

NVMTA NEWS

Northern Virginia Music Teachers Association
www.nvmta.org

Musical Excellence since 1950

**September
2011**

**Wednesday, September 25, Arlington Woman's Club 10:15
Meeting, 11:00 Program**

Discovering the Fun of Music Theory



If you are wondering how to help your students master theory and have fun at the same time, join NVMTA's own Rene Johnson for this interactive, educational session on how theory helps the budding musician.

Rene Johnson has been a member of NVMTA since 1991 when she moved to Virginia with her husband and four sons. Rene studied piano with both Virginia Hawley Buhn and Nancy Breth, became a Nationally Certified Teacher of Music in 2003 and has taught piano for 24 years. Rene previously served NVMTA as co-chair of the Achievement Awards Competition. Since 2004 she has co-chaired Theory Mastery Day, which enrolled over 500 students in 2011, and co-produced the ear training CDs used throughout the state. Renee participates in MusicLink, plays piano and organ for her church and collaborates frequently with singers and instrumentalists, including a performance at the White House.

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October Newsletter

Submission Deadline:

October 1, 2011

nvmtanewsletter@gmail.com

Fall Festival



Now is the time to choose repertoire for Fall Festival, an event that takes place on Saturday, November 5 and which showcases contemporary classical literature. The contemporary repertoire must include at least one recognized contemporary idiom or device. For ideas about repertoire, contemporary idioms, the event description and Collection of Contemporary Literature visit

www.nvmta.org. In past years singers, woodwind and string players have participated in this event and we welcome them again this year. For further information please contact chair Douglas Harrington at 703.984.9869 or douglasharrington@verizon.net.

TEACHER REFERRAL LIST

To place your studio on our referral list download the form at nvmta.org. Fill it out and enclose it with your \$35 check payable to NVMTA, to Peggy McNulty, 1209 Stable Gate Ct., McLean, Va. 22102. For questions contact Peggy at 703.356.3219 or

Peggy.McNulty@verizon.net

President's Message

For many of us the new school year will bring challenges. The economy—and the state of mind it engenders—continues to impact priorities and decisions about how time and money are spent. There is urgency to everything from soccer practice to college acceptance to future employment and income. Many parents want academics first, and frequently, sports second. Our State Legislature wants economics, not electives. Elementary music programs are threatened on almost an annual basis. Citing budgetary pressures, the Board of Directors of our own Music Teachers National Association has proposed eliminating the national performance competitions in Strings, Woodwinds, Voice and Brass in 2013. They await our response.

A thorough discussion of this proposal is on the agenda for both the Executive Board meeting on September 14th at 10:15 a.m. at the Patrick Henry Library in Vienna, Virginia, and at our first meeting of the year at The Woman's Club of Arlington on September 28th. (Go to nvmta.org, "MTNA Issue", for a detailed explanation of this issue.)

In the Virginia Legislature and in MTNA there is talk of cost-benefit analysis, but only the **costs** are cited. Our most important role in these endangering circumstances is to make the **benefits** of music teaching abundantly clear in the minds of our students, their parents and our chosen leaders. NVMTA will be at the forefront of these efforts. May our confidence in ourselves and our teaching inspire and motivate us to persuade others of the importance of the musical culture we cherish.

Kenneth Lee, President



VMFTA Fall Conference 2011

The VMFTA Fall Conference 2011 takes place at Virginia Commonwealth University in Richmond from October 27-30, 2011. Ann Schein (*picture at left*) will be the guest artist and our own Martha Smith presents a workshop about using art and science to motivate teenagers. View the conference schedule at http://www.music-usa.org/vmta/conf_schedule_2011.pdf. Register online at <http://www.music-usa.org/vmta/> and select "VMFTA Conference" from the menu.

VMFTA asks members, businesses and local associations to support the organization by advertising in our Program Book. To encourage advertising we have 2 special rates for members: a one-line individual mention under "Supporters of Music" and a business card-sized ad. Both ads cost \$10 and all advertising helps defray the cost of the conference. Go to http://www.music-usa.org/vmta/conf_2011_ad_form.pdf to download the contract form. For details contact Gabriella Ryan, VMFTA President-Elect, at gryanmusic1@gmail.com or 804.754.8356.



National Certification

This fall is an ideal time to start the process of national certification. Mtna.org outlines the process clearly and it is easier and more streamlined than ever! *Your Name, NCTM*, presents you as an independent music professional to colleagues and others. National Certification provides you with the confidence to share your unique gifts as a teacher. It's definitely worth the effort!. If you need information, encouragement or extra help contact Diane Perett, perettduet@aol.com or 703.534.4124.

Talk About Teaching

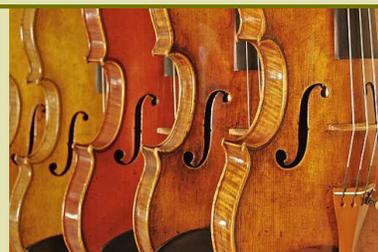
Would you like to *Talk About Teaching*? Come to any one or all of five informal get-togethers throughout the coming year. The idea is simply to provide a forum for teachers to talk about their work with each other. You may suggest a topic ahead of time, bring one with you, or just come to hear others.

Talk About Teaching takes place at Nancy Breth's studio in McLean on the second Wednesday of every other month. Everyone is welcome to come and can find directions to the studio at brethstudio.net. Space is limited, however, so please RSVP Nancy at nancy@brethstudio.net.

Classes begin in September, from 10am until noon, and take place on the following Wednesdays: September 14, November 9, January 11, March 14, and May 9.

Violinist Karina Cannelakis Concert and Masterclass

The Virginia String Teachers Association (VASTA) joins the Fairfax Symphony and the Potter Violin Co. in presenting a masterclass with the virtuoso violinist and master teacher Karina Cannelakis. The class takes place on Saturday, September 17, 2011, from 12:30-2:00pm at McLean High School, 1633 Davidson Rd, McLean, VA 22101. For details, go to www.vastaweb.org, or contact chair Helen Fall at 703.772.5212 or vaviola@gmail.com.



That same evening at 8:00pm the Fairfax Symphony presents Ms. Cannelakis in a performance of Chausson's *Poème* and *Introduction and Rondo Capriccioso* by Saint-Saëns at the Center for the Arts on the George Mason University Fairfax Campus. Discount tickets are available for students K-12 and accompanying parents. For further information contact the Fairfax Symphony at www.fairfaxsymphony.org or 703.563.1990.

Northern Virginia Senior Regional Orchestra Audition Prep Day



SRO Prep Day, sponsored by VASTA, prepares students for the SRO audition, competitions and college auditions. Specialists Allison Bailey, Patty Plombon, Amy Baumgarten and Barbara Fitzgerald have great tips for scales, sight-reading and orchestral excerpts. SRO Prep Day takes place at McLean High School, 1650 Davidson Drive, McLean, VA 22101 on Saturday, September 17 from 9:00am to 12:00pm. The fee for the class is \$10 for students of VASTA members and \$15 for non-members. Students are welcome to view or participate in the Cannelakis masterclass that follows (see above listing). Lunch will be available between the two events for \$8.00. **Applications for both events are due by Friday, September 9.** For application forms contact Katie LaBrie at katie.labrie@fcps.edu or 703.714.5817.

Link Your Website to the NVMTA Web Site

If you have joined the NVMTA Teacher Referral List and you would like to link your studio website to your listing on the NVMTA web site, contact Peggy McNulty at Pegy.McNulty@verizon.net.

Advertise Your Business on the NVMTA Website and get a free listing in the Newsletter! Reach musicians, teachers and the music community by advertising on our website 24/7 as well as in the newsletter (for free and also on the site 24/7!). Contact Bettye at bcooley.music@gmail.com for details about rates, fees and artwork.

Virginia Commonwealth University *Pianofest* Competition

The fifth annual *Pianofest* Competition takes place at Virginia Commonwealth University on Saturday, October 15, 2011 from 1:00pm - 6:00pm. For competition requirements, repertoire, schedule and application deadlines go to http://www.music-usa.org/vmta/pianofest_2011.pdf. For questions contact Dr. Sonia Vlahcevic at 804.828.1166 or skvlahce@vcu.edu.



Virginia Chamber Orchestra Concert: *Sunday in the Woods*

Music Director, Emil de Cou, opens the Virginia Chamber Orchestra's forty-first season with a world premiere of his own arrangement of Debussy's concert opera, *Diane au bois*. Beethoven's Symphony No. 6 in F major, Op. 68 (Pastoral) completes the program. The concert takes place on Sunday, October 23, 2011 at 4:00pm at the Ernst Community Cultural Center, Northern Virginia Community College, 8333 Little River Turnpike, Annandale, Virginia 22003. Tickets are available online and at the door and students are admitted free. Parking is free and a complimentary reception follows the concert. To purchase tickets contact 703.758.0179 or virginiachamberorchestra.org.

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Wade Beach, *jazz piano*

Dr. Joanne Haroutounian,
piano, keyboard pedagogy

Dr. John Healey, *piano*

Dr. Kelly Ker-Hackleman,
piano

Dr. Patricia Parker,
accompanying, piano

Dr. Elaine Rendler, *organ*

HIGHLIGHTS

Join us for the Grand Piano Celebration concert featuring Mason faculty and students on Sunday, September 18 at 3 p.m. in the Center for the Arts Concert Hall. cfa.gmu.edu

All Steinway School, featuring Steinway grand pianos in practice rooms and studios.

music.gmu.edu



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Condolences to Laureate Member Dorothy Wiley on the death of Paul, her husband of 69 years and to Debra Gunnerson, Past-President, whose father passed away on August 30, 2011.

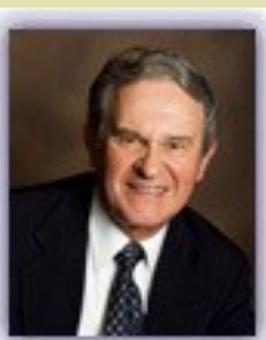
Student Recitals Page added to Website

Check out the new addition to our website! Based on a decision that the Website Committee made in the spring, Martha Smith, our intrepid Website Coordinator, has streamlined the events portion of our website. Previously, the Competitions/Festivals page included both General and Judged Recitals. Now, to make it easier for members to register students and to keep track of the many dates and postmark deadlines, both General and Judged recitals have a dedicated web page, "Student Recitals".



Piano For Sale, \$4800: This 2004 Kawai UST-8, a well-maintained, professional-grade piano, is Kawai's sturdiest studio piano. It produces a lovely, deep sound, has a lovely walnut finish, is in perfect condition and conveys with a humidifier. Our sons trained on this piano and were very involved in NVMTA events; it has many more years to give budding pianists. Contact Julie Hildbold at 703-779-9678.

"Keys to Teaching" Workshop with Marvin Blickenstaff



Harrisonburg Music Teachers Association and James Madison University present Marvin Blickenstaff in a workshop that takes place on Saturday, October 1, 2011 from 9:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. at Anthony Seeger Auditorium, James Madison University, 821 S. Main, Harrisonburg, Virginia.

Mr. Blickenstaff will cover topics including The First Week of Piano, Student Attrition and Nature's Clues to Interpretation. He will also work with both pre-college and college pianists in masterclass.

The workshop is free to HMTA and JMU members/staff and the fee is \$15 for all others. You may purchase lunch for \$5 (request vegetarian upon registering). Registration deadline is September 25, 2011 by email to Longwalk3@aol.com, pay at the door, or by mail, checks payable to HMTA to Kathleen Wissinger, 1050 Cemetery Rd., McGaheysville, Va. 22840. For directions go to www.jmu.edu/map. Questions and information? Contact Longwalk3@aol.com.

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