



RMTA Fall Newsletter 2014

Letter from the President

Dear RMTA members and friends,

We are celebrating a new fall season of teaching!! I hope that each of you had a terrific summer and are enjoying the start of a new year so far. Our family had a relaxing summer with vacation time, helping our children with their fun activities, and some good summer teaching! My boys, Caleb and Luke, are busy back at school and sports. Just this summer, I officially started teaching my Caleb piano. So far, it is going well, but I am learning how to balance as a teacher, parent, and coach all at the same time. It is fun, and I am learning.

It was so great to see so many of you, both current and new members, at our September kick-off meeting! Thanks to everyone who came to our board meeting and potluck luncheon. We celebrated our RMTA Achievement Award winner, many of our current members and their accomplishments, our new members, and much more. As many of you know, our RMTA yearbook is now online and all the files are now on the website and within the Members Login section of our website. Please be sure to visit and we will keep you up-to-date with our online bulletin board as well as other reminders.

Mark your calendars early for the VMTA Annual Conference 2015. It will be held from July 16-19, 2015 at Wintergreen Resort. The MTNA National Conference will be in Las Vegas, Nevada from March 21-25, 2015.

Thanks to each of you for all you do! Your time and hard work is so greatly appreciated! Hope you have a great year ahead.

Many thanks,
Jennifer Scott, RMTA President

Scholarship Winner

Gianni Capelli received the RMTA Collegiate Chapter Scholarship for 2014. We thank her for her contributions to the VCU Collegiate Chapter, the music teaching profession, and RMTA.

Website and Facebook

RMTA Website: <http://www.richmondmta.org>

RMTA Facebook page: <http://www.facebook.com/richmondmta>

VMTA Fall Festival 2014

The VMTA Fall Festival will be held Saturday, November 22, 2014 at University of Richmond, Booker Hall. Spark you students' enthusiasm early and join us for this perfect Fall performance opportunity! The postmark deadline is October 20, 2014. This event is non-competitive, designed to encourage the playing of varied styles of music and build the students' confidence as performers. Two memorized pieces are required – one traditional and one contemporary. All guidelines, teacher responsibility forms and entry forms can be found in the RMTA Yearbook. The fee is \$12.00 per student.

There will be a need for judges, monitors, hospitality help and extra workers. This is a great opportunity for you to help support your local chapter! Teachers who are entering students must assist on the day of the event. However, it is not necessary to have students participating to lend a helping hand! Please send a completed entry form, two judging sheets, and a teacher responsibility form for each participating student to: Lynn Redford, 11370 Springhouse Way, Amelia, VA 23002. If you have any questions please contact Debby Martin, 387-0459 or Lynn Redford, 561-0331.

Note: Lynn and Debby have served as co-chairs of Fall Festival for many years and would like to retire from their position after this fall. If you would like to “shadow” them this year to learn the job, please contact them.

RMTA Website

HOMEPAGE: This home page will always feature a monthly bulletin so you can stay up-to-date on the current month's activities.

ABOUT: Features information on our history, officers, bylaws, mission, collegiate chapter, and sponsors. Our sponsors section and new bylaws will be updated shortly.

PARTICIPATE: Features information on certification, IMTF, membership, teacher referral, Music Link, and a contact us site.

ACTIVITIES: This may be the most visited area. This features our events calendar, recital series, workshops (each with a separate link), and competitions.

NEWS: Features our scholarships, achievement award, photos, conferences and links. Photos can be updated again soon.

MEMBER LOGIN: You will need your username/password to visit this area (same as VMTA). This features the place for our entire **YEARBOOK** in pdf, handbook, newsletters, and all the event applications. You can print individual applications, the whole yearbook, or any part of the documents. This same member area has VMTA info, such as sample theory tests/ear/keys and other.

FIND A TEACHER/JOIN: Help prospective teachers and students/parents

Some of our online documents do not disclose address/phone information to keep privacy of our members. But, in the Members Login, you will find all actual info as you would see in the yearbook for our members.

Thank you to Phillip Patrick for organizing our yearbook again this year and to all the teachers who gather information and update it.

Jennifer Scott, President

RMTA Student Recitals 2014-2015

The RMTA student recitals will be held at 3:00 p.m. on Sundays in the chapel at St. Catherine's School, 6001 Grove Avenue, Richmond, VA 23226.

Dates and Postmark Deadlines:

October 12, 2014

Postmark: September 29

November 9, 2014

Postmark: October 27

January 25, 2015

Postmark: January 12

February 22, 2015

Postmark: February 9

April 19, 2015 (2:00 p.m.)

Postmark: April 6

Betty Ann Spiers, Vice President, Student Recitals, erspiers@comcast.net

Upcoming Workshop

Please make plans to attend a workshop with Dr. Joanne Kong on Saturday, October 18th at the home of Fay Barss, 2022 Milbank Road, at 10:00 a.m. Dr. Kong is currently the director of the accompanying and chamber music programs at the University of Richmond. Her topics for the RMTA Workshop are "Guidelines and Techniques for Effective Practice, and Coping with Performance Anxiety."

Member Updates and Information

Welcome to our new members: William Hargis, Michelle Huang, Kristen Topham, and Heather West. They are all listed in the 2014-2015 RMTA Yearbook.

New cell phone for Jennifer Scott: 804-357-7183

New email address for William Hargis: bill@themusictreeschool.com

Gabriella Ryan was invited to speak at Liberty University on September 29-30. She presented a program on Certification to the newly formed Collegiate Chapter there and spoke to the Musician's Forum about Policies and Procedures of a Music Business.

Several of our members were recognized at the VMTA Conference in July: Sharon Stewart for Most Valuable Member of RMTA, Betty Ann Spiers for Most Volunteer Hours, and five of our members for serving as former presidents of VMTA: Melissa Marrion, Fay Barss, Betsy Cole Wells, Kim Peachy, and Gabriella Ryan. Congratulations to all!

Next RMTA Newsletter: December 1, 2014. Please send entries to aedunton@comcast.net.