



# *West Virginia Music Teachers Association*

**Affiliated with Music Teachers  
National Association**



[www.wvmta.org](http://www.wvmta.org) **WVMTA News Volume 52, Issue 3, June 2017**

## *Notes from the President, Dr. Jacob Womack, NCTM*

Greetings and happy summer!

Sheila and I are eagerly anticipating the arrival of James Oliver Womack! It has been exciting preparing the nursery, assembling baby furniture, and thinking about the many memories we will be making. James is expected to arrive this August, and piano lessons will begin soon after!

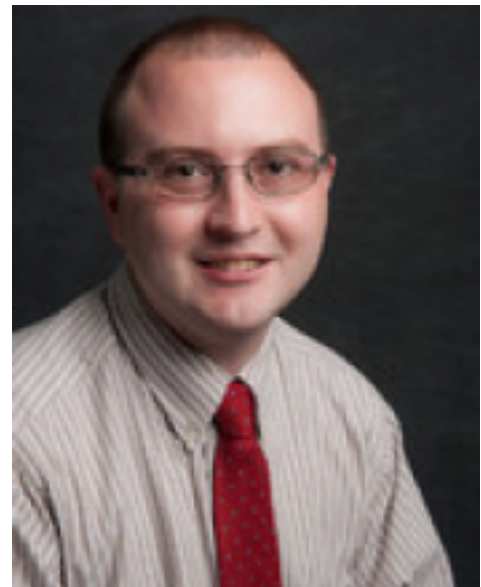
I am pleased to announce that West Virginia University has been selected as the host site of the 2018 MTNA Eastern Division Competitions. The event will take place January 6 and 7. With the 2018 competition happening in our back yard, I hope you will consider entering your students in this year's WVMTA and MTNA competitions.

I encourage everyone to explore the MTNA eFestival which officially launched in May. The eFestival is designed for students who may not have access to live festivals, who have performance anxiety, or who simply wish to get additional comments from highly-qualified evaluators. The process is simple. Students of any performance level record up to 15 minutes of playing and upload the videos via Acceptd. That's it! There are no deadlines, you can submit videos anytime.

Finally, I write to ask for your vote! I am honored to announce that I have been nominated to serve as Director-elect of the Eastern Division 2018-19. Elections will be held this fall and more info will be available in the September issue of the American Music Teacher. Thanks!

Best,

Jacob Womack, DMA, NCTM  
President, WVMTA



## ***Notes from President--Elect, John Morrison***

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**Mark your calendars! The Fall WVMTA State Conference and Competitions will take place Thursday October 26 - Saturday October 28, 2017 at WVU's Creative Arts Center in Morgantown.**

At your earliest convenience, please mail the registration form included in the newsletter to:

John Morrison  
School of Fine Arts  
Fairmont State University  
1201 Locust Ave  
Fairmont, WV  
26554

The featured clinicians are Dr. Christopher and Katherine Fisher and Dr. James Miltenberger. The featured guest artists are Dr. Matthew Gianforte and Dr. Meeyoun Park.

A block of rooms has been reserved at the Super 8 at 603 Venture Drive for Thursday and Friday evening. (\$55.25 for Thursday, \$174.24 for Friday). Be sure to make your hotel reservation soon and mention that you are with WVMTA. Also, be advised that Friday is a home WVU football game, so you'll want to plan ahead for possible traffic and booking your hotel room.

***Note: Conference hotel reservations need to be made by October 12 to reserve a room in the WVMTA block of rooms.***

We look forward to seeing you at the Conference!

### **An overview of the Fall Conference:**

The District Chairs and Board meeting will take place Thursday evening October 26 at 5 pm at Puglioni's at 1137 Van Voorhis Rd.

Following the meeting is something new this year: a Collegiate State Honor recital at 8 pm Thursday at the CAC. If you would like to nominate one of your students to perform in the recital, please e-mail me at [morrisonpiano@hotmail.com](mailto:morrisonpiano@hotmail.com)

Students who perform in the recital will have their registration fee waived for the conference.

Friday's sessions will take place at the Creative Arts Center. Dr. Christopher and Katherine Fisher will present the following sessions which have been well received nationally and internationally.

--- "The Secret Ingredient to Piano Teaching Success: The Powerful Role of Parents."

--- "Rote is Not a Four-Letter Word:

The Role of Rote Teaching in the Development of Reading, Artistry, and Technique."

--- "The Art of the Piano Duet: Teaching Artistry Through Ensemble Experience."

It is also an honor to have Dr. Miltenberger presenting who just recently retired after teaching for over 50 years at the WVU School of Music. Dr. Miltenberger will offer a reflection on his career in music and he will offer valuable advice to current and up and coming teachers. You won't want to miss it!

Dr. Miltenberger received his DMA and Master's Degree from the Eastman School of Music and Bachelor's Degree from Miami University of Ohio. He is an MTNA adjudicator at the state, regional, and national levels and a recipient of the Outstanding Teacher Award at WVU. In 2016 he was elected WVMTA teacher of the year. (Look for a more detailed bio in the conference program.)

The general membership meeting will take place at 5 pm on Friday in the Blaney Conference Room.

The WVMTA Banquet and Awards Ceremony will be held Friday October 27 from 6:00-7:30 pm at the Terra Cafe. The cost of the banquet will be \$20.

Dr. Matthew Gianforte and Dr. Meeyoun Park will present a wonderful duo piano recital Friday at 8 pm in Bloch Hall. They will also be presenting a masterclass, time TBA.

On Saturday October 28, competitions will begin at 8:00 am at various sites in the CAC. Competition winners will be announced in the lobby around thirty minutes after the last participant performs.

### **Fall Conference 2017 Featured Clinicians**

**I am excited to announce our Fall conference clinicians Dr. Christopher and Katherine Fisher, and Dr. James Miltenberger.**

Dr. Christopher Fisher is Professor of Piano at Ohio University in Athens, Ohio where he chairs the Keyboard Division and directs the graduate piano performance and pedagogy programs. Recognized for his teaching, Dr. Fisher was the 2010 recipient of the Ohio Music Teachers Association Collegiate Teacher of the Year Award and the Ohio University School of Music Distinguished Teaching Award.

Dr. Fisher is the author of *Teaching Piano in Groups* (Oxford University Press, 2010), the only comprehensive group piano pedagogy textbook of its kind. A Chinese translation of *Teaching Piano in Groups* is also available. Dr. Fisher is the co-author of the revised and expanded edition of *Piano Duet Repertoire* (Indiana University Press, 2016). He has published in leading keyboard journals including *Keyboard Companion*, *American Music Teacher*, *Clavier*, and *Clavier Companion*. He is a contributing composer for the innovative piano method, Piano Safari ([www.pianosafari.com](http://www.pianosafari.com)), which is used by piano teachers and students around the globe. His educational compositions are published by Alfred Music and Piano Safari.

In demand as a workshop clinician, Dr. Fisher has presented lectures nationally and internationally, including the National Conferences of the Music Teachers National Association (Washington, D.C., 2001; Toronto, Ontario, Canada, 2007; Atlanta, 2009; San Antonio, Texas, 2016), the National Conference on Keyboard Pedagogy (Lombard, Illinois, 2013), the National Group Piano and Piano Pedagogy Forum (Norman, Oklahoma, 2006; Austin, Texas, 2010), the Australasian Piano Pedagogy Conference (Canberra, Australia, 2008), Encontro Internacional de Pianistas de Piracicaba (Piracicaba, Sao Paulo, Brazil, 2016) and the American Music Therapy Association (Orlando, Florida, 2005). He has served as a guest lecturer at leading universities and conservatories across the U.S.

As a performing artist, Dr. Fisher frequently plays both solo and collaborative recitals, including duet and duo piano performances with wife, pianist Katherine Fisher. The Fisher Piano Duo was awarded first prize in the Adult Duo Division of the Graves Piano and Organ Company/OhioMTA Piano Competition in 2007. As a recording artist, Dr. Fisher can be heard on the MSR Classics label (*Samplings: New Music for Bassoon and Piano*; MS1547).

Dr. Fisher is an active member of Music Teachers National Association and has served as Vice-President for Conferences and Vice-President for Membership for the Ohio Music Teachers Association; he presently serves as Collegiate Chapter Chair. He is the faculty advisor for the Ohio University Collegiate Chapter of MTNA, which was the recipient of the 2015 MTNA Benjamin Whitten Collegiate Chapter Award. Dr. Fisher maintains a studio of pre-college students who have been successful at state and regional piano competitions and festivals. He frequently serves as an adjudicator and master class clinician at piano festivals throughout the United States and abroad.

Devoted to connecting young people with the transformative power of classical music, Dr. Fisher founded and directs Project Inspirare ([www.projectinspirare.org](http://www.projectinspirare.org)), with assistance from the Ohio University Collegiate Chapter of MTNA. Project Inspirare's mission is to cultivate a passion for classical music in current and future generations through special outreach and engagement initiatives.

A native of Missouri, Dr. Fisher holds degrees from Wichita State University and Northwest Missouri State University. He was awarded the Doctor of Musical Arts in Piano Performance and Pedagogy from the University of Oklahoma where he was the recipient of the prestigious Alumni Graduate Fellowship. His piano and piano pedagogy teachers include Edward Gates, Jane Magrath, Barbara Fast, Julie Bees, Sylvia Coats, Richard Bobo, and Betty Preston. Dr. Fisher resides in Albany, Ohio with his wife Katherine and their children Isaiah and Anna.



Katherine Fisher is an affiliate faculty member of the Athens Community Music School at Ohio University in Athens, Ohio. Her responsibilities include teaching private piano lessons as well as coordinating the Piano Preparatory Program (group lessons) for children who are beginners at the instrument.

Katherine Fisher is co-author of the *Piano Safari Method* ([www.pianosafari.com](http://www.pianosafari.com)) for children. She and Dr. Julie Knerr have been working on their piano method since their time in school together at the University of Oklahoma, when they both realized they had mutual dreams of writing a piano method that would incorporate all the best elements of the various methods they had been using in their teaching.

Katherine is an active member of the Music Teachers National Association, having most recently served as recording secretary for the OhioMTA. She presently serves in the capacity of Vice- President for Membership for the Southeast District of OhioMTA.

A native of Ohio, Katherine obtained her degrees from the University of Oklahoma (Master of Music in Piano Performance and Pedagogy) and the Wheaton College Conservatory of Music (Bachelor of Music in Piano Performance). Her former teachers include Jeongwon Ham, Jane Magrath, Barbara Fast, Karin R. Edwards, and Nancy Bachus.

**Registration Form - WVMTA State Conference October 26-28, 2017**  
**West Virginia University**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Please check all that apply and send this printed copy with check payable to WVMTA to:

John Morrison, School of Fine Arts, Fairmont State University, 1201 Locust Ave, Fairmont, WV 26554

\_\_\_\_\_ \$30 WVMTA Member Registration Fee (by October 5th postmark)

\_\_\_\_\_ \$40 Non-Member Registration Fee

\_\_\_\_\_ \$15 Student Members of MTNA or NAFME

\_\_\_\_\_ \$20 Banquet at the Terra Cafe at 425 Industrial Ave

Parking will be free in the lot in front of the Creative Arts Center.

\_\_\_\_\_ \$ TOTAL (Make check payable to WVMTA)

Board members: The District Chairs and Administrative Board Meeting will be held at Puglioni's at 1137 Van Voorhis Rd. Thursday October 26 at 5 pm.

\*Note: Teachers who enter students in the MTNA or Mountain State Competitions must register for the conference.

## **2017 Conference Program Ads**

The WVMTA Board of Directors would like to invite you to consider a donation to the 2017 WVMTA Conference Program Book. The WVMTA Conference will be held October 26-28, 2017 at West Virginia University Creative Arts Center in Morgantown, WV. Your donation will provide an opportunity for you to visually display your conviction to the importance of music education in all of our lives.

Listed below are the prices and instructions for purchase of a range of ads. WVMTA is a non profit 501 (c) (3) charitable organization and all donations to this association are tax deductible. WVMTA reserves the right to accept or deny ads for publishing.

WVMTA Conference Program book ads (please check)

\_\_\_\_\_ Full page (4.5" x 8") \$100

\_\_\_\_\_ Half page (4.5" x 4") \$55

\_\_\_\_\_ Quarter page/Business Card (4.5" x 2") \$30

\_\_\_\_\_ Eighth page (2.25" x 2") \$20

\_\_\_\_\_ "Music Education Supporter" (one line listing) \$10

Please provide camera-ready artwork (b/w) or business card. E-mail attachments will also be accepted.  
Deadline: October 5, 2017

Mail this signed contract, ad copy, and check (payable to WVMTA) to:

John Morrison  
School of Fine Arts  
Fairmont State University  
1201 Locust Ave  
Fairmont, WV 26554  
E-mail: [morrisonpiano@hotmail.com](mailto:morrisonpiano@hotmail.com)

Amount of check: \_\_\_\_\_(USD)

Name of Advertiser: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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## ***WVMTA Teacher of the Year Award***

**August 31<sup>st</sup> is the deadline to submit nominations for the 2017 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.

Nominees will be introduced in the September issue of WVMTA NEWS. Send nominations to: Dr. Jacob Womack, NCTM, 112 Vine Street, Beckley, WV 25801, or email to [jwomack@concord.edu](mailto:jwomack@concord.edu).

### **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 Boeoy
2013 Christene Kefferstan, NCTM	2014 Carole Kriewaldt
2015 No award given	2016 James Miltenberger

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## ***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. Jacob Womack at [jwomack@concord.edu](mailto:jwomack@concord.edu) or John Morrison at [morrisonpiano@hotmail.com](mailto:morrisonpiano@hotmail.com)). The Distinguished Leader of the Year Award was begun in 2006, replacing the "Member of the year Award." The 2017 winner will be announced in the September 2017 newsletter



## 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

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## *Notes from the Certification Chair, Dr. Jacob Womack*

Do you want to take your professionalism to the next level? Did you know that the MTNA Professional Certification Program exists to accomplish that goal? Certification is a process that validates an individual's qualifications for a specific field of professional practice. It demonstrates to employers, clients and peers that which the individual knows and is able to do. It signifies commitment to continued excellence in professional practice. In addition, it increases visibility, builds credibility, provides a goal for professional achievement and validates expertise for the individual and to those outside the field. The MTNA Certification program exists for teachers who teach music to students of any age level in private or group settings. The program is based upon a set of five standards defining what a competent music teacher should know and be able to do.

For more information about the Certification Program, visit [www.mtnacertification.org](http://www.mtnacertification.org) or contact [jwomack@concord.edu](mailto:jwomack@concord.edu)

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## ***MTNA Certification – WVMTA Challenge and Incentive***

### **\$100 Reimbursement Check Available for Any Newly Certified NCTM!\***

Yes, for anyone who successfully becomes a NEW NCTM! No stipulations. Receive a \$100 award from the WVMTA board for completing certification, which covers half of the current \$200 fee. Find out the latest information on requirements for the National Certification Program at [www.mtnacertification.org](http://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 [jwomack@concord.edu](mailto:jwomack@concord.edu) for more information.

### **Certification Drawing**

**Value: \$200**

Our Certification program has a drawing at each year's state conference to allow one person to win a free \$200 application fee from the MTNA certification. This year, any member (regular or collegiate) may enter your name in the drawing prior to the state conference and the winner will be drawn at the state conference. The winner does not need to be present to win, although we encourage all members to attend state conferences. Contact Dr. Jacob Womack NCTM, certification chair, to enter the drawing ([jwomack@concord.edu](mailto:jwomack@concord.edu)). Find out the latest information on requirements for the National Certification Program at [www.mtnacertification.org](http://www.mtnacertification.org). The winner of the drawing must submit their official certification application to MTNA within one (1) year and complete the process within two (2) years.

**Collegiate Members** are eligible to enter the certification drawing.

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## ***Notes from the Membership Chair, Dr. Yu-Hsuan Liao, NCTM***

2017-2018 MTNA membership is available for renewal online. <http://www.mtna.org/membership-information/renew-membership/>

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## ***WVMTA Treasurer's Report, Dr. Henning Vauth***

On June 20, 2017, our BB&T checking account balance was \$24,676.58. The CD's were worth \$10,448.66 (1-Year Certificate) and \$10,831.38 (5-Year Certificate) on the same date.

Respectfully submitted,  
Henning Vauth, Treasurer

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## ***Districts Reports***

### **Mid-Ohio Valley MTA/District IV Report:**

The spring auditions for Mid-Ohio Valley District were held May 13 at Trinity Episcopal Church, Parkersburg. The adjudicator was Jane Irvine.

19 students performed. Teachers participating were Laura Hamm, Barbara Heckert, Amy Rice, and Linda Toomey.

**Barbara Heckert, Chair**

### **Huntington MTA/District V Report:**

District 5 held Spring Performances/Adjudications on May 20th. The event was small with only 45 registrations, yet very successful. Adjudicators were Bruce Rous and Ruth Reid Tompkins.

**DeNeil Hartley and Kim Wiebe, Chairs**

### **Eastern Panhandle MTA/District VI Report:**

District VI held their Spring Adjudications on Saturday, May 13th, 2017 in the W.H. Shipley Recital Hall, Frank Center for the Performing Arts, Shepherd University.

A total of 32 students participated in five adjudicated recitals. Students from the studios of Jenny Anderson, Scott Beard, Ruth Carson, Donna Coyle, Andrea Diggs, and Gary Mullenax performed.

The adjudicator was Ms. Carol Rose Duane.

Several students received plaques or trophies for their continued participation in WVMTA and EPMTA events.

**Dr. Yu-Hsuan Liao, chair (NCTM)**

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# MTNA

## Music Teachers National Association

Do you have colleagues and friends who are not members of MTNA but should be?

Often, individuals just need a “trial period” with a product to discover its usefulness and benefits.

MTNA’s *Six-Month membership* may be the very thing your non-member colleagues need to try-out the programs and services of MTNA and to discover the indispensable benefits of MTNA membership.

Six-Month Membership began on January 1 and runs through June 30. The membership fee is half-price. It’s a great way to introduce MTNA without a long-term commitment. But, as a result of this short-term introductory period, I’m confident they will renew and continue their membership for their entire career.

Over the next few days, will you encourage just one of your non-members colleagues to consider a trial membership in MTNA? A brief email or phone call is sufficient.

You don’t need a long list of reasons for them to join. Just tell them what MTNA means to you, and that it can do the same for them. Then, point them to [www.mtna.org](http://www.mtna.org). It will do the rest.

They’ll be glad you did, and the music teaching profession will be stronger.

Sincerely,

Dr. Gary L. Ingle  
Executive Director & CEO

**News is published quarterly online at [www.wvmta.org](http://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](http://www.mtna.org) or call 888-512-5278**

Dr. Johan Botes, Newsletter Editor, [japbotes@gmail.com](mailto:japbotes@gmail.com)

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