



Maryland State Music Teachers Association



Affiliated with Music Teachers National Association

www.msmta.org

A bi-monthly publication of the Maryland State Music Teachers Association

September 2016

From the President...



Dear Colleagues,

I have just returned from the annual MTNA Summit for Leadership in Cincinnati Ohio. The purpose of this Summit is to train State Presidents and Presidents-elect. Lori McCarthy and I roomed together again this year. This is our third summit and while parts of it were rather repetitive, other sessions were very interesting. They managed to condense the information on the FTC which was good,

because in past years it went on forever and after awhile most attendees became glassy-eyed. The session on Parliamentary procedure and the mechanics on how to run a meeting was interesting and useful. The meetings with states of similar membership size is always of interest, where Presidents can discuss problems and often get solutions from others in the group.

I reminded one and all that the next MTNA Conference will be in Baltimore and they all said they were looking forward to it. I said the inner Harbor is a beautiful spot and Maryland has so much history being one of the thirteen colonies. I hope they get to see a bit of our history—Fort McHenry if nothing else.

The MSMTA Composition Festival is at 3:00 pm on Sunday December 11, 2016 at UMBC. The Commissioning Composer Dr. Linda Dusman will be premiering her Piano Trio. It is wonderful to have the performance at UMBC since Dr. Dusman is the Chair of the Music Department.

Our annual MSMTA Conference is October 15. The agenda is exciting and I hope you can

attend many of the events. With the addition of the Breathing Workshop this year we have something for our Wind and Voice teachers as well as piano teachers since, we also breathe when we play, just differently.

The Master Classes are always interesting and I'm particularly looking forward to hearing Louis Nagel talk about Bach's French Suites as well as learning a few Baroque dance steps.

We can all enjoy a lovely dinner in the UMBC Faculty dining room. There will be a bus to transport us between the dining room and the Humanities and Fine Arts building. Following dinner the concert featuring Christian Claus—Clarinet, Sarah Hiller—Piano and Florian Stretch—Cello as well as winners from the Eastern Division Competition will be a real treat.

Looking forward to seeing you on October 15.

Sincerely,

Constance Fischel



Constance Fischel (MSMTA President), Ginger Hwalek (MTNA Eastern Division Director), Lori McCarthy (WMTA President)

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STUDENT ACTIVITIES

MSMTA COMPOSERS CIRCLE MSMTA/MTNA COMMISSIONED WORK

This year the MSMTA Composers Circle will be held in the Music Box of the Performing Arts Center at the Baltimore Campus of University of Maryland (UMBC) on Sunday, December 11, 2016 at 3:00 pm.

Each teacher is limited to entering two student compositions. (Sorry, no improvisations this year because of time constraints.) The concert offers students and teachers the opportunity to showcase their creative talents in their compositions and to hear a professional composition premiered. Please use the entry form in the Student Activities Handbook.

Teachers should encourage their students to finish and submit their compositions by the November 4 deadline. They will be printed in a Composers Circle Booklet which is given to each student and the participating teacher. All students will receive a certificate. A reminder: Students may not use CD's, recordings, etc. as part of their performance without permission of the chairs.

As part of the Composers Circle event, there will be a performance of an MSMTA/MTNA commissioned work by Dr. Linda Dusman, chair of the UMBC music department. Entitled "Dancing Universe," the work is written for piano trio and will be performed by Airi Yoshioka, violin, Gita Ladd, cello, and Li-Ly Chang, piano.

Bios of the composer and performing artists:

DR. LINDA DUSMAN—COMPOSER

Dr. Linda Dusman is Professor of Music and Chair of University of Maryland, Baltimore County Department of Music. Her compositions and sonic art explore the richness of contemporary life from the personal to the political. She has received many awards for her creative work from Maryland State and national and international associations such as the American Composers Forum and the International Alliance for Women in Music. Dr. Dusman has also been a composer/artist in residence at Virginia Center for the Creative Arts, the New England Conservatory's Summer Institute for Contemporary Piano and a Visiting Professor at the Conservatorio di musica "G. Nicolini" in Piacenza, Italy. In addition to her creative work, Dr. Dusman has extensive experience as a journal-editor and is the founding editor of two journals: I Resound Press, a digital press/archive for music by women composers, and the journal Women and Music: A Journal of Gender and Culture. Furthermore, she is a frequent contributor to the literature on contemporary music and performance; her articles have appeared in the journals Link, Perspectives of New Music, and Interface, as well as a number of anthologies.



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AIRI YOSHIOKA—VIOLIN

Hailed by the Gramophone Magazine as “brilliant and intrepid”, violinist Airi Yoshioka has concertized throughout the United States, Europe, Asia, and Canada as a recitalist, soloist and chamber musician. She is native of Japan but trained in the United States from the age of twelve. She holds a B.A. from Yale University and both an M.M. and DMA from The Juilliard School. She is currently Professor of Violin at the University of Maryland Baltimore County.



She is deeply committed to making chamber music and is the founding member of the Damocles Trio and Modigliani Quartet. She has also performed and recorded with the members of the Emerson, Brentano and Arditti Quartets. Her performing career is complemented by her work as an educational outreach artist for the New York Philharmonic and Lincoln Center Institute as well as teaching in New York City public schools. Her outreach work also involves performing in hospitals, hospices, and nursing homes.

GITA LADD—CELLO

“Superb cellist” and “...among Baltimore’s most popular musicians”, are but two of the accolades from the Baltimore Sun regarding the performances of Gita Ladd. During the last twenty years she has worked as a titled member of the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra and is currently Principal Cello with the Baltimore Opera Company, Concert Artists of Baltimore, and Post Classical Ensemble of Washington D.C. Ms. Ladd also has a long-standing commitment to the education of young musicians. In 2002 she was on the faculty of the Peabody Conservatory of Johns Hopkins University, and in 2006 she joined the UMBC faculty. Ms. Ladd has an active ‘cello studio, gives faculty recitals, performs with the contemporary music ensemble, “Ruckus”, and has served as Director of UMBC Chamber Players.



LI-LY CHANG—PIANO

Li-ly Chang, composer and pianist, was born in Taiwan to a family deeply rooted in traditional Chinese music and arts. She began her piano studies very early and was performing in schools and concert venues by the age of eight. She received her Bachelor’s Degree from National Taiwan University and her Master of Music in Piano & Composition from University of Texas. She also furthered her studies at the Peabody Conservatory of Music in piano, composition and chamber music. Ms. Chang studied with Sacha Gorodnitzki, Leon Fleisher, Sequeira Costa, Fernando Laires, Walter Hautzig and Jack Winerock. She has performed many solo recitals, chamber music concerts and been a soloist for concertos in the U.S, Europe and Asia to much acclaim. Her compositions have been performed at the Kennedy Center, U. S. State Department, Strathmore Mansion and WQXR in New York. She is also very active as a teacher, gives master classes and lecture-recitals, and is in high demand as an adjudicator. Ms. Chang has taught at Tunghai University, Theological Baptist Seminary and Catonsville Community College and is now on the faculty of Montgomery College in Rockville, MD.



Ann Matteson and Joanna Greenwood, Co-chairs

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IN MEMORIAM...

FERNANDO LAIRES

With great sadness we report the passing of Fernando Laires, teacher and friend of many Maryland State Music Teachers Association members, and past MSMTA Student Activities Chair. He died in Rochester, New York on September 9, 2016 at age 91. Mr. Laires leaves a rich musical legacy to his students and friends; his teacher tree places him only three musical generations away from Chopin and Liszt. He was a student of Isidor Philipp, who studied with Chopin's student Georges Mathias. Mr. Laires was also a student of Winfried Wolf, who studied with Liszt's student Emil von Sauer. In the spirit of Liszt's directive *Géne oblige!* (With genius comes obligation) Mr. Laires worked tirelessly to pass on the great traditions of these musical giants.

A native of Portugal, Mr. Laires graduated with highest honors in piano performance at the National Conservatory in Lisbon. He was winner of an award in London for his performance in cycle of the 32 Beethoven Sonatas at age 19, the youngest pianist who had ever accomplished this challenge.

Mr. Laires was a faculty member of the National Conservatory in Lisbon, the University of Texas at Austin, Peabody Conservatory, The Catholic University of America, Eastman School of Music, and he served as Chair of the Piano Faculty and as Artist in Residence at the Interlochen Arts Academy. He performed and presented master classes on five continents, including for twenty consecutive years as Permanent Guest Professor of Piano at the Shenyang Conservatory of Music in China. Mr. Laires was a jury member for many national and international piano competitions, including the Van Cliburn Competition, the Tchaikovsky Competition in Russia, and for many years, he served as Director of the University of Maryland International Competition and Festival (now called the William Kapell Competition and Festival).

Mr. Laires had a special interest in promoting Portuguese music. In 1982, he was decorated by the Portuguese government with the rank of Commander of the Order of Prince Henry the Navigator for his distinguished contributions to music.

As co-founder of the American Liszt Society, he helped to bring new understanding of this major composer's music. His wife, Nelita True, reminisced that he included Liszt on a recital program soon after he started teaching at the University of Texas. Some well-meaning colleagues took him aside after the recital and advised that he not program Liszt in the future since Liszt's music was not considered serious repertoire. This experience helped plant the seeds for his creation of the American Liszt Society.

It was appropriate that Mr. Laires was the subject of the first-ever interview in *Keyboard Companion* (now *Clavier Companion The Piano Magazine*). Attendees still recall his address to the 1992 National Conference on Piano Pedagogy; off-the-cuff, eloquent, and bold. He called on pedagogy teachers to examine traditions and trends in teaching and teacher training, and put forth the challenge to consider what must be retained and what should be redirected.

Mr. Laires was brilliant, elegant, and creative. He was steeped in the traditions of the Golden Age of Piano while also

forward-thinking. He is greatly missed by his wife Nelita True;

his daughters Suzanne, Barbara, Jennifer and their families; and his many former students, colleagues, and friends in Maryland and around the world.

To read recollections by Mr. Laires about his studies with Philipp and Wolf, some of his thoughts about the teaching profession, and part of his Pedagogy Conference keynote address, go to claviercompanion.com, Past Issues, News and Views, Volume 14, Number 3 (Autumn 2003).

A Memorial Concert in honor of Mr. Laires will be presented at Eastman School of Music on March 26, 2017 at 3 p.m. A Memorial Fund through the American Liszt Society is being prepared in his honor. Details will be announced in a future MSMTA newsletter.



Helen Smith Tarchalski

JACK THAMES. MSMTA president 1973 to 1977,

We are sorry to learn that Jack Thames, MSMTA president from 1973 to 1977, has recently passed away.

A native of Columbia, South Carolina, Jack began piano studies at age 12, and won a music scholarship for Furman University from which he graduated with a BA in music. After serving in the U.S. Navy, he attended the Peabody Conservatory of Music and graduated from Peabody with a Masters of Music degree in 1958.

He remained a Baltimore resident for the rest of his life, teaching in a variety of institutions including Peabody. He served as president of the Baltimore Music Teachers Association, the Baltimore Music Club, the Alumni Association at Peabody, in addition to MSMTA. Later in his life he received the Masters of Liberal Arts degree from Johns Hopkins University. Jack is survived by close cousins in Summerville, SC.



Richard Hartzell

LOCAL ASSOCIATIONS

Montgomery County Music Teachers Association



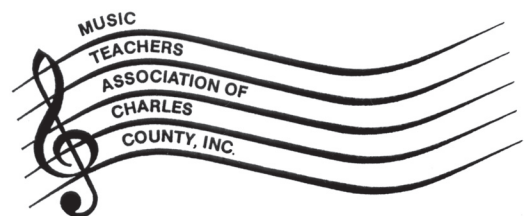
Teachers Association (at least as far as I am aware) we have a President Elect! Alice Ma and I met at her home over the summer and discussed how we will work together to move our goals forward over the coming year and beyond into her term as President.

Some of the goals we wanted to achieve over this past Summer look as if they will be goals for this coming year now; specifically a re-do of our website and a brochure or pamphlet of some sort that we can hand to visitors at our meetings and events. Electronic means of communication are great: we can update information quickly, there are far fewer outdated copies of forms floating around, and we can send out “mailings” that cost nothing in printing and postage. That is all good, but there is nothing that can replace a simple piece of paper placed in someone’s hand. Besides, for a newcomer, how else will they remember our url?

Under the topic of “student events” we are officially adding the Ensemble Festival to our roster. The Brewster Competition for Strings will next be held in the 2017-2018 program year. It was decided to leave our old Concerto Competition in our bylaws should the day come that it will rise again; that day being when our students are less pressed with so many activities and school work. One can hope!

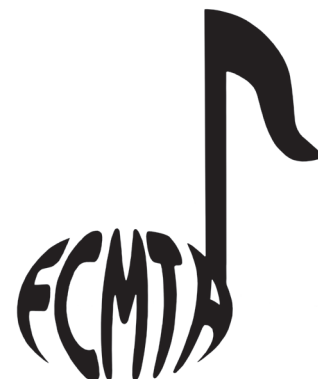
On a final note, our meeting place is changing as our host, Jordan Kitt’s Music in Rockville, is moving their store to a new location. Until the new store opens, we will be meeting at their temporary location at 11776 Parklawn Drive in Rockville.

Cynthia Cathcart, President



on Saturday, November 5, as well as our “Carols and Cookies” recitals, on December 3—a holiday tradition!

Frederick County Music Teachers have been busy planning activities for the upcoming year. We started off with our business meeting on September 13th, in which we welcomed new members, Christel Meyerle, Lindsey Reiker, Toni Serini and Ida Mary Smith. We are currently at a total of 32 members. We have many student events planned. In October, we are having our Halloween Recital. November, the Fall Adjudication Festival will be held. New this year are two Holiday performances at a local nursing home. In the Spring, we look forward to events like the Keyboard Musicianship Testing, Music Theory Testing and finally the 12th Sonatina Festival.



In addition to student events, we have many teacher learning opportunities planned as well. We have classes scheduled like “Piano Studio Business Practices,” which will be taught by Bobbie Rastall; Presentation on “Fingering” by Laurel Carroll; “Teaching Students with Special Needs” by Dr. Yhusuan Liao; “Uncovering the Secrets of Pedaling” by Bonnie Kellert and finally “Off the Beaten Path with Method Books” by Bobbie Rastall and Karen Skelly. We look forward to these educational opportunities.

A big thank you to all the chairpersons of these events who worked over the summer to make these events possible. Please check out our wonderful web site, maintained by Nick IntVeldt. You will find all the information about these events at this site. We look forward to a wonderful year of music.

Sheila Jones, President

Summer has come to an end, and here at MTACC we are jumping into another year full of exciting musical events! This fall, we are changing things up a bit by hosting, as our first student event of the season, a Pops Concert! This concert will be held on Saturday, October 15, at Christ Church in La Plata, at 1:00, 2:15, and 3:30. Judy Dalton is chairing this fun event, and we are all looking forward to giving students and teachers a chance to let their hair down a little! We will also be hosting our local MSMTA Keyboard Musicianship Testing Day

Krista Keysar, President

LOCAL ASSOCIATIONS

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Greater Laurel Music Teachers Association held its first meeting of the year on September 15, 2016, graciously hosted by Wendy

Dengler at her home and studio. Our new officers for the year are:

President	Yee-Ning Soong
Vice President	Edwina Hunter
Secretary	Jeffery Beaudry
Treasurer	Wendy Dengler

We all welcomed our new President Yee-Ning Soong, who did a great job with the meeting.

It was run very efficiently and left time for a program at the end organized by Douglas Guiles.

In attendance were Yee-Ning Soong, Edwina Hunter, Jeffery Beaudry, Douglas Guiles, Deborah White-Bondhus, Lisa Bussing, Shisa Suskey, Constance Fischel, David Holmes, and Jeannine Case.

The new schedule of events and dates was announced and is published on the new website. We want to thank Wendy Johnston, president emeritus, for her hard work establishing our very useful website. Any additions or deletions to the website will be facilitated by Deborah White-Bondhus, debbondhus@gmail.com

We have several new changes for the coming school year!

Our theme festival for this year will be "South of the Border" showcasing Spanish theme or Spanish composers for the younger students and more Latin America composers for older students. Yee-Ning Soong will be the new chair of our Theme Festival. Douglas Guiles came with music for all to look at for South American composers. Doug presented different music from Brazilian, Argentinian and Mexican composers. His handout will be helpful in finding music for the festival.

The Laurel Solo Competition Chair, Wendy Dengler, will add an "Evaluation" category. This idea is used successfully by other local music teacher organizations. This judged non-competitive recital will facilitate a positive attitude and students will be awarded Superiors on their evaluation and receive a pin/medal.

David Holmes will be working on an idea for teacher workshops for spring 2017.

Our meetings for 2016 – 2017 are:

- Jan 19 Thurs 9:30 at the studio of Wendy Dengler
- May 18 Thurs 9:30 at the home of Edwina Hunter.

***Deborah White-Bondhus, Newsletter Chair
for Yee-Ning Soong, President***

MTAB held its first general meeting of the season on Wednesday, September 14, at Belcroft Bible Church in Bowie,



and welcomed two new members, both former students of Jeannine Case: Brian Gorman received his Masters in Pedagogy from Catholic University in 2015 and gave a marvelous graduate recital in May of 2015, as a student of James Litzelman. Owen Adams received his Bachelor of Music degree in Composition from the University of Maryland in 2012. Both of these young men are actively teaching and we happily welcome them to our association! After the meeting, there was a member presentation featuring duet piano and vocal selections for our December 10 Ensemble Festival. This was followed by the introduction of composer-member Mary Parker's new "Mini-Concerto in D," and after that some Mirabella Competition Spanish music. Presenters included Kathy Hunt, Nadine Wobus, Barbara Lancaster, Jeannine Case, Barbara Kornreich, Elizabeth White and Mary Parker. After the program, 13 members treated Mary Parker to a special Birthday lunch at Rip's restaurant in Bowie. Our next general meeting will be held on November 16, and will feature a special panel presentation to be given by Brian Gorman, Owen Adams, and Elizabeth White, and moderated by Bonnie Pausic.

Some of MTAB's first student events of the season include our annual Halloween Musicales on Saturday, October 29, at Belcroft Bible Church, chaired by Janet Swaney, and our December 10 Ensemble Festival, chaired by Nadine Wobus and also held at Belcroft Bible Church. We will continue our special feature of presenting some teacher duets in each of these events, and at the conclusion of each of our Halloween recitals, we present an 'educational' portion, given by chair Janet Swaney. Participating students may dress in costume (but not required), will receive a snack at the end of the program and candy prizes for the correct answers in the 'educational' portion! Our annual holiday luncheon will take place at Outback Steakhouse in Bowie on Wednesday, December 14. For the first time ever, MTAB will have co-presidents – Jeannine Case and Barbara Lancaster. Barbara is our 'president-in-training.' Other officers are recording secretary Maxine Russell, Corresponding secretary Marie Fulginiti and Treasurer Bonnie Pausic.

We look forward to another year of music learning and performing by our students and teachers!

Jeannine Case, co-President

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Music Teachers' Association of Greater Baltimore

At this last June's Presentation and Potluck, we were fortunate to have Ken Johansen and Travis Hardaway from the Peabody Conservatory present Read Ahead, their new method books, as well as an app for iPad which enhances a student's level of sight reading by having notes, or half or whole measures already played, vanish at a chosen tempo as the student sight reads. They also introduced us to the free Teachers' Portal, which allows access to an entire studio. Levels 1-3 are now available through iTunes or Amazon. Be sure to check out these excellent materials!

At the meeting we also elected officers for the coming year. Thanks in advance to my colleagues who will be serving MTAGB in 2016-2017.

President, Wendy Balder, President Elect, Joanna Greenwood; Vice President for Publications, Barbara Stumpf; Treasurer, Allen Good; Membership, Patti Crossman; Historian, Yuka Stein; Recording Secretary, Shisa Suskey; Recitals, Masterclass, and Piano Parties, Ann McCandliss. Thank you to our hard working committee chairs Pat Graham and Joanna Greenwood.

On our upcoming Fall Program Meeting on September 17, Aliza Stewart held a Feldenkrais workshop from 5:30-7:30 at the Peabody Preparatory in Towson. dinner to follow. Teachers were encouraged to invite friends and adult students to join us for the workshop. The two hours were very well spent, lying on the floor and "examining the components of good movement", then standing and walking, utilizing what we had learned. We never got to the point where someone sat at the piano bench and further explored the new body awareness we had gained, but much was learned while lying on the floor! Backs and necks were reported as feeling much better as people then got up and walked lightly about the space, feeling grounded and relaxed! A light supper followed, where we processed what we had done. Many thanks to Ann McCandliss for organizing this event!

Other Teacher Events: Music Matinee, our monthly performing group, met at the home of Elaine Williams, with several of us performing music by Brahms and Dvorak, this year's featured composers. A highlight of this meeting was a performance by new members Patrick Lahan and Sarah York of the first movement of Brahms's Violin Sonata in G major. Following the musicale was a special smorgasbord luncheon, prepared by Elaine, who had just returned from a trip to Norway.

Wendy Balder, President

Anne Arundel Music Teachers Association



AAMTA closed the 2015-2016 school year by presenting and electing officers for 2016-2018:

- | | |
|--------------------------|------------------------|
| President | Helen Smith Tarchalski |
| Vice President | Katya Merchant |
| Recording Secretary | Christene Sanders |
| Corresponding Secretary | Sarah Crandall |
| Treasurer | Bill Bloomquist |
| Director | Adriana Schueckler |
| Director | Ellen Winner |
| Immediate Past President | Christene Sanders |

The Solo Festival took place in May, chaired by Christene Sanders, at Anne Arundel Community College. There were four recitals, including competitive divisions for Middle School and High School students. Students went to Truxtun Park in Annapolis for the annual Water Music Festival chaired by Ellen Winner. Thanks to Raymond Hobbs for providing his digital piano for the event. Students performed compositions with a water theme including repertoire from the standard literature, contemporary works, a vocal/piano arrangement of Loch Lomond, and some original student compositions.



Our first meeting of the year will be October 7 with guest, Dr. Anna Binneweg presenting Behind the Baton: What the conductor wants your students to know. She will discuss preparing students for collaborative playing and offer

ideas for effective teaching of colorful musical concepts. Dr. Binneweg serves as conductor of the Londontowne Symphony Orchestra and Anne Arundel Community College Symphony Orchestra, where she also serves as Assistant Professor of Music. Dr. Binneweg has performed with many orchestras throughout the U.S. and in Europe. She made her conducting debut at the Kennedy Center in 2005 and has served as cover conductor for the National Symphony Orchestra. The presentation will begin at 11 a.m. in Anne Arundel Community College Cade Building Room 224. All are welcome!

Helen Smith Tarchalski, President

LOCAL ASSOCIATIONS

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GREATER COLUMBIA MUSIC TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

Exciting news at Greater Columbia Music Teachers Association includes a new PDF embedder program for our website that allows pdf's to be viewed on mobile devices. Musically, our event year has shaped up nicely, with several outreach recitals to be held at Vantage House and other retirement facilities,



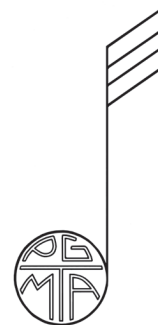
Anne Chen and Constance Fischel, both members of the Greater Columbia MTA, giving out certificates at the International Young Artists Piano Competition at Catholic University in June. Greater Columbia annually donates one of the monetary prizes at this competition.

our ever-popular Friends and Family event (which allows those close to our students with musical ability to perform together regardless of whether they take lessons or not with a member teacher), and Tweets and Twitters Festival, for which each student will write a "tweet" (short descriptive statement)

about their piece to be printed in the program. A flute competition and a flute master class, a piano competition and judged recital, and our MSMTA events round out the busy season ahead. We're excited!

Helen Weems, President

The Prince George's Music Teachers Association is looking forward to its Fall Meeting and Program which will take place on Thursday, September 29 in Fort Washington, MD. Following the Business Meeting, the Program will consist of a presentation of the Broad Creek Music Festival Test Piece List performed by Linda Head and her committee.



PGMTA members will participate, along with Greater Laurel Music Teachers Association and Music Teachers Association of Bowie, in the Stephanie Laios Composition/Improvisation Festival on Oct. 16. A Fall Student and Adult Recital is planned for Oct. 30. PGMTA will conclude its Fall Events by hosting the MSMTA Keyboard Musicianship Test at Prince George's Community College on Dec. 3.

Janet Swaney, President

ADVERTISEMENTS

MSMTA is now accepting advertisements in its newsletter. Space is limited to two pages total, so ads will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. Rates are:

	Member	Non-member
1/8 page	\$20.00	\$30.00
1/4 page	\$40.00	\$50.00
1/2 page	\$80.00	\$90.00
Full page	\$135.00	\$150.00

For more information, contact **Richard Hartzell** at:

rlhartzell@verizon.net

DEADLINE FOR NEXT NEWSLETTER

Please email all notices and copy for inclusion in the December 2016 MSMTA newsletter by **December 5, 2016**, to:

rlhartzell@verizon.net or mail to:

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