

Kassandra Weleck, NCTM
ASMTA President



Dear ASMTA Members,

It's the best time of the year in the desert for being outside! Having grown up in the Midwest, winters in Arizona have always been the highlight of my year. We get to spend it outdoors while the rest of the country (and Flagstaff) stays warm indoors. I love knowing that no matter how much time I spend inside practicing or teaching, I can always go outside and bask in the wonderful climate.

ASMTA has officially updated the bylaws. You can review them for yourself on the ASMTA web site, but the main points are: collegiate members can now earn national certification and hold appointed chairs on the state board, the 1st Vice President will always become President if the President resigns before fulfilling his/her term, the 4th Vice President is officially in charge of the web site (something that was already being done but not officially noted), the Technology chair will assist with the web site, and the Certification chair will assist members seeking national certification year round (something that was already being done but not officially noted). Our next step is to update the ASMTA Constitution to reflect these changes, as well as update the chair positions noted in that document.

ASMTA and TMTA are proud to announce that Tucson member Gloria Gaebe Ritt, NCTM, has been made our 2019 MTNA Foundation Fellow. Gloria just celebrated her 90th birthday in December and still teaches 14 students in her east Tucson studio every week. She has done so much for both ASMTA and TMTA, including being President of both, and we're happy to be able honor to her this way. Gloria will be recognized at the MTNA National Conference Gala in Spokane on March 18th. Congratulations, Gloria! Thank you to everyone that donated toward this worthy fellowship – all monies donated go toward allowing MTNA to fund competitions, teacher grants, events, and scholarships all around the country.

Registration is now open for the ASMTA conference in June. Read more in Rita Borden's column below about what's happening, when it's happening, and how to get yourself registered for all the fun in Flagstaff.

Fun event: there is a vocal evaluation program happening in Phoenix in April that is available to voice students all around the state. Please contact Liz Owens (PMTA) to get more information: lizgowens@gmail.com.

(cont'd on p. 2)



ASMTA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Competitions – Performance	Dr. Yali Lao
College Faculty Forum	Hannah Creviston
Honors Recital	Christopher Oill; Tanya Eldridge
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Student Chapters	Hannah Creviston
Technology	Jared Immerman
Website	Susan Traylor

(Kassandra Weleck—cont'd from p. 1)

Fun fact: Several appointed chairs on the ASMTA board have terms that expire on June 30th this year. If you're interested in participating on the board, please contact your local association president to express your interest.

Have a wonderful March in Arizona, and I hope that the spring finds you happy, healthy, and being productive in the best ways!

Sincerely,
Kassandra Weleck, NCTM
ASMTA President



90th ASMTA Conference
“Tradition and Innovation” June 6-8, 2019,
Northern Arizona University -School of Music,
Flagstaff, AZ



Northern district is excited to be hosting the 90th ASMTA state conference after a nineteen year break. June is a beautiful time to visit Flagstaff and we hope you are planning to attend the conference to be held June 6-8 at NAU-School of Music.

As teachers and performers we look to the past to build a foundation based on tradition, but meanwhile seek new, innovative approaches and repertoire to stay current and grow. The conference will present a broad range of topics related to both tradition and innovation in music education, pedagogy and performance and promises to be enlightening and inspiring.

Conference Highlights:

Dr. Jane Magrath, author, teacher, clinician and regents Professor at the University of Oklahoma will open the conference on Thursday with a presentation, *Motivation in Piano Study and Performance*. On Friday she will present a session *Fresh Classics: Motivating Students and Uncovering Meaning* as well as a Master Class. www.janemagrath.com

Dr. Robert Duke, Professor and the Director of the Center for Music Learning at the University of Texas-Austin, known for his research on human learning and behavior spanning multiple disciplines will give two sessions on Fri-

day titled, “*Work, play, joy*” and “*Practice makes better. Practice makes worse. Practice does nothing at all*”.
www.cml.music.utexas.edu

Internationally acclaimed pianist **Jeffrey Swann** will perform a recital Friday evening as well as give a master-class on Thursday. In addition to his extensive performing career, Dr. Swann serves on the faculty at NYU Steinhardt and as the “President’s Distinguished Artist in Residence” at NAU. www.melodybunting.com/id67.html

Dr. Gary Ingle, executive director of MTNA, will be in attendance at the conference and will give a Keynote address at the banquet Thursday evening. He will also hold a Q & A session Friday morning.

ASMTA, under the leadership of Kassandra Weleck, has commissioned **Carol Matz** to compose a piano solo in honor of our 90th state conference. The composition will be premiered at the General Meeting on Friday afternoon at 4:00 pm.

The Presentation committee was very pleased to receive so many excellent proposals. Kathryn Rood and Stephen Siek will present a lecture recital featuring Rachmaninoff’s *Suite No. 2 for 2 Pianos*. Additional presenters include: Hannah Creviston, Maria Flurry, Christopher Oill, Karin Hallberg, Craig Sale, John Hwang, Jennifer Fox, Henry Flurry, Diana Galindo, Janice Chenju Chiang, Clara McDonald, Francilia Schofield, Kathryn Mientka Stanfill, Cheryl Langley, Sherin Moustafa and Nancy Litten.

The varied topics to be presented include: teaching tips for young students, One-handed Pianists, Group classes, composition, innovative music of Ravel, Ergonomic small piano keyboards, Guiding students to success, the Science behind student learning, Teaching online, Child-Led teaching, Feldenkrais approach and the Teachings of Frances Clark.

ASMTA Board members, Barbara Stoutenburgh, Susan Traylor, Radmila Stojanovic-Kiriluk, Kathryn Rood, Jared Immerman and others will present informative sessions on ASP, Certification, IMTF, Technology and the ASMTA Website. We are very grateful that so many members are willing to share their expertise at the conference.

(ASMTA State Conference—cont'd on p. 3)

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(ASMTA State Conference —cont'd from p. 2)

The complete schedule can be accessed by clicking on the following link: [2019 Conference Presenter Schedule](#).

Please note, the schedule is subject to change. Check the website for updates.

Come socialize with old friends and reach out to new members, while also supporting ASMTA and future conferences by attending the **Banquet** on Thursday evening at NAU's "Old Main-Ashurt Hall" and the **Native American Buffet Luncheon** on Friday at the NAU Native American Cultural Center.

Another way to support ASMTA is to contribute and shop at the **Silent Auction** during the conference. Please contact Diana Galindo at DGalindo@DianaGalindo.com if you would like to contribute items.



Take a little bit of Flagstaff home with you. Flagstaff water color artist Marsha Owen has donated a painting to be raffled off at the conference. Proceeds from the raffle support ASMTA's contribution to the MTNA Foundation fund. Visit Marsha's website: www.owenwatercolor.com

Visit the ASMTA website to register and for information regarding conference hotels, parking, directions and maps:

www.asmta.org/events/state-conference/

**EARLY REGISTRATION
DEADLINE IS APRIL 15**

Online registration ends May 31

Respectfully submitted,

Rita Borden, NCTM
3rd Vice President and Conference Chair
Rita.Borden@nau.edu



Website and Publications
Susan 'Suszy' Traylor,
4th Vice President

If you have not yet logged into your Member Access (Dashboard) on the www.ASMTA.org website, I urge you to do so. At the very least, you should input your address on the *Find-A-Teacher* page and make sure your listing comes up as it should.

When the website was upgraded in 2017, we used the name, address and email addresses provided to us by MTNA at that time. I know of a few Members who have since changed email addresses and/or changed their last names (e.g. been married). We do our best to keep the *ASMTA Membership Directory* and *Find-A-Teacher* information synchronized with that of MTNA, but the process is manual, not automatic. As such, mistakes can happen. So, please do check your own information and contact me, Suszy Traylor at info@asmta.org if you have any questions.

In an effort to make sure all of you are able to log into the ASMTA Member Dashboard to obtain the Membership Directory and other ASMTA resources (e.g. ASP Technique videos, Bylaws, Constitution, policies and procedures, ASP Online Store, and modify your Member Profile as referenced above), I will be offering two training opportunities:

- Interactive training webinar, in mid-March; and
- In-person training/presentation at the ASMTA State Conference on Thursday, June 6, 2019.

So, watch for an email soon, announcing the ASMTA Member Dashboard login training. It is my goal that all ASMTA be able to log into their ASMTA Member Dashboard. (Yes. This includes all of you who consider yourselves technology dinosaurs. You can do this!)

IMPORTANT NOTICE. If you wish to keep your listing on the ASMTA website (*Membership Directory* and *Find-a-Teacher*) from one year to the next, starting with Summer/Fall 2019, **be sure to pay your MTNA/ASMTA dues (and, where, applicable, your local dues) on time.** Remember, the membership year runs from July 1 through June 30th (October 1 through September 30th for collegiate members). Starting with the membership year 2019-2020, so long as you **renew** your dues anytime between April 1st and October 31st, you can keep your listing on the website. If you miss renewing your 2019-2020 dues by October 31, you will have to wait until the next year to be listed again.



**ASMTA 1st Vice President
Debbie Dinkel**

Dear Teachers of ASMTA,

As the second half of our music years begins, I would like to welcome you and encourage you to participate in upcoming events offered through ASMTA and your local group. We have a wealth of opportunities available to us as teachers and, therefore, to our students.

A recent event I enjoyed was the concert last night with the Sierra Vista Symphony Orchestra, conducted by Toru Tagowa. It was our Pops concert which included pieces from Star Wars (Williams), Star Trek, Ride of the Valkries (Wagner), Les Preludes (Liszt), Apollo 13 (Horner), Mars and Jupiter from The Planets (Holst). Great music and great fun! We performed two children’s concerts on Friday morning for 1200 fifth and sixth graders from the entire region. They were bussed to the high school for the opportunity to experience a live orchestra performance. The excitement from the children was truly inspiring. What a great experience for all!

My local group, CMTA, is looking forward to the upcoming Stepping Stones program which allows participating students to work with a clinician in a master class situation. This allows our piano and string students the opportunity to gain valuable information and increased experience with the building of technique, style, interpretation, dynamics, and a variety of other tools to enhance their playing and performance experiences.

As your 1st VP, I look forward to making visits to each local group during the upcoming months.

Your Friend in Music,

Debbie Dinkel
ASMTA 1st VP
Dinkel2@cox.net



**MTNA Foundation
Rosmary Isbell-Hendrickson, NCTM, Chair**



*Remember “A dollar or two from
each of you~ makes a big difference in
the good we can do! “*

Gloria Ritt has been named a Foundation Fellow for 2019 and we are in the process of funding her account. Please make a donation if you can and be sure to designate her name on your check or you can donate via MTNA by credit card.

Our 3rd and 4th quarter Foundation Fund individual donations are the following:

- 3rd quarter- 0 contributions.
 - 4th quarter - 5 members contributing a total of \$155
- Total for 2018 - \$233

I am looking forward to our conference in Flagstaff.

Rosemary Isbell-Hendrickson NCTM
MTNA Foundation Chair



**ASMTA Archivist
Shalvi D'Arcangelo**

<https://repository.asu.edu/items/38832>

As of October 2018, I have been named the Archivist for ASMTA and am thrilled to be working in this position. Gail Chang has delivered all of our remaining original documents and ephemera to the new temporary ASU West Archives Department in December. This is a temporary location while the ASU Tempe Library is being remodeled. If someone from another chapter wants to designate a Historian for their chapter, our storage unit does have room to store their archives. Please contact me (Shalvi D'Arcangelo) for more information on adding new documents to our 90-years of archives.



**MTNA Conference in Spokane, Washington
March 16-20, 2019**

“Renowned pianist Ingrid Fliter and the award-winning Transcontinental Saxophone Quartet will highlight the evening recitals. Alan Walker, preeminent Liszt and Chopin scholar, will present the keynote address based on his newest book, *Fryderyk Chopin: A Life and Times*. Pedagogy Saturday boasts five tracks: Entrepreneurism, Musician Wellness, Recreational Music Making, Teaching Artistry, and Teaching those with Special Needs.”

For More detailed information, [click here](#) to visit the MTNA Conference website



ASMTA Dues Increase

When you go to renew your MTNA, ASMTA, and local association dues this spring and summer, please note that ASMTA dues are going up \$5 across the board. This rise in dues will help ASMTA provide more for members in many different ways - conference, Honors Recital, MTNA competitions, educational opportunities, and more. Our goal is to not raise the rate again for 2-3 years. Thank you for your continued membership and participation!



2019 James R. Anthony Honors Recital Christopher Oill and Tanya Eldridge, Co-Chairs

The Honors Recital will be held on June 8th, at NAU, during the ASMTA state conference. Updated deadlines and guideline revisions have been posted to the ASMTA website. Many important changes have been made, so please take a close look before submitting applications. The application period will last from March 1st to May 1st.

We are still seeking volunteers to make sure the event runs smoothly. If you would like to help, or wish to know more about the volunteer responsibilities, please contact the Christopher Oill at oillmusic88@gmail.com.

If you are not submitting students, competing, or volunteering, we still would love for you to join us. You will have the opportunity to meet some of Arizona's greatest teachers and students; you may even encounter one of the highly esteemed judges! Fill your evening, and your heart, with the high quality musical performances of this wonderfully inspiring event.

Sincerely,
Christopher Oill and Tatyana Eldridge, Co-Chairs



MTNA Certification 2019 Kathryn Rood, NCTM, Chair

Plan ahead ASMTA members and make this the year to follow through with the certification process. Connect with colleagues for support and discussion groups on certification topics. If technology is holding you back, there are ASMTA board members to assist. Certification is an important way to support our profession on a national level. Please contact me if you have questions.

Congratulations to the following ASMTA members who received their Music Teachers National Certification

Josh Hillman, NCTM, 2017
Cheryl Langley, NCTM, 2018
Sherin Moustafa, NCTM, 2019



ASMTA Technology Jared Immerman, Chair



Hi there, everyone!

Jared Immerman here with the latest installment of music tech news for Q1 2019. First off, I am really excited to be presenting at the ASMTA State Conference this June 6-8, 2019 in Flagstaff. I'm developing a unique workshop on photo and video, and will share more details with you as the time draws nearer.

In the meantime, let me share a new music product with you that is scheduled to release later this year. It was first showcased a few weeks ago at the NAMM Show, this past January 24-27, 2019. The NAMM Show is an annual music trade and tech show, attracting over 115,000 people and 2,200 vendors every year. The show has also brought in many well-known musicians in the past and present, including Richie Sambora, Carlos Santana, Stevie Wonder, and more. Here's more info about the show: <https://www.namm.org/>. While I did not attend the event this year, I have been following along with the news of the best products featured, and am excited to share one of them here:

Casio Privia PX-S1000. This keyboard takes portability to a whole new level. Weighing in at just 25 lbs., and allowing portable power via 6 AA batteries (or a traditional wall adapter), this keyboard is a great compact option for traveling. It has a sleek, glossy black finish with an illuminated touch-sensitive panel for controlling all the sounds. It has the usual weighed hammer action of a digital piano, which I wasn't able to test, but those that did review the product seemed to like it. See here for one review example: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BXv3ispGJDY>. Another cool perk of the keyboard is that it can also function as a Bluetooth-speaker, meaning that it can connect to your phone, tablet, or computer, and play any audio from those devices through the keyboard's speakers. I'm hoping to demo the unit sometime once it releases. It seems like a great compact and budget keyboard. The Casio Privia PX-S1000 arrives in April 2019 for \$599. See here for more detailed specs: <https://www.casio.com/products/electronic-musical-instruments/stage-pianos/px-s1000>.

That's all the news for now. But definitely jump onto Facebook and visit the "ASMTA Technology" page, where I will post updates to NAMM, the MTNA/ASMTA conferences, and any other things I find along the way. Here's the link:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/296941650771681/>.

All the best,
Jared Immerman
ASMTA Technology Chair
jimmerman@email.arizona.edu
<https://jared-immerman.com>



**College Faculty Forum and
Collegiate Chapters**



**by Hannah Creviston
ASMTA Chair**

**University of Arizona
MTNA Collegiate Chapter**

This fall, the UA Fred Fox School of Music (FFSoM) chapter has been extremely busy with events both on and off campus. They once again hosted a series of *Piano Jams* in the UA keyboard lab, inviting UA students as well as students and teachers of TMTA. We were thrilled to see ASMTA President, Cassandra Weleck, as well as her two daughters present at the Christmas edition of *Piano Jams*.

Other fall jams included *#RawMovieChallenge* and a Halloween jam. A goal has been to reach out to the Tucson community at large—members of the chapter performed at different venues including Urban Fresh restaurant, Barnes and Nobles bookstore, Epic Café and the Nanini Library. Three additional *Piano Jams* are scheduled for spring 2019 including one that is a collaborative workshop with TMTA to bring guest clinician Susan Ogilvy from Denton, Texas. Susan is a noted Yamaha clinician and a composer of solo and ensemble works for piano and keyboard. This two-day workshop will include an ensemble reading session as well as a hands-on session involving best practices in composing keyboard ensembles.

Officers of the UA chapter are:

- Jared Immerman, President
- Danielle Pfeiffer, Vice-President
- Tyler Ramos, Secretary
- Hangyu Bai, Treasurer
- Eleni-Persifoni Stavrianou, Public Relations

Respectfully submitted,
Dr. Lisa Zdechlik

**Arizona State University
MTNA Collegiate Chapter**

In November, the ASU Collegiate Chapter co-sponsored a visit by Dr. Michelle Wachter (NAU). Dr. Wachter taught a masterclass to ASU Music Prep students and gave a pedagogy presentation on Adult Teaching.

Hannah Creviston, Advisor,
Arizona State University MTNA Collegiate Chapter

**Northern Arizona University
MTNA Collegiate Chapter**

In November, NAU Collegiate Chapter members attended a presentation by Flagstaff-area teacher Diana Galindo on beginning technique. Galindo discussed the promotion of healthy technique in elementary students and demonstrated how she uses manipulatives in her Technique Toolboxes to teach this important musical element. Collegiate Chapter students were treated to a yummy lunch reception following the presentation.

The Fall ended with a December Holiday Recital given jointly by the Collegiate Chapter and the Northern Arizona Music Teachers Association. The recital featured several students of Collegiate Chapter members and provided a festive and celebratory ending to the semester.

Respectfully submitted,
Dr. Michelle Wachter, Advisor
Northern Arizona University
Collegiate Chapter of MTNA



**Independent Music Teacher Forum
(IMTF)**

Dr. Radmila Stojanovic-Kiriluk, Chair

Based on an initiative by Cassandra Weleck, our ASMTA president, we are proposing to connect experienced teachers with young collegiate chapter members in order to engage them and motivate them to become active and contributing members to their local association. This initiative is done in cooperation with local ASMTA chapter presidents and collegiate professors in their region.

On January 10, 2019, the local presidents received an email asking them to choose several "mentor" (experienced) teachers from their association that would be willing to communicate with the collegiate MTNA members and their college professors. This cooperation would be beneficial not only for young college students since they will become more involved but also for other members who can get some help for the events and potentially some new and fresh ideas.

Any teachers who have been active for some time and are interested to become mentor teachers, please contact your local president for further information.

Thank you all,

Dr. Radmila Stojanovic-Kiriluk
ASMTA IMTF Chair



Arizona Study Program



Arizona Study Program
Barbara Stoutenburgh, NCTM,
Chairman

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

1. Information about the **monetary awards for the James Anthony award** was included in the summer 2018 and the *Fall 2018 MusiGRAM* articles as submitted by the ASP Chairman. Basically the award will be based on available funds. For this year, any high school senior completing and passing Level 12 at a Category A is entitled to the James Anthony award. The monetary award will be \$35 for each different level completed with a special award of \$500 for completing all 12 levels at Category A. Any other information regarding the Anthony award is superseded by the Musigram announcements.

2. **TECHNIQUE VIDEO!** This long awaited video of all the technique for Levels 1 through 12 is available on YouTube. The technique video project has been completed! Members can access the YouTube link via the ASMTA website – asmta.org/Arizona Study Program, General Information page.

3. The deadline for enrolling students in ASP for the 2019 evaluations is February 15, 2019 (late fee will apply). Registrations received after that time will not be accepted. Review the ASMTA website – Arizona Study Program for additional information for each local association.

4. The deadline for submitting Student Program Forms to your local chairman is February 15 (TMTA is January 15 for Levels 9 – 12). Forms and information are available on the ASMTA website. Look for your local association in the Arizona Study Program pages.

5. ASP has two grant programs: Janice McCurnin Teacher Enrichment Grant Program and the Janice McCurnin Certification Grant Program both of which can provide monetary assistance to ASP teachers. The application deadline is March 1. See the ASMTA website/Arizona Study Program for information and application forms.

6. ASP Evaluations will begin in late April. Your chairman will be contacting you to volunteer. Please visit the website regarding volunteering information. ASP is a statewide program that only exists with the volunteer efforts of participating teachers. Thank you to all who participate

and support the Arizona Study Program.

ASP is entering its 61st year thanks to the volunteer efforts of its founders and supporting chairmen, committees, and especially the participating teachers and students!

Good luck to you and your students in the upcoming evaluations.

Barbara Stoutenburgh, NCTM
Chairman, Arizona Study Program

Comment from the Editor

If you are an ASMTA voice teacher and would like to see ASMTA, PMTA and EVMTA continue to collaborate to bring you a standardized course of voice study, similar to that of ASMTA's very popular *Arizona Study Program** which is geared for piano teachers, you will want to read carefully the following on "**Voice Syllabus**" and, hopefully, participate in it. Show your support and enthusiasm by signing up.

Susan "Suszy" Traylor, MusiGRAM Editor

*The Arizona Study Program is a 12-year graded course of study developed by ASMTA to provide for the development of musical Performance, Theory and Technique.

Voice Syllabus- April 13, 2019

The Phoenix Chapter of MTNA, in conjunction with East Valley MTA, invite all Arizona MTA members to enter voice students in Voice Syllabus.



What: Voice Master Class (one classical or musical theatre song) and Voice Syllabus Evaluation (Sight-Singing) ages 8-18

When: April 13, 2019 9:00-12:00 (Exact times TBA)

Where: LDS Meetinghouse 4242 E. Waltann Ln, Phoenix, 85032

Registration: Early March 2, 2019, \$20 – Final Registration Fee, April 1, 2019, \$25 (PayPal or check) [Registration Form](#) [Student/Parent Info](#)

See the "*Levels 1-5 Voice Syllabus: Musicianship and Performing*" guide: <https://www.asmta.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/03/Levels-1-5-Voice-Syllabus-1-by-Corinne-Walker.pdf>

Contact Contact Liz Owens or Corinne Walker for entrance forms, or a copy of the voice syllabus: Lizgowens@gmail.com; CorinneWalk4@gmail.com

Local Association News



Cochise Music Teachers Association
Francie Schofield
CMTA President

CMTA held the Stepping Stones Masterclass in strings and piano which took place on February 1st and 2nd and was directed by the doctorate students from the University of Arizona. The doctorate students included Eleni-Persa Stavianou, Danielle Pfeiffer, Yi-Quing Tang, and Tyler Ramos. A recital took place on February 2nd with the doctorate students performing. All funds raised by this free concert went towards events organized for the students.

Our Presenters for our November meeting were Francilia Schofield on the topic of the teaching the one handed pianist. Our presenter for January was Hope Struse on the Suzuki method. Also in February, Rosemary Hendrickson gave a presentation on on group lessons for kids and adults.

Forms were passed out for our March fundraising event Music-in-the-Mall.

As our numbers are dwindling at each meeting, talks are underway about having one weekend meeting a year to include teachers who are unable to get away during the work week.

Dates have been set for Live @ Kino Hall. Even though the numbers have been small, teachers feel it is still viable and are encouraged to keep this event going.



Eastern Arizona Music Teachers Association
Janice Holladay, NCTM
EAMTA President

Since we are from a small, rural area, our association is small but we strive to provide quality instruction and musical experiences for our students. We have several events planned for the next few months.

We will be partnering with Eastern Arizona College in bringing pianist John Milbauer to our area. He will present a concert and Master Class in which some of our students will participate. In late April our association will hold a joint recital where students will perform solo or ensemble pieces.

On the 26th and 27th of April, we will hold our annual ASP evaluations and are fortunate to have Eastern Arizona College donate their facility for this event.

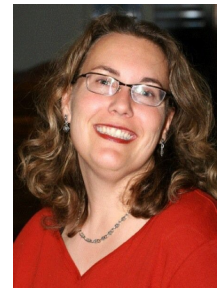
The first week of May, we will hold our Senior Scholarship Awards. To receive a Senior Scholar Award, a senior must perform a Level 9 or above piece from each time period, three of which must be memorized.

We will not hold events over the summer, but look forward to more events in the fall.

Janice Holladay, NCTM
EAMTA President



East Valley Music
Teachers Association
Debbie Safie, NCTM,
EVMTA President



EVMTA is having a wonderful year. In October the Music Showcase was held at Superstition Springs Mall in Mesa and a local coffee house. 150 students participated in this event co-chaired by Marcy Trupe and Marla Bradford. Our Fall Recital chaired by Marcia Havlovic had 3 performances and 46 students participate. The Composer Celebration Concerts chaired by Sherin Moustafa, NCTM had 96 students perform representing 24 teachers. On February 2nd, EVMTA held their 32nd Annual Ensemble concert at Gilbert High School. 183 students and 28 teachers participated in this event. Teachers, students and parents enjoyed the new venue. The ensemble was co-chaired by Becky Rogers and Solveig Englund. This was Becky's last year chairing this event. EVMTA appreciates all of her hard work and dedication she has provided to the piano ensemble and to EVMTA over the last several years.

The spring semester kicked off with a wonderful workshop with Dr. Gail Fischler, NCTM presenting on *Tools for Getting to the Music in Music*. She helped us explore paths to interpretive creativity for a variety of situations, levels, and types of learners to help each student go beyond the notes in their pieces. In February we are looking forward to a Master Class with Walter Cosand featuring advanced repertoire.

In March, Natalya Thran, NCTM is presenting a workshop focusing on *Working with 6 and 7-Year Old Students*. She will illustrate the fundamentals of Russian Piano School approach to teach young students, highlighting details in technique and artistry while demonstrating with some of her young students. April is our Annual Membership Meeting and Luncheon at Crackers & Co. Café.

(cont'd on p. 10)

(EVMTA cont'd. from p. 9)

EVMTA has some wonderful events to look forward to in the upcoming months. The EVMTA Piano Competition, chaired by Dr. Radmila Stojanovic-Kiriluk will be held at Arizona Piano on March 2nd with a Winners Recital the next day. The EVMTA Spring Recital, chaired by Amanda Sherrill will be on March 30th at My First Piano Recital Hall. The Jason Sipe Prize Piano Performers Competition, chaired by Yukari Lowrey will be at Arizona Piano on April 6th. Our Senior Recital and Awards presentation will be at Arizona Piano on April 12th chaired by Stephanie Jones. The Arizona Study Program evaluations will be at Arizona State University the weekend of May 10-11 co-chaired by Barbara Russell, Lara Holt and Debbie Saifi. So far we have 1,146 students registered for this year!

As a final note, I would like to congratulate Sherin Moustafa who recently received her National Certification!! Way to go Sherin!

Submitted by,
Debbie Saifi, NCTM,
EVMTA President



Northern Arizona Music Teachers Association
Dr. Michelle Wachter,
NAMTA President

It was a music-filled Fall for our Northern Arizona Music Teachers Association. August began with a fabulous presentation by Sue Shiner and Suszy Traylor on "Creating a Piano Ensemble for Your Association." Our members thoroughly enjoyed learning about the piano ensemble music and process, and several members have indicated interest in creating a Flagstaff Piano Ensemble event in subsequent years.

A Teacher Social in September provided a wonderful time for Flagstaff-area teachers to gather together as a music community and experience the comradery provided by MTNA membership. In October, NAMTA hosted a student recital followed by a general meeting. Students of NAMTA members also had the opportunity to participate in a NAMTA-sponsored masterclass in November with Patricia Kavanagh of the Royal Irish Academy of Music. Kavanagh brought rich insight to the pieces and effected great change in the students' performances.

The Fall ended with a Holiday Recital given jointly by the Northern Arizona University Collegiate Chapter of MTNA and NAMTA. The recital was well attended and pro-

vided a festive and celebratory ending to the semester.

Respectfully submitted,
Dr. Michelle Wachter, President,
Northern Arizona Music Teachers Association



Phoenix Music Teachers Association
Sarah Elliott,
PMTA President

This semester, PMTA will have three General Membership meetings that include topical presentations and master classes by special guests on the second Thursday of each month. PMTA also co-sponsored a Lecture-Recital on January 12th, 2019 by Dr. Garik Pederson on *The Victory Vertical Piano Project*, that detailed the amazing



story about the pianos that were built for the military during World War II.

In January, a Sharing Plus meeting entitled "Motivational Practice Tips and Resources" was held, using the new webinar format for this year, completely online but interactively. Another Sharing Plus webinar will be held in April. A Performance Plus meeting where teachers had the opportunity to perform for each other in a recital setting took place in February. The 67th annual PMTA Piano Ensemble Concert was held on Saturday, February 9th, 2019. Two student recitals, one adult student recital, and one vocal recital will occur this semester.

The Dean & Carolyn Elder Competition for piano students will take place on March 23rd-24th, 2019. We are deeply saddened to report the recent passing of Dean Elder, our beloved colleague, supporter, and long-time member of PMTA, ASMTA Honorary Life Member, and MTNA Fellow. His contributions to the music world were significant and will always be remembered.

Submitted by,
Sarah Elliott, PMTA President





Tucson Music Teachers Association

**Gloria Singleton,
TMTA President**

Greetings from Tucson:

Welcome to 2019 from TMTA. Our calendar is full and we are getting all set for a great year. As we finished out 2018, we had an online workshop/presentation with Dr. Helen Marlais, a new member/committee chairperson/collegiate chapter members luncheon, and our annual Holiday Luncheon that were all well attended. Our first general meeting went well with a presentation by Richard West of the Piano Technicians Guild, and performances by four recipients of our TMTA Pima Community College Scholarship.

Also for students this spring will be our Festival in the Mall program and Command Performance opportunities along with regular KUDOS Recitals and our Merit Scholarship program. Following a successful fund raising event at Barnes & Noble we began rehearsals for our biggest event of the year, the 66th Annual Ensemble Concert at Centennial Hall on March 9.

To keep this all going we have a wonderful TMTA Board, which is now filled completely with the addition of Dr. Ian Houghton as Member-at-Large.

Here in Tucson we look forward to a wonderful year making music and hope to see you all at the ASMTA Conference in June.

Blessings and Happy Teaching,
Gloria Singleton
TMTA President



Welcome New ASMTA Members

Rachel Green
Qiao Zhu
Dani Shraibman
Alexa Nadramia
David Kruse Coste

Vincent Hotz
Tonya Rae Hotz
Kristina Satuho
Michael Guida

To all of you members who recently joined ASMTA, I know the Board and all other ASMTA members join me in welcoming you to our association. We hope you find it to be a vibrant group of music teaching professionals sharing our passion for developing quality music education in our communities and beyond.

Many new members find it helpful to also join a local association where they can connect with other member teachers and become involved with more activities and events closer to them. Other new members, such as student members, may be sponsored by an existing member teacher who serves as a mentor who can also help the new member learn about ASMTA events and activities.

If you have any questions about what ASMTA can do for you or how you can help ASMTA by becoming more involved, please feel free to contact any of the ASMTA Leadership <https://www.asmta.org/about-us/leadership/>.

Submitted by,
Susan ‘Suszy’ Traylor,
MusiGRAM Editor
4th VP Website & Publications
info@asmta.org

Publication Deadlines

Spring 2019 MusiGRAM submissions.....June 10, 2019

Spring 2019 MusiGRAM Published.....June 15, 2019

- MTNA: www.mtna.org
- ASMTA: www.asmta.org
- CMTA: www.cochisemusicteachers.org
- EVMTA: www.evmta.org
- PMTA: www.phoenixmusicteachers.org
- TMTA: www.tucsonmusicteachers.org

2018 Arizona State Competitions Winners

Arizona Chamber Music String

Representative: Geminid Trio: Melissa Radke (Piano), Walter Robbins-Gennerich (Violin), Jacob Ginn (Cello),
Teacher: Timothy Kantor.

Arizona Chamber Music Wind

Winner: Seyon Quarte: Nathan Salazar (Alto Saxophone), Dylan Hong (Soprano Saxophone), Patrick Feher
(Tenor Saxophone), Kristen Zelenak (Baritone Saxophone). Teacher: Christopher Creviston.

Alternate: AKUMA: Mathew Fox (Soprano Saxophone), Tanner Bayles (Alto Saxophone), Bonson Lee (Tenor
Saxophone), Lewis McKerlie (Baritone Saxophone). Teacher: Christopher Creviston .

Honorable Mention: Fred Fox Graduate Wind Quintet: Ivo de Souza (Flute), Monserrat Campos (Oboe), Ann
Cotin (French Horn), Jacob Fernandez (Bassoon), Baiyu Li (Clarinet). Teacher: Jackie Glazier .

Arizona Junior Composition

Representative: Daria Nikolovski, student of Vanja Nikolovski

Arizona Junior Performance Piano

Winner: Angelin Zhang, student of Hong Zhu

Alternate: Rory Bricca, student of Ian Houghton

Honorable Mention: Rachel Gardner, student of Jelena Vladikovic

Arizona Junior Performance String

Winner: Jonathan Okseniuk (Violin), student of Jing Zeng

Alternate: Ethan Yang (Violin), student of Jing Zeng

Honorable Mention: Rachel Gardner (Violin), student of Simon James

Arizona Senior Composition

Representative: Suhas Vittal, student of Jody Rockmaker

Arizona Senior Performance Piano

Winner: Jessica Zhang, student of Fei Xu

Alternate: Alexander Tam, student of Snezana Krstic

Honorable Mention: Kyler Duncan, student of Karali Hunter

Arizona Senior Performance String

Winner: Leo Kubota (Cello), student of Tom Landschoot

Alternate: David Kawak (Violin), student of Susanne Rothaar

Honorable Mention: Alice Wu (Violin), student of Susanne Rothaar

Arizona Senior Piano Duet

Representative: Thalia Liu and Abby Liu, students of Yan Zhang

Arizona Young Artist Performance Piano

Representative: Jesse Ormand, student of Ian Houghton

Arizona Young Artist Performance String

Representative: Ryan Grieser (Viola), student of Susanne Rothaar/Jeffrey Irvine

Arizona Young Artist Performance Woodwind

Winner: Dylan Hong (Saxophone), student of Christopher Creviston

Alternate: Nathan Salazar (Saxophone), student of Christopher Creviston

Honorable Mention: Bonson Lee (Saxophone) and Chris Sacco (Saxophone), students of Christopher Creviston



Dean Elder



Dean Elder, B.A., M.A., ASMTA 2018 Honorary Life Member, pianist, teacher, writer, critic, and adjudicator passed away on Monday night, December 3, 2018. He was 98 years old. He was a great musician and an incredible person, very knowledgeable and at the same time very modest.



Dean had his early piano training with Franziska Heinrich. In his teen years, Elder won the Spokane Concerto Competition. Later, he studied with Walter Frey, Alfred Cortot, and Walter Gieseking in Europe at the Zurich, Paris, and Saarbrücken Conservatories. He was the Consulting Editor for *Clavier Magazine* and the author of *Pianist at Play*, a book of interviews with great pianists, master classes, and technical regimes. Dean had served on the juries of numerous competitions, including the 1997 Van Cliburn International Piano Competition.

In 1999 Dean and his wife Carolyn moved from Long Island, New York, where they were teaching for nearly 50 years, to Scottsdale, Arizona. Since then Dean has been involved in the musical life of the PMTA. He has served as a judge for PMTA competitions and ASP evaluations, given presentations at the general meetings, and made contributions to the Celebration of Music Competition for scholarship money (now known as the Dean and Carolyn Elder Competition).

Everyone who knew Dean was amazed how much he knew and he was always curious to hear new young musicians of all different levels. When he couldn't come to the competitions he was always asking to bring him programs from these competitions/festivals and he would always write a note to teachers to encourage and congratulate them.

Once, I brought 5 students who performed for him on Thanksgiving Day of 2017. He listened to them with great interest. On the next day he wrote in his email: "Is your pupil aware that this Rondo theme (Mozart's Rondo in D) comes at least in the Keys of D, b minor, a minor, A, G, d minor, F, and B flat? There may be more keys as I don't have the music in front of me". Later, my student and I checked the score and Dean was absolutely right, he had named all the keys!

I am very fortunate to have met Dean Elder and really enjoyed knowing such an incredible man. He will always be in my memory as "my friend beyond words, time, and distance."

Sincerely,

Tatyana Eldridge

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spring 2019 high school
graduates



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