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# Nuances

## The Newsletter of MAME

August/September 2020

Volume 3, Issue 1

## President's Message

Welcome to Madison Area Music Educators' third year! This is our first issue of *Nuances*, MAME's monthly newsletter. Our September newsletter arrives a bit early to help you plan the start to the school year. You'll want to be sure to check your inbox on the first of each month from now through May when subsequent issues arrive. *Nuances* is our resource for upcoming MAME events, and our primary way of communicating with members aside from meetings.

I'm guessing it's fair to say that all of us have had a difficult year so far. No matter if you're looking forward to the fall or approaching it with trepidation, MAME is here to offer support for your music studio. Last year we pivoted quickly to online meetings and recitals, and this year we plan to offer a full lineup of professional development and student-oriented events. To our continuing members, thank you for believing in MAME. To our new members, welcome! I look forward to connecting with you in the coming months.

[Denise Taylor](#)

MAME President

## MAME Program

### Flow and Music: Developing Inner Hearing Through Movement

**Presenter:** Benjamin Steinhardt**Date and Time:** Friday, September 18, at 10:00 am

Benjamin's session explores the role of body movement in teaching rhythm, pulse, meter, tonality, and interpretation in the one-on-one lesson. Drawing from Dalcroze, Laban, Kodaly, and Gordon it includes movement activities, games, and the use of props to help students develop greater musical understanding and expression. To join the session, click on the Zoom link [here](#).

A very short general meeting will follow the presentation.

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## Board Meetings

For those of you on the board, please mark your calendars for our five meetings this year:

September 11, October 30, January 15, March 19, and May 21. All meetings will be held from 10-11:30am via Zoom, so brew your coffee and enjoy it in your PJ's! Login details will be sent directly to board members the week prior to the meeting. Thank you for serving!

[Denise Taylor](#)

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## Performers Supporting Performers

Performers Supporting Performers will meet **Friday, September 25, at 10:00 am**. Brush up on a piece, or challenge yourself to learn some new music! PSP gives MAME members the opportunity to play for each other in an informal, nonjudgmental setting. Players and listeners are welcome. Contact [Linda Johnson](#) with any questions.

We will be starting the year with virtual meetings through Zoom. As the health guidelines are changed we will revisit this decision as needed. See the link to the first ever Zoom PSP meeting below. Join in to make history with us and to make and/or enjoy some music too!

Join Zoom Meeting

Sep 25, 2020 10:00 AM Central Time (US and Canada)

The link to the zoom meeting is [here](#)

Meeting ID: 792 7136 3284

Passcode: 7KLeJm

[Linda Johnson](#)

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## Exploring Music Repertoire

by **Shad Ryan Wenzlaff**

This year, you can expect a few regular features each month: Pupil Saver's, New Repertoire for Early Levels, and a section on Underrepresented Composers. And, if you have an iPad app or another kind of "must-have" and would like it included, please simply email me by the 5<sup>th</sup> of the month ([wenzlaffsh@yahoo.com](mailto:wenzlaffsh@yahoo.com)) and I'll add it for our next month's EMR.

This month's special "pupil saver" feature is **5 Finger Halloween Fun** by Tom Gerou – ISBN 978-0-7390-7326-1 - Published 2010 Alfred

I allow Halloween Music in my studio year round. This book has helped me save a few elementary students from complete and total meltdown. It covers *The Wizard of Oz*, *Lord of the Rings*, *Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone*, and the *Grim Grinning Ghosts* theme from the Disney parks. Plus, there's an arrangement of the *Monster Mash* that will afford the eager teacher a chance to teach tied eighth notes and syncopation. (I will admit: that DID bring a meltdown to one particularly challenging lesson with an 11 year old – so proceed with Halloween inspired caution.)

### New Repertoire for Early Levels

- The Amazing Music Alphabet – Piano Solos
- Jyoti Hench – ISBN 0-8497-9846-9
- Published 2019 by Kjos Music Press. \$5.95 retail

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supplement to the lesson. If you don't, there are three pieces in middle C position. This book has my highest praise. Note: I wouldn't recommend its use before completion of your favorite primer book.

### Recent Repertoire for Transfer Students / Adults

- Restart Piano
- Karen Marshall – Heather Hammond – ISBN 978-1-84938-976-1
- Published 2012 by Hal Leonard / Wise Publications. \$14.99 retail

This book offers everything I love about teaching adults: some theory peppered among engaging repertoire, visually simple charts, short but important sight reading exercises, and practice tips. I will add I was glad I had this book in the music bag of a high school student during the beginning of quarantine – we were able to learn “Let it Be” (Beatles) and “Clocks” (Coldplay) rather easily. My student was able to learn, on her own, the rest of the repertoire in this book for fun when there was little else in her life going on (no school sports this year, she remarked when I asked her how practicing was going. What a pleasant surprise concert I heard at that particular lesson!)

### Underrepresented Composers

In the spirit of advancing a dedication to supporting diversity and an appreciation for “more than” what we already know, I will highlight advanced repertoire featuring underrepresented American composers each month this year - much of its will feature 20th-century compositions. This month: Amy Beach - Next month: Roy Harris and Florence Price - stay tuned!

Amy (Mrs. H.H.A.) Beach, Dreaming from Op. 15 (Sketches). This piece is now featured on the WSMA Class A list. I found it somewhat tricky to teach, but only because there is a sophisticated character shift mid-A section and the voicing requires an attention to detail that proved this was truly “what was next” for my advancing HS student who is serious about piano. It's readily accessible in FJH Succeeding with the Masters – The Festival Collection Book 8 (Advanced) (Helen Marlais, ed.) ISBN 978-1-56939-595-0. The recordings are superb (Helen Marlais, Chiu-Ling Lin, Frances Renzi). However, please click on the ‘full version for online only’ where expand further on available editions.

Happy teaching!

[Shad Wenzlaff](#) - EMR Chairperson (2020-21)

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## Open Board Positions

We have a few open board positions: Vice President, and Piano PlayTogether committee. Please email [Denise](#) if you are interested or want to know more about these positions.

[Denise Taylor](#)

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## Madison Area Friends of Piano

MAFOP will not be sponsoring the 2020 Monster Concert or the 2021 Piano Playathon. After the season is over we will reevaluate if we can move forward again.

[Renee Farley](#)

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## Board Meeting Minutes

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

[Morgan Hansen](#)

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## Additional MAME Resources

Make sure to like and follow us on our [Facebook page](#), and check out our [website](#) and [Google calendar](#).

[Mickey Lytle](#)

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Complete submissions of articles, events and other music-themed features are welcome. All submissions are due by the 21st of each month to be considered for publication.

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