



Maryland State Music Teachers Association



Affiliated with Music Teachers National Association

www.msmta.org

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January 2017

From the President...



We enjoyed a wonderful Conference in October. UMBC is a lovely venue with its beautiful concert hall, the Black Box recital hall and the lecture rooms. The Breathing Workshop was well received and gave our wind teachers a good reason to register for the Conference this year. I feel it's important for all our musicians in MSMTA to feel included in this event. The Conference committee worked so very hard under the leadership of Chair Deborah White-Bondhus. I would like to thank committee members Richard Hartzell, David Holmes, Ann McCandliss and Junko Takahashi.

The Composers Circle Recital on December 11 at UMBC, featuring the performance of our Commissioning Composer Dr. Linda Dusman's Piano Trio as well as performances by our student composers, begins a very busy 6 months ending with the Gottlieb and Chase piano competitions on May 21 and that's not even mentioning the keyboard and theory tests and High School Piano exams.

Let us not forget that the MTNA Conference is in Baltimore in March and we will be welcoming teachers from all over the country. Let's look forward to a great turnout.

I wish you all a truly spectacular New Year.

Peace,

Constance Fischel

MSMTA CONFERENCE 2016 FROM BACH TO BACHUS

The 2016 Conference was held at the Performing Arts and Humanities Building of the University of Maryland, Baltimore Campus, on Saturday, October 15, 2016.

We had a fabulous line up of performers and events. Beginning the day with a master class by Louis B. Nagel and a Brass/Voice/Woodwind Workshop (Breathing) by David Fedderly. Nancy Bachus followed this with a showcase of her new music from Alfred. Immediately following this were two excellent programs. The teachers had a hard choice between the two programs. Audrey Andrist, of the University of Maryland Baltimore Campus, organized a recital of UMBC students. Occurring at the same time was a Multi-media presentation by Christian Claus—clarinet, Sarah Hiller—piano, Florian Stretch—cello. This multi-media concert experience, both musically and visually, reflected Frankfurt and the diversity and active life of the city. The music selections are based on the "film", the film on the music and brought in a tasteful, realistic, non-judgmental way corresponding together. In



Constance Fischel with Louis Nagel and Nancy Bachus

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MSMTA STATE CONFERENCE 2016 UMCP

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in addition to images and footage from the Municipal Archives Frankfurt, the Hindemith Institute, among others actual footage has been made into a film cross-section, which is shown in parallel with the live music on a canvas alongside the musicians.

In the afternoon, we were treated to a lecture/recital by Dr. Nagel on the Bach French Suites and a participatory introduction to Baroque Dance by Carol Hess of the UMBC Dance Department. We started the afternoon with a very informative study of the Bach b minor French Suite. After this, the conference

attendees learned basic techniques and steps from the French Noble Style of dance that flourished during the reign of Louis XIV and beyond. We saw how movement, music and floor patterns were notated. The teachers were able to experience how the steps of the Menuet, Gavotte, Bourree, and others can combine and vary with musical structures. Nancy Bachus completed the workshops with a very informative masterclass.

The culmination of the conference was the concert by Christian Claus - Clarinet, Sarah Hiller-Piano and Florian Stretch – Cello and MD Winners of Eastern division 2015.



Deborah White-Bondhus with Constance Fischel, Junko Takahashi and Lori McCarthy



Elaine Newhall, UMBC Student, David Fedderly David Holmes at breathing workshop.

I would like to thank UMBC for opening their facility to us and Audrey Andrist and Dr. Linda Dusman for their support. I would also like to recognize Willie Santiago from UMBC who orchestrated the day and made sure all ran smoothly. A special thanks to Jordan Kitts for our teacher awards and Music and Arts for being our vendor on site. Committee members, Junko Takahashi – Registration/ Master Classes, David Holmes and Richard Hartzell – Wind workshop, Ann McCandliss – Concert and Ads worked tirelessly to

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make the conference a success. I am indebted to them for their hard work before and during the conference. Our president Constance Fischel hosted a dinner on Friday night for Nancy Bachus and Dr. Nagel and arrived early to set up. Junko Takahashi and Annie Hou ran the registration desk all day. I would like to thank all who attended and benefited from this educational experience and encourage all MSMTA members to take advantage of our conferences.



Deborah White-Bondhus, Audrey Andrist and Junko Takahashi



Ann McCandliss and Dr. Nancy Roldan with Sarah Hiller and Florian Stretch

*Deborah White-Bondhus
MSMTA Conference Chair*



Concert by Christian Claus – Clarinet, Sarah Hiller – Piano and Florian Stretch – Cello



Dance workshop with Carol Hess

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CERTIFICATION

Why would any teacher consider becoming Nationally Certified? After all, we live in a state whose music teacher association is filled with highly qualified members. What's the use of one more credential?

The difference is that MTNA certification is specifically about teaching, not scholarship or performance (which is what most of us carry in our degree portfolios). When you become a Nationally Certified Teacher of Music, you are telling your students and your community that you are specifically a music teaching professional who takes their career seriously enough to go through the certification process.

I became certified in 2004 (beginning the process in 2003) because I wanted to increase the professionalism of my studio

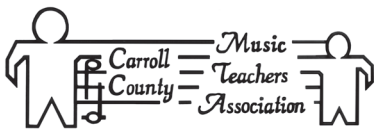
and do something nice for myself. What I found was that the process of doing pedagogy research and having my teaching observed was invigorating and exciting in a way I had not anticipated. I found it an excellent experience.

The certification process has changed a lot since then, in many ways it is more convenient now. I encourage you to email me your questions regarding becoming certified. Let's double our certified members (54 today!) in the next four years. It will benefit the entire organization.

Lastly, I congratulate Stephanie Bruning, newly certified on August 30, 2016.

*Helen R. Weems, MSMTA Certification Chair
weemspianostudio@gmail.com*

LOCAL ASSOCIATIONS



Carroll County Music Teachers Association is looking forward to another productive year. Under leadership

of President- Nancy Rodo, Vice-President- Kathy Kaneda, Treasurer- Carole Gauthier, and Secretary- Jeanine Webster, CCMTA continues to grow. Our first meeting was a sharing of Policies- What Works for You?, and we look forward to our November meeting with speaker, Dr. David Kreider. Two of our teachers attended MSMTA Conference at UMBC and thoroughly enjoyed the day as there were so many great pedagogy ideas shared. Our first performing event, CCMTA Costume Recital on Saturday, October 29th, was a huge success with 22 students participating from the studios of 6 teachers. CCMTA Costume Recital was held in Levine Hall at McDaniel College, who again provided their facilities as the venue for all events. Our next performance event is Music

in the Mall at Towne Mall in Westminster on December 3, 2016. Enjoy the picture of the wonderful students in their costumes for the "standing room only" performance.

Nancy Rodo, President

The Music Teachers Association of Southern Maryland has had a very busy and successful fall. Our year began with our Traditional Hymn Festival in September as students and family members celebrated our rich heritage of traditional hymns. October featured a very busy weekend with both our Keyboard Musicianship testing and our Day of Fall Recitals. Our special November event was a Contemporary Music Festival with students and teachers performing music of 20th and 21st century composers. The performers also created artwork, displayed to illustrate their pieces, which were woven into a story read by a guest storyteller as the pieces were performed. This unique event has become an annual tradition for MTASM. We look ahead to our Christmas Recital Marathon Day, which this year will consist of seven recitals with over 160 performers. The excitement and hard work continues into spring with an ensemble recital, adjudicated piano and voice festivals, theory testing, a spring recital day and ending with our honors recitals. We are very proud of our hardworking students and dedicated parents, who together with our creative teachers join to make a productive and exciting year of music making.



Debbie Smedley, president

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LOCAL ASSOCIATIONS

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Montgomery County Music Teachers Association



The Montgomery County chapter is feeling the excitement of the National Convention and Pedagogy Saturday being so close to home in 2017. To encourage our members to attend, and provide a little assistance that way, the board of directors at the suggestion of our President-Elect Alice Ma established 20 individual small grants to help off-set the cost of registration. All 20 grants were claimed; I hope this means at least 20 of us will be going to the conference!

Our Festival of Music this coming spring is “women composers.” This is proving to be a very successful topic. I think it’s also necessary. We might think the days are past of students believing all composers were and are men, but I fear not. Just this week I used the feminine pronoun to talk about a composer with one of my young students, when he stopped me to ask why I was saying “she” when talking about a man. “But I’m not talking about a man. A woman wrote this piece,” I responded. The look on his face was one of astonishment.

Our new Ensemble Festival is now in its second year, and continues to attract students. There is some talk now of moving it to the early Spring next program year so Montgomery County students can use it as preparation for the Maryland State competition. Fair warning to all!

Cynthia Cathcart, President

Music Teachers Association of Greater Baltimore

As the end of 2016 approaches, we can look back at a productive fall, with our second Halloween Mall Crawl piano party at the Steinway piano store in Hunt Valley, which was a success, and our Fall Student Recital in November at



CCBC at Essex, in its excellent auditorium. We look forward to our upcoming Holiday Extravaganza at Kenilworth Mall, an event in which our students perform Holiday and other music from opening to closing time. It is always a fun event for families.

MTAGB’s Matinee Music Group, our monthly teachers’ performance gathering, continues to add new members. In November we met at



the home of Ann McCandliss, and heard works by Bach, Brahms, Debussy, and Liszt. Our December meeting will welcome more new members and feature 4-hand works plus a movement by Lalo for piano and violin.

Wendy Balder, President

Hello from the FCMTA. During our October meeting (see first photo), Bobbie Rastall facilitated discussion on “Piano Studio Business Practices.” It was wonderful to hear about how other music teachers ran their businesses. Some teachers use Sign Up Genius for summer lessons; medical forms with emergency information; helpful websites and books; tuition monthly or by semester. We also discussed how to motivate students



to practice. Some teachers use rewards like M & M’s and pencils; others encourage students to set their phones to

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remind them to practice. It was great to hear new ideas that certainly will help in our business practices. November 15th, Laurel Carroll presented and facilitated discussion on "Fingering: What Works and What Doesn't." We discussed difficult passages from pieces such as Burgmuller's Arabesque, Bach's Prelude in F Major, The Polonaise in G Minor from Notebook for Anna Magdalena, Chopin's Waltz in A Minor.

We have had two student events. The first was the Halloween Recital on October 29th, chaired by Christine Pappas. Nick IntVeldt and I emceed the event dressed as characters from the movie "Up". (see second photo). There were over 40 students dressed in Halloween costumes performing "spooky" music. Everyone had a great time! The second student event was the Fall Adjudication Festival on November 12th, chaired by Laurel Carroll. There were over 20 students offering wonderful performances. (see photo of some of the students)



Finally, we are now preparing to bring the joy of music to a local nursing home, over the holiday season. Teachers and students will be performing. We wish you all a Happy Holiday Season!

Sheila Jones, president

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MTAB's second general meeting of the season was held on Wednesday, November 16, at Belcroft Bible Church in Bowie, presided at by Barbara Lancaster, co-President, and featured an interesting presentation given by five members: Elizabeth White (teaching Ensemble playing), Bonnie Pausic (teaching melodic Ear Training), Janet Ambrose (a new method for teaching very young students), Owen Adams (electronic programs for teaching composition), and Brian Gorman (his teaching experience for his Masters in Piano Pedagogy).



MTAB presented its annual Halloween Musicale on October 29, in three recitals of 60 students, most of whom dressed in costume, and represented the studios of eight teachers, including our newest members, Owen Adams and Brian Gorman. The event was chaired by Janet Swaney, and for the second year, featured more teacher duets, including a vocal duet. The 'educational portion' on the composer Rachmaninoff was presented by Janet, and she educated the students on the

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Greater Laurel Music Teachers Association had a busy fall starting with the composition festival in October, chaired by Ann Matteson and Jeffrey



Beaudry. Compositions from the studios of Ann Matteson and Deborah White-Bondhus were represented for the festival held at University Methodist Church in College Park, Md.



Composition students with Chairs Ann Matteson and Jeffrey Beaudry



instrument families of the orchestra, and what a symphony and a concerto were, as well as playing a well known Rachmaninoff melody. Our next annual event will be the December 10 Ensemble Festival, to be presented at Belcroft Bible Church in three recitals of 80 students, representing the studios of eleven

teachers. The music will include ensembles of piano, voice and violin. Chair Nadine Wobus is preparing lovely certificates which will be presented at the conclusion of each recital.

MTAB's annual holiday luncheon, chaired by Janet Ambrose, will be held on Wednesday, December 14, at Outback Steakhouse in Bowie. Activities in January include the January 4 board meeting and our Chamber Music Festival on January 21, chaired by Ray Hobbs and assisted by Sharon Winton.

The attached pictures are the students from the Halloween Musicale, and the 4th picture is of new member Brian Gorman, former student of Jeannine Case, and his student, Isis Reyes, dressed in a beautiful costume, made and brought here directly from Mexico.

Best wishes for a pleasant and peaceful holiday season!

Jeannine Case, co-President

The ever popular Halloween festival, chaired by Deborah White-Bondhus, was held the end of October. This year we had 120 students and five recitals, representing the studios of Douglas Guiles, Wendy Dengler, Ann Matteson, Constance Fischel, Lisa Bussing, Deborah White-Bondhus, Mei-Yu Lin, Yee-Ning Soong, Edwina Hunter and John Horst.



Teachers at Festival: Wendy Dengler, Mei-Yu Lin, Constance Fischel, Lisa Bussing, Deborah White-Bondhus, Ann Matteson, Edwina Hunter.

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Greater Laurel Music Teachers Association had a successful two weeks of Concerto Competitions and Concert. Our Chamber Music Orchestra always does an outstanding job of playing for the young pianists. This year it consisted of strings, flute, oboe and trumpet. The orchestra was conducted by Douglas Guiles and Carol Wolfe-Ralph.

There were 18 performers playing movements from Concerti by Mary Ann Parker, Joseph Haydn, Alexander Peskanov, Johann Samuel Schroeter, Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart and Dmitri Shostakovich. Despite having had recent surgery, Mr. Peskanov drove from Long Island to attend the rehearsal and concert – and a bonus was his wife Lu Ann who played flute in the ensemble. It is inspirational for the young artists to be performing the world premieres of his works – and also to receive his hands-on guidance at the rehearsals. This was the 12th concerto that he has written for us – each one always seems better than the last one – but, in reality, they are all unique, varied and greatly enjoyed by the students. His first concerto is published by Hal Leonard and his Spring Concerto by Alfred. But you can purchase any of the 12 concertos through Sheet Music Plus or Mr. Peskanov's own website. Mary Ann Parker is a MSMTA member and can be contacted directly for copies of her music. We have used two of her piano concertos for very young pianists – and will be adding her third one next year.

In the past we have commissioned works from a number of local composers – five by Betsy Jo Angebrannt, two by Matthew Edwards (both now published by Hal Leonard), one each by Kevin Hobbs and Michael McBride.

The general consensus among the perennial attendees was that this was one of the best group of performers in a number of years. Our capable judges selected by co-chair Jeannine Case were Ann McCandliss, Bonnie Kellert, Junko Takahashi and Hsiu-Hui Wang.



Teachers of winning students with Mr. Peskanov
Jeannine Case, Douglas Guiles, Mei-Yu Lin, Janice Puckett,
Wendy Dengler and Constance Fischel

*Deborah White-Bondhus, newsletter chair
For Yee-Ning Soong, 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 February 2017 MSMTA newsletter by **February 6, 2017**, to:

rlhartzell@verizon.net or mail to:

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