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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

Without music to decorate it, time is just a bunch of boring production deadlines or dates by which bills must be paid. *–Frank Zappa*



The beginning of March is bittersweet. We've made it through another Wisconsin winter, relatively unscathed. The picturesque evenings reading in front of the fireplace while the snow falls are becoming less frequent. Now our calendars will begin to fill up with student auditions, festivals, and {gasp!} summer planning.

"Time marches on" and seasons change. As MAPTA continues to morph into MAME, we're taking all of the great parts of our 50-year-old organization and adding them to a host of benefits we'll be able to take advantage of with the supportive umbrella of MTNA and WMTA above us. We had a most inspiring meeting last month. Even in the aftermath of an overnight snowstorm, we had a record turnout of 18 members at our February meeting. We were delighted to hear

presentations from our two scholarship members followed by a roundtable discussion about the similarities and differences between MAPTA and MAME. There was energy and optimism throughout the room that was contagious and enthusiastic. We met for two hours, yet no one seemed eager to leave the gathering of our colleagues and friends.

What we all took away from that meeting is truly what our organization is about, no matter what acronym we use to name ourselves. Our MAPTA history is an important and essential part of our organization, and we look to the future with anticipation and excitement for our profession!

[Mickey Lytle](#)

MAPTA President

Upcoming Presentation

Join us on **Friday, March 9 at 9:30 a.m.** as MAPTA members present **Online Piano Teaching: Methods & Benefits**. **Patty Ladpli** and **Sue Ellen Dubbert** will share their experiences teaching piano via FaceTime, Skype, and other technology. Whether you are thinking of teaching a long-distance student or just want to have this resource as an emergency solution in times of bad weather, web teaching can be done effectively. We'll show you different ways to use technology to connect with your students via video, including simple tips on how to make things run smoothly and get the most out of the lesson.

Location: Heid Music, [7948 Tree Ln, Madison, WI 53717](#)

[Alena Harrison](#)

MAPTA After 5

Talk shop (or don't) with your fellow MAPTA members at these upcoming gatherings. Feel free to bring friends, significant others, non-member piano teachers, music educators, etc. Check the Facebook page or Nuances for confirmations of times and locations.

The next After 5 is Sunday, March 11, at 5:30 p.m. @ Great Dane Hilldale: [357 Price Pl., Madison, WI](#).

Please email mapta@madisonpianoteachers.org by **Monday, March 5 to RSVP**.

The last **After 5** of 2017-18 will be Friday, May 18, at 12:00 p.m. @ Vintage Brewing: [Whitney Square Shopping Center, 674 S Whitney Way](#). More details will be in the May Nuances.

[Mickey Lytle](#)

Performers Supporting Performers

Performers Supporting Performers' March 4th recital has been canceled. Our final meeting of the school year will be **Friday, April 20 at 10 a.m.** at David Barach's home, [820 Williamson St., Apt. 106](#) in Madison. All are welcome!

[Ruth Heinecke](#)

Adult Music Social

The Spring Adult Music Social will be held on **Sunday, April 8th at 2:00 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 to 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 afternoon. Those attending are requested to bring a small plate of cookies or other food to

share. Contact Cheri Lewis at [608-222-5125](tel:608-222-5125) with any questions.

Judy Ferreri will be hosting the event at her home: [3118 Timber Lane, Verona](#). Call Judy at [608-469-2235](tel:608-469-2235) for directions.

[Cheri Lewis](#)

Upcoming Piano Master Class

A piano masterclass, led by esteemed UW Professor Martha Fischer, will take place on **Saturday, April 14 at 5 p.m.** at Steinway & Sons Madison, located at [6629 Mineral Point Rd., Madison, WI 53705](#).

Teachers who have advanced students with Baroque, Classical, Romantic, Impressionist, and 20th century at the ready or near-ready are welcome to submit performer names and ages, along with repertoire and contact information, for selection.

Please submit candidates to Jess Salek, MAPTA chair of masterclasses, at jbcspno@gmail.com. Performers will then be notified. Thanks, and hope to see you all there!

[Jess Salek](#)

Salon Piano Series

The Salon Piano Series at Farley's House of Pianos is offering a piano masterclass on **Friday, March 9 at 4:00 p.m.** at [Farley's House of Pianos](#). The masterclass will be held by well known concert pianist Alon Goldstein. This program will feature Scarlatti Sonata K. 461, movements of Beethoven Sonata Op. 53 (Waldstein), and Prokofiev Sonata No. 7. The masterclass will feature some of our best high school pianists in Madison. The event is open to the public and free.

The following day on **Saturday, March 10 at 7:30 p.m.** and **Sunday, March 11 at 4:00 p.m.**, Alon Goldstein will be soloist of the SPS concert series at Farley's House of Pianos. He will perform, in collaboration with the Pro Arte Quartet, Mozart's Piano Concerto No. 23 and the Brahms Piano Quintet Op. 34. Tickets for students are only \$10 for this event!

[Irmgard Bittar](#)

Bach Around the Clock

Reminder that Bach Around The Clock is scheduled for **March 10th** at St. Andrew's Church, [1833 Regent Street](#) in Madison. This event brings the entire Madison-area community together to celebrate the music of J.S. Bach, in a 12-hour marathon concert (10 a.m.-10 p.m.) that is free and open to the public. Audience members and can come and go as they please. Performers range from young students and adult amateurs to professional musicians. The event is videotaped and live-streamed.

The performance schedule is posted on:

bacharoundtheclock.wordpress.com

There may still be a few time slots available if you or a student would like to perform. Please email batcmadison@gmail.com to sign up. [Click here](#) for the flyer for this event.

[Denise Pilmer Taylor](#)

MAPTA Teacher Spotlight

Our March MAPTA teacher spotlight features Irmgard Bittar!



I am honored to have been asked to be on the March MAPTA (now MAME) Teacher's Spotlight. I am grateful to MAPTA for having been presented with an Honorable Life Time membership.

As long as I can remember I was a member of MAPTA. As a matter of fact, MAPTA and WMTA were the first associations I joined when I arrived in Madison with my family in 1970. I knew at this time that becoming a member of MAPTA was very important for me in order to advance my teaching skills as a piano teacher. After all, my degree was in Music Education from the Hochschule fuer Musik in Berlin and not in piano performance. Actually, the concentration was on voice and recorder performance. Only later in my post graduate studies at the Catholic University in Washington D.C. from 1958-1960 did I focus more on piano studies with an extremely fine teacher. Here was the first time that I really got interested in teaching piano.

We moved from Oxford, England to Madison in 1970. Amazingly, in a small town (Madison then was not as sophisticated as now) I found this very knowledgeable keyboard association with most of their members being very fine pianists and teachers. Not only did I find very fine piano teachers for my children but also met some great musicians and made some wonderful friends. I'm thinking here of Renee and Tim Farley, Ankie Foell, Cathy Sih and the late Patricia Freed.

Yes, I consider myself extremely fortunate to have been a member of MAPTA and of WMTA for more than 40 years. Pretty ignorant as a piano teacher then, I am grateful to both music associations for having become a very enthusiastic and knowledgeable piano

teacher. Looking back in these last 40 years, six of my piano students have won concerto competitions; either with WYSO Orchestras or in the early days with the Madison Symphony Orchestra (Mozart and Beethoven, respectively).

I would like to finish here with some quotes from a lovely goodbye letter I received in December from an 8th grade student I was teaching for 6 years. It's a testimony to me that I pursued the right profession, a profession I really love.

Thank you for teaching me piano for 6 years. Thank you for helping me through the journey of learning, growth, recitals and auditions. I feel so fortunate to have had a teacher like you. You were always nice and patient during lessons but were always pushing me to my potential at the same time. You have taught me everything from technique to musicianship, and most importantly, that music is a lifelong gift. I'll always cherish all I have learned from you.

[Irmgard Bittar](#)

MAPTA Scholarship Articles

During last month's meeting, MAPTA scholarship recipients presented on the workshops they were able to attend thanks to our generous support. Please see below for their reports:

[Mary Roberts](#)

[David Barach](#)

[Linda Johnson](#)

Honors Auditions

Congratulations to the 50 students and 12 teachers who participated in this year's Honors auditions! The Honors Recitals took place in Morphy Recital Hall on the UW-Madison campus. Eleven seniors

and eleven juniors performed in two beautiful recitals, playing on a wonderful Steinway Concert Grand. Special thanks to Kirstin Ihde from UW-Oshkosh for her insightful comments. We also extend our appreciation to Julie Chang for contributing to the event from the estate of her father, Mr. Hsen-Mu Huang.



[Daniel Kuzuhara](#) and [Patty Ladpli](#)

MAPTA Reimbursements

As we transition from MAPTA to MAME, please be aware that the last day MAPTA will be funded is **June 30, 2018**. Beginning **July 1, 2018**, all funds will be MAME funds. Therefore, all bills and requests for reimbursement need to be submitted to the treasurer by **June 15, 2018**, so that they can be paid out of MAPTA funds. Likewise, all checks collected from events need to be submitted by that date so

that they can be correctly transferred. If requests/checks are not submitted by that date, they might not be paid or submitted. Legally we need to revoke MAPTA at that time and a revoked organization is no organization.

[Cynthia Stephan](#)

Treasurer

MAPTA's Google Calendar

Want to see all of your MAPTA meetings, events, and deadlines in one place? Did you know MAPTA has a **Google calendar**? Never miss an important MAPTA date or deadline again!

Please use the following address to access your calendar in any web browser.

[https://calendar.google.com/calendar/embed?
src=h5gbo0kotv888tf1405dil5hr0%40group.calendar.google.com&ctz=America/Chicago](https://calendar.google.com/calendar/embed?src=h5gbo0kotv888tf1405dil5hr0%40group.calendar.google.com&ctz=America/Chicago)

Please use the following address to access your calendar from other applications. You can copy and paste this into any calendar product that supports the iCal format.

<https://calendar.google.com/calendar/ical/h5gbo0kotv888tf1405dil5hr0%40group.calendar.google.com/public/basic.ics>

[Mickey Lytle](#)

Facebook Pages

Make sure to like and follow these Facebook pages:

MAPTA

<https://www.facebook.com/MAPTAmadison/>

MAME

<https://www.facebook.com/MadisonAreaMusicEducators/>

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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