

THREE QUARTER TIMES

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NJMTA Inside

Fall 2009

- October 15—Deadline for NJMTA Teacher of the Year
- November 21 & 22 NJMTA State Conference
- December 10—Deadline for article submission for the Winter Issue of the Newsletter
- February 20 & 21—Performathon

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Colleagues,

I am very pleased to be writing to you as President of this terrific organization that you and I belong.

First, I want to thank the very energetic Board members to give me the opportunity to serve as President. Ever since I moved to New Jersey four years ago, I have been very impressed with the dedicated board members and teachers who have sacrificially donated their endless hours to various events held throughout the year. NJMTA is an activity-driven organization with various auditions, festivals and competitions with large number of student participation. As far as I know, there are no other states that run events with over 1500 students participation!

The strength of NJMTA is very much indebted to many leaders in the past especially our immediate past president, Lillian Livingston. She gave us examples of what a true leader should be. I have personally witnessed her in many occasions as a tireless worker whose only interest

is to serve others and to make NJMTA a better organization. She has also mentored so many young teachers to be involved in NJMTA. Her evermore positive attitude is what I most admired of.

I consider myself extremely fortunate to have Diane Hou, our new President-Elect, who will be working side by side with me for the next two years. Diane agreed to return to the Board after stepping down as the Yearbook editor two years ago. She will bring the insight and managerial experience from the corporate world that she was a part of for many years to enrich our organization. She and her conference committee have organized an extraordinary program to our state conference on Nov. 21 and 22 at Rider University in Lawrenceville. This conference titled "Pathways to Romanticism" will stimulate everyone's imagination and promised to be one not to be forgotten. Urge your colleagues, friends and your students and parents to attend. I promise they will gain a greater wealth of ideas and inspiration.

(Continued on Page 5)

New Officers and Committee Members

On behalf of the Board of NJMTA, I want to thank all past Board and Committee members. You have done an outstanding job for this organization. You insured the continued success of this organization. We hope that you will continue to lend your talents to NJMTA.

Welcome to our new officers and committee members!!

You have come so highly recommended. We are fortunate to have your talents.

Our new slate is as follows:

President - Chiu - Ling Lin

President-Elect - Diane Hou

Recording Secretary - Rose McCathran

Membership Chairperson - Yelena Uzlaner-Masotti

MTNA Composer Commission - Eunju Joung Kim

Standing Committees

Yearbook Editor - Monica Fontaine

Newsletter Editor - Yvonne Chin

Web Site Coordinator - Heng Lee

Composer Commission Competition - Eunju Joung Kim

Spring Festival - Sakiko Ono, Chang Liu, Kristen Topham

Spring Recital Auditions: South—Veda Zuponcic & Elvira Kipnis at Rowan University

North - Grace Kuo

Vice-President of Student Activities—Grace Chang

We are always looking for members to help out and be part of a team.

Please contact any of the Nominating Committee members if you are interested.

Grace Chang, Ingrid Clarfield, Lillian Livingston, Betty Stoloff

Sincerely,

Lillian Livingston, Past President

DECEMBER 10TH

**Is the deadline for submitting articles for the Winter
Issue of the Newsletter to Yvonne Chin—
Pianoetudes@gmail.com.**

2009 NJMTA Conference Sneak Preview

Dear members of NJMTA, mark your calendars for November 21 and 22 this year. The conference will be at Rider University at Bart Luedeke Student Center. The theme of the conference is "Pathways to Romanticism".

We are very excited to have Mr. James Tocco – an international renown as a recitalist, orchestral soloist, chamber musician and pedagogue, as our conference artist. He will present a Lecture Recital entitled "**Mendelssohn and the Dawn of Romanticism**" and conduct this year's Advanced Master Class at the Conference.

Another featured clinician will be Dennis Alexander - an international reputation as one of North America's most prolific and popular composers of educational piano music for students at all levels. He will present a session titled "**Teaching the Romantics to Young Players**" and conduct a master class for the intermediate level students.

This year's Commissioned Composer is Beata Moon – a Korean-American composer, performer, educator. Her compositions will be performed by the winners of the event competition at the Conference.

In addition to our outstanding guest artists, we have our own local artists hosting new and exciting events that you wouldn't want to miss.

Our own distinguished teachers/artists Dr. Bing Bing Chang will share her thoughts on "**Dancing with Your Fingers: Interpretation**

of Chopin Piano works" and Ting Ting Lien will present the new MTNA National Certification process. Hendry Wijaya will chair an "Independent Teachers' Forum" with topic of "Tri-State Competitions and auditions" and a String Ensemble Master Class will be included in our program and chaired by Ingrid Tang.

On top of these special planned programs, we have the honor to have MTNA Executive Director and CEO Gary Ingle joining us at the 11/21 Banquet Dinner to celebrate our new NCTM awards presentation. He is also going to share with us some of the new changes that are taking place in MTNA at the Board Annual Report Meeting on 11/22. This meeting will be very informative and we encourage all members to attend.

More over, there will be three winner recitals with the first one starting on the Friday evening of Nov. 20 and followed by one at the end of each conference date. More detailed information will be forthcoming on the next newsletter and conference brochure to be published.

This is just a sneak preview. Let's all embrace and support the effort and make it a great learning and information-sharing annual event!

See you all there!

Diane Hou
President Elect

2010 NJMTA Children Helping Children Performathon

February 20 and 21, 2010

Mark your calendars! The 5th Annual NJMTA Children Helping Children Performathon will take place on February 20 and February 21, 2010 at Westminster Choir College of Rider University.

The NJMTA Children Helping Children Performathon is an opportunity for students of all ages and levels of abilities to share their involvement with music for both artistic enrichment and community service. Each year the NJMTA Performathon has raised money for local and national charities. This year, we are once again raising money for the 3 Ronald McDonald Houses in New Jersey, located in New Brunswick, Long Branch and Camden, N.J.

For those who are not familiar with Ronald McDonald House Charities, RMHC "creates, finds and supports programs that directly improve the health and well being of children." This mission is a particularly good fit for our students' performance fundraiser.

Ronald McDonald Houses

truly provide a "home-away-from-home" for families around the globe. Families eat, sleep, do laundry, and basically try to live as best as they can while a child of the family is undergoing intensive treatment in the attached hospital.

Last year, NJMTA students and families raised over \$9,000.00 for the 3 Ronald McDonald Houses in N.J. This February 20th and 21st, we will strive to raise even more money so that the Ronald McDonald Houses can continue to "keep their lights on."

Once again, Westminster Choir College of Rider University is stepping up for NJMTA. On February 20, 2010 the performances will be held in Bristol Chapel, 1:30-8:30 p.m.

On February 21, 2010 the performances will be held in Williamson Hall, 1:30-8:30 p.m. I want to thank Westminster Choir College for donating these facilities that have proven to be such ideal locations for the Performathon.

The performances will be organized in one hour recitals, with @ 40-45 minutes devoted to music and 10-15 minutes devoted to awards and photos.

Look for The NJMTA Performathon Registration Forms and Permission Slips in the new NJMTA Yearbook. In addition the forms will be available on line in October.

If you have any questions regarding the 2010 NJMTA Children Helping Children Performathon, please do not hesitate to call Betty Stoloff at 732-297-8113. The Performathon Committee is looking forward to working with all of you on this exciting event.

Betty Stoloff
Arts Advocacy Chair

"an opportunity for students of all ages and levels of abilities to share their involvement with music for both artistic enrichment and community service..."

M The *National League of Performing Arts*, Inc. presents a benefit concert on **Sunday, October 18, 2009 at 3:00 p.m.** at St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church located at 587 Springfield Avenue in Summit, NJ.

E The concert will feature members of NJ Symphony Orchestra, Stephen Fang, cellist and Judy Lin Wu, violinist with pianists Beatrice Long, NJMTA member, Ching Lin Chen and Sophia Agranovich. The works include Brahms, Davidoff, Debussy, Schumann and Villa Lobos. \$15 general admissions; \$10 seniors/students. For further information, **please visit** www.nationalleagueofperformingarts.org or call (908) 626-9599.

E *From Chiu-Tze Lin...*

R The *Bravura Philharmonic Orchestra*, conducted by **Chiu-Tze Lin**, is having its **season-opener** on Sunday, October 4, 2009 at 7 pm. The concert will feature our NJMTA student, 14-years old pianist Constance Lin Kaita, student of Dr. Chiu-Ling Lin. Constance will perform the Liszt Totentanz for piano and orchestra. Other pieces included on the program are "The Soccerer's Apprentice" by Dukas, "Simple Gifts" and "Hoe-Down" by Copland, and Broadway showtunes. This is a fun concert to start up our new season. Tickets are \$10 advance and \$15 at-the-door, can be ordered by emailing: bravura.orchestra@gmail.com or (609) 790-9559.

P *Bravura Philharmonic Orchestra* is having its annual concerto competition in late February, 2010. A minimum of three winners will be selected to feature as soloist with the orchestra. The competition is open to all students under 18-years old, and is available for all instruments (Strings, Piano, Winds and Percussion.) For information, contact Wendy Wu at email: piano4wu@gmail.com

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President's Message (Con.)

We have some other new members that have joined the Board and I want to welcome them:

Yelena Uzlaner-Masotti will be our new Membership Chair. This position was vacated in Nov. 2008. During the interim, Lillian stepped in and took charge of the task while serving as President. Thank you, Lillian!

We welcome Yvonne Chin who will be our new Newsletter editor. Thank you, Yvonne. We now can look forward to reading the 'Three Quarter Times' online. Do send her news items periodically so that we can constantly share information and your activities.

Rose McCathran has graciously accepted the position as our new Recording Secretary.

If you checked our website lately, you will notice that we do have a new Webmaster at work. Thanks to Heng-Tzu Lee who keeps us current and updated from time to time. We want to express our special thanks to Elena Benedict, who served as the Chair for the Composer Commission Competition for many years with so much enthusiasm and fervor. Eunju Joung Kim has kindly accepted this new position with Elena assistance.

Deborah Gers, who has been instrumental in revising our bylaws to reflect the growth of NJMTA, agreed to be the Auditor of NJMTA.

The annual Children Helping Children Performathon continues to thrive under the leadership of Betty Stoloff, Chair of Arts Advocacy, raising \$9000 for 3 locations of Ronald McDonald Houses in New Jersey this year. NJMTA was the first state that initiated a Performathon and the idea has been picked up by other states. Please encourage your students to participate in the 2010 event, which will take place on Feb. 20, and 21 at Westminster Choir College of Rider University.

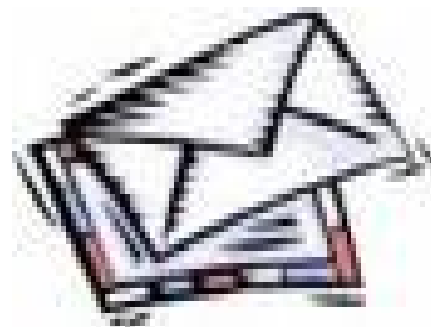
Mark your Calendars for Sept. 15 as the new deadline date for the Young Musicians Competition and Master Class audition for piano. It is also the deadline for MTNA online application.

Special thanks to Megan Register who served as Recording Secretary, Yearbook Editor and Chair of the Spring Piano Festival for the last years. She has contributed so much to the organization with her very calm demeanor and her very skillful organizational management. She often agreed to take on task above and beyond her duty. We will miss you, Megan! Grace Chang stepped down as the Spring Auditions/ Recitals Chairperson for the Princeton area and Chiung-Yin Cheng Liu have temporarily suspend her position as the Chairperson for the Monmouth County Spring Auditions/ Recitals. I applaud them both for running this ever-growing event from year to year. Their dedication and expertise to insure that all events proceed smoothly are keys to the success of the enormous annual event. We also thank their families for sacrificing their weekend days to help out at various tasks.

I wish you all a very successful musical year. May your passion and love for teaching continue to grow everyday.

I will look forward to seeing you at the Conference.

Sincerely,
Chiu-Ling Lin



NJMTA Teacher of the Year

NJMTA will be establishing a special recognition award given annually to an outstanding teacher. Most of the states already offer such an award to their teachers. MTNA offers this award on a National level as well annually. NJ should also recognize those teachers that have contributed in many ways to our profession and to our state association.

We invite the membership to offer suggestions as to whom they feel should receive this honor. Only one teacher can be selected and a different teacher will have the opportunity to be recognized each year. Please send your suggestion with the supporting materials to one of the committee members listed below by **October 15, 2009**

Here are some guidelines to help in your selection.

Eligibility Criteria



CANDIDATES MUST MEET ALL OF THE FOLLOWING CRITERIA.

IN TEACHING:

- Be a highly qualified teacher.
- Demonstrate a strong ability to foster excellence in teaching.
- Display exemplary interpersonal skills in communicating with students, parents, administrators, community members, and professional colleagues.

IN CHARACTER:

- Exhibit a strong spirit of collegiality that puts the interests of fellow teachers beyond his or her own
- Have strength of character and high ethical standards that create a climate of caring and respect among colleagues, students' parents, and students themselves.
- Demonstrate poise, eloquence, and professionalism in the presence of a demanding schedule.

IN SERVICE:

- Demonstrate selflessness by volunteering significant time and effort to professional organizations.
- Participate in peer coaching and mentoring activities.
- Exhibit leadership in music education through outreach to local schools and the community at large.

(Continued on the next page)

NJMTA Teacher of the Year (Con.)

Supporting Materials

Teaching/professional achievement.

Number of years of teaching experience_____

Evidence of teaching excellence (i.e. students' successes)

Contributions to NJMTA - positions held

Community involvement

Committee Members: Chiu-Ling Lin, Betty Stoloff, Lillian Livingston

Certification Corner

Beginning January 1, 2010, there will be a new MTNA Certification Process.

Please visit <http://www.mtnacertification.org/> to download a PowerPoint presentation that outlines the process.

**Congratulations to our
newly certified teachers:**

Fang-Ting Liu, NCTM

Frances Taylor, NCTM

Ting-Ting Lien, the Certification chairperson of the NJMTA will present a thirty minute workshop to introduce the **"NEW"** Certification Process in the NJMTA conference. The workshop will take place on Saturday November 21 and Sunday November 22. Please mark your calendar and plan to attend.

Do you know? Beginning January 1, 2010, all NCTM teachers are required to **renew every year** to update their qualification.

Do you know? It's now takes only **10** years to become a permanent certified teacher after you become a NCTM!!!

Do you know? You can get **"points"** toward your renewal when you are a **mentor and help** other teachers become a certified teacher!!!

Any other questions? Contact Ting-Ting Lien, NCTM tinglien@comcast.net

I am here to help!

ASSOCIATED BOARD OF THE ROYAL SCHOOLS OF MUSIC

The following students are to be congratulated on receiving the highest marks in their respective grades in the May 2009 exams.

Grade 1	CHARLES TANG	142 (piano)	Monmouth Academy of Musical Arts
	GRACE TAN	142 (piano)	Shu-Lin Chen
Grade 2	KAYLEE WANG	142 (piano)	Monmouth Academy of Musical Arts
Grade 3	DERECK WANG	138 (piano)	Soo Kyung Cho
	GRACE XIONG	138 (piano)	Chiu-Tze Lin
	KATHERINE GUO	138 (flute)	Wendy Stern
	MICHELLE FU	138 (piano)	Chiung-Yin Liu
Grade 4	JOSEPH SUN	142 (piano)	Frederick Wei
Grade 5	LUCIA TU	141 (flute)	Wendy Stern
Grade 6	HEE EUN CHUNG	140 (piano)	Jung-Eun Ahn
Grade 7	DAVID WONG	132 (piano)	Yan Mei Bao
Grade 8	JOYCE LI	138 (piano)	Mitzi DeWhitt

Congratulations to the teachers who coached and cajoled their students to reach such a high standard of all-round performance and excellence. Plaques were awarded to these students. Charles Tang, Grace Tan, Kaylee Wang and Joseph Sun received additional awards since they gained the highest marks in the exam session. A total of 745 students participated in the Spring exams in piano, violin, viola, cello, flute, clarinet, also & senior saxophone and singing.

There were also 17 students who participated in the DipABRSM exams in May. It was not only the largest number of enrollment ever in the Tri-state area but 5 received Distinction marks!

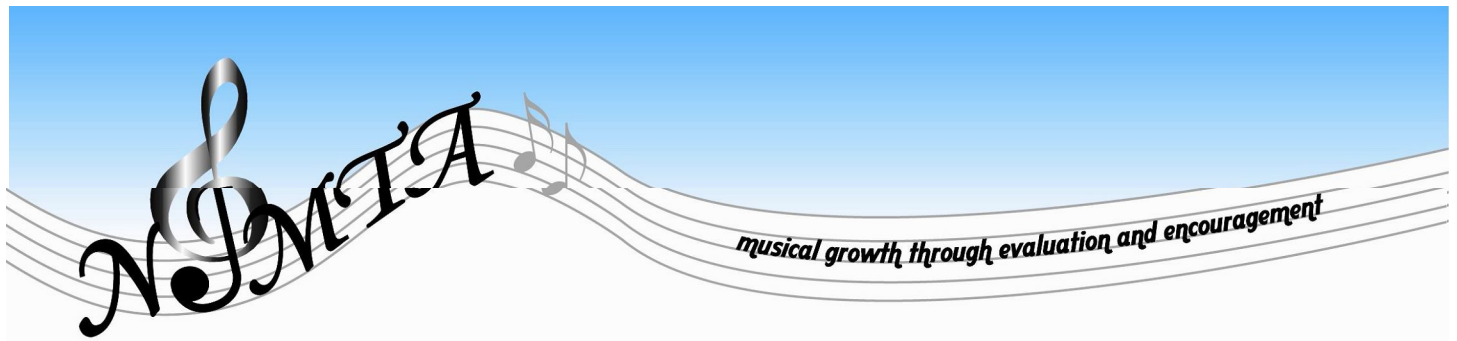
They were:

Paul von Autenried, Marisa Edwards and Michelle Ma **students of Chiu-Tze Lin**
Constance Lin Kaita and Sarah Yu **students of Chiu-Ling Lin**

They scored above 70 out of 100 to receive Distinction. Constance was awarded a plaque for the highest mark ever in New Jersey of 93!

The June Theory session produced three papers with perfect scores. These students will each receive a Hedy G. King Robinson Award in the form of a check from the Board. They are Grade 1: Andre Le (Vladislav Kovalsky), Grade 2: Varun Danda (Radostina Velikova) and Grade 3: Wendy Luo (Lena Solaiman).

Teachers of advanced level students may be interested in receiving information on the ABRSM Certification program which is recognized in 98 countries around the world, and as such, has *international* recognition. It has 3 Diploma levels, DipABRSM, LRSM and FRSM. Information is available upon request from Chiu-Ling Lin at rep4abrs@gmail.com or 609-806-3919.



The New Jersey Music Teachers Association, is an affiliate of the Music Teachers National Association.

The objective of the NJMTA is to advance the musical knowledge and to promote professional growth among music teachers, and to conduct activities which encourage and support teaching, performance, composition and the appreciation of music.

We are a nonprofit organization whose funds are used solely to accomplish these objectives

Contact us or view us online at www.njmta.com

Officers

President	Chiu-Ling Lin	pianosecret@comcast.net
President-Elect	Diane Hou	dyhou2000@yahoo.com
Recording Secretary	Rose McCathran	mccathran@rider.edu
Co-Treasurers	Chiu-Tze Lin Linda Fields	chiutze@optonline.net lfields@integrity.com
Immediate Past President	Lillian Livingston	Lillian88k@aol.com
MTNA Competitions Coordinator	Bing Bing Chang	bingsquare@gmail.com
Membership Chairperson	Yelena Uzlaner-Masotti	yelenamasotti@cs.com

NJMTA NEWSLETTER EDITOR

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