



RMTA Spring Newsletter 2016

Letter from the President

Dear RMTA members and friends,

I hope that each of you is having a great year and is enjoying the start of our beautiful spring season!

Over these past winter months, RMTA has held several wonderful events for our teachers and students. These included our RMTA Potluck luncheon and discussion with Kimberly Ryan on Music Mind Games, our RMTA Playathon at Regency, the Bach Competition at the Richmond Public Library, the VMTA Theory, Skills and Sightreading tests, and our recent Memorization workshop with Lisa Kinzer. Thanks to all the chairmen, teachers, and students who have made these events so special.

We look forward to more exciting events coming up before the end of the year! Our VMTA Central District Auditions are at the end of April, and our Annual luncheon is on May 7th at Can Can Brasserie (new location from yearbook!). Keep an eye out on more details within this newsletter. We hope to see you all there!

We are so proud of our Melissa Marrion for being recognized as a MTNA Foundation Fellow at the MTNA National Conference in Texas. Thanks for all of her amazing hard work and dedication to our RMTA organization all these years!! Congratulations!!

Be sure to always keep an eye out for our RMTA website! It has been updated with our April information on the home page bulletin. Also, if any of you have pictures you would like on the website, please send to me for review and posting. We just posted a few pictures from the playathon and one from the conference as well (News/Photos).

Congratulations RMTA on a successful year!! Thank you for all of your support!

Thanks and take good care,

Jennifer Scott, NCTM
RMTA President

Website and Facebook

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

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

Student Event Reports

Bach Competition:

The RMTA Bach Competition 2016 took place at the Richmond Public Library, Gellman Room on March 5th. The total of 38 participants was represented by 13 teachers.

The judges were Dr. Yin Zheng from VCU and Dr. Paolo Steinberg from JMU. Thanks to all participants and their teachers who did an outstanding job and demonstrated high level of musicianship and artistry. We are looking forward to Bach Competition 2017.

Bach Competition Chairmen:

Tatiana Tatum, Sharon Stewart, Ruta Smedina- Starke

Winners of Bach Competition 2016

Level 3

1 place Jeison De Guzman (P. Hanson)
2 place Gavin Coleman (H. Armstrong Erb)
3 place Madeleine Fratarcangelo (A. James)
Honorable mention Ketty Bai (J. Kong) and Lora You (K. Cho)

Level 2

1 place James Shen (P. Hanson)
2 place Richard Zhai (P.Hanson)
Honorable mention Emma Cary (P.Hanson) and Andre Tran (G. Ryan)

Level 1

1 place Artur Ding (P.Hanson)
2 place Anna Newell and Caleb Li (R. S.Starke)
3 place Madeleine Wang (P.Hanson)
Honorable mention Eliza Tan (N.Vornovitsky) and Ashley Xiao (M.Lu)

Primer Level

1 place Tony Zhang (M.Lu)
2 place Ilana Becker (R.Becker)

Sight Reading/Keyboard Skills

Twelve teachers sent in students for sight reading and keyboard tests. 53 students took the sight reading tests; 9 of whom also took the keyboard test. There were 2 absentees.

Sight Reading:

Superiors	18
Excellents	19
V. Goods	13
Goods	2
Pass	1

Keyboard:

Superiors	3
Excellents	4
V. Good	2
Absentees:	2

The Judges were awesome, as always. Many thanks to Marina Andueza, Ellis Dunton, Sharon Stewart, Ruta Starke, Gabriella Ryan and Yvette Li. And HEARTFELT thanks to Rhapsody Piano's co partner, Wesley Pollard for all his help. The students and Judges really like this new venue, and so do I. It's truly great to have these tests on a different day to theory, not only for scheduling purposes but also for the students who do not have to rush to or from theory testing to take their Sight reading and/or keyboard skills.

Sight Reading/Keyboard Skills Chairman: Fay Barss

Theory Tests

The VMTA Theory Tests for RMTA were held on March 13, 2016 at VCU. Our new system of sharing the workload that we implemented last year was used again, successfully. Jennifer Scott and Wesley Pollard co-chaired the event. A report was sent to Tonya Menard, Theory Chair of VMTA, on March 23, 2016.

The numbers of teachers and students entered this year was quite similar to last year's numbers, within 5. 15 teachers entered 116 students, and the fees collected amounted to \$1,392. 11 students were absent.

105 students took tests ranging from Primer to Level 9. There was only 1 who did not pass. 69 students received Superior or Excellent, and 93 out of the 105 received Superior, Excellent or Very Good. That's quite an accomplishment for our students, and reflects the fine teaching of our teachers.

Theory Test Reporting Volunteer: Gabriella Ryan

Upcoming Teacher Events

Annual Luncheon

Saturday, May 7 at 12:00 PM

Can Can Brasserie - 3120 W. Cary St. Richmond, VA 23221

RMTA Achievement Award Notice and Deadline

The RMTA Achievement Award is an award that is presented to a student and their teacher who has participated in the most RMTA activities during the year. The purpose of the student award is to recognize and encourage students to participate in musical activities within our organization. The RMTA executive committee feels that it is important to reward students for their continued dedication to music education. The RMTA executive committee also wants to recognize the RMTA teacher who supported and motivated their student.

The student achievement award will be an engraved trophy. The teacher achievement award will be a nicely framed certificate.

For each RMTA teacher that has students who participate in many RMTA activities during the year, please submit a Documentation Form (and attached forms) for each student that you feel is eligible for the award by May 20, 2016. All detailed information can be found on our RMTA website under MEMBER LOGIN/Application Forms. This will be submitted to Jennifer Scott.

Summer Camp Scholarships

May 15 is the deadline to receive applications for RMTA's two summer camp scholarships. Please refer to page 33 of the RMTA Yearbook for instructions as to how to apply. We would love to be able to award both scholarships.

Announcements

In November of 2015, Anna Evas released her piano album Anna Evas: Unwritten Words. For more information, please visit www.AnnaEvas.com."

