

WASHINGTON MUSIC TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION

Lori McCarthy
President

NEWSLETTER

Barbara Kober
Newsletter Editor

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Trio Giusto, with Nancy Breth's student, Kevin Wang, and his friends Jasper de Boor and Gabrielle Li, played Ernst Bloch's Three Nocturnes at a studio recital December 5.



Showing off their certificates are Lori McCarthy's students, Ella Maruszewski, Lilly Hayes, Leah Mancabelli, Ella Hayes, Genna Hayes, Milan Mishra in top row. Lori, Hayden Renaghan, Claire Edmonds, Alexa Mancabelli, Roxana Fassih in back.

WMTA Recital Time



Laura Yao, Clare Zhang, Teddi Yoo, Alice Zhang, Christine Gong, Michelle Zheng, Rachel Cheung look happy about their performance in a workshop at Bonnie Kellert's studio.



At BlackRock Center for the Arts Winter Showcase, December 12, Barbara Kober's students, left to right, Kasey Ng, Samantha Fraser, Scott Fraser, Cansu Akbayrak, Marcus Mathews-Schachter make their group bow after their performance among Barbara's 30 other students.



Nancy Longmyer presents a certificate to her student, Stephen Artner, after a recital on December 13.

BRAINSTORMING AT THE MTNA

By Lori McCarthy

The MTNA Leadership Summit was held from September 11-13, 2016, in Cincinnati, Ohio. In addition to providing up-to-date information about the workings of MTNA, the Summit offers state leaders the opportunity to brainstorm and exchange ideas. We had the opportunity to meet the various MTNA Chairs. Membership retention is an issue for all states and the good news is that WMTA is in the top echelons for retaining membership. In terms of certification, we rank among the lowest, simply because many of our members also belong to other state organizations and certification is only counted in the "home state." Therefore, only our certified members who reside in the Washington, D.C., area are counted for our state.

The FTC compliance agreement was once again discussed. The main impetus of the discussion boiled down to two "commandments:" (1) Thou shalt not prohibit or restrict the recruitment of students and (2) Thou shalt not discuss prices among yourselves.

We were given a financial presentation of MTNA. The organization is in good shape financially and the audit provided no material problems.

MTNA has moved to a new headquarters across the street from where they were previously. The rent per square foot is less but they do have more space now, including a new recital room. The new space is lovely but the spectacular views of the Ohio River that they had in the old

There were meetings of states by size. States similar to our group were AR, DC, MT, ND, NM, SD, and WV. There was also a meeting of the Eastern Division. One interesting fact was that some states do joint conferences. And all the states encourage members from other states to attend, so since WMTA does not do a separate conference, members would be welcome to explore and attend conferences in neighboring states.

MTNA is working on improving and expanding their website to include features like webinars.

The Steinway Piano Company has changed the award it offers to the Young Artist winner from a grand piano to a \$5,000 cash award. The logistics of shipping the piano were becoming cost prohibitive.

And please note the MTNA National Conference in 2017 will be held in Baltimore, MD, right on our doorstep!

Lori even managed to find a picture of the WMTA donated picture of the Washington cherry blossoms in the new MTNA headquarters.



Grace McFarlane, WMTA member and Eastern Division Chair, Connie Fischel, MSMTA president, and Lori McCarthy at the MTNA banquet in September.



NEXT NEWSLETTER DEADLINE — MARCH 14, 2016

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The year is off to a busy start. Our family survived the first of our five children getting married and I even found some time to devote to teaching!

In September, I attended the MTNA Leadership Summit in Cincinnati and had the opportunity to meet many of the other state presidents. We all share similar issues and it was a chance to brainstorm ideas. A more comprehensive summary can be found in this newsletter.

Another September event was our Open House on the 24th at Jordan Kitt's. About 20 members attended. We had some great dialogue about WMTA events and it was a chance to pick up hard copies of the calendar and entry forms. It would be great to see more of our members attend events like this. If you have ideas about what would entice you to

attend, please feel free to email me and let me know. The WMTA board would value the input since we are always looking for ways to get our members more involved.

In October, I attended a Shop Talk at Barbara Wing's studio. Again, this was a chance to exchange ideas, but on the teacher-to-teacher level. The focus this time was on early level repertoire and how to determine levels. In December, the topic for discussion will be how to prepare



Lori's family at son Kevin (center) and Amanda's wedding, are Mary, Bob, Eric (in front), Lori, Joseph, Brendan.

students for college-level music study, including a timeline of what you need to do from the early levels forward. I would encourage all WMTA members to take advantage of this free resource on Thursdays in the early afternoon. Check the WMTA calendar for future dates.

Although we still have a work requirement for all members entering students in WMTA events, at the board meeting last June, we voted to allow members to use a substitute for one event per year. The substitute must be a member of WMTA in the same field of study. The Chair must be notified of any substitutions. Please remind the parents of all your students that videotaping is permitted at WMTA events but **only of their own child**.

We had an incident of a parent videotaping the child of another family who was playing the same piece. This could disqualify their

child. It is against WMTA rules, so please avoid this potential disappointment and give your parents this gentle reminder.

And I would encourage all WMTA members to review the rules that are posted on the WMTA website.

We are working to improve the WMTA website. Did you know there is a "Members-Only" section where you can download a printable directory of WMTA members? Your initial login is your last name and membership number. Don't know your membership number? You can just click on the link to have it emailed to you.

And don't forget about the WMTA listserv. This is the forum where you can get information about discounts for WMTA members, job postings, and any other information sent to us that does not directly relate to WMTA business but might be of interest to members.

Lori McCarthy

BARTOK COMPETITION TO BE HELD JANUARY 30

The bi-annual Bartok Piano Competition (<http://www.wmta-dc.org/pdfs/Bartok.pdf>) will be held January 30, 2016, in the National Presbyterian Church at 4101 Nebraska Avenue, Washington, D.C. Application fee is \$25. Only [online registration](#) is available. Deadline for the all day competition was December 15.

Honorable Mentions may also be awarded. All students will receive critiques and certificates.

The competition is held in recital form. Students through the 12th grade are eligible to enter. Each student is assigned to a recital group and

should arrive 15-20 minutes before the start of their group. Those who arrive late or do not stay for their entire session will play for comments only.

Students must provide the judges with scores of their pieces. All participants must comply with U.S. copyright law. For use of copied or downloaded materials, please refer to the WMTA General Rules. Teachers of



participating students should be prepared to help on the day of the competition. If a teacher is unable to help, please refer to the WMTA rules regarding the use of a substitute for one event. The Chairperson must give prior approval for any substitute.

Repertoire requirements: All pieces by Bartok. Boosey & Hawkes editions are recommended but not required. One selection from the required list plus any piece or pieces of the student's choice.

Students may play any number of pieces as long as they do not exceed the time limit. Pieces from any

required list may not be used as choice pieces.

The following pieces are required:

Level 1 (age 8 or under)

4-minute limit:

For Children, Vol. I # 26, Moderato **OR**
For Children, Vol. II #35, Ballad

Level 2 (any age)

4-minute minute limit:

For Children, Vol. I #32, Andante **OR**
Nine Little Pieces #8, Tambourine

Level 3 (any age),

5-minute time limit

For Children Vol. II #36-37, Rhapsody **OR**
Bagatelle op. 6 no. 2, Allegro Giocoso

Level 4 (any age)

6-minute limit:

Mikrokosmos Vol. V #133, Syncopation **OR**
Sketches, Op 9/b no. 7, Poco Lento

Level 5 (any age)

8-minute limit:

Suite op. 14 no. 1, Allegretto **OR**
Mikrokosmos Vol. VI #146, Ostinato

Level 6 (any age)

9-minute limit:

Suite, op. 14 no. 2, Scherzo **OR**
Bagatelle op. 6 no. 12, Rubato

Chair: [Lisa Emenheiser Sarratt](#) (703) 404-2380

Co-Chair: [Nancy Breth](#) (202) 237-1525

Co-Chair: [Junko Takahashi](#) (301) 530-6202

December Judged Recital Winners

Honors

Lauren Elizabeth Kim, piano student of Lisa Emenheiser Sarratt
Oscar Paz-Suaznabar, piano student of Marjorie Lee
Alena Lu, piano student of Elena Arseniev
Nicole Papenfuss, piano student of Silva Blazquez

Honorable Mention

Michael Himy, piano student of Margarita Gramaticova
Rose Wen, piano student of Dmitri Nazarenko
Daniel Liu, piano student of Dmitri Nazarenko

The Quote Box

*"How is it that music can, without words,
evoke our laughter, our tears, our
highest aspiration?"*

Jane Swan

We're on the Web
www.wmta-dc.org

WMTA Officers

President Lori McCarthy
 President-Elect Hedy Bannon
 Treasurer Patricia Palombo
 Secretary Nancy Longmyer



Lori McCarthy demonstrates how using computer, tablet, music software and a whole array of technology to keep track of assignments, print copyright – free sheet music, enhance business productivity, help prepare students for events and diminish the need for drills during lessons.

Condolences

To Hedy Bannon for the loss of her husband,
 Brian Bannon.
 Julian Trail for the loss of his father,
 Dr. Julian Sherman Trail.

GAIN IDEAS AT SHOP TALK

By Lori McCarthy

Have you attended one of the WMTA Shop Talk events offered by Barbara Wing? If not, you are missing out on a golden opportunity to gain useful ideas at absolutely no cost!

In October, Barbara hosted a workshop on planning for early level students. We discussed how to assess the level of each piece and exchanged ideas on how to work on problem areas in elementary music. In December, the topic was a repertoire chart covering 3rd to 12th grade students. What do they need to know? Repertoire choices from the earliest stages of study through the 12th grade will be discussed. Who among us would not wish for a serious music student who might be inspired to study music in college? This workshop could help to spark the fire.

Shop Talk workshops are held on

Thursdays, at Barbara's studio in Bethesda, Maryland.

While WMTA offers 17 unique student events, this is the only WMTA event specifically for teachers. I attended the October Shop Talk and while there were a few teachers in attendance, many were from neighboring organizations. It is my hope that more of our WMTA colleagues will take advantage of these workshops and the education and camaraderie they offer.

Please RSVP either by email to Barbara Wing Bwing56@cs.com or by phone at (301) 767-1162 three days before the event if you plan to attend.

Hope to see you at the next Shop Talk!

TALK ABOUT TEACHING

Everyone is invited to meet, greet, and Talk About Teaching, every other month on the first day of the month. We meet at 10 a.m. until noon at Nancy Breth's studio. There is no charge, no structure, no agenda: the titles below are just for getting started. Any topic is welcome; anybody is welcome—teachers, parents, friends.

December 1. Business
 February 1. Style
 April 1. Tricks
 June 1. Repertoire

1493 Chain Bridge Road, Suite 103, McLean VA 22101. (Very important: follow the driving directions at brethstudio.net.)

WMTA Judged Recital

Winners of the October 25 Honors Recital:

Honors:

Christopher Papenfuss, piano student of James Litzelman
 Ethan Hsiao, piano student of Dmitri Nazarenko
 Ella Kim, piano student of Lisa Emenheiser Sarratt

Honorable Mention:

Hooraud Fard, piano student of Natalia Efremov
 Melissa Wu, piano student of Lisa Emenheiser Sarratt
 Nathan Mo, piano student of Rosanne Conway
 Samuel Ong, piano student of Dmitri Nazarenko
 Mali Yu, piano student of Marjorie Lee
 Roman Kasparian and Faith Lam (duet), piano students of Margarita Grammaticova

Judges were Nancy Hallsted and WenYin Chan.