

# Michigan Music Teacher

PUBLICATION OF  
THE MICHIGAN  
MUSIC TEACHERS  
ASSOCIATION

*Affiliated with Music Teachers National Assn.*

Vol. LV No. 1 September 2008  
September, 2008

Dear Members,

Looking forward to an exciting teaching year for all of you! Hopefully you have had the opportunity to attend some of the many musical events that have been scheduled this summer. Also, I hope you have had the time and energy to explore other areas of interest as well!

Many exciting new ideas were expressed at the summer board meeting held in August, leading to a very full year of opportunities

planned for you. You may check our MMTA website – and also the State Portal on the MTNA website – for dates and information regarding many of the events which are in place already. Please inform me of any events, dates, general information, that your chapter or your committee would like posted on either the state and/or national website. I think these means of communication should contain as much information as possible.

Are your bags packed for our Annual Fall Conference? This season we will be in Grand Rapids at the Crowne Plaza Hotel, October 12, 13, and 14. Under the very capable hands of Adrienne Wiley, our vice president, a very inspiring and event-filled program is awaiting your attendance. Please take the time to read about this conference in this issue of MMT. Thank you, Adrienne, for all the effort and expertise extended to organize this professional event for us. I also want to acknowledge all the time and effort extended by our host chapter, Piano Teachers Forum of Grand Rapids.

Our new MMTA State Directories will be ready to distribute at the conference– be sure to remember to pick up your copy – this saves a great deal of mailing costs. Cheryl Cameron,

our membership chairman, has worked on this directory during the summer; all changes in members' information (addresses, phone, email, etc.) that were reported to her will be updated in this new printing. Thank you, Cheryl, for your persistence and eye for detail!

We wish all members another productive year of teaching the budding musicians – may you see your efforts rewarded daily.

Looking forward to seeing you very soon at the fall conference!!

One of my favorite quotes, "Limitations live only in our minds. But if we use our imaginations, our possibilities become limitless." - Anonymous

Sincerely,

Isabelle Tulk, President



**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.

# MICHIGAN MUSIC TEACHER

Official Publication of

## MICHIGAN MUSIC TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

Affiliated with

## MUSIC TEACHERS NATIONAL ASSOCIATION

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Submit materials to: [MMTnewsletter@aol.com](mailto:MMTnewsletter@aol.com)

MMTA Web Site: [www.michiganmusicteachers.org](http://www.michiganmusicteachers.org)

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1/2 Page \$95.00

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## DEADLINE

FOR THE

MMT IS NOVEMBER 1

FOR DECEMBER

ISSUE

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](mailto:cheryl@cheryls-music-studio.com)

~ or mail to: ~

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

### *From the Vice President's Desk*



Greetings MMTA members! I am so excited about this year's Conference, and now I can share all the details of what and how things will unfold! But, of course, you are probably wondering what happened in-between the golf practicing (Cameron's), and planning for the Conference . . . ??? (not that you read this column JUST for that!)

Well, my box of Conference materials has traveled with me all over the state of Michigan while he participated in numerous golf tournaments. It is still apparent that I still do not have "the look" of a golfer by any means since I was continually asked if I was lost by most of the staff at each golf course!

The 2008 Conference is being hosted with great enthusiasm by the Piano Teachers Forum of Grand Rapids. We will open with a group of talented young musicians from the Midland Suzuki Education Program. Lois Palen, director, has created a well-recognized Suzuki program in mid-Michigan for a number of years, and the outcome of her teaching efforts will be a recital of chamber works performed by these young people.

The first day will continue with SAT and Certification Breakout Sessions, and the MMTA/MTNA Winners' Recital.

The opening concert of our Conference will feature Michael Coonrod, piano, Jean Coonrod, cello, and David Holland, viola. Please join the Piano Teachers of Grand Rapids to support them in a wonderful evening of music!

We are honored to be able to have Gail Berenson, MTNA President, as one of our guest speakers on the second day of the Conference. Her sessions are all very user-friendly and pertinent to our teaching studios. "Strategies for Handling Performance Anxiety" will address the issue of performance anxiety and present a variety of options enabling the teacher, and/or performer, to determine which combination of approaches might be most helpful. Her second session, "An Injury-Preventative Prescription: Healthy Practicing Strategies" will focus on how we as teachers can help our students practice in a healthful manner that will help to free their musicality. Her last session for us, "The Art of Communication: Nurturing Resourceful and Spirited Students," may promote a lively discussion among us regarding motivating students, offering feedback, learning styles, and teaching approaches, to name a few.

We have two very special sessions offered by our own Michigan Music Teachers members! Maria Holian will be presenting a session on "The Anatomical Basis of Performance." This session will provide an in-depth understanding of the basics of the human anatomy and its relationship to piano performance. Following this, Mary Siciliano's session "Leaving the Method Books Behind: The Transition into Intermediate Repertoire," will focus on the technical and musical preparation for piano repertoire beyond the method books.

I am excited to offer our membership a different Gala Concert format. This year we are pleased to invite Leon Harshenin, professor of piano at Taylor University, Indiana, to present a lecture-recital on the piano music of Chopin. Dr. Harshenin's program will examine some of the cultural influences, people, and circumstances that influenced Chopin and his music. In addition, his PowerPoint presentation will feature rare footage of Poles in folk costume dancing a polonaise and mazurka. I hope you will be able to attend this wonderful and unique event!

Our Conference will close with two sessions presented by William Westney. Many of us may have had the opportunity to see Mr. Westney, author of the "Un-Masterclass," in action at other venues, so I am quite excited that he is able to come to Michigan to be with us for even a short time.

I hope you can rest with this much information for the moment. It is going to be quite exciting and I hope that you will be able to carve out the time to come! The Conference Schedule is printed here in the MMT, along with the Conference and Meal Registration form. Please make sure to contact the hotel directly for your own room reservation and make sure to mention that this is for the Michigan Music Teachers State Conference. Please use the following information at your leisure:

The Crowne Plaza Hotel  
5700 28th Street S.E.  
Grand Rapids, Michigan 49546  
1.616.957.1770

Or:

<https://resweb.passkey.com/go/mmta>

In the meantime, stay well! See you very soon!

Warmly,

Adrienne Wiley  
MMTA Vice President

# MICHIGAN MUSIC TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

123<sup>RD</sup> Annual State Conference  
Crowne Plaza Hotel, 5700 28th St. SE  
Grand Rapids, Michigan  
October 12, 13, 14, 2008

## Conference and Meal Registration Form

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

### REGISTRATION FEES:

Advance Registration, MMTA Member \$60.00 \_\_\_\_\_  
(registration after Sept. 30: \$65.00)

Advance Registration, non-MMTA Member \$70.00 \_\_\_\_\_  
(registration after Sept. 30: \$75.00)

Registration, MMTA Member's spouse \$35.00 \_\_\_\_\_

Student Registration (waived) \_\_\_\_\_

BANQUET: \$28.00 \_\_\_\_\_

Please select one Banquet Entree:  
(tax and gratuity are included in the price)

\_\_\_\_\_ Chicken Piccata: Sauteed breast of chicken with lemon, butter, garlic,  
caper and white wine sauce served over angel hair pasta.

\_\_\_\_\_ London Broil: Served with Burgundy and Port Wine Sauce.

\_\_\_\_\_ Vegetarian: Chef's choice.

All meals include salad, dinner rolls with butter, appropriate vegetables, potatoes or rice, beverages, and dessert  
(Chocolate Mousse).

TOTAL ENCLOSED: \_\_\_\_\_

ADVANCED CONFERENCE AND MEAL REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS SEPTEMBER 30.

Please mail this registration form and make check (payable to MMTA) to:

Mildred Muller, MMTA Treasurer  
1835 Pine Bluff S.E.  
Grand Rapids, MI. 49508

For more information please contact:

Adrienne Wiley, MMTA Vice President and Conference Chairman  
989.837.0903 or 989.615.1742  
wiley1ae@cmich.edu

## MMTA Conference 2008

All Conference proceedings will be held in the Grand Centennial Ballroom unless otherwise noted

### Sunday, October 12

8:30-9:30 a.m.	Executive Board Meeting	10:30-11:45 a.m.	<b>General Session III:</b> Gail Berenson “An Injury-Preventative Prescription: Healthy Practicing Strategies”
9:30-11:00 a.m.	Full Board Meeting	11:45-1:00 p.m.	Lunch on your own Certification Committee Meeting
12:00 p.m.	Registration Opens: Phone Bank Area MMTA members and Vendor displays open Mackinaw and Petoskey Rooms	1:00-2:15 p.m.	<b>General Session IV:</b> Gail Berenson “The Art of Communication: Nurturing Resourceful and Spirited Students”
1:00 p.m.	<b>Conference Opening:</b> Opening Remarks by the President	2:15-2:30 p.m.	Break
1:10 p.m.	<b>General Session I:</b> Midland Suzuki Strings	2:30-3:30 p.m.	<b>Special Session:</b> Maria Holian “The Anatomical Basis of Performance”
2:15 p.m.	Break	3:30-3:45 p.m.	Break
2:30-3:15 p.m.	<b>SAT Breakout Session</b>	3:45-4:45 p.m.	<b>IMTF Session:</b> Mary Siciliano “Leaving Method Books Behind: The Transition into Intermediate Repertoire”
3:15-4:00 p.m.	<b>Certification Session</b>	5:00 p.m.	Break
4:00-4:15 p.m.	<b>MMTA Business Meeting I:</b> Treasurer’s Report	5:30-6:15 p.m.	Cash Bar: Atrium
4:30-5:45 p.m.	<b>MMTA/MTNA Winners’ Recital</b>	6:15-8:00 p.m.	<b>Gala Banquet:</b> Grand Centennial Ballroom
6:00 p.m.	Dinner on your own Dinner Meetings: SAT Handbook, Local Associations	8:15 p.m.	<b>Gala Concert:</b> Leon Harshenin, pianist Grand Centennial Ballroom
8:00 p.m.	<b>Concert:</b> Michael Coonrod, pianist Host: Piano Teachers Forum of Grand Rapids	9:30 p.m.	<b>Reception</b>
9:30 p.m.	<b>Reception:</b> hosted by the Piano Teachers Forum of Grand Rapids	<b>Tuesday, October 14</b>	
		7:30-9:00 a.m.	Advisory Council Meeting
		9:00-10:15 a.m.	<b>General Session V:</b> William Westney

### Monday, October 13

7:30-9:00 a.m.	SAT Local Chairpersons Meeting	10:15-10:30 a.m.	<b>MMTA Business Meeting II:</b> Presentation of Slate of Officers
9:00-10:15 a.m.	<b>General Session II:</b> Gail Berenson “Strategies for Handling Performance Anxiety”	10:30-11:45 a.m.	<b>General Session VI:</b> William Westney
10:15-10:30 a.m.	Break	11:45-12:00 p.m.	Conference Wrap Up
		12:00 noon	Conference Ends



## By-laws Revisions

August 25, 2008

### To be added.

#### Article X - Executive Committee

c. Upon the request of three (3) members of the Executive Committee, an item of business may be conducted by mail or electronic transmission. Such action of the Executive Committee shall be valid, preserved and recorded in the official minutes.

### To be deleted.

#### Article XI - Committees

##### Section 9

b. The Certification Committee shall be assisted by an Executive Secretary appointed by the Committee. The Executive Secretary shall receive a stipend which shall be determined by the Board of Directors.

#### By-laws Committee:

Gerardo Ascheri, Chairman  
Marilyn Sluka (Past-President)  
Christie Otter (Parliamentarian)

## SLATE OF NOMINEES FOR 2008-2010

### MMTA OFFICERS

President - Dr. Adrienne Wiley  
Vice-President - Dr. Penny Draper  
Treasurer - Diana Spitnale Miller  
Secretary - Dianne Klinger

The above slate of nominees for MMTA officers will be voted on by the membership at the annual Conference in October 2008

#### Nominating Committee:

Nancy Welshman  
Roberta Kraft  
Judith Wade  
Amy Dykhouse  
Gerardo Ascheri, Chair

## SAT Announcements

### Piano Semifinal and Piano/Voice Finals Dates

Piano Semifinals for 2009: Saturday, April 18, at the following locations:

Central Division: Central Michigan University,  
Mt. Pleasant

Eastern Division: Madonna University, Livonia

Western Division: Grand Valley State University,  
Allendale

Piano Finals for 2009: Saturday, May 2, at Michigan State University Community Music School, East Lansing

### MMTA Dues

A reminder that all teachers entering students in the 2009 SAT Program must have paid national and state dues by November 1, 2008. An exception will be made for new MMTA members. The MMTA Board of Directors has approved this membership deadline requirement.

### SAT Breakout Session at 2008 MMTA Conference

The piano committee has chosen "Technique and Sight-Reading" as the topic for the SAT Breakout Session at the 2008 MMTA Conference.

### SAT Sight-Reading Exam

At the June meeting the Piano Test committee added a one-minute preparation for transposition AFTER the student has played the sight-reading in the original key. (This is in addition to the two minutes of preparation before the sight-reading is played.)

### SAT Repertoire Reminders

Repeats are allowed (optional, not required) in repertoire for levels 1-3. No repeats for levels 4-10. For repertoire in Theme and Variation Form:

The theme and all variations must be memorized.

Penny Draper  
SAT Coordinator



# SLATE OF NOMINEES FOR 2008-2010 MMTA OFFICERS

## **Adrienne Wiley**, President

Dr. Adrienne Wiley is currently Associate Professor of Music at Central Michigan University where she teaches and administers the piano pedagogy program at the bachelors and master degree levels, and teaches applied and class piano. Dr. Wiley received her bachelors and masters degrees in piano performance from the University of Kansas, and her doctor of musical arts in piano performance and pedagogy from the University of Oklahoma. She has studied with Jack Winerock, Flora Silini, Rita Sloan, and Jane Magrath, and has taken master classes/lessons with Leon Fleisher, Menahem Pressler, Claude Frank, and John Perry.

Because of Dr. Wiley's dual focus on performance and pedagogy, she has been active in both areas. She maintains an active performance career as a soloist and has presented workshops throughout the Midwest, and at several nationally recognized music teachers conferences.

Dr. Wiley is certified through the Music Teachers National Association at the state and national levels. She has been active and held positions at the local and state levels of the Nebraska Music Teachers Association, and is currently the Vice President of the Michigan Music Teachers Association. She is also the advisor of the MTNA Student Chapter at Central Michigan University. Dr. Wiley most recently completed a four-year term as the MTNA National Senior Competitions Coordinator.

In her spare time, Dr. Wiley continues to practice, research, and write articles for the Keyboard Companion and Clavier magazine. She has also reviewed a book, *One-Handed: A Guide to Piano Music for One Hand*, for the Journal of the Music Library Association. Her interest and love for left-handed piano music has resulted in her first CD of teaching and concert-level works for one hand. The multi-media CD is the first of its kind, offering not only her performance of these works, but articles as well.

Lastly, and not known to many, is the fact that Dr. Wiley is also an organist and takes lessons with Dr. Steven Egler, Professor of Organ Performance at Central Michigan University, where she also teaches. Her avid interest in and continued dedication to learning to play the organ factors in her practice time as well. She currently serves the Memorial Presbyterian Church of Midland, Michigan as organist and choir accompanist.

## **Penny Draper**, Vice-President

Penny Draper has a private piano studio, and also teaches piano at Emanuel Lutheran School in Lansing (students released from classes for private lessons). In addition, she is a piano technician, and directs an early music group, The Renaissance Singers, a costumed-troupe that specializes in recreating music and dance from the sixteenth century. She is also the Assistant Director of Music at Plymouth Congregational Church in Lansing where her duties include directing Bell and Youth Choirs.

Her piano studies began in second grade with Patricia Waters at Wilde Conservatory in Lansing, and continued in secondary school with Jean Hull. A highlight during high school was summer study at Interlochen as a Lansing Matinee Musicale scholarship winner, and receiving an Honorable Mention in the senior division of the MMTA Piano Competition. She was awarded a music tuition scholarship at Michigan State University, where she studied with David Renner, earning a B.A. in applied piano pedagogy, and concomitantly, a degree in choral education. Following graduation she taught choral music at Williamston High School for a decade, and also toured Europe as

as the music director of Suitcase Theatre, a Lansing-based theatrical troupe of young people from ages 16-22. She toured again as an auditioned member of the MSVA Touring Choir, a highlight of which was participating in the National Eisteddfod in Wales.

Penny returned to MSU for graduate study in musicology, earning an M.A. and Ph.D. in musicology and specializing in early music. At this time she also studied piano technology with Owen Jorgensen, and held graduate assistantships in piano technology and musicology. She also served as a sabbatical replacement for one year at the University of Michigan-Flint, teaching music history and serving as accompanist for the Chorale.

While in graduate school Penny began teaching class piano at Hannah Middle School in East Lansing, and at the same time her oldest daughter began piano studies with Jean Hull. Sitting in on these lessons was the inspiration for Penny to begin piano teaching in 1993. The many years in between earning a pedagogy degree and teaching in a private studio have made her especially thankful for guidelines provided by the MMTA SAT program. She is the local SAT Chair for CAMTA, and has held the offices of Vice President and President. For MMTA she has served as the Awards Chair, the Auditions Chair, and currently is the SAT Coordinator.

Penny is a member of Sigma Alpha Iota and Pi Kappa Lambda, and is listed in a number of Marquis Who's Who editions. She and her husband, William, have two daughters, Paige and Josselin, who are currently pursuing graduate and undergraduate degrees, respectively.

#### **Diana Miller**, Treasurer

Diana Spitnale Miller of Troy is currently the Technology Chair for MMTA and formerly served MMTA as Chair of the Ensemble Festivals. She is also President of Metropolitan Detroit Musicians League. She formerly served as historian and president for MDML.

She has also held officer positions with the former Marquette Area Piano Teachers Association and the former Saginaw Music Teachers Forum and was a member of the Bay Area MTA.

She has taught piano for 30 years in her independent studio wherever she has lived. She currently lives in Troy. She has adjudicated at Ensemble Festivals, Student Achievement Testing, and Federation Festivals. She has also been a music director and accompanist for various churches.

She is a graduate of Adrian College and has done graduate work in piano at Northern Michigan University. She has received her permanent certification from MMTA and MTNA.

She has previously served as treasurer for several church related organizations.

#### **Dianne Klinger**, Recording Secretary

Started piano lessons with Hazel Kowalk and began serving as a church musician at an early age. Worked as a department secretary at MSU, married and raised two children, continuing church music involvement. Returned to piano studies with Miss Kowalk and later with June Huyser for over 18 years of private instruction as an adult. Dianne has been teaching piano from her home studio in Eaton Rapids, since 1985.

Dianne is a member of the Capital Area Music Teachers Association, where she has served as Recording Secretary. She is also member of the Lansing Matinee Musicale.



## CERTIFICATION NEWS:

The Certification Committee met on June 21, 2008 at Central Michigan University in Mt. Pleasant to evaluate the portfolios of new applicants and the documentation of renewing teachers.

Congratulations to the following teachers who received their Standard Certificate in Piano in 2008:

Debra E. Culver - Ortonville, Ruth E. Fry - Port Huron, and Maria Holian - Plymouth.

The following teachers renewed their MMTA Standard Certificate in Piano: Elizabeth Baxter - Farmington Hills, Sheila Bloch - Ann Arbor, Margaret Castner - Ovid, Marcia D. Collins - Port Huron, Penny Draper - East Lansing, and Thea Hoekman - Fremont. Helen M. Marlais of Grand Rapids renewed the College Faculty Certificate.

The MMTA Emeritus Certificate was granted to the following teachers: Gail Davis-Barnes - Ann Arbor, Merilee Magnuson - Pinckney, and Mildred Muller - Grand Rapids.

Those teachers renewing their Emeritus Certificate were: Mary Aardema - Zeeland, Sarah K. Albright - Ann Arbor, Louise A. Angermeier - Bloomfield Hills, Mary Anne Hornik - Muskegon, Rhenda Pease - Kalamazoo, Catherine Rollin - Bloomfield Hills, Judith Wade - Orchard Lake, and Patricia Willwerth - Saline. Plan to attend the banquet at the October state conference and greet these certified teachers and offer your congratulations.

The Certification Committee will offer a session at the conference on the procedure for becoming certified and will highlight Fugue Form and Pedagogy and provide sources for further study. Even if you are a certified teacher, come for a great refresher course. Next year the Committee will emphasize Sonata Form and Technic. Teachers who already hold certificates are encouraged to become mentors for new applicants.

Names of the teachers who successfully renewed their national certification will be published as the information becomes available. If you would like more information on certification, please contact Nancy Welshman, Chairperson, at (269)323-7693 or newelshman@charter.net..

Sally A. Lewis, Executive Secretary for MMTA Certification

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## I AM INTERESTED IN THE MMTA CERTIFICATION

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Instrument \_\_\_\_\_

**Make Check for \$5.00 Payable to MMTA.**

Send to:

NANCY WELSHMAN  
6303 SURREY STREET  
PORTAGE, MI 48084  
PHONE: (269) 323-7693  
E-MAIL: newelshman@charter.net



**MICHIGAN MUSIC TEACHERS ASSOCIATION**

Cheryl A. Cameron, MMTA Membership Chair

5514 State Road

Fort Gratiot, Michigan 48059-2604

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