



NEWSLETTER – FALL 2006

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear MMTA colleagues,

Welcome back to the MMTA 2006-2007 season! I hope you all had a restful and enjoyable summer, and that you are looking forward to a new year of teaching and MMTA activities.

The newly redesigned MMTA website is up and running! If you haven't visited it yet, type in www.mmta.net and you'll arrive at our association's informative homepage. A special new feature added to the website this year is the "Find A Teacher" searchable member database - an effective tool to locate teachers throughout the state by zip code and instrument. Each member should make sure that his/her information is correct and email any corrections, comments, and/or suggestions, to membership@mmta.net. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Shelley Reeves, our Past-President and computer guru, for being so instrumental in setting up and maintaining the website, while simultaneously taking care of many other MMTA issues. Many thanks also to Sima Shwartz, our Membership Chair, for taking care of the teacher database and constantly updating the ever-changing information.

This past summer, I was fortunate to attend one of the two **July Jamboree** events. What a great musical afternoon it was! In only their second year since inception with a national grant, these two free community concerts in Westford and Arlington proved to be successful and fun-filled events. Many thanks to the teachers and students who participated in these music festivals, and special thanks to Alison Vannah, Shelley Reeves, Steve Zocchi and all the GLMTA members, for putting in the many hours that made these events possible.

Our first event this fall is the annual **State Meeting**, followed by a Workshop with our state's **Teacher of the Year**, Kathy Maskell, and a performance by the **Massachusetts Commissioned Composer**, Stephen Halloran. I hope to see many teachers at this event, which will be held on October 14 at Lowell High School. For registration and other information, please check the MMTA handbook, or visit the website.

Next on the calendar is a **Master Class** with pianist Bonnie Anderson, sponsored by the Greater Lowell Music Teachers Association. The Master Class will be held on November 12, at 3:00 pm, at Music Works in Tewksbury.

The third event this fall is the **MTNA Performance Competitions**, which will be held on November 18 at Brandeis University. The deadline for registration is September 12, and the applications are available online at www.mtna.org.

The **RACE Theory Exams** (winter session) will be given on December 8 and 9. The applications are available online at www.royalamericanconservatory.org and the deadline for submission is October 23.

The rest of the season will be filled with many more exciting programs and events, which I will cover in the next issue of our Newsletter.

Lastly, our association constantly needs your help for our various programs, events, and services. Don't forget to volunteer! Whether you are a new member or a veteran, I hope that you will get involved in our state and local associations.

Best wishes for a successful and rewarding teaching year,

Dr. Nilly Shilo
MMTA President

2006 TEACHER OF THE YEAR PRESENTATION

2006 COMMISSIONED COMPOSER CONCERT

**October 14, 2006
Lowell High School
50 Father Morissette St., Lowell, MA 01852**

9:30-10:00 **State Meeting**

10:15-11:15 **Teacher of the Year Presentation & Workshop**
Kathleen Maskell, NCTM

“Creative Ensembles a Musical Play Date”

Using everyday resources, create opportunities for your students to have fun playing in their own "band". While ensemble playing may seem daunting to some, this session will enable teachers to give students a gentle introduction to this exciting learning experience.

11:30-11:50 **Commissioned Composer Concert**
Dr. Stephen Halloran

Piano Sonata No. 2

12:00 **Lunch at Cobblestones Restaurant**
A short walk from the high school.

Menus are available online at www.cobblestonesoflowell.com

To make a reservation, please indicate in the Registration Form, or contact Kathy Maskell at 978-851-5070 or Kathy@musicworks-studio.com by October 10.

Directions to Lowell High School:

Lowell High School is located in the heart of downtown Lowell.
From east or west take 495 to exit 38. Turn right off the exit heading north on route 38. At the 5th traffic light you will see a large park on your left. Continue straight and bear right at the fork. At the next light there will be a large Christian Science Church on your right. Continue straight and at the next light turn left onto East Merrimack Street. Pass the Lowell Memorial Auditorium and the Middlesex Community College Library on your right. At the next light turn right onto Bridge Street and turn left onto French Street. The high school is on the corner of French Street and Father Morissette St. Some parking may be available on the street. Directly ahead of you the Paul Tsongas Arena and parking are located.

REGISTRATION FORM

**Teacher of the Year Presentation
Commissioned Composer Concert**

October 14, 2006
Lowell High School
50 Father Morissette St., Lowell, MA

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: (____) _____ E-mail: _____

MTNA Member: \$15.00 \$ _____

Non-MTNA Member: \$20.00 \$ _____

Part of the proceeds from this event will go toward the MMTA scholarship fund.

Note: Registration fee does not include lunch at Cobblestones. To join the post-concert lunch at the restaurant, please indicate below. Menus are available online at www.cobblestonesoflowell.com

Would you like to attend lunch at Cobblestones? (Please circle) YES / NO

Send this form and your check payable to MMTA by October 10

to: Kathy Maskell, 885 Main St., Tewksbury, MA 01876.

LOCAL ASSOCIATIONS NEWS
Greater Lowell Chapter (GLMTA)

November 12th, 2006 3:00 at MusicWorks in Tewksbury

A Master class with Bonnie Anderson.

January 14th, 2007 3:00

GLMTA teachers and friends concert. (fundraiser)

February 4th 2007 4:00 at the Parish Center for the Arts in Westford

Steve Zocchi in Concert (fundraiser)

February 11th 2007 at MusicWorks in Tewksbury

A Jazz seminar/masterclass with Steve Hunt

For more information, or to join GLMTA, please contact the GLMTA President, Steve Zocchi, at spzocchi@yahoo.com

Southeastern Chapter

The next meeting of the Chapter will be Wednesday, October 11 at the Quequechan Club in Fall River at 9:30 a.m.

Winter Recital

Saturday, January 20th, at 2:30 p.m., tentatively at First Baptist Church in Fall River.

Teachers' Night Out

February 3, 2007, at 6:30 p.m. at A Taste of Thai in Dartmouth, MA.

The Music Achievement Evaluations

Saturday, March 17, 2007, at the Mattapoisett Congregational Church.

For more information, or to join the Southeastern Local, contact president, Judy Mitchell

MUSICAL ACHIEVEMENT EVALUATIONS

Are you thinking of your students' goals and growth as musicians for this upcoming Academic School Year? We live in a State that prides itself in offering the best of everything!! And of course, musical studies are pretty much an item to consider...at the top of the list.

Well, this is where our energies and enthusiasm come in. This is where the Musical Achievement Evaluation provides our students with a meaningful activity that sets an important goal for the year and can be used prior to Recitals or Competitions. This helps evaluate students development in a very personal, one to one encounter with another instructor. It's conveying an added point of view to enhance their knowledge and provide support for the teacher's work by recognizing the positive and encouraging new ideas.

The Evaluators that we choose for these MAE events are not only well qualified and experienced, but know the value of that one to one opportunity. They help students go to the next step.

Please go to our website to learn more about MAE. There you can click on Student Programs and get all the information you need to start preparing your students for the 2007 Evaluations.

The Southeastern Center is working on a venue and date for the Event.

You may contact me at any time if you have questions that were not answered on our website.

Our students need opportunities to become engaged in performance beyond our Studios. A new dimension!

Hope to see and meet you at one of our MAE Centers in 2007 !!!

Maria Reesman, Chair MMTA MAE

781-652-0268

MEMBER NEWS

MMTA member Sima Schwartz attended the Piano Texas International Academy and Festival this past Summer. At this prestigious institute, she played the Chopin Fantasy in F Minor, Op. 49 at the Concert, and at a Master Class with Seymour Bernstein. She also played the York Bowen Toccata, and George Gershwin's 2 Songs with his own arrangement for a piano solo at one of 2 lessons that was scheduled for each of the 22 participants. In addition, she received 1 scheduled and 1 private and unforgettable lessons with the distinguished World Renowned musicians, Andrea Bonatta at the PepsiCo Recital Hall; and with John Owings, working on the Fantasy. You can contact her for a DVD of her Fantasy Performance at sima.schwartz@hotmail.com. You can also see pictures of her experience at <http://simaserafimaschwartz.photosite.com/album1/>

NEWEST MEMBERS – Please add to your membership list

Bonnie L. Black, Piano, Strings, Chamber Music,
855 Commonwealth Ave,
College of Fine Arts
Boston, MA 02215-1303
617-353-3348x333
blblack@bu.edu

Wendy S. Damoulakis, Piano,
Choral, Elementary Music,
5 Heywood Dr.
Westboro, MA 01581
508-366-0662
wed01581@yahoo.com

Lucille Keril, Piano
27 Goodard St.
Newton, Ma 02161
617-964-4548

Andrea Milman, Composition, Theory, Other
143 Howe St.
Natick, MA 01760
508-875-1867
andmilman@hotmail.com

Lori Tremblay, Piano
8 Front St., #304
Salem, Ma 01970
loritremblay@comcast.net

Sofia L. Gurfinkel, Violin, Viola
11 Camelot Ct., #1A
Brighton, MA 02135
617-783-9810

Ludmila Knobel-Aronova, Piano, Theory
9 Stadium Way #D
Allston, MA 02134
irha@mindspring.com

F. Rita Rotondo, Piano, Music Ed
26 Thistle Rd.,
Woburn, MA 01801
617-933-3159
Afr1@attbi.com

Manabu Takasawa, NCTM, Piano, Theory
Dept. of Music
Kingston, RI 02881
401-874-2790
takasawa@uri.edu

Michael S. Rosenbloom
Rockridge Rd.
Waltham, MA 02453
781-899-9425

Jason Stefanik, Piano
87 Edberr St., #B
Chicopee, MA 01020
Airbornemechanic37@hotmail.com

Jane A. Palumbo, Piano
4 Perkins Ave
Reading, MA 01867
781-944-2017
japalumbo@comcast.net

Edward C. Bedner, Piano
33 Fenton St.,
Boston, MA 02122
617-282-1801
ebender@berklee.edu

Saewon Lee Chun, Piano
48 Loomis St.
Cambridge, MA 02138
617-945-1901seawon@comcast.net

Sandra Hebert, Piano
30 Willow St.
Waltham, MA 02453
781-899-2786
shebertsa@bc.edu

Michelle A. Kelley, Piano
79 Wilder Rd.
Leominster, Ma 01453
978-3543-0928
conmoto@comcast.net

Anna Nikolaevsky
Piano
Brookline, MA 02446
Phone: 617.935.5044
E-mail: pianoforchildren@yahoo.com

MTNA COMPETITIONS TEACHERS' FEE

If you are sending students to the MTNA Competitions this fall, don't forget to send in your teacher's fee!

MUSIC TEACHERS NATIONAL ASSOCIATION STATE COMPETITIONS

NOVEMBER 18, 2006 AT BRANDEIS UNIVERSITY

Please complete the following form, include a check for \$25.00 payable to MMTA for the Participating Teachers Fee and **mail it by September 12, 2006** to:

Dorothy Travis
MTNA Competitions Chair
40 Naples Road
Melrose, MA 02176

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE _____

EMAIL _____

TOTAL NUMBER OF STUDENT ENTRIES _____

Please note that the "Teachers Fee" is NOT part of the online registration. DO NOT ADD this amount to the online registration fee. This additional fee of \$25 goes to our state, and has to be mailed to the state's Competitions Chair, Dorothy Travis. A student's application is not considered complete until this is received.