



Nuances

The Newsletter of MAPTA

June 2012 Vol 42 Issue 11
MAPTA Calendar of Events

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Share The Music!

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

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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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.

President's Message

[Patty Ladpli](#)

Dear ,

Before I take off for my summer adventures, here's a quick Nuances express issue.

The no. 1 topic of this newsletter is [Renewing Your Membership](#).

Please help our new membership chairperson, Shad Wenzlaff, by renewing your MAPTA membership by the deadline. Shad is happy to help anyone renew their MAPTA membership. He can be contacted via e-mail:

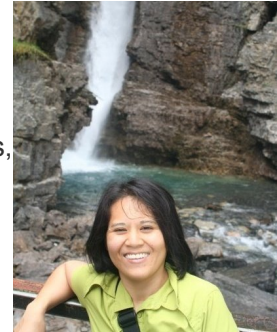
membership@madisonpianoteachers.org

or his phone number: 663-9899, for questions on renewing your membership. The membership renewal deadline is THIS Friday, June 15, for the 2012-2013 year. If you are late, you will not be included in the membership directory.

Also in this issue, read about MAPTA's main Fall events: the [Piano Composition Festival](#) & the Fall Workshop. There are some really exciting presenters lined up for these two events...NOT TO MISS!!!

In the meantime, I hope everyone has an amazing summer!

Patty Ladpli
MAPTA president



Membership RENEWAL Deadline THIS FRIDAY, June 15

[Shad Wenzlaff](#)

Membership Renewal for the 2012-2013 year is due THIS FRIDAY, June 15!

Click here to renew your membership via Constant Contact & PayPal:

[RENEW MEMBERSHIP](#)

IT'S EASY & FAST!!! Promise!

Otherwise, you may also renew your membership by printing out a membership form and sending it to Shad Wenzlaff, Membership Chair, 615 N. Sherman Ave. Suite #21, Madison, WI 53704.

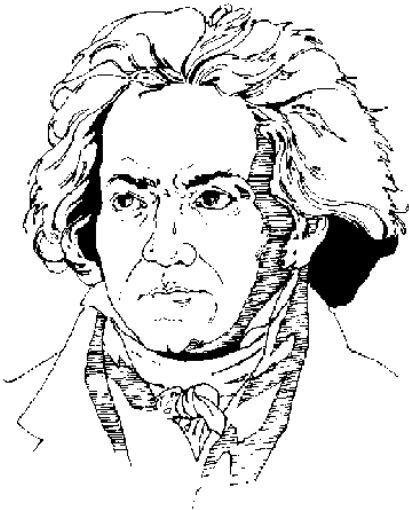
[Membership Form](#)

All members must fill out the membership form in order to be included in the directory. (including Honorary Lifetime Members)

If you have any questions about the membership renewal process, please call Shad at 663-9899 or write to him at: membership@madisonpianoteachers.org

Piano Composition Festival Submissions
Registration Deadline is September 21

[Jeff Stanek](#)



MAPTA's Piano Composition Festival is now open for registration! Students (and teachers) who submit original piano compositions will receive written feedback from our guest composer, Teddy Niedermaier of Roosevelt University, and have an opportunity to perform at the festival, October 20, 2012, at the Wisconsin Center for Music Education in Waunakee. All participants, regardless of whether or not they submit a composition, will be able to take advantage of a full afternoon of activities suitable for all ages and experience levels, including group improvisation, composition and notation workshops, and more. Download the Piano Composition Festival brochure from MAPTA's website for more information, including a complete schedule and registration form, or contact chairperson Jeff Stanek at pcf@madisonpianoteachers.org.

Annual Fall Workshop *Friday, November 2*
[WSMA Center for Music Education](#)

[June Zeeh](#)





We are happy to announce the presenters for the Annual Fall Workshop: Vanessa Cornett-Murtada and Suzanne Schons. The Fall Workshop will take place on Friday, November 2 at the WSMA Center for Music Education in Waunakee. E-mail [June Zeeh](mailto:june.zeeh@wsma.org) for more information.

The Brain and Music: Piano Teaching and Practice Strategies to Maximize Student Learning, by Suzanne Schons

Drawing from research in psychology, education, music education, and the rapidly evolving field of neuroscience, there is a great deal of information that piano teachers can use to help their students learn to their fullest potential. This session will provide a brief overview of how the brain learns, stores, and recalls information, and how a child's brain works differently from an adult's. Extensive teaching and practice tips will be provided, on areas such as helping students direct their attention and avoid distractions, presenting concepts in a way that will create relevance and meaning for students, optimal timing of practice, strategies for motor skill development, and mental practice.

Suzanne Schons, Ph.D., NCTM, is on the music faculty of the University of St. Thomas in St. Paul, MN, where she teaches piano lessons, class piano, and piano pedagogy. She also teaches students from preschool through adults in her home, and at the K&S Conservatory in Woodbury, MN. Prior to moving to Minnesota in 2007, she spent ten years on the faculty of the Crane School of Music, State University of New York at Potsdam, where she was Associate Professor. Her research interests include studying the brain and music learning, and she recently wrote a book chapter on that topic for the fourth edition of the piano pedagogy textbook *Creative Piano Teaching*. She is active in MTNA and is currently the certification commissioner for the West Central Division.

Crush the Jitters! Strategies for Performance Anxiety Management, by Vanessa Cornett

Cold hands, fluttering stomach, self-doubt: these are only a few of the symptoms which can afflict performers, regardless of their age or level of ability. In this session we will examine the body's acute stress response before discussing a variety of ways in which anxiety can be addressed depending on the performer's age, personality, and degree of stress. Solutions include a variety of movement and breathing exercises to coax the body and mind to a naturally relaxed alpha-brainwave state, biofeedback techniques to warm the hands, creative visualization methods to bring about a positive physical response and silence "mind chatter," and a variety of healthy psychological strategies. With practice, these become powerful performance tools to quiet the body and mind.

Vanessa Cornett, DMA, CHt, CMI, is the Director of Keyboard Studies at the University of St. Thomas. An international clinician, she has presented workshops and masterclasses around the U.S., U.K., Canada, Ireland, Italy, Serbia, Croatia, Greece, and Taiwan. Her publications include book chapters in *Creative Piano Teaching*, papers in the *Journal of Undergraduate Neuroscience Education* and *College Music Symposium*, and new music reviews in *Clavier Companion*. She chairs the Committee on Wellness for the Pianist for the National Conference on Keyboard Pedagogy and serves on the

Wellness Forum for the Minnesota Music Teachers Association. She is a licensed hypnotherapist and a certified meditation instructor who specializes in the treatment of performance anxiety for musicians.

Piano PlayTogether News
November 2013

[Tracey Phillips and Lana Robotewskyj](#)



Planning for the 2013 [Piano Play Together](#) is underway!

The PPT committee met in March 14 brainstorm on themes, dates & venues, and guest conductors. Present were: Sue Ellen Dubbert, Judie Krubsack, Patty Ladpli, Tracey Phillips and Lana Robotewskyj.

We are happy to announce that the theme will be "Fascinating Rhythm!" The guest conductors will be [Dallas Weekley and Nancy Arganbright](#). Please visit their [website](#) for more information about them.

The PPT will be held November 2013. Weekley and Arganbright will also be our Fall Workshop presenters next year.

Music selection will begin this fall. Please join us!

Professional Goals Committee

[Jeanne Felix and Diane Madsen](#)

The Pro-Goals Committee held their last meeting of the year on Tuesday, April 16 at the Pancake Cafe on Nesbitt Road. Topics of discussion included ways to solve MAPTA's over-budget issues on most events and present suggestions for uses of MAPTA's surplus of funds in the Money Market and Janus accounts. We also worked on arrangements for the 2012 Fall Workshop.

The Pro-Goals Committee welcomes any MAPTA members who would like to help assess the needs and interests of MAPTA members and initiate and develop activities and projects that reflect those needs and interests. The schedule for next year's meetings will be published in the next MATPA Directory that comes out later this summer.

Please contact Jeanne Felix (608-345-8456) or Diane Madsen (608-845-8085), Co-Chairs, if you have any questions or concerns.

Summer Piano Teacher Workshops

Take time for a summer workshop! Here are some free workshops taking place this summer at [Heid Music, 7498 Tree Lane, Madison](#)

June 14th - Tyros/Clavinova Clinic with Peter Baartman 6:30pm-8pm

July 19th - [FJH Clinic with Dr. Helen Marlais](#)

July 24th Sacred Choral Reading 5-8pm

August 8th- [Hal Leonard w/ Philip Keveren 9-12am](#)

August 24th Alfred w/ Nancy Bachus 8:30am-12:30am



Try it FREE today.

