

Membership Dues

With the rising costs throughout our economy, the ASMTA board has passed an increase in dues of \$5.00. **The new dues of \$40 will take effect July 1, 2013. (Seniors will be \$17.50.)**

There has not been an increase in over three years; and with the rising costs, this action was taken.

Barbara Stoutenburgh, NCTM
AMSTA Treasurer



Chyleen Lauritzen
NCTM

ASMTA
PRESIDENT

What a wonderful conference we just had! I appreciate Dr. Muriel Long and her committee for their diligent efforts. I enjoyed the participation of our special guests Dr. Gary Ingle, Ingrid Clarfield and Brian Chung. Thank you to all who were a part of the conference in any way! I heard many comments about Carol Hill's job on the conference booklet. It was outstanding. Thank you, Carol! Also thank you to those who took time to attend the conference. Some highlights for me were the showing of Ingrid's documentary *Take a Bow: The Ingrid Clarfield Story*, Dean Elder attending Ingrid's session, and Daniela Clapp's daughter with Downs Syndrome playing the piano and bowing with pride on her face. I congratulate all who were involved in any way to make it a huge success!

On a different note, I would like to report some decisions made during the last ASMTA Board of Directors Meeting which took place May 31. As a result of low participation in the Honors Recital and the distance involved for outlying districts, including students in Flagstaff, Sierra Vista and Thatcher, as well as a lack of volunteers to help on the evaluation date, a motion passed that all students entering Honors Recital will submit recordings for their preliminary evaluations. Recordings will then be viewed by the panel of judges on a given date. Details will be forthcoming on the website. The board also voted to increase the conference budget to \$10,000.

Respectfully submitted,
Chyleen Lauritzen NCTM
ASMTA President

MusiGram Changes

The ASMTA board has decided to change the MusiGram dates to **June, October and February**, to give members conference highlights and board meeting information.

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Next ASMTA Board Meeting
Sept. 15, 2012 9:30 A.M.
Barbara Stoutenburgh's home

CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS

The ASMTA 2012 Conference was an exciting three-day time with Gary Ingle, Executive Director and CEO of MTNA, Ingrid Clarfield, head of the piano department at Westminster Choir College, and Brian Chung, Sr. Vice President of Kawai America Corporation. Dr. Ingle updated us on the national decisions about competitions and technology. Ingrid and Brian each gave three presentations, giving those in attendance many new ideas.

The Gala Banquet Thursday evening was a fun time to just relax and visit. Gary Ingle gave a greeting from national and Ingrid Clarfield was honored as the MTNA 2012 Teacher of the Year. Cecilia Whitbey received the 2012 ASMTA Honored Teacher of the Year,



Gloria Ritt was recognized as a 2004 ASMTA Life Honorary Member and Dorothy Dungan and Barbara Stoutenburgh received plaques for becoming Life Honorary Members this year.

Dr. Ingle Cecilia Dorothy Bobbi Gloria



Thursday evening closed with *Take a Bow*, The Ingrid Clarfield Story. This film was an inspiration to all of us!

Dean Elder was unable to receive his 2012 MTNA Foundation Fellow plaque at the MTNA conference so Gary Ingle presented it to him at the beginning of our conference.



Dr. Andrew O'Brien was the conference concert artist and also gave a presentation on the music of John LaMontaine and Owen Middleton. Other presenters for the conference included Shellie Ruge, Chyleen Lauritzen, Barbara Stoutenburgh and Kassandra Weleck, Pam Allman, Sarah Elliott, Deborah Offenhauser, Jennifer Foxx, Raymond Ryder and Shiho Takeda, Denny Coiro, and Daniela Clapp.

INGRID CLARFIELD

(A big thank you to Ingrid's Guest Left Hand Artist, Rosmary Stelmach, PMTA Past President.)

1) THE ROAD TO CHOPIN: FROM METHOD BOOK TO FIRST CHOPIN PIECES.

In this presentation, Ingrid and Rosmary performed many of the pieces on the handout, a list of composers' favorite pieces to prepare for Chopin. These included several nocturnes, preludes, waltzes, mazurkas and encore suggestions.

Two outstanding students played in the master class:

Chaz Simmons, a student of Judith Sandoval-Ferg, played the Chopin Nocturne in c# minor, Op. posth.

Ruth Buchholz, a student of Barbara Stoutenburgh, played the Prelude in b minor, Op. 28, No. 6.

2) TURNING FEAR INTO FUN! PREPARING STUDENTS FOR EVALUATIONS AND AUDITIONS

This presentation included the performance and discussion of sonatinas by Kuhlau and Diabelli, miscellaneous excerpts by Mozart, Beethoven, Chopin, Debussy and Brahms, and several pieces from Ingrid's books. *Keys to Stylistic Mastery*, *Keys to Artistic Performance*, *Artistic Preparation and Performance Series*, *From Mystery to Mastery*, and *Burgmüller*; Czerny and Hanon are all published by Alfred. Judging and evaluations criteria were discussed and several ideas were given to help students learn how to memorize their music.

3) Alfred Showcase - KEYS TO SYLISTIC MASTERY

Students are never too young or too old to understand style. The handout was the acronym STYLE. Since it's copyrighted, here are only the basic ideas. Sound, Technical approach, You, Learn, and Expose. See what you and your students can come up with!

BRIAN CHUNG, Presenter

A short summary of his presentations

Brian Chung is Senior Vice President of Kawai America Corporation and co-author of *Improvisation at the Piano: A Systematic Approach for the Classically Trained Pianist*.

1) CLASSICAL IMPROVISATION

In this presentation, Brian explained the four stages of Improvisation: Rediscovery, Vocabulary, Grammar, and Communication. The Seven Principles of Improvisation were also explained: everyone improvises; start simply; transpose everything; chart a path; use what's already there; harmony dictates the best notes to play; there are no wrong notes.

2) HOW THE CLASSICAL IMPROVISER BECOMES A JAZZ IMPROVISER

The ideas presented in the first presentation were reviewed and expanded in this session. What is the primary tonal focus? Is there a scale based on the tonal focus that can generally accommodate **all** chords in the passage? What modes can be used and how can they be found?

3) LIFE SHAPER OR ARTIST MAKER

This talk has been given several times but it always makes us think about what we're doing and why and how we're doing it. Are we "Artist Makers" who determine the student's musical achievements and mold the student to shape the music? Does the teacher have the power or is it shared with the student? Or are we "Life Shapers" working with our students to set goals and giving them what they **want** so we can give them what they **need**.

WEBSITES

MTNA: mtna.org

ASMTA: asmta.org

CMTA: cochisemusicteachers.org

EVMTA: evmta.org

PMTA: phoenixmusicteachers.org

TMTA: tucsonmusicteachers.org

www.ingridclarfield.com

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ASMTA Board of Directors Meeting

May 31, 2012 Highlights

The board met Thursday morning before the conference started. Dr. Gary Ingle attended and told the board this was the 71st state conference he has attended.

Barbara Stoutenburgh gave the treasurer's report and was applauded for her many years of serving as treasurer. During her tenure, the financial records have been audited and the income tax concerns have been solved. The ASMTA accounts are now healthy and \$1200 was given to the Honor's Recital winners. The 2012-2013 proposed budget approved and it was moved to increase state dues starting in 2013-2014 by \$5, for a total of \$40. Senior dues will be raised from \$15 to \$17.50.

Chyleen Lauritzen introduced the idea of instituting a composer commissioning program. It will be considered more at the September board meeting. If anyone has any suggestions for this program, please contact Chyleen.

Melodie Acker will continue trying to get the ASMTA file cabinets at AZ Piano open. Kenzie Carden had the key and had started digitally archiving records a few years ago but nobody seems to know what happened to them when she moved. Mike Kaminski will digitally archive the board minutes and reports, beginning with 2011-2012 records.

Yali Luo reported that she emailed Linda Stump the MTNA competition chair, who suggested she communicate early with the teachers and solicit their help if they enter students in the MTNA competition.

The board decided that all students entering Honors Recital will submit video recordings (DVDs) for their preliminary evaluations. They will then be viewed by the panel of judges at one time.

Muriel Long reported on the conference and thanked Bobbi Stoutenburgh, Jennifer Foxx, and Carol Hill for helping on the committee. AV requirements were the largest problem. We have now purchased two screens and a set of small speakers and will store them in Carol's studio. The board will consider purchasing projectors at their next meeting.

Carol Hill thanked Camille Conforti for serving as advertising chair the last three years. Total advertising revenue for fiscal year 2011-2012 was \$2,365.

The Summer issue of the MusiGram will replace the Spring issue and the Fall and Winter issues will come out later in the year. This will allow for faster reporting of ASMTA board meetings and conference highlights.

Publications dates for 2012-2013 are listed on page 16. Please note that general information deadlines are different from advertising deadlines in May and June, allowing more time to receive conference information and the May board meeting reports.

Elaine Mooney sent the AZ Study Program statistics. Since a few makeups were completed after her report was written, the numbers may have changed a little.

Total teachers: 189 (22 new)

Total students enrolled: 1759

Total students evaluated: 1560

Total awards: Level 4A: 194 Level 8A: 86 Level 12A: 61

(Students receiving the Anthony 12A Award are listed on pg. 6.)

Pam Allman administered the certification exam to Garinee Jording, who received her national certification in April. Another candidate completed the exam on April 27th and is waiting for notification. Currently there are eleven candidates working toward certification.

Lisa Zdechlik reported on the students chapters. In the Fall, NAU presented a group piano session on performance and stage fright for the piano students and a Holiday Recital and reception. In addition, they organized two “test” adult group piano classes through the Academy of Music and Dance. In the Spring, the chapter organized an official adult group piano class and assigned their collegiate members to teach. They also participated in an Ensemble Recital. The chapter organized a Music Day event at the end of the semester before teachers left for the summer. Their plan for the 2012-2013 year will be to build off of the events they organized this year while adding some fundraisers so their officers can attend the 2013 National Conference in California.

Members of the UA Collegiate Chapter presented two master classes at the UA for students and teachers of TMTA to prepare for the AZ Study Program and Spring recitals. In addition, three members traveled to Eastern AZ College in April to present a master class for the piano students of Dr. Gail Fischler.

Local Association Reports to ASMTA Board



The Cochise Music Teachers Association instituted a spring promotion, offering to pay half of any new members membership fee in MTNA. Several teachers who were former “friends” of CMTA are now full members --- so our numbers are increasing!

Our April meeting featured Chyleen Lauritzen with a power point presentation of her very creative ways of reaching her students through technology. In April, Karen Stahl presented a program on teaching Suzuki piano, with the help of Maranatha, Hope, Hannah, Zane, and Noah Struse, five siblings ranging in age from 5 to 17, all in her studio. The children’s collective repertoire runs from the Twinkle Variations through Beethoven Sonatas, and Maranatha and Hope are now even teaching their own students in piano and violin.

In May, one of our members, Francie Schofield, presented a fund-raising recital for her Youth Piano Competition, featuring the student winners of last fall’s competition, plus performances by many of our CMTA teachers.

Last week we held our end-of-year potluck and teachers’ recital, featuring performances by Karen Stahl on harp and piano, piano duets by Rebecca Williams and Sharon Douglas, a vocal solo by visiting guest Erin Calata, a violin solo by Debbie Dinkel, and a guitar/violin duet by Rebecca and Debbie.

Several of our members will be attending the State Convention, and we’re already firming up our plans for the 2012-2013.

Karen Stahl, CMTA President



EAMTA

The spring semester for Eastern Arizona MTA was busy and productive. A workshop and master class was held for EAMTA

members and EAC piano students on March 14th. Fran Kaspar, NCTM, was our presenter. Her presentation subject was “Favorite pedagogy tips, including ways to drill runs for more control, the best pedagogical way to present new concepts, how to introduce a new piece, and other favorite teaching tips.” After a lunch provided by members and college students, Fran held a master class with a few of our local students. We learned much and very much appreciated the boost from the ideas she presented.

Our spring event is called “Young Musician Showcase”. Forty-four student participants played memorized piano solos in EAC’s beautiful Lee Little Theater. Vice-President Celeste Innes organized the event, and other members assisted in the logistics and the event was well received.

Dr. Gail Fischler worked with Dr. Lisa Zdechlik to schedule another very successful workshop/master class on Saturday, April 21. The workshop was on improvisation, and it was very well received by those in attendance. After a lunch break, doctoral students from UofA taught the master class.

Numbers of ASP participants were down this year for EAMTA, but they performed well. We are grateful to Barbara Stoutenburgh who adjudicated the evaluations. We are very pleased to provide this opportunity to our local students.

We are pleased to have another teacher working on certification – Susan Grove. She joins Celeste Innes in that good effort!

Respectfully submitted,

Sherri Flake, EAMTA President



East Valley MTA has lately been coasting through to the end of the year. We scheduled a board meeting in April, but had to cancel because too many people were unable to come.

Our events have been running smoothly, and this year we had almost 1,000 students participate in Arizona Study Program! Our ASP board members are very coordinated, and they are much appreciated.

While there are a lot of positive things to say about our organization, I have a number of growing concerns. We have achieved non-profit 501 (c)(3) status, but our bank account continues to grow, and it is my opinion that the board members spend a lot of time "bickering" over small amounts of money and how to spend money. We barely give out thank you cards to our chairs, but I believe we should be giving out gift cards to show appreciation.

When I went to national, I attended a very helpful local presidents forum and got some great ideas that I will present at our board meeting. As president of EVMTA it is my goal to provide more opportunities to benefit our community. We have about 120 members, but our local population is so large that we should have over 200 members easily. We have a lot of ground work to do, and we have a lot of important decisions to make about how we can spend our money and what events and performance opportunities we can invest in.

I am almost finished with my 1st year, and I won't be happy until I have helped to bring more direction to our organization in this next year. Any thoughts or tips would be most helpful. Thank you!

Mike Kaminski, EVMTA President

NAMTA

NAMTA students and teachers have had a busy May. A concerto winner performed the Mozart A Major with the Academy Orchestra on May 7. Fifty-four students participated in the AZ Study Program and twenty-seven took part in the Spring Piano Festival. Nine solo and two concerto winners were presented in the final concert of the Fourteenth Annual Flagstaff Spring Piano Festival on May 20 at Ashurt Auditorium.

Pee-Yaw Lim Wilkes, NAMTA President



PMTA has had a great year. 2012 began with a presentation from Barbara Barnes, a certified Feldenkrais practitioner. Barbara had us focus on how to relax our shoulders. At the end of Barbara's presentation, we were able to see a hand's on demonstration of what someone might experience when going to a Feldenkrais practitioner.

For our February meeting, Denny Coiro presented his state conference presentation from last year "Using listening examples to teach expressive playing techniques" Denny used listening examples from various genres to show, imitate and execute expressive performing techniques.

On February 25th, PMTA held their 60th Annual Ensemble concert. A lovely slide show presentation was given before the concert showing the students who participated over the years.

At our March meeting, presenter Deborah Offenhauser, long time PMTA member, shared her secrets on utilizing scales and chords with piano students interested in playing jazz, learning to improvise, be creative and play "cool".

The end of March into April, Celebration of Music was held. There were 15 teachers participating, and 42 registered students. All students received Certificates of Award at the ceremony following the competition by divisions. A total number of winners were 21. In addition, all Superior and Superior with Distinction winners (14 students) received trophies.

In April, Kristin Hong, music therapist presented to us on music therapy for children with special needs.

Throughout the year Sharing Plus has met for "Music Matters" topics, Performance Plus has had many teachers share music with each other and we've had many successful vocal and student recitals.

In May, Bobbi Stoutenburgh did a wonderful job help making our luncheon a success. There were several items that were raffled off to support our scholarship program. PMTA is still looking for a President Elect. 15 teachers have turned the position down so far. The board recently met and made some major changes to lighten the load to the President's position, hoping this would help with finding someone that would be willing to take the President Elect and then Presidents position.

Jennifer Foxx, PMTA President



We have had a busy calendar since our last meeting! Students played at Barnes & Noble for a fundraiser in February. We also began our ensemble rehearsals. This culminated with a performance on March 17 with around 500 students participating. Then came ASP and Piano Guild in April. There was Merit Scholarship competition in May.

TMTA has commissioned Robert Vandall to compose a piece for their 2013 Ensemble.

We also found some time for general meetings....a discussion group on practice technique led by Paul Lorenz, and a presentation by author and musician Enrique Feldmen.

We have a new member-at-large, Karen Van Sickel, and a new corresponding secretary, Vicki Merley.

In June the TMTA board will have a budget meeting to plan for next year. Various committees are already at work planning for next year.

I had the privilege, as did a number of our TMTA members, of attending the national conference in New York and I am looking forward to our state conference.

Respectfully submitted,
Diann Lopez, TMTA President



ARIZONA STUDY PROGRAM

It is our privilege to welcome Barbara (Bobbi) Stoutenburgh as the new Arizona Study Program Chair! Bobbi brings extensive experience to this position. As many of you already know, she has served in many capacities for many years in PMTA, ASP and ASMTA. Her qualifications are endless and we will all reap the benefits of her expertise.

Arizona teachers and students are extremely fortunate to have a program as exceptional as the Arizona Study Program. It brings opportunities to teachers and students, including evaluations for students, levels 1 to 12, scholarship awards and teacher enrichment grants. If you haven't yet taken the opportunity to be involved in ASP now is the best time to do so. Contact your local ASP chair and ask for assistance in getting started on the road to an extremely satisfying experience for students and teachers. Good Luck!

Elaine Mooney NCTM
ASP State Chair

2012 ARIZONA STUDY PROGRAM JAMES ANTHONY SENIOR 12A AWARD

Teachers	Students
East Valley	
Melodie Acker	Cindy Shi
Pam Allman	Daniel Ferolino
Paula Dahl	Frank Zhang
Daniel Fletcher	Brandon Jiang
Ning Guan	Liann Zimmer
Autum Hunt	Jessica Willis
Fran Kaspar	Ashlyn Cowley
	Haley Stermon
Joo Yeon Tarina Kim	Jonathan Hui
Juliana Kraver	Josh Zhu
Maria H.Y. Lee	Vivian So
Mary Ellen Loose	Brianna Fabiano
Barbara Spoelman	Mark Soelberg
Kirk Taylor	Megan Gaumond
NatalyaThran	Lydia Letham
	Ksenia Lisova
	Mollie Malovoz
	Clarissa Page
Jelena Vladikovic	Evan Pensis
Edward Wolfe	Garrett Peelen

Phoenix	
Larry Clapp	Kristen Smith
Dorothy Dungan	Kaiden Dion
	Sarah Divine
	Laetitia Hua
	Tianna Sheih
Cesar Ferrari	Andrew Roy Tsai
Carol Hill	Rohit Kothur
Linda Lambert	Bailey Ellington
Sherry Lenich	Courtney Torres
Georgia Sears	Lisa Dales
	Symone Stephens
Susan Shiner	Melissa Lim
Rosemary Stelmach	Ben Mattinson
Barbara Stoutenburgh	Cainwyn Lane
	Stephen Smith

Tucson	
Su Ching Cheng	Kayla Dong
Kyungsun Choi	Jaxon Rickel
June Chow Tyne	Mary Carpenter
	Shantell Petty
Michele Hill	Veronica So
Raymond Ryder	Cole Dearmon Moore
	Devi Dearmon Moore

2012 Arizona Study Program Level 12A (non-seniors)

Cochise

Karen Miller Mikyong Kim

East Valley

Pam Allman	Nathaniel Kroeger
Tehling Chiang	Joyce Wen
Autum Hunt J	amie Cowsert
Joo Yeon Tarina Kim	Joseph Hoffman
Juliana Kraver	Irene Ruan
Maria H.Y. Lee	Jimmy Xu
Yali Luo	Kevin Chen
Albert Palmeter	Terry Wen
Radmila Stojanovic Kiriluk	Michele Wang
Kirk Taylor	Aditya Khurana
Natalya Thran	Lindsey Chew
	Cynthia Tien
Fei Xu	Nathaniel Gass
	Bomi Johnson
	Elizabeth Sun
Hong Zhu	Alexander Fan

Tucson

Ji Sun Lee	Katie Huynh
	Kimberly Huynh
Gregory Robinson	Bryan Hu

2012 James R. Anthony Honors Recital Winners

Primary

Angela Sun, medalist
Fei Xu, teacher
Miranda Li, medalist with distinction
Judith Sandoval-Ferg, teacher
Konray Yuan, medalist with distinction
Aemelia Teguh, teacher

Elementary 1

Jade Kai, medalist
Dr. June Chow-Tyne, teacher
Lily Kwak, medalist with distinction
Hong Zhu, teacher
Jessica Zhang, medalist with distinction
Fei Xu, teacher

Elementary 2

Nathan Zhang, medalist
Dr. Yali Luo, teacher

Intermediate 1

Bronson Wu, medalist
Dr. Yali Luo, teacher
Cameron Williams, medalist with distinction
Tannis Gibson, teacher

Intermediate 2

Brady Lytle, medalist
Dr. June Chow-Tyne, teacher
Elizabeth Sun, medalist with distinction
Fei Xu, teacher

Advanced

Alex Chen, medalist
Rosmary Stelmach, teacher

HONORS RECITAL MEETING

June 11, 2012

Notification of the meeting was made through email by each local president. Any interested members were invited to attend. Chyleen Lauritzen conducted the meeting with Melodie Acker, Rosmary Stelmach, Bobbi Stoutenburgh, Kathryn Christensen, Judith Sandoval-Ferg and Jelena Vladikovic in attendance. Written comments submitted prior to the meeting by Kim Hayashi, June Chow-Tyne, Gail Fischler, Kassandra Weleck, Raymond Ryder and Dee Lauritzen were also read and discussed.

The Honors Recital statement of intent and procedural guidelines as available on the ASMTA website were read and reviewed in detail. It was agreed that the Honors Recital is to be an educational experience and that we would like to increase participation. Participation, communication and organization has diminished in recent years. We are committed to rectifying past mistakes and moving forward in a positive direction. A number of revisions, including the dress code, are under consideration and will be available in future publications. Thank you to all who took the time to either attend the meeting or send written comments and suggestions.

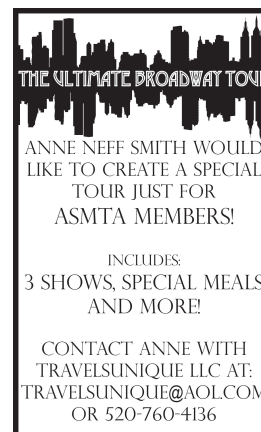
Chyleen Lauritzen, ASMTA President

MTNA COMPOSITION COMPETITION

The MTNA Composition Competition procedures are changing this year. They are still in the development and testing stage, so details of the new procedure are not yet available.

Here is what to expect:

- students will submit their scores online as a pdf
- judges will review the scores online (they can print them out if they wish)
- judges will write their comments online
- students and teachers will review their comments online
- the state competition chair will mail certificates for the winners and honorable mentions.



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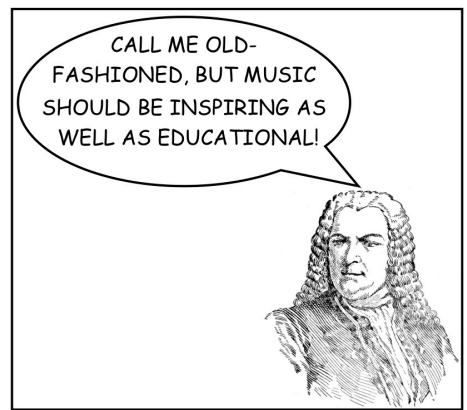
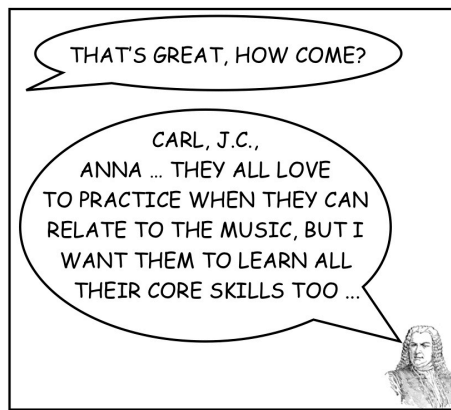
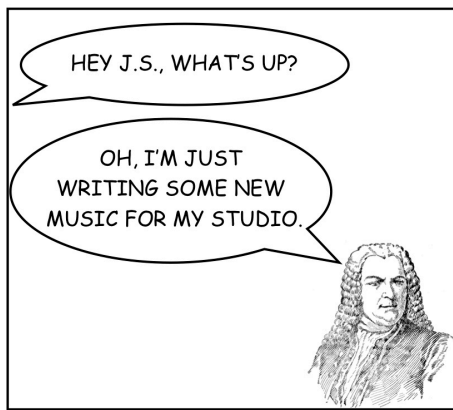
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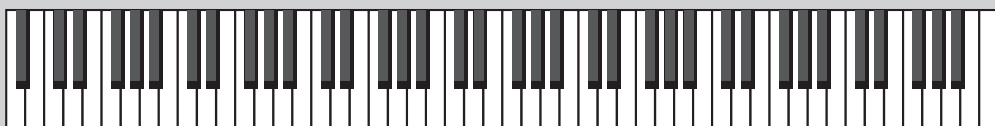
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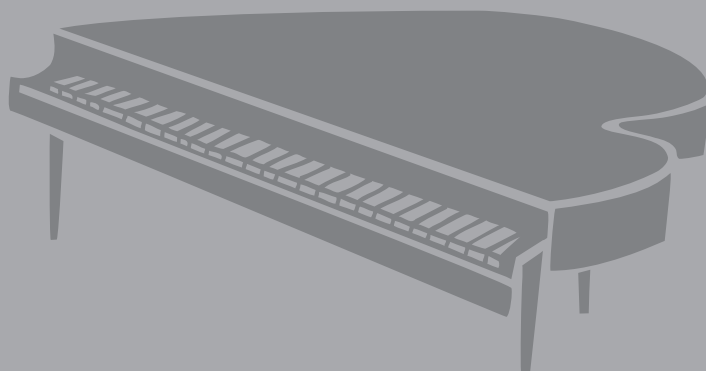


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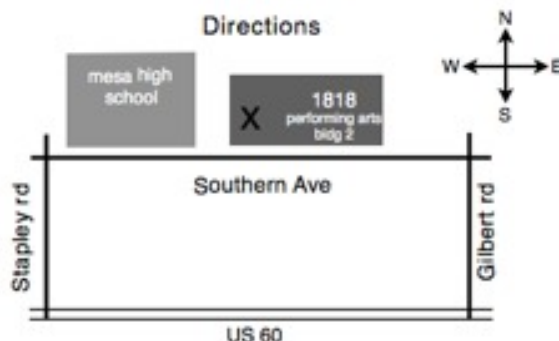
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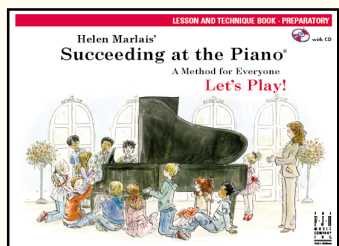
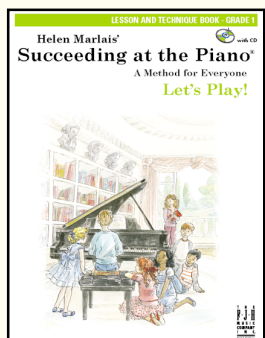
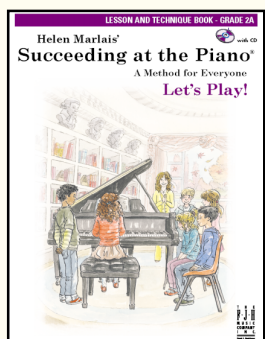
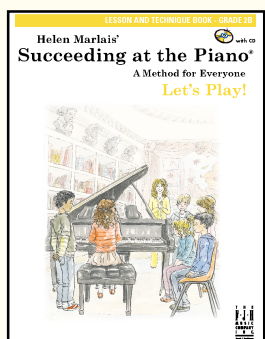
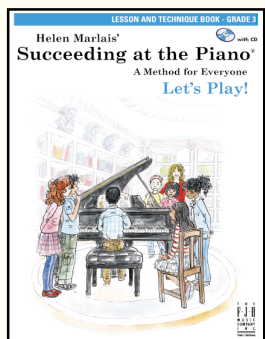
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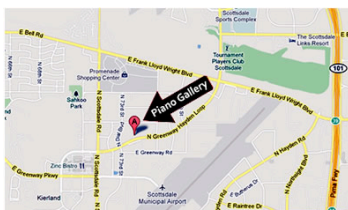


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Only teachers who have paid their 2012-2013 membership dues on or before September 1 will be listed in the Directory. Collegiate membership dues must be paid on or before October 1, 2012.

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