

May our words be *Dolce*,
Our hearts be *Giocoso*,
Our spirits, *Con Fuoco*,
And all our teaching, *Con Amore*

November 2011
Number 87

www.raleighpianoteachers.org

Yahoo group: raleighpianoteachers

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Raleigh Piano Teachers Association

Affiliate of North Carolina Music Teachers Association

Message from the President

Margaret Anne Smith

What a group of talented people we are! We are so fortunate to have members who are willing to share their expertise with us. This year we will be hearing from three such fine professionals beginning with Dr. Jeanine Skinner at our November meeting. Later in the year we will hear from Tom Lohr and Anne Scoggin. Please support our members who are giving programs by making every effort to be present. See you on November 16!

Thanks to Allen Herther for not only telling us of new music issues but also for providing a door prize at each meeting. At our October meeting, the lucky winner, Debra Heath, received an excellent collection of the music of William Gillock. And Tom Lohr a set of flashcards!

**A HUGE THANK YOU
To Liz LaBelle, Diane Blanchard
and Thomas Swenson!**

The conference was a huge success and RPTA appreciates all your hard work, dedication and effort!

**Congratulations to our Newest
Member Elizabeth Malcolm!!**

Please make sure you introduce yourself!

Hopper Piano Sale November 12th and 13th

Please stop by Hopper Piano and Organ Company on the 12th and 13th to show your support for the Sandra Hopper Manly Scholarship Fund.

Last year, RPTA received over \$500 from the piano sale. Please encourage your students to check out the sale and as RPTA members plan on stopping by for a while to show your appreciation for what Hopper Company has done for RPTA!

Musicale

This Sunday, November 6th is the first Musicale of the year, and will be at Hopper Piano Company from 3:00-4:00 p.m. Come enjoy a wonderful afternoon of music!

If you miss Sunday's performance...Mark your calendar for January 29th, so you can plan on attending the second Musicale of the year!

Mark your calendar for the November 16th RPTA meeting!

Our own, Jeanine Skinner will provide the program, which is entitled "Designing a Musical Diet for the Intermediate Student: A study of literature and technique that develop mature performers"

Teacher Referral

Teachers who need students and would like their name on the Teacher Referral Page of the RPTA website, please contact Ellen Scott at ellenscott@nc.rr.com or by phone 919-831-9167.

Tickling the ivories or just using a listening ear...

Plan on attending the December 14th RPTA monthly meeting to hear colleagues show off their skills and perform amazing feats that will dazzle your aural sense!

There will be a brunch following the performance. Susan Burnette is taking reservations. The brunch is \$8.50.

Her email is SLBmusic@nc.rr.com

Library Items

We are proud to announce that the library now has a copy of John Ruggero's book, *A Path to Piano Mastery* that is available to be checked out. Thank you Alan Herther for the donation!

Also remember that ALL books and other materials that are overdue and that were not turned in at October's meeting will incur a fine of \$5 per item. Please check to see if you have anything that belongs to our library. We still have approximately 20 items that need to be returned.

Ruggero Piano Teacher Merit Award

The Ruggeros have long recognized the value of music in our society. In generous support of the music educators of Raleigh Piano Teachers Association, Richard and Deborah Ruggero have established the Ruggero Piano Teacher Merit Award. The recipient is chosen annually from nominated applicants and receives an award of \$500. The Ruggero Piano Teacher Merit Award recognizes an individual teacher who has made a difference in students' lives, has contributed to the advancement of music in their community, and has made significant contributions to RPTA, NCMTA, and/or MTNA. An applicant may be nominated by any RPTA member. The application form along with any supporting documents must be submitted in duplicate to the current RPTA President postmarked by December 31. The following items are examples of the type of documents that should be submitted with the application.

1. Teaching/professional achievements, and number of years teaching experience
 2. Evidence of teaching excellence
 3. Accomplishments/contributions to RPTA, NCMTA, and/or MTNA
 4. Community involvement
 5. Former student or parent letter of support
 6. Professional colleague letter of support
 7. Letter of recommendation from the nominating RPTA member.
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IMPORTANT DATES AND EVENTS

November 6, 2011
Musicale

January 29, 2012
Musicale

February 4, 2012
RPTA Scholarship Auditions

February 12, 2012
RPTA Scholarship Auditions
Winners' Recital

February 18, 2012
NCMTA District Piano Festival

February 24-25, 2012
Federation Piano Festival

March 2-3, 2012
Young Artist Auditions

March 24, 2012
NCMTA State Piano Festival

April 22, 2102
Musicale

Young Artist Auditions Information
THE DEADLINE FOR YAA is
DECEMBER 14th 12:00 (noon)
NO EXCEPTIONS!!

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**RPTA
MEETINGS**

November 16, 2011

RPTA Meeting
Jeanine Skinner

“Designing a Musical Diet for the Intermediate Student: A study of literature and technique that develop mature performers”

January 18, 2012

RPTA Meeting
Shelia Page

“Octaves and Staccatos”

February 15, 2012

RPTA Meeting
Tom Lohr

“Numbers in Music”

April 18, 2012

RPTA Meeting
Anne Scoggin

“Moving Beyond the Method Books: Accelerate your Students’ Musical Growth”

**Can you pass the hat?
And help the Scholarship Fund
become fat?**

**“Yes, yes I can!”
Step on up!
The Board will become your
biggest fan!**

RPTA is looking for a volunteer or team of volunteers who are willing to help “pass the hat” at monthly meetings for the Scholarship Fund.

Also, a volunteer or a team of volunteers are needed to help contact local businesses to contribute to the Scholarship Fund.

Please let Margaret Anne Smith know if you can rise to the occasion!



RPTA General Meeting Minutes, October 19, 2011:

Meeting called to order by Margaret Ann Smith at 0946.
Minutes of the September 2011 meeting stand approved.

New Music Issues: Allen Herther announced new music for "Adele 19 and 21" is available in easy piano, and piano/vocal. Single sheet music is also available. He is also doing a drawing at the end of the meeting for a music book. Cathy Albergo's Piano Literature book has been donated to the RPTA Library by Allen, and will be available for purchase at a reduced rate at the NCMTA Conference in Winston-Salem.

New Membership: Dee Ann Patterson introduced Elisabeth Malcom as a new member of RPTA and presented her with a certificate. Her mentor is Kerry Henry.

Courtesy: Donna Naeser gave us an update on Dee Ann Patton's father's recent aortic valve surgery. Jim Clyburn has been in the hospital recently, but is home now. Bonnie Walker's mother fell and broke her hip last Saturday. Holly Zendels' mother passed away recently. Her mother was a prominent speaker for the Holocaust and its implications. Melissa Jeffreys gave birth to a baby boy 2 months early by C-section, Ryan Jeffreys, at 5 pounds, 4 ounces. Cards will be appreciated.

Email/telephone: No report.

Certification: Julie Gorka and Kathleen Vockeroth are available to help anyone who would like to work on their national certification. There are about 4-5 teachers who are interested; some are working together on their projects.

IMTF: Dottie Buster published the question of the month in the Sept. newsletter and she is waiting for our comments. She will post it to the yahoo group. She is looking for teaching tips to share at the monthly meetings.

Library: Sharon Haigler and Diana Thomas sang a song introducing all that is available in the library to check out to members. New to the library is "A Path to Piano Mastery" by John Ruggero. There will be a \$5 fine per item for overdue items starting this month.

Hospitality: Susan Burnette announced our brunch for December. It will be on December 14th and will cost \$8.50. Make checks payable to Susan.

Musicales: Alma Sparks has three applications so far for the first Musicale. The deadline for applications is October 29th for the Musicale on November 6th at Hopper Piano Company.

NCMTA October Conference: Diane Blanchard made announcements for the upcoming conference that will be on October 27-30. She is encouraging the collegiate members to come for the luncheon on Friday. There are a number of sessions available for instruments other than piano including strings and voice. The voice and piano master classes won't be concurrent. She read some of the bios of the people who will be presenting classes at the conference. There will be an Alexander Technique class presented by Susan Perkins. There will be an organ tour that will be very interesting. Please visit the exhibit hall and go see the exhibits and let them know that we are interested in what they have. There will be a Member's Showcase where members can show their works. We only meet once a year, and our organization needs our input at the yearly conferences.

Referral: Ellen Scott reminded us that if we need students, contact her and she will put you on the referral list on the RPTA website.

RPTA Scholarship: Ruth Hafley needs to know if you will have students participating in the RPTA Scholarship event in February so that the committee can plan for judges.

Scholarship Fund: A hat or basket will be passed next month at the meeting. If you would like to make a donation, you can give it to Margaret Anne. We do need someone who would be willing to pass the hat/basket at the meetings.

Special Committee/Community Outreach: Ann Patterson thanked those of us who have donated to the community school. She encouraged us to take our students out into the community to perform at hospitals, nursing homes, or any other place that could benefit from hearing students play.

Workshop Committee Report: Dianne Blanchard reported that 55 people registered for the Nelita True workshop for a gross income of \$3055. Expenses totaled \$2524.85. Our profit was \$530.15. Dianne gave a big thank-you to Ruggero and Hopper Piano Companies for letting us use their facilities. Big thanks was given to Christine Albro and Marlene Kelsey for providing refreshments and making it special, and to Marie Willett for the programs. Dianne expressed great appreciation to Melissa Jeffreys "who helped with everything". She received a thank-you note from Nelita True letting us know how much she enjoyed her time with us and in working with the master class students. She also loved the lighthouse book that Diane gave her as a thank-you gift.

YAA: Jeanine Skinner announced that a number of corrections have been made to the list. The most current repertoire list is on the RPTA website. The dates are March 2nd and 3rd, 2012. The Honors recital is March 11th. The time will be announced. Applications are online for you to download. Allen Herther is willing to be the new chairman next year if no one else would like this job. He will need a co-chair, if someone will volunteer. Sky Woo has the sign-up sheet for jobs, and there are jobs still available. YAA needs a continuity facilitator and a monitor coordinator. Also, if you are entering a few students, sign up for 1 job. If you are entering many students, sign up for 2 jobs or more. They need people who want to be more involved with the whole process. Contact Sky or Jeanine if you would like to be involved with the running and operating process of YAA next year so they can start training you. There is something for everybody and please sign up for jobs.

Old Business: Special thanks to Marie Willett for the lovely certificates presented to Marilyn Brown and Tome Lohr last month, and to Melissa Jeffreys for doing the financial work for the Nelita True workshop.

New Business: We have the Hopper Piano sale coming up on Saturday and Sunday, November 12 and 13, 2011. Last year, we earned greater than \$500 for the scholarship fund. Please support the sale. Margaret Anne would like volunteers to be at Hopper Piano during the sale. She will be unable to be there on the 12th. Kristen Allred announced her recent publications with Kjos Music: "Monster Jam" and "Jungle Beat". She had a handful of her books to share at the break. Sheila Page is performing a recital on November 4th locally. There is a state level science Olympiad scheduled for middle and high school students on the same date as the NCMTA Piano Festival next Feb. 18th, 2012. If you have students participating in both events they may need to attend a different district contest location, please let Debra Heath or Anne Scoggin know now. We will be arranging for judges soon and will need that information to help us know how many judges to hire. Tom Lohr announced the annual keyboard day at Meredith College on 11/12/11 from 1-4 pm for 8-12 grade students.

Amy Gardner: Dr. Teresa Sumpter will be presenting our program today. There is a teacher Musicales prior to the brunch in December. Contact Amy if you would like to perform.

Raffle Prize: Allen Herther gave away "Classic Piano Repertoire: William Gillock" to Debra Heath, and a set of flash cards to Tom Lohr.

Respectfully submitted by Debra Heath, RPTA recording secretary