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February 2017
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Studio Exchange Program

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

Submissions

Complete submissions of articles, events, and 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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Nuances

The Newsletter of MAPTA

President's Letter

I grew up on a dairy farm in western Nebraska and my parents had a plaque on the wall of the milkroom that read:

*The Hurrier I Go,
The Behinder I Get*

I always thought that was funny as a kid, but as an adult it's a very different kind of funny.



February is a busy month because the first of March means “start signing the kids up for summer activities” both in my home life and in my work life. We always have to think a season ahead in our line of work—as teachers *and* as parents. Or at least as people who need to relate to parents.

MAPTA's Board is already thinking ahead to the 2017-18 year: whose chairperson position is continuing, whose is expiring, thinking about programs and presenters for next year, getting the membership forms ready and dues set, and most importantly, getting ready to celebrate our **50th Year** as an organization!

Many hands make short work, so if you're feeling a call to become more active in this organization, we'd love to have your collaboration, help, and insight. Would you like to serve on the board? Would you like to help plan our birthday party? Many things can be done on your own time, not requiring the attendance of a meeting on a specific date or time.

Have a great February and best of luck with your to-do list!

[Mickey Lytle](#)

MAPTA President

Upcoming MAPTA Meeting

We are looking forward to seeing you at **HEID MUSIC** (please note this change of venue) for the **Friday, February 10th** MAPTA program and meeting starting at **9 a.m.** MAPTA members Sue Ellen Dubbert, Patty Ladpli, and Lana Robotewskyj will be sharing what they learned in various settings, in part paid for with MAPTA scholarships. Sue Ellen will be presenting on insights learned from applying for the Suzuki Association of the Americas Certificate of Achievement, a process which included preparing videos of student performances and teaching samples, and a written essay. Lana will be speaking about maintaining a successful studio, including tips from Cathy Kautsky. Patty will give a summary of her experience with the Practical Piano Pedagogy workshop held at the New School for Music Study in Kingston, NJ in August. Heid Music is located at [7948 Tree Lane](#), just off Mineral Point Road, near the Beltline.

[Linda Johnson](#)

Performers Supporting Performers

Performers Supporting Performers will meet **Friday, Feb. 17, at 10:00 a.m.** at the home of Judy Ferreri, [3118 Timber Lane, Verona](#). We will be playing pieces for the upcoming PSP recital. Performers and listeners are welcome!

[Ruth Heinecke](#)

Performers Supporting Performers Recital

Plan to attend the PSP Recital on **Sunday, February 26, at 7:00 p.m.** at the Capitol Lakes' Grand Hall, [333 W. Main St., Madison](#). Free parking is available in the ramp across the street when you bring your ticket inside to be validated. **Note the date was changed from what was printed last summer in the MAPTA directory.**

We are looking forward to a diverse program! Scheduled solo music will include pieces by Bach, Granados, Mompou, Gillock, Beethoven, Chopin, Donald Waxman and William Gillock. Also planned is not one, but two works for 2 pianos by composers Mozart and Phillip Glass.

[Ruth Heinecke](#)

Honors Festival Auditions and Recital

Now is the time to submit your student to the MAPTA Honors Festival! Applications are postmark due by **February 6** for the festival being held **February 25** (auditions) and **March 5, 2017** (recitals). This year's judge is Dr. Kirstin Ihde from UW-Oshkosh. Here is the [registration form](#), and you can view the judges form [here](#). The application form should also be available on the MAPTA website.

As a reminder,

- The Honors Festival is open to students of MAPTA teachers who are in grades 4-12.
- Students must prepare and memorize one or two **level 6** pieces or higher. (Please direct questions about appropriate repertoire to Denise Taylor or Shad Wenzlaff.)
- The application is postmark due **FEBRUARY 6, 2017**. The fee to participate is \$24 per student. Teachers should send one check (payable to MAPTA) for all of their students. Applications should be mailed to MAPTA Honors Festival, c/o Shad Wenzlaff, 615 N. Sherman Ave, Suite 21, Madison, WI 53704.
- The festival auditions will be held **Saturday, February 25, 2017** at Madison Christian Community Church, [7118 Old Sauk Rd, Madison](#). Students' times will be emailed to teachers a week before the auditions, earlier if possible.
- Auditions are closed to parents and audience members.
- Each student will receive written comments from the judge, mailed directly to the teacher after the event.
- Students may elect to participate for comments only and not be considered for the recital. This should be noted on the application form. Fourth grade students are only eligible for comments.
- The judge will select students to participate in one of two Honors Recitals on **Sunday, March 5, 2017**. *The recital has been moved to* **Covenant Presbyterian Church, [326 S. Segoe Rd, Madison](#)**. The Junior Recital (grades 5-8) will be at 2:30 p.m.; the Senior Recital (grades 9-12) will be at 4:00 p.m. Students **MUST** participate in the recital for their age level, no exceptions.
- Please email Denise Taylor or Shad Wenzlaff with questions. Thanks for participating!

[Denise Taylor](#) & [Shad Wenzlaff](#)

Honors Festival Co-Chairs

MAPTA Member Spotlight

Our February member spotlight features Jennifer Zuhlke! Jennifer graduated with a Bachelor of Music from the University of Wisconsin – Madison and a Master of Music Education from VanderCook College of Music in Chicago. Both degrees were in music education, with the piano as her primary undergraduate instrument.



Jennifer has experience teaching in both the private piano studio and also the general music classroom. It was her love of working one-on-one and in small groups that eventually prompted her to focus more on private studio teaching. However, she appreciates knowing that she has the option to go back to classroom teaching if she one day desires. To keep her teaching license valid, Jennifer regularly takes classes that are of benefit to both classroom and private studio teaching. She enjoys teaching students of all ages, both children and adults. She especially enjoys the challenge of helping students for whom learning to play the piano doesn't always come so easily. Helping them to make progress and to enjoy the experience of playing is rewarding to her. Recently she has also begun exploring teaching piano to the very young as well as teaching early childhood music classes.

Jennifer joined MAPTA about two years ago because of its emphasis on ongoing professional development for its members, as well as for the opportunity to network and reach out to colleagues. While she regrets she has been unable to take advantage of either opportunity as much as she would like due to raising her three year old daughter and now having another baby on the way (due in May), she is looking forward to getting more involved as her children get older. When she isn't teaching she enjoys spending time with her family, reading, biking, hiking, camping and traveling. Jennifer currently maintains a small studio out of her home on the far north side of Madison.

[Sue Ellen Dubbert](#)

MAPTA Directory Updates

Please make the following addition in your MAPTA directory:

Jacob J. Bunda

E-mail: jbunda@mail.com

Phone: 920-866-8329

Board Meeting Minutes

Are you curious about what happens at our board meetings? Please [click here](#) to check out our most recent board meeting minutes.



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