



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 2019

From the President...

I hope everyone had a wonderful summer and is rejuvenated to start teaching and participate in all of our MSMTA events!

It's been 4 years since I was in this position, and I am honored to serve as your president once again. We recently had our first board meeting of the year and I am grateful to our active and supportive board members, many of whom have been serving for a long time in various positions. They are all great people to work with! I am also delighted to welcome a young and enthusiastic member, Matthew Palumbo, to our board as a VP of Publication. Matthew was our Maryland State MTNA Young Artist winner in 2016 as a master's student at Peabody, and is now teaching piano both at a community school and Community College of Baltimore County. I know he will bring a fresh perspective to our board.



I also would like to thank our new event chairs for stepping in to take on huge tasks. The theory program will be chaired by Dmitri Nazarenko and Elena Eliseeva, and Edwina Hunter will be co-chairing our Keyboard Musicianship Test along with Laurel Carroll. They have already done a great amount of work during the summer, and I have every confidence that they will oversee successful events.

I am always willing to help our members in any way I can and am open to any suggestions you may have, so feel free to contact me anytime!

Inho Palahaste

NEWS FROM THE BOARD

Sixteen board members attended the meeting on Monday September 6, 2019. A few items were discussed which resulted in the following:

- The Keyboard Musicianship Committee led by Chair Laurel Carroll presented a concept for a new syllabus. It was approved by the board, and the committee will proceed to finalize the syllabus and present it to the membership in early 2020. The new syllabus will go in effect starting in the fall of 2020.
- An idea for a new "Musical Study Grant" was presented to assist students in need to continue their music lessons (pre-college students). The board approved two \$500 awards for students to be available this year. Once details of the application process are finalized, our membership will be notified.

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Maryland State Music Teachers Association



2019 Mini Conference

October 6, 2019

12:00–7:00

University of Maryland College Park, MD

MSMTA would like to thank the following Vendors for supporting the 2019 conference with advertisements and door prizes.

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Continued on page 3

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- 2) **Weinberg Center For The Arts**
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Frederick MD, 21701
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www.musicarts.com
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STUDENT ACTIVITIES

MSMTA THEORY EXAM

The Theory Committee would like to remind you that there are practice tests and answers on the MSMTA website, in the calendar section. You must log in, as it is only available to MSMTA members. Please also remember to use the 2018 Theory Syllabus, which is also available on the MSMTA website in 2 formats: separately by level, and all levels in one document. It is the same syllabus that we used for the 2019 tests with the following small changes:

The Keyboard Musicianship Committee led by Chair Laurel Carroll presented a concept for a new syllabus. It was approved by the board, and the committee will proceed to finalize the syllabus and present it to the members.

- Levels 9-11 will use music history questions from the articles that are printed in the syllabus
- Level 11 will have a music identification section included within the ear training portion of the exam. The list of works from which to identify are in the syllabus. There will be 5 questions which will bring 5 additional points to the total score of 110. Students will still need to get 90 points to qualify for the Distinguished Theory Award
- All levels (except Preparatory) will have a few questions from music history. For levels 1-7, these questions will be taken from the music history unit of the RCM *Celebrate Theory* books. For Levels 8-11 it is taken from the music history articles in the MSMTA Theory Syllabus.

If you have questions regarding any aspect of the MSMTA theory program, please look for a new document on the calendar page titled *Theory FAQ*. If you don't find answers to your questions there, I will be happy to answer them personally.

Dmitri Nazarenko,
MSMTA Theory Chair

KEYBOARD MUSICIANSHIP PROGRAM

The Keyboard Musicianship Committee is excited to announce that an updated syllabus will be available in early 2020, which has been passed by the State Board and we will begin using next September! The 2020 Syllabus will go up to Level 12, and will include a new module called "Lead Sheet Harmonization," in which students will sight-read a lead sheet and harmonize using a given style in the left hand. (The maximum number of modules a student can test in will remain at 6.) The sight-reading module will include a rhythm reading component. The Scales and Arpeggios modules will have a narrower range of keys for students to focus on for the testing, although it is expected teachers will of course teach the full range of keys. The Transposition module will have "official" required transposition pieces for each level. Teachers who want to use those pieces this year can go to the msmta.org website and look for them in the "Members Only" section. Many resources and helpful examples will be part of the new syllabus.

The only changes to the program for 2019-2020 are the fee increase to **\$15** per test, and doing away with the Transfer option. There will be 3 deadlines for ordering Award Trophies this year: **December 1**, **March 1**, and **May 1**. Orders should arrive within 3 weeks.

I want to thank each of the Local Chairs for all your work running your local program! I know they put in countless hours to make the program happen. I also want to thank our Syllabus Revision Committee: Joanna Greenwood and Ann McCandliss who got the process going. Current committee members are Joanna Greenwood, Junko Takahashi, Svetlana Volkova, Lori McCarthy, Edwina Hunter and Laurel Carroll. Special thanks also to Connie Fischel for shepherding the process as MSMTA President.

Laurel Carroll, Chair

35th International Young Artist Piano Competition

Age 5-30 | 6 groups | Solo competition

Cash award total \$10,000 | Certificate awarded

Apr/May 2020: Preliminary in CA, NY, MD and CD audition

June 25 -28, 2020: Final

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Continued on page 5

STUDENT ACTIVITIES

Continued from page 4

COMPOSERS CIRCLE

Attention! 2019 Composers! This is a reminder that The Composers Circle recital in December is a wonderful venue for composers of all ages to showcase their compositions in a supportive environment. Also, each teacher can enter their own composition and those of four students.

Deadline: **Monday, November 11th**

Date: **Sunday, December 15th, 2019 at 3:00 p.m.**

Location: **University United Methodist Church, 3621 Campus Drive, in College Park, Maryland**

Joanna Greenwood

HIGH SCHOOL EXAM

Please be advised of the following changes to the 2020 high school exam program.

1. All registrations are due on **February 1, 2020** both credit and recognition.
2. Credit applications must be postmarked no later than 2/1/2020.
3. Principles letter of permission must be sent by 2/1/2020 also.
4. No late entries will be accepted.
5. In order to make the registration of levels more consistent we will only have Intermediate or Advanced, no I or II.

Deborah White-Bondhus,
MSMTA High School Examination Chair



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December 1, 6 pm	Kennedy Center Millennium Stage
March 7, 3 pm	BlackRock center for the Arts
March 8, 3 pm	The Clarice
March 22, 7 pm	The Music Center at Strathmore
May 3, 8 pm	Igudesman & Joo with MCYO Philharmonic
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May 31, 2 & 7 pm	The Music Center at Strathmore

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PAUL LEWIS, piano



7:30pm

Saturday, October 26, 2019

Smith Theatre, Howard Community College

Haydn: Piano Sonata in E minor, Hob XVI: 34

Brahms: Three Intermezzi, op. 117

Beethoven: 33 Variations in C on a Waltz by Diabelli, op. 120

A rare and intimate opportunity to hear the legendary British pianist, who plays with "(a degree of) confidence, sureness, finesse, and musicality...where comparisons cease to matter."
(Gramophone)

BEHZOD ABDURAIMOV, piano

7:30 pm

Saturday, March 28, 2020

Linehan Concert Hall, UMBC

Chopin: 24 Preludes, op.28

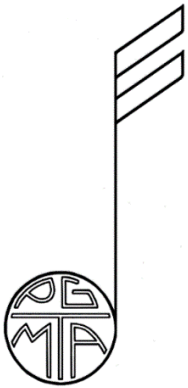
Debussy: Children's Corner

Mussorgsky: Pictures at an Exhibition



The triumphant return of one of the most electrifying artists in recent Candlelight memory! Uzbek pianist Behzod Abduraimov is back after his awe-inspiring 2016 CCS debut.

LOCAL ASSOCIATIONS



PGMTA will begin this school year by having our fall meeting at Ann Matteson's on October 3rd, 9:30 a.m., which will include a presentation of the Broad Creek Music Festival pieces and also a luncheon.

This fall, the Stephanie Laios Improvisation and Composition will take place at the University United Methodist Church on **October 13th, 3 p.m.** Additionally, in November,

the annual PGMTA Fall Recital will take place also at UUMC on **Sunday, November 3rd, 3 p.m.** Finally, in December, we anticipate our keyboard testing to be hosted on December 14th. More details of the location will be announced soon.

Dr. Harmony Yang
President, PGMTA

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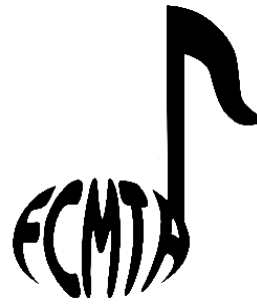
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Frederick County MTA is busy preparing for the 2019-2020 season. Members have been busy all summer planning for the upcoming year! After our initial planning meeting in September, we are looking forward to a class by FCMTA member Nancy Breth in October, "Goodbye Tears and

Tantrums: A Fresh Look at Practicing". I am sure we will learn very useful ideas to make practicing more fun for our students. In November, another member of FCMTA, Laurel Carroll, will be presenting "Non-Classical Music for the Older Student". She is going to share some ideas and available music to keep older students interested in and enjoying music lessons! These are just a couple of examples of learning opportunities for teachers we have planned for the year.

We have student events planned as well. These include the annual Halloween Recital scheduled for October 26th and an Ensemble Festival scheduled for November 16th. We also plan on a Holiday performance opportunity at a local nursing home in December.

I want to thank Christine Pappas and Laurel Carroll for setting up these events! We are all looking forward to a wonderful year of music! Stay Tuned 🎵

Sheila Jones
President, FCMTA

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Continued on page 7




Pictured: Front Row L-R: Yee Ning Soong, Mei-Yu Lin, Lisa Bussing, Janice Puckett, Wendy Dengler
Back Row: Constance Fischel, Douglas Guiles, Jeffery Beaudry, Edwina E. Hunter
Present but not pictured: Anne Chen, Shisa Suskey.

Remembering Lisa Bussing

“A Model of integrity and heights of the human spirit.” (D. Guiles)

Lisa Bussing, a valued and highly-respected member of the Greater Laurel Music Teachers Association and MSMTA, transitioned peacefully in her sleep on Thursday morning, September 12, 2019. Lisa had served GLMTA with great dedication, professionalism, and generosity for over 45 years. She worked diligently as GLMTA Keyboard Chair for over 20 years and established the popular, annual Henri Carol French Music competition over 30 years ago.

As evidence of her immense impact on her students and their families, present and former students and their families gathered at the home of a family of former students on August 17, 2019 to honor Lisa and her recent retirement. One of the parents verbalized the sentiments of all as she spoke movingly about how Mrs. Bussing had not only taught her students music and the importance of excellence in music, but, more importantly, she taught by example how to love.

We begin our year on a bittersweet note with our loss of Lisa Bussing. However, we are geared up for an exciting year of recitals and competitions to benefit the musical growth and development of our students. We kick off the year with the September 19 general meeting at the home of Wendy Dengler. Composer-pianist Li-Ly Chang will give a presentation on Music of Women Composers to

foster our readiness for our February theme festival of the same title.

October events include the Stephanie Laios Composition-Improvisation festival co-chaired by Ann Matteson and Jeffery Beaudry at University United Methodist Church on October 13. The Halloween recitals chaired by Deborah White-Bondhus are a much-anticipated perennial favorite and will be held on Saturday, October 26 at Laurel Presbyterian Church.

November brings the annual Orchestra Concerto Competition on November 2 and 3 at Laurel Presbyterian Church. This is followed by the Piano Concerto Competition on November 9. Both of these events are chaired by Douglas Guiles with the assistance of committee members Jeanine Case, Jan Puckett, and Wendy Dengler. The Honors

Concerto Concert featuring winners of the orchestra concerto competition performing with a chamber orchestra will be held on November 10 at Christian Community Presbyterian Church in Bowie. We end the year on December 7 with our Ensemble festival which fosters collaboration as students perform duets, duos, and trios.



Lisa Bussing and award-winning students in attendance at her retirement celebration on August 17, 2019.

Edwina E. Hunter
President, GLMTA

LOCAL ASSOCIATIONS

Continued from page 7

GREATER COLUMBIA MUSIC TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

For the past year, GCMTA has been holding each general meeting in a different studio, giving teachers the opportunity to get a glimpse of what makes each studio unique. Following our business meetings, we enjoy a presentation by the host teacher highlighting those things on which that teacher focuses with his/her students as well activities provided for their students that are perhaps different from those offered in other studios.

Saturday, November 16th, GCMTA will be pleased to welcome as clinician for our piano masterclass Joseph Savata. Dr. Savata maintains a large private studio and holds as well faculty positions at Harford Community College and St. James School.

*Jan Puckett
President, GCMTA*



The 2019-2020 Student Activities Packet is now up at the MCMTA website, after all the efforts that the MCMTA board spent on planning in summer.

Upcoming Events - The Judged Recital and the Elementary “Autumn Magic” Recital will be held in October to start off our calendar. In November, we will have the Intermediate/Advanced Recital. And in December, we will have the MSMTA (Montgomery County) Keyboard Musicianship Exam, the Judged Recital, and the Elementary ‘Let It Snow’ Recital. In February, we will have the Judged Recital, the Ensemble Recital (it will be a 2-day event this year), and the Festival of Music.

Speaker for September Membership Meeting – The very first Membership Meeting of this school year was held on September 3. Dr. David Abbott talked about *Issues in Performance Practice of 18/19th Century Keyboard Music: Expression through Articulation*.

‘Musical Camaraderie’ Group Meeting - *Musical Camaraderie* meets for open discussions. This is a group meeting for teachers to mingle, share thoughts for different topics, and provide feedback and support for each other at a teacher’s home. The very first meeting of this school year was held on September 6 at the home of the Mentoring Chair Bonnie Kellert.

*Alice Ma
President, MCMTA*

Continued on page 9



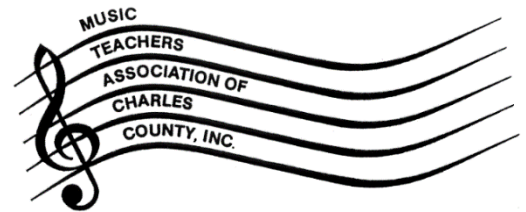
The Music Teachers Association of Southern Maryland began the academic year with our fall business meeting on Saturday, August 24th. We welcomed a new member, Alexia Luscher, a violin teacher. A new scholarship was instituted in honor of David Graham who passed away in November. He was the husband of long-time member, Barbara Graham. The scholarship of \$1000 will be awarded to a deserving senior and is given by the Travis family, a studio family of Mrs. Graham. After the meeting Donna C. White, NCTM, presented a creative workshop on contemporary music complete with prizes, games, and performances. Everyone came away with many good repertoire ideas for our upcoming contemporary recital in November.

Our first event of the fall will be our annual Hymn Festival on Sunday, September 29th, at Grace and Peace Presbyterian Church. The MSMTA Keyboard Testing will take place on October 19th with 55 registered students. Our fall recital day on November 9th will include a general recital, a contemporary recital, a pops recital and a composers circle. Then we will end 2019 with our marathon day of Christmas recitals on December 14th.

Patricia Blanchard
Interim President, MTASM

MTACC is very excited about a new school year filled with beautiful music! This fall we will hold our annual MSMTA Keyboard Testing Day in November, as well as some exciting opportunities for student performances. Our Fall General Recitals will be held on Saturday, October 26, and one of these will be a costumed "Musical Masquerade" recital. Our annual holiday/winter-themed recital, "Carols and Cookies," is scheduled for December 7.

Krista Keysar
President, MTACC



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 **Matthew Palumbo** at:

PalumboMatthew@yahoo.com

DEADLINE FOR NEXT NEWSLETTER

Please email all notices and copy for inclusion in the February 2020 MSMTA Newsletter by **Monday, February 3, 2020**, to:

PalumboMatthew@yahoo.com

The MSMTA Newsletter is published five times per year by the Maryland State Music Teachers Association, Inc.

Ann Matteson and Jane McIlvain Dennis,
Contributing editors

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