



# *RMTA Winter Newsletter*

*2015-2016*

## **Letter from the President**

Dear RMTA members and friends,

During this time of holiday festivities and events, I am always so thankful for our RMTA team!

Thank you for all the contributions and hard work you put into our association. Teaching music to our students is such a gift and a blessing. And, all the many things you do within RMTA and within your studios helps these young students love music now and in the future.

RMTA has already had some exciting events, from our October workshop with Sumi Komo, our VMFA Fall Festival, and student recitals. As we head into the winter season, we look forward to many other great events, such as our RMTA breakfast meeting, February Playathon, Bach Competition, and many more gatherings. Please keep an eye out on our website for the monthly updates.

Be sure to mark calendars! The MTNA National Conference is in San Antonio, Texas from April 2-6, 2016. Hope many of you may be able to attend this great conference!

Thank you all for being a special part of RMTA! Hope you have a fantastic holiday season, and can't wait to see you soon!

Many thanks,  
Jennifer Scott, NCTM  
RMTA President

### **Website and Facebook**

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

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

## Fall Festival Report

Our 2015 Fall Festival had 103 student participants, with over half receiving superior ratings! Thank you to all the teachers who entered students and participated in the event. We are looking forward to the rest of the teaching year.

-Savannah Hatcher and Lois Broadwater  
RMTA Fall Festival Co-chairs

## Upcoming Student Events

### **Saturday, February 20 10:30 AM to 5:30 PM: Playathon Regency Square Mall Center Court**

Encourage your students to participate in this terrific performance opportunity and also help to raise funding for the RMTA Collegiate Chapter Scholarship. The deadline for teacher registration has been extended to **January 17, 2016**. Submit your registration to Michelle Huang at [mingshiow.huang@gmail.com](mailto:mingshiow.huang@gmail.com). You can find all the detail information and forms in the yearbook.

### **Saturday, March 5: Bach Competition Richmond Public Library, Gellman Room**

This year Bach Competition will be on March 5 at Richmond Public Library, Gellman Room. We have restricted time for this event and may enforce time limits for participants. Please check this information in our year book. Also, winners of this competition will perform at St. Catherine's School, Turner Hall Chapel on April 24 at 3pm.

### **Sunday, March 13: VMTA Theory Tests at VCU**

### **Sunday, March 20: VMTA SR/Skills Tests at Rhapsody Piano and Guitar**

The postmark deadline is set for **February 13**.

Exact testing times will be scheduled once applications are received. Remember, any application received AFTER the postmark deadline WILL NOT be accepted. Please make sure the application is correct before submission.

All details are found in the RMTA Yearbook. Remember that sample written and listening tests are found on the VMTA and RMTA members area of the website. These can be great resources to help prepare your students.

Theory and Sightreading Test fees are \$12 per test.

Thanks again to all the volunteers who are helping with theory! We have some new ideas this year, and hope it will help to streamline the testing this year.

### Contacts:

Theory Day: Wesley Pollard, [wesley@rhapsodypiano.com](mailto:wesley@rhapsodypiano.com)

Theory Applications/Checks: Jennifer Scott, [jspianostudio@yahoo.com](mailto:jspianostudio@yahoo.com)

Sightreading and Keyboard Skills: Fay Barss, [faysmusic@gmail.com](mailto:faysmusic@gmail.com)

Single Line Sightreading: Hope Armstrong Erb, [hope.armstrong.erb@gmail.com](mailto:hope.armstrong.erb@gmail.com)

Questions of Theory Testing: Jennifer Scott, [jspianostudio@yahoo.com](mailto:jspianostudio@yahoo.com)

## Upcoming Teacher Events and Workshops

**Saturday, January 16 at 10:00 AM Potluck Breakfast Meeting**  
**Home of Fay Barss - 2022 Milbank Road Richmond, VA 23229**

Come and enjoy a wonderful potluck breakfast together! We will also enjoy time together in discussion to review music topics that interest all teachers, such as Music Mind Games, in which Kimberly Ryan will talk to us about these fun cooperative games for teaching music theory and reading. Remember to bring your favorite dish to share!

**Saturday, April 9 10:00 AM Workshop with Lisa Kinzer**  
**Home of Fay Barss**

Longwood University Piano Professor Lisa Kinzer will present a workshop titled 'Teaching Memorization in Your Piano Studio'.

**Saturday, May 7, 11:45 AM Annual Luncheon**  
**Baker's Crust - Short Pump Mall**

All members are invited to enjoy a fine lunch for our last meeting of the season.

## Announcements

We are so pleased to announce that we will be honoring **Melissa Marrion** as a **MTNA Foundation Fellow!** She is a most deserving individual who served as VMTA president in the past. She has made a huge impact on our own RMTA organization and the individuals within it. Please join me in congratulating Melissa Marrion!

Each year, the MTNA Foundation Fellowship Program offers a way to honor deserving individuals while supporting the Foundation Fund in an individual's name. They are recognized at the MTNA Conference, are invited to the conference gala, and receive a Fellow certificate and pin. They are recognized on the Foundation Fund website and their name appears on a plaque at the MTNA headquarters. It is a tremendous honor to be a Foundation Fellow!

Thank you, Melissa, for all your amazing work within our organization throughout the years! You have influenced so many of us, in your dedication to teaching and to the professionalism of music. Congratulations on this wonderful honor!

## Membership Updates

New and renewing members:

Martin, Deborah J.  
1670 Inspiration Dr.  
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music education, piano, voice