

PMTA Board Meeting

Saturday, November 9, 2024

Annville, PA

Board Members present – Wendy Bachman, Amanda Gunderson, Mary Lynne Bennett, Eun-Joo Kwak, Jonathan Flowers, Miriam Shingle, Edward Kuhn, Justin Badgerow, Millie Eben, Susan Kuntz, Steven Smith, Olivia Ellis, Seulki Yoo, Eric Fung, Henry Wong Doe, Ian Duh

Meeting called to order at 6:52 p.m.

Approval of the Minutes from June 16, 2024

Fix Mary Lynne Bennett spelling!

Motion to approve by Steven Smith, Seconded by Susan. Motion passes.

Officer Reports

A. President's Report

Attended MTNA Leadership Meeting. New Exec. Director and Social Media coordinator. Happy to have DEI chair and Ebony Prize on the state level. Change to "Advocacy and Representation". Keynote Speaker secured for the summer. Looking forward to the Minneapolis Conference, several PA members are planning to attend. Could have a table at the Gala! Look for the Join and Renew tab. Lots of perks for members to explore. Need a new chair for DSPF. Relocating to Idaho, but will be back for the conference in June.

B. Treasurer Report

Trust contribution has increased significantly, the investment is performing very well. Will likely not have to touch our investments. Total assets are up \$26k. Annuity will be rolled over.

C. Local Associations

Dee Ann – absent. Four grants will be awarded. GPC \$500, Lehigh Valley \$375, Capital Area \$400, Reading \$250 (not \$500, as indicated on the report). Motion to change the amount: Ian, seconded by Jonathan.

D. Membership

Miriam Shingle: Collegiate numbers down, regular members standing consistent. We are at 415 active members, 16th largest in the nation. At a national level, we are at a decline in number of overall members, though collegiate is up. Five mentors have signed up for mentorship program. Reach out to Miriam to apply as a mentor! Institutional membership being discussed at the national level.

E. Conference Chair

Seulki – June 6-8, 2025 at Lycoming College in Williamsport. Theme is “Rising Together: Building Collaborative Pathways in Music”. Keynote Speaker Kevin Chance is the MTNA President-elect. Guest Artist is Sean Chen from UMKC. Call for Clinicians is set for Dec. 20. Email and postcards will be sent out in mid-November. Suggestion for as many non-concurrent sessions as possible.

F. Concerto Festival

Dr. Smith – held today, Nov. 9. Eight students, six cellists and two pianists.
Keystone Chamber Music will happen in March – will be moved to Lycoming College.

G. Dorothy Sutton Performance Festival

Jonathan - Event was held at LVC on Nov. 9. 250 performers. 661 auditions, 400 were eligible. 13 chapters held auditions. Susan Miller trust helps cover student fees. Celebrating 45th year of recital. Rating sheets were updated for consistency. Practice tests being offered, will clean up for next year. Volunteers were crucial.

Proposal – two goals: make local leaders, make registration easier. Make the job easier for the main festival.

Suggestion: PMTA to sponsor a statewide portal – register only once for the auditions. Easier for everyone. Easier to verify qualifications. Could cost \$1000 to set up. Work with Alejandro Cremaschi with his organization, TenutoWeb. Steven makes a motion to support purchase of this software, Susan seconded. Training will be needed, a video is suggested. Jonathan agrees to serve in the role of training, Ian as well. Motion passes.

Theory tests: Some practice versions have been offered. Some issues with test confidentiality. TheoryTime could be considered to create a new test. Artusi an option – online placement exams, no paper and pencil tests, also expensive. Tim Melbinger, an associate of Steven, could update the test for a minimal cost. Other states’ MTA could be consulted, and we could borrow their tests. Levels need to be reassessed. Consider recognizing students in the optional upper levels above level 5. Consider allowing at least one repeat of a test level?

We need more volunteer/teacher support on the day of the event. Perhaps board members should be encouraged to serve.

Jonathan must step down. Final suggestions: Chair should be a board member, and set up the site. Then there could be a registrar using the new system. Should be a Program creator using the data. There should be a separate Theory committee. No new chair yet, still searching. LVC is willing to repeat as host next year.

H. Collaborative Music and Certification

Nanette – not present

I. Foundation Fund –

Raised around \$200.

J. Keystone Composition Competition (Statewide) – we need a new chair

- K. MTNA Composition Competition (National) - Amanda – Seven students entered. Looking for a new chair for this. One judge hired.
- L. Keystone Chamber Music Competition – Saturday, March 8 at Lycoming. Maria and Nanette will work on this. Two age categories: Pre college and Young Artist. Proposal: Pre-College Division – 11 to 19 and Young Artist Division – 18 to 30. Ian made the motion and Susan seconded. Motion to increase the prize money by \$100 from the report. Jonathan makes the motion, Olivia seconded. Motion passes. Olivia makes a motion to include Percussion. Second by Ian. Wording to be worked out in regards to Percussion Instruments which may be necessary for performers to bring. Motion passes.
- M. Sponsorship
Eun Joo- 10 University member sponsors, 9 are paying members. Annual fee is \$50. \$450 total collected in sponsorship fees.
- N. Collegiate Chapters
Ed – 6 student chapters. Duquesne was granted a \$100 proposal award. Reminder: \$500 is available for travel to state or national conference.
- O. DEI
Ed – we do have our own page now. National title for the committee is “Representation and Advocacy” but we are leaving our page titled as “Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion”.
- P. College Faculty
Melody – early career Fellowship opportunity is being promoted.
- Q. Commissioned Composer
Henry: our selected composer is Jan Krzywicki completed the work. 2025 recipient Ke-Chia Chen will compose a piano 4-hands work which will be received by March 20, 2025. Steven Smith motion to cover travel and lodging for our Commissioned Composer to attend the conference, Jonathan seconded. Motion carried.
- R. Arts Advocacy
Susan – Promoting at “High School Credit for Private Music Lessons” Program. Susan has called to Pennsylvania Department of Education. She has been encouraged to get five Pilot Programs. Met Opera is offering \$5 student tickets for PMTA students and other outreach opportunities.
- S. Independent Music Teachers Forum – N/A
- T. Competitions
Ian – new this year, some will be online. 59 total entrants.

Old Business

Miller Trust Fund – one proposal: reimburse new members for the NMTC Certification Fee - . Motion – Mary Lynne, Ed seconded. Motion passes.

New Business

Distinguished Teacher Award – Consider waiving the Conference fee. Table this for now. Needs discussion.

Approval for \$1322 for 661 students to be deposited in the MTNA Foundation Fund.

Motion by Jonathan, seconded by Mary Lynne

Susan moved to adjourn, seconded by Steven.

Meeting adjourned at 9:07 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Justin Badgerow