



ARIZONA STATE MUSIC TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

# FROM OUR PRESIDENT

## ASMTA President's Report

May 12th, 2016

In my Presidents report I would like to thank all ASMTA Board directors for their outstanding work and making our association a great professional organization that runs smoothly and thrives.

I would like to thank all ASMTA members who attended the MTNA conference. The Conference in San Antonio was great from all aspects: location was fantastic, the sessions were very informative and inspiring. The Masterclasses were very memorable, especially the one with Seymour Bernstein, after which you feel as if you were a witness of an extraordinary onetime life event. I am very happy that ASMTA had a state sponsored table at the MTNA GALA; I felt a unity and the importance of our state at the national level.

I would like to express my gratitude to Dr. Jessica Yam for organizing the most important ASMTA event - the Conference. She has done an extraordinary job on gathering top rank professionals to make the presentations, master classes and the concert. She spent hundreds of hours to make sure that all aspects were covered and that everything went as planned. Please thank her for making the Conference happen!

Also, I would thank the Tucson MTA, especially Kassandra Weleck, for her organizing skills in finding an excellent location for ASMTA Conference 2017 in Tucson. Now, we have firm dates and a place for the next conference: June 1st through 3rd 2017, at Omni Tucson National Resort (2727 WEST CLUB DRIVE Tucson, Arizona). I know that TMTA will create another outstanding conference as they always do! I am looking forward to it.

Finally, I would like to acknowledge the great work of ASMTA Past President, Chyleen Lauritzen. Chyleen will start a new chapter in her life in a faraway land, but her legacy as an absolutely remarkable ASMTA leader will stay here in Arizona! She shared with us her great organizing skills, expertise, and kindness. She became one of my strong mentors in my first year as a President. I wish her the best and will be missing her a lot!

Submitted by  
Natalya Thran, NCTM  
ASMTA PResident



# ASMTA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

## 2015-2016

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President	Natalya S. Thran, NCTM
Immediate Past President	Melodie Acker, NCTM
First Vice President/President Elect	Chase Coleman
Second Vice President	Dr. Yali Luo
Third Vice President	Dr. Raymond Ryder, NCTM
Fourth Vice President	Lianna Rivera
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Secretary	Rosemary Isbell-Hendrickson, NCTM
Certification	Kathryn Rood, NCTM
Arizona Study Program	Barbara Stoutenburgh, NCTM

### LOCAL ASSOCIATIONS

CMTA	Debbie Dinkel
EAMTA	Susan Grove
EVMTA	Fran Kaspar, NCTM
NAMTA	Rita Borden, NCTM
PMTA	Susan Traylor
TMTA	Cecilia Whitby

### APPOINTED OFFICERS

Advertising	Ashley Bradford, NCTM
Archivist	Gail Chang
Arts Awareness	TBD
Competitions-MTNA Composition	Ashlet Bradford, NCTM
Competitions- MTNA Performance	Dr. Yali Luo
College Faculty Forum	Dr. Lisa Zdechlik
Honors Recital	Aemilia Teguh
Independent Music Teachers Forum	Dr. Radmila Stojanovic-Kiriluk, NCTM
Membership	Tanya Eldridge
MTNA Foundation Chair	Rosemary Isbell-Hendrickson, NCTM
Publications Editor	Lianna Rivera
Student Chapters	Dr. Lisa Zdechlik
Website	Lianna Rivera

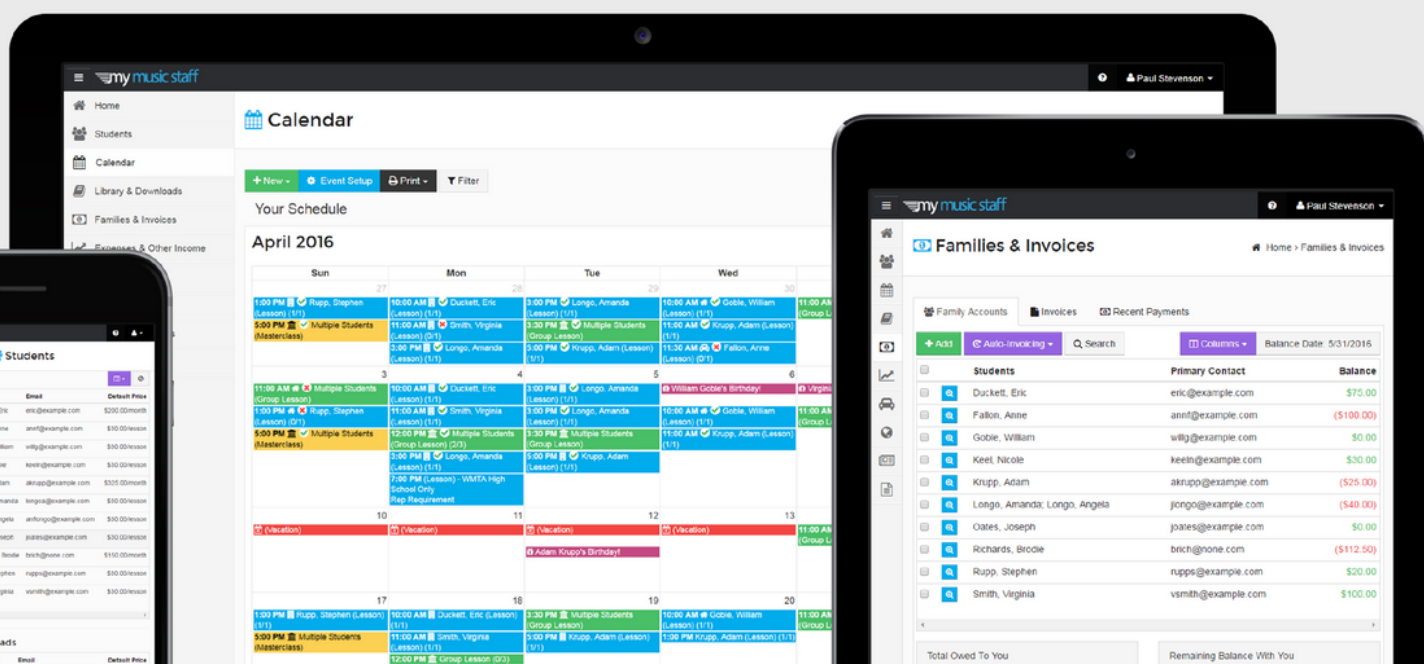


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# BOARD REPORTS

## 4TH VICE PRESIDENT

## MUSIGRAM EDITOR

September 1st, 2016

Dear colleagues,

Thank you for taking the time to read this season's MusiGram. This edition is jam packed with photos and discussion about the ASMTA State Conference that happened this past June in Tempe, Arizona. I've included Dr. Jessica Yam's June 2nd report to give you a little insight to the kind of planning that went on to put together such a successful conference. She did an amazing job organizing the event and certainly put in her heart and soul to give us the best possible experience. Thank you Jessica for everything you did.

I had the privilege of taking photos of the conference. I've posted all of the photos (including the ones in this publication and more) on my photography Facebook page. You can find all the photos by searching on Facebook for Lianna Rivera's Photographs then finding the album titled 87th Annual Arizona State Music Teachers Association Conference. Feel free to tag yourself or your studios in the photos. The reason I had to post the photos here is because I was having a hard time sharing them to the conference official page. I also started sharing the photos to the Arizona State Music Teachers Association Facebook page but it quickly became very cluttered. So please feel free to view/share/use the photos of the conference on my photography page.

I hope you enjoy this edition of the MusiGram. I look forward to working on the next edition. At the conference, Gail Change, ASMTA Archivist, showed me some MusiGRAMs from the past which gave me a lot of ideas for different things I can include. Look out for the next edition coming out at the end of November.

Musically yours,

Lianna M. Rivera  
4th Vice President  
Publications Editor  
Website



# BOARD REPORTS

## ASP STATE CHAIRMAN

July 8th, 2016

The ASP evaluations took place starting April 29 and ending May 20. Enrollment was 1921 students with 253 teachers participating; and 1736 students were evaluated. Each local association's evaluations were run very smoothly and effectively by their local chairpersons and, of course, those of you who volunteered to help evaluation day. Special thank you to our local association chairpersons: CMTA – Karen Miller; EAMTA – Janice Holladay, NCTM; EVMTA – Lara Holt, Debbie Saifi, NCTM, Barb Russell, NCTM; NAMTA – Marge Johnson; PMTA – Carol Hill, NCTM, Bobbi Stoutenburgh, NCTM; TMTA – Karen Van Sickle, Kassandra Weleck, NCTM. Sarah Elliott and Fran Kaspar, NCTM, made sure that our students had their awards and certificates on time! Thank you to all the adjudicators who shared your knowledge and expertise with our students. So many of you, our teachers, volunteered your time in helping the evaluations run smoothly.

In January of this year the following e-mail blast was sent to all members of ASMTA:

- Due to the increasing number of students using copies at the annual evaluations, ASP has taken steps to discourage this infraction of the copyright law. The following announcement is in effect.

All music must be from a published source. The teacher will receive a warning letter if music is not from a published source or is obviously reproduced. The second year this occurs, students of that teacher using unauthorized copied music will be given a Participant rating.

- In addition, there has been an increasing number of students who have been using arrangements and/or simplifications at our evaluations. This is not allowed as stated in the teachers' guide and the repertoire guide. The following announcement is in effect.

Compositions must be in the original key. Arrangements by the composer may be used. For the evaluations, no transcriptions or simplified arrangements are allowed at any level. If an arrangement or a simplification is performed, the teacher will receive a warning letter of the infraction of this policy. The second year this occurs, students of that teacher using arrangements or simplified music will be given a Participant rating.

These are not new requirements but an attempt to reinforce ASP requirements. The above statements were also announced on the Program Forms in Packet 1 on the ASMTA website in August 2015.

Our big news!!! There is a new "Teachers Reference Guide" which replaces the 2006 Repertoire Guide and the 2008 Teachers Guide. All evaluation information and repertoire information are now located in one place! There are changes and/or additions to the repertoire guide. Please be advised that the new 2016 Teachers Reference Guide went into effect June 16, 2016. This guide can be purchased from your local materials person (where you get your workbooks) or you can purchase and download a copy from the ASP online store on the ASMTA website. Please check the online store occasionally as other materials will be eventually available for purchase.

ASP evaluation information for the 2016–2017 season will be on the ASMTA website no later than July 31, 2016.

Submitted by  
Barbara Stoutenburgh NCTM  
ASP State Chairman



# AROUND THE STATE NORTHERN ARIZONA

Northern Arizona Music Teachers Association (NAMTA)

July 5, 2016

Northern district had a busy winter and spring with monthly recitals and presentations, beginning in January with long-time member Pee Yaw Wilkes who shared her expertise on “Preparing Students for Performances”. Following our February recital northern member Scott Gentry, who maintains a large teaching studio in Show Low and serves on the faculty of Northland Pioneer College, gave a comprehensive lecture-demonstration on “Technique for the Advancing Pianist”. We were happy to welcome Jennifer Foxx of Phoenix to our March meeting and appreciative of her exciting and engaging session; “Add Some \*BLING\* to Your Teaching: Incorporating Technology into Your Studio”. Dr. Janice ChenJu Chiang, of the NAU piano faculty, gave our final presentation in April; “The Kinesiology In Piano Playing”. We ended our monthly recitals on May 7 and held a meeting to begin making plans for next year and hope to bring in at least two guest speakers. Teachers and students are still busy preparing for our annual Spring Piano Festival which takes place on May 14-15 with adjudications and a recital, as well as the Arizona Study Program on May 19-20. We had 10 members attend the State conference this year, several of them first time attendees.

Respectfully submitted,  
Rita Borden, NCTM  
NAMTA, president



# AROUND THE STATE

## COCHISE

Cochise Music Teacher's Association (CMTA)

July 5, 2016

CMTA had a very productive year in 2015-2016. Among our student activities, we held our annual Stepping Stones program in February, where students work with Master Class clinicians to improve technique, expression, dynamics, etc. This year our clinicians were Dr. Raymond Ryder for piano and Holly Schurr of the Tucson Symphony for strings. Following the Stepping Stones program, we held our annual Inge Young Memorial Competition where students competed in their given category for cash prizes. A recital is held the same evening featuring the winners. In May, John Carroll, a senior, gave a fantastic recital. CMTA awarded him \$500 for completing an hour of memorized music.

Our annual fundraising concert is coming up on August 20th. Many local musicians, including several CMTA teachers, will be performing to delight the audience.

We look forward to the upcoming year of 2016-2017.

Submitted by  
Debbie Dinkel  
CMTA President



# ASMTA CONFERENCE REVIEW

## ASMTA CONFERENCE CHAIRMAN REPORT

June 2, 2016

The past few months have been filled with many busy hours of exciting planning for the state conference. I hope it will be full of stimulating and insightful ideas for everyone. The schedule of events is available online and attached. So far, we have 122 attendees. The conference committee has a meeting on May 27 to prepare materials.

### Guests

We will have several masterclasses, performances, presentations, and showcases. Special guests besides Robert Hamilton include the Pridonoff Duo; ASU piano professors Walter Cosand, Hannah Creviston, Caio Pagano, and Emeritus Eckart Sellheim; clinician Helen Marlais from FJH publishing company; and Gary Ingle, CEO of MTNA.

### Exhibitors

We will have the following exhibitors: FJH and Robert Toschak with MR Musical Notes, Mary Colosimo with Ottawa University, Joel Shifflet with Piano Marvel, and Kevin Rindlisbacher with Steinway of Arizona. We will also have a booth for ASMTA Silent Auction and MTNA Foundation.

### Advertisers

I have received a number of ads. I welcome any last-minute ads as I prepare the booklet.

### Donations and Silent Auction

We have had great support. My First Piano will provide lanyards and canvas bags to attendees. FJH will give attendees goodie bags as well. I have also received items and emails about silent auction donations. I welcome items to be brought on site the morning of June 2.

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# ASMTA CONFERENCE REVIEW

## THURSDAY PHOTOS

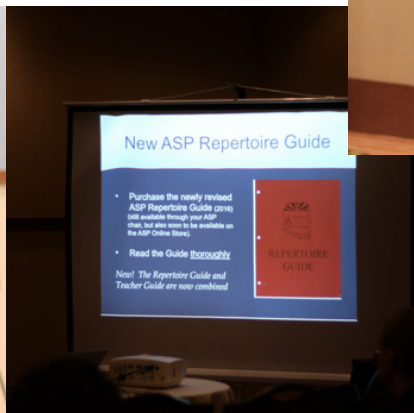


ARIZONA STATE MUSIC TEACHERS ASSOCIATION



# ASMTA CONFERENCE REVIEW

## FRIDAY PHOTOS





# ASMTA CONFERENCE REVIEW

## SATURDAY PHOTOS



ARIZONA STATE MUSIC TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

# ASMTA CONFERENCE REVIEW

## ASMTA CONFERENCE CHAIRMAN REPORT (CONTINUED)

### Hotel

We have already made the room minimum at the DoubleTree Tempe. Guests should be able to book a room during the conference and its shoulder dates at \$95 (inclusive of a breakfast voucher, internet, parking, and access to the gym and business center). The deadline to seize this rate is May 27, which is also the deadline for all food selections.

### Volunteers

Volunteers will guide and check in guests at registration; collect tickets for the banquet, lunch buffet, pre-concert reception, and concert; run the silent auction; and, for those with commanding speaking skills, introduce presenters. If you would like to volunteer for any amount of time, please email me at [Jessica.Yam@asu.edu](mailto:Jessica.Yam@asu.edu). Please also help me advertise the conference and distribute the flyers I have emailed. I appreciate contributions in any way!

I would like to especially thank Natalya Thran who has been so busy with her own responsibilities and helping me. Also, thank you all for your warm support. I hope this will be a memorable conference and will run as smoothly as possible.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jessica Yam  
ASMTA 3rd Vice President and Conference Chairman





# ASMTA CONFERENCE REVIEW

## PRESENTATION HIGHLIGHTS

Every year in preparation for the state conference, ASMTA members are invited to submit proposals for presentation topics. With so many different teachers among our organization, this is a wonderful opportunity to share your specialties and personal experiences with your fellow colleagues. The line up for presentations this year was absolutely inspiring. But of course, this would not be possible without the brave volunteers who stepped forward to take part in the programming. Keep reading to learn about the positive experiences these teachers had while presenting at the conference. And hopefully next year, we'll see your name in the program sharing all about music and teaching from your personal viewpoint.

### JENNIFER FOXX- USING MODERN TOOLS TO CREATE EXCITEMENT FOR OLD MASTERWORKS AND THEIR HISTORY



I always look forward to attending the ASMTA conference. Seeing friends, meeting new teachers and attending presentations. There is always so much to learn. I really enjoyed presenting this year on Using Modern Tools to Create Excitement for Old Masterworks & Their History. I originally wasn't going to submit a proposal but the theme gave me a unique idea for a presentation which I couldn't pass up. I enjoyed sharing some ideas to help teachers connect with their students in a more personal way when learning the old masterworks and music history. I was able to share both tech and non-tech ideas that I'm hoping will motivate and inspire students in learning more about their musical history. If teachers weren't able to attend my session, I did a brief summary on it here: <http://bit.ly/297IVQD> I would encourage other teachers who have thought about presenting for conference to give it a try. We all have something to learn from each other.



# ASMTA CONFERENCE REVIEW

## PRESENTATION HIGHLIGHTS

### NANCY HARRIS-THE TEACHER'S VOICE: KEEPING YOURS HEALTHY



When I gave my presentation, The Teacher's Voice: Keeping Yours Healthy, at a primarily piano conference and opposite a panel discussion, I didn't expect a large crowd of attendees, and indeed, only eight people came. However, all eight were so focused, involved, and excited about the information, that it was very gratifying and worthwhile. We even talked for another half hour afterwards about individual issues. I will be pleased to present again for ASMTA.

Nancy E. Harris, M.H.,  
Vocologist, LMRVT  
[www.TheVoiceBuilder.com](http://www.TheVoiceBuilder.com)

### CAROLYN BROE- 40 FAMOUS COMPOSERS FOR KIDS

It was my pleasure to present "40 Famous Composers for Kids" to the ASMTA Conference. It was an honor to present with such a distinguished line up of solo artists and musicologists. I really appreciated having such a wonderful audience for my presentation. This was a thrilling experience being a part of our 87th Annual ASMTA Conference. I met so many new people too!

Carolyn Broe



# ASMTA CONFERENCE REVIEW

## PRESENTATION HIGHLIGHTS

It was great fun to be able to present with Gloria Ritt on beginning-level Arizona Study Program pieces at the conference. Gloria's knowledge and breadth of literature were fascinating to learn at first, and then so much fun to learn to play. My students have already benefited from her choice in piano literature, and the amount of books and sheet music she has used for this presentation gave me a lot more resources from which to use. I loved how easy going and light hearted our audience was! My favorite part had to be everyone telling me how helpful Gloria's presentation was for them. The look on her face every time someone said that made me so happy. Thank you for giving us the opportunity to present at the ASMTA Conference!



Kassandra Weleck

### GLORIA RITT AND KASSANDRA WELECK- POGO AND FRIENDS: REPERTOIRE FOR LEVELS 1-4 OF THE ARIZONA STUDY PROGRAM



Kassandra and I gave this program because we thought it would be helpful to teachers with students in Levels 1 - 4 of the Arizona Study Program.

I did get feed back from one young teacher who thanked me because she had several young students and she got many ideas about repertoire from the program. That was the whole idea. Several more teachers requested the hand outs at the end of the program.

Gloria Ritt



# ASMTA CONFERENCE REVIEW

## EXHIBITORS, VENDORS AND SHOPPING!

A very big thank you to all the exhibitors and vendors who made themselves available for our conference attendees. We hope you will join us again next year!

ASMTA Silent Auction  
AZ Piano  
FJH Music Company  
Mr. Musical Notes  
MTNA Foundation  
My First Piano  
Ottawa University  
Piano Marvel  
Steinway Piano Showroom







## *A note from the owner*

*Dear teachers,*

*We truly appreciate all you do for aspiring musicians young and old. The patience, the preparation, the encouragement, the odd hours it takes to do your job well. That's why we do everything we can to support and serve music educators. We love contributing to events like this one, offering our recital hall to the teaching community, donating pianos and space for ensemble rehearsals each year and making it easy for your students to acquire quality instruments with upgrade options as they become better musicians. We do it because we want to be more than just another piano store in town asking for referrals. We want to earn your respect and your business through collaboration and generosity, using our resources for the common good. There is a lot of alignment between your business and our business. We both serve families, first time buyers, novice players and kids just starting out, and have the same goals for them musically.*

*Many of your students aren't financially able to spend \$4K or more on a piano at a retail store, they don't have the knowledge to risk a Craigslist purchase and they don't have your endorsement (hopefully) to start on a toy keyboard. That's where we come in, your students simply pick out a piano - prepped and tuned - take it home for 6 or 9 months at \$30, \$50 or \$75 depending on the quality of the piano. After the "play period" term, they can use 100% of their credit to purchase or upgrade to a better fit. If they aren't ready to buy, they can simply return the piano or convert it to a conventional month to month rental until they figure out what to do. No credit checks, no fees other than delivery, no interest, no obligation to buy anything, no cold feet. Just a nice long test drive which hopefully leads to piano ownership. We even give a 10% discount to all student referrals.*

*It's hard enough to sell an expensive lesson program. When you have to talk parents into investing in an expensive instrument on top of the cost of lessons, it makes it that much harder to sell lessons. I just want you to know that if you send your clients to My First Piano, we'll make it super easy and have them out the door for less than \$200 including delivery!*

*We appreciate you!*

*Sincerely,*

*Josh Wallace*



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# ASMTA CONFERENCE REVIEW

## GALA PHOTOS



# 2017 STATE CONFERENCE

## OMNI TUCSON NATIONAL RESORT

2727 W. Club Drive  
Tucson, AZ 85742

June 1-3, 2017

Conference Chair: Dr. Raymond Ryder, NCTM  
Email: [raymondtryder@aol.com](mailto:raymondtryder@aol.com)

