



Pennsylvania Music Teachers Association

PMTA is an incorporated non-profit educational organization committed to the pursuit of excellence in music teaching. PMTA is an affiliate of Music Teachers National Association.

From the President's Desk....

May 2017

Dear PMTA Colleagues,

It was just a few weeks ago at the MTNA conference in Baltimore that I was having a wonderful time taking in presentations, exhibits, musical offerings and connecting with fellow Pennsylvania comrades. While in this stimulating environment, I started to reflect on the many ways that my association with MTNA/PMTA has impacted my teaching and made a difference in my professional life.

MTNA was introduced to me while I was still an undergraduate. This affiliation gave me a "foot in the door" because it demonstrated my involvement with pre-professional groups pertaining to my career.

MTNA/PMTA provided the resources to join with other teachers and to achieve things unattainable by an independent music teacher. It is a professional community which promotes excellence in the music teaching field. Consequently, I can say that my decision to affiliate with MTNA/PMTA, has provided the vision for me and my students to rise to a higher level of achievement.

A useful member benefit has been the [Members Only page](#) located on the MTNA website. This page is jam-packed with helpful resources for the independent music teacher. There are legal documents, insurance products, a zoning guide, webinars, a professional hotline and much more.

While a lot of membership benefits are derived at the local level through festivals, lecture/master classes and recitals, I found that the state level also contributes elements to support the professionalism of music

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"Music begins where the

teachers. The state conferences have always provided a great opportunity to network and connect with other teachers in the community and around the state.

***possibilities of language
end."***

---Jean Sibelius

Yes, there have been so many worthwhile opportunities to share my talents and grow as a teacher and musician, all because of my membership in MTNA/PMTA. I challenge you to take advantage of all that your membership has to offer. Make a decision to participate and seek out opportunities to enhance your career and empower your students!

***Deborah Rodgers, NCTM
PMTA President***

2017-19 Slate of Officers

Officers will be voted on and installed at the 12:00 PM, June 10 business meeting to be held at Lebanon Valley College.

President - Mary Lynne Bennett

Vice-President - Ed Kuhn

Secretary – Wendy Bachman

Treasurer – Jackie Herbein



Local Association Grants

The Local Association Grants Committee invites each Local Association to submit an application this spring for the 2017-18 season to receive funding of an interesting event in your chapter! Be sure to look at our new streamlined and concise application form; it is now easier than ever to apply for funding.

We will also look forward to seeing you at the LA Forum during the PMTA Annual Conference this year June 9-11, 2017 at Lebanon Valley College. This is a wonderful opportunity to share your LA's experiences and inspire programming for other Local Associations.

Below are descriptions of the events PMTA has helped sponsor during the 2016-17 season.

NDVC

October 19, 2016

Alexander Peskanov

In Search of Sound

Mr. Peskanov's presentation featured important details of the Russian Piano School with a focus on developing a beautiful tone, relaxation, strong fingers, flying finger technique and flexible wrists.

MLMTA

November 8, 2016

Nancy Weems

This joint collaborative master class with Nancy Weems featured students from both MLMTA and West Chester University's School of Music.

PhMTA

January 12, 2017

Marvin Blickenstaff

What Do You Do When The Magic Stops

There are numerous reasons why great numbers of students stop their lessons in the early years of instruction. We cannot change many of the familial and societal situations behind those decisions, but we can rethink the ways in which our instruction captivates the student to such a degree that they will only wish to continue the exciting discovery of making music at the piano.

Erie

May 20, 2017

Sha Wang Laungkesorn

This master class provided local area students an insightful opportunity to work with Geneva College piano faculty member Sha Wang.

PMTA 2017 Conference

June 9-11, 2017

Lebanon Valley College
100 N. College Avenue
Annville, PA 17003-1400



Guest Artist Recital: Lydia Artymiw

Saturday, June 10 | 8:00 pm - Blair Hall

\$10 adults / \$5 students for non-conference attendees.

[Click here to download Lydia's Recital Program](#)

Poster Boards

Greetings PMTA members,

We are trying something new this year at the June conference and hope to get every member involved! During the conference there will be poster boards displayed listing the five questions below. We solicit your responses and greatly appreciate your feedback even if you are not attending this year's conference! If you email your responses for the 5 questions/topics listed below to [Susan Kuntz](#) by June 4, your responses will be attached to the posters that will be on display at the conference. For those of you attending the conference, you can think about your response now and add your comments to the posters at the conference!

Thanks for your help,
Susan Kuntz, IMTF Chairperson
susankuntz@hotmail.com

TOPICS FOR POSTER BOARDS FOR PMTA CONFERENCE

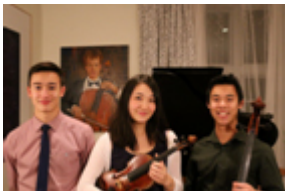
Lebanon Valley College

June 9-11, 2017

1. What advice can you give to other teachers to keep their students motivated, especially during the summer months?
2. What is your best tip to share about how you guide your students to use their practice time efficiently?
3. What are some of the best exercises that you would recommend to improve technique?
4. What philosophy and technique do you use to build a good approach to sound production with your students?
5. How do you foster and encourage musicality with your students?

PMTA Notes & News

- Did you know that any new member who registers for the full conference weekend during the first year of membership will receive a one-time free membership to PMTA? To claim your membership rebate, sign up for the June conference weekend, then contact Donna Beech, membership chairperson to let her know that you think you are eligible for this rebate.
- PMTA values our sponsors and you should too. Please show your support by clicking on PMTA sponsored e-blasts! Membership dues only cover a portion of our costs. Our sponsorship program is an endeavor to fill the gaps between the actual cost of our activities and our revenue.
- For your information, if you click UNSUBSCRIBE to our e-blasts, you will no longer receive any emails from PMTA but you can RE-SUBSCRIBE at any time using the link from the [PMTA website homepage](#). Please stay with us!
- Some email servers block pictures and links. If needed, feel free to check out the PMTA website to see an unobscured view of the newsletter.



2017 PMTA Keystone Chamber Music Competition

This was the third year of PMTA's Keystone Chamber Music Competition, held March 4 at Penn State. There were 6 entrants in the Senior division, a flute trio, a flute quartet, a string quartet and three piano trios. The coaches were Christopher Guzman, Agatha Wang, Cong Fan, Amy Yang and Amanda Gunderson. The judges were Dr. Steven Smith and Dr. Eleanor Armstrong, both formerly of Penn State

University. They were very impressed with the level and quality of the programs presented this year.

The first place winner was the Webb Trio coached by PMTA member Amy Yang. The members of the trio as shown in the photo below are Allister Barnes on piano, Isabella Egawa on violin and Alex Wu on cello playing selections by Rachmaninoff and Shostakovich. There



were not enough entrants to hold the junior division this year, so the judges decided to award a second place which went to the Amati Piano Trio, coached by Amanda Gunderson, playing selections by Beethoven and Debussy. The members, from left to right in the photo are Rachel Boll on cello, Emilie Tupper on violin and Ellen Boll on piano. Honorable Mention was received by The Williamsport Quartet, William Knauth on violin, Michael Fisher on violin, Juliet Jacques on viola and Rachel Boll on cello. The quartet is coached by Andrew Rammon.

Next year's competition will be held at Elizabethtown College in early March. Details will be posted on the PMTA website.

Gloriana Sewell, Chair

Keystone Composition Competition Contest

It's not too soon to have your students begin working on their compositions for the 2018 Keystone Composition Competition. You can find the details for registering your students and submitting compositions on our website. The deadline for next year's competition is March 31, 2018. All information will be forwarded to the judges on April 1, so try to have everything completed and sent to Warren Magid on time at CompositionCompetitionsChair@pamusicteachers.org.

All ages and levels of students may enter:

Elementary – Age 5-10

Junior – Age 11-14

Senior – Age 15-18

Young Artist – Age 19-25

All students who place, as well as Honorable Mentions, are eligible to perform

their compositions, or have them performed by others, at the 2017 PMTA Showcase Recitals, which will be held on Saturday, November 4, 2017 at Indiana University of Pennsylvania, Indiana, PA.

Cash awards and additional prizes are also awarded each year, and students (and teachers!) benefit from comments provided by the judges who review all the compositions.

If you are new to this event and would like more information, contact Warren Magid, Competition Chair, at reachme1@comcast.net. He is happy to provide sample compositions from past winners in each category to teachers who are new to the event.

Elementary

	Student	Title	Teacher	
1st place	An Tran	Little March	Millie Eben	\$75.00
2nd place	Sindura Sridhar	Sneaky Sleepwalkers	Millie Eben	\$50.00
3rd place	Aditya Nayak	Letter of Love	Millie Eben	\$40.00
HM	An Tran	Shooting Stars	Millie Eben	

Junior

	Student	Title	Teacher	
1st place	Jackson Hunt	Two Preludes Op 2	Yeeha Chiu	\$75.00
2nd place	Rishi Raman	String Quartet in B minor	Marjorie Majka	\$50.00
3rd place	Rishi Raman	Ballade in D minor	Marjorie Majka	\$40.00
HM	Patrick Tran	Japanese Garden	Deborah Rodgers	
HM	Jennalyn Stuart	Limitless	Michele Millington	
HM	Krishna Nayak	The Procrastinating Student	Millie Eben	

Senior Student

	Student	Title	Teacher	
1st place	Jason Shu	Two Pieces for String Quartet	Vera Shissel	\$100.00
2nd place	Sarah Shingle	Dance of the Magyars	Deborah Rodgers	\$75.00
3rd place	Fernanda Morales	Be Spontaneous	Deborah Rodgers	\$50.00

Young Artist

		Title	Teacher	
1st place	Kory Hilpmann	Unsettling Seas	Justin Badgerow	\$100.00
2nd place	Kory Hilpmann	Dream Within A Dream	Justin Badgerow	\$75.00

Judges were:

1. David Carpenter, Temple University
2. JP Meyer, Musical Director, Dutch Apple Theatre
3. Michael Rickelton, Peabody Conservatory

PMTA FACEBOOK GROUP



Be sure to join the [Pennsylvania Music Teachers Association Facebook group](#) to stay up-to-date with state association announcements. Local association members are also encouraged to post updates, events and chapter news!



www.pamusicteachers.org

An Affiliate of Music Teachers National Association

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Thanks to the PMTA Sponsors for their continued support.

[Visit the PMTA sponsor page.](#)

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