

WVMTA News

*West Virginia Music Teachers Association
Affiliated with Music Teachers National Association*

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March, 2006

From the President's Desk

Karen Taddie, NCTM, President

Sadly, the West Virginia University Mountaineers basketball team did not fare as well, in Atlanta, in the NCAA Tournament, as we all had hoped they would. However, the State of West Virginia did come in as a winner in Austin Texas that very same weekend! It is my pleasure to announce that George Fu, our only State representative in the National Competitions, was proclaimed the MTNA National Junior Piano Performance winner of 2006. George, 15, is a freshman at Urbana High School in Frederick, Maryland. For the past two years he has studied piano with Dr. Scott Beard of Shepherd University, and with Mrs. Faye Bonner. He has studied music for nine years altogether and has won numerous competitions, including the Ithaca College Piano Competition, and the Eastern Divisional Junior MTNA Piano Competition where he acted as our WV representative moving on to Nationals. Hearty congratulations to George and his teacher Dr. Scott Beard!

George Fu now joins a list of 10 previous WV winners in MTNA National Competition history. The list below has not been scientifically researched as a true accounting, so if any member has additional information please feel free to send it to Karen Taddie. I'd like to have as accurate a list as possible for historical records.

89-90 Steven Koes, jr brass (Bonnie Miltenberger, teacher)
90-91 Jeanine Sefton, ya percussion (Phil Faini, teacher)
92-93 Chad Winkler, jr brass (Bonnie Miltenberger, teacher)
94-95 Chad Winkler, sr brass (Bonnie Miltenberger, teacher)
96-97 Jordan John Winkler, jr brass (John Winkler, teacher)
97-98 Darren Ringer, jr brass (Bonnie Miltenberger, teacher)
97-98 Jocelyn May Winkler, sr woodwind (Joyce Catalfano, teacher)
99-00 Neil Vasan, sr percussion (Scott Kitchen, teacher)
00-01 Gloria Cheng, jr percussion (Scott Kitchen, teacher)
00-01 Darren Ringer, sr brass (Bonnie Miltenberger, teacher)
05-06 George Fu, jr piano (Scott Beard, teacher)

Correction

The initials NCTM were inadvertently left off of the end of Marija Sommer's name in the Past President's Listing of the January 2006 newsletter. Apologies for the omission.

From the Top

Awards

It is my pleasure to announce the recipients of the following MTNA Awards:

Achievement Award----- Van Cliburn
AMT Article of the Year Award----- William Westney of Lubbock, Texas
Distinguished Composer of the Year Award----- Michael Djupstrom, for his composition Walimai commissioned by Michigan. The piece was performed at the 2006 MTNA National Conference in Austin, Texas. In addition, the judges have named three honorable mentions: James Stephenson, III of Naples, Florida, Christopher Hopkins of Ames, Iowa, and Mukai Kohei of Kansas City, Missouri.

Distinguished Service Award----- Pat Tuley, NCTM, of Hattiesburg, Mississippi
Frances Clark Keyboard Pedagogy Award-- Yamaha Corporation of America
Local Association of the Year----- Baton Rouge MTA
StAR/Studio Teacher Fellowship Award---- Norom Bou of Princeton, New Jersey
State Affiliate of the Year----- Florida State MTA
Teacher of the Year----- Dr. Ginger Yang Hwalek, NCTM, of Bangor, Maine
Collegiate Chapter of the Year----- University of Iowa Student Chapter
Piano Technicians Guild Foundation Award----- Janice Mesrobian, NCTM, of Hattiesburg, MS

Congratulations to all of the recipients.

Elections

The balloting deadline for our national elections was 12:00 midnight, March 13, 2006. Over 1,300 votes were tabulated and the following candidates have been elected.

Division Directors 2006-2008:

East Central Division, Carmen Shaw
Eastern Division, Deborah Martin
Northwest Division, Kenneth Christensen
South Central Division, Ruth Pitts
Southern Division, Diane Higgins
Southwest Division, Cheryl Pachak-Brooks
West Central Division, Mary Ellen Moore

Division Directors-elect 2006-2008:

East Central Division, Karen Thickstun
Eastern Division, Ellen Flint
Northwest Division, Debra Florian
South Central Division, Celinda Hallbauer
Southern Division, Fay Adams
Southwest Division, Lezlee Bishop
West Central Division, Thomas Ediger

Thank you for being a part of this important process in the life of our association. Regardless of the outcome of the elections, I look forward to your continued dedicated involvement as leaders in MTNA.

Very truly yours,
Dr. Gary L. Ingle
MTNA, Executive Director

2006 Teacher of the Year

May 1 is the deadline to submit nominations for the 2006 WVMTA Teacher of the Year. According to rules as set up by the WVMTA Administrative Board on Oct. 25, 1996: Nominations will be limited to three... So please send your nominations in ASAP. Also according to rules, the qualifications are:

- demonstrates innovative teaching
- demonstrates creative musicianship
- has held membership in WVMTA for at least five years

The award will be presented at the Convention Banquet in Huntington WV on Friday evening November 3, 2006. IMPORTANT NOTE: The MEMBER of the Year Award has been done away with and replaced by another. Please see related article in this newsletter.

Nominees for WVMTA TEACHER of the Year 2006 will be introduced in the June issue of WVMTA News. Nominations can be sent by email, phoned in, or mailed to:
Karen Taddie, 1122 Queens Ct, Morgantown WV 26508

WVMTA Teacher of the Year: Past Honorees

- *1991 Peggy Johnston, NCTM
- *1992 Christine Kefferstan, NCTM
- *1993 Carol Beall, NCTM
- *1994 Linda Seime, NCTM
- *1995 Lena Lim, NCTM
- *1996 Mary Wilson
- *1997 Ray Martin, NCTM
- *1998 Leslie Petteys, NCTM
- *1999 Ruth Carder, NCTM
- *2000 Catherine Crotty, NCTM
- *2001 Bonnie Miltenberger
- *2002 no award given
- *2003 Lya Cartwright
- *2004 Olive Meyer, NCTM
- *2005 Mila Markun, NCTM

WVMTA Creates New Distinguished Leader of the Year Award

For several years complaints have surfaced regarding the member awards put out by WVMTA. With last September's newsletter a call went out to members to encourage participation on a committee to address these complaints. Mary Wilson and Carol Beall volunteered. Along with Karen Taddie, they presented ideas to the Administrative Board at the January meeting. At that meeting the Board voted to accept the following recommendations of the newly-formed Awards Committee:

- The Teacher of the Year Award will continue as is for now (see article above).
- The Member of the Year Award will be dissolved effective immediately.
- In its place a new award, Distinguished Leader of the Year, will be instituted.
- This new award will be based on accumulated years of leadership and service contributed to the organization, over and above 10 years.
- This new award will be based on whether the award was or was not received by a particular member previously (although the award CAN be granted to the same individual more than once).
- This new award will be based on the recommendation, every year, of the current committee's research and records (if you are interested in becoming a future member of the newly-formed Awards Committee, please notify Karen Taddie, Carol Beall, or Mary Wilson).

It is the Committee's pleasure to inform the membership that the first Distinguished Leader of the Year Award (2006) will go to Barbara Heckert (Mid-Ohio Valley Area MTA). According to records, Barbara has contributed at least 15 years of service to WVMTA in various capacities: 2nd Vice-President (91-93), Secretary (93-97), and District Chair (97-06). Please join us as we celebrate Barbara's dedication to the organization by presenting her with the first Distinguished Leader of the Year Award (2006) at the Fall Convention Banquet in Huntington on Friday November 3.

Congratulations to Barbara Heckert!

WVMTA PERFORMANCE PLAN

Scott Beard, NCTM

Updates to the WVMTA performance plan have been completed. Go to www.wvmta.org to see the changes for district events and performance award points.

RACE PROGRAM

Teachers who are interested in participating in the RACE examinations are reminded to go ahead and purchase the syllabi and supporting materials. Members may go to www.royalamericanconservatory.org for more information. Music may be obtained through this website or from Heritage Music Press, a subsidiary of the Lorenz Music Corporation.

FEE INCREASE

Starting with the 2006-2007 season, fees for the theory and technique tests will be \$5 each.

DISTRICT FEES

In accordance with changes in the performance plan, district chairs should make a tentative plan for fees for upcoming events next season and bring that material with them to the June board meeting.

Notes from your Certification Chair

Mary Lynne Bennett, NCTM

How are those New Year's resolutions coming along? The year 2006 is already one-quarter of the way over, and our state convention in November seems to be approaching fast. As I write this, I am reflecting on what I have accomplished so far this year.

This year is my first renewal year. I received a letter (as did many of you NCTM's) stating that I needed to renew my certification by July 2006. I decided I wanted to get that out of the way as soon as possible, because I am expecting a baby in June. I also decided to try the new administrative verification form option for college faculty. I asked our Dean of the School of Fine Arts to fill out the brief form for me, and I filled out the one-page renewal application. I mailed them in with the renewal fee and voila, mission accomplished. It was easier than I imagined. Of course, I create a portfolio every year for merit evaluation and promotion/tenure, so I'm sort of doing the portfolio option as well, just not having to turn one in to MTNA. If any of you who are renewing are using the portfolio option as opposed to the renewal points, I will be happy to take a look at it before you send it in for feedback, etc.

Also, as I am writing this, I am preparing to attend the national MTNA convention in Austin, Texas. There, I will meet with other state certification chairs and the National Certification Commissioners to share ideas and success stories and I am planning on coming back armed with more helpful information about the certification process. Our WVMTA board has been very encouraging toward member certification and supports our efforts diligently. I will stress at the national convention how important it is to have leaders in the organization be advocates for certification. I look forward to the convention and to working with WVMTA members in the coming year in any way I can to help you achieve your professional goals.

40th Anniversary WVMTA Convention Tentative Schedule

Nov. 3-4, 2006 - Huntington, WV

Friday 11/3/06

- 10:00am-10:45am District Chairs Meeting.
- 10:45am- 11:30am WVMTA Administrative Meeting
- 12:00- Competitors' Rehearsals
- 10:30am-12noon Master Class for Marshall Students, with David Breitman –Music from Classical period, students will play on modern instrument – Breitman will demonstrate what would have been possible on period instrument.
- 2:00pm Competitors' Registration
- 1:30pm-2pm Workshop: David Breitman-"What can we learn by playing and listening to period instrument?"
- 2pm-3:15pm Master class: WVMTA students with David Breitman- Music from Classical period– Students will play on modern instrument – Breitman will demonstrate what would have been possible on period instrument.
- 3:45pm-5:00pm Workshop: Pedagogy Session with Rachel Kramer
- 5:00 pm-5:45pm Annual General Membership Meeting
- 6:00 pm-7:45pm Award Banquet –Guest Speaker –Dr. Gary Ingle, Exec. Director, MTNA
- 8:00pm-8:15pm Premiere of '06 WVMTA commissioned composer work
- 8:15pm-9:30pm Recital - David Breitman – Performing on fortepiano dating from early 1800's – Beethoven and Schubert

Saturday 11/4/06

- 7:30am-9:00am Certification Breakfast
- 7:45am-8:00am Adjudicator and Monitors Meeting
- 8:00am- 1-day Convention Registration
- 8:00am-1:30pm MTNA/Mountain State Student Competitions
- 11am-noon MTNA/Mountain State Winners Recital: Woodwind, Brass, Voice and String
MTNA winners check-in w/ Scott
- 9:00am-12:00 Certification Exam
- 12:00-1pm Lunch/IMT &CFF: with Dr. Gary Ingle/Rachel Kramer
- 1:30-2:45pm Master class: WVMTA students with David Breitman - Music from Classical period – Students will play on a modern instrument –Breitman will demonstrate what would have been possible on period instruments
- 3:00pm Winner's Recital for pianists

Highlights of November 06 Approved Administrative Board Minutes

1. Proposed & Passed: The Theory & Technic test fees will be increased from \$3.00 to \$5.00. This price increase will go into effect during the Fall of 2006.
2. Proposed & Passed: District-sanctioned events will become part of the total, accumulated performance points (see newly revised Performance Plan on WVMTA website for further details).
3. Updated WVMTA 05-06 directories are available (from Gerald Lee, Karen Taddie & in some cases from District Chairs).
4. Proposed & Passed & Implemented: To raise money for the Foundation Fund, a raffle with door prizes (took) place during the convention. The drawing for the raffle (WV arts & crafts were given away) took place just prior to the winners' recital. The monies collected during the raffle were split 50/50 between national aid for hurricane relief and money to support WVMTA student-related activities.
5. Proposed & Passed & Implemented: immediate recommendations from the Composer Commissioning Committee (John Beall, Mary Wilson, Karen Taddie) - *\$500.00 (\$250.00 from WVMTA) be allocated every other year, in even-numbered years, towards the funding of composer commissioning.
*Composers competing in the WV Composer of the Year Commissioning Program will possibly submit a small application fee to help offset expenses (e.g., \$10.00 - \$15.00).
*Alternating each commission between emerging composers and established composers.
*A time-line is (set up) regarding when and how this program will be professionally advertised and posted, with February 15, 2006 as the deadline for submission of applications. (Elected composer is announced in this newsletter. The commissioned work to be performed at November convention.)

WVMTA/MTNA \$500 Commissioned Composer Award

WVMTA is happy to announce that Dr. Mark Zanter of Marshall University in Huntington has been elected the WVMTA Commissioned Composer 2006. Look for his full complete bio in an upcoming WVMTA News Newsletter. The premiere of Dr. Zanter's new work will be at the 2006 WVMTA Fall Convention on November 3, 2006 at Marshall University in Huntington. Advance registration to the convention may be done after July 1st at <http://wvmta.org>. (Please see related article.)

This Composer Commissioning program is a great program for WVMTA to institute and sponsor because it supports the creative musicians living among us, and offers a superb performance opportunity. Thank you to all members who passed information on to their composer colleagues and encouraged them to submit application. Every WVMTA member is urged to continue to take every opportunity to aid or encourage a composer. Composers need talented, well-trained, and enthusiastic performers to perform and record their works. Promotion is virtually impossible without performance, and few composers can afford proper venues on their own. Performers who champion new music receive the greatest admiration and respect from their peers. Musicians must help each other make the world a better place with more beautiful and expertly crafted new music. Please continue to play a part in making our musical era the most exciting in history long after we are gone.

Arts Advocacy

*I am only one
But still I am one.
I cannot do everything,
But still I can do something.
And because I cannot do everything
I will not refuse to do the something that I can do.*

*Edward Everett Hale

AN OPEN LETTER FROM THE MTNA EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

During the month of March, arts advocacy takes center stage as myriad arts organizations converge in Washington D.C. to encourage governmental support of the arts. In fact, MTNA is a national co-sponsor of Arts Advocacy Day in our nation's capital on March 14, 2006. MTNA joins with Americans for the Arts and dozens of other national organizations to ensure that funding and arts-friendly public policies are adopted at the federal, state, and local levels.

As an independent or collegiate music teacher, you may sometimes question the effect on your day-to-day professional life of these public advocacy efforts. But be assured there is a dynamic connection between, for example, public music instruction, which is directly impacted, and your private studios. In fact, our futures are intimately connected, for if music and the arts are just "frills" in the public sector, then music instruction in the private sector will be adversely impacted. MTNA will remain a staunch supporter at the national level. But our resolve is not sufficient. You must be personally involved and advocating for music and the arts in your sphere of influence.

Here are some ideas and resources you may find helpful in your advocacy efforts:

1. Every conversation about your work is an opportunity to change the way your work is perceived. Be passionate, be informed and be unapologetic.
2. The MTNA publication Community Outreach and Education for the Arts Handbook. A handbook for promoting music and the other arts in our schools and communities. Includes updated information sources as well as a fill-in-the-blank template designed to help IMTs accumulate and organize information about various community resources.
3. Websites devoted to advocacy:
 - www.supportmusic.com
A public service of the Music Education Coalition. MTNA is a supporting organization. Up-to-date information on music and learning, help from experts and how to start a coalition.
 - www.amc-music.org
AMC's goal is to build credibility for music and music education, especially at an early age, and to expand that portion of the population that enjoys and makes its own music. Website contains articles, music advocacy resources and latest research.
 - www.artslynx.org
Artslynx is designed as a portal to the best information on the arts available on the web. Material is specifically optimized for educators, students, and professionals working in the arts. Also features "Arts on the Line" – tools for arts advocates, including articles and extensive list of "links," and speeches.

- www.artsusa.org
Americans for the Arts is a leading nonprofit organization for advancing the arts in America. With more than 40 years of service, it is dedicated to representing and serving local communities and creating opportunities for every American to participate in and appreciate all forms of the arts.
- www.artsmarketing.org
ArtsMarketing.org is a resource for teachers and students in arts administration/arts management programs and for all members of the arts community, across all artistic disciplines. Through ArtsMarketing.org, artistic peers and marketing professionals address daily marketing needs and longer-term marketing issues for those working in the area of arts advocacy and music education.
- www.cac.ca.gov
The California Arts Council works for a broad public understanding of, and appreciation for, the positive impact the arts play in enriching cultural, economic, and intellectual life in their communities and schools. Website includes usable information for any state, not just California.

4. Build a coalition in your community with other arts advocates – teachers, church musicians, etc.

I promise you our total commitment. But it will amount to little without your personal involvement. While you are only one, your efforts, interest, and work in the area of arts advocacy are crucial to our successes at all levels.

As we work together, personally and in partnership with other arts organizations, we will fulfill our mission “to advance the value of music study and music making “ to everyone in our country.

Sincerely,
Gary L. Ingle
Executive Director

Foundation Fund

Last fall's convention raffle of West Virginia arts and crafts generated almost \$100 in profits. Half of the proceeds went to the WVMTA treasury to support student travel scholarships to divisional and national competitions, and half went to the MTNA National Foundation Fund, designated for hurricane relief. Thank you for your support of these worthy endeavors. Below is a short excerpt from a letter sent to WVMTA by Gary Ingle, Executive Director of MTNA:

On behalf of the MTNA Board of Directors, I want to thank you for your contribution of \$46.00 to the Hurricane Katrina Recovery Fund. Your generosity will enable MTNA to aid and assist music teachers who were affected by Katrina... It is invigorating to see our membership band together to help their colleagues at this critical time.

Yours truly,
Gary L. Ingle
Executive Director

Footprints

Congratulations to Barbara Heckert (Mid-Ohio Valley Area District member) on receiving WVMTA's 1st Distinguished Leader of the Year Award. The Ceremony recognizing Barbara will take place at the upcoming Fall Convention in Huntington.

Condolences to Dr. Leslie Petteys, NCTM, (Huntington Area District member) on the death of her mother.

Condolences to Dr. Lya Cartwright (Morgantown Area District member) and her husband, Steve Stroupe, on the death of their infant son, Ian Stroupe.

WVMTA News is published quarterly online at www.wvmta.org and mailed to members who do not have an e-mail address. If you have a change of street address or e-mail address, please contact Beth Royall, editor of WVMTA News, or Gerald Lee, Membership Chair. wvmta@westco.net
Updated street addresses are posted on the Find a Teacher link at www.wvmta.org

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