



MusiGram

Arizona State Music Teachers Association
 Affiliated with the Music Teachers National Association

Fall
 2023

Radmila Stojanovic Kiriluk
 ASMTA President



I am honored and proud that I will be leading this wonderful association for the next two years. It has been a very busy start to the year as I learn all the details about our association’s workings. And I am very appreciative of all our past presidents and all the board members who put a lot of work and dedication into helping the association continue to be one of the most important hubs for music teachers in Arizona. I would especially like to thank Debbie Dinkle and Cassandra Weleck who have provided enormous help on a variety of matters. And I am very much looking forward to working with Tanya Eldridge, who has already done some great work behind the scenes.

In June, I was fortunate to see many familiar faces at the 93rd ASMTA wonderful and inspiring conference. Thank you, Jelena Vladikovic, for putting time and effort into completing this huge event. And, please, mark it in your calendar – the next conference will be in Flagstaff at Northern Arizona University on May 30 – June 1, 2024. The 2024 Conference theme will be “Teaching Artistry.” Our 3rd VP, Silvan Negrutiu is preparing not only fantastic conference program but also some wonderful weather.

On September 8-10, I attended the MTNA Leadership Summit in Cincinnati, Ohio. This was my first time attending this fantastic and informative event. All state presidents, division directors and the MTNA leaders and staff were present. It was a great pleasure meeting our MTNA president, Dr. Peter Mack and to also have some lovely discussions with Dr. Gary Ingle, the MTNA long-time executive director who will be retiring next summer. This was an opportunity not only to connect but also to exchange wonderful ideas, some of which might be good to utilize in our state. Our ASMTA membership chair and Southwest Division Director Elect, Cassandra Weleck, also attended the summit and represented Arizona by effectively leading some of the division's meetings.

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ASMTA Board of Directors

Officers 2022-2023

President	Dr. Radmila Stojanovic-Kiriluk, NCTM
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NAMTA (Northern Arizona)	Dr. Jennifer Russell
PMTA (Phoenix)	Snezana Krstic
TMTA (Tucson)	Patricia Scordato, NCTM

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Advertising	Dr. Tiantian Liang, NCTM
Archivist	Open
Arts Awareness	Astrid Morales Torres
Competitions – Composition	Devin Gardner
Competitions – Performance	Dr. Yali Luo
College Faculty Forum	Hannah Creviston, NCTM
Communications Coordinator	Nina Tahbaz
Honors Recital	Dr. Karali Hunter
Independent Music Teachers Forum (IMTF)	Peter Davis
Membership	Kassandra Weleck, NCTM
MTNA Foundation	Christy Porter
	Becky Rogers
Publications Editor	Dr. Steven DiBlasi, NCTM
Student Chapters	Hannah Creviston, NCTM
Technology	Nancy Keuper
Website	Susan Traylor

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President's Letter, Continued from page 1

I learned a lot about the benefits provided for our members including member discounts (anything from car rentals to purchasing music) as well as DEI (Diversity, Equity and Inclusion) and Studio Business resources. I encourage you to check the MTNA.org website for some great content.

At the same time as I became the ASMTA president, I was also hired as a Residential Faculty for the Piano and Piano Pedagogy Program at Mesa Community College. I am sure that this upcoming year will be a very busy one and I would ask for your patience if the emails are not returned to you right away since I am dealing with so many new exciting professional challenges. And I love them all!

I am looking forward to working with all of you and I am confident that through collective engagement we will continue our mission of enhancing the professionalism, personal growth and career development of our members. I cannot wait to hear all the wonderful ideas you have. Please stay in touch and feel free to email.

Sincerely,
Dr. Radmila Stojanovic Kiriluk
ASMTA President
asmtapresident@gmail.com



Tatyana Eldridge
ASMTA 1st Vice President

It's an honor for me to start working with this wonderful team as the 1st VP. I am still learning all of the responsibilities, but am very thankful to Debbie Dinkel, Cassandra Weleck and Michelle

Watcher for sharing with me very helpful information and some tips regarding the duties of the 1st VP as well as great support from Radmila Stojanovic Kiriluk. I am looking forward to working with each member of the team of ASMTA.

One of the first things I am planning to do is visit the events of some local associations as well as the fourth annual piano pedagogy day at ASU. The events scheduled are: PMTA presentation from Dr. Dian Baker and Professor Eckart Sellheim on October 12th; the annual pedagogy day at ASU is organized by Hannah Creviston on November 4th; and EVMTA Improvisation by Christopher Oill on November 16th.

Collecting annual yearbooks from each local association is still in process. And in the 2nd semester, I

Continued on page 3



Announcing! West Valley Chorale's Fifth Annual **Young Singers Competition**

Scholarships totaling up to \$2,000 will be awarded.

Winners will be invited to sing a solo with the Chorale in their winter concerts on December 5 & 7, 2023 or spring concerts on April 2 & 4, 2024.

High School Juniors and Seniors who reside in and attend high school in the Phoenix Metropolitan Area during the 2023-2024 school year are eligible.

Application submission deadline is Saturday, October 28!

For more information visit www.westvalleychoraleaz.org; click on Young Singers Competition.

1st VP, Continued from page 2

hope I will visit more exiting events and performances in other local associations as well as meeting the local association presidents and members.

Respectfully submitted,
Tatyana Eldridge
ASMTA 1st VP

Yali Luo

ASMTA 2nd Vice President

The 2023 MTNA Arizona State Competition has fifty entries in total – 49 for performance for competition and 1 for composition competition. The performance competition includes twenty-eight solo pianists, two piano duets, twelve string, six woodwind, and one brass performer. It will be held on Saturday, November 11th at the ASU School of Music in Tempe.

Thank you,
Dr. Yali Luo
ASMTA 2nd VP

Silvan Negrutiu

ASMTA 3rd Vice President

The 2024 ASMTA Annual Conference will take place in the Kitt School of Music at Northern Arizona University in Flagstaff on May 30 – June 1, 2024. The 2024 Conference theme will be “Teaching Artistry,” with a focus on all elements related to the art of music pedagogy and artistic performance practice; a call for session proposals (paper presentations, lecture-recitals, panels, and performances) will be tentatively publicized at the beginning of December, with a submission deadline in February or March.

The Conference artist will be Alon Goldstein, a pianist with an impressive performing and teaching career, former student of Leon Fleischer, who currently holds the position of Jack Strandberg/Missouri Endowed Chair in Piano at the UMKC Conservatory. For more details about the conference artist, please visit his website: www.alongoldstein.com. Goldstein will perform a recital the evening of Friday, May 31st, teach a masterclass, tentatively deliver a session on career development for young pianists, and can possibly be an adjudicator for the Honors Recital Auditions on June 1st.



The national representative to the Conference will be MTNA President Peter Mack, who will attend the conference on Thursday, May 30th, to deliver the keynote address at the beginning of the Conference and official remarks during the evening banquet.

State-of-the-art Kitt Recital Hall, along with a couple of larger classrooms, will serve as the Conference spaces. Every room includes one or two Steinway pianos and A/V equipment. The ASMTA Board meeting will take place the morning of Thursday, May 30th (likely at 10AM-12PM); the proposed venue for this meeting is a conference room in the NAU Union (across the street from KSOM), where catering can deliver a breakfast buffet. The ASMTA General Meeting will tentatively take place the morning of Saturday, June 1st, in Kitt Recital Hall.

Negotiations are ongoing with multiple hotels and venues to identify 1) a local hotel with easy access to campus that will provide the best rate for conference attendees, and 2) a venue for the banquet the evening of Thursday, May 30th. More updates will be shared with the Board as the 2024 Conference planning and details continue to unfold in the coming months.

Respectfully submitted,
Silvan Negrutiu, DMA
ASMTA 3rd VP

Astrid Morales Torres

ASMTA 4th Vice President

I hope you had a wonderful summer! I would like to invite you to visit our website and access the [DEI resources section](#). Our DEI Committee has been working relentlessly to make this important list of resources available to all of you. In the past months, I have contacted local associations and businesses to support our DEI initiative. If you know of anyone who would be interested in creating a potential partnership, please let me know. Some of our short-term goals include the creation of a special prize in our Honors Recital and hosting lectures on Diversity, Equity and Inclusion topics.

Tiantian Liang is our new Advertising Chair and she has been doing a wonderful job at contacting businesses. I would like to thank Fanya Lin for all her hard work during the past years and welcome Tiantian!

Have a wonderful academic year!

Respectfully submitted,



Astrid Morales Torres
ASMTA 4th VP

Melodie L. Acker
Certification Chair

In June, I had a session on MTNA Certification at the state conference. It was a power point presentation. Thanks to Jelena Vladikovic for her help with this. We were able to answer questions for teachers in attendance and hopefully some of them will pursue certification.

Congratulations to Karey Miles, NCTM who is our latest member to become nationally certified through MTNA! Karey completed the Five Teacher File Projects in August. Karey is a member of EVMTA. Karey and I plan to meet soon in person or via Zoom to discuss specific details about what she did to complete certification and how we can assist other teachers working toward certification.

Respectfully submitted,
Melodie L. Acker, NCTM
Certification Chair

Barbara Russell
Arizona Study Program Chair



Happy Fall! I hope your new semester is off to a wonderful start. The ASP Committee met on September 23, 2023 to review the past year and to prepare for the upcoming 2024 evaluations. We are committed to improving the evaluations each year to provide a positive, effective evaluation experience for each student and teacher.

In Spring 2023, we had 1,613 students enrolled for the Arizona Study Program evaluations. We welcomed 25 new teachers to the process and are encouraged as our enrollment numbers continue to increase each year.

As a reminder, enrolled student levels for Technic and Repertoire must match. There has been some discrepancy in the printed policy regarding this correlation. The ASP Committee is working to ensure this is consistent in all printed materials in the future.

The price of all ASP materials, including Theory Workbooks, has increased by \$5 per item, except for the previous tests and answers, which has increased by \$1 per set.

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Frankenstein	
OCT 13, 14, & 15, 2023	PHX
OCT 21 & 22, 2023	TUC
The Barber of Seville	
JAN 27 & 28, 2024	PHX
FEB 3 & 4, 2024	TUC
Roméo & Juliette	
MAR 2 & 3, 2024	PHX
MAR 9 & 10, 2024	TUC
Don Giovanni	
APR 20 & 21, 2024	PHX
APR 27 & 28, 2024	TUC

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ASP Chair, continued from page 4

We look forward to seeing your students at the ASP evaluations in 2024!

Respectfully Submitted,
Barbara Rusell, NCTM
ASP State Chair

Mandarin G Cheung-Yueh
ASMTA ABRSM Liaison



Despite another summer of scorching temperatures, I hope everyone managed to enjoy a much-needed break from teaching and that the new academic year has been going well so far.

While the special promotional discount on its digital Performance Grades exams ended on June 30, ABRSM will continue to provide informational and exam support workshops on Zoom throughout the teaching year on a variety of topics. All sessions are free and open to anyone interested, including parents and adult learners. ABRSM has something for teachers and learners of all instruments and vocal ranges, experience levels and musical interests, including jazz, ensembles, musical theater, and improvisation. Its exams accommodate learners of all abilities and special needs, whether they are conservatory-bound or requiring accommodation.

Register for one or more of the sessions below and a chance to win a door prize at the end of each session:

- Monday, Sept 18 at 9:30am – [ABRSM: an Overview & its Offerings](#)
- Wednesday, Oct 4 at 9:30am – [Exam Subjects & Syllabuses](#)
- Tuesday, Oct 17 at 9:30am – [Selecting & Preparing Exam Pieces from the Syllabuses](#)
- Monday, Nov 6 at 10:00am – [The Graded Exams & Performance Assessments for Hobbyists](#)
- Friday, Nov 17 at 10:00am – [The Diploma Exams](#)
- Friday, Dec 1 at 10:00am – [The Music Theory Exams](#)

You can also follow us on [ABRSM Southwestern USA](#) for the latest news and updates specific to our region. And as always, feel free to contact me at (480) 451-8003 or abrsms.azandco@gmail.com if you have any questions.

Here's to a year of happy learning and music making!

Sincerely,
Dr. Mandarin G Cheung-Yueh, NCTM
ABRSM Liaison

Isidora Jovanovic
Royal College of Music Liaison



Since I took on this position in July this year, a few initiatives have been made:

1. Ms. Laura Dunlap, local piano instructor who completed her piano education through RCM exams, has expressed interest to volunteer in some capacity for ASMTA and/or RCM. Her contact info is: (480) 242-7615 or ldazpianos@gmail.com
2. A zoom meeting with Peter Davis, Ph.D, Piano Pedagogy, University of Oklahoma Department Head, has been scheduled for Wednesday, September 20th. Our topics will be potential webinars in which we can discuss RCM, and other exam programs in Arizona.
3. I reached out to Ms. Joanna Kim, our contact at the RCM with the same initiative (webinars for ASMTA members), but have not received a response yet.
4. I received a few other inquiries regarding RCM and have responded adequately.

Sincerely,
Dr. Isidora Jovanovic
RCM Liaison

Debbie Dinkel
ASMTA Immediate Past President



Hello Everyone,

I hope your new school year is going well. I will be working with Becky Rogers and Christy Porter on the MTNA Foundation Fellow project once the board determines who our nominee will be for this next year. I look forward to pursuing this.

I will also be working on the ASMTA Honored Teacher of the Year Award. Looking forward to a wonderful year!

Sincerely,
Debbie Dinkel
ASMTA IPP

Kassandra Weleck

ASMTA Membership Chair



There are currently 317 members of ASMTA for the 2023-2024 membership year. A breakdown of some of the numbers include:

- | | |
|--------------------|-----------------------|
| EVMTA 120 | CMTA 11 |
| PMTA 109 | EAMTA 3 |
| TMTA 74 | NAMTA 13 |
| Active members 192 | Collegiate Chapters 3 |
| Senior members 105 | Local Associations 6 |
| Honorary members 4 | Collegiate members 18 |

One of the best ways we can ensure participation of teachers, students, and the community in events our association has is by helping remind members of the benefits they receive. MTNA gives us so many membership benefits, such as copying discounts at Office Max, liability insurance discounts through national providers, sheet music at a lower cost through SheetMusicPlus.com, etc. We also get amazing workshops and resources at the local level, performance and learning opportunities for our students, and the ability to gain leadership experience by serving in the organization. Please take the time to remind some of your favorite colleagues that haven't participated much recently of all these things you and they can do together as members. We want everyone to feel welcome to participate the way they'd like to participate!

I've also been working with Astrid Morales (4th VP) and others to compile the ASMTA DEI Resources page on our web site. It's still a work in progress and any input from others is appreciated. Please check it out at asmta.org/members/diversity-equity-inclusion-resources/.

Finally, I've been sending out emails to new members with information about ASMTA, our events, contacts for their local associations, and letting them know my availability to answer questions they may have. Since April 5th, the date MTNA starting membership renewals/starts for 2023-2024, we have had 31 new/reinstating members join.

Goals for Fall/Winter 2023:

- Disseminate membership survey from Spring 2023 to find ways to assist membership more
- Send follow-up emails to those that have joined to see if there are ways to help them
- Find other ways to get the community to look at ASMTA members for music education (e.g.

business cards in Halloween candy? Fliers at holiday events?)

- Continue to work with the DEI committee on adding resources for accessibility education
- Contact current members that aren't participating much to let them know about events and membership benefits

Respectfully submitted,
Kassandra Weleck, NCTM
Membership

Hannah Creviston

College Faculty Forum



We are excited to welcome Mr. Craig Sale as the new Interim Advisor for the University of Arizona Collegiate Chapter and Dr. Tiantian Liang as the new Advisor for the Northern Arizona University Collegiate Chapter. There are no reports at this time from these chapters as Mr. Sale and Dr. Liang understandably have lots of adjusting to handle.

The Arizona State University Collegiate Chapter has held two meetings so far this semester. We are in the process of finalizing our new executive board and setting our agenda of activities for the 2023-2024 academic year.

Respectfully submitted,
Hannah Creviston, NCTM
Collegiate Chair

Peter Davis

Independent Music Teachers
Forum Chair



I transitioned into this job in January of 2023, after the position had been vacant during the Fall of 2022.

I first sent a survey to determine the best time to meet for webinars. The time spot of Tuesdays at 10:00 a.m. was chosen, but it was also decided to archive the videos, because teachers want to access them asynchronously.

I then hosted two webinars in the Spring, and we began video-recording them and archiving them. Suszy has been working on creating the webpage to archive these. The webpage is in transition and nearly ready to

roll out. Suszy’s help and expertise is greatly appreciated.

There are two webinars scheduled for the fall. One happened already on September 12. It was led by “Let’s Play Music” with Shelle Soelberg and Symone Lund, and was very well received.

The next webinar is in October with Aaron Garner and Joel Shifflet of Piano Marvel.

Also, at the state conference in June I discussed IMTF ideas with my California and Nevada IMTF counterparts who were in attendance. The idea of sending out articles and teaching tips came out these discussions. I plan to send articles, and also shorter reads, entitled “Practical Pedagogy Pointers.”

Respectfully submitted,
Peter Davis
IMTF Chair

Devin Gardner
ASMTA Composition Competition Chair

The ASMTA Composition Competition had one entry in the Young Artist category for our 2023-2024 session and as such the individual will move forward to the Southwest Division Competition as a representative of Arizona. Placement emails will be sent out as soon as

the National Coordination has given the okay. Since there was one entry, no state judge was needed this year.

Sincerely,
Devin Gardner
ASMTA Composition Chair

Susan Traylor
ASMTA Website

Since my time as 4th VP, a position I stepped down from two years ago, I have not submitted a board report regarding the website. That’s because not much has changed these past two years other than adding functionality and maintaining resources i.e. ASP online enrollment, ASP technique videos, and adding new pages including:

- 1) Diversity, Equity and Inclusion
- 2) Independent Music Teachers Forum
- 3) Dennis Alexander Honors Recital

Some of my goals over the past 6 years I have administered the website were to get most, if not all, of the members comfortable logging into their Dashboard, obtaining the Membership Directory, using the Find-a-Teacher, and ASP technique videos and

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Website, Continued from page 8
online store, as well as using the online enrollment and registration features. I am just now starting to feel like most members have become comfortable using these features of the website.

As with anything that develops and grows in functionality, there is more work to maintain it i.e. updating content and the website member database. I find myself spending more and more time working on the website, even when Andrew Tamala, our website designer, still does the hard stuff (creating new pages and forms, security, updates, content that requires coding, troubleshooting, etc.). Cassandra Weleck, has helped with some of the content updates, too. (Thank you, Cassandra.)

Since I also serve as the ASP Technology Coordinator and PMTA Piano Ensemble Co-Chair (both for 10 years), the time has come that I need to anticipate stepping down from this position as ASMTA Website administrator. Before I do so, I would like to bring on with me at least one, hopefully two, assistants

who I will train (over the next year or so) to perform the duties of the ASMTA Website administrator.

ASMTA uses a customized WordPress website template, with several “plug-ins” for added features like registrations and online store. Is there someone in our membership who would be comfortable working with these things who would like the honor of sitting on the ASMTA board?

As always, it is my honor to be your ASMTA Website administrator.

Respectively submitted,
Susan ‘Suszy’ Traylor
ASMTA Website



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Rachel Alldredge, Maple Valley, WA

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Luanne Harms, Peachtree City, GA

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Christine Cho, Calgary, AB, Canada

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LOCAL ASSOCIATIONS



Rosemary Isbell-Hendrickson
President, CMTA



I must begin with sharing our very successful annual fundraiser held August 12th. It was a great night. We were packed and raised the most funds of any past year. Besides our own teachers, we had community talent and advanced students performing.

Our first CMTA meeting will be held on September 21st, and will be a day of planning for the year. So far we have on schedule:

- September – planning and review of State Conference topics.
- October presentation – TBD
- November – Business meeting and Francie Schofield annual Youth Competition Nov. 11th in the morning and Live! At Kino Hall November 11th in the evening
- December- Christmas luncheon/dinner with teacher performances – date and time TBA
- 2024 brings Stepping Stones and Inge Young competition
- Student Concerto Competition – first audition February 24th at Kino Hall
- April- Live! At Kino Hall, Francie Schofield Winners recital
- May- Arizona Study Program, Teacher Recital and potluck, new officers, finalizing of Senior recitals and scholarships.

Wishing you all a successful year!
Rosemary Isbell-Hendrickson, NCTM
CMTA President



Jessica Yam
President, EVMTA



Radmila Stojanovic-Kiriluk passed the EVMTA President torch to Jessica Yam. Jessica and Julie Follett, EVMTA treasurer, will both monitor the financials including Wells Fargo banking and Quickbooks.

Nadia Feeken took over as President-Elect, and Jessica reviewed her position logistics and running EVMTA's 2023-2024 workshops. Jessica organized this academic year's workshops and Nadia is working on the next year's. New this year is a members' only recital, a duo ensemble performance and masterclass by UA professors, and a new location for the 2024 luncheon with a welcoming meeting space, great fare, and service. Suggestions from a spring survey were heeded. Karali Hunter of Hammer & Strings Conservatory and Second Vice President will graciously provide her school for many workshops and EVMTA events again. Nadia and Jessica will work on ways to better reach out to members. The PMTA workshop and luncheon model, and auto-texting system, is admired and will be considered if possible in the future.

Kevin Feeken, Tech chair, along with Nadia have updated the EVMTA website dutifully and wonderfully. A new home page is up with a message from the President. Pam Crockett, Secretary, and Jess are working together on EVMTA bi-monthly newsletters as well as various correspondence.

Jessica led the EVMTA social to kick off the year, on August 17, 2023. Pauline Dana helped provide the venue at the Gilbert Church of Latter-Day Saints, free of charge. Many board members contributed. 40+ new and returning members attended. Radmila and Jessica focused on an emphasis of camaraderie, working together, and inclusivity.

Jessica worked with DeAnn Mortensen, Membership Chair, to encourage members to pay MTNA and local chapter dues before the end of the month. DeAnn has finished reaching out to those EVMTA members.

The first EVMTA board meeting occurred September 29, 2023. Jessica will continue to find ways to continuously improve events and collaborate with others.

Respectfully submitted,
Jessica J. Yam, DMA
EVMTA President

Jennifer Russell
President, NAMTA



This past Spring we held elections for new officers. The updated information is listed with ASMTA.

During this past May, many students of chapter members participated and placed in the Northern Arizona Piano Competition, held at NAU. Additionally, some students of chapter members participated in the Flagstaff Piano Festival, held in June at NAU.

We have a special performance day in Kitt Recital Hall at NAU toward the end of September, where chapter members could sign up for a specific time slot to hold a recital in the beautiful hall, performing on the Steinway 9-foot grands.

In October we have a special lecture-demonstration by Benita Rose called "Introducing: Composer Marcos Fernández-Barrero", in which we'll learn about his teaching pieces from beginner to concert repertoire.

In November we will have a recital and possibly a lecture, too.

In December we will have 1-2 recitals and a social event.

Sincerely,
Jennifer Russell
NAMTA President



Snezana Krstic
President, PMTA



The Phoenix Music Teacher Association has begun a new school year with many exciting events planned for students and teachers.

The first General meeting was held on September 17, and the presenter was our own Suszy Traylor with "10 Time-Saving Tech Tips and Tools for Your Studio: An Interactive Session". Our President-Elect, Dani Shraibman has planned five more general meetings and presentations.

In October, the presenters will be Dr. Dian Baker and Professor Eckart Sellheim, with the "Mendelssohn and Moscheles: Student and Teacher, Friends and Mutual Influences". In November we'll learn more about "The Business of Music: How to Successfully Manage a Music Conservatory" with Presenter: Dr. Karali Hunter

Our new Performance-Plus Co-Chairs, Camille Conforti and Rosmary Stelmack, have planned two meetings this year, the first one on November 2nd and the second on March 7th.

The Fall Festival and Competition Co-Chairs Tanya Eldridge and Christina Eide have scheduled the Fall Festival, a very popular event among our members, for October 28-29 at Glendale Community College.

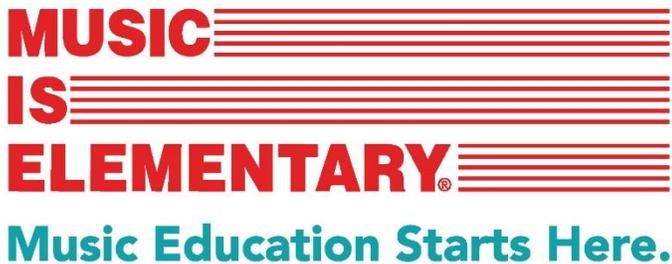
Jelena Vladikovic, Student Recital Chair, has planned four student recitals for this year, all at Grand Canyon University. Recitals will be held on October 7th, December 2nd, March 2nd and May 4th.

Sue Shiner and Suszy Traylor, Piano Ensemble Co-Chairs are preparing for the PMTA Piano Ensemble registration deadline on October 15, with rehearsals and performances planned for February 10, 2024.

Claire Gordon, Adult Recital Chairperson, has planned two recitals at her house on October 28, 2023 and March 9, 2024.

Music at the Mall Co-Chairs Jenny Su and Muriel Long have planned the event for December 2, 2023, at two locations, Arrowhead T.C. & Fashion Square Mall.

The Dean & Carolyn Elder Competition will be held May 11-12, and is organized by Co-Chairpersons Stuart Foster and Michele Cohen.



I am very excited to share that PMTA has a newly formed Fundraising Committee, who plan to organize the Fundraising event “Spring Celebration Concert” on April 20, 2024. We hope that this event will repeat yearly and become a new tradition for PMTA members.

Respectfully submitted by,
Snezana Krstic,
PMTA President



Patricia Scordato
President, TMTA

On August 18th, TMTA kicked off the year with a General Meeting followed by an Ensemble play-through. There was an impressive number of teachers in attendance. Teachers learned about the many upcoming social, educational and performance events planned for the year.



At our next meeting, on the evening of September 29th, we will have a social time with wine & appetizers followed by presentations about various examination boards. Representatives Dr. Mandarin Cheung-Yueh from ABRSM, Cassandra Welleck from RCM and Victoria MacDonald from ASP will present. Also, Cheryl Langley will talk to us about NFMC and the possibility of adding an annual Federation Festival in Tucson.

Last year’s inaugural Performance Festival, conducted in a masterclass format, was such a success, we are adding a third category and another adjudicator for this year’s event. Dr. Daniel Linder will return to work with the advanced category and Dr. Meily Mendez will work with the beginner and intermediate groups. Performance Festival will be held in Holsclaw Hall at UA on Saturday November 11, 2023.

TMTA has decided to move our Barnes & Noble fund raiser from January to December. Students will have the option of playing popular, jazz and holiday tunes in addition to their classical repertoire.

Fall and Spring KUDOS Recitals are scheduled in three different metropolitan areas of Tucson — Northwest, Eastside and Sahuarita.

We are bringing lauded pianist and celebrated author of “Debussy’s Paris”, Dr. Catherine Kautsky to Tucson. Dr. Kautsky is Chair of Keyboard at Lawrence University Conservatory of Music and will present “Debussy’s Piano Music: Postcards from Paris c. 1900” This will be a lecture-recital examining Debussy’s piano music in light of his relationships with poets and painters of the time and also looking at the music vis-à-vis issues of race, gender, colonialism, and nationalism in Paris fin de siècle. In addition to her presentation, Catherine will give a masterclass. This workshop will be held on Saturday, January 20, 2024, 11:00 AM to 5:00 PM at UA’s Fred Fox Music School.

Our 71st Piano Ensemble Concert date is March 16, 2024 at Centennial Hall. The theme this year is “Fun and Famous!”

Respectfully Submitted by
Patricia Scordato, NCTM
TMTA President

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