



Newsletter – Spring/Summer 2005

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT
SHELLEY REEVES, NCTM

These past few weeks, I have enjoyed reading the commencement speeches given at all the recent college graduations. One particularly stood out—words of Dr. Paul Farmer, the founder of Partners in Health. He told Boston College graduates, “To do nothing is also to act, so act affirmatively by making things happen, not just letting them happen.” So, I would like to take this opportunity to thank those volunteers who have “made things happen” for MMTA this year, serving on our board, on all our program committees and for our publications. I especially want to thank departing board members, Kathryn Work, secretary, for her pithy summaries of long-winded meetings and Stephen Deitz, Vice President for Membership for dealing with all the intricacies of our database. We all wish both of them luck and speed re-establishing practices in Oregon and California, respectively. Michelle Gordon will replace Kathryn next year, but there are other opportunities for you to act within this organization.

The MTNA Foundation has granted us money to organize community music festivals for the summer of 2006—July Jamborees! —in ten towns around the state. MMTA will provide the seed money and a blueprint for planning these, and right now, I need to hear from ten people who would like one of these in their town and who will act as the local contact person. Houry Schmeizl, president of the Greater Lowell MTA is coordinating the trial Jamboree this summer (see article inside) in Westford, and this would be a good opportunity to become involved at the planning stage in anticipation of your own Jamboree next summer. Contact me at 978-287-0053 or at webmaster@mmta.net.

The Bay State Contest could use your help, too. The organizational meeting for the 38th Annual Contest will be Friday, June 24 at 9:30 AM at my studio in Carlisle. Again, contact me at the above number or e-mail for directions. We will be setting up committees and discussing rules changes then.

Ask yourself what hidden talents you have that might improve MMTA. Are you a successful fundraiser who has suggestions for us? An eloquent writer who might contribute to the newsletter? A talented organizer who might bring more order to our events? Or even a role model and persuasive speaker who might encourage a colleague to become a new member!

As MMTA continues to re-tool its programs and redefine itself in the 21st century, I look forward to your contributions.

Shelley Reeves, NCTM
President

2005 MTNA COMPETITIONS

The MTNA competitions this year will be held on November 20, 2005, at Regis College, in Weston, MA. Registrations for both performance and composition competitions must be submitted online by 12:00 midnight on September 13, 2005. Entry forms via fax or mail will no longer be accepted. More specific information can be found in the April/May 2005 issue of *American Music Teacher*, or on the website at www.mtna.org

2005 BAY STATE COMPETITIONS WINNERS

Below is a listing of the 2005 competition winners. To listen to the First place winners, please go to <http://www.mmta.net>. Information about ordering CDs of the first place performances is also there.

Piano Division 1 & 2

1st # 4 Hsuan-Fong Chen, Tatyana Dudochkin, teacher
2nd # 9 Ji-Hye Jung, Natalia Harlap, teacher
3rd # 8 Emil Pitkin, Margarita Gurevich, teacher
HM # 6 Yi Fei Wu, Lyubov Shlain, teacher
7 Kevin Liou, Niva Fried, teacher
5 Hannah Zhang, Tatyana Dudochkin, teacher

Piano Division 3

1st # 9 Jae Kyo Han, Ludmila Bekker, teacher
2nd # 15 Jung A. Bang, Natalia Harlap, teacher
3rd # 5 Grace Stratton, Margarita Gurevich, teacher
2 Victoria Lee, Lyubov Shlain, teacher
HM # 3 Veronica Lau, Margarita Kotlyarova, teacher

Piano Division 4

1st # 7 Stephanie Hsu, Tatyana Dudochkin, teacher
2nd # 13 Linna Gao, Niva Fried, teacher
8 John Cheng, Julia Bernstein, teacher
3rd # 9 William Ling, Lina Yen, teacher
6 Sheldon Chang, Sylvia Chambless, teacher
HM # 12 Jessica Elman, Helena Vesterman, teacher

Piano Division 5

1st # 7 Simon Xu, Helena Vesterman, teacher
2nd # 13 Gabriel Mairson, Ludmila Knobel-Aronova, teacher
3rd # 2 Bryan Liou, Niva Fried, teacher
HM # 14 Kathleen Ho, Ludmila Bekker, teacher
11 Richard Po-Lin Chen, Nilly Shilo, teacher

Piano Division 6A

1st # 2 Emilie Yang, Wei Le, teacher
2nd # 8 Arielle Galler Rabinowitz, Nilly Shilo, teacher
3rd # 9 Elizabeth Wang, Tatyana Dudochkin, teacher
HM # 1 Mark Galinovsky, Helena Vesterman, teacher
5 Jeremy You, Sylvia Chambless, teacher

Piano Division 6B

1st # 7 Jessica Rucinski, Margaret Bachelder, teacher
2nd # 4 Andre Watson, Niva Fried, teacher
3rd # 8 Terence Hsu, Tatyana Dudochkin, teacher
HM # 1 Danielle Galler Rabinowitz, Nilly Shilo, teacher
10 Andrew Qian, Marianna Rashkovetsky, teacher
3 Anj Jang, Dorothy Shi, teacher

Piano Division 7A

1st # 5 Christopher Chan, Julia Bernstein, teacher
2nd # 2 Julie Xie, Wei Le, teacher
3rd # 3 Sarina Huang, Helena Vesterman, teacher
HM # 7 Carissa Lin, Tatyana Dudochkin, teacher

Piano Division 7B

1st # 7 Kevin Qian, Tatyana Dudochkin, teacher
2nd # 2 Katherine Zhou, Ludmila Knobel-Aronova, teacher
3rd # 5 Tiffany Ho, Ludmila Bekker, teacher

Piano Division 8A

1st # 2 Carl Lian, Wei Le, teacher
2nd # 6 Helen Li, Dorothy Shi, teacher

Piano Division 8B

1st # 2 Elan Wong, Nilly Shilo, teacher
2nd # 1 Kathleen Cheng, Wei Le, teacher
3rd # 7 Todd Bronshtein, Margarita Gurevich, teacher
HM # 8 Shannon Cheung, Tatyana Dudochkin, teacher

Piano Division 9A

1st # 12 Yong Murray, Niva Fried, teacher
2nd # 10 Andrew Zhu, Wei Le, teacher
3rd # 9 Helen Gong, Julia Bernstein, teacher
HM # 11 Melissa Yuan, Julia Bernstein, teacher
3 Maggie Yang, Helena Vesterman, teacher
4 Lesley Wang, Niva Fried, teacher
8 Felix Xu, Helena Vesterman, teacher

Piano Division 9A

1st # 12 Yong Murray, Niva Fried, teacher
2nd # 10 Andrew Zhu, Wei Le, teacher
3rd # 9 Helen Gong, Julia Bernstein, teacher
HM # 11 Melissa Yuan, Julia Bernstein, teacher
3 Maggie Yang, Helena Vesterman, teacher
4 Lesley Wang, Niva Fried, teacher
8 Felix Xu, Helena Vesterman, teacher

Piano Division 9B

1st # 5 Grace Lu, Dorothy Shi, teacher
2nd # 6 Ariel Tian, Marianna Rashkovetsky, teacher
3rd # 10 Vivian Lee, Wei Le, teacher
HM # 8 Taylor Chan, Julia Bernstein, teacher

Piano Division 10A

1st # 5 Brian Li, Wei Le, teacher
2nd # 11 Sarah Goodman, Tatyana Dudochkin, teacher
3rd # 4 Jean Zhou, Tatyana Dudochkin, teacher
HM # 8 Ruifei Xu, Lu Lu, teacher

Piano Division 10B

1st # 8 Kristen Foaksman, Alex Foaksman, teacher Piano
2nd # 2 Njeri Grevious, Margarita Gurevich, teacher
3rd # 7 Raagini Rameshwar, Janet Ainsworth, teacher
5 Nathan Kong, Konstantinos Papadakis, teacher
HM # 4 Grace Jie Wang, Lina Yen, teacher
9 Kimberly Huang, Helena Vesterman, teacher

Piano Division 11A

1st # 7 Kevin Cai, Wei Le, teacher
2nd # 4 Kevin Jin, Wei Le, teacher
HM # 11 Amberly Diep, Julia Bernstein, teacher
10 Catherine Song, Tanya Schwartzman, teacher

Piano Division 11B

1st # 4 Eric Lu, Dorothy Shi, teacher
2nd # 3 Cecilia Uong, Julia Bernstein, teacher
3rd # 12 Theresa Do, Julia Bernstein, teacher
13 Tyler Chen Jiang, Wei Le, teacher
HM # 14 Angelique Scully, Tanya Schwartzman, teacher
10 Nkosi Grevious, Margarita Gurevich, teacher
2 Annie Lai, Donna Lee, teacher

Piano Division 12

1st # 15 Fiona Zhang, Dorothy Shi, teacher
2nd # 12 Kevin Zhu, Wei Le, teacher
3rd # 3 Victor Li, Dorothy Shi, teacher
HM # 9 Yuan Tian, Lu Lu, teacher
4 Lucy Zhou, Tanya Schwartzman, teacher
5 Andrew Song, Tanya Schwartzman, teacher
14 Amanda Xia, Dorothy Shi, teacher

Strings Division 1

1st # 2 Richard Lew, Sofia Gurfinkel, teacher
2nd # 4 Stephanie Hon, Vera Rubin, teacher
1 Laura-Marie Silvia, Lilia Muchnik, teacher

Strings Division 2

1st # 2 Laura Yanushpolsky, Sofia Gurfinkel, teacher
2nd # 3 Metok Sarah Levine, Vera Rubin, teacher
3rd # 5 Chris Li, Sofia Gurfinkel, teacher
4 Albano Berberi, Lilia Muchnik, teacher
HM # 1 Curtis Hon, Vera Rubin, teacher
6 Andrew Kim, Anna Korsunsky, teacher

Strings Division 3

1st # 6 Ingrid Yen, Jin-Kyung Joe, teacher
2nd # 8 Ethan Bauer, Lilia Muchnik, teacher
3rd # 1 Raphaël Goemans, Sofia Gurfinkel, teacher
HM # 5 Gabrielle Bazin, Sofia Gurfinkel, teacher
4 Jeffrey Tan, Vera Rubin, teacher
2 Jesse Hanson, Anna Korsunsky, teacher

Strings Division 4

1st # 1 Jeremiah Blacklow, Lilia Muchnik, teacher
2nd # 2 Christina Ch, Jin-Kyung Joen, teacher
HM # 4 Gabriel Kline, Barbara Paschke, teacher

MMTA TEACHER OF THE YEAR 2005



MMTA is proud to announce that Helena Vesterman of Waban, Massachusetts is this year's recipient of its Teacher of the Year Award. The Board presented her the award on June 5th, where she gave a gracious and moving acceptance speech.

Helena was born in Moscow, where she studied at the Moscow Conservatory and the Gnessin Conservatory. She performed over 400 concerts throughout Russia, and continued her performance career in the United States upon her arrival in 1980. She has appeared on National Public Radio, at Carnegie Hall and Lincoln Center in New York, and locally at Harvard's Sanders Theater, Brandeis University, The New England Conservatory, the

Museum of Our National Heritage, The Hebrew College and Boston University, among many other venues.

She is a very active teacher, giving master classes and lectures at Union College (NY) and the NY State Music Teachers Association, conducting workshops for the Concord Area Music Teachers Association and the New England Piano Teachers Association, and chairing the MMTA Non-competitive Evaluations Metro-West Center. Her students have garnered many prizes in regional competitions, (most recently at our 37th Annual Bay State Contest) and have been selected to perform with the Newton Symphony Orchestra. Helena maintains a private studio in Newton, Massachusetts.

Helena will be presenting a master class for MMTA next November 6. Look for details on the website, www.mmta.net, in the members' directory and in upcoming newsletters.

REPORT FROM SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

We are pleased to announce our scholarship recipients for this year. There were several applicants making it a close decision as every student had wonderful qualifications.

For our high school graduates, the Nancy Oliva Scholarship is awarded to:

Anne Xu, a student of Helena Vesterman, and
Emil Pitkin, a student of Margarite Gurevich

The Herbert H. Bowker scholarship is given to:

Holly Gordon, a student of Steven Massoud, and
Nicholas Joliat, a student of Linda Gatzke

Congratulations to you all.

QUAD STATE CONVENTION, OCTOBER 2005

Maine MTA is hosting the upcoming biennial Quad State MTA Convention to be held October 14 and 15 on the campus of the University of Southern Maine in Gorham. Eastman faculty member, Tony Caramia will be the 2005 convention artist and clinician. Here's a tentative schedule:

Friday, October 14
8 pm at USM - Corthell Hall
Piano Recital featuring Tony Caramia

Saturday, October 15
Tony will present sessions on Gershwin's Preludes for Piano and topics related to teaching early level jazz piano from 9 to noon. Following a catered luncheon and state business meetings, a recital of newly commissioned works from each of the Quad States will be presented.

Travel information is forthcoming. Email Maine MTA President, Christine Kissack, at ckissack@usm.maine.edu for more details

REPORT FROM RACE EXAMS CHAIR

I am thrilled to report that on May 20 and May 21 we held our first "piano practical examination center" and it was extremely successful. There were 52 candidates representing 9 teachers! The students ranged from Preparatory A level to Grade 8 level. In the words of Christie Grey, the Center Representative Coordinator, we were the "dark horse" among examination centers this session. We had originally wondered if we would be able to fill a single day with examinations, but had so many registrations that we had to open another day to accommodate everyone. The conservatory sent a superb senior examiner, Ella Poret. Almost all the candidates came out with smiles on their faces, a credit not only to the preparation of their teachers but to the cordial manner of the examiner. Ms. Poret followed up on an exhausting two-day schedule of examining with a 3-hour workshop for all who were interested. The subject of the workshop was "the expectations of the examiner", and all of us who attended found her information useful and her enthusiasm infectious. The conservatory awards \$5 per candidate to MMTA, so, including registrations for the theory exams, Shelley was able to return from the national MTNA conference with a check for \$310. Congratulations to the candidates and to all who worked to prepare students for these examinations!

I also want to draw your attention to some upcoming dates:

The deadline for registration for theory exams in the summer session is July 5. The exams will be given on Aug. 5 and Aug. 6 at 184 Jason St. Arlington. The deadline for registration for both theory and piano exams for the winter session is Oct. 24. Theory exams will be given on Dec. 9 and Dec. 10 at the same location. Whether or not piano exams will be given depends on the number of registrations. To find out any further information about the exams or the conservatory, go to www.royalamericanconservatory.org or contact me by phone at 781-641-0430.

Alison I. Vannah, Ph.D.

REPORT FROM NON-COMPETITIVE EVALUATIONS CHAIR

I would like to recognize and thank the NCE Chairs that made it all possible:

Kathy Maskell, Boston North, Beth Hilliard and Betsy Smith South Shore, Anne Munstedt Metro West, and Lori Tremblay and Diane Anderson North Shore. We specially like to thank Kathy Maskell for allowing us to use her Music Works School in Tewksbury and Gordon College that allowed us to use the faculty studios and are offering the College Campus again in 2006.

The results were presented at the MMTA State Board meeting in detail. For some statistics we had **141 students** participating in the NCE and **37 students** in **Syllabus**. Number of **teachers** participating were **28**. We had a delayed start as I wasn't able to send the documents until later in the year. We will post the Centers for 2006 hopefully by September. Watch for the info on the Website

and the Newsletter in the fall. This will allow the teacher members to have a head start for 2006 hoping we will have more teachers and students participate in the event. We also welcome the Southeastern Center that will re-open in 2006. It was great fun to work with all of you.

Maria Reesman
NCE Chairperson

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Workshops are still being scheduled. Please check **Alfred.com** for the most up-to-date workshop schedule in your area!

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NEWS FROM SOUTHEASTERN LOCAL CHAPTER, NEW BEDFORD

This year, our chapter has held the following events:

November 28, 2004, Nursing Home Recital at the Sakonnet Manor.

February 2, 2005 – Teacher's Night Out at the Peking Palace. All teachers who attended had a great time.

March 6, 2005 – Winter Recital at St. Peter's Church in South Dartmouth.

April 10, 2005, Master Class with Dr. Manabu Takasawa, from the URI Piano Faculty.

April 23, 2005, Teacher Enrichment Seminar with Eugene Rocherolle. Sessions were presented on Composition at the private lesson.

Our next meeting and election of Officers will be on September 12, 2005, at 9:30, at the Mattapoisett Congregational church.

All MMTA members who are interested in joining this Local are cordially invited to attend our September meeting. The Local meets every month at the Mattapoisett Congregational Church, and would welcome any new members!

For more information, please contact the Local President, Michelle Gordon, at MGordonPiano@ComCast.Net

NEWS FROM GLMTA, GREATER LOWELL LOCAL CHAPTER OF MMTA

Max Levinson, renowned American concert pianist, gave a masterclass at MusicWorks School in Tewksbury, MA.

JULY JAMBOREE

The Greater Lowell Music Teacher's Association (GLMTA) is sponsoring the 1st annual **July Jamboree**, a community concert featuring student performances and professional musicians from the greater Boston area. GLMTA wishes to serve as an artistic ambassador to the community at large, reaching out to different ages, different backgrounds and exposing the mission of MMTA and MTNA: fostering the love of music and the arts at all stages, while holding its teachers to the highest standards.

The event will take place **Sunday, July 10, 2005 from 2:00-5:00pm** at the historic Parish Center for the Arts (PCA), 10 Lincoln Street, in the heart of Westford, Massachusetts. The PCA is a community based artistic hub, which features a professional solo and chamber music series, art gallery events, plays, community music and seats approximately 100 people. The stage features a Steinway B piano.

The 2005 jamboree will feature the music of women composers throughout the ages and different geographies, a celebration of the women of music! Concerts will take place at **2:00pm and 3:30pm** with professional and amateur performances open to all community teachers, both instrumental and vocal. During the event Kathy Maskell, award winning arranger, composer and publisher will be giving

a brief presentation regarding composing and arranging. Door prizes will be awarded at both seatings.

For more information (**deadline is June 15th to apply to perform**), please contact the July Jamboree chairperson and GLMTA president Houry Marie Schmeizl at pianoacademyathartpond@comcast.net. Please send completed application (included in the newsletter) along with a \$10.00 fee per registered student to Houry Schmeizl, 52 Westview Avenue, Chelmsford, MA, 01824. Please make the completed check out to MMTA and use the memo space to designate *July Jamboree*.

July Jamboree 2005 Application

Name of performer (individuals or group) _____

Address City/State _____

Phone Number _____

Name of teacher (if applicable) _____

Teacher's Phone Number (if applicable) _____ Email _____

Title of Piece #1 _____

Composer _____

Title of Piece #2 _____

Composer _____

Please indicate preferred concert time 2:00pm _____ 3:30pm _____

Return this with your \$10.00 performance fee by June 15 to:

Houry Marie Schmeizl
Piano Academy at Hart Pond
52 Westview Ave.
Chelmsford, MA 01824

2005 Membership Survey

Are your teaching rates competitive for your area? Are you keeping up with inflation? Take a moment to complete this survey to share with your colleagues. Results will be summarized in the fall's newsletter. You may send it to:

MMTA

157 Carleton Rd.

Carlisle, MA 01741

FAX: 978-405-3196 or just e-mail your data to webmaster@mmta.net

1. How do you charge for lessons?
 - A. By the lesson, weekly
 - B. By semester
 - C. A tuition plan, offering options

2. What is your hourly rate? (If you charge an annual tuition, please give an approximate range) _____

3. Do you give make-up lessons? If yes, what are your conditions?

4. Do you teach privately or in a school? _____

5. How many students do you teach? _____

6. Do you have a computer lab, or use any technology in your studio? If so, what? _____

7. Zip code _____

Here are some handy tools for planning: the Inflation Calculator at <http://www.bls.gov/cpi/home.htm> (scroll down the page) or the Consumer Price Index calculator at <http://woodrow.mpls.frb.fed.us/research/data/us/calc/>

Vocal Band Aid, Inc.

Dear Music Educator,

We would like to invite you to apply for a musical education grant from our non-profit organization, Vocal Band Aid Inc. Vocal Band Aid is a Boston-area 501(3)(c) non-profit organization dedicated to supporting music education. We understand that many school systems are reducing or eliminating their budgets for musical education, despite the fact that music is key component in a child's well-rounded education. Each year we host a benefit concert to raise money to support the music program in one or more beneficiary schools. We work with the schools to identify the needs of their program, such as musical education books, musical instruments, etc., and then use the money we raise to purchase these materials, and present them to the schools as a grant. These grants vary in value, depending on the needs of the school and the profits raised by the concert, but are generally a significant benefit to the recipient.

Attached please find application materials. The application deadline is June 24, 2005, so we encourage you to get your applications in as soon as possible. We will select our beneficiaries for the upcoming year after all applications have been received. For more information about our organization, visit www.vocalbandaid.org.

Please feel free to direct any questions you have to Liz Baraff, Vocal Band Aid Director of School Relations. We look forward to reviewing your application.

Sincerely,

Liz Baraff, Director of School Relations, Vocal Band Aid, Inc. www.vocalbandaid.org

**2005-2006
MASSACHUSETTS MUSIC TEACHERS ASSOCIATION
Newsletter and Directory Advertising Fees and Specifications
Deadline for Directory: July 15, 2005
Please send camera-ready copy and check to:
Shelley Reeves
157 Carleton Rd.
Carlisle, MA 01741**

Size	Price	Dimensions (Length/Width)
Whole Page	\$200.	10 ½ x 8
Half Page	\$125.	5 x 8
Quarter Page	\$75	5 x 4
Eighth Page	\$45	2 ½ x 4

INDIVIDUAL MEMBER NEWS

From Kathy Maskell....on May 22, Max Levinson from Boston Conservatory conducted a master class for 4 of our students. Area teachers, parents and students alike enjoyed his insightful teaching techniques and his skill at putting students at ease.

David Hagan, together with his sister, Christine Hagan, presented an all-Brahms two-piano recital on April 23, at the Schlesinger Center in Alexandria, Virginia. The program included Brahms' own arrangement of his Fourth Symphony.

Duo Con Anima, Fern Abrams and Joan Garniss, presented a four-hand concert, sponsored by the Friends of the Waltham Public Library, in February. They will make their 20th appearance in the First Parish Lexington, MA, Concert Series on Friday June 24 at noon. This two-piano program will feature music by Russian composers: Arensky Suite Op. 15, Shostakovich Suite Op. 6 and a suite from Prokofiev's "Romeo and Juliet" transcribed for the Duo by Joan Garniss and Dr. Paul Kenyon. The public is invited and the concerts are free.

Michelle Gordon, NCTM, accompanied the Sippican Choral Society at their 40th Anniversary Concert at Tabor Academy in Marion, MA on May 14.

Come to Maine for Quad State weekend!

Quad State Convention participants are invited to stay at the **Marriott's Fairfield Inn** in Scarborough, Maine for \$52 per night! The Fairfield Inn is located 7 miles from the USM Gorham campus, 5 miles to downtown Portland and one mile from the Maine Mall area.

Enjoy Maine's peak foliage season!

At the Marriott's price, it's the perfect opportunity to enjoy all that the Greater Portland area has to offer. Attend the Quad State Convention, enjoy dinner at one of the Portland area's many fine restaurants, visit the Portland Museum of Art, or spend some time shopping in Portland's Old Port district or at the Maine Mall.

Exchange musical ideas with fellow colleagues!

Call the Fairfield Inn for reservations at:

207/883-0300

You must state that you will be participating in the Quad State Convention to get the \$52 nightly rate. This rate is valid for us between October 12th and 16th. Reservations for Quad State weekend must be made by: **Monday, September 12th** A block of rooms is being held for us until one month prior to our event. Please make your reservations as soon as possible.

Why not mix business with pleasure?

See you in October!

