



FROM THE PRESIDENT ...



body—being a hand, foot, heart, lung, etc.

What's the difference between a member and an attender? The difference is commitment. Attenders are spectators from the sidelines; members get involved in the organization. Attenders are consumers; members are contributors. Attenders want the benefits of an association without sharing the responsibility. *Are we serious about our organization?*

Perhaps you have encountered an independent music educator, who, when asked to join MTNA said, “*well, I'm doing this for a few years.*” Or, “*I joined WMTA so my students could be in auditions.*” There are those who have reasons why they are NOT members of MTNA: “*I only instruct early childhood music education classes, therefore I can't use the auditions*”; “*not THAT organization--I thought it was only for piano teachers*”; and “*it costs too much—there's nothing in it for me*”.

In reality, the active annual membership to MTNA is not much higher than the annual emergency road service membership (and they didn't come and rescue me last summer when my tire blew out!). Membership in MTNA is first about being a member of your professional association. Just like other professionals, independent music teachers have the opportunity to augment their careers by becoming part of something bigger than them. The benefits of MTNA membership uniquely run through three levels – beginning with your local affiliation. At the local level you have the opportunity to work closely with colleagues who help shape each of us into the professional we are – by offering education program meetings, student performance opportunities, leadership potential and a local network of colleagues who are phone call /email away. This one-to-one

mentorship is invaluable to independent music teachers, who predominately work alone.

The national level of membership continues to offer these opportunities, as well as national certification, the national conference, the national competitions, the Music for Everyone programs (which you can order at no cost for materials), the Business Handbooks, and, all MTNA members have access to free legal consultation and 24/7 access to the Education “hotline” – where you can write or call in with questions about your business or pedagogical issues. Additionally, members can apply for Teacher Enrichment Grants and take advantage of the American Music Teacher magazine, with the latest information on products, services and research in the our field of music teaching.

Recently, I received some emails concerning a MTNA member from Georgia. For over 30 years, she had been quietly teaching in her home without any problems. No one complained about her music lessons or her students generating noise or traffic. It was the matter of an ‘in-home business’ that fueled the City Council. To this woman who had taught music to many of the city's children and plays piano at the community chapel, this was her livelihood. It took the strength of dedicated network of MTNA members to stand together and rally to her cause. This, by the way, is the second time in the past five years that an MTNA member has had to defend their livelihood.

Education is everyone's business. The biggest difference between people is their attitude. We have the power to change their attitude, by making a positive commitment to be active members of our organization. Please remember that the primary word in Music Teachers National Association that is indispensable is “Teachers”. We, the members of WMTA, can all pitch in to educate our colleagues as to the importance of membership. I believe the future of music is a worthwhile cause to defend, promote and educate our community!

Gail Heywood, President WMTA



2008 WMTA Calendar

- March 29-April 2 MTNA National Conference, Denver, Colorado
- May 10—WMTA Badger Non-Keyboard Competition, UW-Wood County
- May 17—WMTA Badger Collegiate Competition UW-Madison
- May 17—WMTA Badger Keyboard Competition
- June 6—WMTA Administrative Council/Executive Board meetings, Waunakee
 - June 6--WMTA Executive Committee meeting 11:00 a.m.
 - June 6--WMTA Administrative Council meeting 2:00 p.m.
- October 24-25--WMTA Annual Conference--Kalahari Resort & Conference Center, Wisconsin Dells!

Truth in Mailing

Labeling

The truth is...

There is a charge for all WMTA labels used in non-state business.

- Fees for members is \$50.00 for one set of labels
- Fees for non MTNA members if \$75.00 for one set of labels

Please include postage/handling of \$3.00

Labels may be ordered from the WMTA central office
1005 Quinn Drive Suite 158
Waunakee WI 53597

Phone: 608-850-3566 ext. 329

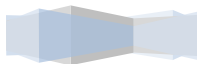
email: wmta@wmta.net

Or visit our website to download and mail in an order form:

<http://www.wmta.net/WMTALabelorderform.pdf>

Make checks payable to WMTA

Please allow 4-6 weeks for processing



WMTA FEBRUARY 2008 NEWSLETTER



Thank you for volunteering your time, energy and wisdom to serve as a member of the board for WMTA. You made an important contribution to the organization and to our community. The following outgoing board members have completed their term limits--

- Juanita Becker, NCTM—MTNA Certification Chair
- Myung Hee Chung--College Faculty Representative
- Cynthia Duszynski, NCTM—Video Librarian
- Marilyn Justus—District Auditions Chair

Successful management and operation of any organization requires a high level of cooperation between the board and our membership. The WMTA board is important because it oversees the policy and planning activities of our organization. It is an honor to serve on either the Administrative Council or Executive Board for WMTA. We are deeply indebted for your service to our organization.

WMTA welcomes the following newly appointed board members (eff. 10/27/07). You have two major tasks facing you as a board member. The first is to adhere to the WMTA Constitution and Bylaws. The second major task is equally important. Board members must become a part of the board team and keep it functioning at optimum level. ***It is also the responsibility of board members that they attend and actively participate at all board meetings.***

Welcome aboard--

- Gloria Chuang—Arts, Awareness & Advocacy Chair
- Gloria Gryns, NCTM—MTNA Foundation Chair

- Kayme Henkel, NCTM—1st VP Membership
- Louise Mann, NCTM—WMTA District Auditions Chair
- Cynthia Penker, NCTM—MTNA Certification Chair
- Sandra Ryan—Independent Music Teachers Forum chair
- Mary Tollefson, NCTM—WMTA Young Artist Chair

The WMTA Executive Board is presently seeking a member to serve as College Faculty Representative. Responsibilities of the College Faculty Rep are:

- 1) Work to increase involvement of college and university faculty in the Association and act as a liaison between these faculty members and the Executive Board and/or Administrative Council.
- 2) Serve as liaison between college and university faculty and independent music teachers.
- 3) Assist the Vice-President Membership in the recruitment of college faculty in MTNA/WMTA.
- 4) Community with MTNA College Faculty Chairperson as needed.

Candidates for this position must be an active member of MTNA/WMTA. This is an appointed position with a three year term limit. No member may serve in the same appointed position more than two (2) three year terms consecutively. All such terms of service will expire at the time of the state conference.¹

The Executive Board meets three (3) times annually (Feb., June & state conference). If you are interested in this position, please contact me.

Gail Heywood, President

FOOTNOTE

¹Source: WMTA Bylaws, Article III, Section 3, rev. 10/05



WWW.WMTA.NET NEWS!!

By Gail Heywood, webmaster

Greetings from cyberspace! If you have ever heard, *"I sent you an email, didn't you get it?"* then you may wonder what happened to that stray email.



Some email programs block items that they think are spam, or undesired email. A good way to prevent this is to add email addresses to your address book. Email that comes from an email address in your addresses book is normally considered "good."

WMTA and MTNA typically send out no more than one email per month to the membership. Be sure you have added wmta@wmta.net into your address book.

For Hotmail/MSN/Yahoo Users: Sometimes Hotmail/MSN/Yahoo will automatically throw our e-mail into member's junk folders. If you click "**Junk E-mail**" at the left side of your Hotmail page you should be able to find our e-mail. When you have opened your WMTA.net e-mail please click, "**This is not Junk**", which is towards the top of the page. If the e-mail is not in your junk folder then you have probably chosen the "**Delete junk mail immediately**" option. With this option turned on junk messages are deleted without ever being delivered to your Junk Mail Folder. You should disable the "**Immediate Deletion**" in your JMF. To check your JMF settings:

1. Click "**Options**" on the upper-right side of the page.
2. On the left side of the page, click "**Mail**" and then click "**Junk Mail Protection**."
3. Click "**Junk E-mail Filter**" link and "**Delete Junk E-mail**" to view your settings.

A related common comment is that *"I'm not receiving the newsletter by email"*. WMTA is unable to send our newsletter by email. Some of our members are incapable of receiving attachments and periodically the newsletter file is too large to transmit electronically. Many ISP's (Internet Service Providers) restrict the

size of email messages to 1.5 mb. Because of these reasons, our newsletters are placed on the website, typically within the month of publication (Feb., May, Aug. Dec.). They are formatted in Adobe which is freeware and most new computers already have Adobe Reader loaded in their program folder. Three years of newsletter issues *are always* available online—click on the "Newsletter" key on our home page to view the index of issues.

WMTA relies on email to communicate with members and colleagues. It is very important to make sure all of your contact information, including email address, is up to date. Email is a fast and easy means of communicating – and is accessible from anywhere. Email is also a means of contact that remains the same whether you move across the city or across the country. Take the time to update your information.

"Why am I getting SPAMMED—is it coming from the WMTA website?" There is no foolproof way to prevent SPAM. WMTA has taken measures to safeguard your information. For details about WMTA's Privacy Policy, please visit our website page: <http://www.wmta.net/WMTAPrivacy.htm>. Mailing list rentals do not include email addresses.

If you need to update information with WMTA, please contact our central office in Waunakee: 1-608-850-355 ext. 329. Valerie Amdahl, our office manager, handles all details of membership processing for WMTA. It's best not to give personal details in an email since most email messages do not go through a secure server. Confidential information is best handled by the telephone.

Effective, January 2008, MTNA members may also update their personal information through MTNA's website (click on "Update Member Profile" in the title bar). That way you can ensure MTNA also has correct membership information. This includes email addresses folks!

Those individuals wanting to be on the hard copy list for our newsletters are asked to contact the central office.

Happy

surfing!

WMTA Member to present at MTNA Conference

By DEANNA LEE
WMTA Newsletter Editor



Emily Robida, a member of the Fox Valley Keyboard Teachers Association, will present her poster project entitled, "Playing With Color" at the upcoming 2008 MTNA National Conference in Denver. She is pictured here at last year's conference in Toronto.

Anyone who has taught music to elementary students knows it takes creativity to get them to absorb some of the concepts. Emily Robida, a lecturer of music at the Lawrence Conservatory of Music in Appleton, will share her creative teaching techniques with a national audience at the MTNA Conference next month in Denver.

"I love showing others that sometimes a 'complicated' subject area (such as scale fingerings) can be broken down and taught in a fun, innovative, and easy way for the student to grasp," she said in an online interview recently.

Emily's MTNA poster presentation is titled "Playing with Color" and explains how teachers can use color as another approach in bringing out musicality in YOUNG pianists.

Emily has found the concept of color in musical performance reserved most often for advanced students who can easily play a phrase differently in a light blue or dark blue shade. But she believes that elementary students are just as capable of using color as another means to musicality.

"Elementary-level students are drawn to color and speak freely on this topic all the time! They will easily converse with you about their room color, backpack color, favorite new outfit colors, etc.," Emily said.

Emily uses a color-swatch book from a paint store with "imaginatively-named" colors. Students choose colors to represent elements of their piece like dynamics and tempo, writing the colors in the appropriate place on their method book, she said.

"For example, marking down 'baby cheek pink' by their piano dynamic will allow them to remember to play the piece gently and delicately," She said.

"Drawing red racecar streaks on the side of their piece will help them play in that Allegro tempo!"

Students find the overall energy level of their performance piece by seeking out a color palette which matches the title. They all have a wonderful time doing this, Emily said. (Continued on p. 6)



(Continued from p. 5)

Emily first started experimenting with her color idea in her group piano classes by having students go to the piano and play their piece in different 'shades.' Other students in the class would call out a color for them to represent next.

“They have no problems imitating deep, black colors as compared to soft yellows,” she said.

She was amazed at her students’ abilities to play their pieces differently using the complex concept of color, she said.

“I also saw how they absolutely loved flipping through the color book, finding shades of paint that matched their room color, etc. Everyone took turns playing their current pieces in the shade of their room.”

Emily said there are a million different ways that we teachers can think of to use a method book, but color easily helps elementary students play more musically.

“There is no reason why 'color' should be reserved for advanced pianists,” she said.

Emily received her undergraduate degree from the University of Wisconsin-Madison where she said Dr. Jessica Johnson sparked her initial love of teaching and inspired her to pursue it. She later earned a Master’s degree from Florida State University where she studied with internationally celebrated pedagogue Dr. Victoria McArthur.

This past year, Emily developed the Group Piano Program at the Lawrence

Academy. She now runs several group piano lessons, teaches about 45 private students ages 5 to adult and also works with Lawrence undergrads.

Emily’s trip to Denver marks her fifth national presentation with MTNA.

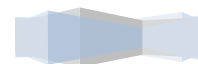
“I simply decided to submit a teaching idea I had several years back, and after being accepted, I realized I absolutely loved talking with other teachers about new and innovative pedagogy ideas. Ever since, I have presented one of my pedagogy ideas each year after. I love public speaking and presenting,” she said.

Ever since, with her ideas and experience, Emily has been showing national audiences of her peers how to make their teaching more effective.

“Learning to play piano never has to be complicated,” she said.

Emily is available to make any variety of her pedagogy presentations available to local association meetings, private studio group classes or college pedagogy classrooms. Emily’s presentations will provide a multitude of new ways for you and your students to engage in improvisation, scale fingerings, phrase shaping, etc.

For more information, email emily.s.robida@lawrence.edu.



MTNA Foundation Fund

by GLORIA GRYS, NCTM
MTNA Foundation Chair

Just what is the MTNA Foundation and what does it have to do with busy independent teachers? As your new MTNA Foundation Chair, I will explore the answers to these questions in upcoming newsletters.

Most of us know how valuable a charitable Foundation can be, by supporting and encouraging others. Perhaps you or your spouse are involved in a local scholarship fund, a church-related foundation, a non-profit group which builds homes, raises money for medical research, or any other worthy purpose.

The MTNA Foundation has a variety of purposes and goals, but they are all unique in that they support music students, teachers, and the future of music-making all over the United States. Established in 1989, the MTNA Foundation has given thousands of dollars in grants and awards to students, composers, teachers, performers, as well as state and local associations.

One especially meaningful and personal program is the naming of an "MTNA Foundation Fellow" by his/ her state association. This offers a method for us to honor deserving individuals while supporting the MTNA Foundation. WMTA has chosen Terry Weber, of Chilton, as its 2008 Foundation Fellow. WMTA donated a "kickoff" donation of \$1,000 in her honor, and she will be recognized at the MTNA Conference's Foundation Fund Gala in Denver. Additional donations may be added

before the Conference or at any time in the future. For more information, contact the MTNA Foundation at www.mtnafoundation.org or call 888-512-5278.

In future newsletters, I will explain other programs funded by the Foundation, and will offer ideas of how each of us can make a difference in the lives of others with our contributions.

I hope you will join me in considering this worthwhile program when you make your charitable gifts in the year ahead.

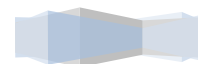
Keys to the Future

The UW-Milwaukee Piano Faculty is excited to announce "Keys to the Future," a Piano Careers workshop scheduled for Saturday April 5th, 2008.

The day-long workshop is open to piano teachers and their students and will feature presentations by the UWM Faculty as well as guest musicians from the Milwaukee area.

Included in the day's events will be a Master Class given by UWM Artist Pianist Judit Jaimes.

For registration information contact Jeffry Peterson at jeffry@uwm.edu.



Fox Valley News by ARLYSS TROGE

The Fox Valley Symphony Young Artist Festival was held on a cold January 19, 2008. Fox Valley Music Teachers Association sponsored the Junior Piano Concerto Competition, one event under an umbrella of three separate competitions for the day. We work together with the Fox Valley Symphony League. First and second place winners receive \$75 and \$50, respectively and an opportunity to play with their accompanist in the Winners' Recital – the Festival Finale. The *big* event is the competition for grades 10 – 12 to win a larger prize and a public performance with the Fox Valley Symphony.

The Junior Piano Concerto component was begun in 2002 to get younger students interested in this form of music. This year there were 11 students that entered from grades 6 – 7. The winners were:

1st Place - Antony Chen, grade 7, student of Joslyn Vandermause (Concerto in C Major – I Spiritoso by Franz Joseph Haydn)

2nd Place - Anna Crosby, grade 6, student of Larisa Topolkoraeva (Piano Concerto No. 23 in A Major – Adagio by W.A. Mozart)

Honorable Mention - Patrick DiPoto, grade 7, student of Barbara Froelich (Concerto in C – I Allegro by Howard Kasschau)

In the 8th and 9th grade division, there were 6 entries. Winners were:

1st Place - Donny Verkuillen, grade 8, student of Nina Elworth (Concerto for Two Pianos – I Allegro Deciso)

2nd Place - Rachel Ullrich, grade 9, student of Catherine Walby (Concerto in D Major – Vivace by Franz Joseph Haydn)

A clinic was given for all participants, parents, and teachers by Eli Kalman, Assistant professor, UW-Oshkosh, entitled “Between Accompanist and Performer.”

Any local associations interested in offering this venue for your students can feel free to contact Barbara Froelich or Catherine Walby, FVMTA members in charge of this event.

News from District Auditions by LOUISE MANN, NCTM WMTA State District Chair

A new Track is being proposed! This track, D2-NM, is for grades 7-12. It requires the student to play two **un-memorized** pieces. This will be discussed at the Board Meeting in February.

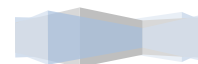
The tradition of memorization is being discussed today among pianists, amateur and professional. The most comprehensive discussion I've seen is in the Clavier magazine, November 2006.

Which brings me to the next thing – the District Chairs Google Group. I've excerpted portions of the Clavier article in my email concerning this topic. Please take a look at it or the magazine itself.

The District Chairs Google Group was set up to discuss topics of relevance to the District Auditions, as well as notify District Chairs of changes in theory tests, etc.

Only District Chairs can participate in the Google Group, but our discussions are viewable by everyone. If you have an issue or an opinion about something being discussed, please contact your local District Chair with this information. The District Chair can then post it on the group. Here's the web address to view our discussions: <http://groups.google.com/group/wmtadistrictchairs?hl=en>

I hope everyone has a smooth and well-run Auditions! Remember this can only happen if every teacher helps out – say “yes” when your District Chair calls you!



WMTA FEBRUARY 2008 NEWSLETTER

2008 District Audition Information

| District | Chair | Job | Site | Date | Deadline |
|------------------------|---|----------------------------------|---|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| Appleton | Catherine Walby | Chair | Lawrence University | March 29, 2008 | February 16, 2008 |
| Eau Claire | Sandra Statz | Chair | UW-Eau Claire | March 1, 2008 | February 2, 2008 |
| Kenosha | Joan Davies Dorie Petersen | Chair | UW-Parkside | March 8, 2008 | January 28, 2008 |
| La Crosse | Deanna Lee Rita Schumann | Chair | Viterbo University- La Crosse | March 29, 2008 | February 15, 2008 |
| Madison | Cynthia Bittar | Chair | UW-Madison | Sunday, 3/16/2008 | Postmark by 2/4/2008 |
| Merrill | Katie Livingston | Chair | Our Savior's Lutheran Church, Merrill | March 8, 2008 | February 2, 2008 |
| Oshkosh | Carmen Shaw | Chair | UW-Oshkosh | March 8, 2008 | January 26, 2008 |
| River Falls | Deanna Roen | Chair | UW-River Falls | March 15, 2008 | February 20, 2008 |
| Shawano-Green Bay | Barbara Erickson Gloria Grys | Chair | Shawano High School | March 1, 2008 | February 1, 2008 |
| Sheboygan | Beverly Mark | Chair | Lakeland College | March 1, 2008 | February 1, 2008 |
| Stevens Point | Mitchell Piano Works Mary Hofer Tom Yang | Paper Work Site Liaison | UW-Stevens Point | March 15, 2008 | February 9, 2008 |
| Superior | Roberta Grube | Chair | UW-Superior | Sunday, March 2, 2008 | February 2, 2008 |
| Waukesha/ Milwaukee | Michelle Pfeiffer | Chair | WI Lutheran College | March 8, 2008 | February 16, 2008 |
| Wausau | Erin Philleo Bette Close | Co-Chair Co-Chair | Wausau Conservatory of Music | March 1, 2008 | February 2, 2008 |
| West Bend | Charlene Reitz | Chair | UW-Washington Cty-West Bend | April 5, 2008 | March 1, 2008 |
| Whitewater | Mary Warnecke | Chair | UW-Whitewater | March 15, 2008 | February 8, 2008 |



WMTA Badger Keyboard Report, Winter 2008

by CATHERINE WALBY
WMTA Badger Keyboard Chair

Badger Keyboard auditions will take place on Saturday, May 17, 2008. The deadline for applications is Saturday, April 5 (please see the application form for exceptions). The late "in hands" deadline is Saturday, April 19. Applications RECEIVED after that date will not be accepted regardless of the situation. (Unless the USPS goes on strike or a natural disaster occurs!)

Our sites are as follows:

- Northeastern Region, UW-Oshkosh, Carmen Shaw-site chair
- Northwestern Region, UW-River Falls, Beth Ray-site chair
- Southern Region, UW-Milwaukee, Wendy Prostek-site chair

All duet entries, who would like to be competitive, will play at UW-Oshkosh. Contact me if you have questions about this.

As always, please provide any support that your site chair requests. As I look at past records of site chairs, I see the same names over and over again. I would like to encourage newer members to consider chairing or co-chairing in the future. If you are interested, contact me and I can be sure that you are put into a job that allows you to do some shadowing of this year's chairs.

You will receive the Badger entry form from your district chair on the day of your district auditions. Be proactive to ensure that you receive all correct and complete information that day. Please note that we once again have a separate form for Badger Non-keyboard entries.

Thank you and good luck to all of you in anticipation of district auditions.



Badger Non-Keyboard

The Badger Non-Keyboard Auditions will be held Saturday, May 10th at the UW-Marshfield campus. **Postmark deadline for all entries is April 5.** (Only West Bend District may have an April 7 postmark, and it MUST be no later than that!) **NO LATE ENTRIES WILL BE ACCEPTED.** Send all entries, with one check per teacher to:

Nancy Jane Burman
1304 Bass Lake Rd.
Hudson, WI 54016

Entry fees are \$20 per student. Eligible students must have received a minimum of 14 points on their district performance and 4 points on their theory test. You should receive the entry form, and your students' original entries from your District Chair the day of your district auditions. If you do not receive them, DO NOT WAIT – ask for them, so you can send them in ASAP.

Please do not use the internet application form. The paper form is much easier to read, and has all the information we need. Only paper applications will be accepted – no on-line applications. No time requests can be allowed, since we schedule according to the various instruments and number of entries. All teachers who enter students must be prepared to work the day of auditions, or have a substitute. We need everyone's help during the day. If there are any questions, please contact Nancy at 715/549-6712 or music_mommy@hotmail.com

Have a great District Audition, and I will look forward to seeing many of you in May in Marshfield.



The 2008 MTNA National Conference is fast approaching! .

This year's conference will feature all that you've come to expect from an MTNA Conference—and more. Among the highlights are nearly 100 educational sessions and industry

showcases, as well as evening concerts featuring pianist **Lang Lang** and collaborative pianist **Anne Epperson** along with her colleagues pianist **Robert Spillman**, mezzo-soprano **Margaret Lattimore**, flutist **Marianne Gedigian** and violinist **James Buswell**.

You will want to make sure to come early and take advantage of one of two pre-conference events. Pedagogy Saturday XII Making Music Together: Preparing Students for a Lifetime of Ensemble Experiences will feature internationally known mezzo-soprano **Marilyn Horne**, who will reflect on her career as a collaborative artist, in addition to giving a master class. Headliners **Brian Chung**, senior vice president and general manager of Kawai Corporation and **Scott Houston**, Public Television's "Piano Guy" will offer insight into the future of music teaching and the changing landscape of how teachers teach students during Collegiate Expo/Professional Studio Saturday: Build a Studio—Will They Come?

Additional offerings include the Technology Track, which once again will include lecture and lab sessions. This track is sponsored by the International Association of Electronic Keyboard Manufacturers.

The National Piano Foundation will sponsor a Recreational Music Making Track this year, as well as the popular Group Teaching Track during the conference.

This year's conference will offer attendees the opportunity to get their questions answered by a panel of music teaching experts, Ingrid Jacobson Clarfield, Randall Faber and Scott McBride Smith. This hour-long session will strictly be a question and answer time, allowing conference-goers time to ask whatever is on their minds. Submit your questions ahead of time to mtnanet@mtna.org with the subject line "Panel Questions" and be sure to attend this session scheduled for Tuesday, April 1, from 9:15–10:15 A.M.

In addition to registering, you will want to make your hotel reservations early, as there are only a limited amount of rooms available at Hyatt Regency Denver at the special MTNA Conference rate. Rooms are available on a first-come first-served basis until **February 26, 2008**, and can be reserved through the MTNA website or by calling the hotel at (303) 436-1234.

For a full schedule of events, hotel, tour, travel information and registration, visit www.mtna.org/conference.htm.





NATIONAL PIANO COMPETITION
AND MUSIC FESTIVAL

PIANOARTS 2008 NATIONAL PIANO COMPETITION AND MUSIC FESTIVAL

PianoArts will present its eighth National Piano Competition and Festival June 20 – 24, 2008. The panel of judges for the competition's semifinal and final rounds are distinguished concert pianists and renowned teachers – Victor Rosenbaum, Professor of Piano at the Mannes College of Music and the New England Conservatory of Music, where he served as Chair for more than ten years, and later served as Director and President of the Longy School of Music; Nelita True, Professor of Piano at Eastman School, respected master teacher and member of juries of international piano competitions; and Diane Walsh, Professor of Piano at the Mannes College of Music, the pianist who performed Beethoven's *Diabelli Variations* in *33 Variations*, a new play by Moises Kaufman that explores the variation's composition.

Opening the PianoArts Festival will be Michelle Naughton, 2006 First Place Winner and winner of Milwaukee Music Teachers Association's Wisconsin Contestant Award, on Friday, June 20 at 8:00 p.m. at Wisconsin Conservatory of Music, 1584 North Prospect Avenue, Milwaukee. Student tickets are \$10, adults \$15. Twelve semifinalists will perform violin/cello duos and the first movement of concertos on Sunday, June 22, 9:30 a.m. – 8:45 p.m. at the Conservatory. Solo recitals are on Monday, June 23, 9:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. at Charles Allis Museum,

1801 North Prospect Avenue, Milwaukee. All day passes are \$10. Students and teachers are also invited to audit a Concerto Master Class on Tuesday, June 24 at 2:00 p.m. in Schwan Hall of Wisconsin Lutheran College, 8815 West Wisconsin Avenue. Tickets are \$10.

The panel of judges will choose three finalists to perform a full concerto with the Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra under the baton of PianoArts Music Director Andrews Sill in the Final Round and Awards Concert on Tuesday, June 24 at 8:00 p.m. in Schwan Hall of Wisconsin Lutheran College. Student tickets are \$14; adults are \$21 and \$25.

To qualify for the June semifinals and finals, contestants must submit a preliminary DVD/VHS Video postmarked by March 15, 2008. Contestants must perform the first movement of a Mozart or Beethoven concerto from the PianoArts required repertory list with a second pianist performing the orchestral reduction, and a solo work of the contestant's choice.

PianoArts volunteers have active roles in the competition. Volunteers support and assist competitors and their families. They serve as Milwaukee's cultural ambassadors and run the day-to-day operations of the competition. For more information on the festival, competition and volunteer opportunities, visit the Web site: www.PianoArts.org, phone: 414-962-3055, or Email: Info@PianoArts.org.

TEACHER AWARD OF EXCELLENCE
June 2008

WMTA is very proud of the outstanding accomplishments of our members.

We want others to share in your achievements by recognizing you at this year's State Convention. The following teachers have earned their Teachers Award of Excellence this year:

Award of Excellence

*Lorelei Capell
Eau Claire

125-Point Award

150-Point Award

175-Point Award

50-Point Award

200-Point Award

225-Point Award

75-Point Award

*Elaine Phillips
Sheboygan Falls

300-Point Award

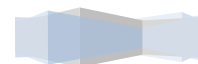
*Hildegard Petermann
Winneconne

325-Point Award

100-Point Award

Congratulations to all Teachers!

Sandra Statz



Grants available from WMTA Foundation Fund!

The WMTA Foundation annually allocates funds for grants to college students. Grants may be used for any musical activity NOT directly related to the earning of any academic degree. Such activities might include summer music camps, master classes, pedagogy workshops, state or national conventions.

Applicants must be enrolled as full-time music majors in an accredited Wisconsin college, university or conservatory. Applicants must be studying with, and be nominated by, a faculty member who is member of WMTA.

Applications should consist of the following three items:

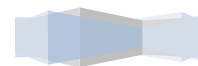
- A letter of application describing the activity for which funds will be used and the relationship between that activity and the applicant's education and career goals.
- A current curriculum vitae.
- Two letters of recommendation, including one from the nominating faculty member.

Application deadline is May 1st.

Grants are a maximum of \$200.00. Applications are to be sent to:

Gail A. Heywood
President, WMTA

PO Box 84
Rudolph, WI 54475-0084
email: heywood@tznet.com



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WMTA FEBRUARY 2008 NEWSLETTER

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The WMTA Newsletter is published four times a year. NEWSLETTER INFORMATION or questions should be directed to DEANNA LEE, 608-788-9726 or DeannaPianna@juno.com.

ADDRESS CHANGES should be reported to the CENTRAL OFFICE, phone: 608-850-3566 ext. 329 – wmta@wmta.net

*** NEXT NEWSLETTER DEADLINE: APRIL 15, 2008 ***

Wisconsin Music Teachers Association
1005 Quinn Drive Suite 158
Waunakee WI 53597

