

WVMTA News

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

Volume 43, Issue 1

January, 2008

From the President's Desk

Dr. Scott Beard, NCTM
President

Colleagues,

It is with great excitement and inspiration that I write my first column as president of WVMTA. Our organization is blessed with so many wonderful teachers, students and leaders who work tirelessly for the organization at the state and local level, as well as providing a quality musical education for the citizens of West Virginia.

Before I move on to thoughts for the future, there are many people to thank for helping put WVMTA on the map and for setting us up with the tools that will insure our future success as an organization:

- ❖ Karen Taddie: Your organizational skills and knowledge of Robert's Rules won't be missed, as I KNOW you will be an excellent treasurer and Immediate Past President!
- ❖ Yennie Myers: We will miss your wonderful smile at our board meetings! Thank you, thank you, thank you for your outstanding work on this year's convention. The displays of member teacher articles and the convention program were truly outstanding.
- ❖ Carol Beall: Thank you for time and time again coming to our rescue to fill a spot on our board. Your wisdom and calm demeanor are an inspiration to us all!
- ❖ Connie Sturm and the WVU MTNA Student Chapter: Connie, you were the perfect host for this year's convention. It was inspiring to see all of the WVMTA Student Chapter members helping out so beautifully with every aspect of the convention. Thanks for everything.

AS WE LOOK TO THE FUTURE . . . QUESTIONS TO PONDER . . .

Our collegiate chapters would appear to be an ideal place to recruit future members for our organization. What can we do to make WVMTA more appealing to them? How can we help provide financial incentives for student members and teachers to join MTNA, WVMTA and eventually become certified? How can we best use our financial resources to insure there are human resources in the future for the many tasks at hand?

Certification has always been a big part of WVMTA and its member teachers. I would like to challenge each of our districts to work with new teachers (or not so new!) in the area to help form a certification team so that we can stay in the top 10 for the percentage of certified teachers! Our recent raffle drawing for a certification rebate was a success, with a teacher now beginning the certification process. I would love to see our rebate program continue for many years to come!

PUTTING OUR \$\$ TO GOOD USE . . .

Are we as an organization doing the best we can to reach all parts of our state? There are many areas where the economic situation makes private music study virtually impossible for some families. A program that has worked well at my university is the community piano program that is run through the piano pedagogy class. Community students take lessons in a group atmosphere for a small fee. My student teachers have students to teach and the

From the President's Desk, cont.

students in the community have their first musical experience. Everyone is a winner! How can we work with larger institutions like churches and colleges to reach out to our surrounding community?

Lastly, how can we as an organization help provide funds for deserving students who would like to take lessons, but do not have the means? Benefit concerts? Interest from our CDs used as scholarship dollars? An endowment fund for scholarships?

I hope you will take time to ponder these questions and think how WVMTA can best serve you, increase its membership of certified teachers and provide musical studies for as many deserving students as possible.

I leave you with a story about the great inventor Thomas Edison. Mr. Edison had a vacation home in Florida, and on the occasion of his 80th birthday, he was interviewed by a reporter and asked many superficial questions about his life's work and his many inventions. Finally, the reporter asked, "Mr. Edison, what do you consider to be the greatest invention?" Mr. Edison replied, "The mind of a child."

Happy 2008 and best wishes for the coming year and musical season!

Membership Report

Directories were distributed at the convention and contained in the convention program booklet. We welcome the following new members to WVMTA: Andrea DiGregorio (Charleston) cello, Melissa Hecceg (Washington) flute, Deasy Tan (Morgantown), Robert Baden (Buckhannon), percussion and saxophone, Jody Harmony (Huntington), band, piano and elementary music; and collegiate members: Silvia Atmadja (Morgantown), Rosemary Deyerle (Elkview), Su-Jung Huang (Morgantown), and Christopher Miller (Ripley).

Convention Appreciation

Yennie Myers
Out-going President-elect

Thank you to all who helped make this past convention a success. I send special thanks to Dr. Connie Sturm, NCTM, site coordinator, to Dr. Scott Beard, NCTM, competition chair, Janna Kisner, NCTM, Mary Morrison, NCTM and Mary Wilson, district one co-chairs, and to West Virginia University, host institution.

2007 Competitions Report

Dr. Scott Beard, NCTM

2007 EASTERN DIVISION COMPETITION NEWS:

The MTNA Eastern Division Competitions were held at Pennsylvania State University on January 12th, with the following results:

Junior Strings (alternate): Billy Fang, student of Hong Guang-Jia
Young Artist Voice (alternate): Lilly Williams, student of Lillian Long

Advancing to the National Finals are:

Senior High Piano Duet: WINNER George Fu and Jesse Wong, students of Scott Beard and Nancy Breth

Young Artist Woodwind: WINNER Craig Lundgren, student of David Wright

CONGRATULATIONS AND GOOD LUCK!!

2007 Competitions, cont.

2007 WVMTA CONVENTION COMPETITIONS REPORT:

Dr. Scott Beard, NCTM, and Dr. Hooi-Yin Boey

Thanks to all the teachers and students who participated in the 2007 MTNA and WVMTA Mountain State Competitions. We had a record 68 students entered this year!

Please read below for the results:

MTNA Competitions: (** indicates State representative)

CATEGORY	STUDENT WINNER	TEACHER
Composition (JR)	Angela Hewett**	Karen Taddie, NCTM
Composition (YA)	Brian Cambrel**	Dr. Scott Beard, NCTM
Piano (JR)	Billy Fang (winner) Olivia Teng (alternate) Edward Yoon (HM)	Dr. Christine Kefferstan, NCTM Dr. Peter Amstutz Carole Kriewaldt & Dr. Scott Beard, NCTM
Piano (SR)	Leah Claiborne (winner) Yiping Wang (alternate) Pierson Keating (HM)	Dr. Scott Beard, NCTM Janie Smith Dr. James Miltenberger
Piano (YA)	Elizabeth Etnoyer (winner) Jason Solounias (alternate) John Messick (HM)	Dr. Peter Amstutz Dr. Scott Beard, NCTM Dr. James Miltenberger
Piano Duet (SR)	George Fu & Jesse Wong**	Dr. Scott Beard, NCTM & Nancy Breth, NCTM
Strings (JR)	Billy Fang**	Hong Guang-Jia
Strings (SR)	Diana Shi	Hong Guang-Jia
Voice (YA)	Lilly Williams**	Lillian Long
Woodwinds (YA)	Craig Lundgre**	David Wright

Winners and state representatives went on to compete at the Eastern Division Competitions on January 12th at Penn. State University as reported above.

MOUNTAIN STATE COMPETITIONS

Composition (ELEM)	Kyle Seese	Karen Taddie, NCTM
Composition (JR)	Jessica Seese	Karen Taddie, NCTM
Organ (JR)	Paul Isaacs, Jr.	Karen Morris, NCTM
Organ (Coll A)	Zachary Allen	Dr. Melody Meadows
Piano (JR)	Demi Fang (winner) Andrew Troxel (2 nd) Olivia Teng (HM) Anna Marie Sodaro (HM) Matthew Williams (HM)	Dr. Christine Kefferstan, NCTM Carole Kriewaldt & Dr. Scott Beard, NCTM Dr. Peter Amstutz Olive Meyer, NCTM Dr. Gerald Lee

MOUNTAIN STATE COMPETITIONS, cont.

Piano (SR)	Jessica Deal (winner) Maria Xu (2 nd) Nick Martin (HM) Ian McGaughran (HM) Jane Wang (HM)	Dr. Christine Kefferstan (NCTM) Catherine Crotty, NCTM Yennie Myers Dr. Scott Beard, NCTM Dr. Scott Beard, NCTM
Piano (Coll. B)	Pedro Gonzalez-Fernandez (winner) Mary Kefferstan (2 nd) Sean McVey (HM)	Dr. Scott Beard, NCTM N. Sniitkovsky & Dr. Christine Kefferstan Dr. Gerald Lee
Strings (JR)	Jason Snyder (winner) Bao Vuong-Nguyen (2 nd) Christina Deal (HM)	Mary Wilson Mary Wilson Patricia van der Sloot
Strings (SR)	Emily Ngan (winner) Eriko Hattori (2 nd) Ava Lintz (HM) Allison Prescott (HM)	Mary Wilson Mary Wilson Mary Ellen Morrison, NCTM Mary Wilson
Voice (Coll. A)	Madegwa Jackline	Lillian Long
Voice (Coll. B)	Jaime Hulbert	Lewis R. Hall
WW (JR)	Juliane Beckett	Melissa Herceg
WW (SR)	Lindsey Sinclair	Melissa Herceg
WW (Coll. B)	Jessica Houser	Robert Baden

It has been my immense pleasure to serve WVMTA for the past two years as First Vice-President. During that time the district chairs have done a tremendous amount of work on the performance plan, especially in regard to competitions and guidelines for judging, to name but a few. I know that our new chair, Dr. Hooi-Yin Boeoy of Alderson-Broadus College, will continue this work in a wonderful way! Good luck, Hoi Yin! S.B.

Certification Report

Dr. Mary Lynne Bennett, NCTM

Congratulations to Susan Petzold-Carpenter, NCTM, on being newly certified! Susan has received a \$100 rebate towards her initial certification application from the WVMTA board for successfully completing the certification process in 2007. This rebate is currently available to all WVMTA members who newly certify.

Congratulations also to our first annual winner of a full \$200 application fee drawing from the November 2007 convention, Suzanne Tabb. Each year at the state convention, a drawing will be held. There is also a drawing like this at every national convention, so if you're planning on going to Denver this March and thinking about becoming certified, make sure to stop by the certification booth and enter your name!

WVMTA is still in the top 10 in the nation (currently ranked 10th) for percentage of members who are certified. Way to go, WV! Let's keep up the good work and break some records!

Give the Gift of Professionalism

Consider giving the gift of MTNA Professional Certification. Here are some suggestions for the certification candidate, the NCTM, and local and state associations. Make a New Year's resolution to begin one of the suggestions.

For Certification Candidates

To begin the process of becoming certified, consider one of the following.

- Enroll in lessons to motivate practice and improve performance.
- Enroll in a Pedagogy, Music Theory, or Music History course.
- Read a book on vocal or instrumental pedagogy.
- If you are a college faculty member, become certified to model to your students that certification is a worthy achievement.

For NCTMs

- Mentor a certification candidate.
- Invite collegiate students to observe you teach.
- Continue your education through taking lessons and attending workshops and conferences.
- Publicize your continuing education endeavors and accomplishments to your students and families.

For State and Local Associations

The following ideas for funding support to certification candidates are taken from a survey of state and local certification chairs.

- Oregon Music Teachers Association gives a reimbursement of \$100 to all successful candidates.
- Washington State Music Teachers Association awarded fifteen \$100 certification grants over a period of 1-½ years to candidates who have successfully become certified.
- One association budgets \$500 to reimburse teachers \$50 each for their application fees.
- Another association offers five grants each year to reimburse half the certification fee for the first five people who apply.
- A local association reimburses \$100 to any teacher who successfully completes certification.
- A local association has a grant available from which each teacher is eligible for up to \$1000 over time.

Piano Technicians Guild

The Piano Technicians Guild (PTG) is dedicated to providing continuing education for piano technicians. Their commitment to continuing education also includes the credentialed professional piano teaching community. To that end, the PTG is pleased to announce the creation of two new scholarships available to MTNA certified members.

Piano Technicians Guild, cont.

Any piano teacher who has earned MTNA Professional Certification and uses a Registered Piano Technician (RPT) can apply for one of two \$750 scholarships from the Piano Technicians Guild (PTG). One of these annual scholarships is to be used specifically for Recreational Music Making (RMM) training, as presented by MTNA, and the other for furthering one's teaching skills through continued education and/or performance study.

Applications will be screened by the MTNA National Certification Commission (NCC). Previous recipients, members of the MTNA Board of Directors or the NCC are not eligible.

The recipients will be announced at the annual MTNA National Conference Awards Brunch. After the project has been completed, recipients should submit to the PTG and the NCC a written report detailing how the scholarships were used to advance their career or business.

To apply send the following information:

- A completed entry form
- A one-page, typed study plan (including estimated cost, anticipated time frame and information about the RMM training or the proposed teacher education and/or performance study.
- A résumé of your musical background, experience and service
- One letter of reference should be included, along with any other supporting documentation.

All materials should be submitted to:
MTNA Certification Program
Attn: PTG Scholarships
441 Vine St., Ste. 3100
Cincinnati, OH 45202-3004

For more information contact MTNA National Headquarters at (888) 512-5278 or mtnacertification@mtna.org. The postmark deadline for applications is February 1.

Piano Technicians Guild Scholarship Entry Form

Name _____ NCTM Member # _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____

Zip _____ E-mail _____

Phone (____) _____ Cell Phone (____) _____

Name of Registered Piano Technician _____

Select scholarship for which you are making application

_____ Recreational Music Making Workshop, as presented by MTNA

(Could be applied to attendance at the RMM Track at the 2008 MTNA National Conference in Denver)

_____ Teacher Continuing Education and/or Performance Study

MTNA Certification Program
Attn: PTG Scholarships
441 Vine St., Ste. 3100
Cincinnati, OH 45202-3004

www.mtnacertification.org
Phone: (888) 512-5278
Fax: (513) 421-2503

♪ Awards ♪

Teacher of the Year

The 2007 WVMTA Teacher of the Year was awarded posthumously to ELAINE TUTT.

May 1 is the deadline to submit nominations for the 2008 WVMTA Teacher of the Year. According to rules as set up by the WVMTA Administrative Board on October 25, 1996, "Nominations will be limited to three." Also according to rules, the qualifications are:

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

Nominees will be introduced in the June issue of WVMTA NEWS. Mail nominations to: Dr. Scott Beard, NCTM • Shepherd University Department of Music • PO Box 3210 • Shepherdstown, WV 25443 or email to pianorobby@yahoo.com

Past Teacher of the Year Recipients

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| * 1991 Peggy Johnston, NCTM | * 2000 Catherine Crotty, NCTM |
| * 1992 Christine Kefferstan, NCTM | * 2001 Bonnie Miltenberger |
| * 1993 Carol Beall, NCTM | * 2002 no award given |
| * 1994 Linda Seime, NCTM | * 2003 Lya Cartwright |
| * 1995 Lena Lim, NCTM | * 2004 Olive Meyer, NCTM |
| * 1996 Mary Wilson | * 2005 Mila Markun, NCTM |
| * 1997 Ray Martin, NCTM | * 2006 Scott Beard, NCTM |
| * 1998 Leslie Petteys, NCTM | * 2007 Elaine Tutt |
| * 1999 Ruth Carder, NCTM | |

Distinguished Leader of the Year

- This new award is 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 (award was once called "member of the year") by a particular member previously. (The award CAN be granted to the same individual more than once, however).
- 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 Awards Committee, please notify Karen Taddie, NCTM, Scott Beard, NCTM, or Mary Wilson).

Member of the Year/Distinguished Leader of the Year Honorees

- | | |
|---|---------------------------|
| * 1991 Mary Shep Mann, NCTM | * 2000 Olive Meyer, NCTM |
| * 1992 Bobby Loftis, NCTM | * 2001 no award given |
| * 1993 Judy Lambert, NCTM | * 2002 no award given |
| * 1994 Jane Mangus, NCTM, & Sandra Hastings | * 2003 James Miltenberger |
| * 1995 Mila Markun, NCTM | * 2004 no award given |
| * 1996 Marija Sommer, NCTM | * 2005 no award given |
| * 1997 Marguerite Bostonia, NCTM | * 2006 Barbara Heckert |
| * 1998 Jean Douglass, NCTM | * 2007 Carol Beall |
| * 1999 Connie Arrau Sturm, NCTM | |

District News

The WVU Collegiate Chapter of MTNA will sponsor a guest lecture by Dr. Rebecca Grooms Johnson (former OMTA president, MTNA National Pedagogy Chair, and American Music Teacher columnist) on April 11, 2008 from 1:00-2:30 in room 440A. Her presentation, entitled "How to Motivate and Retain the Adult Piano Student," is free and open to the public. Please join us for this event!

In this presentation, Dr. Johnson will explore how adults learn, how to motivate the adult student to practice, how to look realistically at their lesson attendance, and what things lead to a good retention rate. The research concerning the adult's need for self direction will be explored, and many anecdotes from years of teaching experience will be used to illustrate the unique approaches that adults bring to the lesson.



Rebecca Johnson

Morgantown MTA (District I)

Janna Kisner, NCTM, Mary Morrison, NCTM, Mary Wilson, co-chairs

The District I Fall Festival was held November 3, 2007 and included five themed recital programs: "Entirely Ensemble," "Capture a Classic," "This Land is Your Land," "The Entertainer" and "A Trip to the Zoo."

Over 100 students participated in the recitals. Participating teachers included: Linda Albuquerque, Carol Beall (NCTM), Wey-Tsyr Chen, Catherine Crotty (NCTM), Karen How, Janna Kisner (NCTM), Mary Ellen Morrison (NCTM), Christine Tan, Karen Taddie (NCTM), Patricia van der Sloot, and Mary Wilson.

Clarksburg MTA (District II)

Dr. Hooi Yin Boey, chair

District Two held its Fall Festival on November 10, 2007 at Alderson-Broaddus College. Sixteen students participated in piano performance. Before the performance, students presented a short program note about the piece and/or the composer. The annual Spring Adjudicated Performances will be held on Saturday, May 3, 2008 at the Wilcox Chapel of Alderson-Broaddus College in Philippi.

Charleston MTA (District III)

Karen Morris and Vicki Cavendish, co chairs

Sixty-eight violin, viola, cello, organ and piano students participated in District Three's Fall Festival held at the Baptist Temple in Charleston on November 10th. The theme was Colors of Music. Local artist and retired art teacher Averill Howard led a presentation on colors in art and music with help from students of participating teachers. Mrs. Howard spoke about warm and cool colors, happy and sad colors, rough and smooth textures, and various tones in art. She then had students demonstrate these qualities on various instruments. The following

District News, cont.

students received trophies for earning six points: Hillary Keller, Michael Terranova, Joy Wu, Meredith Lauerman, Andrew Siviprakasam, and Christian Smith.

Mid-Ohio Valley MTA (District IV)

Barbara Heckert, chair

The fall festival for the Mid-Ohio Valley District was held on November 3 at Trinity Episcopal Church. The theme was "Sonatas and Sonatinas". There were 49 piano entrants and 1 flute entrant. Seven teachers entered students: Melissa Herceg, Laura Hamm, NCTM, Marilyn Horton, NCTM, Linda Toomey, NCTM, Jan Smith, NCTM, Yennie Myers, and Marsha Reilly, NCTM. All participants received certificates. Five Level I trophies were presented and one Level II trophy.

Eastern Panhandle MTA (District VI)

Gary Mullenax, chair

The District Six Fall Festival was held October 27th, 2007 at Shepherd University. The theme was "Celebrating the Classical Period." Over 80 students performed in three different recitals. The workshop on Classical Period Forms was performed by District Six member teachers. Teachers Participating in the program included: Jenny Anderson, Scott Beard (NCTM), Ruth Carson, Gary Mullenax, Ruth Raubertas, and Suzanne Tabb.

The district also held its annual fall recital on November 18th at Shepherd University. Students performed solo and ensemble works on three recitals.

RACE/NMCP Program

Karen Taddie, NCTM

This comprehensive National examination program, which we as a State have adopted, covers performance, theory, technique, ear training and sight-reading. National exams and national examiners are offered to testing sites twice a year - in December and May.

- THIS SPRING, MORGANTOWN WILL OFFER TESTING ON - 2008 Spring Session Practical Examinations – May 16 & 17
- THIS SPRING, PARKERSBURG WILL OFFER TESTING ON - 2008 Spring Session Practical Examinations – May 17

DEADLINE FOR REGISTERING ALL STUDENTS IS: February 26, 2008.

Registration can begin anytime after September 11, 2007.

IMPORTANT NOTE: Effective as of NOW, the RACE program has changed its name to National Music Certificate Program (NMCP). The website address is www.nationalmusiccertificate.org. Everything else remains the same: 2004 RACE Piano Syllabus remains in effect, registration procedures are the same.

For the first time since we, as a State, adopted the RACE program, we had 2 centers 'open for business' this past May. Morgantown and Parkersburg both set up examination centers and had students successfully attempt the exams for the first time in our State. It was actually very easy to get these sites up 'n' running. Parkersburg was allowed to run their program with only 7 students registered; Morgantown with 11. Morgantown also offered the written Theory exams for a select few students this past December, too. Local teachers are NOT responsible for registering their students or collecting fees--registration is done by the parents, online. All scoring, record keeping, fees, and certificates are handled by the National Music Certificate Program. If you are interested in getting this program "off

RACE/NMCP Program, cont.

the ground" for any number of YOUR students (or for other students/teachers in or around your district) please contact Karen Taddie.

This comprehensive national examination program covers performance, theory, technique, ear training and sightreading. Exams and examiners can be sent to testing sites twice a year - in December and May. All NMCP 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 National Music Certificate Program promotes objective assessment by sending examiners to centers where they are not acquainted with any teacher or student. Examiners for NMCP 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. It is recommended that new NMCP centers begin with young students, but students of all ages/levels can be tested throughout the program. 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 feature LH melody and part playing (from book one or early book two 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 NMCP syllabi, and begin working students toward successful accomplishments in this new endeavor. Complete information about performance requirements is found in the NMCP Piano Syllabus. A variety of materials, including the syllabus & ear training & sight reading materials, can be found through Frederick Harris Music at www.frederickharrismusic.com For more information about the NMCP program itself, please visit www.nationalmusiccertificate.org and start getting acquainted with the site.

RACE/NMCP Recognizes High Achievers at 2 Centers in West Virginia

Thomas Green

Chief Examiner, Practical Subjects
National Music Certificate Program

Christie Gray

Manager, U.S. Relations
National Music Certificate Program

Congratulations to these West Virginia students! National Music Certificate Program (formerly Royal American Conservatory Examinations) is pleased to announce that these students have won CENTER Certificates of Excellence for the 2006-2007 academic year (September 1 to August 31). These students are:

MORGANTOWN CENTER

Jennifer C Gore: Grade 1 Piano (Teacher: Karen Taddie, NCTM)

Michelle Wang: Grade 4 Piano (Teacher: Catherine Crotty, NCTM)

Angela M Hewett: Preparatory A Piano (Teacher: Karen Taddie, NCTM)

Jessica A Seese: Preparatory B Piano (Teacher: Karen Taddie, NCTM)

PARKERSBURG/VIENNA CENTER

Alexander W Herring: Grade 1 Piano (Teacher: Jan Jemison Smith, NCTM)

Madeline C Brown: Grade 2 Piano (Teacher: Jan Jemison Smith, NCTM)

Arienne M Sole: Preparatory A Piano (Teacher: Marilyn Horton, NCTM)

Jacqueline P Braham: Preparatory B Piano (Teacher: Marilyn Horton, NCTM)

The Center Certificates of Excellence are given to the candidates who obtain the highest marks in their grade and subject, from Preparatory A and B through to Grade 10, at each CENTER. To qualify for this award, candidates must have obtained a mark of at least 80% in their practical examination and have completed the theory requirements for their respective grades.

RACE/NMCP Recognizes High Achievers in the STATE of West Virginia

Thomas Green
Chief Examiner, Practical Subjects
National Music Certificate Program

Christie Gray
Manager, U.S. Relations
National Music Certificate Program

Congratulations to these West Virginia students! National Music Certificate Program (formerly Royal American Conservatory Examinations) is pleased to announce that these students have won STATE Certificates of Excellence for the 2006-2007 academic year (September 1 to August 31). These students are:

Jennifer C Gore: Grade 1 Piano (Teacher: Karen Taddie, NCTM)

Madeline C Brown: Grade 2 Piano (Teacher: Jan Jemison Smith, NCTM)

Michelle Wang: Grade 4 Piano (Teacher: Catherine Crotty, NCTM)

Angela M Hewett: Preparatory A Piano (Teacher: Karen Taddie, NCTM)

Jessica A Seese: Preparatory B Piano (Teacher: Karen Taddie, NCTM)

The State Certificates of Excellence are given to the candidates who obtain the highest marks in their grade and subject, from Preparatory A and B through to Grade 10, in each STATE. To qualify for this award, candidates must have obtained a mark of at least 80% in their practical examination and have completed the theory requirements for their respective grades.

Music Scholarship Auditions

Fairmont State University's School of Fine Arts & Music Department announces their 2008-2009 academic year Music Scholarship Auditions. Scheduled for Friday, February 29, 2008, the event features individual performance auditions, meetings with FSU faculty and students, music department and campus tours, and performances by FSU students and ensembles. Scholarships will be awarded to music education majors, music minors, and performers in bands and choirs.

For an application or more information contact: Dr. Jeffrey Poland • Music Department Coordinator • Fairmont State University • 1201 Locust Ave. • Fairmont, WV 26554 Telephone: (304) 367-4118 E-mail: jpoland@fairmontstate.edu

Free Master Class and Concert

Dr. Christine Kefferstan

West Virginia University invites you to a free master class and concert by pianist Barbara Nissman at the Creative Arts Center, Morgantown, WV.

Master Class: Saturday, Feb. 2 from 2-4 p.m. in Bloch Hall

Concert: Sunday, Feb. 3 at 3 p.m. in Bloch Hall

Please see www.barbaranissman.com for details of the impressive accomplishments of this remarkable artist and pedagogue.

The program will include the Bach-Busoni Toccata, Adagio & Fugue in C major, Barber's Nocturne (Homage a John Field), Beethoven's Sonata, Op. 53 (Waldstein), Ginastera's Sonata No. 3, Op. 55 (dedicated to Barbara Nissman), three Rachmaninoff Preludes from Op. 32, No. 5 in G major, No. 12 in G# minor, No. 4 in D major, three Etudes-Tableaux, Op. 39, No. 6 in A minor, Op. 33, No. 2 in C major, Op. 39, No. 1 in C minor, and Liszt's Mephisto Waltz.

Arts Advocacy & Awareness

Suzanne Tabb

Facing surgery? If so, you might be interested to know that listening to music can reduce the amount of pain medication you'll need to take afterward, according to two articles I've recently reviewed on the topic of music as complimentary therapy.

According to an article entitled "Pain Management and Music" (About.com: Back & Neck Pain):

"The use of medication is often accompanied by unwanted side effects. Researchers may well have found a way around this problem for post operative surgery patients -- music!!

The Cochrane Library, a publication that reviews and reports on research in the health care field, looked at 14 studies, involving a total of 489 patients, and their pain response to music. The studies found that while medication was the best and number one form of pain reduction, music came in as a solid second. One physician commented on the findings by adding that music reduces intensity of pain as well as the amount of medicine needed in acute post op pain situations.

Researchers speculate that the effect of music on pain may be due in part to attention distraction and/or the relaxation effect provided by the therapy.

However you slice it, music is non-invasive. It's worth a try!!"

And in "Sonic Health Boost", an article written by Jordan Lite for the January, 2008 edition of *Prevention Magazine*, we learn that:

"Simply listening to music for one hour a day can ease your pain by 20%, Cleveland Clinic researchers recently found. It can even reduce the need for pain medication before and after surgery. Music seems to stimulate the release of pain-masking endorphins in the brain, says Cheryl Dileo, a music therapy professor and director of the Arts and Quality of Life Research Center at Temple University."

So it seems that..."good melody" does indeed "make good medicine".

Dates to Remember

- 08 MTNA National Conference: Denver, CO/March 29-April 2, 2008
- 09 Eastern Division Competition: West Chester University, West Chester, PA/date TBA.

FOOTPRINTS

- ♥On October 22 Laura Hamm celebrated the birth of her first grandchild. Olivia Ruth Hamm was born in Memphis, TN.
- ♥Dr. Connie A. Sturm, NCTM, announced her decision to retire from WVU at the end of the Spring semester.
- ♥George Fu, student of Dr. Scott Beard, NCTM, recently won the National Symphony Orchestra Young Soloist's Competition in Washington, DC. He will be performing the first movement of Tchaikovsky's Piano Concerto No. 1 with the orchestra in the Kennedy Center Concert Hall on May 20th.
- ♥Leah Claiborne, student of Dr. Scott Beard, NCTM, was named the winner of the Washington Post Scholarship. This competitive scholarship was awarded to only one student in the greater Washington area and carries with it an award of \$2,000 per year. Congratulations, Leah!

WVMTA Officers 2007-2009

- * President: Dr. R. Scott Beard, NCTM
- * President Elect: Dr. Mary Lynne Bennett, NCTM
- * First Vice President: Dr. Hooi Yin Boey
- * Second Vice President: Vicki Cavendish
- * Secretary: Terry Lawson
- * Treasurer: Karen Taddie, NCTM
- * Immediate Past President: Karen Taddie, NCTM

District Chairs

Morgantown MTA (District 1)

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

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