



# Nuances

The Newsletter of MAPTA

August/September 2009 - Vol 40, Issue 1

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## Calendar

**Sunday, September 13th - 3:00pm**  
- General Meeting

**Young Composers Festival  
Winners' Recital**

Covenant Presbyterian Church, (326 Segoe Road, Madison). Potluck to follow.

**Tuesday, September 15th -**  
8:30-10:30am -

Board Meeting  
Home of Debbie Yee, 5718 Piping Rock Rd, Madison

**Friday, September 18th - 10:00am**  
- PSP

Performers Supporting Performers, 400 Oak Valley Rd, Mt Horeb. Contact Ruth Heinecke for more information at (608)437-4634 or via email.

**Friday, September 18th 7:30pm -**  
Retirement Planning for Independent Piano Teachers [workshop](#) - Steinway Piano Gallery

**Tuesday, September 22nd 9:00am**  
-

Free Retirement Planning for Independent Piano Teachers [workshop](#) - Steinway Piano Gallery

**Tuesday, September 22nd - Free Piano Construction Exhibit** opens at Overture Center. Runs through October 30.

**Friday, September 25th**  
[MSO Fall Youth Concerto Competition](#) application [deadline](#)

**Sunday, September 27th**  
October 11 Young Artist Recital entry [deadline](#). Contact [Brian Hagen](#) or [Renee Farley](#) for more information.

**Thursday, October 1st - [Sonatina Festival](#)** application [deadline](#)

**Saturday, October 10th**  
MSO Fall Youth Concerto Competition Auditions

**Sunday, October 11th - Young Artist Recital**  
1:00 pm - Warmups  
1:30 pm - Performance  
Capitol Lakes Retirement Center - Grand Hall - 333. W. Main Street, Madison.

**Monday, October 12 -**  
[Bolz Young Artist Competition](#) application [deadline](#)

**Saturday, October 24 - 9:00am-5:00pm**

## President's Message *by Debbie Yee*

Welcome, , to the exciting forty-first year of the MAPTA! I am proud to work with all of the diverse individuals which comprise this wonderful organization and am excited to take on the role of president.

It has been a busy summer and I would like to recognize some of the members who have lead our summer projects.



The work by Anita Schulz and all the members involved in revising the bylaws is a shining example of MAPTA community and cooperation. Throughout the last year, as many as fifteen members met to create a more clear and concise guiding document. The results of their efforts will be presented at the September 15 board meeting. All members are invited to attend the meeting and review the revised document.

I would also like to thank Denise Taylor for her diligent work in updating the Member Directory. More than just a list of names and addresses, the Directory is a valuable resource for our members. If it has not arrived yet, expect to see your copy in the mail soon.

Ben Garber spent several months researching a new logo for MAPTA and sharing design ideas with the Board. You will see the clean, fresh logo on all publications and programs and logoed stationary and postcards are now available for members to use for MAPTA business.

Renee Farley and Brian Hagen have secured sites and dates for this season's Young Artist Recitals and we all appreciate their efforts.

My first message would not be complete without expressing my gratitude to two members who have made significant contributions to our organization over the past several years.

Shad Wenzlaff was a wonderful, tireless president and has done outstanding work coordinating this season's Young Composer Festival. He has already been a valuable resource to me, and MAPTA, as our Immediate Past President. Thank you, Shad.

Lana Robotewskij transformed Nuances into an informative and enjoyable publication. Lana, we are all very grateful for your commitment and ingenuity and wish you well in your new endeavor.

Every member of MAPTA deserves to be congratulated for choosing to be a part of our community. Together, we will continue to work toward our mission.

I hope you enjoy the first Nuances of 2009-2010. Please feel free to call or email me at anytime. I welcome your comments and suggestions.

Looking forward...

Debbie Yee  
MAPTA President

## PSP - Performers Supporting Performers

Performers Supporting Performers will meet on Friday, September 18th, 10:00 a.m. at the home of Ruth Heinecke, 400 Oak Valley Road, Mount Horeb, WI. Any MAPTA members who are interested in playing for each other in an informal setting are cordially welcome! The group



Monster Concert at Barnes & Nobel - EastTowne Mall

**Sunday, October 25th**  
November 8 Young Artist Recital entry deadline. Contact [Brian Hagen](#) or [Renee Farley](#) for more information.

October 28-31 - [WMEA State Conference](#) - Monona Terrace

**MAPTA Sponsored Events are featured in this color.**

#### Quick Links

[MAPTA Membership](#)

[MAPTA Membership Form \(PDF\)](#)

[Contact MAPTA Officers and Board Members](#)

[MAPTA Members Only Site](#)

[MSO Fall Youth Concerto Competition Website](#)

#### Submissions

Submissions of articles, events or other piano themed features are welcome. We need them by the 21st of each month to be considered for publication.

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#### "Our work is about inspiring

creativity, complete education and choice. Instead of teaching creativity out of children, we need to preserve and nurture it so we can create a stable, sustainable world."

--Matt Goldman  
Blue Man Group Founder  
speaking at the NAMM 2009 Advocacy Briefings

normally meets the third Friday of the month at various homes.

Mark your calendars... the PSP Recital will be Sunday, Feb. 28, 2010, 2:00 at Capitol Lakes Retirement Center's Grand Hall.

Please contact Ruth for more information.  
608-437-4634 [rheinecke@rocketmail.com](mailto:rheinecke@rocketmail.com)

#### Young Artist Recitals



Young Artist Recitals are opportunities for students of MAPTA teachers to share their pieces with others in a friendly, non-competitive setting.

The recitals will be held on Sunday afternoons at one of two Madison locations according to the recital date; Capitol Lakes Retirement Center's Grand Hall, 333. W. Main Street, and Oak Park Place East's Grandview Hall, 718 Jupiter Drive. Admission, seating, and warm-ups commence at 1:00 with the performances starting at 1:30.

To register, please send the registration form and payment or an email with the required information to the chairperson two weeks prior to the recital. You may instead choose to email the following information to the chairperson. The email must be sent by the registration date:

- Name and age of student(s)
- Name of piece(s) and composer(s)
- Level and minutes of playing time for each piece
- Teacher's name and phone number (email if available)
- \$5.00 per student performing (checks payable to MAPTA - if registering by email payment must be given to the chairperson no later than the date of the recital)
- Self-addressed stamped envelope for recital time confirmation (unless registering by email)

*Consult your Membership Directory for more information.*

#### Welcome New Members!

MAPTA is pleased to welcome our new members this fall; **Katherine Appelt, Amy Baitinger, Legh-Ann Balthazor, Ellen DeVries, Alena Harrison, Brandy Held, Patricia Johnson, David Stephan and DeWitt Strong.**

*Do you know someone who could benefit from joining MAPTA? Send them this issue of Nuances by clicking the link below.*



#### Young Composers Festival Update from Shad Wenzlaff

I am excited to announce that **Jennifer Linn** (pictured right) is busily listening to and scoring over twenty-five 2009 **Young Composer's Festival** entries. We have entries representing studios of 9 member, plus 1 non-member, teachers this year.



Ms. Linn will be communicating festival scores within the next week, and I will forward that information to students and teachers as soon as I learn the results. Our recital is open to everyone in the community; piano teachers, students, families, and anyone else who is interested in hearing some innovative creations for piano solo and duet.

It is worth noting that we've already found an adjudicator for our 2010 event, and I am looking into grant-funding resources. If you have experience or expertise with fundraising and grant writing, I could use your help with the 2010 YCF committee. In the meantime, we invite you join us to celebrate the next generation of piano music on the September 13th. I hope to see you there. I know I'm looking forward to being inspired!

#### "How Musical Is Amerca?" A Summary of the recent Gallup poll



In their July, 2009 issue, [The Music Trades](#) reported on a new national Gallup poll commissioned by the National Association of Music Merchants and conducted regularly since 1978. They concluded that music making is at an all-time high, support for music education is solid, and there's a widespread belief that



'music makes you smarter,' referencing the theme of NAMM's advocacy campaign. Here are some of the highlights from "How Musical Is America?"

--73% of those who responded believe that children should be exposed to music before the age of five.

--Over 90% acknowledged the social and academic benefits of music education.

--Parents continue to be the prime influence in determining musical participation. 45% of those who play said it was their parents encouragement that got them started compared to 24% who said they were interested on their own.

--Music is on the rise... in 1997, 38% of households reported having at least one musician was 38%.

--More boys are joining the fun... The 1985 survey showed 53% of music makers were female. The new survey shows that 52% are now male.

--Piano is the most popular instrument (30%) followed by guitar (25%) and woodwinds (12%).

--Using the results of the survey and Census data, the results suggest that there are at least 512,000 private music teachers in the US. If that's the case, music teachers outnumber members of the United Auto Workers Union.

Read more about this Gallop poll [here](#)...  
Reprinted with permission from Music Trades Magazine.

**Fall Workshop - Friday, November 6th - 9:00 am (Registration 8:30 am)**

**Dr. Andrew Hisey** will present this year's Fall Workshop, "**Laying a Foundation for Improvisation and Play with Your Music.**"



Dr. Hisey is one of the founding directors of the National Group Piano and Piano Pedagogy Forum, a member of Canada's Royal Conservatory of Music College of Examiners and serves as series editor for the Composer Editions series from the Frederick Harris Music Company. Currently, he is a professor of piano in St. Olaf College where he holds the vice chair for the school of music.

Ward-Brodt Music Mall, 2200 W Beltline Hwy, Madison  
\$35 MAPTA members, \$45 Non-MAPTA members, \$20 Students  
Registration Deadline: to be announced in brochure

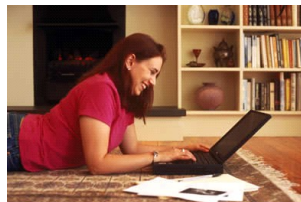
For more information contact: [Gloria Chuang](#) or consult your Membership Directory

**Review: Using the Web to Streamline Your Studio** by Kitty Maas

A well managed studio means spending less running your business and more time teaching. Today, studio management websites offer tools to automate tasks and opportunities to connect with students and parents.

One of the best online management sites that I have found is [www.musicteacherhelper.com](http://www.musicteacherhelper.com). The site provides business support and a website that you can use to communicate with your students. They offer a free trial of up to three students and monthly paid subscriptions range from \$10.95 for up to ten students to an unlimited plan for \$24.95.

They make it easy to adjust your subscription. Simply deleting students or moving them to the 'waiting list' brings up the 'downgrade' option.



The **Home page** offers a video tutorial and links to directions that explain how to use the site. This is also where you add students, update preferences like email templates for announcements and reminders, maintain your profile, and build your website. The **Calendar** feature allows you to easily schedule lessons and events, reconcile attendance, and create invoices. Events can even be exported to another calendar and 'synched' to mobile devices, online calendars or your website. From the **Student** tab you can access a list of students or parents, send emails, access the **Lending Library** (how much music have we all lost over the years?), track practice logs, and even track repertoire. The **Lesson** tab allows access to lesson history and notes and contains guides to create studio policies. In addition to viewing individual account status, the **Billing** tab includes handy trackers for mileage, expenses and income from other sources such as books and supplies. Here you can also issue a credit, charge a fee or see all transactions for a given student. The **Invoicing** section allows convenient automatic or manual invoicing.

What really sets musicteacherhelper.com apart is the immediate access to training as a new user while still being easy to use once you become more experienced with the site. Flexibility is a prominent feature throughout the site, allowing you to manage your account without having to make telephone calls. In a pinch, contacting real people for help is quick and easy. When I called, my questions were answered in short order.

The benefits of having a site that manages so many aspects of running a studio are priceless. While we are capable of doing all these things on paper or with a slew of other programs, the value of a 'one

stop solution' is found in the time freed up to do what we do best: teach. Any time we can streamline tasks (think of automatic dishwashers) without giving up control, we give ourselves permission to spend our time doing the things we love. Musicteacherhelper.com can help you efficiently streamline your studio making the nominal the monthly cost a 'sound' investment.

*Kathryn "Kitty" Maas has been teaching piano for 30 years; currently at Arboretum Music School in Waunakee. She is also a Financial Advisor for Waddell & Reed in Madison and will conduct two free "Retirement Planning for Independent Piano Teachers" workshops in September. Watch your mail for an invitation or see the calendar for details. Kitty can be reached at [kmaas@maasmusic.com](mailto:kmaas@maasmusic.com).*

#### Notes from MAFOP

Madison Area Friends of Piano is a combination of piano teachers, dealers and piano technicians, all with the purpose of promoting playing the piano. MAPTA is a member of MAFOP and is a vital part of MAFOP's success. There are two events that teachers can enter their students in.

#### **MONSTER CONCERT - Saturday, October 24, 2009** *(Please note this date - it was misprinted in the Directory)*

The Monster Concert occurs at Barnes & Noble in the East Towne Mall. Students can either play in costume or not. This is strictly for the fun of playing and enjoying the holiday. It is not a fund-raiser. Teachers sign up for blocks of time by contacting Renee Farley

#### **2010 Key UP for Kids PIANO PLAYATHON - Saturday, February 13, 2010**

This event is a fundraiser. Students raise money for the American Family Children's Hospital by playing the piano. The students collect pledges for their efforts. Multiple sites are running at the same time. Adults can also sign up. This event has co-sponsors that offer premiums to participants. Media sponsors also help in promoting the event. The 2009 Playathon raised around \$11,000. The charity this event supports within the American Family Children's Hospital is the Child Life program, which operates without patient or insurance funds, all by donations. Letters for teachers and students will be sent out later this fall with sign-up instructions.

*For more information or to sign up for the Playathon, contact MAFOP president Renee Farley via email or at 271-2626.*

#### Russian Evening

Cellist Peled and Pianist Kalman to Perform "Russian Evening" at Farley's

Israeli cellist Amit Peled, who has performed solo in Carnegie Hall and Alice Tully Hall, will appear in a salon concert at Farley's on Saturday, September 26, 2009 at 8 PM. He will be accompanied by pianist Eli Kalman. Peled's profound artistry has won him wide acclaim. Mr. Peled is a Professor at the Peabody Conservatory of Music. Mr. Kalman has performed extensively as a soloist and chamber musician. He serves as Professor of Piano at University of Wisconsin at Oshkosh. Their program will feature:

Sonata for Cello and Piano in C major, Op. 119 Prokofiev  
Sonata for Cello and Piano in D minor, Op. 40 Shostakovich  
Sonata for Cello and Piano in G Minor, Op. 19 Rachmaninoff

Tickets to both events are \$25. for adults, \$20. for seniors and students with ID. For groups of 10 or more, take \$5. off the ticket price if purchased before September 26, 2009 for Peled & Kalman. Reception follows concert. Reserve tickets with credit card by calling 271-2626 or purchase tickets at Farley's House of Pianos, 6522 Seybold Road, or at Orange Tree Imports.

#### "The Music Instinct" on PBS



While listening to music, neuroscientist Daniel Levitin, asks the questions "where do goose bumps come from?" and "what's going on in my brain that allows the goosebumps to happen?"

Levitin leads a group of researchers as they investigate music's fundamental physical structure; its biological, emotional and psychological impact; its brain altering and healing powers and its

role in human evolution.

The Music Instinct: Science and Song is a fascinating two-hour documentary on the science of music that premiered in June on PBS. The producers also launched a companion website that includes interviews and performances from the documentary.

Researchers and scientists from a variety of fields are using groundbreaking techniques that reveal startling new connections between music and the human mind, the body and the universe. Together with an array of musicians from rock and rap to jazz and classical, they are putting music under the microscope.

"The brain is teaching us about music and music is teaching us about the brain," says Levitin. "Music allows us to understand better how the brain organizes information in the world. There are a lot of different factors that go into our emotional appreciation of music [like] the memories we have of a particular song that we heard at a particular time in our lives."

[Read the rest of this story](#)

[Click here](#) to visit *The Music Instinct* website

Final Thought... History Lesson?



### Why Kids Don't Make Music

"A broad national survey of high school children offers new insights into why they drop out of music programs or never join in the first place. 38% of students said they didn't participate in music because of a lack of time. Another 36% cited competition from other activities, particularly sports. 12% said they didn't like the instructor."

Source: **Music Trades Magazine, July 1959**

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