



Nuances

The Newsletter of MAPTA

Nov 2014 Vol 45 Issue 4
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.

Nuances Editor:
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Studio Exchange Teachers

Contact [Gloria Chuang](#), [Denise Taylor](#), or [Debbie Yee](#) if you are interested in

President's Message

[June Zeeh](#)



Greetings!

During this month of Thanksgiving, please take a moment to thank those who work to make MAPTA a productive piano association:

Past Presidents: these people have given a tremendous amount of their time to make MAPTA a thriving organization.

Officers of the Board: secretary, treasurer, vice-president and president devote much time to the maintenance of important records, and the furtherance of our organization.

Committee chairs: many members who have devoted numerous hours to organize and direct valuable activities for MAPTA teachers and their students.

Businesses: music stores and various businesses not associated with MAPTA have given valuable information and resources to MAPTA members.

The Fall Workshop on Friday, November 7, features Gail Berenson, a noted performer, clinician, master class artist, adjudicator, author, and reviewer. A native of Kenosha, Wisconsin, Ms. Berenson is now Professor of Piano at Ohio University. Come and enjoy this exhilarating workshop and master class!

June Zeeh
MAPTA President

being a part of the Studio Exchange Program.

Master Class Registration

[Shad Wenzlaff](#)

MAPTA Colleagues!

Time is running short if you plan to sign up a student for the Fall Workshop Piano Master Class with Dr. Gail Berenson! Please email Shad Wenzlaff at wenzlaffsh@yahoo.com **NO LATER THAN NOVEMBER 1** with details. Students performing repertoire must have it memorized, but please bring your score to the master class. Please, in your email, include the full student name, your name, solo title and composer, as well as length of solo.

In order to participate in the Master Class, please pre-register for the Fall Workshop.

Thank you!
Shad

Fall Workshop

[Alena Harrison](#)

FALL WORKSHOP

The annual workshop is a special event featuring a guest speaker on a variety of pedagogical topics. Gail Berenson, Professor of Piano at Ohio University, will present this year's workshop.

Date: Friday, November 7, 2014

Time: 8:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Location: WSMA Center, [1005 Quinn Drive, Waunakee, WI](#)

Schedule:

8:30 a.m. Registration

9:00 a.m. "Bach to Bartok and Beyond: The Collaboration of Physical Gestures and Sound Concepts in the Teaching of Style"

10:15 a.m. Break

10:30 a.m. "The Art of Communication: Nurturing Resourceful and Spirited Students"

11:45 a.m. Questions/Wrap-up

12:00 p.m. Lunch

12:45 p.m. Master Class



Gail Berenson, a native of Kenosha, Wisconsin, is Professor of Piano at Ohio University and was awarded the School of Music's "Distinguished Teacher of the Year" Award in 2000. As a result of her respected work as a piano pedagogue and her reputation as a noted expert on musician wellness issues, she is much in demand as a performer, clinician, master class artist, adjudicator, author, and reviewer. She has performed and lectured in over thirty states and ten countries, and is a Past President of Music Teachers National Association, an

association of over twenty-three thousand members. This summer she will be a presenter at the 2014 World Conference of the International Society for Music Education in Porto Alegre, Brazil. Ms. Berenson is one of the co-authors of *A Symposium for Pianists and Teachers: Strategies to Develop Mind and Body for Optimal Performance* and a contributor of three chapters to the fourth edition of the Lyke, Haydon, Rollin book, *Creative Piano Teaching*. In recognition of her significant contributions to the music world and the music teaching profession, she was awarded an MTNA Foundation Fellow Award in 2007. A dedicated teacher, her students are performing and teaching in independent studios and on college faculties throughout the world. More information can be found on her website at: <http://www.gailberenson.com>

Fees: \$35 MAPTA Members
\$45 Non-MAPTA Members
\$20 Students

Registration at the door is available. To register in advance, you can register by mail or through the MAPTA website using PayPal.

[Click here to download the brochure.](#)

Send registrations to: Alena Harrison
814 N Gammon Road
Madison, WI 53717
[\(608\) 535-8379](tel:6085358379)
alena.harrison@gmail.com

Adult Music Social

Cheri Lewis



The Fall Adult Music Social will be held on Sunday, November 16, at 4:30 p.m. Please encourage all your adult students to participate in this opportunity. The event is fairly informal and will help pianists at all levels become more comfortable sharing their music with others. Pieces can be memorized or played with music. Adult students who would first like to learn more about the social are also welcome to attend without playing that evening. Those attending are requested to bring a small plate of cookies or other food to share. Call Cheri Lewis at [608-222-5125](tel:6082225125) with any questions.

Cheri Lewis will be hosting the event at her home: [1706 Wild Oak Circle, Madison.](#)

Performers Supporting Performers

[Ruth Heinecke](#)

Performers Supporting Performers will meet Friday, November 21, 10:00 a.m., at the home of Cheri Lewis, [1706 Wild Oak, Madison](#). Any MAPTA members who would like to play, or even just listen, are welcome!



Piano Composition Festival

[Mike Weiser](#)

Please contact Mike Weiser (mikeweiser@me.com) if you have suggestions for judges and locations for the Piano Composition Festival in summer 2015.

Workshop on Teaching Music Reading

[Patty Ladpli](#)

This past July, I went to a workshop at Holy Names University in Oakland, CA, on Teaching Music Reading to Suzuki students, taught by Caroline Fraser, a Suzuki piano teacher trainer who is originally from Scotland, but she lives in Peru.

To give you a description on her teaching style--she is an extremely, and I mean, EXTREMELY non-verbal teacher, especially for beginning students. She spends most of her time teaching workshops internationally. She has degrees in Piano Pedagogy from Holy Names University with a strong background in the Kodaly Method, as well. Actually, this was where the first symposium on the Kodaly method took place in 1973, at Holy Names. The Kodaly Method uses an approach in which you start with easy activities, progressing to more difficult, introducing musical concepts through listening, singing, or movement, and moving on to notation. The skills keep building upon past skills and constantly build upon using games, movements and exercises to learn these skills.

Caroline is also known for her work in establishing the Suzuki Method throughout Latin America. Over the years she has spliced together her Kodaly training and Suzuki principles into her own approach to group class teaching for music reading & performance.

The workshop was structured in this way: First, we observed Caroline teaching the group classes. Next, we re-enacted the classes ourselves, with the teachers taking turns teaching segments of the class and other teachers being the students...the idea being that it's often more helpful to learn by doing than just talking about it. Then afterwards, we discussed the classes in terms of teaching ideas.

I was amazed at how well she was able to keep the kids engaged and focused for so long (90 minutes) in a seamless string of a variety of activities that covered so many different ways of learning, yet was so simple. The class consisted of fun, interactive activities through which they experienced repertoire they know in new ways to learn how rhythm and pitch is organized--through the body, by singing, by listening, by playing, reacting, seeing, moving, understanding the different rhythms...all in a very playful, non-competitive, comfortable environment.

One of the things she did was to take the basic rhythm patterns the kids knew, based on the Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star Variations and applied them to a string of activities to help them to understand the beat, hear, differentiate & identify the different rhythms, and experience the

variations in ensemble playing. It was really cool to watch her develop this sequence of activities and work toward reading the rhythms on cards and notating/reading the rhythms on the chalkboard. Throughout the class she was also able to keep tabs on the students individually, making sure each child understood before going on to the next activity.

We observed her teaching several classes of 4-7 kids which were grouped by level, ranging from the 4- to 6-year-olds to older kids. It was interesting to see the same idea of a progression of similar activities but applied differently to the appropriate levels. And as she puts it, "from the known to the unknown."

After the rhythmic activities, she went onto pitch and melodic activities using singing and the idea of the "Body Staff" to take melodies they knew, to see, hear, and write ascending and descending note patterns and repeated notes in the context of a major scale. Some of the classes were also able to move on to transposition, as well.

During the classes there were also performance opportunities. She did check before the class to know what pieces they had in their repertoire. And it was very neat how she linked the performances to practicing the activities...the performance wasn't a totally "separate" thing...it directly connected to the pitch and melodic activities.

Finally there was also some score reading of music they either could play or were at least familiar with...this happened through cards for younger students and with the books for the older students, with singing or listening and tracking the music. During the score reading activities, they were able to follow along with the notation, as well as catch ideas like phrasing, form, and other symbols in the music.

So that's the overview of what happened in the classes. It was pretty amazing to watch her teach...she is truly a master of her own "method" of teaching a group class, and it was obvious how well the kids were engaged and enjoying the class. In one way it was all so simple, yet I can tell you it's not easy to teach a group class! You really have to be on top of the sequence and planning of the class and be ready to adjust based on the kids' understanding or attention span!

But back to the kids, it was easy, yet challenging for them as the class progressed. The activities really hit on all the senses, made them think, put them through a good amount of repetition but without getting boring, kept them focused, and building on their skills. No one was put on the spot...everyone enjoyed the learning...I thought it was a very natural way for the kids to connect to the music. A lot of good things but not easily done! It takes a lot of planning and experience to make it happen. It took Caroline Fraser years of experience and developing these activities & to come up with her own way to approach this way of learning.

So I describe these classes to you, yet, I'm sorry, because it's not totally clear. It's a case of you really had to be there to totally catch how it works. But I've given you the best overview of the ideas that I caught from it.

Would I do these group class activities in my own studio? Probably some...it will take some practice! We'll see what I can do. It's always great to have more activities and ideas to share with my students. As most of you have probably experienced, it takes many "methods" to teach all the students in your studio, and I'm sure my students will enjoy this along with all the Music Mind Games activities that I do in my studio. Running group classes is definitely a lot of work, but I think well worth it in the end. It really has created a nice, friendly community in my studio with joyful learning, and I wouldn't have it any other way.



General Meeting Minutes

[Alena Harrison](#)

Minutes of May 13 MAPTA General Meeting

Meeting minutes from April meeting read and approved.

Treasurer's report - Debbie Yee - broke about even - about \$10,000 in both income and expenses.

Pamela - Programs - Low attendance so decided on only three programs plus fall workshop next year. February, March and May meetings. Plus September meeting at Shad's studio.

PSP - Recital was March 2 - Debussy, Chopin, Dvorak and Scarlatti - a number of members played.

EMR - MAPTA members can submit articles to Nuances - articles in October, December and January and March, including by Gregory Hustad.

Honors festival - 36 registrants, income \$720, donation of \$500 from Julie Chang, income \$1220, expenses \$834.24. Profit of \$385.76.

Scholarship program - scholarship awarded to Shad Wenzlaff, two other applicants.

Membership - Linda Johnson - 72 members - 7 joined after June 15. Membership drive for next year underway - can fill out form or do it online with PayPal or download form and send it in. New this year: can put larger blurb in referral list online - feel free to write more descriptive information in 2nd section.

Referral - Patty Ladpli - get occasional email - refer to website. Linda: gets maybe three calls per year. One woman looking to give away a piano - contact Linda if interested. 90-year-old woman at Attic Angels wants lessons - contact June Zeeh if interested.

PPT - 2013 PPT was a success - 200 area piano students, 19 MAPTA teachers - Dallas Weekly and Nancy Arganbright. Performed on November 17, 2013. Bill for Mitby finally came - \$1,134. Broke approximately even at about \$4,100 for income and expenses.

Officers next year - June Zeeh, President; Alena Harrison, Vice President; Sue Ellen Dubbert, Secretary; Debbie Yee, Treasurer.

Committee Chairs - see list.

Anita Schultz - honored as honorary lifetime member.

Old business - none.

New business - Linda: clarification in membership - would like a membership form from Board members who do not have to pay dues, and honorary lifetime members.

Next Tuesday - last Board meeting of year - all new incoming Board members are asked to attend, as well as old Board members.

Adjourned at 11:18 a.m.

Board Meeting Minutes

[Sue Ellen Dubbert](#)

MAPTA Executive Board Meeting May 20, 2014-Heid Music Madison

In attendance: June Zeeh, Debbie Yee, Gloria Chuang, Pamela McMuller, Linda Johnson, Patty Ladpli, Mike Weiser, Sue Ellen Dubbert

1. Call to order at 9:08
2. Review of Minutes from March 3rd meeting
 1. Read by June (Alena was absent)
 2. Discussion
 1. Debbie made donation to Lyre Power from 2013-2014 budget
 3. Minutes approved
 4. Sue Ellen Dubbert is the incoming secretary
3. Treasurer's Report-Debbie Yee
 1. Need to set a tentative budget for 2014-2015 to finalize in September
 1. Will move Annual Brunch to Programs umbrella
 2. Continuing Education--\$500.00
 3. Fall Workshop-honorarium of \$500 (not including hotel and travel)
 1. \$1700 expenses
 2. \$1300 income
 4. Honors Festival--\$900
 1. Performance to be held at Morphy recital hall, auditions to be held at Madison Christian Community Church
 5. MAFOP--\$250
 1. Debbie would like a financial statement for 2013-2014 before sending next donation
 6. Insurance--\$1100 for director's and general liability
 1. Debbie proposed a service called Fractured Atlas-has a monthly fee and may be a way to obtain cheaper rates for directors and liability insurance. Needs more research.
 2. Discussion regarding benefits of LLC status and maintaining 501c3 status
 7. Membership--\$3500 income, \$350 expenses
 8. Nuances--\$1700 for Constant Contact and printing fees
 9. Composition Festival (2015)--\$1000 expenses, \$1000 income
 10. Piano Play Together (2016)--\$0
 11. President--\$100
 12. Professional Goals--\$0
 13. Programs--\$1000
 14. Publicity--\$0
 15. Referral--\$0

16. Website--\$200
 1. Discussion of whom to hire to take care of maintenance
 2. Elaine was deemed too expensive
 3. Linda volunteered her son for \$30/hr. with an estimated 3 hours of work
17. Young Artists--\$100 expenses, \$200 income
2. Summer audit of financial records
 1. Can be a member other than an executive board member
 2. Still need to find a volunteer
4. Membership Committee-Linda Johnson
 1. 72 current members, 10 renewals so far
 2. Need information sheets from honorary and all board members (even those exempt from fees)
 3. Phone calls to referral number are rare
5. Communications Committee
 1. Nuances
 1. Discussion of allowing advertising on Nuances and or website
 1. Debbie suggested at \$10 fee for non-members to advertise, free for members
 2. Patty suggested a "Garage Sale" page on the website that parents of students could access
 1. We could set up a payment button to collect the fee for non-members to advertise
 3. A meeting was set for those interested in exploring changes/updates to website
6. Continuing Education
 1. Programs
 1. Discussion of location for May Program-it was decided that Christ Presbyterian would be adequate
 2. Patty and Judy will present Exploring Two Piano Literature! On April 14, 2015 at Patty's studio
 2. Fall Workshop-June reported the options explored by Alena
 1. Melody Bober, "Energize Your Recitals"
 2. Madeline Bruser, "Art of Practicing"
 3. Gail Berenson, many possible presentation topics
 4. The board voted to host Gail Berenson with the topics of exploring musical expression from Bach to Bartok and The Art of Communication
 1. Gail will need a November date
 3. PSP
 1. Ruth has set up the next recital for March 1, 2015 at 2:00 at Capitol Lakes
 4. EMR
 1. Denise will serve again next year
 5. Scholarship
 1. Request from Gloria Chuang--\$100, attended the MTNA conference in Chicago, will report in the September issue of Nuances
 2. Request from Patty Ladpli--\$100, will attend Suzuki workshops in California and will report in the October or November Nuances
7. Recitals Committee
 1. Composition Festival-Mike Weiser is taking suggestions for the 2015 event
 2. Honors Recital-Gloria is currently securing the space and working on the judge
 3. Young Artist-nothing to report
 4. Adult Music Socials-Cherri Lewis will host again this year
8. Old Business
 1. None
9. New Business

1. Need to remove item 2 D from the Code of Ethics
 1. The board voted to remove this item regarding direct and indirect solicitation of students of other teachers following an incident in which MTNA was sued by the government for impediment of free enterprise.
 2. Welcome to new board members
10. Meeting adjourned at 11:13 am

General Meeting Minutes

[Sue Ellen Dubbert](#)

MAPTA Business Meeting September 9, 2014

Treasurer

- \$8,706.48 total in accounts as of 8/31/14

Programs

- Date correction for 2015 May Brunch (was listed incorrectly in the directory): Tuesday May 12, 2015

Performers Supporting Performers

- Next meeting will be September 19th at Ruth Heinecke's home in Mt. Horeb.

Exploring Music Resources

- Denise plans to do a survey of Christmas music for the next issue of Nuances.

Scholarship

- Scholarships for 2013-2014 were awarded to Patty Ladpli, Shad Wenzlaff, and Gloria Chuang
- \$500 has been budgeted for 2014-2015

Website

- A high school student of Patty's will be updating the website.
- Linda will help oversee the updates.

Monster Concert

- Will be held October 25, 2014 from 9:00 to 5:00pm at Barnes and Noble East Towne.
- Contact Jeanne Felix to sign up for a time in 15 min. increments.
- 9:00am to 1:00pm are still open.

Honors Festival

- Gloria has invited a pre-college teacher from Portland Oregon to adjudicate.
- This teacher is willing to pay for half of her plane ticket and will stay with Gloria while in Madison.
- Gloria will have a back-up adjudicator in case of bad weather.

Membership

- 72 members total; 56 regular, 10 associate, 4 officers, 2 institutional
- Referrals have been updated on the website
- Let Linda know if you would like to put more information about your teaching along with your name on the website.

Fall Workshop

- November 7, 2014 at the WCME Building, 1005 Quinn Dr., Waunakee, WI
- Lunch will be provided for a fee
- Gail Berenson presents: "Bach to Bartok and Beyond: The Collaboration of Physical Gestures and Sound Concepts in the Teaching of Style" and "The Art of Communication: Nurturing Resourceful and Spirited Students"
- Students in the late intermediate level or higher are needed for the master class. Gail would like to have a piece from each musical period if possible. The master class will run from 12:45-2:00. Send an email to Shad if you have students who would like to participate.
- Registration will be available via the MAPTA website through Paypal soon.

Old Business

- None

New Business

- New WSMA list is available. Contact Ruth Heinecke for a PDF of the list. Ruth suggests contacting the WSMA office for dates and locations.
- Discussion of whether to invite children to attend MAPTA meetings. Shad suggests hiring someone to oversee the childcare so that the mothers can attend the full meeting. Send ideas to June Zeeh.
- Discussion of whether to allow adds for pianos for sale in Nuances. Shad suggests that this is more of a burden on the officers than necessary. The group also encouraged June to decline solicitations from sellers to send an email to the entire MAPTA email list.

Meeting adjourned at 11:07

Board Meeting Minutes

[Sue Ellen Dubbert](#)

MAPTA Executive Board Meeting September 16, 2014

In attendance: June Zeeh, Alena Harrison, Debbie Yee, Sue Ellen Dubbert, Mike Weiser, Gloria Chuang, Patty Ladpli, Pamela McMullen

Call to Order

- 10:05

Review and Approval of Minutes

- Reading of minutes from May 20th board meeting-approved

Treasurer's Report

- Debbie had an issue with the Paypal website
- 2014-2015 budget projected to be \$800 more in expenses than income
- Budget approved

Membership

- 73 total members-55 active, 8 associate, 4 honorary lifetime, 4 officers, 2 institutional
- Linda is sending out the directory to new members
- Referral list on the website has been updated

Communications

- Nuances
 - Review of advertising rates for publication in Nuances and the layout template in Constant Contact
 - It was decided that rates were too high since we have not had many people interested in taking out an ad.
 - Motion to reduce rates by about 75%--approved
 - Motion to remove item on the form regarding a fee for including a link to the advertiser's website--approved
 - Discussion of calendar listings in Nuances-Does Stacy have time? Currently a \$10 fee to be listed on the calendar

Publicity

- Currently no chairperson and no advertising of MAPTA events to the outside public

Continuing Education

- Programs-May Brunch date correction: May 12th
- Fall Workshop-
 - Place tickets and hotel are taken care of by the presenter
 - Tim Mueller will do the brochure--deadline at the end of this week
 - Alena will mail the brochure
 - Patty will assist with online links to registration

- Mike suggested an Event Bright form or something similar for registration
 - Alena will send information to Stacy for Nuances
 - Need to change Paypal access person from Pamela to Debbie-might just need her access information
- PSP
 - Recital on March 1, 2014, at 2:00. Capitol Lakes Grand Recital Hall
- EMR
 - No report
- Scholarship Program
 - Alena is heading this up
 - Honorariums have been sent out to Gloria, Shad, and Patty

Recitals Committee

- Composition Festival (2015)
 - Mike is taking suggestions for clinicians
 - Discussion of different models for the event-students mail in compositions, receive comments, and the winners play their pieces in a special recital. Or, hold a day long workshop.
 - Could include other instruments. The composer would have to supply the other players.
- Honors Festival
 - Clinician will be Momoko Muramatsu from Portland, OR
 - Debbie requests a contract for the clinician. Gloria will draw this up.
 - Trevor Stevenson will be the backup judge in the case of bad weather.
- Young Artist Recitals
 - No report
- Adult Music Socials
 - Sunday Nov. 16, 2:00 at Cherri Lewis' home

Old Business

- Code of Ethics and Business Policy have been updated on the website

New Business

- Audit of MAPTA finances will be done by Connie Jones
- Website updates-Linda summarized why her son would not be able to do the updates.
- Childcare at MAPTA meetings-discussion of options with no final decision yet.
- Nominating committee for new board members-June appoints the committee chair to be Linda Johnson. MAPTA will need a new Vice President and Treasurer.

Meeting Adjourned at 10:29

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