

MusiGRAM

President's Report



I hope that you all had a good summer and are ready to start the Fall semester 2004.

First of all, I would like to welcome our new Board Members. Nancy O'Brien, from Tucson, is our 3rd VP and in charge of organizing the next State Conference in Tucson. She has served in TMTA for many years and is an experienced organizer.

Also, she has a lot of new ideas

for the Conference. It will be really great and fun to attend the next State Conference. I would suggest that you mark your calendar and plan to attend the State Conference next year. It is not too early to plan on it! We also have Nancy Ostromencki, from Tucson who takes over the Chair of State Honors Recital for the next two years. Nancy is an experienced organizer for competition and evaluation. The Honors Recital committee has been working very hard in the summer despite the Arizona heat in order to get all information about the Honor Recital ready in the Fall MusiGram for our members. We are fortunate to have Ashley Bradford stay on the Board to help with the membership after she completes her term of local president. And last but not the least, I would like to welcome Melody Acker as the president of East Valley to join us on the Board.

In 2003 - 2004 we finished revising the State Constitution and By-Laws thanks to Dorothy Dungan and her committee. Also we had 117 members attend the State Conference, and it was extremely successful. Janet Norman, the past 3rd VP and her committee worked very hard to assure our members could learn from and get the most out of the 2004 Conference.

For the coming year, I hope we all put aside our differences and bring out the best of ourselves to work together towards the same goals. It is because of all members' hard work that our organization is so successful. I am proud to be the president of ASMTA and honored to be serving its members.



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Questions or comments?

Contact

Charlene Zundel
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charzundel@cox.net

Important Dates

STATE CONFERENCE 2005

JUNE 1-4, 2005

Tucson, Arizona

MTNA CONFERENCE 2005

APRIL 2-5, 2005

Seattle, Washington

ASMTA is Online!

Please check out our new and revised web site for all the latest information. At www.asmta.org you can:

- *read your MusiGram online
- *download and print photos and applications
- *get information for state and local events
- *check out our great links to other music sites

Did You Know . . .

You can save a tree and ASMTA funds by reading your MusiGram online! If you would like to be removed from the hardcopy mailing list and instead receive an email reminder when the newest edition is available online, email Charlene Zundel at: charzundel@cox.net

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MTNA Press Releases Online

<http://www.mtna.org/pressreleases/pressrelease.htm>

The *MusiGram* is published by Arizona State Music Teachers Association, three times per year: Fall, Winter and Spring. Subscription included in MTNA/ASMTA membership. ASMTA local Associations, Chapters and committees may submit information concerning activities free of charge. Deadlines one month before publication. Camera-ready advertising rates: full page, \$400; half page, \$250; quarter page, \$150. Classified ads available \$5 per line up to 25 letters. Other ASMTA publications include the Directory, and the Convention Book. *Address all editorial correspondence* to ASMTA publications Editor, Charlene Zundel, 29007 N. 45th Way, Cave Creek, AZ 85331; (480) 502-6948; charzundel@cox.net. *Address all advertising correspondence* to ASMTA Advertising Chair, Nancy Henry, 10469 E. Camino Tesote, Tucson, AZ 85749, (520) 749-2818, contactus@asmta.org.

Editor's Corner

What on earth (or anywhere else) were you thinking?!?

Think back to the moment you decided to become a music teacher. Who was your inspiration? What did you see in them that motivated you to follow their path? As you look at your studio and your participation with our professional organization, are you meeting the vision you saw in your first mentor? Do you still have the passion and love for what you do?

We should all love to teach. Most of us can probably remember our early experiences as a new student... excitement, nervousness, fear, and sometimes complete resentment for the parents who were forcing us to continue long after we wanted to quit (of course, most of you probably never even considered quitting and have studios packed with purely dedicated career-bound prima donnas). As professional music teachers, staying in touch with all of these realities and feelings is crucial to keeping your career fruitful and for producing exceptional results with your students.

Prior to my move to Arizona, I was a part of a thriving University program and Youth Conservatory. I was involved with a dynamic and creative team of professionals who were committed to adapting and improving their music offerings in an ongoing competition with Television, Xbox, Computer games, and a host of other forms of easy entertainment.

As independent music teachers, we can miss out on the fellowship, camaraderie, and dynamic creativity that other professionals enjoy in their workplace everyday. One of the most successful ways I have found to stay in touch with other music professionals is to be an actively involved member of local and state associations. These groups and their meetings form the core of ongoing education and new ideas for our industry. They also play a vital role as a support group when we really need to bounce ideas off someone who understands the challenges we each experience.

With the new beginning that Fall and the return of school bring, we each have an excellent opportunity to recommit to taking our studios to the next level. This is a great time to give our best to our peers and learn from them what is creating success with their students. If you aren't in the habit of attending your meetings, get back involved. We need you! As we all get more active and build the momentum of our organizations, they will truly become a vital recharge and part of our enthusiasm as professional music teachers.

Enthusiastically,

Charlene Zundel
4th VP, Publications

Report of 1st Vice-President

Congratulations to the new local presidents, Marie Zelenka (Northern District) and Melodie Acker (East Valley). We look forward to serving with you on the ASMTA board and wish you much success in your presidencies. Our thanks go to the outgoing presidents, Marge Johnson (Northern) and Ashley Bradford (East Valley), for their dedication and contributions to their districts and to ASMTA.

Last fall our president, Dr. June Chow-Tyne, attended the MTNA Leadership Summit in Cincinnati and returned with glowing reports. This year I will be attending and am eagerly anticipating meeting many MTNA leaders and learning more about our professional associations.

The amended Constitution was passed at the ASMTA Conference in June and the Constitution and bylaws are now on the ASMTA website, thanks to Nancy Henry. Please review the changes; some may directly affect your office or your organization.

As I had expected, working with June the past year was an enjoyable experience, and I look forward to another great year. Thanks, June.

Respectfully submitted,

Dorothy Dungan, NCTM

ASP Grant Recipient to Perform World Premiere

The World Premiere of Arizona composer, Glenn Stallcop's Sonata for Cello and Piano will be the featured composition in a concert presented by cello and piano ensemble, DuoWest. Cellist, Ian Ginsburg and pianist, Sherry Lenich will perform the sonata, along with works by Francouer and Shostakovich on two concerts in October here in the Valley. Sherry received the **Janice McCurnin Teacher Enrichment Grant** from Arizona Study Program for her work with the duo.

The first performance will be held Friday, October 15 at 8 pm at the Episcopal Church of the Epiphany, 2222 South Price Road, Tempe. The second performance will be Friday, October 22 at 8 pm at the Congregational Church of the Valley, 120th Street and Shea Blvd. in Scottsdale. KBAQ announcer and Phoenix Symphony moderator, Katrina Becker, will host a pre-concert interview with the artists and composer at 7 pm on October 22. Tickets are \$15 for adults and \$10 for students and seniors. For ticket information, directions or to find out more about "DuoWest" please call 623-932-0950 or visit the website at: www.DuoWest.org.

IMTF

This is my first article as the ASMTA Independent Music Teachers Forum chair. My name is Ann Taylor and I welcome all concerns, comments, complaints. I have been teaching in AZ for more years than I am willing to mention. I am delighted to take on IMTF for two reasons. The first is that I greatly enjoy my teaching and believe in the value of the work and I would like to encourage and support every teacher in our profession. The second reason is the tremendous joy and friendship I have received over many years from the teachers in Arizona. It is an honor to be a co-worker of so many talented and dedicated professionals!

Arizona was very fortunate to host a workshop with Kenneth Lee in Tucson on Sat. Aug 21. He is the National IMTF chairman. In this article I want to share a few of the points that really stopped me in my tracks.

Major Point # 1: (And I cannot overemphasize this one) we should be so proud of our profession that we would strongly support our best students to become independent music teachers! To support that position we need to know that the profession is viable and rewarding at all levels. That means that working a 40 hr week would support a family without exhaustion, and that the intangible rewards (emotional, psychological, intellectual) would also be there in reasonable quantities. Consider, if we don't value what we do, will our students put the amount of value we wish on their own children's study? Mr. Lee made a very interesting point about Personal Trainers. They have no accrediting body, no degree requirements and as a field it is very new. Yet, with or without training, in many places their fees begin @ \$85 an hour! How do your fees compare? What are we saying to our students and their families about the value we place on music in our lives?

Major Point # 2: (This one really matters, too!) Teachers need to stay in communication with one another. They need to talk(!), talk(!), talk! to each other! We don't have a coffee machine or water cooler about which we discuss our company, policies, new discoveries in our field, etc.. We have to make an effort, but it is as essential for us as it is for those who work in offices! Be sure to add networking to your schedule this year!

I think this article is long enough, but I must add a few things that often come up in studios. Mr. Lee and his wife (a piano teacher) have a studio handbook (about 16 pages) that covers a multitude of studio issues. I will talk about that in another issue. In this one, I want to mention just a few items that will aid communications between teachers and our families. Do you have a studio policy and does it include any of these? If not, do think about it.

1. Parking: Respect for neighbors and you. (Do you really want parents to honk when they come to pick up students?)

2. Fees: Is this a semester or monthly fee? (Highly recommended

3. Missed Lessons? (Is there a policy that is clearly stated?)

If you have ideas to share, my e-mail is anntaylor@cox.net. Check our next issue for more tips!

Have a great teaching year!

Ann Taylor

3rd VP Report

2005 ASMTA Conference Tucson June 1, 2, 3, & 4

ODE TO THE 2005 ASMTA CONFERENCE

We're getting together in Tucson!
June 1,2,3 and 4 (2005)

We're going to be dancin' in Tucson
Minuets, Sarabands and more!

Robert Vandall will join us in Tucson
His music most students adore!

He'll autograph solos in Tucson
And conduct Master Classes galore!

Your students are welcome in Tucson!
Honors Recital, Pool Parties and more! (Pizza?)

So plan now to join us in Tucson!
We're going to create an up-roar!

Its all going to happen in Tucson!
Plan now—mark that calendar for sure!

Watch this space—La! La! La!

Nancy O'Brien

ARIZONA STUDY

Congratulations to the two new ASMTA Honorary Life Members, Janice McCurnin and Gloria Ritt. As most of you know, Janice was one of the founders of the AZ Study Program and Gloria was an ASP treasurer for ten years. Their devotion to music has touched all of our lives.

Thank you, Janice and Gloria!

Fran Kaspar, the immediate past state ASP chair, has become the new EVMTA local chair. We were all saddened when Nancy Spitzer, the former East Valley chair, passed away in May. Fran temporarily put her master's degree program on hold and stepped in to take over the chairmanship when we realized Nancy couldn't do it. I was privileged to work with not only Fran, but a whole team of East Valley teachers who did what had to be done. You are all to be highly commended for the dedication and support that made the ASP evaluations possible this year. A special thank you also to Bobbi Stoutenburgh for being the site coordinator at ASU during the evaluations.

The ASP committee welcomes three new members-at-large: Linda Porter (PMTA). Ann Neff Smith (TMTA) and Debbie Dosdall Saifi (EVMTA). They will be helping wherever needed and learning more about the internal workings of the committee.

Two new publications have been added to the AZ Study Program materials.

The new Teacher Resource Book was introduced at the state conference and became an instant hit. This book contains reproducible worksheets correlating with the ASP theory workbooks. The Study Guides/Syllabus are an abbreviated look at the requirements for each level. Both publications have been produced by Bobbi Stoutenburgh and will become valuable tools in your studio.

The Vocal AZ Study Program is still in the writing stages and will not be available this year. Susan Jimerson-Overholt and her committee hope to have it ready for testing in 2005-2006. Those of us who worked on the current program know the time and energy required to write a program. Thank you, Susan!

The 2003-2004 AZ Study Program report was presented at the state conference in June. To briefly summarize it, 191 teachers entered 1962 students; 1765 of them were evaluated. There were 230 Elementary 4A awards, 51 Intermediate 8A awards, and 37 12A James Anthony High School awards. It's exciting to see how this program continues to grow and benefit so many students and teachers!

Every local association had at least one student complete Level 12A again this year. Congratulations to all of these students and their teachers for their effort and dedication! Students (and teachers) receiving the 2003 James Anthony Awards were:

COCHISE: David Shipman (Dr. Kim Hayashi);

EASTERN: Kyle Hyrum Lauritzen (Elaine Dyches);

EVMTA: David Foust (David Sharpe), Seth Hord (Erlena Stanley),

Anite Huizar-Hernandez (Melodie Acker), Heidi Humpherys (Gina Dastrup), Dionne Lau (Candy Lam), Sarah Ly (Fei Xu). Chris Rice (Hamilton Tescarollo), Alyssa Shanosky (Mary Szanto), Wayne Shen (Annie Center), Eulalia Siu (Candy Lam), Julia Toone (Fran Kaspar), Allen Wang (Candy Lam), Angela Wang (Manuella Pagano). Sherwood Wang (Candy Lam) and Christina Wolf (Barbara Spoelman); **NORTHERN:** David Mohny (Marcele Gallez), Dan Sanchez (Aiko Kawabe);

PMTA: Tracy Amman (Jan Orrick), Marlene Baerman (Barbara Stoutenburgh), Vanessa Carter (Jo Ann Smelser), Stephen Chiu (Barbara Stoutenburgh). Sarah Huggett (Marthella Gerow), Michelle Newbold (Elizabeth Drewett). Richelle Meiss (Sherry Lenich/Joy Baber), Jennifer Ridolfi (Barbara Stoutenburgh), Brenda So (Garnet Mallery), Julianna So (Garnet Mallery), Lauren Wilbanks (Joy Baber), and Heabin Yu (Barbara Stoutenburgh);

TMTA: Carolyn Donohue (Karyl Tomizuka), Jenna Ensign (Helen Jones), Matthew Hom (Marilyn Smith). Angela Petersen (B. Hutchinson/M. Smith), Angela Robinson (Angeline Ng), and Collin Wedel (Janice McCurnin).

Students receiving the \$400 Arnold Bullock Scholarship this year were: Aisha Ahmad-Post (Indiana University, Dr. Kim Hayashi), Natalie Aillon (Chandler-Gilbert CC, Lora Smith), Emily Greco (NAU, Louise Hill), Melanie Johnson (UA, Gloria Singleton) and J. Todd Livingston (ASU, Fran Kaspar). These students previously received the James Anthony award and are continuing as music majors in college.

McCurnin Teacher Enrichment Grants were awarded to Rosemary Isbell for private study with Dr. Kim Hayashi, Fran Kaspar for attending the American Russian Piano Institute in St. Petersburg, Sherry Lenich for her piano/cello Duo West ensemble with Ian Ginsburg, Kathy Overall for private study with Marjorie Gunnell, and Barbara Stoutenburgh for attending the World Piano Pedagogy Conference in Nashville.

Congratulations to all of you for continuing to improve your musical skills! Information and application forms for these grants are available from your local chair, in your local yearbook and/or on the ASMTA website.

The AZ Study Program was again pleased to give \$1,000 for the 2004 convention artist, \$200 to the Honors Recital, \$800 in travel grants to division winners, \$500 to a representative to attend the MTNA Conference in Kansas City, and \$100 to the Janice McCurnin National Endowment Fund. As you can see, your participation in the AZ Study Program benefits not only you and your students but also several state and national programs.

Carol Hill, NCTM

Arizona Study Program State Chair

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Arizona MTNA Competitions to be held in Flagstaff

By Dr. Michael Sullivan
Arizona MTNA Second Vice-President in Charge of Competitions

The 2004 Arizona MTNA Competitions will be held on the Northern Arizona University campus in Flagstaff, AZ on Saturday, November 13, 2004. Last year's competition was a huge success with several of our talented Arizona students placing very well at the national level.

The application deadline for all states is Midnight, September 14, 2004. All mailed applications must be postmarked on or before that date. All online and faxed applications must be received by 12:00 midnight on September 14, 2004.

Performance Competitions

Junior Performance

- * Age: 11-14 as of January 1, 2005
- * Competitions: Brass, Percussion, Piano, String and Woodwind
- * Entry Fee: \$70

Senior Performance

- * Age: 15-18 as of January 1, 2005
- * Competitions: Brass, Percussion, Piano, String, Voice and Woodwind
- * Entry Fee: \$100

Young Artist Performance

- * Age: 19-26 as of January 1, 2005
- * Competitions: Brass, Guitar, Organ, Percussion, Piano, String, Voice and Woodwind
- * Entry Fee: \$100

Chamber Music Performance

- * Age: Average age of ensemble members must be 18-26 as of January 1, 2005
- * Ensemble size: 3-6 players
- * Ensemble instrumentation: any combination of brass, guitar, piano, string and wind instruments. Ensembles with piano only are not permitted.
- * Entry Fee: \$100

MTNA Student Composition Competitions

Application Procedure

- * Applications and compositions must be submitted by midnight September 14, 2004.
- * The application may be submitted either online or mailed to the national office. Three copies of the score and one copy of the application must be mailed to the appropriate state composition coordinator:

Dr. Michael Sullivan
Associate Professor of Clarinet
School of Music
Box 6040
Northern Arizona University
Flagstaff, AZ 86011-6040

Composition Competitions

Elementary:

- * Age: 5-10 as of January 1, 2005
- * Entry Fee: \$15

Junior:

- * Age: 11-14 as of January 1, 2005
- * Entry Fee: \$25

Senior:

- * Age: 15-18 as of January 1, 2005
- * Entry Fee: \$35

Young Artist:

- * Age: 19-26 as of January 1, 2005
- * Entry fee: \$45

The National Finals of the competitions are scheduled for April 2-6, 2005, in Seattle, Washington. For a complete list of State and Division Competition dates and locations, consult the June/July 2004 issue of American Music Teacher or the MTNA website at www.mtna.org.

Members of ASMTA,

Here Is How **YOU CAN HELP!**

Support students and teachers in ASMTA. We don't want to increase Member dues because teachers are already over-burdened with local, state and national dues.

Proposal to local associations - Because ASMTA has 400+ Members and more than 30 times that many students, family and friends, we have the potential to earn thousands of dollars through eScrip (Safeway card donations, eScrip Credit card donations, Network Rewards, inkjet-toner-cell phone recycling rebates, and vehicle donations). **Each local association could get a % of the total donations.** In order to do this, I would need an assistant coordinator from each Local Association to help promote eScrip at the local level.

Previously you may have purchased gift certificates or grocery certificates from Safeway and other stores in order to help support a school or other non-profit organization. **Now you don't have to buy the certificates in advance.**

Simply take a few minutes and

1. Go to www.escrip.com.
2. Click on "sign up".

The logo for eScrip, featuring a stylized lowercase 'e' inside a circle, followed by the word 'Scrip' in a serif font.

When asked for the group name, type in **Arizona State Music Teaches Association**. Then, if you have a **Safeway Club** card, you can put the number in and every time you use your Club card at Safeway, a percentage of that purchase will be donated to ASMTA!

During April, ASMTA had 6 Safeway eScrip participants with a deposit of \$16.53.

During May, we had 11 Safeway eScrip participants with a deposit of \$ 27.06.

Total for April and May = \$43.59.

Register your **debit/credit** cards and use them at stores such as Carl's Jr., Coco's, JB's, Payless Shoe Source, Pep Boys and Office Max, and these businesses will donate a percentage of your purchase to ASMTA. You can **apply for an eScrip VISA Credit Card** and use it instead of your check book or Debit card so that eScrip will donate from .05% to 2% of every purchase to ASMTA. (Percentages are based on how much you spend.)

Between my sister & myself, our eScrip Credit cards have already raised \$160+ for ASMTA!

Here's another great thing about eScrip. Through eScrip's online **Rewards Network** you can locate Hotels and Restaurants near where you are nation-wide and get from 8% to 10% rewards which come directly to ASMTA.

My husband & I raised \$14.87 for ASMTA through Rewards Network during the 2004 ASMTA Conference.

Starting in September this year we will begin **inkjet/toner cartridges and cell phone recycling** through eScrip. Please bring your items to your general meeting for collection. Also, visit www.eScrip.com and find out how to **donate a vehicle** (free pick-up & processing).

eScrip is free, easy, safe, and a great help to ASMTA!

If you are afraid of giving out your credit/debit card numbers, please be assured that **eScrip is a secure program** and will not share your personal or card information with anyone. All funds are handled electronically from the merchants through eScrip directly to ASMTA. Check it out at www.escrip.com

FOR MORE INFORMATION

CONTACT the ASMTA eScrip Coordinator:

Nancy Henry - 520-749-2818 - contactus@asmta.org

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NPF CELEBRATES NATIONAL PIANO MONTH

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PIANO CONNECTION

The National Piano Foundation celebrates National Piano Month every September. This year's celebration will include *Piano Connection*, a series of ensemble performances on both acoustic and digital pianos. The performers will be pianists of all ages and the celebrations will be held in retailers' music stores throughout the U.S. Piano teachers are encouraged to rehearse these ensembles during their summer activities for performances in September.

While the piano is traditionally played as a solo instrument, there is also a rich legacy of ensemble repertoire ranging from duets and two-piano four-hand music to larger ensembles. During the last decade we've seen the rise of another ensemble experience, with multiple digital pianos recreating orchestral sounds and unique sound effects.

Teachers who videotape their students' performances are invited to send a 10-15 minute DVD to the National Piano Foundation headquarters office (13140 Coit Road, Suite 320, Dallas, TX 75240). They will be looped together and played continuously during the MTNA conference next April in Seattle, Washington. Additionally, a pamphlet will be given to attendees of the NPF/MTNA Group Teaching Track sessions that lists the name of each performing group, the teacher's name and the name of the sponsoring retailer.

The joy of making music together is an enriching experience that benefits both individuals and the group as a whole. Now is the time to make a *Piano Connection*! Please contact Brenda Dillon (brenda@dondillon.com) with inquiries or to confirm that you will be participating in this exciting event.

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ASMTA Certification News

National Certification is important and Arizona teachers are becoming certified! Three teachers passed proficiency exams at Arizona State Music Teachers Conference in June. Others are applying for certification. Are you certified? Now is the time to contact your local certification chair, or Elaine Dyches at edpiano@earthlink.net for more information about becoming nationally certified. Our students deserve the best!

Certification Portfolios Received

Candidates for MTNA Professional Certification can take advantage of the Certification Portfolio option. This option, which became available in January, allows candidates to complete Step II of the certification process to earn Professional Certification.

The Certification Portfolio is a compilation of materials and documents designed to validate and fulfill the MTNA Professional Certification Teaching Standards required to become a Nationally Certified Teacher of Music (NCTM). It provides concrete evidence of certification candidates' knowledge, attitude and skills as a professional and reflects candidates' individuality, creativity and self-sufficiency. One primary purpose of the portfolio is to provide the National Certification Commission with an effective and accountable documentation of certification candidates' professional teaching competence.

In the short time since enacting this option, several Certification Portfolios have been received at MTNA. One evaluator, upon completing the evaluation of the Certification Portfolio, said, "Since I was looking at my very first Certification Portfolio, it took me a long time to evaluate it. I had to get into a completely different mode from that of evaluating the Certification Examination. It was an almost pleasant task. I found nothing tedious about it at all. I've come away feeling like I know much, much more about the candidate's teaching abilities—and personality for that matter—than I would have known had the candidate elected to take the optional certification examination. I think the portfolio route is a much more objective and informative way to go than the certification examination, and it's so much easier to evaluate objectively." Another evaluator commented, "I was really pleased that the certification portfolio that came to me was done so well. It took a long time to go over it with the document and the Criteria Evaluation Rubric Scale in front of me. I found the Rubric and the Criteria Evaluation Rubric Scale to be very helpful. Though it took more time than a certification examination to evaluate, I enjoyed the process more and feel the evaluation process will be more consistent with the tool we have to use."

For more information about the MTNA Professional Certification Program, visit the website at www.mtnacertification.org, or contact the national headquarters at (888) 512-5278 or mtnacertification@mtna.org.

New ASMTA Guidelines for the James B. Anthony Honors Contest and Recital Spring 2005

- **Statement of Intent**

The purpose of the ASMTA Honors Contest and Recital is to promote the development of musicianship, technique, and performance to the highest level possible. To achieve that end we will be using two levels of competition, the Preliminary Round and the Final Round. A Winners Recital will take place after each day of the Final Round, featuring the most outstanding students in the state.

This program is open to all instruments, vocalists and chamber music ensembles.

- **How It Works for Students**

1. All students will perform two pieces of contrasting style, period, and tempo, composed by two different composers, from memory for both rounds of the contest. (Exceptions will be listed below).
2. All students will perform their two pieces of contrasting style, period and tempo within the time limits listed below.
3. All students will perform the same two pieces for both rounds of the contest.
4. Both the preliminary and the final rounds of the contest will be open competitions.
5. Students will perform both of their pieces from memory at the **Preliminary Round**—held locally.
6. Students that the judges have chosen will be invited to participate in the **Final Round** of the contest to be held **DURING THE 2005 ASMTA SPRING CONFERENCE IN TUCSON**. The students will be competing in the Final Round on either on Friday, June 3, 2005 or Saturday, June 4, 2005.
7. There will be two Winners Recitals—one after each day of the Final Round of the competition. Both recitals will be held at the conference site. The Winners Recital for Friday, June 3, 2005 will take place from 4:30-6:00 p.m. at the conference site. The Winners Recital for Saturday, June 4, 2005 will take place at 1:30 P.M at the conference site.
8. To be invited to participate in the Final Round of the contest the student must be able to meet or exceed the following requirements in both of their pieces. (a) Performance should be without large, disruptive memory gaps in the music. (b) All students should present their pieces using standard recital etiquette, bowing before and after their performance. (c) All students should be able to demonstrate a musical performance. (d) All music must be memorized, the only exception: chamber music ensembles. (e) Students must be able to maintain a steady tempo or musically communicate the indicated tempo variances of the score. (f) Students must follow the dynamic and phrasing markings from their score. (g) Students must perform both their pieces with accuracy—for example, not playing through rests (h) Students must present a stylistically correct interpretation of their music, for example, a Baroque Minuet should sound like a Baroque Minuet, not a 20th Century Russian March. (I) Students should have a technical and musical control/mastery of both of their pieces.
9. Students should take care NOT to engage in conversation with the judges at any time at any round of the contest.
10. Students should take care to refer to themselves only by their assigned contest number during both rounds of the contest. It seems rather severe, but it is done for good reason.
11. Movements of concertos will be accepted repertoire for ALL INSTRUMENTS EXCEPT PIANO. However, the same requirement of all students needing two pieces of contrasting style, period, tempo and memorization will still be in effect.
12. Voice Repertoire: all works are to be prepared in their entirety and sung without the score. All works are to be sung in original language.
13. Voice Repertoire choices can include: (a) Italian, French, German, Spanish Art Song (b) German Lied (c) English art song or aria—no folk songs or folk song arrangements- (d) 20th century song or aria in English (no folk songs, Broadway tunes) (e) Operatic aria, not in English (f) Song or aria by 20th century American composers, in English—no folk songs, or folk song arrangements.

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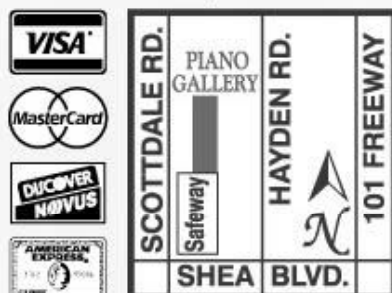
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Contest Divisions and Performance Time Limits for Each Division

Primary	Ages 7 and under	1 minute-min	4 minutes-max
Elementary I	Ages 9 and under	2 minute-min	5 minutes-max
Elementary II	Ages 11 and under	4 minute-min	7 minutes-max
Intermediate I	Ages 13 and under	5 minute-min	10 minutes-max
Intermediate II	Ages 15 and under	6 minute-min	12 minutes-max
Advanced	Ages 18 and under	7 minute-min	15 minutes-max

PLEASE REMEMBER THAT BOTH CONTEST PIECES MUST BE PLAYED WITHIN THE TIME LIMITS. THE TIME LIMITS APPLY TO BOTH ROUNDS.

Minimum Repertoire Level:

Primary - ASP Level 2, Elementary I – ASP Level 3, Elementary II – ASP Level 4, Intermediate I – ASP Level 6, Intermediate II – ASP Level 8, Advanced – ASP Level 10

- **How It Works for Teachers**

1. Teachers must have paid their 2004-2005 MTNA dues and have cleared the MTNA National Treasurer by April 1, 2004
2. Teachers need to make sure that each student that they have entered must have studied with them for at least 6 consecutive months prior to the Preliminary Round.
3. Teachers may enter as many students in each division as they wish.
4. Teachers should take the time to review the guidelines with the students and parents.
5. Teachers should take the time to discuss appropriate performing clothes that their students will wear for the contest. They should stress to their students that they need to rehearse their contest music in the exact outfit and shoes that they will be wearing for the contest. If possible, also stress that the students practice walking across a room or up to the piano and bowing to the audience to get a feel of the process of correct stage etiquette, and doing so in their contest performance clothes.
6. Teachers need to make sure that they have read the requirements for performance carefully.
7. Teachers need to stress to their students and parents that these contests are to be a positive reflection of hours of work. Not everyone will win the Medalist with Distinction award, and the focus should not be on that aspect of the contest but on the positive growth and positive experience that the students have had by being involved in this process.
8. Teachers need to take care NOT to engage in conversation with the judges at any time prior to, during, or after any of the rounds of the contest.
9. Teachers need to take care NOT to challenge the decision of the judges.
10. Teachers will be requested to help in some manner during the contest. This could range from being a monitor to helping with the refreshment table for the students or to bringing food and beverages to the judges. Be prepared to be asked to help.
11. Teachers should make sure that the music their students submit to the monitors on contest day has the measures marked.
12. Teachers should make sure that the music that their student submits to the monitors on contest day is the same edition that the student uses for both rounds of the contest.
13. Only one copy of each piece of music to be performed is required to present to the monitors prior to the contest.
14. There should be no names of teachers, students, parents, or anyone on the music given to the monitors prior to the contest.
15. Teachers need to accept the fact that the results of the contest and the decision of the judges are final. These results and decisions may not be challenged.
16. Many pieces of classical music can now be downloaded and printed from websites. Also there are CD's available with downloadable printed classical music. Before you give permission to your students to submit such copies of music for the contest monitors, please contact the contest director/chairperson.

- **How It Works (General Questions and Answers)**

1. Preliminary Rounds will be held at five different locations. Two will be in Phoenix. The other three will be in Northern Arizona, Tucson, and the Sierra Vista area. The exact dates in April and May, to be announced.
2. All students competing in the Preliminary Round will receive a ribbon of participation from the room monitor, immediately after they are finished performing for the judges and have left the contest room.
3. All students, parents and teachers will be invited to have some light food and beverages at a refreshment table that will be set up at all locations for the Preliminary Round of the contest.
4. The written comment sheets from the Preliminary Round will be mailed to the teachers of participating students on the next business day immediately following the contest.
5. Teachers may not pick up results of the contest or request that they be hand-delivered.
6. Results of the Preliminary Round will be posted on the ASMTA website at the end of the contest day.
7. We would strongly urge that all teachers, parents and students refer to the ASMTA web site for the results of the Preliminary Round.
8. The same panel of three judges will be used for all the Preliminary Rounds.
9. Those students that have been invited by the judges to compete in the Final Round of the contest will be asked to compete on one of the following days, either June 2 or June 3, 2005.
10. The Final Round of the contest will take place during the ASMTA 2005 Conference-held this year in Tucson, Arizona.
11. The exact location and time of the Final Round will be announced at a later date.
12. A different panel of three judges will hear the students in the Final Round and they will determine the awards given to the students. These awards can include: Participant, Honorable Mention, Medalist, or Medalist with Distinction. Cash awards/scholarships will be awarded to Medalists and Medalists with Distinction that the judges have selected to receive these awards.
13. The panel of judges for the Final Round will select the performer and the specific piece of music to be performed in the Winners Recital.
14. The results of the Final Round of each division will be announced following the completion of each division.
15. Those students choosing not to participate in the Winners Recital risk forfeiting their cash awards and/or medals.
16. As always, the results of the contest are final and should not be challenged.

- **How it Works- (Application Form and Fees)**

1. The James B. Anthony Honors Contest and Recital application forms will be done a bit differently this year. THE APPLICATION FORMS CAN BE COMPLETED ONLINE AND THE CONTEST FEES CAN BE PAID ONLINE. Refer to the ASMTA Website for all of the information.
2. Those wishing to fill out the hard copy application forms may still do so, but keep in mind that they do not have to be typewritten.
3. The application forms must include the complete and accurate names of the two works to be performed, including full names of composers, opus numbers and movement designations for each composition, and accurate timings of each piece to be performed.
4. All application forms and fees must be received by the contest director, Nancy Ostromencki, no later than April 8, 2005.
5. Those wishing to send hard copies of the applications can mail them to:

**Nancy Ostromencki,
6760 N. Calle Lomita,
Tucson Arizona, 85704-6926**

**or fax them to Ms. Ostromencki at
520-498-2229.**

LOCAL ASSOCIATION NEWS

EASTERN COCHISE

Hi! I hope everyone had a great summer.

We recently had three teachers complete the theory and music history requirements for MTNA Certification. They are now working on the performance and pedagogy requirements.

We are looking forward to the new school year. As an association we are trying to give our students as many opportunities to perform as possible. Some of the events planned for this fall are a students only Mini Recital, Studio Festivals, a Lymphoma PracticeAthon, and our annual Ensemble festival.

Sincerely,

Trisha Simmons

EAMTA President

EAST VALLEY

East Valley Music Teachers Association is planning another busy year for both students and teachers. Members will again meet for membership meetings at Arizona Piano in Phoenix, as guests of EVTMA friend and supporter, Jason Sipes. The first meeting, Thursday, September 9 will feature students of Dr. Baruch Meir with the main presentation by Anne Cheney on the subject "The Romantic Period." October 7, Dr. James Coates, who is an actor and private teacher of the Alexander Technique, will present a hands-on demonstration and talk on the benefits of the Alexander Technique as it pertains to musicians. Washburn Pianos in Mesa will be the venue for East Valley's fall recital on October 9. Later in the month, on October 30, students are invited to wear Halloween costumes to play their piano pieces at Music in the Mall at Superstition Springs Mall in Mesa. Charles Newton and Rebecca Valdivia of The Music Store in Mesa have graciously agreed to present "What's New? New Music Publications for Piano" on November 4.

East Valley will start 2005 with a presentation on January 13 by EV member Ashley Bradford entitled "Integrating Composition, Ear Training, and Improvisation into the Lesson." Music Carnival on January 22 and Ensemble 2005 "Catch the Excitement" on February 5 will keep the year running at break-neck speed!

East Valley is still reeling from the death this spring of long-time active member Nancy Spitzer who served not only the East Valley as Arizona Study Program Chair, but in many other areas on the state board as well. She is already greatly missed not only for her selfless service, particularly to Arizona Study Program, but for the cheerful affection she showed everyone who knew her. Thanks, Nancy, for everything.

Ellen Sassano

Greetings from the Cochise Music Teachers! We hope everyone had a great summer.

I would like to welcome back our board members: Vice-President – Rosemary Isbell, Treasurer – Karen Stahl, Recording Secretary – Lois Andersen, and Corresponding Secretary – Ruth Coulter.

Our first meeting of the year will be a welcome back potluck for all members and friends of CMTA. We will share our summer events with each other and finalize plans for workshops and meetings for the remainder of the year. A report on the State Conference will also be given by the members of CMTA that were fortunate enough to attend.

In October we will have a Teachers' Recital and a General Membership meeting. On November 20, 2004, Mark Bellassai will present a workshop on **Baroque Music**. Mark is a multi-talented performer, playing everything from bagpipes to organ. Mark Bellassai is also a piano and woodwind instructor at Cochise College in Sierra Vista.

In December our students will end 2004 by performing in a Christmas Festival at the Prestige Assisted Living Center. Our teachers will end 2004 with a Christmas dinner at the La Casita Restaurant on Friday, December 3, 2004 at 6:30 PM.

On behalf of all of us at the Cochise Music Teachers Association, we would like to wish all of you a very successful and enjoyable musical year.

Zanetta Boughan

CMTA President

NORTHERN

Hello! I hope you have all had a restful summer and are ready to jump into a new year!

For those who do not know, I have taken over the presidency for this coming year. The schedule of events is in the works, and should be sent to you soon. If for some reason you receive neither an e-mail or letter from me in the next couple weeks, please call and I'll get you on my list.

Marie Zelenka

NMTA President

(928) 556-0791

PHOENIX

PMTA is looking forward to another wonderful year, beginning with our Information Fair on Sept. 9th. We will have the privilege of hearing from many of our Summer Music Camp Scholarship recipients as well as renewing friendships with our colleagues and welcoming new members. On Oct. 14th, Barbara Spoelman will be presenting "Group Lessons in the Private Studio". Barbara is working on her PhD and has done extensive research in this field.

The November 11th meeting will feature our very own Kia Portafekas who will present an encore session titled: "SPARK THE CREATIVE FIRE OF YOUR IMAGINATION, PART II". She asked everyone to bring paper, markers or crayons and a photograph of a memorable place they visited—what a fun adventure that will be! We will wrap up the year with our Holiday Social on Dec. 9th featuring a Munchies & Music Sale to benefit our Scholarship Fund. Roundtable discussions will be held on many useful topics, including Studio Organization, Creative Recital Ideas, and Charting your Student's Progress. You are all invited to join us in any of these great presentations.

Sincerely,
Liz G. Owens
PMTA President



TUCSON

Summer is over. You can't tell by the weather and the sunsets aren't early enough to be remarkable yet. A look at my appointment book, however, assures me that the academic year has begun. Sure, there are a couple of students who've said they want to wait until September to resume, some that haven't returned my phone calls, and a family that I think might still be out of town, but summer is over.

I'm not totally convinced. Many students have resumed lessons and haven't regressed as much as I had feared they might. A couple families have to replace books that were lost during the summer (but I can hardly complain about people taking their piano music with them while they vacation at their grandparents' house). I'm holding out on getting the piano tuned until fall weather settles in, so it still has its monsoon vibrato. There have been a flurry of e-mails and phone calls to get things "on the calendar." Planning meetings are mostly behind us now, but I'm not sure I'm ready for summer to be over.

As I write this, I'm looking forward to hearing what Kenneth Lee will say this weekend to the Tucson Music Teachers Association. Kenneth Lee is the former chair of MTNA's Independent Music Teachers Forum and his workshop for TMTA will probably make the new school year seem like it's beginning in earnest. But for me, I think the event that will make it feel like a new year has really begun will be the Ensemble Play-Through at our first General Meeting in September. This year's Ensemble will be all-American repertoire performed in Centennial Hall on the University of Arizona campus in March 2005. But that seems so far in the future and there are still some books I intended to read this summer that I haven't started, plus a couple others I haven't quite finished. So I hope my students and colleagues will forgive me if I don't yet act as though ... summer is over.

Dr. Raymond Ryder
TMTA President



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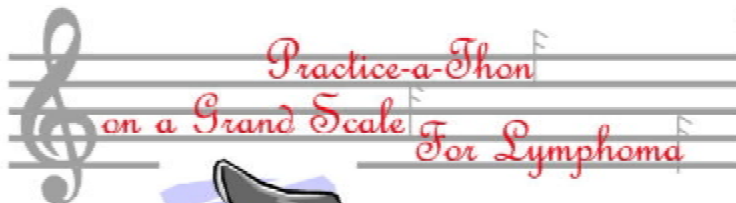


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MusiGRAM

**In Loving Memory
Nancy Spitzer
November 22, 1939 – May 15, 2004**



Nancy was a Nationally Certified Teacher of Music and had been an integral part of the Arizona State Music Teachers Association for 40 years. She held many offices including MusiGram editor, Central District president, Piano Ensemble chair and director, Theory Carnival chair, and East Valley Arizona Study Program chair for the last 12 years. She also had a passion for the handbell choir she implemented and directed at St. Peters Lutheran Church in Mesa.

All of these activities were made possible by the support and love of her husband, Paul, and their three children, Greg, Carmen and Alison.

Nancy devoted many unseen hours of love and devotion to the music community throughout the state and will be greatly missed. Her legacy will live in the hearts of hundreds of students and fellow teachers.