

ARIZONA STATE MUSIC TEACHERS ASSOCIATION Affiliated with Music Teachers National Association

President's Letter

Dear Colleagues:

The calendar and the excitement in the air say it is time for a new school year! With the new year comes new beginnings — new teaching ideas, new and returning students, and new opportunities to make this the "best year ever." It is my hope for all of you and your students that this will be, indeed, the "best year ever."

As I begin my term as your new President, I confess having, with my new-school-year enthusiasm, some anxiety. Continuing the good works of the many illustrious past presidents and boards is a formidable responsibility; however, I believe our qualified, enthusiastic Board members working together in harmony can continue the excellent progress made by our predecessors. I am excited that we have Board members representing the whole state, as well as a blending of "mature", experienced members and innovative, young members. With the diverse age group, we have the tools for bridging the "generation gap," one of the problems addressed at the 2004 MTNA Leadership Summit.

Those dedicated officers who have recently served but are retiring from the Board this year will be missed, and we thank them sincerely for their many years of invaluable service to ASMTA and their local associations. A very special thanks goes to Sherry Lenich, who served on the ASMTA Board for six years — as 1st VP, President, and then Past President. We also thank Rosemary Isbell who, after serving ably for ten years as the Secretary, has elected to step down.

We are fortunate to have some officers returning to serve in different Board positions. It has been a pleasure to work with and learn from our Past President, Dr. June Chow-Tyne. I am grateful she will continue on the Board for two years as advisor and parliamentarian. We thank June for her leadership and for representing ASMTA so well as President. Also returning are Dr. Raymond T. Ryder, now serving as 2nd VP and Honors Recital Chair, and Ashley Bradford, President-Elect. We welcome all the other new members who are listed on the officer page.

The June 2005 Conference in Tucson was inspirational and fun, and we thank and congratulate Nancy O'Brien, Chair, and her

assistant, Grace Young, for an outstanding Conference. Grace is already well along in plans for Conference 2006. Please mark your calendars for June 1, 2 and 3, plan to attend, and stay "tuned" for further info. Thanks goes to Nancy Ostromencki, for heading up the Honors Recitals. Students performed well at the Recitals and were grateful for the monetary awards made possible by Nancy's hard work.

ASMTA is truly a diverse association, boasting many members with graduate and undergraduate degrees in various instruments and areas of concentration, as well as many fine teachers without degrees. MTNA has one standard that unites us and indicates that we are qualified to teach the instrument or area we are teaching—MTNA Certification. In 1968, Arizona led all states in the

President's Letter continued on page 9 ----

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ASMTA CONFERENCE JUNE 1-3, 2006 TUCSON AZ

MTNA CONFERENCE MARCH 25-29, 2006 AUSTIN TX

ASMTA is Online!

Please check out our website for all the latest information. At <u>www.asmta.org</u> you can:

- Read your MusiGram online
- Download and print photos and applications
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Address all <u>editorial</u> correspondence to ASMTA Publications Editor, Susan Jimerson-Overholt, 5455 S Masterson Ave, Tucson AZ 85706.

(520)741-1477, <u>sumusic@aol.com</u> and <u>contactus@asmta.org</u> *Address all <u>advertising</u> correspondence* to ASMTA Advertising Chair, Nancy Henry, 10469 E Camino Tesote, Tucson, AZ 85749. (520)749-2818, <u>contactus@asmta.org</u>

Editor's Corner

Welcome to the new MUSICAL SEASON.

How fortunate we are to promote our delightful music! Through our music we have real control over HARMONY, in our studios and in all of our circumstances. Here is a little quotation from *The Music of Life* by Hazrat Inayat Khan: "Eternal harmony is the harmony of consciousness. As it is in itself eternal, all things and beings move in it; yet it remains remote, undisturbed, and peaceful." **ENJOY!**

Suzy Jimerson-Overholt ASMTA 4th VP Publications



1st VP Report

Wow! I am honored and excited to be taking seat as First VP. ASMTA has been very blessed with strong, effective leaders. It is a life-changing experience to be on the Board and able to serve with and learn from such presidents as Louise Hill, Sherry Lenich, Dr. June Chow-Tyne and Dorothy Dungan, and I am extremely grateful for the opportunity.

I am on a mission to personally visit and hear from each local association, and I look forward to our coming times together. You each have such valuable insights into your local scene and how ASMTA can make life better for you. Please e-mail me or call me with all your suggestions. We are out to make ASMTA the best it can possibly be for you!

Ashley Bradford - ASMTA 1st VP

2nd VP Report

The 2005-2006 State MTNA Student Competitions in performance will be held at the University of Arizona Music Building in Tucson on Saturday, November 19, 2005. The competitions are open to the public. The exact times for that day will be posted on the ASMTA website by the beginning of October and will depend upon the number of entrants.

The application deadline (for all states) for both performance and composition is 12:00 Midnight on September 13, 2005. **Applications for both performance and composition must be submitted online at www.mtna.org.** ENTRY FORMS VIA FAX AND U.S. MAIL WILL NO LONGER BE ACCEPTED. Guidelines and further details are available on the MTNA website and in the April/May 2005 issue of the American Music Teacher.

Dr. Raymond Ryder - ASMTA 2nd VP



Sheraton Tucson Hotel and Suites ASMTA Conference 2006 Hotel

3rd VP Report

The Sheraton is back! If you didn't make the ASMTA Conference in Tucson last June, be sure to ask your colleagues how much they enjoyed learning and "living" at the luxurious and AFFORDABLE Sheraton Tucson Hotel and Suites. Fortunately you'll have a chance to experience this for yourself at the 2006 Conference in Tucson, June 1-3, Thursday - Saturday.

Our clinician, the vivacious and dynamic Ingrid Clarfield, promises entertaining and instructional sessions and master classes while sharing her knowledge and many talents with us. Ms. Clarfield is currently Professor of Piano at Westminster Choir College of Rider University in Princeton, NJ, and author of several music series including *Keys to Stylistic Mastery*, coauthored with Dennis Alexander.

As more Conference plans unfold, we'll keep you posted online (asmta.org) and in the MusiGram. If you have any suggestions or comments please contact Grace Young: 520-795-8630, samorgrace@msn.com. In the meantime, take a good look at the picture of our Conference hotel and imagine yourself relaxing by the pool while sharing ideas with artists and clinicians from Arizona and around the country.

Grace Young 3rd VP and 2006 ASMTA Conference Chair

Certification Chair

Certification in Arizona has been busy since our June Conference. Bette Franke, Chyleen Lauritzen and Sarah Moglewer have all completed certification and are Nationally Certified Teachers of Music! Visit with your local certification chairs or contact Elaine Dyches, <u>edpiano@earthlink.net</u> for more information about becoming certified.

Elaine Dyches - ASMTA-MTNA Certification Chair

MTNA News Release!

CONGRATULATIONS to Elaine Dyches who recently accepted the position of MTNA Southwest Division Certification Commissioner.



Arizona Study Program

Exciting news! The Vocal Study Program will be piloted this year for levels 1-4! Joy Baber and her committee have done a phenomenal job developing these materials. Levels 1-3 should be ready by the end of September and Level 4 will be completed by the end of October. Materials will include vocal repertoire lists, technique requirements, and theory workbooks. Since the committee feels a strong piano foundation is necessary for vocal students, most of the current theory workbook information will remain the same. Terms and composers will be revised, however, to include more pertinent information for vocalists. If you are interested in learning more about the Vocal ASP, please contact Joy Baber. Thank you, Joy and committee members, for making this dream finally come true!

Please remember that enrollment fees and late fee have been raised this year. As reported in the last MusiGram, the enrollment fee will be \$15 if received by November 1. The late enrollment fee, due by March 1, will be \$20.

Another change this year is the due date for program forms. All program forms for advanced students, levels 9-12, are due January 15 instead of March 1. If final selections haven't been made yet, send all pieces being considered. This will save an advanced student from having to make last minute changes on major works if not approved. Program forms for intermediate students will still be due March 1, but may be sent in January.

The repertoire committee met this summer to start updating the piano repertoire lists. It is our hope to have these lists by the next State Conference but a few ideas may be piloted before then. Two main suggestions were made for advanced students but the ASP committee needs to finalize them at their September meeting before they're implemented. The first idea is to play several pieces from an intermediate collection and polish them to an advanced level. These would count as one piece in one period for an advanced student. A list is being drawn up of allowable repertoire for this option. The other suggestion was to allow Levels 11 and 12 students to play both the prelude and fugue from an earlier level and count it as an 11-12 piece. That would still allow a student to choose one piece from Levels 9-10. In planning the student's program, the time allotment must still be observed. Please check with your local chair or me if you have advanced students and are interested in these ideas.

The ASP committee is working on the guidelines for a certification scholarship in memory of Janice McCurnin. As many of you know, Janice was a strong supporter of certification. "We are a professional organization and our teachers should be certified!" She devoted her life to raising the standards of the music teaching profession and encouraged many of us to become nationally certified. A scholarship in her name will continue to encourage teachers to become nationally certified and promote our professional organization. Hopefully, you have all had a little time to relax and enjoy the summer. Shingles put a crimp in my lifestyle, but I appreciate the encouragement I received from many of you. Thank you! Now I'm ready to get back to work. Hope you are, too!

Carol Hill NCTM Arizona Study Program State Chair



Honors Recital

The Honors Recital fills a unique niche among the performance opportunities available for students through ASMTA. The AS-MTA Honors Recitals were originally meant to showcase student talent from each of the local associations. Several years ago, under the leadership of Dr. Kim Hayashi, an audition process was developed for the Honors Recitals with the intent of presenting more consistently high-quality performances.

As an auditioned recital with a two-stage audition process, Honors Recitals give students an introduction to participation in competitions but without the pressure of specific rankings or quotas. Anyone who has heard the recitals in recent years can attest to the marvelous performances that have resulted.

With our next State Conference using a slightly different format, the 2006 Honors Recital will be a single performance on Saturday, June 3, 2006. Details about the 2006 Honors Recital will be available on the ASMTA website early this fall. The general repertoire guidelines for historical styles and timings will probably be unchanged from this past year.

Dr. Raymond Ryder - ASMTA Honors Recital Chair

College Faculty Report

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A "thank you" and a "farewell" to Mandy McDevitt who served on the ASMTA Board as the MTNA/ASMTA Student Chapters Chair in 2004-2005.

Now we welcome Aryo Wicaksono as the 2005-2006 Student Chapters Chair. Aryo is currently a Master's candidate in piano performance/chamber music (collaborative) arts at the University of Arizona where he studies with Professor Tannis Gibson and Dr. Paula Fan.

> Lisa Zdechlik, DMA ASMTA College Faculty Chair

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IMTF Independent Music Teachers Forum

This column (and the MTNA/ASMTA position I hold) exists to give Independent Music Teachers a <u>forum for discussion</u>. Whatever is a concern to one of us is a concern to us all. Business issues were my focus last year. Are they yours?

This year I begin with **Professional Ethics**. Sounds like a dull topic? It may be, but as a leader dealing with individuals, it often becomes a major challenge. Group politics can be problematic, and ethical codes are developed in response to both specific and perceived needs of organizations. They can effectively help govern individual behaviors that would otherwise reflect negatively on the group.

I went to some interesting websites doing research for this topic (Homeland Security may now be watching me), but I did learn a lot. In case you haven't read the MTNA Code of Ethics recently, check out the MTNA website. We had it printed in our directory (inside front cover), but that has since been amended by MTNA. "Round up the usual suspects" (Envy, Prejudice, Bigotry, etc.) and you will find the frustrations and issues that cause divisions in groups. These same "suspects" often keep people from leadership roles as well. Good reasons for Ethical Codes. Please take a minute, as you begin your teaching year, to read the MTNA Code – old and new. Do you agree with it? Do you think ASMTA needs its own Code of Ethics? Is it politics that keeps you from volunteering? Bottom line: What is our individual responsibility to other Independent Teachers?

Thoughts? Ideas? Please, e-mail me at <u>annttaylor@cox.net</u> (note the "tt" in the middle). I also accept any other form of communication. This is your column, Independent Teachers. Happy Teaching!

Ann Taylor - IMTF Chair

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MTNA Foundation

Have you heard of the MTNA Foundation, the Foundation Fund and/or the Endowment Fund and wondered what they are? Here is part of the MTNA Handbook explanation:

"The Foundation Fund is the repository for all funds from the former MTNA Foundation that was integrated into MTNA on July 1, 2003. Since the establishment of the MTNA Foundation in 1989, many thousands of dollars have been provided in grants and awards to students, gifted composers, outstanding teachers and performers and to local associations. By investing in MTNA through your contribution to the MTNA Foundation Fund, you can support MTNA's mission to advance the value of music study and music-making to society and to support the professionalism of music teachers, thus helping us work for a more musical tomorrow."

Now and then MTNA sends out requests for individuals to donate to the Fund. This past year Arizona had seven members

donate and we wish to thank them: Marcele Gallez, Marjorie Gunnell, Paula Heil, Susan Jimerson-Overholt, Arlene Ratz, Susan Shiner and Pee-Yaw Wilkes. In addition to the individual donors the ASMTA Board sent a donation of \$1000 to the Janice McCurnin Endowment Fund in memory of Janice who passed away in May. Janice received the first "MTNA Music Teacher of the Year Award" and we're proud of her and her contributions to our local, state and national boards.

Seriously consider donating, please, to the Foundation Fund when MTNA sends a request.

Janice Holladay - MTNA Foundation Chair

Archivist Report

A fun and relaxing activity for teachers approaching Fall term 2005! Write some prose containing titles your students have played in the spring recital. Call it "NAME THE COM-POSER". For instance, THE DANCING BEARS were also CIRCUS JUGGLERS who like to eat COOKIES. 100 YEARS from now, the favorites will still be MOONLIGHT SONATA, ODE TO JOY and SILENT NIGHT!

Imagine our ASMTA President, Secretary and ASP Chair coming to the aid of the Archivist to review our files on a July day for six hours! You'll be in my heart forever!

Thanks for the memory Dorothy Dungan, Rosmary Stelmach and Carol Hill.

I started out with the "MOOCHIE POOCHIE BLUES", but feel great now. If I could, I'd walk "A THOUSAND MILES" but I am too relaxed.

Anna Mae Bruning - ASMTA Archivist

AAA - Arts Advocacy & Awareness

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- A ction, not apathy
- R each out and educate others about the value of the arts
- T each and conduct yourself in a professional way
- S upport other arts-related organizations
- A ttend concerts and arts events
- D are to express your opinions and viewpoint
- V ote for arts-related funding and projects
- O pen doors and build bridges
- C onnect yourself to sources of reliable information
- A wareness of the arts issues and legislation
- C ooperate with other musicians and artists locally
- Y ou can make a difference!

$A \ W \ A \ R \ E \ N \ E \ S \ S$

Barbara Harry - ASMTA Arts Advocacy & Awareness Chair

From ASMTA Technology Front

PART I: TECHNOLOGY FOR TEACHING SEMINAR

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Part II Technology for Teaching Seminar will be scheduled in 2006! To Register: Call the **ASMTA Technology Chair, Cecilia Whitby:** 520-749-9016 or email: cewhitby@aol.com

	If you prefer to mail in your registration please fill out the following form and mail to Cecilia Whitby at 5257 N. Coronado Place, Tucson, AZ 85750.
Attendee Name	
Address	
Phone	email



Dorothy Dungan

Dorothy Dungan grew up in Indiana where she studied piano, voice, and oboe during her school years and entered music solo and ensemble, and English and Latin contests at Indiana University. Torn between majoring in either English or music, she chose English and earned a B.S. in English and Business from Indiana State University.



After five years of public school teaching in Indiana and Arizona, Dorothy "retired" to stay at home with her four children. Subsequently, she became involved with music in the church and rekindled her love for music and the piano. Studying music at the University of Arizona resulted in a B.A. in musicology with emphasis on piano and voice. Her piano study was with Nicholas Zumbro and Dr. Paula Fan and later, with Richard Faith. In Tucson, Dorothy taught a large class of students, was an active member of Tucson Music Teachers Association and directed the Holy Resurrection Eastern Orthodox Church choir. Dorothy directed church choirs for thirty years, and retired from directing the Phoenix St. George Church choir in 2000.

Her continuing education has included various courses at the UA, ASU, and Andrews University in Michigan, and many conventions and workshops in different locations. Continuing piano study has been with various teachers who specialize in certain areas, such as the Suzuki approach. Having studied and taught Suzuki piano, she now uses a variety of methods and teaches a combination of group and private lessons.

An MTNA professionally certified teacher of piano, Dorothy has been actively involved in professional organizations since the early seventies, and is a past member of TMTA, Southwest Pianists Foundation and the Suzuki Association. Currently a member of the American College of Musicians, PMTA, AS-MTA, and MTNA, her contributions to local and state associations include the following: Southern District President (before TMTA was affiliated with ASMTA), President of Tucson Music Teachers Association, ASMTA First Vice-President, Honor Recital, Collegiate Artists, and Chamber Music Chairs; PMTA Third Vice-President, UPS (performance group), Hospitality, Scholarship, and Certification chairs. She has served on many committees at the state and local levels. Maintaining a large piano studio in Phoenix, she enters students regularly in various competitions and auditions, many of whom have received top honors. In 2002 she received the ASMTA "Honored Teacher of the Year" award.

Dorothy is grateful to ASMTA for the opportunities for

professional growth and friendships it has provided and finds great joy in sharing her love of music with others. Married to Richard Dungan, who shares her musical interests, her "spare time" is spent with their family activities.

- President's Letter cont'd from Front Cover

percentage of certified teachers. Now we rank 37th in the nation. MTNA has worked diligently during the past several years to streamline the process of certification to encourage its members to become certified, and we have an enthusiastic, dedicated chairperson (Elaine Dyches) who is making great progress getting more members certified. Please put certification on your list of "to-do's" if you are not certified.

Finally, though we are a diverse association, we are united in our love for music. If you sometimes feel overwhelmed by all your duties, pause to reflect for a moment about why you give so much to your profession. Play or listen to beautiful music or read something inspirational. Following is a quotation written by a seventeen-year-old athlete named William Johnson in a personal essay, part of his admission papers to Harvard, explaining why he plays the piano:

"I play because it soothes my mind and sets free my flow of thought. I play because it eases my heart and softens my soul — because the simple structure of music gives me foundation in an unpredictable world."

We do all we do that we may bring the gift of music to students like William Johnson.

Best wishes, Dorothy Dungan, NCTM - ASMTA President 602-953-3239 <u>ddunganps@att.net</u>

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MTNA NEWS! MTNA MEMBERS OFFERED SPECIAL REGISTRATION FEE FOR LISZT/MATTHAY FESTIVAL February 9-11, 2006

"Liszt and Matthay: Roots and Legacy" is the title of the joint 2006 Festival of the American Liszt Society and the American Matthay Society hosted by The Hugh Hodgson School of Music at the University of Georgia in Athens, February 9-11, 2006. MTNA members will be offered a discounted registration fee. Please check the American Liszt Society website (<u>www.americanlisztsociety.org</u>) after September 15 for a Festival schedule and downloadable application form.

Three generations of Liszt scholars will present lectures. Keynote speaker is Jim Samson (University of London), whose book on Liszt's Transcendental Etudes won the 2004 Royal Philharmonic Society Book Award. Alan Walker, author of the definitive biography of Liszt, speaks on Liszt and his pupils. Gregor Benko, founder of the International Piano Library, will speak about and present historical piano recordings.

An exhibit of Lisztian memorabilia will be on exhibit in the Georgia Museum of Art. The Museum Gift Shop will feature books by Festival presenters.

Concerts include works of Liszt, Hummel, Czerny, Raff, Tausig, Bülow, Vianna da Motta, d'Albert, Haydn, Schumann, and Ravel. Pianists include Nancy Elton, Dr. James Giles, Howard Karp, Anne Koscielny, Fernando Laires, Evgeny Rivkin, Katia Skanavi, Jane Solose, Martha Thomas, David Watkins, and Richard Zimdars. Ann Schein will play the closing recital.

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ARIZONA STATE MUSIC TEACHERS ASSOCIATION Affiliated with Music Teachers National Association

President's Letter

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As I begin my term as your new President, I confess having, with my new-school-year enthusiasm, some anxiety. Continuing the good works of the many illustrious past presidents and boards is a formidable responsibility; however, I believe our qualified, enthusiastic Board members working together in harmony can continue the excellent progress made by our predecessors. I am excited that we have Board members representing the whole state, as well as a blending of "mature", experienced members and innovative, young members. With the diverse age group, we have the tools for bridging the "generation gap," one of the problems addressed at the 2004 MTNA Leadership Summit.

Those dedicated officers who have recently served but are retiring from the Board this year will be missed, and we thank them sincerely for their many years of invaluable service to ASMTA and their local associations. A very special thanks goes to Sherry Lenich, who served on the ASMTA Board for six years — as 1st VP, President, and then Past President. We also thank Rosemary Isbell who, after serving ably for ten years as the Secretary, has elected to step down.

We are fortunate to have some officers returning to serve in different Board positions. It has been a pleasure to work with and learn from our Past President, Dr. June Chow-Tyne. I am grateful she will continue on the Board for two years as advisor and parliamentarian. We thank June for her leadership and for representing ASMTA so well as President. Also returning are Dr. Raymond T. Ryder, now serving as 2nd VP and Honors Recital Chair, and Ashley Bradford, President-Elect. We welcome all the other new members who are listed on the officer page.

The June 2005 Conference in Tucson was inspirational and fun, and we thank and congratulate Nancy O'Brien, Chair, and her

assistant, Grace Young, for an outstanding Conference. Grace is already well along in plans for Conference 2006. Please mark your calendars for June 1, 2 and 3, plan to attend, and stay "tuned" for further info. Thanks goes to Nancy Ostromencki, for heading up the Honors Recitals. Students performed well at the Recitals and were grateful for the monetary awards made possible by Nancy's hard work.

ASMTA is truly a diverse association, boasting many members with graduate and undergraduate degrees in various instruments and areas of concentration, as well as many fine teachers without degrees. MTNA has one standard that unites us and indicates that we are qualified to teach the instrument or area we are teaching—MTNA Certification. In 1968, Arizona led all states in the

President's Letter continued on page 9 ----

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*** Assist and report to the designated Board of Directors

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*EASTERN ARIZONA Trisha Simmons

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ASMTA CONFERENCE JUNE 1-3, 2006 TUCSON AZ

MTNA CONFERENCE MARCH 25-29, 2006 AUSTIN TX

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Please check out our website for all the latest information. At <u>www.asmta.org</u> you can:

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Did You Know.....

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Address all <u>editorial</u> correspondence to ASMTA Publications Editor, Susan Jimerson-Overholt, 5455 S Masterson Ave, Tucson AZ 85706.

(520)741-1477, <u>sumusic@aol.com</u> and <u>contactus@asmta.org</u> *Address all <u>advertising</u> correspondence* to ASMTA Advertising Chair, Nancy Henry, 10469 E Camino Tesote, Tucson, AZ 85749. (520)749-2818, <u>contactus@asmta.org</u>

Editor's Corner

Welcome to the new MUSICAL SEASON.

How fortunate we are to promote our delightful music! Through our music we have real control over HARMONY, in our studios and in all of our circumstances. Here is a little quotation from *The Music of Life* by Hazrat Inayat Khan: "Eternal harmony is the harmony of consciousness. As it is in itself eternal, all things and beings move in it; yet it remains remote, undisturbed, and peaceful." **ENJOY!**

Suzy Jimerson-Overholt ASMTA 4th VP Publications



1st VP Report

Wow! I am honored and excited to be taking seat as First VP. ASMTA has been very blessed with strong, effective leaders. It is a life-changing experience to be on the Board and able to serve with and learn from such presidents as Louise Hill, Sherry Lenich, Dr. June Chow-Tyne and Dorothy Dungan, and I am extremely grateful for the opportunity.

I am on a mission to personally visit and hear from each local association, and I look forward to our coming times together. You each have such valuable insights into your local scene and how ASMTA can make life better for you. Please e-mail me or call me with all your suggestions. We are out to make ASMTA the best it can possibly be for you!

Ashley Bradford - ASMTA 1st VP

2nd VP Report

The 2005-2006 State MTNA Student Competitions in performance will be held at the University of Arizona Music Building in Tucson on Saturday, November 19, 2005. The competitions are open to the public. The exact times for that day will be posted on the ASMTA website by the beginning of October and will depend upon the number of entrants.

The application deadline (for all states) for both performance and composition is 12:00 Midnight on September 13, 2005. **Applications for both performance and composition must be submitted online at www.mtna.org.** ENTRY FORMS VIA FAX AND U.S. MAIL WILL NO LONGER BE ACCEPTED. Guidelines and further details are available on the MTNA website and in the April/May 2005 issue of the American Music Teacher.

Dr. Raymond Ryder - ASMTA 2nd VP



Sheraton Tucson Hotel and Suites ASMTA Conference 2006 Hotel

3rd VP Report

The Sheraton is back! If you didn't make the ASMTA Conference in Tucson last June, be sure to ask your colleagues how much they enjoyed learning and "living" at the luxurious and AFFORDABLE Sheraton Tucson Hotel and Suites. Fortunately you'll have a chance to experience this for yourself at the 2006 Conference in Tucson, June 1-3, Thursday - Saturday.

Our clinician, the vivacious and dynamic Ingrid Clarfield, promises entertaining and instructional sessions and master classes while sharing her knowledge and many talents with us. Ms. Clarfield is currently Professor of Piano at Westminster Choir College of Rider University in Princeton, NJ, and author of several music series including *Keys to Stylistic Mastery*, coauthored with Dennis Alexander.

As more Conference plans unfold, we'll keep you posted online (asmta.org) and in the MusiGram. If you have any suggestions or comments please contact Grace Young: 520-795-8630, samorgrace@msn.com. In the meantime, take a good look at the picture of our Conference hotel and imagine yourself relaxing by the pool while sharing ideas with artists and clinicians from Arizona and around the country.

Grace Young 3rd VP and 2006 ASMTA Conference Chair

Certification Chair

Certification in Arizona has been busy since our June Conference. Bette Franke, Chyleen Lauritzen and Sarah Moglewer have all completed certification and are Nationally Certified Teachers of Music! Visit with your local certification chairs or contact Elaine Dyches, <u>edpiano@earthlink.net</u> for more information about becoming certified.

Elaine Dyches - ASMTA-MTNA Certification Chair

MTNA News Release!

CONGRATULATIONS to Elaine Dyches who recently accepted the position of MTNA Southwest Division Certification Commissioner.



Arizona Study Program

Exciting news! The Vocal Study Program will be piloted this year for levels 1-4! Joy Baber and her committee have done a phenomenal job developing these materials. Levels 1-3 should be ready by the end of September and Level 4 will be completed by the end of October. Materials will include vocal repertoire lists, technique requirements, and theory workbooks. Since the committee feels a strong piano foundation is necessary for vocal students, most of the current theory workbook information will remain the same. Terms and composers will be revised, however, to include more pertinent information for vocalists. If you are interested in learning more about the Vocal ASP, please contact Joy Baber. Thank you, Joy and committee members, for making this dream finally come true!

Please remember that enrollment fees and late fee have been raised this year. As reported in the last MusiGram, the enrollment fee will be \$15 if received by November 1. The late enrollment fee, due by March 1, will be \$20.

Another change this year is the due date for program forms. All program forms for advanced students, levels 9-12, are due January 15 instead of March 1. If final selections haven't been made yet, send all pieces being considered. This will save an advanced student from having to make last minute changes on major works if not approved. Program forms for intermediate students will still be due March 1, but may be sent in January.

The repertoire committee met this summer to start updating the piano repertoire lists. It is our hope to have these lists by the next State Conference but a few ideas may be piloted before then. Two main suggestions were made for advanced students but the ASP committee needs to finalize them at their September meeting before they're implemented. The first idea is to play several pieces from an intermediate collection and polish them to an advanced level. These would count as one piece in one period for an advanced student. A list is being drawn up of allowable repertoire for this option. The other suggestion was to allow Levels 11 and 12 students to play both the prelude and fugue from an earlier level and count it as an 11-12 piece. That would still allow a student to choose one piece from Levels 9-10. In planning the student's program, the time allotment must still be observed. Please check with your local chair or me if you have advanced students and are interested in these ideas.

The ASP committee is working on the guidelines for a certification scholarship in memory of Janice McCurnin. As many of you know, Janice was a strong supporter of certification. "We are a professional organization and our teachers should be certified!" She devoted her life to raising the standards of the music teaching profession and encouraged many of us to become nationally certified. A scholarship in her name will continue to encourage teachers to become nationally certified and promote our professional organization. Hopefully, you have all had a little time to relax and enjoy the summer. Shingles put a crimp in my lifestyle, but I appreciate the encouragement I received from many of you. Thank you! Now I'm ready to get back to work. Hope you are, too!

Carol Hill NCTM Arizona Study Program State Chair



Honors Recital

The Honors Recital fills a unique niche among the performance opportunities available for students through ASMTA. The AS-MTA Honors Recitals were originally meant to showcase student talent from each of the local associations. Several years ago, under the leadership of Dr. Kim Hayashi, an audition process was developed for the Honors Recitals with the intent of presenting more consistently high-quality performances.

As an auditioned recital with a two-stage audition process, Honors Recitals give students an introduction to participation in competitions but without the pressure of specific rankings or quotas. Anyone who has heard the recitals in recent years can attest to the marvelous performances that have resulted.

With our next State Conference using a slightly different format, the 2006 Honors Recital will be a single performance on Saturday, June 3, 2006. Details about the 2006 Honors Recital will be available on the ASMTA website early this fall. The general repertoire guidelines for historical styles and timings will probably be unchanged from this past year.

Dr. Raymond Ryder - ASMTA Honors Recital Chair

College Faculty Report

.....

A "thank you" and a "farewell" to Mandy McDevitt who served on the ASMTA Board as the MTNA/ASMTA Student Chapters Chair in 2004-2005.

Now we welcome Aryo Wicaksono as the 2005-2006 Student Chapters Chair. Aryo is currently a Master's candidate in piano performance/chamber music (collaborative) arts at the University of Arizona where he studies with Professor Tannis Gibson and Dr. Paula Fan.

> Lisa Zdechlik, DMA ASMTA College Faculty Chair

COCHISE

We already have our yearly schedule planned out with a General Membership Open House planned for September 17. We have a Classical Music master class planned for October 22, to prepare students for the spring Inge Young memorial scholarship competition. Each year a piece is to be selected from a different musical period. November 19 will feature the teachers playing for each other in recital. December 10 will have CMTA students playing for members of a local care center. This will be a three-hour-long afternoon event. The Inge Young competition will be February 25 Music in the Mall CMTA fundraiser will be in March 11 and, of course, April 29 will be the Arizona Study Program. We conclude our business in May at our year-end "election of officers and wrap-up" program before going of to the State Conference and then into hibernation. Very much like bears, only the wrong season. You'll have to admit, it's too hot to do anything else :-)

Charles G. Marlowe - CMTA President

EASTERN ARIZONA

Greetings from Eastern Arizona! We are pleased to announce that Chyleen Lauritzen has completed her MTNA Certification and congratulate her on this great accomplishment. We hope to have two more from our association complete certification within the year.

Our association in growing! Out of our 9 members, 4 of them are having new babies! That's almost 50%! (The other 5 members are thankful to be past that stage of life.) Our meetings will certainly be fun with these little ones around.

Our yearly calendar is beginning to take shape. Each of our monthly meetings will focus on a different aspect of teaching piano. Some of the planned topics are technique, intermediate repertoire, teaching rhythms, games, practice tips and much, much more.

We are providing many performance opportunities for our students. Our joint monthly mini-recitals were of great value last year and we plan on continuing on with them this year. In November we will hold our first large event, an ensemble festival. Students will perform piano duets or accompany a vocalist or other instrumentalist.

We look forward to hearing ideas from other associations around the state and wish you all well in the up coming year.

Trisha Simmons - EAMTA President





Fall Greetings!

First of all, I would like to take this opportunity to say bon voyage to Marge Gunnell, a long-time member of EVMTA. Marge has been so faithful, serving as President of EVMTA and Treasurer of ASMTA. Marge and her husband are retiring in Spokane, Washington. "Retire" is a relative term, however, because Marge says she will still be doing "some" teaching.

"Marge, thank you for giving so much of your time and talent to serve both EVMTA and ASMTA. We'll miss you!"

EVMTA is off and running with our first membership meeting on Thursday, September 8, at 9:30 am at Arizona Piano Company. The musicale will be performed by students of Dr. Hamilton Tescarollo. A teacher panel lead by Pam Allman, NCTM will be discussing "Winning Recital Pieces That Students Love". The October membership meeting features a musicale played by students of Sara Turley, NCTM. Our speaker will be Dr. Mandarin Chueng-Yeuh on "Working with Elementary Students". We hope to see <u>many</u> EVMTA members at these informative and fun monthly meetings.

Our Fall EVMTA activities are the Fall Recital on Saturday, October 15, at Washburn Piano Company in Mesa. Sheryl Johnson chairs this event. Our next Fall event will be the popular Music in the Mall on Saturday, October 29, at Arizona Mills Mall in Tempe, chaired by Ellen Sassano, NCTM.

The East Valley Music Teachers Association welcomes several new members to our Board of Directors: Marilyn Spittle, Kassandra Jenkins Weleck, Carolyn Goddette, Shauna Leavitt, Mandy McDevitt, Dan and Catherine Fletcher, Gina Dastrup, Sara Turley and Janet Papworth. Thanks to all of our Board members for the incredible work they do!

Off we all go on another year of teaching students; may we have a great teaching year as we learn each and every day how to become better teachers!

Melodie L. Acker NCTM - EVMTA President

ASSOCIATION NEWS!

NORTHERN ARIZONA



Here in the mountains we have been blessed with tremendous amounts of rainfall. The temperatures have been very pleasant and the forests are lush and green. Can you believe another summer is almost behind us? Fall is approaching and that means back to busy schedules. The Northern Arizona MTA is holding the first recital for 2005 - 2006 on Saturday, September 17, 2005. We will be holding a monthly recital thereafter through May 2006. We have plans to host a Christmas Recital at the NAU Christmas Craft Bazaar in December as well as perform for many senior living communities within our area. One of our members is hosting an Adult Recital at her home in February. Arizona Study Program evaluations are scheduled for Thursday and Friday, May 18 - 19, 2006. We will follow with our Catherine B. Adel Spring Piano Festival on May 20 - 21, 2006. We are looking forward to the MTNA National Conference in Austin, Texas in March and the State Conference in June 2006. Our first member meeting will be held after the September 17 Recital. We will be discussing our constitution and bylaws and making any necessary amendments. We look forward to a fun-filled, productive, musical year.

Lara G. Hernandez - NAMTA President

PHOENIX

www.phoenixmusicteachers.org

This has been a busy summer for the Phoenix Music Teachers Association. We will be moving to a new location for our monthly general meetings after being at the 20th St. and Camelback Washburn Piano Store for many years. Many thanks go to Liz Owens, Anna Mae Bruning, Evonne Beattie, Pamela Smith, Carol Hill, and Susan Epps for giving of their time this summer to sort and pack. We will move our library, music and other materials in mid-August.

We are looking forward to a great year. Our scholarship recipients will be performing at our first meeting. In October Mandy McDevitt will present "Development of Tone and Touch in Elementary Students". Then we will learn more about the Alexander Method from our presenter in November, Harriet Harris. The Friday Quartette made up of four of our members will perform at our December social.

Our first student event, chaired by Bobbi Stoutenburgh and Jacob Koeller, will be a Jazz/Ragtime Festival. They have some exciting plans for the festival this year which include a café setting for the recital. We are also looking forward to our Music at the Mall event in December. Co-chairs Becky Bender and Joanne Lewis are hard at work trying to line up a third mall this year.

Gail Quackenbush - PMTA President

TUCSON

Greetings to all ASMTA members. A relatively new member to TMTA and a saxophonist, I am looking forward to infiltrating this sea of pianists and encouraging new membership from instrumentalists. Not that pianists are not instrumentalists; I'm sure you are. (My wife tells me I have a *unique* sense of humor.) As a member for just over 3 years I must admit I feel a little overwhelmed as I get a handle on the different chair positions and opportunities available to students. I am amazed at the various performance venues that are offered and regret not getting more involved earlier. I must say I wish I had joined years ago and wonder what my private studio would be like now if I had. I have had some very special and gifted students in the past and wonder what opportunities they might have taken advantage of if I had known of this association. This brings me to my main objective as President:

Creating more local awareness regarding teachers and the public.

As a student at University, I never knew TMTA or MTNA existed. I knew of MENC, but what the heck is MTNA? And what could it do for me? "Isn't it just for pianists?" That is the response I get from most musicians when I mention my involvement with TMTA. When Grace Young called me with "the opportunity of a lifetime" (she's a very clever woman, as many of you know) and asked me if I would be interested in being VP and eventually President, she also mentioned that TMTA "needs new blood." So, how do I encourage "new blood" to join? What is in it for non-pianists? This is my quest, if you will.

My ambition is to keep things running smoothly and introduce new aspects to the organization that will cater to both pianists and other instrumentalists. We are now developing a website (www.tucsonmusicteachers.org) that will be informative and helpful to members as well as outline what TMTA has to offer new prospective members. Instrumentalists are always looking for accompanists for performances in solo and ensemble festivals, and competitions. I would like to develop an accompanist program for TMTA students and teachers to solve this dilemma and encourage fellowship between members and students within TMTA. How many pianists start University having experience as an accompanist? Would this make them a more valuable asset to university studios? Perhaps help them secure a better scholarship? A little extra money for sheet music is always a good thing, or maybe help mom and dad out with the cost of lessons, etc.

Long story short, how can I help to make TMTA the first choice for people seeking private instruction? How can we improve public awareness to encourage new membership and entice teachers of every instrument to join this organization? I am open to all suggestions.

I look forward to working with you over these next two years.

Mike L. Keepe - TMTA President



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MTNA Professional Certification Application Made Easier

CINCINNATI (July 26, 2005)—Applying for MTNA Professional Certification has just been made easier with the availability of fillable forms on the MTNA Certification Website. Applicants may now go to the Website, bring up the appropriate forms, type in the information requested and print them out for submitting to MTNA. The forms are available for applicants seeking initial certification as well as for those seeking renewal of certification. This is much easier for applicants than completing the forms by hand and forces the "old typewriter" into even deeper obsolescence. Evaluators will find fillable forms much easier to read. To check out this new service provided by MTNA, visit the MTNA Certification website at www.mtnacertification.org.

New Certification Examinations

.....

CINCINNATI (July 26, 2005)—Three new Certification Examinations have been completed that meet the requirements for fulfilling Standards II, III and IV, bringing all documents pertaining to the Certification Program in line with the MTNA Professional Certification Standards.

These exams will test candidates in all of the twenty-one performance areas in which MTNA Professional Certification is offered, and will be used on a predetermined rotation plan. A different exam will be provided for those who do not pass the first time.

The Examination will be evaluated on the basis of PASS/FAIL for each of the three Standards (II, III & IV). Only the Standard(s) that results in FAIL will require retesting.

Supporting materials and documents pertaining to the Certification Examination have been revised. In particular, the STUDY GUIDE reflects the new evaluation guidelines. The new examinations are formatted in the following manner:

> Standard II: Sections A, B and C Standard III: Sections A and B Standard IV: Sections A and B

Answering one question from each of the seven sections will be required. The STUDY GUIDE contains a sample question from each section that reflects the subject matter of its contents.

Target date for the inauguration of the new Certification Examination is October 1, 2005.

Application Time Limit Policy

.....

CINCINNATI (August 18, 2005)—At its July meeting, the MTNA Board of Directors approved the following policy regarding the two-year time limit for completing the certification process:

"The MTNA Professional Certification process must be completed within a two-year time limit from the date the application is received at MTNA Headquarters. If the process is not completed within two years, the applicant may request, in writing, a single one-year time extension, after which, an application extension fee of \$100.00 will be assessed."

The above policy replaces the former one found in the Application Packet's **FAQ** that read:

> "Is there a time limit for becoming certified once I have sent my initial application and fee? Yes: you have two years from the date of application. Candidates exceeding this time limit will be assessed a new application fee."

The new policy allows candidates who encounter extenuating circumstances during the two-year certification process to request, in writing, a single one-year extension before being assessed an application extension fee.







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