



**Dr. Raymond Ryder**  
**NCTM**

**ASMTA  
PRESIDENT**

For the first issue of the new school year, I probably should compose an inspiring article about the sense of excitement and anticipation at this time of year, about the promise and challenges that lie ahead and about

how our organization provides resources and network connections (formerly referred to as ‘people’) to meet those challenges. Well, that formula doesn’t seem particularly interesting at the moment. Or maybe I should say: that was it; re-read the first sentence out loud *un poco adagio* and *con gran espressione* (repeat *ad libitum*). That’s about all for a formulaic pre-season pep talk.

What interests me more is something I read, pencil in hand, earlier this summer. I know this sort of inspiration won’t come as a surprise to anyone who has read other articles of mine, but this time at least it wasn’t a t-shirt or coffee mug that set me thinking. I was hunting for a book on American history, *Albion’s Seed*, about English settlers in the colonies (the store did have it, but in paperback. I decided to hold out for a used hardcover, which I ended up buying online, but that’s another, shorter story). And of course, once I’ve gotten to a bookstore, I have to browse too...

The title and subtitle naturally drew me in: “*The Talent Code: Greatness Isn’t Born. It’s Grown. Here’s How.*” Or to quote the backside of the dust jacket: “Are genes destiny? Not nearly as much as we think. *The Talent Code* – the book that explains how talent grows in the brain, and how you can grow more of it.” The author is a journalist who writes mostly about sports and is a contributing editor to *Outside* magazine. But the main sections of the book already give some idea of how relevant it is to music. The main sections are “Deep Practice,” “Ignition,” “Master Coaching,” and “Epilogue: The Myelin World.”

Myelin? Spell-check recognizes it, but I didn’t. Another term for it is ‘white matter,’ the substance in the brain that insulates the neural circuitry so to speak. It turns out that scientists used to focus mostly upon the role of neurons in the brain (hence the name Neurology), but now are looking more into the role of myelin (maybe we’ll start talking about Myelinology).

I don’t want to explain too much here, because I strongly encourage you to read it for yourself. I started talking about it

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with parents and adult students even before I finished the book myself. I leave it out in my studio so parents can read out of it during their children’s lessons.

But let me share a few insights from the book to start you thinking... In a sense, the entire book explains and illustrates the role of myelin: “Skill is a cellular insulation that wraps neural circuits and that grows in response to certain signals.” (p. 6) Myelin works in a couple different ways that “combine to boost overall information-processing capability by 3,000 times...” (p.41) 3,000 times! And what produces myelin is attentive repetition. “Struggle is not optional – it’s neurologically required...” (p.43) But, oddly enough, deep practice feels indistinguishable from shallow practice (endnote p.224); in other words, a student needs to be taught how to practice. Or to revise a familiar maxim: “The truth is, practice makes myelin, and myelin makes perfect.” (p.44) And (encouraging to me at least), although myelin is produced more readily into one’s thirties, “We retain the ability to myelinate throughout life...” (p.45) “Deep practice tends to leave people exhausted: they can’t maintain it for more than an hour or two at a sitting...” (p.89) “The staggering babies embody the deepest truth about practice: to get good, it’s helpful to be willing, or even enthusiastic, about being bad. Baby steps are the royal road to skill.” (p.94)

The section of the book about Deep Practice includes a very helpful chapter on ‘The Three Rules of Deep Practice.’ I could go on and on, but I’d like to leave myself more time to practice today, so I’ll wrap this up by juxtaposing two more insights and sharing an anecdotal observation from *The Talent Code*. “The more we develop a skill circuit, the less we’re aware that we’re using it. We’re built to make skills automatic, to stash them in our unconscious mind. This process... also creates a powerfully convincing illusion: a skill, once gained, feels utterly natural, as if it’s something we’ve always possessed.” (p.37) “... the

unconscious mind is able to process 11 million pieces of information per second, while the conscious mind can manage a mere 40. This disproportion points to the efficiency and necessity of relegation mental activities to the unconscious... “(p.112)

And finally, there’s the matter of Einstein’s brain, or should I say the white matter of Einstein’s brain. After he died, Einstein’s brain was closely studied to see if it gave any insight to his remarkable mind. But scientists observed that compared to other brains his had basically the same number of neurons, although they also observed in passing that there was a lot more white matter than expected. Now the significance of white matter is starting to be recognized. That’s why *The Talent Code* is full of useful information, insights and even inspiration for teachers, students and parents. Did I mention that I recommend it? ... Highly recommend.

## ASMTA 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President

### Why Do Music Teachers Need ASMTA And MTNA?

Although I had many opportunities to accompany others during my young years as a piano student, I only participated in one piano recital. My teachers were not members of any music teachers associations, so my opportunities were limited. As a young adult, I taught piano based on what I had learned during my youth and what I read in James Bastien’s book *How to Teach Piano Successfully*.

Now in my 21<sup>st</sup> year of teaching piano, I know that music teachers and their students may benefit greatly when the teacher is involved in a music teachers association. A few of these benefits include opportunities to participate in events outside the teacher’s studio (whether adjudicated or not), teacher referrals, introduction to new ideas and methods and teaching materials and the opportunity to become a nationally certified teacher of music.

Although we moved to Arizona in 1996, I did not become associated with MTNA until 1999 when I realized it would benefit my students. Prior to that time I had only met 2 teachers who were members of a music teachers association. At first I felt intimidated to join, because I didn’t have the credentials I felt I should. I knew that becoming a member of MTNA would allow my students to participate in larger group recitals, but I didn’t realize that I could benefit financially through being able to increase the size of my piano studio through teacher referrals. I then discovered the opportunities the Arizona Study Program held for my students to participate in an adjudicated event. This allowed me feedback in how my students were progressing and led me to put a greater emphasis on technique. Another benefit has come through participation in state and national conferences. This has opened my eyes even further to what is possible in the music studio. I have been able to attend national conferences in Cincinnati, Salt Lake, Austin, Seattle, Toronto, and Denver as well as numerous state conferences in Flagstaff, Tucson and Phoenix. My teaching methods have changed dramatically as a result. I no longer rely on merely one teaching reference and two somewhat outdated teaching methods. I also began using games to teach theory concepts during weekly

group and private lessons. I feel that as I continue to hear what other teachers are doing and try some of their ideas, I will continue to see improvement in my students.

The last benefit I will mention is the opportunity to become a nationally certified teacher of music (NCTM). Several years ago I took lessons from Elaine Dyches when she came to teach private piano at Eastern Arizona College. Prior to that, I had completed four semesters of music theory offered at EAC. During the time I took lessons from Elaine, she worked with several of us to give us music history and pedagogy classes, and with her help I was able to successfully complete level 12A in the Arizona Study Program and become nationally certified through MTNA. My continued participation in MTNA has allowed me to renew my certification as required.

So whether you have been a teacher for a relatively short time or for most of your life, participation in MTNA, ASMTA and your local music teachers association can provide countless benefits. I hope I will see many of you at the MTNA conference in Milwaukee in March of 2011.

Respectfully submitted,  
Chyleen Lauritzen, NCTM [chyleenlauritzen@yahoo.com](mailto:chyleenlauritzen@yahoo.com)

## DIGITAL ARCHIVIST

I have been inspired going through past archives and reading articles from the 1950s through today. In organizing the archives into files that are easily accessible and digitally archiving all of the MusiGrams from 1957-2010, I’ve found several missing MusiGrams. The following list shows the MusiGrams in our archives:

1957 Jan May Sept	1980 Spring June Sept Dec
1958 May Oct	1981 Mar June Sept Dec
1959 May	1982 Mar June Sept Dec
1960 Spring Oct	1983 Mar June
1961 Feb April Sept	1984 Mar June Sept
1962 Feb June	1985 Jan June Sept Dec
1963 Feb June Oct Dec	1986 May Sept
1964 Feb June Oct Dec	1987 Jan May Aug
1965 Oct	1988 Winter Summer Fall
1966 Mar-Apr Sept-Oct	1989 Winter Summer Fall
1967 Jan Mar Aug Dec	1990 Winter Summer Fall
1968 Mar May Sept Dec	1991 Winter Summer Fall
1969 Mar June Sept Dec	1992 Fall
1970 Mar June Sept Dec	1993 Winter Summer Fall
1971 Mar June Sept Dec	1994 Winter (2) Sum/Fall
1972 May Aug Sept Dec	1995 Winter Fall
1973 Mar July Sept	1996 Winter Spring
1974 Feb June Sept Dec	1997 Winter Spring Fall
1975 Mar June Sept	1998 Winter Spring Fall
1976 Feb June Sept Dec	1999 Spring
1977 Mar June Sept Dec	2000-2008 NONE
1978 June Sept Dec	2009 Winter
1979 Mar Summer Sept Dec	

If you have any others, would you please send them to me so they can be added to our archives? Please indicate if you want them returned, Thank you!

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## ASMTA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President	Dr. Raymond T. Ryder NCTM
Treasurer	Barbara Stoutenburgh NCTM
Secretary	Yolanda Dyche
First VP / Pres. Elect	Chyleen Lauritzen NCTM
Local Associations	
CMTA	Rebecca Williams
EAMTA	Sherri Flake
EVMTA	Rod Hendrix
NAMTA	Chase Coleman
PMTA	Barbara Tilson
TMTA	Cecilia Whitby
College Faculty Chair	Lisa Zdechlik
Technology Chair	Jennifer Foxx
Second VP - Competitions	Andrew O'Brien
Honors Recital Chair	Andrew O'Brien
State Foundation	Janice Holladay
Third VP - Conference	
Fourth VP - Publications	Carol Hill NCTM
Advertising	Camille Conforti
Digital Archives	Kenzie Carden
Membership	Norma Meredith
Webmaster	Genny Rafferty NCTM
Immediate Past President	Ashley Bradford NCTM
Arizona Study Program	Elaine Dyches NCTM
Certification	Pam Allman NCTM

Thank you to **Kiyono Bernier** (3rd VP /Conference Chair), **Kristine Moore** (Secretary), and **Laurie Brown** (Advertising and Membership) for their past service on the ASMTA board.

We welcome our new board members

**Yolanda Dyche**, Secretary, **Camille Conforti**, Advertising, and **Norma Meredith**, Membership

## ASMTA GENERAL MEETING

**JUNE 4, 2010**

An amendment to Article I of the ASMTA bylaws was approved by the ASMTA Board and passed unanimously by the general membership. This amendment allows students younger than college who teach music and have an ASMTA mentor to become student members of ASMTA. (*Amendment is in italics and bolded.*)

Section 2. STUDENT MEMBERSHIP shall be open to all full-time college students currently involved in music study who are also members of an affiliated association. *Student membership shall also be open to students younger than college who are currently involved in teaching music. These students must have a mentor who is a current member of ASMTA.* Student members shall be entitled to attend programs of the Association upon payment of the registration fee and to receive the official Association publication, but shall not have the right to vote, hold office, apply for national certification, or enter students into MTNA competitions.

Treasurer Bobbi Stoutenburgh presented the following treasurer's report as of June 1, 2010. (This does not include the 2010 Conference and Honor Recital expenses.)

CD	\$14,641.99
Checking	19,794.2
Savings	<u>8,056.75</u>
*Total Assets	\$42,493.03

## ASMTA 4<sup>TH</sup> VICE PRESIDENT

### The Start of a New Year

As we start our new year of teaching and working together in our music associations, let's take time to reflect on a few ideas. Our local and state boards are made up of dedicated volunteers who want the best for our teachers and students. Some of these volunteers are newcomers with fresh, new ideas. Others are "old timers" who have already seen some of these ideas come and go but can always learn something new.

Dealing with a variety of people is not always easy. Personalities can be very different. Some, shall we say, are "organizationally challenged." They can be very spontaneous and change on a moment's notice if necessary but deadlines often die on the line and have to be resuscitated while others are panicking and wondering "how can anyone live like that? I needed that information two weeks ago so I can fulfill my duties responsibly!" What we often fail to realize is that any organization needs both kinds of folks to function well.

The essence of this is to focus on what can be done and do it. We need to recognize our own strengths and weaknesses as well as those of others. Here are some ideas to keep in mind:

1. Never presume to know what the other person is thinking or why s/he is thinking or acting in a particular way. Sometimes actions are perceived differently.

A story is told of a man who needed reading glasses and couldn't see distances when wearing them. One day, a friend saw him in the grocery store and waved from the other end of a long aisle. He looked up, pondering if he needed the thing he had in his hand or not, and "appeared" to be looking at her. But, in fact, he couldn't see her at all! She, of course, didn't know that. Perhaps she thought: "I wonder why he didn't wave back? That was very rude of him! He could have at least smiled . . ." As she continued her shopping, she thought: "He can't still be mad about \_\_\_\_\_, can he? Why that was nothing! What kind of a person holds a grudge about something like that?" and on it goes. Perhaps she shared her judgments with others, perhaps she kept them to herself. But, at any rate, the relationship was damaged because of a mistaken impression.

2. Consider what I'm doing that is making the situation worse. What are the complaints? Are they valid? Can I correct them: Make a plan.

3. Do a Reality Check. Try to talk with the other person to see if things can be cleared up. Sometimes they can. Sometimes they can't. But there is always something to learn, if only we're willing to listen.

Here is the long and the short of it. Since we are all trying to do our very best, listen and respect those with whom you work. Rewards will come in unexpected ways. Watch for them!

Respectively submitted, Carol Hill NCTM





## ARIZONA STUDY PROGRAM

Welcome back from summer vacation! I hope you enjoyed some R & R over the last couple months. I spent wonderful weeks catching up on my reading. Strange as it may sound, one of the things I read was the MTNA Code of Ethics. This code is only one page long and can be found on the back of your state directory. It speaks of our commitment to students and colleagues. It also refers to our commitment to society. I'm not certain that I'd ever given much thought to my commitment to society based on my MTNA membership.

Quoting the code, "The teacher shall maintain the highest standard of professional conduct and personal integrity."

Integrity is perhaps the most valuable characteristic anyone can possess. I believe this means that I must act with total honesty and kindness. I could never knowingly misrepresent anything. I couldn't fudge on how many students I taught, or what each of their accomplishments were. I couldn't copy just a few pages from a publication just so I wouldn't have to buy the whole book when I only needed a few pages. I wouldn't even consider augmenting my own personal qualifications. It is like "truth in advertising" or how about an "honest politician"? Once one has jumped into the topic of personal integrity, it can get a little bit uncomfortable!

I have a real problem with charts on the wall that record such things as how many minutes each student practiced each week. Why? Because they lie! If there is any reward or recognition or even if an individual student perceives that the teacher wants a goodly amount of practice but won't be able to hear the truth in their performance, they will add to the numbers. So, have the parents sign off on the practice record. Only that doesn't work very well either since the parents will forget to sign even if their child practiced or they won't have supervised and won't really know the child didn't practice as long as they are claiming or the parents will lie right along with the student. Now, why should I expect the student to be honest with me if this same student knows I'm not totally honest? Do students understand copyright laws? Do students know who their teacher is? What does any of this have to do with Arizona Study Program?

Teachers must be members of ASMTA to enter students in ASP.

Teachers may only enter the students they personally teach. Teachers may not enter students who are taught by someone else under their supervision.

No copies of copyrighted materials are allowed at adjudication. If you loan your book to a students, that is fine, but that doesn't mean it is acceptable to make copies of several pieces from a single book and distribute the copies to multiple students for practice purposes and then use one copy of the book for multiple families at evaluation time. It is also not acceptable to buy just one copy of a theory book, and then photo copy this for any students who need that level. Each student must purchase a workbook. It is our job to teach the students to follow the law of the land, and buy their own music and theory materials.

Deadlines are to be respected! Emergencies do occur, but failure to plan to respect deadlines doesn't constitute an emergency. ASP and ASMTA are entirely staffed by volunteers whose time is valuable and should be respected.

I want to be the best teacher I can possibly be. I want to have integrity. I am committed to doing a little soul searching to find the areas in which I can personally improve. I hope you decide to join me on the journey to explore our responsibility to society.

Elaine Dyches NCTM  
Arizona Study Program Chair

## 2010 LEVEL 12 TEACHERS AND STUDENTS

CMTA	
Karen Stahl	Annabell Brien
EAMTA	
Janice Holladay	Kayley Wright
EVMTA	
Melodie Acker	Sarah Faith Busk
Pam Allman	Jeffrey Ferolino, Kylie Tehero Bradley Shoemaker
Peggy Chen	Joy Zhao
Ning Guan	Mark Strong Kathleen Xu Angela Zhang Meijing Zimmer
Sheryl Johnson	Stuart Johnson
Tabitha Kaminski	Kelly Ardavanis
Fran Kaspar	Todd Ramsey
Joo Yeon (Tarina) Kim	Christine Chan John Loui
Juliana Kraver	Shelley Xu
Yukari Lowrey	Keilani Akagi Erika Handly
Yali Luo	Stephen Marcucci Jennifer Zhang
Judy Madsen	Justin Gardiner Chelsea Sweeney
Manuela Pagano	Heejin Jeon Lisa Sedares
Becky Rogers	Rachel Ellsworth
Barbara Spoelman	Olivia Gardner Jacob Lowery Samantha Mannes
Radmila Kiriluk	Emily Szeto, Monica Szeto Barbara Terzic
Aemilia Teguh	Susan Tu
Natalya Thran	Caitlyn Malovoz
Jelena Vladikovic	David Tze
Hong Zhu	Amy Hong Eric Lin Julie Song

**2010 LEVEL 12 TEACHERS AND STUDENTS**  
(continued)

Rita Border	Lindsay Ower
<b>PMTA</b>	
Gail Chang	John Luke Osorio
Larry Clapp	Joshua Stefahski
Marthella Gerow	Molly Van Dop
Carol Hill	Madeline Celley
Snezana Krstic	Eric Qi
Irene Kuniski	Annie Yen
	Jae Hyeok Yang
Sherry Lenich	Robert Avril (12 years)
Georgia Sears	Lisa Dales
Rosmary Stelmach	Bethany Jeffress
Sharon Stevsn	Hannah Rasmussen,
	Stephanie Light
Barbara Stoutenburgh	Katrina Buchholz,
	Katarina Lee
	Tayler Shurley
	Victoria Van Horwegen

**TMTA**

June Chow-Tyne	Julie Huynh,
	Jonathan Carpenter
Gloria Ritt	Jonathan Ferng
	Amanda Liu
Marie Sierra	Zoe Sorrell
Raymond Ryder	Eric Xiao
Linda Johnson	Erin Bleyl
Cecilia Whitby	Cole Cavender
	Yizhou Sun
Kristine Moore	Peter Felz-Nguyen

**ARIZONA STUDY PROGRAM**

State Chairman	Elaine Dyches NCTM
Secretary	Dr. Barbara Spoelman NCTM
Treasurer	Georgia Sears
Awards	Melodie Acker NCTM
Certificates	Pamela Joy Smith
Immediate Past Chair	Fran Kaspar NCTM

<b>Local Chairmen</b>		<b>2011 Evaluation Date(s)</b>
CMTA	Karen Miller	May 7
EAMTA	Trisha Simmons	TBA
EVMTA	Lara Holt	May 13 and 14
	Debbie Saifi NCTM	
	Dr. Barbara Spoelman NCTM	
NAMTA	Marjorie Johnson	May 21 and 22
PMTA	Carol Hill NCTM	April 29 and 30
	Barbara Stoutenburgh NCTM	
TMTA	Ann Neff Smith	TBA
	Gloria Ritt NCTM	

**November 1** End of Regular Enrollment  
**February 15** End of Late Enrollment  
 Program Forms due

**ASMTA JANICE MCCURNIN - BEATRICE SEARLES  
HONORED TEACHER AWARD**

**2010 HONORED TEACHER**



**MELODIE ACKER**

Melodie Acker joined MTNA in 1977 and became a member of Central District in 1980. She joined EVMTA in 1987, the year the association was founded, and has served EVMTA in many areas, including president. She has also served ASMTA as 3<sup>rd</sup> VP in 1997-1999 and assistant Musigram editor in 1985-1986. Currently she serves on the Arizona Study Program committee as the awards chair.

Melodie graduated cum laude with a Bachelor of Music degree from ASU School of Music and is a nationally certified teacher of music in piano and music therapy through MTNA. She is also a registered music therapist in the American Association of Music Therapy, a lifetime member of Sigma Alpha Iota, and a member of AGEHR (American Guild of English Handbell Ringers).

Melodie has been teaching private piano students of all ages and levels for thirty years. Her students have been involved in the Arizona Study Program evaluations since 1982, several of them having successfully completed level 12. Many of her students have also participated in competitions, master classes and other events in Central District, EVMTA and ASMTA. In 1991, she started a memorial scholarship to NAU Summer Music Camp in memory of her first private music therapy student.

As pianist at Arizona Community Church from 2001-2008, Melodie performed John Rutter's *Requiem* with the church chorale at Carnegie Hall under the direction of John Rutter. Since August of 2008, Melodie has held the position as accompanist for the Chorale, Trojan Choir and Women's Chorus at Valley Christian High School in Chandler.

Over the years, Melodie has encouraged many teachers to join EVMTA, ASMTA, and MTNA and has urged them to pursue

national certification through MTNA. Several of her former students majored in music in college and are music teachers,

A welcome reception with our Presenters and ASMTA Board.



Chase enjoying Chocolate Ganache with raspberries, Brie with fruit and crackers, and an assortment of refreshments.

With intimate atmosphere, we had 35+ members and guests attend welcoming Tom Gerou and Pamela Blanc.

## Collaborative Efforts

ASMTA 81<sup>st</sup> Annual Conference  
June 3 – 5, 2010

Tom is showing Kiyono his new release with Alfred.



Barbara Nissman and Alex Marion (6 yrs old) during master class on Thursday, June 4, 2010, at the Mariott discussing pedal markings and more gradual crescendo.

church

Barbara, Pamela and Alex hanging out until w'eeeee midnight after Barbara's magnificent



musicians and performers all over the United States.

Dr. Radmila Kiriluk

"Grammar of Phrasing"



An amazing, unique and memorable percussion recital!





Bobbi, Bob (MR Music Exhibitor) and Chase enjoying themselves at the Exhibits at the Mariott! Bob had at least 8 exhibit tables displaying all of our needed music books for our students and for our studio .... and accessories at a great discount!



Rozalie Levant had much more to say regarding piano pedagogy. She was a guest speaker at Phoenix at the World Pedagogy which took place October 2009.

***Thank you, Kiyono, for a wonderful conference!  
Your organizational and leadership skills are outstanding!***

### **A LETTER FROM KIYONO BERNIER** (condensed)

Dear ASMTA Members,

June 7, 2010

I'd like to take this time to send an EXTENSIVE thank you to our 2010 ASMTA Conference Committee before I begin my next international project in Japan. It has been a rewarding experience for me as Conference Coordinator. The term for Conference Coordinator is 1 year. I can understand why this position is an annual project because it requires extra long hours of preparation (late nights), extra personal financial loss (teaching time), ability to communicate and negotiate to committee and presenters within MTNA Code of Ethics which can cause personal visits to the shrink and finally, have a family that is willing to put aside their needs and attention in order to execute days before, during and after the Conference.

Having said this, I am encouraging the next Conference Coordinator to have at least these eight chairs: Contract Negotiator, Registration, Exhibits, Banquet, Advertisement Silent Auction and Raffle, Appreciation Correspondence and Sessions Facilitators chairs.

The list of thank you begins: First, I want to thank Lara Holt and Jennifer Stradling, 2009 Conference Coordinators, for assisting me and providing all of the necessary forms to execute this conference.

Carol Hill is one of my mentor whom I began working with in August of 2009. She has been my light and my hope when I was lost, discouraged and ready to call it quits. Because of her support and kind words, I was able to bring in 95% of the information needed for the conference booklet in February 2010. I hope that the next Conference Chair will be cared for under Carol's "wing".

Bobbie Stoutenburgh is also one of my mentor as she gives me great insight on expenditures. Because of the respect I have for her, I made sure I over budgeted every expense so that I would not exceed our maximum budget. On June 5, Saturday night, Bobbi was so patient with me as we stayed up until 11 p.m. counting the cash, checks, and transactions. I have learned so much about our organization through her and further more it was wonderful getting to know Bobbi on a personal level.

I'd also like to thank our six Local Associations for donating drinks and snacks for our Hospitality Room so that our attendees would have refreshments for free. Also a special thank you to PMTA for allowing us to "borrow" their Lavalier Microphone for two days.

I'd also like to thank Cecilia Whitby, our TMTA President, for taking the time to contact me periodically asking me if there was anything else she could do for me. The fact that she contacted me and prayed for me was enough to motivate me.

Haley Schofield, Kay Couch, Kris Moore and Genny Rafferty also played an important role for this Conference. Haley helped design financial data and input all online transactions. Genny continued to update the ASMTA Conference on the website and Kay Couch was able to recruit volunteers, and manage all financial transactions. Kris Moore printed all the name tags, raffle tickets and banquet tickets, ordered ribbons and, corresponding closely with Kay, did an excellent job at the front desk welcoming all of our guests.

Valerie Merrell assisted me with contracts for our Exhibitors and Raffle Items. She also sat close by me for three days helping me to remain calm and assisting me with Raffle Item announcements and organizing presenters/artists CDs and Books. Valerie, Mika Innoue, Diann Lopez, Judith Richardson and Nancy Ostromnecki organized all Raffle, Goodie Bags and Silent Auction Items along with detailed presentation, set up, and clean up. Helen Jones joined the committee three weeks prior to our Conference and I am thankful for this as Valerie approached her final stages of her pregnancy. Had it not been for these ladies, Silent Auction, Raffle Items and Goodie Bags would not have existed at the Conference.

I'd also like to thank Susan Schild for volunteering to write our appreciation correspondence. Her task was very important in maintaining a close and strong relationship with our vendors and sponsors. I was also thankful to Gloria Singleton, Helen, Susan and Nancy for providing refreshments and giving a warm welcome to our guests.

Marie Sierra did an excellent job maintaining our hospitality room and providing free coffee and snacks for all of our conference attendees. She also presented our four major presenters/artists with welcome baskets for their hotel rooms.

Sara Stapley and Kassandra Weleck assisted in finding performers for our Master Classes. I appreciate them for contacting and organizing a list of performers.

I'd also like to thank Dorothy Dungan for assisting me with the Session Facilitators. She made sure there was an ASMTA Board Member that introduced every presenter/artist at the conference before their presentation.

My final thank you goes to the Exhibitors and Donors for our Conference. Hachenberg and Sons provided us with three pianos for four days and Mark and Matthew Hachenberg joined us as guests at our Banquet. John Simon from Steinway and Sons donated three \$375 gift certificates to hold a recital at Steinway Gallery.

My favorite event was the Welcome Reception where 25 people came to welcome our guests Wednesday night. We had a very intimate room at the Marriott and our guests really enjoyed our company. Another favorite event was the Banquet. Marriott was gracious enough to give us the Sabino Room, providing us an ambiance atmosphere with our talented harpist and our renowned Chase Coleman at the piano. Another highlight was, of course, Nissman's and Walton's Recitals. It was disappointing, though, to have such a low turnout from our membership.

The most important thing for me was the long lasting friendship I gained from this Conference. I was fortunate to get to know our ASMTA members and reunite with my classmates, asking them to be our presenters. Also, I have made a lasting relationship with Marriott. They presented me with 3 Golden Keys (each worth \$50) which I presented to: their Sous-Chef for the delicious and memorable Banquet, their Audio & Visual Staff for assisting our presenters, and their conference coordinator Olga Felde.

Please forgive me for the names and details I have left out as I have already exhausted your "eyes out" for reading this. Again, thank you for those who attended the Conference and for those who made this Conference a success.

Respectfully submitted,

Kiyono Bernier, DMA

ASTMA 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice President and Conference Coordinator

## 2010 JAMES R. ANTHONY

### HONORS RECITAL WINNERS

Andy O'Brien, ASMTA 4<sup>th</sup> Vice President  
and Honors Recital Chair

Student	Division	Teacher
Grace Lai	Primary Medalist	Judith Sandoval-Ferg
Jennie Yoon	Elementary I Medalist	June Chow-Tyne
Barrett Yueh,	Elementary I Medalist	Mandarin Cheung-Yueh
Elizabeth Horn	Elementary I Medalist with Distinction	Snezana Krstic
Sarah Wright	Intermediate I Medalist	Jelena Vladikovic
Jane Hartono	Intermediate I Medalist with Distinction	Fei Xu
Hao Zhao	Intermediate I Medalist with Distinction	Yali Luo
Alex Chen	Intermediate II Medalist	Rosmary Stelmach
John Octavian Dobos	Intermediate II Medalist with Distinction	Baruch Meir
Austen Yueh	Intermediate II Medalist with Distinction	Mandarin Cheung-Yueh
Evan Pensis	Advanced Medalist with Distinction	Jelena Vladikovic

Marriott University Park Hotel, Tucson, Arizona

3:30 pm., June 5, 2010

"Everybody can be great...because anybody can serve. You don't have to have a college degree to serve. You don't have to make your subject and verb agree to serve. You only need a heart full of grace. A soul generated by love."

-- Martin Luther King, Jr.





## Tucson Music Teachers Association

I of ASMTA,

It has been my great privilege and personal blessing these past fourteen months to become acquainted with an extraordinary group of people among TMTA. They are our board members and chairmen. Each one has taken their position as a board member and chairman and displayed incredible personal commitment to excellence. The board members are:

**Elected Officers:** (President: Cecilia Whitby Past President/ Webmaster, Lois Spangenberg, Vice President, Diann Lopez, Recording Secretary/Webmaster, Gloria Singleton, Treasurer, Sondra Franks, Corresponding Secretary, Kassandra Weleck, **Members at Large:** Susan Schild, Charmaine Piane-Dame, Lynnette Barney.

**Committee Chairmen:** Certification, Paulette Albertson, Merit Scholarship Auditions and Honors Recital, June Chow-Tyne, Mentor, Ron Durback, Senior Recital, Yolanda Dyches, KUDOS East, Mika Inouye, Student Honors Society, Susan Jimerson-Overholt, Ensemble, Helen Jones, KUDOS West and Workshops/Masterclasses, Diann Lopez, Community Outreach, Paul Lorenz, Listserv, Heather Murphy, Arizona Study Program and Apprenticeship Program, Ann Neff-Smith and Gloria Ritt, Referral Service, Elmira Reavis, Membership, Martha Reed, Gloria Ritt, Music in the Mall, Jessica Carnevale, Hospitality, Marie Sierra.

Their commitment has produced musical events and committees par excellence, fund raisers, Referral Service, Christmas luncheon, 57<sup>th</sup> Ensemble of 500 performers,

KUDOS, Mentor Society, Listserv, Arizona Study Program, Senior Recital, Merit Scholarship, Command Performance, Barnes & Noble, Music In The Mall of 120 performers, Apprenticeship Program and Advisor, Membership, Student Honor Society, Community Outreach, to name a few. Our officers' and chairs' pictures have been included in our website in order for you to become better acquainted with who is serving through TMTA.

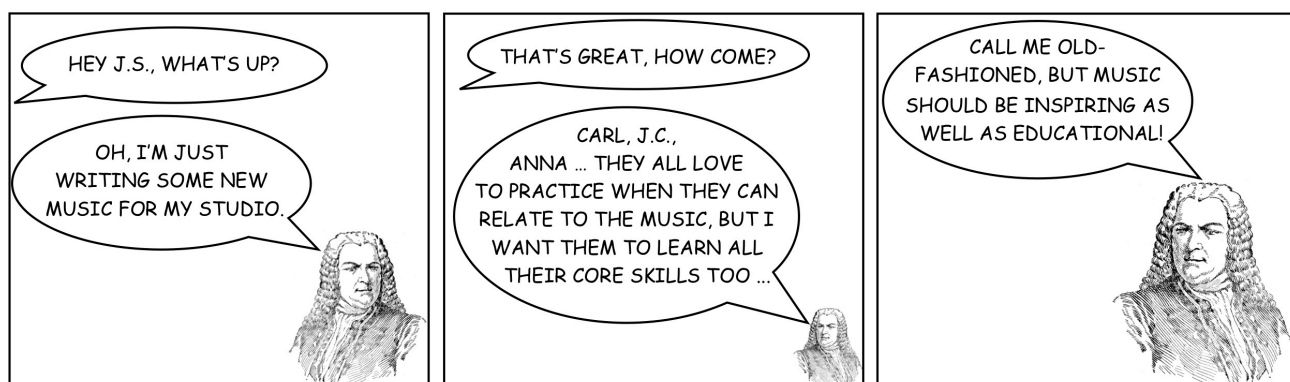
TMTA has remained vital and current through technology. TMTA's website and Listserv and the new position of Technology Board member all contribute to our presence in Tucson and surrounding communities. This August 13, 2010, our board members gathered together to update and make revisions to TMTA's By Laws and Code of Ethics. Their time and attention to details is unending and necessary for our organization. In doing so, we are better able to serve our teachers and ultimately their students and families.

The TMTA board and chairmen collectively bring an astonishing number of years of experience. Approximately 120 years just in these past fourteen months! I am very thankful to be a part of our organization and able to serve our membership.

TMTA's first General meeting of the year is scheduled for September 10, 2010, at 7 PM at the U of A School of Music. The agenda for the meeting will be to present the TMTA yearly calendar of events in a packet form, Signup for committees, voting for new revisions of the by laws and our annual Ensemble play through. The Ensemble play through is for it's 58th year!

I encourage all of our ASMTA members to visit our website for TMTA list of calendar events.

Respectfully and Musically Yours,  
Cecilia Whitby, President



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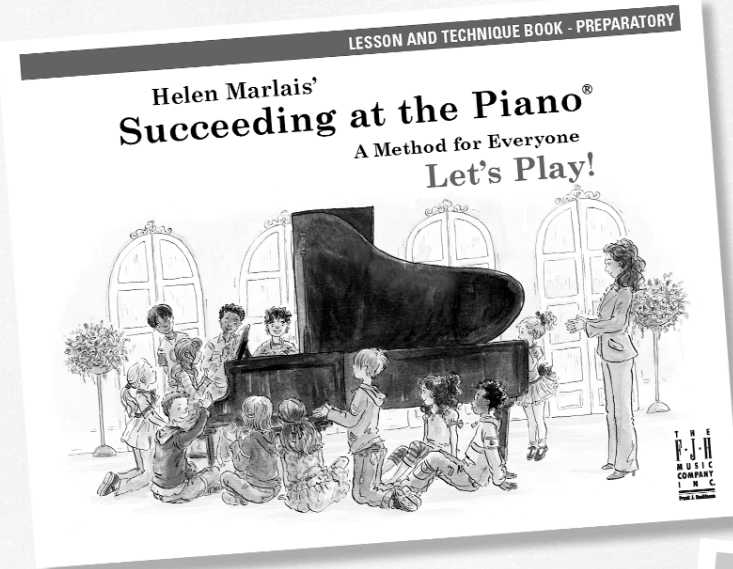
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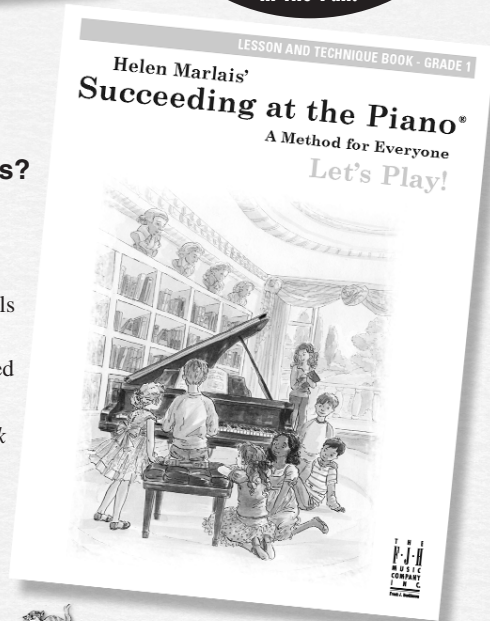


The Preparatory and Grade 1 Levels of *Succeeding at the Piano*® are now available. This innovative new method has been well received and teachers nationwide are enjoying this outstanding new approach. Grade 2A will be available in the Fall.

What could be better than Dr. Helen Marlais' joy-filled and pedagogically sound approach to teaching the piano combined with top pedagogical composers and time-tested classics? Experience this exceptional new piano method!

- An integrated approach using the strongest pedagogy of today.
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- Students learn to internalize rhythm. In this way, rhythm is learned like a language—easy when learned young!
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- Terrific motivational music by multiple composers keeps the repertoire interesting and varied.
- The *Lesson and Technique Book* is to be used with the *Recital Book* and *Theory and Activity Book* for a fun, well-rounded approach to learning music. A special *Merry Christmas Book* with activities, *Flash Card Friend*, and *Sticker Book* are also available for each level!
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This new and innovative method was launched at MTNA in a showcase by Dr. Helen Marlais on March 22, 2010 in Albuquerque, New Mexico.



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**High School Student ASMTA and Local Association  
2010-2011  
Membership Application Form**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Birthdate \_\_\_\_\_

Grade \_\_\_\_\_

Local Association \_\_\_\_\_

Name of mentor \_\_\_\_\_

(mentor must be current member of ASMTA)

ASMTA student fees \$3.50

Local association student fees \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL \_\_\_\_\_

Make check in the amount of total fee payable to ASMTA.

Send membership application and check to: Barbara Stoutenburgh, ASMTA Treasurer  
4336 W. Lupine Ave.  
Glendale, AZ 85304

The ASMTA bylaws, Article I, Section 2, was amended to allow young students to become student members of ASMTA. ***Student membership shall also be open to students younger than college who are currently involved in teaching music. These students must have a mentor who is a current member of ASMTA.*** Student members shall be entitled to attend programs of the Association upon payment of the registration fee and to receive the official Association publication, but shall not have the right to vote, hold office, apply for national certification, or enter students into MTNA competitions.



## ASP COMMITTEE MEETING

September 18 9:30 A.M.  
My First Piano - Mesa

## MTNA Competitions Information

All applications and competition information can be found at [www.mtna.org](http://www.mtna.org). All applications must be made through MTNA's web site.

**September 14** online application deadline

**October 23** Pima Community College  
West Campus  
Tucson, AZ

## ASMTA BOARD MEETING

September 25 10:00 - 3:00  
Desert Foothills United Methodist Church

## Publication Deadlines

Carol Hill, Editor

September 20 ASMTA Directory

December 5 Winter Issue

### *FUTURE MUSIGRAMS*

Carol Hill NCTM 4th Vice President

Due to the increasing number of teachers who have indicated they prefer to get the MusiGram online, all newsletters will be posted on the website ([asmta.org](http://asmta.org)) but no email copies will be sent.

**As stated in the Winter 2010 MusiGram:**

**Members without an email address will receive the MusiGram by regular mail this time but must notify me if they want to continue receiving it by mail in the future.**

This new policy has cut down considerably on cost, volunteer time and individual computer problems.  
Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.



1201 W. Rovey  
Phoenix, AZ 85013

