

Three Quarter Times

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NJMTA Inside Winter/Spring 2011-2012

- January 18th–February 1st–Annual Recital Auditions Registration
- January 23rd–Performathon & Spring Piano Festival Deadline
- February 25th & 26th–Performathon
- February 26th & March 4th–Spring Piano Festival
- March 18th & April 1st – Princeton Recital Auditions
- April 15th–North Jersey & Other Instruments Recital Auditions
- April 22nd–South Jersey Recital Auditions

President's Message

Dear Colleagues,

Welcome to new year of 2012! The Year of Dragon!

As we sent off Year of 2011, I would like to take the opportunity to thank the NJMTA Board members for all their effort and support to NJMTA through out the year. We are very fortunate to have a group of music teachers who dedicate their time and energy voluntarily to serve the NJMTA community. In 2011, all NJMTA events were run smoothly with outstanding results. Congratulations to your accomplishments and achievements. I am very proud to be part of the team.

The NJMTA's fall events came to a strong conclusion at the State Conference which was held at Rider University from 11/18 to 11/20. It was a memorable conference for NJMTA this year with the special guest - MTNA President Dr. Caton joined in commemorating our 50th Anniversary of affiliation. A beautiful plaque from MTNA was presented to NJMTA at the cake cutting ceremony for this semi-centennial celebration.

The conference was highlighted with sessions conducted by our featured artists: Eduardus Harlim's lecture recital with all Liszt Transcendental Etudes, and the inspiring advanced master class; Jennifer Linn's informative Intermediate master class and her "Young and Impressionable" presentation; commissioned composer Vivian Fung's compositions performance at winners recital; our own member Prof. Veda Zuponicic's presentation on "Competitions" that provided in-depth insights we all took to heart; Prof. Phyllis Lehrer's College Faculty panel discussion presented multidisciplinary perspectives from faculty members of several NJ universities; the Independent Music Teachers Forum's



presentations and performances led by Dr. Hendry Wijaya with the repertoire for "Four Hands and More"; and the MTNA Certification's session led by Ting Ting Lien, with the experiences sharing from NJMTA certified members Chiu-Ling Lin, Marcia Yurko, Christina Xie, and Rose McCathran. A jam-packed intellectual and stimulating program indeed!

For a great Conference, there is much "labor of love" behind the success. All the credit go to conference planning committee led by NJMTA's President Elect and Conference Chair – Christina Xie, and the planning committee members including Chiu-Ling Lin, Lillian Livingston, Chiu-Tze Lin, Grace Chang, Hendry Wijaya, Betty Stoloff, Phyllis Lehrer, and Phemie Chien. Thanks so much for all of your effort that made this exceptional conference possible.

During the conference, NJMTA also presented a number of awards to recognize those individuals who have contributed and accomplished significantly to the organization and the music teaching profession. Congratulations goes to Chiu-Tze Lin who is our "Teacher of the Year" recipient for 2011. In addition to her outstanding teaching, Chiu-Tze also serves as the music director and conductor of Bravura Philharmonic Orchestra.

We want to congratulate both Christina Xie and Jessica Tsai for receiving the 2011 NJMTA Service Award. They have served as Co-Chair of the Recital Auditions in Princeton area for the past 7 years, contributed countless hours of hard work and handled over thousand of registrants annually. What a task! NJMTA is very thankful to have both of

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them for all they have done. With their accomplishments, Christina is moving on as NJMTA President-Elect, Jessica will continue to serve as the Recital Audition Chair for Princeton area.

Three winner recitals of Young Musician Competitions, MTNA Competitions, Commissioned Composer Competitions, were outstanding at the conference. Thanks goes to all the event chairs - Grace Chang, Deborah Gers, Tomoko Harada, Margaret Knight, Hwei-Lan Luo, Kyun-Jung Rhee, Eun-ju Joung Kim, Yi Yang, Ingrid Tang, Renae Block, and Li-Chan Chen-Maxham, as well as all the teachers who had volunteered their time and effort to host and to help at the recitals. Congratulations to all the winners and their superb performances. Job well done!

Special thanks to Megan Register for the tremendous work and hours she provided to put together our new 2012 yearbook, to Yvonne Chin's effort in keeping the NJMTA quarterly newsletter published on time, and being our web coordinator, to Victoria Chow's coordination effort on the advertisements for the yearbook and the conference, to Phemie Chien and Sandra Lippman for their effort in taking care of the conference registration desk during the conference.

We also want to express our appreciation to Chiu-Tze Lin and Linda Fields, who are leaving their posts of NJMTA Treasurer, for their outstanding services to NJMTA community. Chiu-Tze has served as NJMTA Treasurer for more than a decade,

and Linda as Co-Chair for 5 years. Both together had provided a secure and stable financial environment for NJMTA to grow and to serve the greater music community. They have contributed tremendously to the organization and we will truly miss them. Best wishes to them for their future endeavors.

There are two major upcoming events to be noted at this time - The MTNA competitions of the Eastern Division will be held on January 6 & 7, 2012 at West Chester, PA. NJMTA

has many Winners who will be there to compete at the division level. Our winners list can be found at njmta.com. Stay tune for the updates!

Mark your calendars for the MTNA National Conference in New York, NY on March 24-28, 2012! It is practically at our "back yard". I encourage you to register for the event, especially for those who have not attended the National Conference before. It is a great opportunity!

Wishing a healthy and prosperous new year to all NJMTA members! The Board is looking forward to work with you. Your constructive suggestions and new ideas will be most welcome. Together let's make NJMTA an outstanding organization to provide excellent music environment for the teachers and students in NJ!

Diane Hou
President, NJMTA



NJMTA-MTNA 2012 Foundation Fellow

I am proud to inform you all that Betty Stoloff nominated to be our Foundation Fellow this year and will be honored at MTNA Conference in March 2012 with Certificate and monetary award.

This is the special Honor which acknowledge vast contribution and dedication of NJMTA and MTNA member to organization and Community for many years.

Betty Stoloff of Kendall Park, New Jersey, is Adjunct Associate Professor at Westminster Choir College of Rider University, where she currently holds the position of Co-Coordinator of Secondary Piano. In addition to group classes, Ms. Stoloff teaches applied piano and piano pedagogy.

Ms. Stoloff is a pioneer in Community Outreach. In 2006, as President of NJMTA, Ms. Stoloff founded the NJMTA Children Helping Children Performathon. The Performathon is a non-competitive opportunity for students of all ages and levels of advancement to share their music with others while raising money for a local or national charity. Over the last 6 years, the NJMTA Performathon has raised over \$60,000 for charities that help children, including most recently, the 3 Ronald McDonald Houses in New Jersey. The NJMTA Performathon has become a model for many state and local organizations.

Congratulations to Betty and lets celebrate our Foundation Fellow 2012 nominee at MTNA Conference in New York together!

Wishing all NJMTA Memebers Happy Winter Holidays and great time with family and friends!!

Elena Benedict
NJMTA-MTNA Foundation Chair

2012 NJMTA Children Helping Children Performathon

Happy New Year Everyone!

It's time to register for The NJMTA Children Helping Children Performathon.

The Performathon will take place on February 25th and February 26th at Westminster Choir College of Rider University. There is an updated Performathon Registration Form included in this Newsletter.

The performance and exhibit times are the following:

On February 25th., Bristol Chapel, 1:00-9:00 p.m.

On February 26th, Williamson Hall, 1:00- 9:00 p.m.



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. Last year, we raised over \$16,000. Let's strive to raise even more money so that the Ronald McDonald Houses can continue to "create, find, and support programs that improve the well being of children."

The NJMTA Children Helping Children Performathon is an opportunity for students of all ages and levels of abilities to share their music for both enrichment and community service.

As in past years, the Performathon is organized in 1 hour programs, with @45 minutes devoted to music and @15 minutes devoted to awards and set-up.

Along with the music performance, students are encouraged (not required) to submit a drawing, a poem, an essay, a collage, or a painting to reflect on the subject "What Music Means to Me." In addition to this general topic, the written or visual companion work can be related to their own performance piece. We look forward to displaying these works at the Performathon.

NEW THIS YEAR:

Please encourage your students' families to start collecting the aluminum soda can twist off tabs. Ronald McDonald House sells these tabs by the pound to a local refinery and then the money is used to help the families who stay at the Ronald McDonald Houses.

The Performathon Committee is looking forward to working with all of you on this exciting event. The Donation Records and Permission Slips are ready to be sent to you. Please do not hesitate to contact Betty Stoloff by email at bhstoloff@gmail.com or by phone at 732-297-8113 if you have any questions about the Performathon.

Betty Stoloff

NJMTA Arts Advocacy Chair

MEMBERS' NEWS



Sophia Agranovich's CD 'Romantic Virtuoso Masterpieces' received a brilliant review in the Fanfare

Magazine. To read full article, please see http://www.fanfarearchive.com/articles/atop/35_3/3535310.zz4_ROMANTIC_VIRTUOSO_SO_MASTERPIECES_Sophia.html

NJMTA Performathon will host a recital for the Adult student.

The Performathon will feature a special recital for adult students. It was such a great success last year that we will continue it again this year.

It will be held in Williamson Hall, Westminster, Sunday January 29 at 8pm.

Recital is open to all adult students on any instrument and it promises to be a rewarding experience.

Music can be used and refreshments will be served afterwards in order to make this festive for the students.

Please contact Lillian Livingston for further information. Lillian88k@aol.com

Profession Development Certificate Program for the Independent

Piano Teacher will start its second semester, Jan. 23rd at Westminster Choir College.

This highly successful program is for teachers wishing to rekindle their skills in all areas of the teaching profession.

This program meets 2 mornings a week on Mon. and Wed. from 9:30 to 12:30.

It is possible to attend only one day a week.

The program runs 11 weeks a semester and points towards MTNA Certification can be received.

Please contact Lillian Livingston for more detailed information.

2011 NJMTA STATE CONFERENCE

I'd like to express my heartfelt thanks to all the people who had contributed to the successful completion of our 2011 NJMTA State Conference. We had wonderful attendance this year all credited to the hard work that the planning committee members had carried through and the NJMTA Board's active support of the work.

Special thanks to our wonderful conference artists and their outstanding sessions.

Mr. Halim gave an amazing performance with Liszt's complete Transcendental Etudes; his mesmerizing performance was just beyond words! And at his post-performance talk he gave us a new look in understanding Liszt's music. The Advanced Master Class conducted by Mr. Halim was true inspiration for both participated students and audience. Ms. Jennifer Linn's Intermediate Master Class was well received by her positive comments and practical advices she gave to students. And at her presentation on

"Young and Impressionable?" Ms. Linn shared with us ideas of Impressionism music for younger students.

We were also very pleased to have our own nationally recognized educator, Veda Zuponic, to share with us her ideas and experiences on preparing students for competition. And The College Faculty Forum, led by Phyllis Lehrer, with panelist Wayne Heisler, Richard Woo, Ena Bronstein Barton, Veda Zuponic, gave us different aspect of music learning beyond high school and possibility students can have. The Independent Music Teachers Forum (IMTF) panel "Four Hands and More", led by Hendry Wijaya, was very informative and educational. All the presenters, Prof. Ingrid Clarfield, Dr. Chiu-Ling Lin, Lillian Livingston, and Betty Stoloff shared with us a variety of their favorite repertoires for piano ensemble music for students of all levels.

We thank Rider University for their support towards the Conference. They

were very accommodating in meeting our needs.

I also want to thank Vice President-Student Activities, Grace Chang, chairpersons, Hwei-Lan Luo, Ingrid Tang, Renae Block, Li-chan Chen-Maxham, Yang Yi, Eunju Joung Kim and Kyu-Jung Rhee for organizing such wonderful winner recitals, the performances were just outstanding and congratulation to all students and teachers who participated in the events. At last, thanks to those members who helped at recitals, for hosting the recitals, stage set-up, and award ceremony. Behind such a conference were many members that willingly participated and offered their talents to insure the success of our Conference.

Wishing you all with a wonderful new semester.

Wei-Yuh Christina Xie
President Elect, NJMTA 2011 State Conference Chair



Conference artists Eduardus Halim and Jennifer Linn

2011 NJMTA STATE CONFERENCE pictures



Left: 50th Anniversary Cake Celebration with MTNA President, Dr. Benjamin Caton and Past Presidents



Right: Chiu-Tze Lin, Teacher of the Year Award Recipient with Ingrid Clarfield

Top: Guest Artist Jennifer Linn with NJMTA board members and guests at Banquet

Bottom: Conference Artist Eduardus Halim, Veda Zuponcic, Dr. Caton and other guests at banquet



ASSOCIATED BOARD OF THE ROYAL SCHOOLS OF MUSIC

Congratulations!

The following students are to be congratulated on receiving the highest marks in their respective grades in the November 2011 exams.

PRACTICAL

Grade 1	AUDREY YU	141 (piano)	You Zheng Jiang
Grade 2	AIDAN CHOO	141 (piano)	Liang-Huei Tsai
Grade 3	RACHEL TAM	141 (piano)	Winnie Shum
Grade 4	NATHAN SHEK	138 (piano)	Winnie Shum
Grade 5	CHRISTINE PAN	137 (piano)	Jennifer Chung
Grade 6	KEVIN PATRICK MELCER	141 (piano)	Wendy Melcer
Grade 7	ZIHAO MI	136 (violin)	Ling Jin
Grade 8	RYAN ZHANG	139 (piano)	Patricia Landy



Plaques will be awarded to these students. Kevin, Audrey, Aidan and Rachel will receive additional awards since they received the highest mark in the exam session.

Congratulations to the teachers who coached and cajoled their students to reach such a high standard of all-round performance and excellence.

DipABRSM

Congratulations to Emily Tu, a student of Shu-Lin Chen, who received Distinction in the DipABRSM (Piano) exam in May 2011.

THEORY

I am happy to announce that two students of Margaret Knight, Brian Lafreda and Mark-Jonathan Pabalan received perfect score on their Grade 1 Theory Papers for the October exam. Each will receive a Hedy King Robinson Award in the form of a check from the Board. Their names will also appear in the 2011 ABRSM Annual Review.

Teachers of advanced level students may be interested in receiving information on the ABRSM Certification program which is recognized in 99 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 Teacher's 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.

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Please visit www.njmta.org
for more information!

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