

WVMTA News

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

Volume 41, Issue 4

September, 2006

From the President's Desk

Karen Taddie, NCTM, President

OK, so another summer has come and gone, and now we celebrate the start of another school year – hopefully your best teaching year ever!

And the key word for the start of this school year is... CELEBRATE. It was 40 years ago this November (November 2, 1966) when a small group of 17 West Virginia music teachers, under the leadership of one Dr. Arno Drucker, got together to establish a fledgling organization called the West Virginia Music Teachers Association. This November 3 & 4, 40 years later, we will CELEBRATE the initiative and accomplishment of what those 17 original members did, by dedicating our Huntington convention to them. (Thank you, Janna Kisner, NCTM, Pat Zabel, and all past WVMTA Secretaries, Historians, Presidents, for maintaining such excellent historical records!) At this convention we hope to CELEBRATE with several members whose longevity in our organization is almost as long as the organization is old! Please come and help honor these "celebrities". We will also honor and CELEBRATE a Distinguished Leader of the Year, Barbara Heckert, for her longevity in her many leadership roles for WVMTA over the years. We will also CELEBRATE a new Teacher of the Year, to add to a roster of "Teachers of the Year" which goes back about 15 years (note: Teacher Of the Year is elected by YOUR vote so please read related article). And we will CELEBRATE the longevity of several members who have successfully renewed their Certification status through years of work and documentation (for more information on Certification, please see related articles by our State Certification Chair Dr. Mary Lynne Bennett, NCTM). We will also CELEBRATE the first of what will hopefully become a long-standing bi-annual program for WVMTA - the Composer Commissioning Program (Committee members: Dr. John Beall, Mary Wilson, Karen Taddie, NCTM). Through this program we will acknowledge and CELEBRATE a new work of music that has been specifically created for us, by West Virginia composer Dr. Mark Zanter of Marshall University/Huntington (again, see related article).

This Newsletter Issue is "Volume 41/Issue 4". The WVMTA News Newsletter has been around for as long as WVMTA has been around! And with the newsletter, to complement it, we now also have a beautiful on-line website (www.wvmta.org). None of this could have been possible without the volunteerism of newsletter editors and web managers. I'd like to dedicate this issue to, and CELEBRATE the work of, all past and current members who have taken on the task of keeping you informed. (Currently: Beth Royall, newsletter editor and Laura Hamm, NCTM, web manager.)

With this Newsletter issue I'd also like to acknowledge and CELEBRATE the tireless efforts of the current President-Elect, Yennie Myers, for putting together what will be a fabulous 40th anniversary convention. I'd also like to CELEBRATE the work of our Marshall U/Huntington Area Site Coordinator for this convention, Dr. Leslie Petteys, NCTM, and the entire District 5 crew (Judy Lambert, NCTM, Chair) for their volunteerism & devotion to this upcoming convention. I want to CELEBRATE the work of our 1st Vice President Dr. Scott Beard, NCTM, our Compositions Chair Mary Wilson, and any assistants, as they all piece together what will be a fantastic students competitions festival at convention.

Our 2nd Vice President, Dr. Jerry Lee, continues to report to us, every quarter, that our membership numbers either stay fairly steady or show slight increase (currently at 101 members); and I'm also told that we should look for potential near-future growth in our Student Chapters area. So, finally, I would like to CELEBRATE YOU, our members (retired, active, student, and even those who now live in far away places), for your dedication to our organization! It gives me great pleasure to think that with such a strong and solid membership base, we could perhaps go ANOTHER 40 years, at least!

Let the countdown to convention begin. Let's CELEBRATE together. See you soon.

First Vice-president's Report

Dr. Scott Beard, NCTM

Introductions

We are pleased to announce that there are two very capable people who will be co-chairing the activities in the Charleston Area MTA. Karen Morris and Victoria (Vickie) Berneking-Cavendish. Welcome aboard!

Karen Morris is a graduate of the University of Massachusetts, Amherst where she studied organ with Dr. Ernest May. Currently, she is the organist and children's choir director at St. Matthews Episcopal Church in Charleston, where she teaches piano, organ and Kindermusik. Her Kindermusik program, Kindermusik with Miss Karen, has been recognized as being in the top 5% of Kindermusik programs worldwide. She lives in South Charleston with her husband Pancho and two sons, George 13, and Aaron, 11.

Victoria Berneking-Cavendish is Professor of Music Emerita at James Madison University, where she taught piano, music theory, music honors seminars and directed the Accompanying Program for 21 years. Her principal teachers were John Wustman, Dalton Baldwin, Thomas Mastroianni, and Wesley True. Ms. Berneking-Cavendish has performed extensively as a collaborative pianist in the United States, Europe and the Virgin Islands. Her pianism and highly sensitive chamber playing have earned her much critical acclaim. The Staunton News Leader often referred to Ms. Berneking-Cavendish as a "cultural treasure". She has performed with such notable musical artists as Jean-Pierre Rampal, Michel DeBost, Harold Robinson, Joseph Robinson, Pablo Elvira and Sharon Christman. She has recorded for the Golden Crest and Roncorp labels, and has recordings with Steven Seward, Harold Robinson, and Sonya Baker. Ms. Berneking-Cavendish currently serves as Acting Principal Keyboard for the West Virginia Symphony Orchestra and in various chamber concerts. Along with Kathryn Gardner, soprano, and her husband, Jonathan Cavendish, baritone, Ms. Berneking-Cavendish has performed as the Virginia Trio in numerous concerts in the USA and France. She also maintains a private studio in her home.

DISTRICT NEWS

Morgantown MTA

Mary Ellen Morrison, NCTM, Janna Kisner, NCTM, Co-chairs

November 18, 2006-The 2006 Fall Festival theme is "MUSIC and BEYOND". Students and teachers are invited to explore interdisciplinary projects integrating poetry, drama, dance and visual arts. Collaboration between artists, friends and family members is encouraged. District I will hold its technique testing on November 10th.

Clarksburg MTA

Hooi Yin Boey, Chair

This year, District 2 Fall Festival is going to be at Alderson-Broaddus College on Saturday, November 18, 2006. Dr. Connie Arrau Sturm, NCTM, who coordinates graduate and undergraduate programs in piano pedagogy at West Virginia University, will be the guest speaker for the Fall Festival. She will present the following great topic: "Artistic Pedaling for Developing Pianists".

Charleston Area MTA

Karen Morris, Victoria Berneking-Cavendish, Co-chairs

District 3 has not yet finalized their year's activities, but anticipate a dance theme and possible dance workshop for the annual Fall Festival. Plans for an annual theory test late winter and Spring Auditions in April or May will be firmed up soon. District 3 may also add a technic test this year.

Mid-Ohio Valley MTA

Barbara Heckert, Chair

Members of the Mid-Ohio Valley District met on June 9 and established the following dates for the upcoming season:

*Fall Festival: Theme "Music Through the Ages" on October 14. The program will be presented by teachers of Mid-Ohio Valley District and will focus on the characteristics of the four main periods of music.

*Theory and Technic tests on March 31 and April 14

*Spring Performance on May 5.

NEW EVENT!

RACE examinations have also been scheduled in Parkersburg for Saturday, December 2nd. Registration is on line. You may contact Marilyn Horton, NCTM for more information.

Huntington MTA

Judy Lambert, NCTM, Chair

The Huntington Area Music Teachers is having its Fall Festival at Marshall University on October 14. The theme is "The Classical Period," and the program will be presented by Dr. Leslie Petteys, NCTM, piano, and Dr. Wendell Dobbs, flute, on their period instruments.

Eastern Panhandle MTA

Gary Mullenax, Chair

District Six members held their annual spring luncheon and planning session at Ridgefield Farm, the home of Dr. Scott Beard, NCTM. Members enjoyed a delicious potluck luncheon, did a walked tour of the farm and played on Scott's "new" Steinway concert grand! Below are the activities for the fall:

*September 23, 2006: Meeting and demonstration of the Russian technical regime; ensemble music reading session.

*October 22, 2006 (SUN): Fall Festival—Shepherd University (open theme)

*November 18, 2006: EPMTA Student Recital, Shepherd University (students will sign up for one of three recital times). This recital will have an ensemble theme. Teachers and students are encouraged to prepare duets, duos and multi-piano works.

In addition to theory/techniques testing, spring recital and festival adjudication, members are hoping to sponsor a concerto competition, with the required repertoire being a youth concerto by composer and pianist Alexander Peskanov. The concerto is for string orchestra and was commissioned by the Laurel Music Teachers Association (MD).

Announcement: Annual General Membership Meeting

The annual meeting of the general membership of WVMTA will be held this Fall in Huntington WV on Friday, November 3, 2006, at Marshall University. Please plan on attending from 5:00 p.m. to 5:45 p.m. in Smith Hall Room 154. We hope to present a short video covering the 40-year history of WVMTA.

Otherwise, this meeting will be your opportunity to air any grievances, contribute any comments, and share suggestions (particularly any suggestions concerning future convention ideas). At this meeting you will also be given information concerning our newly-adopted RACE program and our WVMTA State Technic Syllabus updates.

Upon conclusion of the general membership meeting, your convention committee has planned, for us, a short jog over to the Marshall Hall of Fame Café for a beautiful awards banquet, complete with guest speaker. And after that, it's back to Marshall U for an evening of fascinating musical entertainment.

Even if you are unable to be at convention for the entire weekend, please at least spend your Friday with us. And if it's impossible to spend your entire Friday with us, then do at least come for the evening festivities, beginning with the membership meeting.

WVMTA Convention 2006 & MTNA/Mountain State Competitions 2006

**"What can we learn by playing and listening to period instrument?"
featuring: David Breitman**

**"Studio Makeover – are you feeling overworked?"
featuring: Rachel Kramer**

**Friday Evening Banquet
Special Speaker: Dr. Gary L. Ingle,
Executive Director of MTNA**

Friday & Saturday, November 3-4, 2006

This year's state convention is going to allow us to celebrate WVMTA's 40th birthday together. I am very excited about the coming convention and hope many of you will mark your calendars now for a great weekend that you won't want to miss!

Convention Artist: David Breitman

David Breitman is an associate professor at the Oberlin Conservatory in Ohio, where he directs the Historical Performance program. David is going to travel with his fortepiano and perform a Classical Concert on Saturday night. He is going to conduct a workshop titled, "what can we learn by playing and listening to period instrument?". David will conduct two master classes with late intermediate and advanced levels WVMTA students.

Breitman is equally at home with the fortepiano and the modern piano, and his growing discography reflects that versatility. Most recently, he recorded a major new song cycle by the Cuban-American composer Jorge Martin with baritone Sanford Sylvan, after giving the 65-minute work its New York premiere at Carnegie Recital Hall in May 2000. This was the fourth recital record with Sylvan, following "Beloved that Pilgrimage" (20th century American song cycles), Schubert's Die schöne Müllerin, and an all-Fauré disc. "Pilgrimage" and the Fauré were nominated for Grammy awards. Also in 2000, he released Mozart's fortepiano-violin sonatas with Jean François Rivest, a four-CD set on Amberola.

Breitman's newest passion is the clavichord. He has had an instrument from the Sicilian builder Ugo Casiglia for three years, and gave his very first public clavichord performance last summer, at the Goteburg Organ Art Center in Gotheburg, Sweden.

Pedagogy Session Speaker: Rachel Kramer

For those who enjoy pedagogy sessions, the "Studio Makeover" is scheduled on Friday afternoon for you.

**Are you feeling overworked?
Need help with time management?
Do you feel isolated?
Are you feeling the pains of changing values in your students' lives?**

The workshop – "Studio Makeover" -- is a candid look into the life of the independent music teacher. Insights, suggestions and topics covered will energize and challenge the audience to try new ideas, and hit the "refresh" button on their teaching and studio operations.

Rachel holds Bachelor's and Master's Degrees in piano performance from Eastern Illinois University and a Master of Music in piano performance and pedagogy from The University of Michigan. From 1990-1996, Kramer served as the Manager of Educational Programs for the Baldwin Piano & Organ Co. and from 1998-2001 was the Assistant Executive Director at the Music Teachers National Association and where she is currently serving as the Director of Education Services.

Rachel is president of Music Learning Center, Inc. with 250 students ages 6-months through 8th grade - all group music classes. She is the Associate Director of Music at St. John's Unitarian Church and is the accompanist for MUSE -Cincinnati's

Women's Chorus, the Wilmington College Chorale and the Martin Luther King Coalition Chorale. She has been a presenter at the National Group Piano Symposium, the National Piano Foundation Group Conference in Orlando, the Group Piano Track at the MTNA conference and has been teaching group piano for over 25 years.

Banquet Guest Speaker and IMT Speaker: Dr. Gary Ingle

Please plan to join us for the Friday Evening Banquet. We are going to dine in a private room at the Marshall Hall of Fame Café. I am very pleased to announce that Dr. Gary L Ingle will join us as our guest speaker. Ingle is the executive director of Music Teachers National Association (MTNA), Cincinnati, Ohio, the oldest music teacher association in the United States. MTNA's mission is to advance the value of music teaching and music making to society and to support the professionalism for music teachers.

Dr. Ingle's academic career spanned ten years with Southwest Baptist University in Bolivar, Missouri. During his tenure, he attained the rank of full professor of music and served as chair of the department of music, as dean of the Casebolt School of Fine Arts, and ultimately as vice president for enrollment management. As a conductor, he directed his choirs on four international tours to continental Europe, Great Britain, and two to the Far East. While in Asia, his choirs sang for the Far East Broadcasting Company and in Olympic Stadium in Seoul, South Korea for the Baptist World Congress.

A native of Birmingham, Alabama, Dr. Ingle holds the doctor of musical arts degree with emphases in conducting, voice, and higher education administration from the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Kentucky. He earned bachelor's and master's degrees in music at Samford University in Birmingham. Additional studies include the Cumberland School of Law in Birmingham. Dr. Ingle currently serves as the president of the National Music Council, which represents the United States to the International Music Council (established by the United Nations and a part of UNESCO). He is a member of the advisory board of *From the Top*, the public radio program dedicated to encouraging, supporting and celebrating the commitment of young people to music and the arts. Dr. Ingle also is a member of the editorial advisory board for the magazine, *Making Music: Better Living Through Recreational Music Making*, a magazine devoted to the health and wellness benefits of music making. He served on the board of trustees of the American Classical Music Hall of Fame from 1998–2003, serving as secretary of the board from 2000–2003. Dr. Ingle is listed in the International Who's Who in Music, Who's Who in America, Outstanding Young Men of America, Community Leaders and Noteworthy Americans, the Dictionary of International Biography and other prominent biographical resources.

Master Classes with Dr. David Breitman

David Breitman will conduct two master classes with WVMTA students. We are in need of students to volunteer to participate in these master classes. We encourage teachers to have students participate. Students in late intermediate and advanced levels should prepare to play a memorized piece ranging from the Baroque to early Romantic period. For more information, please contact Yennie Myers at davidandyennie@yahoo.com and at (304) 210-5827 by 9/15/2006.

40th Anniversary WVMTA Convention Schedule

Nov. 3-4, 2006 - Huntington, WV

Friday (11/3/06)

9:45am-10:30am	District Chairs Meeting	Ed Grose Rm in Harless
10:35am-11:30am	WVMTA Administrative Meeting	cafeteria on Marshall Campus
11:30am-12noon	Meeting lunch break	
12:00	Competitors' Rehearsals	
10:30am-12noon	Master Class for Marshall students (paid for by Marshall University) with David Breitman	SMB: Smith Recital Hall
2:00pm	Competitors' Registration	SMB: Smith Recital Hall
1:30pm-2pm	Workshop: David Breitman "What can we learn by playing and	SMB: Smith Recital Hall listening to period instrument?"

Radisson Hotel Huntington **4 minutes from campus** **(Reservation Deadline Oct. 4, 2006)**
1001 Third Ave (exit 11 on I-64) (304) 525-1001
Huntington, WV 25701 Rate: \$89.00+ tax ***Ask for WVMTA Convention Rate***

*****Because of a Marshall Football game the same weekend, please make your reservation ASAP and arrive early to find a parking spot*****

Marshall U Main Campus Driving Directions

From <http://www.marshall.edu/campus/map.asp>

From I64 Westbound:

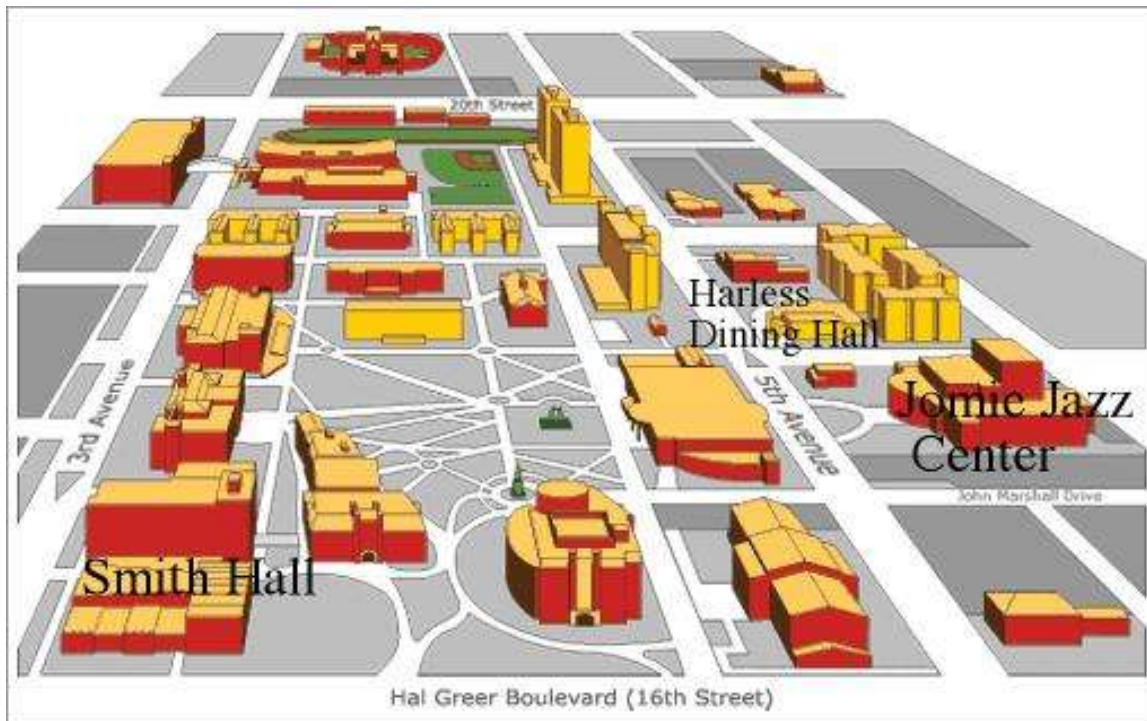
Use Exit 11 (Hal Greer Blvd) Turn right at the end of the ramp toward Hal Greer Blvd. Continue along Hal Greer Blvd. to the 5th Ave. intersection.

From I64 Eastbound:

Use Exit 11 (Hal Greer Blvd) Turn left at the end of the ramp toward Hal Greer Blvd. Continue along Hal Greer Blvd. to the 5th Ave. intersection.

From US52 (Ohio) Eastbound:

Follow US52 eastbound into Chesapeake. Cross the Ohio-West Virginia bridge. Turn left onto 5th Ave. and continue along 5th Ave. to the Hal Greer Blvd. intersection.



WVMTA Convention REGISTRATION

November 3-4, 2006
MARSHALL UNIVERSITY • Huntington, WV

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email Address: _____

Please check all that apply & send this printed copy to:

Yennie Myers 33 Oak Circle Parkersburg, WV 26101

_____ \$30.00 WVMTA, WVMEA member or other State-affiliated member (if postmarked by September 15)

_____ \$40.00 Non-member (or members registering after September 15)

_____ \$25.00 One day registration

_____ \$15.00 Student members of MTNA or MENC

_____ **Boxed Lunch for the IMT/College Faculty/Certification Meeting (Saturday, 11/4)**

Please select one sandwich and either cookie or chips from the choices below: All lunches are \$6.90 per person and include a choice of sandwich, a bag of chips or a cookie, and drink. (Feel free to order additional lunches for any guests/students you may consider bringing.)

Sandwiches

_____ Fresh Veggie
_____ Ham and Cheese
_____ Smoked Turkey
_____ Beef and Cheese

Cookies

_____ Chocolate Chip
_____ Oat and Raisin
_____ Sugar
_____ White Chocolate Macadamia

Or

Chips

_____ Regular
_____ BBQ
_____ Baked Lay's

_____ **Banquet (Friday, 11/3) – Marshall Hall of Fame Café (\$29 per person; tax & tip included)**

Please select one entrée, one salad, one non-alcoholic beverage and one dessert from the choices below. (Feel free to order additional dinners for any guests/students you may consider bringing.)

Entrees

_____ Mix Veggie Alfredo
_____ Caramelized Salmon
_____ Herb Grilled Chicken
_____ Top Sirloin

Salads

_____ Chopped Salad
_____ Caesar Salad
_____ none

Beverages

_____ Tea
_____ Coffee
_____ Water

Desserts

_____ Warm Dutch Apple
_____ Pie
_____ Soft Drink
_____ Seasonal Pie

_____ **TOTAL (Make checks payable to WVMTA)**

Board Members (Friday, 11/3): The administrative board meeting luncheon will be buffet-style, and held in the Ed Grose Room in Harless Cafeteria on the campus of Marshall University.

WVMTA Mountain State Competition Application



FEES & DEADLINE:

Application fees are non-refundable and are as follows:

Jr. High-\$20.00 Sr. High-\$20.00 Collegiate-\$25.00

Check/money order payable to: West Virginia Music Teacher's Association (WVMTA)

Postmark Deadline: September 12, 2006

Please send the application form, fee, and repertoire list to Competitions Chair:

Dr. Scott Beard, NCTM
Department of Music
Shepherd University
PO Box 3210
Shepherdstown, WV 25443

Questions: Email: sbeard@shepherd.edu

Phone: 304-876-5370

STUDENT CLASSIFICATION:

Junior High: Students in grades 7, 8, or 9.
Senior High: Students in grades 10, 11, 12.
Collegiate A: Freshman or Sophomore standing
Collegiate B: Junior or Senior standing.
Collegiate C: Graduate students no older than 27 years of age.

ENTRANT CATEGORIES - Entrants may enter in the solo performance areas to include piano, organ, voice, strings, percussion, brass, woodwind instruments; and chamber music. Students may also enter in the category of composition.

REPERTOIRE INFORMATION: Please attach a repertoire list to this application, typewritten on a separate sheet of paper. Include the title, composer, performance timing and style classification. While there is no minimum time requirement, the maximum time limits are: 20 min. for jr./sr. high and 30 min. for collegiate. Student and teacher should work together to prepare a program of at least three pieces, representing different style periods (Baroque, Classical, Romantic, Impressionistic, Contemporary). Please consult the WVMTA Performance Plan for rules and requirements at www.wvmta.org. Composer/style classifications may be found on the MTNA website under competitions: www.mtna.org. For ease of typing programs, students or teachers may forward the repertoire list to the competitions chair at: sbeard@shepherd.edu

WVMTA Mountain State Competition Application Form

*Students/teachers should keep a copy of this application.
The application should be filled out completely and legibly.

Instrument/Voice classification or Composition _____

Jr High (grades 7-9) _____ Sr High (10-12) _____ Collegiate _____ (A, B or C)

STUDENT INFORMATION:

NAME: _____ Date of Birth: _____

Address: _____ email: _____

_____ Home phone: _____

_____ Cell phone: _____

Year in school as of September 12, 2006: _____ School: _____

TEACHER INFORMATION:

NAME: _____ WVMTA DUES paid? Yes _____ No _____

Address: _____ email: _____

_____ Home phone: _____

_____ Cell phone: _____

*Non-members teachers must include a fee of \$100 in order to enter students.

ACCOMPANIST INFORMATION (if applicable):

NAME: _____

Phone: _____ email: _____

STATEMENT OF INTENT:

It is the responsibility of the teacher and the student to determine that all rules and requirements are met, and by signature, to certify this fact. The undersigned verify that the information contained on this application is complete and accurate:

Student: _____ Date: _____

Teacher: _____ Date: _____

♪ Awards ♪

Teacher of the Year 2006

As a reminder, below are the parameters for Teacher of the Year award as created and revised by past Administrative Boards. These rules were issued in print when the public call for nominations was made in the March 2006 issue of WVMTA News. Nominations are limited to three in each category. This year we had 2 nominees. The following two members have been nominated, and have accepted nomination for the 2006 WVMTA Teacher of the Year Award. Please submit your vote for one of the two, to Karen Taddie, NCTM by October 1.

WVMTA Teacher of the Year: Qualifications

- * demonstrated innovative teaching and creative musicianship
- * membership in WVMTA for at least five years

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

Nominees for Teacher of the Year 2006

DR. ELIZABETH REED SMITH is Professor of Music at Marshall University, where she has taught for 16 years. Although violin, viola, and chamber music are her specialties, she also teaches freshman theory, aural skills, and string techniques, and has taught music appreciation and class piano and conducted the University Orchestra. A native of South Carolina, she received her BM and DMA from the Eastman School of Music and her MM from Yale University, all in violin performance.

A member of WVMTA for a number of years, Reed (she goes by her middle name) has been active as a clinician and adjudicator in the area. She has conducted Pianorama for Huntington MTA and the Cabell County All-County Orchestras, and frequently works with the strings of the West Virginia Youth Symphony Orchestra and the Cadet Strings. She has adjudicated the WVMTA district auditions, Solo & Ensemble Festivals in Huntington and Charleston, All-State Orchestra auditions, the Orchestra Festival in Buckhannon, the National Federation of Music Clubs auditions in Charleston, and the Marshall University SCORES strings competition. Her students, both at Marshall and her private students, have won numerous awards, including several who have been selected to perform as soloists with the Marshall University Orchestra and with the WV Youth Orchestra. A number of her Marshall graduates are working as music educators in several states.

Reed is particularly interested in developing her students' ensemble skills, on the premise that ensemble playing develops the foundations of rhythm, intonation, listening, and good all-around musicianship. She has developed a chamber music program at Marshall that often brings students together in unusual combinations of instruments, and she attends all rehearsals of the Marshall University Orchestra as an upper string coach. Her work as an ensemble musician helps her to achieve results as a conductor, even when working with up to 20 young Pianorama pianists at a time, sitting at multiple keyboards!

An important part of Reed's teaching is her belief that students should learn to give back to the community. To that end she has for over ten years run a series of monthly concerts at Woodlands Retirement Community in Huntington. The residents enjoy following the students' progress, and the students benefit from the performance opportunity and the encouragement they receive. Reed herself is a member of a church choir, and performs frequently for local civic and charitable organizations.

Smith maintains an active performing schedule. She serves as concertmaster of the Huntington Symphony Orchestra and the Seneca Chamber Orchestra in Charleston. But her great love, other than teaching, is performing as a recitalist and chamber musician. As violinist of the Nevelson Duo, with pianist and fellow WVMTA member Leslie Petteys, NCTM, she has done research into and performance of American music and music by women composers, and recorded a CD of American music for Albany Records. Additionally, the Duo has developed an "Alphabet series" of recitals each featuring music by composers whose names begin with a certain letter. When touring they never lose an opportunity to perform for, and work with, young students, and the alphabet concept has served as a means of intriguing and involving the children. At Marshall Reed also performs as a member of the Fontana Trio and with other faculty as time permits, including an upcoming project of music for violin and marimba.

DR. SCOTT BEARD, NCTM has been a member of WVMTA since 1998, and first joined MTNA as a founder of the Richmond, VA MTNA chapter in 1981. He is currently First Vice-President of WVMTA and Collegiate Competitions chair for the Eastern Division MTNA. He is currently Associate Professor of Music and Coordinator of Keyboard Studies at Shepherd University and also maintains a private studio of piano students.

Scott's musical training is based in the Russian technical regime, stemming from his extensive studies about the music and teaching of pedagogue Theodor Leschetizky. His students actively participate in the Piano Olympics, a strict and thorough technique exam and masterclass administered by founder Alexander Peskanov. Using Leschetizky as his model, Scott often has students participate in informal dinners, masterclasses and salon recitals, in addition to regular lessons.

For his studio both privately and at Shepherd University, Beard uses his website scottbeard.com to keep students informed of studio news, competitions, repertoire and technique assignments, as well as sending them to theory websites and also uses mp3 files for listening exercises. A published author, he has written articles and reviews for the American Music Teacher and has a series of musical anthologies and a textbook dealing with ensemble music will be published by Alfred Publishing.

As a result of his emphasis on "old-school" ideals combined with contemporary technology, his students have won top prizes at the state, regional and national level, including MTNA National Jr. High Piano Competition, Ithaca Piano Competition, Frederick Optimist Club and been selected to participate in international competitions such as the Gina Bachauer, Oberlin, ILYM, and Beethoven Society competitions, to name but a few.

WVMTA Creates New Distinguished Leader of the Year Award 2006

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, NCTM volunteered. Along with Karen Taddie, NCTM, 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 related article).
- 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 already 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, NCTM, Carol Beall, NCTM, 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 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 Member of the Year: Past Honorees

- * 1991 Mary Shep Mann, NCTM
- * 1992 Bobby Loftis, NCTM

- * 1993 Judy Lambert, NCTM
- * 1994 Jane Mangus, NCTM and Sandra Hastings, NCTM
- * 1995 Mila Markun, NCTM
- * 1996 Marija Sommer, NCTM
- * 1997 Marguerite Bostonia, NCTM
- * 1998 Jean Douglass, NCTM
- * 1999 Connie Arrau Sturm, NCTM
- * 2000 Olive Meyer, NCTM
- * 2001 no award given
- * 2002 no award given
- * 2003 James Miltenberger
- * 2004 no award given
- * 2005 no award given

Arts Advocacy & Awareness

Suzanne Tabb

The following remarks are taken from "Are We Doing Enough?", an article written by Darlene Vlasek for the August/September 2006 Issue of the *American Music Teacher* magazine.

"...one of the greatest problems facing society today is crime that is caused by the breakdown of parental supervision of young people... The one-on-one or small group relationship we have with our students allows us to influence them constructively, be a positive role model, teach them how to accomplish large tasks successfully, and establish and achieve realistic goals, develop responsibility and time management, and challenge their critical, creative and intuitive thinking skills.... We have the opportunity and the obligation to do all that we can to support the musical and personal growth and development of our students. Just as importantly, we should assume the responsibility to do what we can to assist those youths who are "at risk." If those students had the opportunity to be engaged in fulfilling activities that would provide pride, companionship, identity and a sense of achievement, would they be as inclined toward negative behaviors? The answer is "No," according to the law enforcement agencies. That is, in fact, exactly what the experts recommend. They advocate productive activities, especially after school in cases where parents are not at home, and they emphasize that adults must be involved in those activities."

Providing further support for Ms. Vlasek's remarks are these facts taken from *Source: MENC -- The National Association for Music Education "Music Education Facts and Figures,"* 2002.

Secondary students who participated in band or orchestra reported the lowest lifetime and current use of all substances (alcohol, tobacco, illicit drugs). -- *Texas Commission on Drug and Alcohol Abuse Report*. Reported in *Houston Chronicle*, January 1998

According to statistics compiled by the National Data Resources Center, students who can be classified as "disruptive" (based on factors such as frequent skipping of classes, times in trouble, in-school suspensions, disciplinary reasons given, arrests, and drop-outs) total 12.14 percent of the total school population. In contrast, only 8.08 percent of students involved in music classes meet the same criteria as "disruptive." -- Based on data from the *NELS:88* (National Education Longitudinal Study), second follow-up, 1992.

A study of 811 high school students indicated that the proportion of minority students with a music teacher role-model was significantly larger than for any other discipline. 36% of these students identified music teachers as their role models, as opposed to 28% English teachers, 11% elementary teachers, 7% physical education/sports teachers, 1% principals. -- D. L. Hamann and L. M. Walker, "Music teachers as role models for African-American students," *Journal of Research in Music Education*, 41, 1993.

WVMTA/MTNA \$500 Commissioned Composer Award

This Composer Commissioning program is a great program for WVMTA to institute and co-sponsor because it supports the creative musicians living among us, and offers a superb performance opportunity.

WVMTA is happy to announce that Dr. Mark Zanter of Marshall University in Huntington has been elected the WVMTA Commissioned Composer 2006. 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. (Registration to the convention is currently under way. Please see related Convention article.)

From Dr. Zanter: "I am interested in the expression of an idea; in realizing a piece through observation of its inherent musical potential. In each piece, I invent processes that express this potential creating contexts in which it is realized. In that sense my music results from the interaction of observations, intuition, and processes, rather than from a willful shaping of my materials."

"Harmonically and rhythmically moving," - Minneapolis Star Tribune

"Music that is exciting expressive, and fresh in its musical language," - WV Commission on the arts.

Mark Zanter, an active composer/performer, has received commissions from the UIUC Creative Music Orchestra, CU Symphony, the American Composers forum, the WV Commission on the Arts, WVMTA, and numerous soloists. He has appeared as a composer and performer on WILL, IPR, Second Sunday concerts, on WVPN In Touch With The Arts. His works are published by Les Productions d'OZ and have been performed nationally and internationally at festivals including MUSIC '98 (Cincinnati Conservatory) June in Buffalo, and the Atlantic Center for the Arts. Mark is currently assistant professor of composition at Marshall University. Mr. Zanter completed his A. Mus. D. in composition at the University of Illinois where he studied with Salvatore Martirano, William Brooks, Paul Martin Zonn, and Erik Lund.

A July Foundation Moment from Joan Reist, National Foundation Fund

Dear Colleagues,

It's July, and I suspect that you're enjoying the lazy days of summer -- and hopefully, some well-deserved R&R! I'm writing now -- in the middle of this "down time" -- to:

1. Alert you to the rules and regulations of the Foundation Fund's grants (Teacher Enrichment, Local Association, State Association) which will be published on the website (www.mtna.org) in early September, and to:

2. Ask you to encourage your local associations, your individual members, and your state association to seriously consider applying for these grants. My own local, LMTA, recently applied for -- and received -- a LAG grant which will enable them to expand their Music Outreach program and provide music lessons for more disadvantaged students.

An especially intriguing possibility is the Loran Olsen diversity grant. This would enable an association to offer a concert, workshop -- or both -- featuring performers and/or clinicians who represent a variety of ethnic musical genres. It could also lead to ideas for including more diversity in day-to-day studio activities and literature. Last year's grant went to the Reading, PA local; you might want to contact Millie Eben for details (mgme4@verizon.net).

From the Top

Important Information on Two New MTNA National Services

Dr. Gary L. Ingle, Executive Director
Music Teachers National Association

Did you know that July 1, 2006, is a very important date for all MTNA members? The new membership year starts and along with that, MTNA is rolling out two new services to support your music teaching.

Beginning July 1, MTNA will offer legal consultation services free of charge, exclusively to MTNA members. Assistance in the following areas will be available:

- Zoning issues
- Bill collection
- Business formation (additional fees may be required for filing in your state)
- Non-compete agreements
- Buying and selling existing studios

- Music purchases and resale to students
- Copyright and ASCAP issues
- Ethics issues
- Liability issues
- Tax issues

Call the MTNA National Headquarters to discuss your legal questions and issues. After calling the office, you may be directed to an attorney for further consultation.

Also, new this year is the MTNA Professional Support Line. Assistance provided by the educational services staff is available for pedagogical and business issues.

To use both of these services, contact the MTNA National Headquarters at (888) 512-5278 or mtnatnet@mtna.org.

Remember to renew your membership for the 2006–2007 year to continue enjoying all the benefits MTNA offers and take advantage of these two new services.

New Chief Information Officer at MTNA

Dr. Gary L. Ingle, Executive Director
Music Teachers National Association

I am pleased to inform you that Julianne Miranda has joined the MTNA national staff as the Chief Information Officer (CIO) and began her work here at the MTNA Headquarters earlier this month. She has been asked to help the association take full advantage of technology and will be developing programs and services for our members as well as our state and local associations. As such, if your state is presently engaged in discussion around technological improvements such as a state website or if you have successful technology services in place, please consider including Julianne in your discussions. Doing so will help her understand the diverse needs of the association and cultivate support among states with similar projects or needs. She enthusiastically welcomes your ideas.

Prior to joining MTNA, she served as an Associate Professor of Music at DePauw University where she taught piano and music technology. As an administrator, she directed the University's academic technology program for three years, developing a wide range of programs and services for faculty in all disciplines. An active member of MTNA, she is immediate past president of the Indiana Music Teachers Association.

Special Invitation to the 2007 MTNA National Conference

Phyllis I. Pieffer, NCTM
MTNA Immediate Past President

All of us have an unparalleled opportunity awaiting us. This opportunity is to attend the first-ever national MTNA Conference to be held outside the U.S., and the first-ever collaborative conference with our Canadian colleagues—Canadian Federation of Music Teachers' Associations and the Royal Conservatory of Music. This is a DON'T MISS EVENT! Mark March 23–27, 2007, TORONTO, ONTARIO, on your calendars now, and plan your 2006–2007 teaching year around this event.

CFMTA-MTNA-RCM COLLABORATIVE CONFERENCE

Dates: FRIDAY MORNING, March 23 through TUESDAY EVENING, March 27, 2007 (note the shift in days and extension of the schedule on the final day).

Location: Sheraton Centre, Toronto, Ontario, Canada

Pedagogy Friday: Evaluating for Excellence. Provided by the RCM Examinations, with sponsorship from Yamaha Corporation of America and Yamaha Canada, this free event will focus on student assessment.

Conference Opening Session: Friday, March 23: Two Senior Pianists (one from U.S. and one from Canada) performing with the Royal Conservatory of Music Orchestra.

Toronto Symphony Orchestra with Jane Coop, piano soloist: Sunday, March 25: Jane Coop has an international reputation, and studied both in Canada (Anton Kuerti) and the U.S. (Leon Fleisher).

Guest Artist: Saturday, March 24: Pianist Yefim Bronfman

Keynote Speakers: Saturday, March 24: James Jordan (US) and: Monday, March 26: Bramwell Tovey (CA)

AND, this is just the tip of the iceberg!

RACE Program

This comprehensive National examination program covers performance, theory, technique, ear training and sight-reading. Exams and examiners are offered to testing sites twice a year - in December and May:

2007 Winter Session Practical Examinations – November 27 – December 2, 2006

2007 Spring Session Practical Examinations - May 14–26, 2007

Practical examinations take place Monday through Saturday from 9:00 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. Please note that examinations in particular centers may not run for the full examination session.

All RACE examiners complete an apprenticeship and attend annual training. Examiners sit in with a mentor examiner for three sessions, and their critiques and scores are analyzed. This extensive training of examiners ensures that students in small towns are evaluated by the same standards used in large cities. The Royal American Conservatory promotes objective assessment by sending examiners to centers where they are not acquainted with any teacher or student. Examiners for RACE have these minimum qualifications: (1) Bachelor of Music or equivalent degree, (2) five years professional teaching experience with students of all ages, (3) adjudicating or judging experience at competitions or festivals.

Establishment is under way for both Northern and Southern WV State testing centers for May of 07. Parkersburg members have established a site for December 06 testing. A minimum of 20 students is needed for testing to occur at any site. Another option for teachers/students would be to travel to out-of-State sites that might be closer. Local teachers are not responsible for registering their students or collecting fees. Registration is done by the parents, and is available online. All scoring, record keeping and certificates are handled by the Royal American Conservatory. It is recommended that new RACE centers begin with young students. In the earliest level, the Preparatory A Level Practical Examination requires three pieces--one each from Lists A, B and C. Pieces from List A would feature LH melody and part playing, from book one or early book 2 in most method books. List B features pieces in which the melody is in RH, and List C is a piece of the teacher's choice. Memorization is not required in the Practical Examination, but extra points are awarded for memorized performances.

Please consider purchasing the RACE syllabi this Fall, and begin working students toward successful accomplishments in this new endeavor. Complete information about performance requirements is found in the RACE Piano Syllabus. The syllabus is available from Heritage Music Press (a subsidiary of the Lorenz Music Corporation) or by calling 1-800-444-1144 x 1. For more information about the RACE program itself, please visit www.royalamericanconservatory.org and start getting acquainted with the site. If you have questions for Dr. Scott McBride Smith, NCTM (President of RACE), contact him at info@racexams.org.

Some important points to ponder (as presented by Dr. Smith at last year's WVMTA State convention):

*A structured curriculum helps foster interaction/cooperation between the independent studio teacher and the public school teacher.

*Surveys have shown that 25% of Americans have studied piano; however, less than 1/100th of 1% still play piano in adulthood. Regular assessment of musical accomplishments encourages students to study music longer. Research has shown that piano students who are assessed study music 2.7 years longer than those who are not assessed.

Highlights of January 06 Approved Administrative Board Minutes

1. Pat Zabel, Historian, invited Districts to send her recital programs and pictures for historical record.
2. Districts were also reminded to send 2 copies of programs to Scott Beard, NCTM who then sends them to national for proper ASCAP record keeping.
3. District-sanctioned events will become part of the total accumulated performance points, with \$1.00 per student going to the state treasurer [see newly revised Performance Plan on WVMTA website for further details].
4. Eastern Division Student Competitions Report
 - WV was well represented at Eastern Division this January (Ithaca NY).
 - At Eastern Division this January we had one student winner: George Fu.

-- Proposed & Passed & Implemented: offer financial awards to assist in student travel with ten awards of \$50 for Eastern Division & one national award of \$200.

5. Convention '06 Report

-- David Breitman, Gary Ingle and Rachel Kramer will be the featured clinicians.

-- The convention will be held November 3-4, 2006 at Marshall University.

-- The convention will celebrate our 40th anniversary.

-- The convention will feature a performance on an early 1800's fortepiano.

6. 1st Vice President (Scott Beard, NCTM) Report

-- Olive Meyer, NCTM has submitted her resignation effective June 2006.

-- Over 300 students participated in various district events in the fall of 05.

-- Proposed & Passed: District Chairs recommended to the board to keep the current technic system in place and ALSO to begin implementing the RACE program by establishing a northern and southern testing center, effective May 07. A minimum of 20 students will be needed. Karen Taddie, NCTM will be in contact with the RACE staff to discuss the details of implementation including the possibility of bulk purchase of starter resources. [Drafts of the] Intermediate levels of our current statewide technic system will now become available [for member perusal].

7. National Convention/Austin TX, March 25-29, 2006

-- Proposed & Passed & Implemented: reimburse WVMTA President's registration costs for the national convention (\$250)

-- Proposed & Passed & Implemented: contribute a gift representative of WV worth no more than \$100 for the State Pride Drawing [handmade WV quilt].

8. Teacher Of the Year/Member Of the Year Awards Committee Report (Mary Wilson, Carol Beall, NCTM, Karen Taddie, NCTM)

-- Proposed & Passed & Implemented: create a new Distinguished Leader Of the Year award based on accumulated years of leadership contributed, over 10 years, based on whether the award was or was not received by a particular member previously, based on the recommendation of the current committee's records; award it at Fall Convention Banquet.

-- Proposed & Passed & Implemented: dissolve Member Of the Year award.

-- Proposed & Passed & Implemented: approve this year's committee-recommended Distinguished Leader of the Year, Barbara Heckert.

9. WV Composer of the Year Commissioning Committee (John Beall, Mary Wilson, Karen Taddie, NCTM) Timeline

-- February 15, 2006: deadline for applications

-- February 16-28, 2006: evaluation & election (adjudicating panel of composer, performer, member).

-- This year applications are solicited from EMERGING WV composers [08 composer will be selected from ESTABLISHED WV composers].

-- March 2006: public announcement of winner via newsletter [Dr. Mark Zanter of Huntington WV].

10. Treasurer (Ray Martin, NCTM) Report

-- Quarterly Report [for January shows current cash balance of \$4541.54 and current quarter worth of \$19,302.12].

-- Reminder [from past Board approval]: "state dues will increase by \$5.00 per year over the next three years." [have now completed 2nd year of 3 year increase].

-- Due to the many fees at our current bank, Ray plans to change to a different bank [closed Huntington account and opened BB&T account].

11. 2nd Vice President Gerald Lee reported that the 100 member mark has been broken with a current (January 06) total of 101.

12. Foundation Fund: \$46 Raffle Contribution [from 05 Fairmont Convention Raffle] was made to the National Foundation Fund, designated for hurricane relief.

13. Proposed & Passed & Implemented: District Chairs recommend to add COMPOSITION to the MOUNTAIN STATE competitions at all levels (Elementary, Jr. High, Sr. High and Collegiate).

2006-2007 WVMTA BOARD-APPROVED BUDGET (approved 6/2/06)

Submitted by Mary Lynn Bennett, NCTM, Treasurer
(Budget Committee: Yennie Myers, Karen Taddie, NCTM, Ray Martin, NCTM)

INCOME	Approved For 06-07
Dues	
TOTAL:	1,300.00
Fall Convention Competitions Mountain State MTNA	
TOTAL:	1,900.00
Fall Convention Registrations Advertising Raffle Meals & Food	
TOTAL:	2,250.00
Fall Festivals D1 (str+pno) D2 D3 D4 D5 D6	850.00 150.00 500.00 400.00 700.00 350.00
TOTAL:	2,950.00
Technic, Theory D1 D2 D3 D4 D5 D6	400.00 75.00 60.00 200.00 600.00 300.00
TOTAL:	1,635.00
Spr Adj Perfs D1 (pno+str) D2 D3 D4 D5 D6	1,300.00 200.00 275.00 400.00 700.00 300.00
TOTAL:	3,175.00
Misc (closure of savings, cds' int)	300.00
TOTAL BUDGETED INCOME	13,510.00

EXPENSES	Approved For 06-07
Board Expenses (lunches, __OY awards, Natnl gifts, Cert gifts, "State Corp License Fee")	
TOTAL:	500.00
Fall Convention Competitions Adjudications Student Travel Misc (mtn st gifts, organ, postage)	900.00 900.00 300.00
TOTAL:	2,100.00
Fall Convention Clinician Brd Lunch/Cert B Banquet Boxed Lunches Programs Misc(copies,hosp, tokens)	2,819.00 250.00 725.00 140.00 150.00 200.00
TOTAL:	4,284.00
Fall Festivals D1 (str+pno) D2 D3 D4 D5 D6	300.00 100.00 251.00 100.00 500.00 50.00
TOTAL:	1,301.00
Technic, Theory D1 D2 D3 D4 D5 D6	100.00 25.00 25.00 50.00 150.00 25.00
TOTAL:	375.00
Spr Adjudications D1(06 spr str) D2 D3 D4 D5 D6	500.00 150.00 250.00 250.00 400.00 150.00
TOTAL:	1,700.00
Spr Adj Misc D1 D2 D3 D4 D5 D6	150.00 25.00 75.00 100.00 200.00 25.00
TOTAL:	575.00
Bank (checks,fees)	50.00
Trophies	1,000.00
Newsletter Postge,Print,Misc Website	175.00 150.00
TOTAL:	325.00
Officers President President-Elect 1 st VP 2 nd VP Secretary Treasurer AA&A	500.00 50.00 25.00 100.00 25.00 75.00 25.00
TOTAL:	800.00
Audit	0.00
Cmmissd Compsr	500.00
TOTAL BUDGETED EXPENSES	13,510.00

Changing Personnel in Treasurer and State Certification Chair Roles

Karen Taddie, NCTM, President

We, the Administrative Board of WVMTA, say a slow and gentle goodbye to Dr. C. Ray Martin, NCTM (Charleston Area MTA) as he steps down from his position as WVMTA Treasurer. After years of holding official roles in WVMTA, Ray has chosen to retire from the Board. Fortunately, due to the nature of the Treasurer's job, we will all still be in some form of close contact with Ray for many months to come. The entire process will be a s-l-o-w changeover, as, many things cannot be addressed/transferred over until they come up. For that reason, Ray has agreed to stay on-board 'unofficially' until we all feel we can run the finances comfortably without him. I want to take this opportunity to thank Ray PROFUSELY for ALL the time and devotion he has put into officially representing our beautiful state organization through all his YEARS and YEARS and YEARS of volunteer service!

Dr. Mary Lynne Bennett, NCTM (Clarksburg Area MTA) has agreed to finish Ray's term (through January 08, since the Treasurer position - unlike other official roles which run November to November - runs January to January, according to our by-laws).

Mary Lynne has also agreed to continue the Certification Chair duties (along with help from me) for the time-being, until we can find the perfect-someone to fit the role. Since work is already in-place for the planned Certification-Breakfast at Convention, and since Mary Lynne's name is the listed contact name for any potential certification candidate to make use of our new \$100 rebate program, it makes very good sense for her to gradually move away from the role rather than to do it suddenly and abruptly.

I'd like to urge you, our membership, to begin thinking about a Certification Chair replacement: Are YOU someone who is already certified, or do you know someone who is already certified and seriously committed to the program? Are YOU someone who is THINKING of becoming certified, or do you know someone who is THINKING of becoming certified because of a passionate acknowledged recognition of the important role certification plays in furthering professionalism within our ranks? Please send any thoughts my way.

Thank You, Mary Lynne, and welcome to you in your NEW role! And Ray, when it comes time to officially say "Goodbye," it will be with deep regret.

WVMTA Membership

Dr. Gerald Lee, Second Vice President

I am very pleased to see that just about everyone who was a member of the West Virginia Music Teachers' Association last year has renewed his or her membership for the 2006-07 year; additionally, it is very exciting to see that several, new members have joined us as well. If you were a member of WVMTA last year and haven't renewed your membership, please consider renewing your WVMTA membership by going to the membership page at www.wvmta.org or by going directly to the membership page for the Music Teachers' National Association: <http://www.mtna.org/membership.htm>. Should you decide to renew your membership, the dues for the 2006-07 year are \$25.00 for the State and \$59.00 for National. Your membership will remain active until June 30, 2007. In addition, if you know of anyone who may be interested in joining WVMTA as a new member, please be a passionate advocate for our organization and encourage him or her to join—it's never too late to join! As you know, active, thriving memberships are of paramount importance to the overall strength, growth, and vitality of our organization. If you or anyone else has a question pertaining to WVMTA membership, please feel free to contact me at (304) 336-8372, or send me an e-mail at: glee@westliberty.edu.

So, why should you consider joining and/or renewing your membership?

Networking: MTNA is made up of nearly 24,000 independent and collegiate music teachers like you in all fifty states and the District of Columbia. As a member you will receive the American Music Teacher (a bimonthly magazine from MTNA), quarterly WVMTA state newsletter, and an annual WVMTA Member-Directory. WVMTA directories and the quarterly newsletter are available, online, to members and can be mailed upon request.

Professional Standards: MTNA has an extensive certification program for its members that sets a standard of excellence and professionalism. Please contact the state certification chair, Dr. Mary Lynne Bennett, for more information.

Professional Development: Career training and development can be found at the local, state and national levels, in the form of workshops, clinics, and performance-oriented activities. Grant money may be earned from Teacher Training Funds and Matching Grants for Local Associations from the MTNA Foundation Fund.

Student Activities: Students of WVMTA members may participate in theory tests, technique tests, workshops, recitals, adjudicated performances and competitions. Through participation in WVMTA events, students earn points that accumulate to trophy awards. For a full description of student events through WVMTA, please see the Student Performances Plan on our website: www.wvmta.org.

State & National Conferences: Every year, State and National Conferences feature such invaluable activities as group discussions, workshops, master-classes, guest artists, recital performances, and a wide array of student competitions.

Arts Advocacy: There exists, through MTNA, a National Advocacy for Music Education Partnership, Advocacy Training, as well as a Congressional Liaison.

Other Benefits: Group health and disability insurance, retirement planning, group liability insurance, and credit card programs are also available through MTNA.

!Certification Breaking News!

The WVMTA Board recently voted to initiate an incentive for inspiring members to become nationally certified, by instituting a \$100 rebate award. The award would be presented at the state convention in November each year. Any member who has had an interest in becoming certified, now is the time! The WVMTA Board may reimburse up to \$100 of your certification application fee once you have completed the certification application process. For more details on becoming certified, please contact Mary Lynne Bennett at mbennett1@fairmontstate.edu or check out the MTNA website, www.mtna.org.

An August Certification Moment

Sylvia Coats, NCTM, National Certification Commission Program Chair

The MTNA Professional Certification Program is a two-step process; the candidate must successfully complete Step I: Validation and Fulfillment of Standard I: Professional Preparation before proceeding to Step II: Validation and Fulfillment of Standard II: Professional Teaching Practices, Standard III: Professional Business Management and Standard IV: Professionalism and Partnerships.

The program is flexible so that teachers can satisfy the requirements in several ways. As part of Step I the candidate must satisfy a performance competency in any one of twenty-one instrumental or vocal areas. The candidate must possess the ability to perform repertoire in four different style periods with a variety of technical and musical demands. Memory is optional and the difficulty level must be at or above the MTNA performance requirements for each instrument.

Performance competency may be validated by one of the following.

- A. Academic coursework--shown by a transcript with six semesters/nine quarters of applied study.
- B. Validation of performance competency--shown by submitting with application one of the following:

Option a. A completed MTNA Repertoire Selection Form for approving the candidate's selected Performance Competency program repertoire as having successfully met the MTNA Performance Competency Requirements. Upon approval of the selected repertoire, as evidenced on the Repertoire Selection Form, the candidate will be sent two Performance Competency Verification Forms to be signed, dated and completed by TWO witnesses* who hear the program. (See MTNA website for who may serve as a witness and for a list of example repertoire.) The candidate will return the witnesses' Verification forms to MTNA for processing.

Option b. A completed MTNA Jury Evaluation Form, signed and dated by a college/university faculty jury panel. Evaluation form must include a juried list of repertoire that meets the MTNA Performance Competency Requirements. List of repertoire must include keys, opus numbers and movements that apply.

Option c. A signed, dated letter from a college-level music performance teacher verifying the candidate has successfully met the MTNA Performance Competency Requirements. The letter must include a list of repertoire performed and/or studied and the name of the school must appear on the letterhead. List of repertoire must include keys, opus numbers and movements that apply one of the following. The beginning of the fall season is a perfect time to sign up for lessons. For more information about the MTNA Professional Certification Program, visit the website at www.mtnacertification.org/home.htm.

Dates to Remember

- 06 WVMTA Fall Convention in Huntington WV/Marshall University/Nov 3-4, 2006
- 07 Eastern Division Competitions in Pittsburgh, PA/Duquesne University/January 12-13, 2007
- 07 MTNA National Conference in Toronto Canada/March 23-27, 2007

Footprints

♥ Thank you, and welcome to Karen Morris and Vicki Berneking Cavendish (Charleston Area MTA) for joining the Administrative Board of WVMTA as Co-Chairs of their district. (See related 1st VP report)

♥ Be sure to check out the articles of Dr. R. Scott Beard, NCTM (Eastern Panhandle Area MTA) in the Aug/Sep and Oct/Nov issues of MTNA's national magazine, *The American Music Teacher*. The articles can be found in the "Reviews of Materials" section.

♥ And congratulations again to Dr. R. Scott Beard, NCTM (Eastern Panhandle Area MTA) for being asked by Ingrid Clarefield to be on her panel as a speaker at the World Piano Pedagogy conference in October in Atlanta, GA.

♥ Janna Kisner, NCTM (Morgantown Area MTA) resigned as Director of Music at Suncrest United Methodist Church in Morgantown and has accepted a new position as Music Associate at the Presbyterian Church of Sewickley, PA.

♥ Although a WVMTA member just a few years, Rebecca Steffoff (Huntington Area MTA) introduced many Huntington area piano students to Pianorama, Spring Performances, Theory and Technique tests, and Fall Festival events through her teaching at Grace Christian School. She, her husband, and their young son have moved to South Carolina where her husband is continuing his work in the ministry. Rebecca was a valued member and Huntington MTA is sorry to lose her.

WVMTA Officers 2005-2007

- * President: Karen Taddie, NCTM
- * President Elect: Yennie Myers
- * First Vice President: Dr. Scott Beard, NCTM
- * Second Vice President: Dr. Gerald Lee
- * Secretary: Janna Kisner, NCTM
- * Treasurer: Dr. Ray Martin, NCTM, outgoing; Dr. Mary Lynne Bennett, NCTM, incoming
- * Immediate Past President: Dr. Lya Cartwright

District Chairs

Morgantown MTA (District 1)

- * Janna Kisner, NCTM
- * Mary Morrison, NCTM
- * Mary Wilson

Clarksburg MTA (District 2)

- * Dr. Hooi Yin Boeoy

Charleston MTA (District 3)

- * Vicky Berneking
- * Karen Morris

Mid-Ohio Valley MTA (District 4)

- * Barbara Heckert

Huntington MTA (District 5)

- * Judy Lambert, NCTM

Eastern Panhandle MTA (District 6)

- * Gary Mullenax

Committee Chairs

- * Arts Awareness and Advocacy: Suzanne Tabb
- * Certification Chair: Dr. Mary Lynne Bennett, NCTM, outgoing
- * Foundation Fund: Dr. Gerald Lee
- * Historian: Pat Zabel
- * Independent Music Teachers Forum: Gary Mullenax
- * Website Manager: Laura Hamm, NCTM
- * WVMTA News Editor: Beth Royall

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

volume 41, issue 4
September 2006
