference Winners' Recital, and then represents Virginia at the Division Competition and possibly at the National Competition. Funds are available from VMTA for expenses for the Division or National Competitions. The MTNA Junior Performance Competitions are open to students age 11-14 as of 1/1/2008 in the performing media of brass, piano, string, woodwind, or composition. The entry fee is \$80. The pieces should include at least 2 stylistically varied compositions, with a maximum time limit of 20 minutes. The MTNA Senior Performance Competitions are open to students age 15-18 in the performing media of brass, piano, piano duet, string, woodwind, voice, or composition. The entry fee is \$110. Again the pieces should include at least 2 stylistically varied compositions, with a maximum time limit of 25-30 minutes. At the Division and National MTNA Competitions, the time limit may increase. The MTNA competitions also include the "Young Artist" and "Chamber Music" categories, which are for college-age students. The winners perform at the MTNA National Conference. The winners receive performance opportunities

and large cash prizes, as well as a grand piano to the top performing artist.

This summary is brief and does not cover all the details of these competitions. If you plan to enter a student in any competition, make sure you read all about them both in the yearbooks and on the websites. Application deadlines are critical, and requirements are detailed. Be sure to go to the conferences and listen to the students' performances to understand the caliber of the competitions before entering students. But don't be too daunted—enter your fine students so they have the possibility of reaping the possible rewards of not only winning, but also of competing. ■

VMTA STATE AUDITIONS

Gabriella Ryan, VMTA State Auditions Chairman

Congratulations to all the winning students and teachers of the District Auditions! Now it's time to plan for the VMTA State Auditions. Please make sure you send the application form to enter your students in the State Auditions before October 1, 2008. The application form can be found in your yearbook or online. If you don't receive your yearbook before the deadline date, last year's form is fine. Or go online to www.music-usa.org/vmta and look under Regulations. Click on VMTA State Auditions Application Form, print it and send it to Gabriella Ryan, 9411 Farmington Drive, Richmond, VA 23229.

The State Auditions will be held on Saturday, November 8, 2008, at Shenandoah Conservatory in Winchester, Virginia, during the VMTA Fall Conference. The first place winners will perform in Sunday's Winner's Recital, and the second place winners will be in Sunday's Masterclass, time permitting. Good luck to all of you! ■

SOUTHERN DIVISION

Jeanette Winsor, Southern Division Adjudicator Chair

Virginia is hosting the MTNA Southern Division Competitions January 17-19, 2009. These competitions will be held at Virginia State University in Petersburg. Mark your calendars and plan to come and listen to some amazing playing. RMTA (the host chapter) will also need help from everyone monitoring these competitions. Virginia needs to put out the welcome mat to the other 8 Southern Division states. We have been treated like royalty during the past 8 years and it is our turn. Please say "yes" when asked to help! I hope to see you there. ■

(continued on page 10)

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

Reports... (continued from page 9)

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 2007/2008 school year. A total of 148 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	70	53	14	3	0	0	0	11
Northern	52	23	17	9	3	0	0	7
Richmond	16	3	8	5	0	0	0	4
Central	10	4	5	1	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. ■

CENTRAL DISTRICT AUDITIONS 2008

Jennifer Scott, Chairman

The Central District Auditions for piano took place on Saturday, April 26, 2008 in Perkinson Recital Hall, University of Richmond. Twenty-four piano students representing twelve teachers participated. The judges were Dr. Jeffrey Brown, Dr. Lise Keiter-Brotzman, and Dr. Scott Beard.

The winners of the piano competition are as follows:

Level 1A

First Place: Jessica Kong, student of Debby Lamb

Alternate: Yilang Peng, student of Kim Cho

Second Place: Lora You, student of Kim Cho

Level 1B

First Place: Kevin Chung, student of Kim Cho

Alternate: David Qin, student of Dr. Paul Hanson

Second Place: David Lu, student of Kim Cho

Level II

First Place: Devin Li, student of Dr. Paul Hanson

Alternate: Eison De Guzman, student of Dr. Paul Hanson

Second Place: Vivian Tang, student of Jennifer Scott

Third Place: Kathryn Marqueen, student of Sharon Stewart

Honorable Mention: Aileen Bi, student of Jennifer Scott

Level III

First Place: Ainee De Guzman, student of Dr. Joanne Kong

Alternate: Jessica Chen, student of Kim Cho ■



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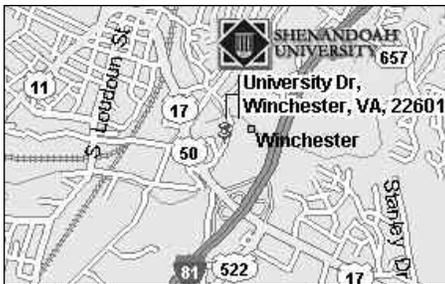
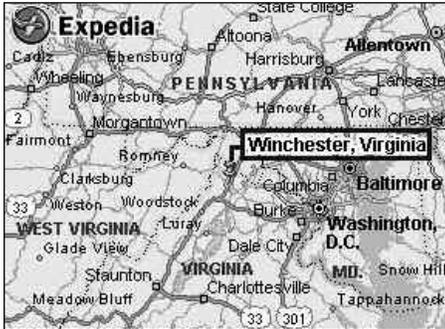
STATE _____

ZIP _____

2008 Conference: Directions

DRIVING DIRECTIONS TO SHENANDOAH UNIVERSITY:

1460 University Drive, Winchester, VA 22601



From the North:

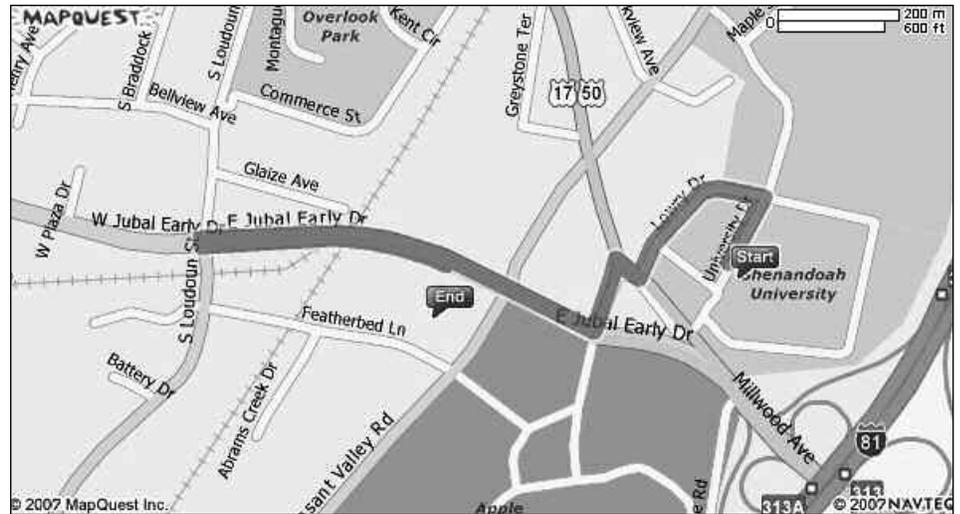
- Take Interstate 81 South to Exit 313 B.
- Off exit ramp, school is on right at bottom of the hill.
- Take first right into the school (in front of the brick Shenandoah University sign).
- Ruebush Hall (Conservatory Building) is on left.

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 West.
- 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 81 South 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 UNIVERSITY DR toward LOWRY DR. (<0.1 miles)
- 2: Turn LEFT onto LOWRY DR. (0.2 miles)
- 3: Turn RIGHT onto MILLWOOD AVE / US-17 N / US-50 W / US-522 N. (<0.1 miles)
- 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 JUBAL EARLY DR. (0.3 miles)
- 7: End at 150 Wingate Dr., Winchester, VA 22601-4457 ■

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Nitza Kats, 2007 VMTA
Teacher of the Year



RADFORD UNIVERSITY

DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC

Minutes... (continued from page 8)

MTNA Foundation Chair Belinda Stevens—no report.

NewsNotes Editor Jeanette Winsor—no report.

Webmaster John Winsor—no report. Debra Gunnerson presented a recommendation from the Executive Committee to increase the fee paid to John Winsor from \$300 to \$500 per year. The motion passed. Samantha Luck agreed to do an investigation into typical fees charged by Webmasters.

NewsNotes and Yearbook Advertising Chair Kim Peachy reported that she is awaiting submissions for ads.

NEW BUSINESS

1. President Gunnerson presented a recommendation from the Executive Committee to elect the 2010 Nominating Committee as follows: Fay Barss (Chair), Roma Scriven, and Claudia Libero. The motion passed.
2. The Executive Committee recommended raising the fee for District and State auditions from \$15 to \$20. The motion passed.
3. The Executive Committee recommended that interest earned from CDs be rolled over into the checking account. The motion passed.
4. The Executive Committee recommended that VMTA pay half of the \$536.24 fee paid by NVMTA to a lawyer for composing proper legal wording of a new bylaw prohibiting anyone convicted of a sexual offense from joining VMTA. The amount paid by VMTA would be \$268.12. The motion passed.
5. Fay Barss moved that VMTA formally propose to MTNA that their bylaws be added to concerning prohibiting convicted sexual offenders from obtaining membership in MTNA so that this is not just a state or local issue. The motion was seconded and passed.
6. The Executive Committee recommended that a bylaws committee be established as a standing committee of VMTA. The motion passed.
7. The Executive Committee recommended that VMTA pay for three banquet tables at \$200 apiece for VMTA members who

attend the MTNA conference in Atlanta. The money goes to the MTNA Foundation. The motion passed.

8. The Executive Committee recommended that VMTA contribute \$500 toward the \$1000 total fee to send a Foundation Fellow to the national conference in Atlanta. The motion passed.

REPORTS FROM LOCAL ASSOCIATIONS

The following associations presented reports (on file):

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

See agenda.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 12:26 pm.

*Submitted by
Sarah Reaser O'Brien, Secretary*

REPORTS ON FILE

Central District Auditions
Northern District Auditions
Eastern Division Auditions
Keyboard Skills
Membership
Treasurer
Blue Ridge Chapter
Central Virginia Chapter
Charlottesville Chapter
Harrisonburg Chapter
Highlands Chapter
Northern Virginia Chapter
Peninsula Chapter
Richmond Chapter
Roanoke Valley Chapter
Tidewater Chapter ■



Anita, Roma and Joyce



Gabriella, Sharon, Debra and Josephine

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 Richmond, Roanoke and Winchester, the festival will take place Saturday, November 22, 2008. In Lynchburg and Northern Virginia the festival will be held on Saturday, November 15, 2008. 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 selected 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; Beverly Henkel, Chairman; held at West Lynchburg Baptist Church

Northern Virginia: October 3; Laura Marchisotto Bogart and Martha Smith, Chairmen; held at Cherrydale United Methodist Church, Arlington, VA.

Richmond: October 17; Debbie Martin and Lynn Redford, Chairmen; held at the University of Richmond.

Roanoke: October 10; Susan B. McDowell, Chairman; held at Hollins University.

Winchester (Valley): November 7; Karen Colley, Chairman; held at Shenandoah University. ■

Debbie Sacra

VMTA Fall Festival Coordinator

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Colin Andrews, organ, sacred music

- Literature Licentiate and ARAM, Royal Academy of Music, London
- Diplome Virtuosité, Geneva Conservatoire
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Charles Bath, keyboard

- AmusD, University of Michigan
- MM, Eastman School of Music
- BM, University of Michigan
- Active performer with violinist Joanne Bath, the Bath Duo

Kerry Carlin, piano pedagogy

- 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, department chair

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

John O'Brien, keyboard

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

Keiko Sekino, keyboard

- DMA, Peabody Conservatory
- MM, Yale School of Music
- BA, Yale College
- Internationally performing soloist and chamber musician

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An equal opportunity/affirmative action university, which accommodates the needs of individuals with disabilities.

President's Notes... (continued from front)

At the June Conference I read a poem to help you plant your garden, it goes like this:

THE GARDEN (Author Unknown)

For the garden of your daily living, plant three rows of peas:

1. Peace of mind
2. Peace of heart
3. Peace of soul

Plant four rows of squash:

1. Squash gossip
2. Squash indifference
3. Squash grumbling
4. Squash selfishness

Plant four rows of lettuce:

1. Lettuce be faithful
2. Lettuce be kind
3. Lettuce be patient
4. Lettuce really love one another

No garden is without turnips:

1. Turnip for meetings
2. Turnip for service
3. Turnip to help one another

To conclude our Garden, we must have thyme:

1. Thyme for each other
2. Thyme for family
3. Thyme for friends

Water freely with patience and cultivate with love. There is much fruit in your garden because you reap what you sow.

1872 Teachers Rules

1. Teachers each day will fill lamps and clean chimneys.
2. Each teacher will bring a bucket of water and scuttle of coal for the day's sessions.
3. Make your pens carefully. You may whittle nibs to the individual taste of pupils.
4. Men teachers may take one evening each week for courting purposes, or two evenings a week if they go to church regularly.
5. After ten hours in school, the teachers may spend the remaining time reading the bible or other good books.
6. Women teachers who marry or engage in unseemly conduct will be dismissed.
7. Every teacher should set aside from each pay a goodly sum of their earnings for their benefit during their declining years so that they will not become a burden to society.
8. Any teacher who smokes, uses liquor in any form, frequents pool halls, or gets shaven in a barber shop will give good reason to suspect their worth, intention, integrity and honesty.
9. The teacher who performs his labor faithfully and without fault for five years will be given an increase of twenty-five cents a week in their pay, providing the board of education approves.

1915 Rules for Teachers

1. You will not marry during the term of your contract.
2. You are not to keep the company with men.
3. You must be home between the hours of 8 PM and 6 AM unless attending a school function.
4. You may not loiter downtown in ice cream stores.
5. You may not travel beyond the city limits unless you have the permission of the chairman of the board.
6. You may not ride in a carriage or automobile with any man unless he is your father or brother.
7. You may not smoke cigarettes.
8. You may not dress in bright colors.
9. You may under no circumstances dye your hair.
10. You must wear at least two petticoats.
11. Your dresses must not be any shorter than two inches above the ankle.
12. To keep the school room neat and clean, you must: Sweep the floor at least once daily, scrub the floor at least once a week with hot soapy water, clean the blackboards at least once a day and start the fire at 7 AM so the room will be warm by 8 AM.

2009 Rules for Teachers

These rules have yet to be written. Great music leaders like members of VMTA can lead the way. What does the future hold for our great profession? It is up to you! ■

Virginia Music Teachers Association

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

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