



RMTA Winter Newsletter 2019-20

Letter from the President

Dear Teachers,

Here we are now in 2020! After such an inspirational workshop by VMTA President, Narciso Solero, this month, we must all be ready to transform our studios into extraordinary ones! And, as he noted, everything is possible! We just need to believe it and act on it. So I'm ready for 2020 to be a transformative year.

Our first Sonata/Sonatina Festival was held on February 1st at St. Luke's Lutheran. Eighty-three of our students performed for an audience and judges, and we should be proud of that number! I'm so happy that more of our students participated in this event, and experienced what it's like to be part of the musical community. The judges had difficulty choosing students to be in the Honors Recital the next day, and if you attended that, you can see why. There were 22 students selected for Honors, to perform at the recital and earn medals. There was some awesome playing! Congratulations to all the students for their performances!

Thanks to all the teachers and helpers for the Sonata/Sonatina Festival. It takes lots of working together to have an audience event with 83 performers, and everyone stood up to it. Thanks to the committee who put this together, including Sharon Stewart and Michelle Huang. This event will alternate with the Bach Competition, so plan on teaching more Bach this year for 2021. If you are inclined, email me to volunteer to head up or help in that event.

On February 23 and March 15, we're holding the VMTA Sightreading/Keyboard Skills and Theory testing, respectively (postmark deadline Feb. 3). This is another event that requires many volunteers to prepare for and run it. Thanks to all teachers and helpers, again and again!

On March 22-25, I hope some of you are planning on attending the MTNA Conference in Chicago. MTNA always puts on a fabulous conference, with great speakers and performances. It's definitely worth going!

Our last RMTA Recital is on March 29, with a March 16th postmark deadline. Email Maria Yefimova (yefimova21@yahoo.com) to enter your students. If you haven't participated in the past, go see the recital at 3:00 at St. Catherine's School, so you can prepare your fine students to participate next year.

The Playathon is coming up sooner than you think! It's on April 18th at the Richmond Public Library on Franklin (postmark deadline extended to March 17). This is the event in which all our students can perform, with or without music, to help a college music student with tuition. It's a great cause, and teaches our students that they can make a difference in someone's musical life. They can get \$5 or greater pledges from friends and family, or have their teacher be their sponsor for this special event. We've given a college student \$1000 for many years now through this charitable musical event. Please start talking it up now to your students. Each one can play as

little or as much as they like. Each teacher signs up for a chunk of time for their studio to participate. The students love it, and it's another performance opportunity for all of them, even the little ones! See our website, or contact Belle Elliott (belleelliott88@gmail.com) for more info.

Are you ready for 2020 to be a transformative year? Enter your students in all these events, and watch what happens!

Musically Yours,

Gabriella Ryan, NCTM

Website and Facebook

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

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

Fall Festival Report

The Fall Festival was held on Saturday, November 23, 2019. Twenty-two teachers registered 136 students for the event. A few students could not attend, and 126 participated: 48 in Level 1A, 23 in Level 1B, 43 in Level 2, and 12 in Level 3. There were 95 Superior ratings, 26 Excellent ratings, and 5 Very Good ratings.

We appreciated the help of everyone who worked at the registration desk, provided morning snacks, and served as judges and monitors. Thanks to Brian Evans and Carroll Keiger at St. Catherine's for their help in making arrangements for the pianos to be tuned and allowing us to hold the event in the music building. We had a very successful day!

Submitted by,
Ellis Dunton and Chloe Fortin, Co-Chairs

Membership Corner

Ming Lu has an updated cell phone number: (804) 874-4569

Upcoming Teacher Events and Workshops

New Masterclass Event for RMTA!

Our VMTA Past President, Paulo Steinberg, has offered to do a Masterclass in March!

Please mark your calendars for **March 22, Saturday, at 2:00**

Reveille United Methodist Church, 4200 Cary, Richmond, 23221.

Invite your students as well, to see what a masterclass is like. Students of Sharon Stewart and Gabriella Ryan will perform. Thanks to Dr. Steinberg for offering us this opportunity!

Upcoming Student Events

VMTA THEORY AND SIGHTREADING TESTS

Sunday, February 23: VMTA SR/Skills Tests at Rhapsody Piano and Guitar

Sunday, March 15: VMTA Theory Tests at VCU

The postmark deadline is set for February 3

Exact testing times for all of the above 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 on our RMTA website (Under ACTIVITIES/STUDENT EVENTS:(www.richmondmta.org). 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 help with theory each year!

Contacts:

- Theory Day: Wesley Pollard, wesley@rhapsodypiano.com
- Theory Applications/Checks: Jennifer Scott, jspianostudio@yahoo.com
- Sightreading and Keyboard Skills: Fay Barss, faysmusic@gmail.com
- Sightreading for Single-Line instruments and Voice: Hope Armstrong
- Erb, hope.armstrong.erb@gmail.com
- Questions of Theory Testing: Jennifer Scott, jspianostudio@yahoo.com

Thanks!

Jennifer Scott, NCTM

Sonata/Sonatina Festival Program

RMTA Sonata/Sonatina Festival 2020 Honors Recital

February 2nd 2020, 2:00 p.m., St. Luke's Lutheran Church

PRIMER LEVEL	
William Jiang Clementi	Sonatina in C
Adalyn Zou	Sonata Hob. xvi/1, L10, Allegro

Haydn

**Cindy Long
Clementi**

Sonatina Op. 36 No. 5, Rondo

**Stephen Chen
Haydn**

Sonata Hob. xvi/1, L. 10, Allegro

**Angela Zhang
Clementi**

Sonatina Op. 36 No. 1, Allegro

**Dali Meng
Haydn**

Sonata in G, Hob. xvi/27, 1st mov.

Level 1

**Zoe Hu
Mozart**

Sonata K. 545, Allegro

**Simon Fass
Haydn**

Sonata in D, Hob. xvi/4

**Tony Zhang
Mozart**

Sonata K. 280, 3rd mov.

**Haru Alexander Mikawa
Haydn**

Sonata Hob. xvi/23, 1st mov.

**Maria Neal
Mozart**

Sonata K. 545, Allegro

**William He
Beethoven**

Sonata Op. 27 No. 2, Presto Agitato

Level 2

**Nisarg Shah
Scarlatti**

Sonata in e minor, K. 198, 1st mov.

**Annie Yuan
Haydn**

Sonata Hob. xvi/23, Allegro Moderato

**Danil Kotikov
Beethoven**

Sonata Op. 27 No. 2, 3rd mov.

**Anna E Newell
Beethoven**

Sonata Op. 10 No. 1, Allegro molto e con brio

**Andy Zhao
Beethoven**

Sonata Op.13

Level 3

**Albert Tang
Haydn**

Sonata in G, Hob. xvi/27, Allegro con brio

Joshua Warner

Sonata in B flat, K. 333

Mozart

**Kyle Valorose
Ornstein**

Piano Sonata No. 4, Semplice

**Ivory Tang
Ravel**

Sonatine, Modéré

**James Shen
Chopin**

Sonata in B flat minor, I. Grave - Doppio movimento

TEACHERS REPRESENTED:

Hope Armstrong Erb

Sharon Stewart

Paul Hanson

Yifei Sun

Michelle Huang

Natalya Vornovitsky

Ilona Rectenwald

Maria Yefimova

Ruta Smedina-Starke

Thank you to all who participated in this Festival, especially to the Organizing Committee - Michelle Huang, Gabriella Ryan and Sharon Stewart - and to all the volunteers who made this event possible!