



# Nuances

The Newsletter of MAPTA

February 2012 Vol 42 Issue 7  
MAPTA Calendar of Events

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## Submissions

Complete [submissions](#) of articles, events or other piano themed features are welcome. All submissions are due by the **21st of each month** to be considered for publication.

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## January General Meeting

January's program was an excellent and entertaining discussion on performance anxiety, led by our Performers Supporting Performers group. Highlights included a

## President's Message

[Patty Ladpli](#)

### Greetings!

February is definitely the start of a busy time of the year for teachers and students as far as piano opportunities go in the Madison area.

For students, there is a variety of performance opportunities, including: MAFOP's 20th annual Piano Play-a-thon, to MAPTA's Honors Recital and the National Federation of Music Club's Junior Festival at the end of the month.

And to top it off, there are the WMTA events and WSMA solo and ensemble events throughout the state from February through May.

Be sure to catch our February General Meeting. A program on biomechanical approaches to piano technique presented by UW-Madison doctoral candidate Amanda Horn should be especially interesting.

Finally, please take special note that the election for new officers will also take place at the Tuesday, February 14th General Meeting.

Hope to see you soon!

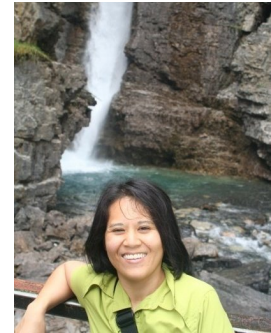
Patty Ladpli  
MAPTA President

**Honors Recital** *Sun. Feb. 12 - 2:00 pm (and possibly 4:00 pm)*  
UW-Madison's Morphy Recital Hall, Humanities Building,  
455 North Park Street, Madison, WI 53706

For more information, contact [Shu-Ching Chuang](#) or [Jane Peckham](#).

[Click here for directions](#)

**General Meeting** *Tues, Feb 14 - 9:00 -11:00 am*  
Christ Presbyterian Church, 944 E. Gorham Street, Madison



composer spotlight on George Gershwin with performance by Deborah Ferris.

Denise Taylor shared ideas for a studio summer performing project. A big "thank you" to PSP's chair, Ruth Heinecke, for leading that forum!

### Studio Exchange Teachers

Contact [Gloria Chuang](#), [Denise Taylor](#), [Shad Wenzlaff](#), or [Debbie Yee](#) if you are interested in being a part of the Studio Exchange Program.

### Share The Music!

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

February's program **Back to Biomechanical Basics** with Amanda Horn will explore historical and modern approaches to piano technique using Proformavision biofeedback technology, a type of surface electromyography that measures musicians' muscle tension in real time.

If you're not sure what all of those words mean, come to the program and find out!

Amanda Horn holds degrees in both piano performance and music theory from Penn State University. She is currently a University Fellow and doctoral candidate in piano performance and pedagogy at the UW-Madison, where she studies piano with Christopher Taylor and pedagogy with Jessica Johnson.

Her recent performance highlights include a 2010 recital tour as pianist of Madison-based Duo Mendota and a 2008 solo performance at Carnegie Hall in the annual Adamant Music School showcase recital.

In addition to her performing career, Amanda is also a sought-after piano instructor and adjudicator in the Madison area.

For more information, contact [Alena Harrison](#) or [Stacy Regehr](#) [Click here for directions](#)

**Performers Supporting Performers** *Friday, Feb. 17, 10:00 am*  
Lana Robotewskyj's studio, 3140 Edmonton Drive, Suite 900, Sun Prairie

[Ruth Heinecke](#)

MAPTA members are invited to come and perform or just listen. The PSP recital will be held Sunday, March 4th at 2:00 p.m. at Capitol Lakes' Grand Hall, 333 W. Main, Madison.

Our program won't be decided until later in February at which time an email will be sent to MAPTA members listing the performers' names and pieces. Please plan to join us!

Contact [Ruth](#) with questions.

[Click here for directions](#)

**Pro Goals** *Tues, Feb. 21- 9:15 - 11:00 am*  
Madison Public Library - Sequoya Branch, 4340 Tokay Blvd - Meeting Room A

A discussion was brought forth to the general membership by the professional goals committee at the meeting in January. A motion was made to amend MAPTA's bylaws according to the wording printed in the November, 2011 Nuances. This motion was passed by unanimous vote.

The Pro Goals meeting was held January 24, 2012, at the Sequoya Branch Library. The agenda included the following topics of discussion:

1. The recently amended bylaws will be updated on the website.
2. Continual updating to Website Resource Page and other website issues.
3. Creating a timeline for preparation and implementation of the Piano PlayTogether.
4. Moving the membership deadline to May 1st.
5. The creation of registration forms for all MAPTA events by event chairperson/s by August 1st for proof reading.

For more information, see the Membership Directory or contact [Jeanne Felix](#) or [Diane Madsen](#).

[Click here for directions](#)

### Editor's Note

[Grant Billings](#)

Typically, MAPTA events are listed in Nuances chronologically followed by non-MAPTA events listed chronologically. Since there are popular non-MAPTA events in February, they are listed below, followed by MAPTA dates for March and beyond.



**2012 Key-Up-for-Kids Piano Playathon** *Sat, Feb 11*  
Barnes & Noble West Towne, 7433 Mineral Point Road, Madison

[Connie Jones](#) and [Renee Farley](#)

Don't miss this performance opportunity. This is our 20th year and we are planning a bigger than ever celebration. If you have not registered, there still may be a little time available for some of your studio.

Contact [Connie Jones](#) at (608) 442-8302

The Playathon is sponsored by Madison Area Friends of Piano and American Family Children's Hospital.

Members include Madison Area Piano Teachers Associated, Inc, Madison Chapter of the Piano Technicians Guild, Farley's House of Pianos, and Heid Music.

**Piano-Bank Deadline** *Mon, Feb 13*

[Jan Tweed](#)



2011 Piano Bank  
Recipients

The Wisconsin Foundation for School Music and Steinway Piano Society provide pianos to students who are not able to afford a piano. If you know of a student who would benefit from applying for a piano, [click here](#).

The next application deadline is Monday, February 13, 2012.

**Federation Junior Festival Change in Date and Location** *Sun, Feb 26*  
Farley's House of Pianos, 6522 Seybold Road, Madison

Please note both the the date and location have been changed.

If you have any questions about the Federation festival, contact [Julie Chang](#) at (608) 833-1485.

[Click here for directions](#)

Christopher Norton has come out with a revised three-volume series that expands on his original MicroJazz books.

MicroJazz Collection #1 Book and CD - Early intermediate piano solos, #48021129, \$19.95. This collection has preparatory rhythm exercises for each song and contains all the pieces in MicroJazz for Starters 1 & 2, as well as brand new pieces.

MicroJazz Collection #2 Book and CD - Early- to mid-intermediate piano solos, #48021130, \$19.95. This collection has easy pieces in popular styles such as jazz, blues, rock 'n'roll and reggae and contains all the pieces formerly in MicroJazz 1 and More MicroJazz 1. The CD helps the student play along to the backing tracks or listen to the composer's own performances.

MicroJazz Collection #3 Book and CD - Intermediate piano solos, #48021132, \$20.95. This collection continues the popular styles at an intermediate level and contains all the former pieces from MicroJazz 2 and More MicroJazz 2.

Microballads Book and CD , #48021132,\$20.95. Microballads features twenty new works with an accompanying CD. The pieces gradually become more challenging, but do not go beyond Grade 3 in difficulty. The songs focus on love, but the composer does not always believe in happy endings.

The above titles are from Hal Leonard. Christopher Norton has also written the Connections series for Frederick Harris Publishing.

Alfred Publishing continues to add new titles to its Value Pack series. Premier Piano Course and the Basic Piano Library have new Packs that include a Pop book in place of the Performance book, all at 30% off the cover price.

New from FJH - Helen Marlais has released a six-part series entitled In Recital with Timeless Hymns. The graded material starts off with teacher duet parts for Books 1 and 2 and eventually leads to solo arrangements suitable for church or recital in Books 5 and 6. Each volume contains information on each hymn, as well as a CD for performance preparation or casual listening.

### Board Votes on Changes to Young Artist Recital Policy

[Denise Taylor](#)

At the January 17 Board meeting, the board discussed ways to have Young Artist Recitals benefit teachers and students in the best way.

It came to our attention that there were some last-minute changes to the November recital and some clarification is needed to enable the YAR Chairs to proceed with a clear policy and to make sure the recitals are fair to all participating teachers.

The following motion was approved unanimously and should be considered a change to the policy beginning with the next recital:

- 1) Teachers must meet the Young Artist Recital deadline,
- 2) MAPTA has the goal of two recitals of 45-50 minutes each. Then,
- 3) if two recitals are not filled, then there's no time limit for each teacher
- 4) if two recitals are filled then the chair has the discretion to limit teachers as he or she sees fit to meet the two recital goal.

**Young Artist Recital - Deadline** *Sun, Mar 4*

The registration deadline for the March 18th recital at Oakwood West is March 4, 2012. Registrations should be sent to [Irmgard Bittar](#), at 7326 Cedar Creek Trail, Madison, WI 53717.

Include:

- 1) Name and age of student (s)
- 2) Name of piece (s) and composer (s)
- 3) Level and minutes of playing time for each piece
- 4) Teacher's name and phone number (e-mail if available)
- 5) \$5.00 per student performing (checks payable to MAPTA)
- 6) Self-addressed stamped envelope for recital time confirmation (unless registering by e-mail)

If the playing time of all students for a single recital exceeds 45 minutes, two recitals will be held with the second beginning around 2:30 pm.

Contact [Irmgard Bittar](#) at (608) 826-0385 or [Renee Farley](#) at (608) 238-1871 with questions.

**Performers Supporting Performers Recital** *Sun, Mar 4 - 2:00 pm*  
Capitol Lakes Grand Hall, 333 West Main Street, Madison

All MAPTA members interested in listening are invited to join.

Please contact [Ruth Heinecke](#) with questions.

[Click here for directions](#)

**MAPTA Board Meeting** *Tues, Mar. 6 - 9:00 - 11:00 am*  
Sequoya Branch of Madison Public Library, 4340 Tokay Boulevard, Madison

[Denise Taylor](#)

The meeting will take place in Meeting Room B. All MAPTA members are invited to attend.

Topics to be discussed include: Fall Workshop wrap-up, YAR guidelines, and new publicity ideas.

[Click here for directions](#)

**General Meeting** *Tues, Mar 13 - 9:00 - 11:00 am*  
Diane Madsen's home, 7627 Fernglade Circle, Verona

[Patty Ladpli](#)

Get ready for a Repertoire Class with Kenneth Drake

Kenneth Drake, professor emeritus from the University of Illinois at Champaign-Urbana will be leading a repertoire class for MAPTA members. Those who are interested in playing for that class should send the title of their selection & timing to Patty Ladpli. Please aim to play a piece that is close to 5 minutes long so that we can have time for more people to play.

[Click here for directions](#)

**Young Artist Recital** *Sun, March 18 - 1:30 pm*  
Oakwood Village West, Auditorium, 6209 Mineral Point Road, Madison

Refer to the MAPTA directory, page 14 for more information or contact [Irmgard Bittar](#) or [Renee Farley](#) at (608) 238-1871 with questions.

[Click here for directions](#)

## MAPTA Continuing Education Grant Program



Continuing education grants of up to \$100 are available to assist teachers in their professional development. Funds are designated for non-MAPTA activities such as pedagogy conventions, piano workshops, or lessons.

Please [fill out this form](#) and forward to the MAPTA Vice President, [June Zeeh](#). The form is also found on the MAPTA website. Grant inquiries can be made before the event; however, funds will be disbursed only after the event is completed and specific requirements fulfilled. The applicant will give a detailed synopsis of at least fifteen minutes in length at a future program or roundtable discussion preceding the general meeting. The applicant must also write an article detailing his or her completed activity to accompany the grant request.

Once the grant has been approved, the presentation accomplished, and the article published in Nuances, funds will be disbursed.

### 2012 PianoArts Biennial Competition Registration Deadline *June 7 - 13*

[Sue Medford](#)

The 2012 PianoArts Biennial North American Competition will take place in Milwaukee, WI and is open to contestants aged 15 - 20 years old. Prizes total more than \$22,000 and include a scholarship to attend the 2013 International Keyboard Institute and Festival at Mannes College of Music in New York City, as well as performances in major concert halls and fellowships to perform for diverse Milwaukee audiences.

A total of 12 contestants will be advanced to the semifinals in Milwaukee, based on their submission of a DVD performance in the preliminary round. (All DVDs must be submitted by February 24.)

[Click here for more information.](#)

### Board Meeting Minutes

#### MAPTA Board Meeting Minutes

January 17, 2012, 9:00 am, Madison Public Library Sequoya Branch

Present: Patty Ladpli, Jeanne Felix, Debbie Yee, June Zeeh, Denise Taylor, Pamela McMullen, Tim Mueller

1. Minutes read from October 11 board meeting by Denise. Approved.
2. Treasurer's Report: MAPTA has total assets for December of \$10,382.15. Income of \$1.27 and expenses of \$48. October expenses \$589.12, income \$75, total assets of \$10,250.10. November expenses \$1,407.80, income \$1,890, total assets of \$10,509.00. Not included in this reporting is January to date, which includes income for Nuances advertising, a late fee for Fall workshop, and Composition Festival. Outstanding expense for Composition Festival and Honors Recital. Treasurer's Report approved.
3. Fall Workshop: 44 registrants, income of \$1,655, expenses of \$1,990.55, loss of \$335. Board discussed ways to reduce the loss, including raising fee, finding a less expensive venue. Possibility of Heid Music was raised but Board feels the loft space wouldn't be private enough. What about a hotel that would cater the lunch, but we would need to bring in a piano. Possibilities of Monona Terrace, Concourse Hotel, West Side Marriott or WSMA offices in Waunakee raised. Board wants to pursue WSMA offices first as a way to keep within music circles. June will call them.
4. Programs: Next program is Tuesday, February 14 with Amanda Horn, "Back to Biomechanical Basics" at Christ Presbyterian Church. March program Tuesday March 13 at Diane Madsen's

house with Kenneth Drake giving a masterclass for teachers. Please be in touch with Patty to volunteer to participate.

5. PSP first meeting is next Friday January 20 at Cheri Lewis's house. Recital Sunday March 4, 2 pm at Capitol Lakes.
6. EMR: No new report.
7. Nuances: Patty is proposing a Communications meeting to coordinate Nuances, website, and Publicity. There will be a new email for submissions that Patty will try to get right away.
8. Website: Updates on resources page. Let Patty know any corrections. Domain name is up for renewal. Can renew for 1-, 2- or 5-year terms. Board says go for 5-year plan, save \$45 overall. Invoice we received was from a second company trying to have us switch registration over to them, and there are 2 actual domain names and questions about madisonpianoteachers.com and/or .org address. Patty, Grant, and Tim will straighten this out.
9. Publicity: Tim working on new brochure. Brought a sample mock-up for the Board to review. General comments suggested, including clarification of who this brochure is geared to (parents and students). There will be another brochure geared towards teachers. Tim created a QR code for MAPTA. The Board marveled at Tim's ingenuity for this.
10. Referral: Linda reported two calls in the past month for referral. Debbie accidentally put TracPhone expense under Publicity but will change to Referral.
11. Membership: No new report from Cynthia. One new member. Patty is recruiting for a Membership Chair. Issue of PayPal came up again. Would it be good for teachers, good for the long term? PayPal has 2.9% plus \$0.30 transaction fee and a \$48 membership fee. Board estimated approximately \$100/year fee. Pamela and Shad should get together and discuss the long-term implications of this.
12. Honors: Auditions January 28. There are approximately 40 registrants. There was an issue with the minimum age requirement, they let a few students in under the minimum age in order to boost numbers. Similar numbers to last year in spite of the earlier date.
13. Pro Goals: The proposed changes to MAPTA by-laws was passed at the last general meeting. Jeanne will submit to Grant. Next ProGoals meeting next Tuesday at Sequoya Branch Library.
14. Young Artist Recital: January recital was cancelled because only 2 students signed up. Next one is March 18, deadline March 4. November recital had 23 students as of the deadline. Patty thought we were going to lose too much money from Fall Workshop, so added 6 more of her students to the MAPTA recital & combined with 2 other teachers to make a second recital. Irmgard feels teachers should be limited to 6 students, 10 minutes of recital time. Board discussed at length and wants to change rules to be: 1) teachers must meet the recital deadline, 2) MAPTA has the goal of two recitals of 45-50 minutes each. Then, 3) if two recitals are not filled, then there's no time limit for each teacher 4) if two recitals are filled then the chair has the discretion to limit teachers as he or she sees fit to meet the two recital goal. Motion to approve new rules...Board approved unanimously.
15. Adult Music Social: Contact Cheri Lewis for details about the next one.
16. Composition Festival: The .pdf anthology has been made but Shad couldn't make it to the meeting to share with the Board. Pamela reported that expenses for anthology ended up costing \$110, and only \$45 of money was collected. Does this make sense?
17. New Business: Denise has agreed to be next Secretary, extending to a third term. Board approves Denise having a third term for this position. Must be voted on for the slate of officers at the February meeting.
18. New Business: June has a request for continuing education scholarship from Patty for \$100. She attended a 3-day workshop in August in Houston, TX, a child development workshop for Suzuki teachers. Board confirmed Patty will write a short article for Nuances and she will present at a meeting to be determined at a future date, perhaps March or April meeting. Board approved the application, payment after she presents at a meeting.
19. New Business: Outcome of the tax-exempt status: MAPTA needs to re-submit tax-exempt status paperwork. Pamela and June are working on it.
20. Next Board Meeting scheduled for Tuesday, March 6, 2012, 9:00 am, Sequoya Branch Library.
21. Meeting adjourned at 11:03 am.

Respectfully submitted,  
Denise Taylor

## General Meeting Minutes

MAPTA General Meeting Tuesday January 10, 2012  
*Minutes prepared by Denise Taylor, Secretary*

Called to order 10:35 am.

1. Minutes from September 2011 general meeting read and approved with one small change to the name of the church in item 17.
2. Treasurer's Report: Expenses \$1,407 (fall workshop, insurance), income \$1,800 (fall workshop, YAR). Total assets as of November \$10,009. December: expenses \$40, income \$1 (dividend). \$10,300. Treasurer's report approved.
3. Fall Workshop. November workshop with Marvin Blickenstaff was a great event, well attended. June Zeeh is absent today but will present a full report at Board meeting next week.
4. Programs: February 14 is our next program with Amanda Horn on helpful piano techniques and how the physical approach helps playing. March 13 program meeting will include MAPTA teachers playing for Kenneth Drake at Diane Madsen's home. Contact Patty to volunteer to perform.
5. PSP: Meets Friday January 20 at Cheri Lewis's house. Gearing up for March 4 recital. Anyone wanting to play in recital should attend this meeting.
6. Exploring Music Resources: no contact with David.
7. Nuances: Try to beat the deadline of 21<sup>st</sup> of the month for submitting articles to Grant Billings. This position will open up for 2012-13 year. Please come to Patty if you're interested. Linda asked that people submit lots of detail for every announcement - imagine a new member reading about your event for the first time.
8. Website: Patty has done a little updating here and there. Errors are easy to update, so don't hesitate to let Patty know.
9. Publicity: Tim is working on a new pamphlet promoting MAPTA. Draft should be ready by the next board meeting.
10. Referral: two phone calls. One was a question about how to read the web referral list. Person didn't realize the need to scroll down to find all the names. The website does list this clearly at the top of the referral list.
11. Membership: no report from Cynthia. We will need a new Membership Chair next year.
12. Honors Festival: Deadline to submit is tomorrow. Event takes place at end of January. One judge for the whole event this time.
13. YAR: January YAR canceled due to low registration. Next one is in March. Young Artist Recitals are open to all levels, memorization is optional. There is a deadline and a fee applicable to each one. See Irmgard Bittar for more info or to register.
14. PPT: No report.
15. Adult Music Social: in April. Get your adult music students ready! Contact Cheri Lewis for more info.
16. Piano Composition Festival: No report.
17. Professional Goals: We need to vote on proposed changes to by-laws. The changes were listed in the past 2 Nuances. Jeanne read them out loud at the meeting. Changes accepted by unanimous approval. Next meeting January 24, Sequoya meeting A at 9:15.
18. New business: Slate of officers - Secretary position is open for next year. Denise has agreed to continue on for a third year if no one comes forward. The Board will vote on this next week.
19. New business: Piano Play-a-thon is set for February 11 at Barnes & Noble West Towne. It's a fundraiser for Children's Hospital. Contact Connie Jones for more info.
20. Next board meeting January 17 at 9am at Sequoya Branch of Madison Public Library.

Meeting adjourned at 11:05 am.

### New Members!

[Cynthia Stephan](#)

It is the responsibility of the membership chair to submit a mid-year report on MAPTA membership.



The following MAPTA members have joined since the beginning of the membership year. This brings our membership total to 74. Of this number, 61 are active members, 6 are associate members, 4 are institutional members, and 3 are actively involved honorary lifetime members. If you haven't already, please add these names to your membership booklet.

Bill Lutes wrlutes83@yahoo.com  
7321 Whitacre Rd., Madison, WI 53717  
608-833-3548  
Specializes in intermediate and advanced piano - Memorial HS, Middleton HS  
Would be interested in helping with the fall workshop, programs, May brunch, and recitals

Lisa Hermanson ljhermanson@gmail.com  
2830 Allegheny Dr., Madison, WI 53719  
608-772-7658  
Will take all levels - Cesar Chavez, Toki Middle School  
Would be interested in helping with membership and recitals

Katherine Appelt kathi\_appelt@yahoo.com  
N9225 Hillcrest Rd., Belleville, WI 53508  
608-424-1406  
Specializes in voice - Belleville schools

Lynn Hallie Najem lynn@najem.net  
1237 Nevada Rd., Madison, WI 53704  
608-244-0425 or 608-575-5986  
Will take all levels - Lakeview, Gompers  
Also specializes in voice  
Would be interested in helping with referral and Piano Play Together  
Would like to be listed as accompanist and organist

Luanne Ritsema lmrltsema@tds.net  
887 Hemlock Dr., Verona, WI 53593  
608-848-1629  
Specializes in beginning and intermediate piano - Verona schools  
Would be interested in helping with referral and Piano Play Together  
Would like to be listed as organist

Polly Kuelbs pkuelbs@tds.net  
2601 Van Hise Ave., Madison, WI 53705  
608-770-7590 or 608-238-7590  
Will take all levels - West High and Randall

Please join me in welcoming our newest members!

The Final Note

[Grant Billings](#)

Did you *hear* that giving children musical training has a positive effect on *hearing* as the person ages? That is according to Northwestern University neuroscience professor Nina Kraus who suggests that parents should not only give their children music lessons, but keep them playing.

She said it is not good enough just to listed to music throughout life. "You have to play it," Kraus said.

[Listen to the WBBM Newsradio report by clicking this link](#)



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