



West Virginia Music Teachers Association

**Affiliated with Music
Teachers National
Association**



www.wvmta.org WVMTA News Volume 58, Issue 3, June 2023

Notes from the President, Dr. Johan Botes, NCTM

Greetings! The 2022 academic year is over and some of you may already be on summer break. Take some well-deserved rest and enjoy the good weather! I, myself, just came back from a trip to Italy and Portugal where I sampled some of the local wines and foods. I also gave some masterclasses at the music conservatory in Rodi Garganico (southern part of Italy) and played a recital. It was a grand time and I'm so glad that life is starting to go on after these past few years.



The budget committee and administrative board have also decided to continue the new Scholarship for an African American Applied music student (AAAMS Scholarship). Please see the announcement below and note particularly that students of all ages and levels are eligible. I am excited that we will be able to offer the scholarship as a gesture of inclusion and diversity for the third year, now. Please direct all inquiries directly to me.

I am extending the deadline for nominations for the WVMTA Teacher of the Year and the Distinguished Leader of the Year until August 31. Please send me your nominations to my email address at japbotes@gmail.com.

Please take care. I hope to see you at the 2023 WVMTA Conference November 3-4, that will take place at Marshall University in Huntington. Dr. Yuhsuan Liao, our president-elect, is planning a stellar gathering!

Best wishes,

Johan Botes
President, WVMTA

Notes from President--Elect, Dr. Yuhsuan Liao

The 2023 WVMTA State Conference/Competition will be held at Marshall University on November 3-4, 2023, with Dr. Johan Botes as site coordinator and Miles Helmick as the competition coordinator. Thank you Johan and Miles!!!

Conference Program

Featured Artist— Concert/Masterclass

I am excited to announce that we will host the American pianist Andrew Staube as our Featured Guest Artist. He will be performing an evening recital on Friday evening, November 3, and he'll conduct a piano master class on Saturday morning, November 4. He's prepared an interesting program for the concert.

"Pianist Andrew Staube's solo repertoire extends from the 16th century to works written this decade, and whose recitals comprise both beloved and unfamiliar masterpieces alike! Furthermore, during the 19th century recitals and concerts featured even more variety than the standard piano recital given today. And it is in this spirit that Andrew's recital will be a unique and broad survey of beautiful works by both the titans of piano writing (Beethoven, Rachmaninoff), and others that deserve even more recognition for their art (Max Reger, John Bull, Jan Václav Voríšek, Heitor Villa-Lobos)!"

Please check out his impressive biography: <https://uh.edu/kgmca/music/about-us/faculty-staff/andrew-staube/>

We also will have 3 very diverse presentations:

1. Dr. Thomas Swenson (NC): MTNA Southern Division Director (2022-2024)

Setting the Stage for the Beginning Adult Piano Student

"It takes great courage for an adult beginner to take those first steps into learning to play the piano. For many, they have never had a one-to-one teacher-student relationship quite like this. They may also have not been in the role of a "student" for many years. As piano teachers, who took our first lessons as children, it is easy for us to take so much of what we do for granted. Taking time, right away, to clarify and explain some expectations can immediately put the adult student at ease. When both the student and teacher are "on the same page" it is much more likely that the lessons will be successful and enjoyable".

2. Dr. Agnieszka Zick (MI): University of Michigan

Pedagogical Piano Gems from the Baltic Region

"The program celebrates composers from the Baltic region: Lithuania, Estonia, and Poland. The solo works of Mikalojus Čiurlionis, Arvo Pärt, and Emilie Mayer will be presented, with focus on their pedagogical and aesthetic value".

3. Narciso Solero (VA): Immediate Past-President, Virginia Music Teachers Association (2021- 2023)

A long-term commitment: ideas to keep your students engaged in lessons for the long haul!

"People enjoy doing things they do well." So said my mother, the English teacher, many years ago to me, and it has served as the foundation for my teaching style ever since. This workshop explores in detail the notion that to motivate our students to continue piano and keep it as a lifelong passion, we must teach them to be accomplished pianists as part of our strategy for keeping them interested in continuing lessons. Ideas about bridging the gap from method book to "real" music will be explored (including my favorite repertoire post-method books), as will ways to get over the middle-school hump and keep our students engaged all the way through high school – long-term motivation".

Accommodations

DoubleTree by Hilton Huntington
1001 3rd Ave, Huntington, WV 25701
Tel: 304-525-1001

Conference Rate: \$134 for single rate and double rate if booked by October 19, 2023.

Booking

link:https://www.hilton.com/en/book/reservation/rooms/?ctyhocn=HTSDTDT&arrivalDate=2023-11-02&departureDate=2023-11-04&groupCode=CDT90L&room1NumAdults=1&cid=0M%2CWW%2CHILTONLINK%2CEN%2CDirectLink&bm-verify=AAQAAAAH_5PIPFi1WYO0L9woVRNLFp7bp7Ok5R033g7c0t5ZQuInr0RAlkv1m_ip9Iu3wSjBwTpVdXh_Lb8YMa65uZP-o03qvZF9rP7xbSjBVKY-iRHWUHDkVl_7q7a6UQ50TzrWymNUBK95Hbqwcaq47zCC43D7l8_qFqosXUCYlDQy7fCKpdQuclfoY7h61LOMaHh6_0kOPtCDbIUm-gWB6KI2fhANZz1AHA8Ah2BI-lFnN1jSfuLDIGW5VFMbKuuuUWPeEqMioye5s9gKlUv5-BM70Y2jlnbTLb1b-v_h0xr66kMjdCoJLaY6dr5fv2D0p_RFRfE0aaDMYwQMzspv1Bhr1B0sGjhwosfmsLxly31Zwq3NabS3FL02Ayt7BgfKjl9Rk04QZ0sd_Yld9hlOnBfU1EVhKzP9Ijb-jTKLdhWU6zgTC3tZTCHg3Jr7SOSYLrBGPXdimMtxqr5Hm8OUow_rNO11ieaglu9jsFmjpxDgNSGqbKHHQabcVVR1IvvLetQsxObwz90Qkwms=1&qIta=99801505&qGrpCd=MTA&qSIH=MGWPD&qAkamaiCC=US&qSrt=sBR&qBrs=re.ic.in.vn.cp.vx.hi.ex.rs.cv.sb.cw.ma.ul.ki.va.ii.sp.nd.ct.sx.we.lx&qWch=0&qSmP=1&setPMCookies=true&qRad=30&qRdU=mi&srb_u=1&qSHBrC=HI&icdv=99801505

If book via phone, mention WVMTA.

Conference Registration Form

Registration deadline: Oct 1, 2023

[Registration Form - WVMTA State
Conference Nov 3-4, 2023
forms.gle](#)

Call for Master Class Participants

If you have advanced students who would like to perform for our Featured Guest Artist Andrew Staupé in the master class, please write to me at yliao@shepherd.edu.

News from MTNA Shepherd Collegiate Chapter:

MTNA Shepherd Collegiate Chapter host a student recital as part of the Shepherd Community Music Program recital on April 29, 2023, at Shipley Recital Hall, Shepherd University. There were about 15 students from 5 studios participating in the recital.

News from WVMTA Commissioning Composer Chair

Announcement will be made in the fall 2023, for the 2024 WVMTA Commissioning Composer. After few years of break, we are getting back to the task! We will plan to have the premiere at the 2024 WVMTA state conference, stay tuned!

Yuhsuan Liao
President-Elect

WVMTA Treasurer's Report, Dr. Jacob Womack, NCTM

As of June 15, 2023, our bank account balance is \$29,813.90. The current balance on our 5-year CD is \$11,436.92 and our 1-year CD valued at \$10,781.07.

Respectfully submitted,
Jacob Womack

WVMTA Teacher of the Year Award

August 31st is the deadline to submit nominations for the 2023 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 and,
- Has held membership in WVMTA for at least five (5) years.

Past Teacher of the Year Awards Recipients:

1991 Peggy Johnston, NCTM	1992 Christine Kefferstan, NCTM
1993 Carol Beall, NTCM	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, NTCM
2001 Bonnie Miltenberger	2002 No award given
2003 Lya Cartwright	2004 Olive Meyer, NCTM
2005 Mila Markun, NCTM	2006 Scott Beard, NCTM

2007 Elaine Tutt	2008 Vicki B. Cavendish
2009 Harriet Tucker, NCTM	2010 Jan Jemison Smith, NCTM
2011 Mary Ellen Morrison, NCTM	2012 Hooi Yin Boeey
2013 Christene Kefferstan, NCTM	2014 Carole Kriewaldt
2015 No award given	2016 James Miltenberger
2017 Henning Vauth, NCTM	2018 Mary Wilson
2019 Jacob Womack, NCTM	2020 John Morrison
2021 Ian Jessee	2022 Dr. Gerald (Jerry) Lee

WVMTA Distinguished Leader of the Year

- This award is based on accumulated years of leadership and service contributed to the organization, over and above 10 years.
- This award will be based on whether the award was or was not already received by a particular member previously. The award CAN be granted to the same individual more than once.
- This award will be based on the recommendation, every year, of the current committees' research and records (If you are interested in becoming a future member of the Awards Committee, please notify Dr. Johan Botes at japbotes@gmail.com). The Distinguished Leader of the Year Award was begun in 2006 and replaced the "Member of the year Award."

Member of the Year Honorees

1991 Mary Shep Mann, NCTM	1992 Bobby Loftis, NCTM
1993 Judy Lambert, NCTM	1994 Jane Mangus, NCTM; Sandra Hastings
1995 Mila Markun	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	2004-05 No Awards given

Distinguished Leader of the Year Honorees

2006 Barbara Heckert	2007 Carol Beall, NCTM
2008 Mary Wilson	2009 Karen Taddie, NCTM
2010 Gary Mullenax, NCTM	2011 Janna Kisner, NCTM
2012 Scott Beard, NCTM	2013 Mary Lynne Bennett, NCTM
2014 No award given	2015 Mary Ellen Morrison, NCTM
2016 Laura Hamm, NCTM	2017 Gerald (Jerry) Lee
2018 No award given	2019 Hooi Yin Boey
2020 Vicki Cavendish	2021 Dr. Jacob Womack, NCTM
2022 John Morrison	2023

WVMTA Scholarship for an African American Applied Music Student (AAAMS Scholarship)

- WVMTA will provide a \$500 scholarship for an African American applied music student.
- The scholarship will be awarded annually, if the WVMTA Budget Committee determines there are sufficient funds in the general WVMTA budget.
- Students cannot receive the scholarship in two successive years unless there are no other competitors.
- All African American students shall be eligible, regardless of age and performance level, including pre-college, college, and adult students, and regardless of instrument or voice type.
- Eligible students must be students of a WVMTA member (“dues paid”) at the time of application or start lessons with a WVMTA member by the week after Labor Day.
- A call for applications shall be included in the June Newsletter by the President.
- Applications shall be due on or before August 31, and selections will be made by the WVMTA Budget Committee by September 15. Applications should be submitted electronically by email attachment to the President.
- There is no application fee.
- Selections will be made based on need and/or merit.

- The student or legal guardians shall receive the scholarship in form of a one-time payment from the WVMTA Treasurer, postmarked on or before September 30.
- If there are no applicants, the earmarked money shall go back into the general WVMTA budget.

Application:

- A formless one-page letter written by the student’s applied teacher, speaking to a) need and/or merit of the student, b) stating that the student either has already been studying with the teacher, or will start lessons with the teacher by the first week after Labor Day, and c) confirming that the teacher has paid WVMTA dues for the current fiscal year.
- Proof of the teacher’s dues payment to MTNA/WVMTA for the current fiscal year.

MTNA Certification – WVMTA Incentive

\$200 Reimbursement Check Available for Any Newly Certified NCTM!*

Yes, for anyone who successfully becomes a NEW NCTM! No stipulations. Receive a \$200 award from the WVMTA board for completing certification, which covers the entire fee. Find out the latest information on requirements for the National Certification Program at www.mtnacertification.org.

*This award does not apply to people who complete their renewals or their permanent professional certificates. This award is only for new certifications. Contact vauth@marshall.edu for more information.

Notes from the Membership Chair, Dr. Jerry Lee

- With view to the new 2023-2024 membership year, using the month of April 2023 as a starting point, according to dues paid during April 1, 2023 – May 31, 2023, WVMTA confirms 30 total members, 4 of whom are collegiate.

- Membership updates from April 1, 2023 – May 31, 2023:
 - WVMTA welcomes Amy Moore as a new member. Amy is from Ashland, KY and specializes in elementary music, piano, and violin.

 - WVMTA welcomes Jon Parker Nicholson as a new member. Jon is from New Creek, WV.

 - WVMTA welcomes DeAnn LoCasto as a new member. DeAnn is from Clarksburg, WV and specializes in piano, guitar, woodwinds, and strings.

 - WVMTA welcomes Achareeya Flint as a new member. Achareeya is from Fairmont, WV and specializes in piano.

 - WVMTA welcomes Perri Kiser as a reinstating collegiate member and transfer member from Virginia. Perri is from Victor, WV and specializes in violin, piano, and cello.

 - WVMTA welcomes John McAlister as a reinstating member. John is from Huntington, WV and specializes in piano, accompanying, voice, church music, group piano, and choir.

 - WVMTA welcomes Katherine Turner as a new collegiate member. Katherine is from Shepherdstown, WV.

- If you haven't already done so, please renew your membership to WVMTA for the 2023-2024 year.

- In addition, please encourage and recruit new members to join WVMTA so that our organization stays as strong and active as possible!

- To join online and to learn more about specific member benefits, please visit the following website and click on the link towards the top of the page, "Join + Renew": www.mtna.org

- The text below is from MTNA, describing the benefits of membership:

Choices for a More Musical Tomorrow

MTNA offers a number of membership types for teachers, students and those involved in the music industry.

For well over a century, MTNA has been the backbone for a collaborative community of music-teaching professionals, connecting both the seasoned educator and those at the beginning of their career.

Membership with MTNA does more than simply complement your career as a music professional—it supports, supplements and shapes it. It empowers music teachers nationwide to become better educators through networking, leadership, mentoring and educational opportunities.

MTNA Membership Delivers:

- Peer Connections—a network of outlets, forums and channels for like-minded individuals in the music profession to collaborate and communicate, both locally and nationally
- Ongoing Education—conferences, events and advice on teaching tips and pedagogy, technology and web trends, master classes and informational sessions
- Invaluable Resources—access to countless benefits, from Certification, publications and consultation services to competitions, teacher enrichment grants and insurance

Districts Reports

Morgantown MTA/District I Report:

District One Theory Test was held on Friday, March 24, 2023, at the College of Creative Arts, WVU. 26 students participated in the event and successfully passed the test. Participating teachers include Mary Morrison, Karen Taddie, Natalia Liston, Tatyana Heis, and Hooi Yin Boey.

Spring Adjudicated Performances was held on Saturday, May 6, 2023, in Bloch Hall and Falbo Theatre, at the College of Creative Arts, WVU. 42 students participated in the event. Professor Karen Verm, Director of Opera and Vocal Coaching at WVU School of Music, and Dr. Amy Simpson, Adjunct Instructor at WVU School of Music, were the adjudicators. Participating teachers include Mary Morrison, Karen Taddie, Natalia Liston, Tatyana Heis, Juliana Yap, Eve Flint, and Hooi Yin Boey.

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The following students participated in The Royal Conservatory of Music (RCM) Exams online in Spring 2023 and in-person on Saturday, June 3, 2023, at the College of Creative Arts, WVU:

- Jude Al-Qudah, student of Natalia Liston, successfully passed Grade 1 Piano Practical Exam.
- Emma Liu, student of Hooi Yin Boey, successfully passed Grade 3 Piano Practical Exam.
- Julia Watson, student of Mary Morrison, successfully passed Grade 3 Cello Practical Exam.
- Lucy Sarkisian, student of Tatyana Heis, successfully passed Grade 5 Piano Practical Exam.
- Sebastian Duenas-Diaz, student of Tatyana Heis, successfully passed Grade 6 Piano Practical Exam.

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Jude Al-Qudah, a 3rd grader, and student of Natalia Liston, was the State Award Winner in Preparatory B Practical Exam as she received the highest marks in West Virginia in 2022. On March 11, 2023, Jude performed at the RCM Celebrations of Excellence Recital at Merkin Hall, Kaufman Music Center, New York City.


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Emma Lu, a 2<sup>nd</sup> grader, and student of Hooi Yin Boey, was selected the 2<sup>nd</sup> Place Winner in 2022 Elite International Music Competition Elementary Category. On May 21, 2023, Emma performed at the Winners' Recital at Weill Recital Hall, Carnegie Hall, New York City.

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Spring Adjudicated Performances, Bloch Hall, May 6, 2023



Spring Adjudicated Performances, Bloch Hall, May 6, 2023



Spring Adjudicated Performances, Falbo Theatre, May 6, 2023



Spring Adjudicated Performances, Falbo Theatre, May 6, 2023



Jude Al-Qudah, RCM State 2022 Award Winner, at Kaufman Music Center, NYC, March 11, 2023



Emma Lu, Elite Competition 2022 Winner, at Carnegie Hall, NYC, May 21, 2023

Dr. Hooi Yin Boey, Chair

Clarksburg MTA/District II Report:

District II held the annual spring adjudication on April 29 at the Historic Waldomore in downtown Clarksburg. Professor John



Morrison from Fairmont State University adjudicated the student performances. There were twenty-three students in total from the studios of Robert Ellis, DeAnn LoCasto, and Rayme Pullen. Mrs. LoCasto is a new WVMTA member, and we are thrilled for her students to participate in District II events!

Four students received a trophy for their sixth district performance: Graham Northey, Magda Palko, Aslyn Sowards, and Lila Sowards.



Six students received a rating of I+ or I: Elijah Coleman, Kira Gazal, Graham Northey, Magda Palko, Aslyn Sowards, and Lila Sowards.

The teachers from District II extend our heartfelt thanks for Professor Morrison's kind comments, thoughtful insight, and fair ratings for all the participating students.



Rayme Pullen, Chair

Charleston MTA/District III Report:

District Three held their Spring Adjudication for piano on Saturday, April 30, at St. Matthew's Church. Twenty-six students participated from two studios. Dr. Johan Botes was the adjudicator.

Vicki Cavendish, Chair

Eastern Panhandle MTA/District VI Report:

Siegal-Hoffman Concerto Festival was held at the Falling Water Presbyterian Church in Hedgesville, WV on February 11, 2023. 32 students of Jenny Anderson and Gary Mullenax participated.

EPMTA Spring recital was held on April 22, 2023 at the Falling Waters Presbyterian Church, located in Hedgesville, WV. 37 students of Jenny Anderson, Gary Mullenax, Donna Coyle and Mellisa Rickman participated.

The Theory and Technic tests were rescheduled from March 11th to May 6th due to my father's death. Testing was done at the Zion Lutheran Church in Williamsport, MD on May 6th, 2023.

Students of Jenny Anderson took and successfully passed both tests (35 students theory test and 34 technic test). Gary Mullenax, David Loy and Donna Coyle assisted with the event.

The Spring Adjudications were held on May 13th at Falling Waters Presbyterian Church in Hedgesville, WV. 12 students of Gary Mullenax and Donna Coyle participated in the event.

Dr. Beth Caluda of Stevens City, Virginia served as Adjudicator. Dr. Caluda is retired from Shenandoah University after teaching 39 years. While there, she served as head of the Keyboard Division and is active in the Virginia Music Teachers Association and serves as Chair of the Shenandoah chapter of VMTA.

Jenny Anderson, Chair

News is published quarterly online at www.wvmta.org and mailed to members who do not have an email address. If you have a change of street address or email address, contact MTNA at www.mtna.org or call 888-512-5278

Dr. Johan Botes, Newsletter Editor, japbotes@gmail.com

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