

Michigan Music Teacher

PUBLICATION OF
THE MICHIGAN
MUSIC TEACHERS
ASSOCIATION

Affiliated with Music Teachers National Assn.

Vol. LIII No. 2

June 2006

President's Letter

During the MTNA Conference in Austin, Texas, March 25-26, the strong 'Michigan presence' was very exciting indeed. Among our natives presenting at the conference were **Adrienne Wiley, Joel Schoenhals, Nancy and Randall Faber, Helen Marlais, Garik Pedersen** and Catherine Rollin. Michigan students also did an outstanding job participating in the MTNA Student Competitions. **Lo-An Lin** (student of Yoshikazu Nagai) was the first prize winner in the Senior Piano Division. **Hwangbo E. Ryun** (Logan Skelton) placed third in the Young Artist Piano Division and **Matthew Croft** (Judith Wade) placed third in the Senior Composition Division. I would like to congratulate all teachers and students participating at the conference.

During the **MMTA Foundation Gala** the presidents of Louisiana and Mississippi MTAs, **Sue Steck-Turner** and **Joanna Burnside**, gave an emotional and moving account of many of the music teachers affected by the Katrina disaster, their struggle and slow return to teaching. Both Presidents thanked everybody for the phenomenal response and help received from so many local and state associations, businesses and corporations from all over the country. **Sue Steck-Turner**, Louisiana MTA President, personally asked me to convey her deep appreciation for the many boxes of music received from various chapters in Michigan.

A Michigan dinner was arranged on the Tuesday evening of the conference, and a sign announcing the dinner left on the bulletin board for two days, but no one signed up! However, thanks to a last minute chance encounter, Catherine Rollin, Maria Lonchyna-Lisowsky and I had a very pleasant dinner together.

These are a few highlights from the MTNA State Presidents Advisory Council.

- MTNA is looking forward to strengthening ties with other international music

NOTE

Information regarding submission of articles and ads may be found on page 2. Please send all copy to the editor by the due date.

organizations. In 2007 there will be a **Collaborative Conference in Toronto** in collaboration with the Canadian Federation of Music Teachers Association and the Royal Conservatory of Music.

- **Nancy Lee Harper**, President of the **European Piano Teachers Association**, extended an invitation to MTNA members to attend the EPTA conference to be hosted by Portugal during July 26-30 on the island of Madera. Both MTNA and EPTA are looking forward to closer collaboration in the near future.
 - A Piano Duet/Duo category has been created as part of the MTNA competitions.
 - Fisher-Price Toy Company will produce a keyboard
- CONTINUED ON P. 3**

ANNUAL DUES

Deadline July 1, 2006.

Members paying after that date will not be included in the state directory. All members must enter specified teaching area in the specified teaching box sent by the national association. Your cooperation in updating this information is paramount. Thank you.

Cheryl Cameron
Membership Chair

MICHIGAN MUSIC TEACHER

Official Publication of
MICHIGAN MUSIC TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

Affiliated with
MUSIC TEACHERS NATIONAL ASSOCIATION

Christopher Carlon, Editor, 2218 Stellar, Ann Arbor, MI 48105 (734) 480-3912

Submit materials to: MMTAnewsletter@aol.com

MMTA Web Site: www.mi-mtna.org

PRESIDENT

Gerardo Ascheri
2220 Groesbeck
Lansing, MI 48912-3449
517-485-1363

VICE PRESIDENT

Isabelle Tulk
4755 Ravinewood Drive
Commerce Township, MI 48382
248-685-2613

SECRETARY

Elizabeth Baxter
28143 Golf Pointe Blvd.
Farmington Hills, MI 48331
248-553-7360

TREASURER

Mildred Muller
1835 Pine Bluff SE
Grand Rapids, MI 49508
616-455-1537

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT

Marilyn Sluka
16791 Fitzgerald
Livonia, MI 48154
734-464-7382

CERTIFICATION CHAIR

Michelle Mitchum
900 Jennings
Petoskey, MI 49770
231-347-4747

MEMBERSHIP CHAIR

Cheryl Cameron
5541 State Road
Fort Gratiot, MI 48059
810-385-9888

LOCAL ASSOCIATIONS

COORDINATOR
TBA

STUDENT CHAPTERS

COORDINATOR
Jill Kloosterman
6861 88th Avenue
Zeeland, MI 49464
616-875-7538

TEACHER EDUCATION CHAIR

Sara Carriere
3911 Edmondton Ct.
Ann Arbor, MI 48103
734-665-3322

AWARD CHAIR

Deborah Long
4799 Fountain Square
Kalamazoo, MI 49009
616-372-8336

PARLIAMENTARIAN

Christie Otter
14735 Richfield
Livonia, MI 48154
734-464-3319

SAT COORDINATOR

Barbara Collins
4430 West Water
Port Huron, MI 48060
810-982-4133

PIANO HANDBOOK CHAIR

Isabelle Tulk (See Vice President)

TECHNOLOGY CHAIR

Diana Spitalne Miller
208 Burnside Street
Caro, MI 48723
989-673-4355

SAT AUDITION CHAIR

Penny Draper
513 Woodland Drive
East Lansing, MI 48823
517-351-4632

MTNA COMPETITIONS CHAIR

Sheryl Iott Richardson
6421 Bryone Road
Zeeland, MI 49464
517-432-1227

CERTIFICATION EXECUTIVE

CHAIR
Sally Lewis
9766 Londolyn Bluff
Traverse City, MI 49686
231-941-8938

SAT String Chair

TBA

SAT VOICE CHAIR

Julia Ellis
2045 Sheldrake Ave.
Okemos, MI 48864
517-349-9186

SAT WOODWIND CHAIR

Ann Decker-Beck
12480 Glasgow Dr
Romeo, MI 48065
586-752-0824

HISTORIAN

Jean Hull
2405 Hampshire Road
Lansing, MI 48911
517-482-9735

MTNA COLLEGIATE

COMPETITION CHAIR
Gerardo Asheri (See President)
MTNA HIGH SCHOOL
COMPETITION CHAIR
Sheryl Iott Richardson
(See MTNA competitions chair)

MTNA JUNIOR HIGH

COMPETITION CHAIR
Pauline Martin
5876 Tabor Drive
Bloomfield Hills, MI 48322

MTNA COMPOSITION CHAIR

Christine Smith
1743 Glenmore
Redford, MI 48240
313-537-3603

CONCERTO COMPETITION

CHAIR
Deborah Moriarty
School of Music MSU
East Lansing, MI 48824
517-353-9121

NON-COMPETITIVE

ACTIVITIES
Kelly Yoakam
120 West Sycamore Street
Mason, MI 48854
517-244-9433

MTNA FOUNDATION CHAIR

George Widiger
116 Harrison
Midland, MI 48640
989-631-6888

IMTM CHAIR

Thea Hoekman
216 Southwoods
Fremont, MI 49414
231-924-1504

COMMISSIONED COMPOSER

CHAIR
Adrienne Wiley
4007 Washington St.
Midland, MI 48642

TO ALL MEMBERS

You will receive **one** more issue of MMT by mail. Starting December 2006, members who have e-mail addresses will receive MMT via e-mail. Members that do not have an e-mail address will receive their MMT standard mail.

ADVERTISING FEES

Full Page \$140.00

2/3 Page \$120.00

1/2 Page \$95.00

1/4 Page \$70.00

Less than
1/4 Page \$60.00

Submit Ads to the MMT editor with a check payable to MMTA.

DEADLINE

FOR THE

SEPTEMBER MMT

IS JULY 15

All materials must be received by the due date.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS OR E-MAIL

Send to

Cheryl Cameron, Membership Chair: cheryl@cheryls-music-studio.com

~ or mail to: ~

Cheryl Cameron, 5514 State Road, Fort Gratiot, MI 48059, (810) 385-9888

President's letter continued

Toy "I Can Play the Piano" which MTNA will not endorse, but it will provide a brochure about how to select a piano teacher.

- **Alfred** (previously Warner) will now sponsor the Elementary and Junior Composition Competitions. Awards will be equal to instrumental ones.
- MTNA has created a **Legal Consultation Service** (free to members) under the advice of Scott Gillingham. It will cover three areas:
 - Copyright, employment/labor issues and litigations
 - Business formation. Flat set fee for LLC set up, corporation etc.
 - Online library of forms: copyright, agreements, LLC etc.
- A new state presidents advisory council chair was elected, Gail Heywood from Wisconsin.

During my last morning in Austin I visited the Texas MTA central office. I was given information and materials on how the office and association work. It will be a great addition to the information I've collected so far regarding the central office.

I am very grateful to MMTA for allowing me to attend the National Conference. It is a true privilege to attend so many great presentations, catch up with the latest trends and see again so many friends.

Regarding the appointment of new officers I have the following announcements: **Jill Kloosterman** (Holland) has been appointed Student Chapter Chair **Sara Carrier** (Ann Arbor) has been appointed the new Teacher Education Chair, **Jean Hull** has resigned as MMT editor but will be the MMTA Historian. **Christopher Carlon** is the new MMT editor. On behalf of the MMTA board I would like to welcome Jill, Sara, and Chris. We are very excited to have you be a part of the board.

I would like to apologize for the disruption of the MMT newsletter. Due to the lateness of the December MMT, the March issue has been cancelled. March issue materials are included in the June MMT. A special conference issue was mailed a few weeks ago and contains all information related to our Fall conference.

We are very excited to proceed with the first electronic MMT in June. Thank you **Christopher Carlon** and **Cherly Cameron** who are solving the logistics involved in such production.

On April 6, I visited the **Clarke Historical Library** at Central Michigan University. I met with **Frank Boles**, the director, who showed me all the materials in our archives. I was very impressed with the amount of materials, how far back it goes and how well organized they are. There are several interesting photographs, letters, newspaper clippings, scrapbooks, etc. Some items on the scrap books are coming off their original mountings and might need to find a better way to be preserved. I told Mr. Boles that there was a motion to move the material to the Michigan Library in Lansing, but so far we have not taken any action.. I also obtained an inventory of the archives.

The Executive Board has decided to set a policy for "relinquishing materials at the end of service." This provision is to be included in job descriptions .."at the end of term of office all material will be immediately relinquished to the president." The President will give materials to the incoming officer.

Michigan will host the ECD division competitions on **January 26-28, 2007** at **Central Michigan University**. Many thanks to **Mary Siciliano**, ECD competitions chair for all her work and skills putting together these complex events. Next ECD competitions will be held: January 2008, Illinois -2009, Ohio- 2010, Wisconsin,- 2011 Indiana and in 2012, Michigan.

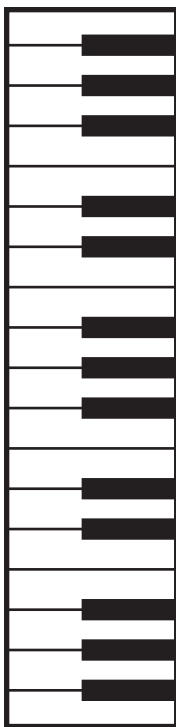
I look forward to finals day on May 13 at MSU. It has been an eventful season and I'm sure many of you, as I am, look forward to a restful summer. My best wishes to all of you. Happy 'workshopping' and happy gardening !



Gerardo Ascheri,
President MMTA

Celebrating the Life of Sharon Rea

In May, the Livonia Area Piano Teachers Forum proudly selected Sharon Rea as our recipient of the 2005 Teacher of the year award.. Little did we know at that time that we would celebrate Sharon's achievements without her. Sharon Rea, our dear friend and colleague, passed way in December 2005. A collective gasp was felt among the forum as the phone calls went out to notify each member of Sharon's passing. However, the shock and sadness that we all felt that day are slowly giving way to the realization that we all have been blessed in many ways to have shared in a part of Sharon's extraordinary presence.



Sharon attended Western Michigan University where she minored in music and played the oboe. Her beloved husband, Stephen, said:

"Just after we were married, and before she started teaching piano, she joined a regional orchestra call the Scandinavia Symphony. It was conducted by Walter Poole, the retired conductor of the Detroit Symphony. She frequently had trouble getting a good reed. The first few weeks, however, the reeds worked well and she was complemented by the conductor.. The following week: a bad reed and she was yelled at. That marked the end of her oboe playing days and perhaps opened the way for her to become involved with the piano.

"An opening to teach piano occurred when a friend who was a Suzuki piano teacher had to move out of state. She persuaded Sharon to take her young students. She spent several months learning the Suzuki method and philosophy from her before she left. Sharon attended summer workshops at Steven Point, Wisconsin and Kingston, Ontario and took private lesson from Suzuki master teachers."

To hear Sharon Rea's students in the Honor's Recital and competitions was to know that she upheld a high standard of artistic values in music. She attended general and specialized workshop on a regular basis to increase her teaching skills and was always eager to learn new material and ways to use it. She coached with

another teacher from time to time to keep up her playing skills. She also sponsored master classes for the students in her studio and organized workshops for them as well. Sharon's students played in nursing homes and fundraisers for charitable causes.

Sharon Rea served as Honors Recital Chairperson, Vice President, President and past President of the LAPTF. For several years, she gave the ear training part of the SATD, and served as MMTA Semi-finals chairperson for our area. She also set up clinics and programs for the LAPTF and our colleagues around the state. Her knowledge and enthusiasm have been instrumental in the April Cheng and Chow workshop that she was helping to organize.

Sharon was always thoughtful and considerate in trying to solve the many issues she faced as a long time board member for the LAPTF. She was concerned with the feelings and wishes of the Forum members she served. She acted with dignity and poise at all times. She was supportive of other teachers, gracious in her praise and very careful to always speak positively about everyone.

Sharon Rea is survived by her husband, Stephen and her three children Liza, Stephanie and Cory.

In honor of our colleague
The Livonia Area Piano Teachers Forum

Piano Teacher's Summer Workshop

July 14-15, 2006

Dart Auditorium
Lansing Community College

CAMTA PRESENTS

Suzanne Guy

Rebecca Shockley

Topics: Transfer Students, The Art of Pedaling,
Mapping and Much More

Contact: Gail Lytle Lira -Gllira@juno.com or
Katherine Richardson -kerichardson@comcast.net

MMTA STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT TESTING DAY FINALS

Congratulations to the MMTA voice students who performed at the SAT Voice Finals on Saturday, May 6, 2006 at the Michigan State University School of Music, and to the piano finalists who auditioned on Saturday, May 13, 2006 at the MMTA Piano Finals. MMTA members can be justly proud of the outstanding level of proficiency and musicality attained by these young vocalists and pianists. The following students were selected as winners in their divisions:

Voice

First Place: Teal Inzunza (student of Julia Ellis)
Second Place: Gabrielle Dahl (student of Elaine Yanz)
Third Place: Sean Carney (student of Julia Ellis)
Adjudicators: Abbie Matthews & Dr. Luciano Simones

Senior Piano Division

First Place: Tiffany Pao (student of Mary Siciliano)
Second Place: Margaret Yi (student of Jill Christian)
Third Place: Ingrid Gan (student of Mary Siciliano)
Honorable Mention: Stephanie Webb (student of John Ellis)
Honorable Mention: Sally VanderPloeg (student of Joan Conway)
Honorable Mention: Steven Chang (student of Mary Siciliano)
Adjudicators: Natalie Matovinovic & Dr. Adrienne Wiley

Junior Piano Division

First Place: Andrew Chou (student of John Ellis)
Second Place: Sehun Kim (student of Catherine Rollin)
Third Place: Christine Wu (student of Mary Siciliano)
Honorable Mention: Pauline Kim (student of Deborah Moriarty)
Honorable Mention: Lisa Summers (student of Gerardo Ascheri)
Honorable Mention: Connie Fu (student of Izabella Vilensky)
Adjudicators: Joan Conway & Panayis Lyras

Inter mediate Piano Division

First Place: Alim Leung (student of Mary Siciliano)
Second Place: Andrew Tung (student of Irina Babina)
Third Place: Heather Shen (student of Izabella Vilensky)
Honorable Mention: Paul Lee (student of Jill Christian)
Honorable Mention: Ling Gu (student of Catherine Rollin)
Honorable Mention: Annie Xiao (student of Catherine Rollin)
Adjudicators: Roberta Kraft & Diane Petrella

TO ALL CHAIR PERSONS AND "WORKERS" OF SATD TESTING SITES

I would like to thank members that compiled and sent me comments from your testing centers! Your comments/critiques are read very carefully and shared with our piano test writing committee at the annual summer meeting. It is not too late to contact me regarding any concerns that you may have realized since you have sent the evaluation form-your ideas are welcomed any time.

We are responsible for the piano section of the annual student achievement-testing program each season. All tests are written according to the current MMTA piano Handbook (1998 edition) and proofed by the committee before sending to local chapters in January. You will be advised in your SATD packet available at the MMTA Fall Conference of any major change in format of testing procedures.

If you did not receive a testing handbook or need a replacement, please contact MMTA membership chairman, Cheryl Cameron at 810-385-9888. Thank you for the countless hours, energy and dedication each of you give to the SATD program each season. It is indeed a pleasure to work with you.

Isabelle Tulk,
Piano Handbook/Testing Chair

FALL CONFERENCE UPDATE

Are the conference dates circled on your Calendar?

October 8, 9 and 10-Holland, Michigan

Conference registration and hotel reservation forms were included in the last issue of MMT and are also available on our [website-www.mi-mtna.org](http://www.mi-mtna.org)

Conference plans are well underway; here are a few newly added features to the agenda since my announcements in the last issue of MMT.

Andrew Le, will be featured on the Sunday evening program (along with the commissioned trio and other Hope College faculty members). He is well known to Michigan teachers. Andrew grew up in Grand Rapids studying with **Vivian Kleinhuisen** and winning the national Baldwin competition in Spokane in 1993. He was a student of Arthur Greene at the University of Michigan where he earned both the BM and MM degrees. He is doctoral candidate at Juilliard, a student of Jerome Loewenthal. He won the Hilton Head International Piano Competition in 2005 and performed at Weill Hall (At Carnegie Hall) in November of that year. Andrew Le has just completed his first year on the music department faculty at Hope College.

The "Teacher Education Session" will feature **J. Timothy Caldwell**, Professor of Music at Central Michigan University, internationally recognized Teacher of Dalcroze Eurhythmics. Caldwell's interest in Eurhythmics lead him to think in new ways regarding musical education and the education of performers. Do plan to attend this session and experience Caldwell's love and excitement in teaching and performing.

Isabelle Tulk
Conference Coordinator

I AM INTERESTED IN THE MMTA CERTIFICATION

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ Zip _____

Instrument _____

Make Check for \$5.00 Payable to MMTA.

Send to:

SALLY LEWIS

9766 LONDOLYN BLUFF

TRAVERSE CITY, MI 49686

PHONE: (231) 941-8938

E-MAIL: lewistvc@umich.edu



A NEW DIRECTION

It has been six months since I found it necessary to submit my resignation from the position of Local Associations Chair to the MMTA Board. Although circumstances in my life required me to do so, it was with great regret that I made the decision to bring that phase of my life to completion.

Having held the LA position for over nine years, I find myself richly blessed with many warm friendships. Meeting wonderful and dedicated people is a particular advantage of the position. It has been particularly gratifying to witness the steady growth in professionalism on the part of our organization whether at the local, state or national level. Working with a Board of Directors whose members are serious, hard working, diligent and delightful has been a joy beyond words.

The quality of professionalism is particularly noteworthy in MMTA. Working with local chapters, receiving newsletters full of creative program ideas and generally observing this consistent dedication to the high ideals and respect for the dignity of each member, has enabled me, also, to grow.

It has been exciting to discover, in the process of preparing the speakers bureau list, the amazing creativity of so many in our state. There is a consistent atmosphere of the excitement of discovery-there is always so much more to know!

I wish to say thank you for the opportunity to serve as Local Associations Chair. It has been a wonderful trip, and while one must move on, I have loved every minute of it. In closing, I would like to remind members that I am still in this wonderful organization and active with activities closer to home.

Joan Haggard

