

**MMTA ANNUAL MEETING & EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING
MINUTES**

Date: June 8, 2018

Time: 10:00 am - 12:00 pm

Location: 105 North Avenue, Natick, MA 01760, home of Valerie Stark

Present: Ellyses Kuan, Heather Riley, Dorothy Travis, Jonathan Roberts, Janet Ainsworth, Alison Barr, Melissa Vining, Valerie Stark, Nilly Shilo, Caroline Ly, Penny Ouellette, Vera Rubin, Karin Wilks, Esther Ning Yau (by phone)

Absent: Vivian Tsang, Leslie Hitelman, Amy Lee, Yulia Zhuravleva

ANNUAL MEETING

President Janet Ainsworth called the meeting to order at 10:06 am with a welcome and introductions. Minutes of Winter meeting had been previously approved and posted.

1. TREASURER'S REPORT Valerie provided the following financial report via email: of April 30, 2018, (the most recent bank statement received to date)

Checking \$44,180.87

Savings \$19,970.33

CD \$26,224.81

Total: \$90,376.01

Still in PayPal, from 4 different events: \$21,097.98

Grand total: \$111,473.9

Please find attached the report for the Judged Festival. The other events since then do not yet have final numbers.

Registration numbers, not having subtracted the PayPal fees, nor expenses for each event report approximate gross income as follows:

MAE Littleton: \$1475.00

MAE Lexington: \$480.00

Bay State Piano: \$17,125

Bay State Strings: \$2,485

Please submit all financial papers to me ASAP, so all event numbers can be finalized before the end of June. The finance form can be found on the MMTA.net website, under the same tab as Board Meeting Minutes, at the bottom of the page.

Update: Valerie provided the following final report for inclusion in the minutes:



All programs profit
and loss 17-18.pdf

2. MEMBERSHIP REPORT Yulia provided the following membership report via email:

254 members; 14 of them are the new members (joined after 01/01/2018 through 06/08/2018; No serious issues/concerns, only some questions received and answered.

MTNA national dues for 2018-2019 are as follows: Active/Patron-\$79; Senior (70+ yrs)-\$59.25; Collegiate-\$19.

Dorothy reminded board members to make sure their memberships are updated and dues timely paid.

3. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Speaking for the Nominating Committee, Dorothy noted and welcomed new board members and recognized a new board position, Chair of MMTA's Music Connect Program. Transition procedures and communications were discussed. Board members were reminded to update their Job Descriptions on Google docs.

Proposed Slate of Officers: MMTA BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2018-2020

Executive Board

President: Ellyses Kuan

President-Elect: Heather Riley

Vice-President Certification: Nilly Shilo

Vice President Membership: Yulia Zhuravleva

Secretary: Karin Wilks

Newsletter Editor: Melissa Vining

Treasurer: Yulia Zhuravleva

Immediate Past President: Janet Ainsworth

Chairs

Bay State Contest Chair: Esther Ning Yau

Bay State Contest Strings Chair: Vera Rubin

Webmaster: Vivian Tsang

Judged Festival Chair: Heather Riley

MTNA Comps Chair: Jonathan Roberts

MTNA Composition Competition Chair: Leslie Hitelman

Composition Commissioning Chair: Dorothy Travis

MAE Chair: Penny Oullette

MMTA's Music Connect Program Chair: Alison Barr

Motion: Valerie - To vote on the slate of officers as presented by the Nominating Committee

Second: Heather

Vote: Unanimously in favor. Motion passed.

4. CONCERNS OF MEMBERSHIP

Janet reported that problems continue with the MMTA website, particularly with online registrations for events.

Action: The board supports spending money to improve and upgrade the website. Dorothy will communicate this to Vivian.

Janet reported that some teachers expressed concerns, both procedural and ethical, about judging procedures at MMTA contests. It was noted that policies and guidelines, including not employing the same judge for two consecutive years and avoiding judges with relationships with students and teachers involved in the competitions, are largely "understood." Heather noted that she communicated guidelines of MTNA to the judges she hired for the Judged Festival.

Action: This issue should be addressed by the incoming board. Establishment of written standards should be considered.

END OF ANNUAL MEETING

EXECUTIVE SESSION

1. BAY STATE CONTEST REPORT – Esther and Vera

Esther reported (by phone) that 251 student pianists participated in the contest and that the anniversary banner was well received. She communicated that the fact that student groups are selected randomly must be clearly stated in the entrance literature. She also reported that in some sections, judges did not award first prize. Dorothy noted that national guidelines require that 1st and 2nd place be awarded. Heather pointed out that Bay State judges are actually not required to award all the prizes, per the published Bay State rules. She forwarded the following for inclusion in the record:

"If, in their opinion, the judges do not feel that any student has performed at the level to receive an award, they may choose not to present awards." "First, second and third place trophies and certificates are presented AT THE DISCRETION OF THE JUDGES."

Action: Dorothy will send a copy of the national guidelines to Esther.

Vera reported that 32 student string players participated in the contest and that 2 judges were employed. She reported that on-line registrations were also problematic for her.

Action: Alison suggested that competition chairs should meet separately and report issues and their resolutions to the executive board.

2. MMTA MUSIC CONNECT PROGRAM REPORT – Alison

The program is approved and ready to be implemented! The board has already approved funding for four students for the first year. Heather asked if it would be possible to include a link to the program on teachers' individual studio websites.

Action: Alison will provide teachers with verbiage and a link which can be used by teachers to make potential applicants aware of the program.

Action: Other ways of publicizing the MMTA Music Connect Program should be considered by the incoming board.

3. JUDGED FESTIVAL REPORT – Heather

183 students participated in this event held at Gordon College in March '18. This number reflects a cap of 5 students per teacher implemented due to space restrictions of the venue. The event resulted in a profit, as follows:

Total registration fees received: \$6362.94; Total Expenses: \$4560.90; net income: \$1802.04

Discussed: How to allow for growth of this event? We may need to find a new venue and increase the enrolment cap to 8 students per teacher. Parking and travel-time considerations must be addressed.

4. MUSIC ACHIEVEMENT EVALUATION (MAE) REPORT – Amy – via email:

The evaluations dates were held one weekend apart, at well-established music school facilities, on different weekends surrounding the MA Public School's vacation week in April. This allowed flexibility for many students to choose which date and location they wanted to participate in.

We had a very successful start this spring with holding the MAE in Lexington for the first time at the Yamaha Music School. Penny Ouellette was an immense help and leader in securing the venue and resources for us. The Yamaha School is a wonderful facility, equipped with all tuned Yamaha pianos. It's also incredibly helpful and accessible how there is a dedicated parking lot for the school. Eighteen students participated at this venue, from nine different piano teachers, all evaluated by two wonderful judges. I hope we can continue to our working relationship with the Yamaha School for the 2019 MAE!

For the Littleton Center, we had another amazing team of four adjudicators for the entire afternoon. Fifty students participated at this venue, from thirteen different piano teachers. Indian Hill Music School has been a wonderful venue to allow usage of the entire building and three studios and the concert hall — all freshly tuned and equipped with Steinway grand pianos! One prolific teacher remarked to me how the program is "...the best 20 minutes their students could have!" due to the high quality of evaluations and feedback.

This was one of the most successful MAE years to date. There is absolute potential in continuing a connection with the Yamaha School and expanding the program enrollment. I will glad to be of help in securing the Indian Hill Music School venue for the MAE in 2019. I'm proud to have led and grown this program to its current stature over the last six years and look forward to the program sustaining its success.

5. STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPS – Janet

Motion: Dorothy – To approve awarding the following scholarships:

- \$300 to each of 6 applicants for the Herbert H Bowker Memorial Scholarship.
- \$1,000 each to 2 applicants for the Nancy Oliva Scholarship
- Total scholarships to be granted: \$3,800.

Second: Alison

Vote: Unanimously in favor – motion passed.

6. MMTA COMPETITIONS - Caroline

Reporting on the November 2017 event held at Brandeis University, Caroline reported that the Massachusetts winner in the strings division, cellist William Suh, went on to victory at the national level! It was suggested that William be invited to perform at the MMTA June social event. Caroline will contact him with an invitation and the offer of a

\$150 honorarium, as suggested by Valerie, for his performance. (UPDATE: William is unavailable on that date.)

Caroline also reported that all participating teachers have duly remitted their fees for the competition, and that she is working on transitioning her job to incoming chair, Jonathan Roberts. Further, setting a date with Brandeis for the event in November of 2018 is in process.

7. CERTIFICATION REPORT – Nilly

Nilly inquired about the request of an applicant for a mentor in the application process. Alison offered to be a “contact person” but would rather not be called a “mentor.” Karin reported that informal assistance of an applicant who is subsequently awarded certification is an option as a renewal point.

Action: Alison will assist the applicant

8. MTNA NATIONAL CONFERENCE REPORT – Janet

Tabled due to time considerations

9. SOCIAL EVENT – Vera

The annual event at Vera’s home on Sunday, June 17th at 1 pm, will be catered by a Taiwanese restaurant. There are no special awards or recommendations to be made at the event.

Action: Agenda item for fall 2018: Solicit applications for Teacher of the Year (TOY) and Lifetime Achievement Award.

Action: Janet will send an email invitation to the social event to all MMTA members today.

10. NEW BUSINESS

Alison updated the board regarding ongoing planning for the Quad-State conference to be hosted by Massachusetts in the fall of 2019. Available dates from Tufts University will be communicated this fall. Alison has hired, with the boards previous approval, keynote speaker William Westney, author of *The Perfect Wrong Note*. Since “collaboration” is the theme of the conference, it was agreed that Mr. Westney be advised that his presentation should be inclusive of all instruments.

Fiscal 2018-19 Meeting Dates:

- September 21, 2018
- February 8, 2019
- June 7, 2019