

Raleigh Piano Teachers Association
Affiliate of North Carolina Music Teachers Association
www.raleighpianoteachers.org

March 2010-Newsletter No. 72

May our words be *Dolce*, Our hearts be *Giososo*, Our spirits, *Con Fuoco*, and all our teaching, *Con Amore*



March 12-13, Young Artist Auditions
Meredith College

March 20-24 MTNA National Conference
Albuquerque, NM

Sun. March 21 1 pm Young Artist Honors Recital
Kenan Recital Hall Peace College

Sat. March 27 NCMTA State Piano Contest- East
Meredith College

From the President:

Lots of thanks!

- Thanks to Carole Nicholson for chairing the very successful RPTA Scholarship Competition. Congratulations to the teachers and students who participated!
- Thanks to Alma Sparks for organizing the 2nd of our 3 Musicales for 09-10. Ruggero Piano graciously provided their recital hall and instruments. Don't you just love the smell of new pianos!
- Thanks to Susan Burnette and the members who helped her prepare the reception for the Walter Hautzig recital at Meredith's Chopin Festival. I could only attend a portion of the festival, but I hear it all was magnificent!!
- Multiple thanks go to YAA Chairman Jeanine Skinner and her team who are handling the final details for the almost 1100 students, their teachers, and their parents. Whew, it makes me tired to think about it.
- Seriously, RPTA is a strong organization because of members like these who work so tirelessly for the good of all!! I'm thinking that RPTA should apply for the MTNA Local Association of the Year Award.

-Diane Blanchard





Referral Program

Please sign up on the website (raleighpianoteachers.org) or call/email Ellen Scott (919-831-9167/ellenscott@nc.rr.com). Check the online listings for accuracy, please.



Young Artist

Teachers participating in YAA on March 12 – 13 may bring or send a self- addressed manila envelope to the Grading Room. Include \$1 for postage for 8 grade sheets, \$2 for 9 or more grade sheets. This will allow you not to have to wait for the results Saturday afternoon but it also means you won't receive the results until Tuesday. Everyone should come and enjoy the performances of the honors recital on March 21st at Peace College. Bring your students.

MUSICALE: IMPORTANT INFORMATION FROM ALMA SPARKS

The last Musicale on Sunday, May 2, 2010, has been scheduled for **Carswell Recital Hall** at Meredith. **The time has been changed to 5:30 PM because of what is available.** Students should arrive at 5:00 PM to "warm-up" on the piano and be ready to begin at 5:30. I encourage you to plan on entering one or two students in this event so that we can have a successful Musicale. Thank you!



WINNERS OF 2010 RPTA SCHOLARSHIPS

Level I Sandra Hopper Manly Scholarships:

Alison Chang-John Ruggero, teacher

Edward Zhao-Olga Urick, teacher

Level II Susan Leathers Burnette Scholarship:

Daniel Liauw - Margaret Evans, teacher

Level II Marion Cable Scholarship:

Alice Zhao – Florence Ko, teacher

Judges:

Dr. Joe DiPiazso, UNCG

Dr. Milton Laufer, Peace College

Dr. Charles Hulin, Chowan University

Proposed amendment to the Bylaws:

It has been recommended by the RPTA Executive Board to amend Article V, Section 14, d. Current Bylaws: "Refresh the referral section of the RPTA website twice a year." Proposed Bylaws: "Refresh the referral section of the RPTA website once a year in June." This is notification to the membership that a vote will take place on the proposed change at the April RPTA meeting.



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I would like to thank RPTA for their contribution toward the certification process. It is wonderful to know that our organization is committed to the professional development of its members.

Sandy Duran NCTM

Speaking of certification:

For MTNA National Certification:

- Look at www.mtnacertification.org
- Print out the 8-page Piano Teacher Profile Projects Workbook and browse through it
- Talk about the process, ask questions of teachers who have become certified

Kathleen Vockeroth, Certification Chair, kvock@bellsouth.net

RPTA Monthly Meeting Minutes

Feb. 17, 2010

- **Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 9:50 AM by President Diane Blanchard in Carswell Recital Hall on the campus of Meredith College.
- **Approval of Minutes:** Minutes were approved as written.
- **Treasurer's Report:** Treasurer reported \$25,060.23 in checking account and \$13,497.47 in money market account. For accounting purposes, the treasurer reminded teachers to encourage their Young Artist winners to cash their checks in a timely manner.
- **New Music Issues:** Allen Herther of Burrage Music Co. informed the membership of the store's 40% off sale. Because the store is reorganizing for better efficiency, many items have been brought out of storage and are available for purchase. New issues by Helen Marlais, including her second book of etudes, are now available and have been grouped together with other Marlais items in one section.
- **Musicale:** Alma Sparks described the recent Musicale as "interesting" and reported it went well. There were some program changes which were announced just prior to the start of the Musicale. Alma brought new recital programs which reflected those changes. She also announced that Burrage will be covering the printing costs of the programs for future Musicales; there was a warm applause. The next Musicale is May 2nd at Meredith in Carswell Recital Hall. The time has changed. The hall will open at 5:00 for warm-up and the recital performance will begin at 5:30.
- **Email:** Members were reminded they must make their own email changes specifically at the Yahoo group.
- **Hospitality:** Susan Burnette expressed she would like to have two or three people help from 7 – 9 PM at the Thursday concert reception with Walter Hautzig during the Chopin Festival at Meredith.
- **Courtesy:** Donna Naeser welcomed back Marie Willett who has been recovering from illness. Donna asked to be informed of any other courtesy concerns.
- **Scholarship:** Carole Nicholson announced there are 13 students participating in the scholarship competition on Feb. 20th. The winners' recital will be the following Sunday, Feb. 28th at 3:00 PM in Carswell Recital Hall.
- **Ruggero Piano Sale:** President Diane, who previously spoke with Deborah Ruggero concerning the recent Musicale and Piano sale, reported the event went well. Although no pianos were sold, parents and students displayed interests. Teachers, who have supported the Musicales/Piano Sales, were encouraged to apply for the teacher grants. Application forms were available at the meeting and are also online. A random drawing for two \$300 teacher grants will be held. The deadline for submitting applications is Feb. 28th.



- Young Artist Auditions:** The Young Artist two-part report began with SKY Woo who announced that job assignments have been granted according to teacher requests, except for the grading room which she does not assign. Teachers were told to check the spread sheet which lists the "YAA Teacher Jobs 2010;" job descriptions are printed on the reverse side. SKY asked to be notified if you cannot do your job, or if you change assignment. Because, all teachers are needed to help with this two-day event, teachers who are judging on one day can still be available to help on the next day. Alma Sparks announced that box lunches will be ordered as before. For planning purposes, a sheet was passed around to collect sandwich and beverage preferences. Alma asked to be informed if you have dietary concerns; wheat bread will be used unless she hears otherwise.

Jeanine Skinner, later in the meeting, gave part two of the Young Artist report calling attention to the availability of the YAA packets arranged alphabetically and placed on the piano in the Carswell lobby. Each packet contained both a teacher and student instruction sheet, a schedule, and a job assignment sheet. She thanked teachers for schedule compliance and for emphasizing this to parents. Also in the packet were two labels for each student entry, one for each piece. These labels are to be attached to the music either directly or by paper clipping; they may also be attached to a post-it note and then affixed to the music. The Friday Concerto and YA I categories (in Carswell) are open to the public. Because of limited space, the concerto event in Room 205 is not. Teachers were reminded to number measures in front of each line of music in the pieces being played. **ABSOLUTELY NO PHOTOCOPIES!** Although no names are being printed on the certificates this year, Marie Willett will make a certificate template available on the website for teachers to use. Jeanine also asked to be notified specifically by email of any cancellations of which you are aware. This will expedite processing of packets in and from the grading room. Concerning job assignments, teachers were asked to report 10 minutes before their job begins and to adhere to their assignments. Teachers were reminded that the web sites for accessing directions to Meredith are listed in the "Student Instructions" sheet contained in the packet. (www.meredith.edu and click on "Visit Meredith" or go to www.mapquest and type in Meredith's physical address).

Concerning the certificate templates, Marie Willett suggested that teachers do a trial printing on plain paper first. On the YAA day, teachers' envelopes will contain the certificates needed. Marie announced she will also have some spares at the April meeting for teachers who need them. Marie called attention to the YAA totes, available for pick-up for those who ordered. The cost is \$25 each, and the totes will also be available for purchase at the YAA event.

SKY Woo addressed the subject of parents as monitors and runners. Parents will not be asked to monitor because of scheduling complications and the involvement of the job itself. However, runners and escorts are needed both days. If you have teen runners, notify SKY.
- Certification:** Kathleen Vockeroth, technically assisted by Tom Lohr, presented the power point presentation from the MTNA website detailing "The New Face of Certification." In summary, five projects must be completed to complete certification. These five projects, as outlined in the presentation, were: (1) Writing Your Teaching Philosophy, (2) Analyze Four Teaching Pieces, (3) Present Your Teaching, (4) Share Information About Your Teaching Environment, (5) Discuss Your Studio Policies, and Business Ethics.

Kathleen also made hard copies available of the *Piano Teachers Profile Workbook*.
- Other Committee Reports:** Diane asked for any other committee reports.
- Old Business:** None.
- New Business:** None.
- Announcements:**

 - Diane, although unable to attend, announced lunch at Tripps for those interested.
 - Dr. Kent Lyman announced the Chopin Festival at Meredith, Feb. 22-27 and encouraged members to pick up a festival schedule. These schedules were placed on the piano in Carswell lobby. Schedules gave the details of each event. He announced the week's activities which included a free lecture to be given by guest artists, Walter Hautzig and Ann Schein Wednesday, Feb. 24th at 10 AM in Jones Chapel. He announced an important addition to the schedule; there will be a master class with Walter Hautzig from 4:30-6:30 PM, also on Wed. Feb. 24th. Dr. Lyman also called attention to the Chopin competition which he defined as a huge part of the festival. He called upon Dr. Karen Allred, competition director, for comments. Dr. Allred commented on the high level of excitement being generated for the event and expressed the hope that this will be the beginning of more Chopin competitions to be offered in the future. Information is on the Meredith website and there is also a "Facebook" page dedicated to the Chopin Festival. Dr. Lyman concluded his announcement by expressing appreciation for the group's support of the Chopin Festival.
 - Diane announced the NCMTA Conference Oct. 7-10th at the University of North Carolina at Wilmington. Guests will include Marvin Blickenstaff who will present on Pedagogy Friday. Dr. Sherrill Martin, who is completing a book on Horowitz, will present a session on this legendary artist. Dan Johnson will present again a session on Orff. There will also be two sessions on the topic of Ensemble Keyboard music.
 - Brenda Bruce announced her Chopin concert at Hillyer Christian Church Sun. Feb. 21st at 3 PM featuring the "Fantasy on Polish Airs" accompanied by the Raleigh String Quartet.
 - Brenda also announced that the upcoming program panel discussion on ensemble playing will be replaced by a Schumann program.

The meeting was adjourned.
Respectfully Submitted,
Sandy Duran NCTM

