



Magic Valley MTA Bulletin

August -
September

2017

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I am so pleased that a couple of student events are in the works. Once again the Sonatina Competition will be held in November, and a new event "Piano Caroling" is also being planned for December 16.

Last year the Sonatina Competition was successful because many hands were on deck. We are fortunate that all the chairpersons who served last year have agreed to serve again this year. Thank you Pernicia, Lisa, Jo, Allison, Barb, Tonya, and Bonnie!

As we plan and prepare students for the Sonatina Competition, I think it is good to remember that the real marker of student success is not winning a competition, but the development of solid pianistic skills that allow students to enjoyably play the piano throughout their

lifetime. I want to emphasize the joy part. If a student only experiences learning pieces to participate in Sonatina Competition and Music Festival, most likely they will always see playing the piano as work to prepare for an event. My mission is that students learning to play the piano experience music as another means for self-expression, creativity, and joy. This does not mean lowering standards; if anything, it means raising the bar. I don't think any upper level Sonatina Competition entrant should win if they cannot demonstrate basic functional piano skills. For this reason, I believe in a future year (not 2017) we might consider adding a short sight-reading test to the adjudication process for the higher levels. We shouldn't be producing one or two-piece wonders who don't have functional piano skills, and I believe sight-reading is perhaps the most important of those skills.

I am hoping that as we go forward we will be able to host more events like the Piano Caroling event planned for December 16 (please read more about it in this newsletter). Non-adjudicated events that allow students to play the piano, interact with other pianists, and serve the community are fantastic ways to allow students to put some joy into playing. I would also love to see another event develop that allows students to work collaboratively.

I cannot forget the five tenets of Justin Nielsen's philosophy that he shared with us in January: 1) Music is fun by nature. 2) Music is communal, meant to be shared. 3) Excellence is a natural outgrowth of passion. 4) Music should be performed often. 5) Every student has incalculable worth. I cannot say it any better than that!

Corrine Van Dyk, NCTM

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MVMTA BOARD 2017-2018

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NEWSLETTER INFORMATION

Deadline for Oct-Nov newsletter
is

Monday, September 25, 2017

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314 Shadetree Trl
Twin Falls, ID 83301
Tonya.j.robertson@gmail.com

MVMTA/IMTA EVENTS

September 15, 2017

MVMTA Lunch Meet-up

Where: KB Burrito on Fillmore in Twin Falls

Time: 11:30 am

What: Come meet up with other teachers to talk about whatever is on our minds! (pay for your own lunch)

Contact: Corrine Van Dyk

September 22-23, 2017

IMTA State Conference

Where: NNU, Nampa

Contact: IMTA Website or
Stephen Thomas thomasst@byui.edu

October 2017

MVMTA Meeting

When: TBA

Where: TBA

Contact: Corrine Van Dyk
Corrine will send out time and date soon!

October 13, 2017

Sonatina Competition Registration

Deadline

Where: MVMTA Website

Contact: Corrine Van Dyk

November 11, 2017

Sonatina/Sonata Competition

Where: CSI Fine Arts Building

Contact: Corrine Van Dyk

December 16, 2017

Piano Christmas Caroling

Where: Various Retirement Homes in the area

What: Student Christmas performances for residents of retirement homes; some studios may be combined depending on numbers.

Who: Any members are invited to participate. Please let Barbara Mix know ASAP if you would like to, as she is coordinating retirement home reservations.

When: Approximately 2:00-3:30pm

More details will be forthcoming!

Contact: Corrine Van Dyk or Barbara Mix

COMMUNITY EVENTS

September 22, 2017

Del Parkinson in Concert

Where: CSI Auditorium

Time: 7:30 pm

Contact: Sue Miller

What: Twin Falls favorite, Del Parkinson will explore "Amore" in piano music written by Schumann, Liszt, Manuel Da Falla, Bernstein, Gershwin, and Rogers and Hammerstein's "Sound of Music". Come hear Schumann's Widmung, Liszt's Liebestraum and Mephisto Waltz and other great piano favorites in a concert—lecture format. \$10 general admission, \$8 Seniors, \$6 Students

October 27, 2017

Brava Piano Duo--CSI Stagedoor Series

Where: CSI Auditorium

Time: 7:30 pm

Contact: Sue Miller

What: Join the Brava Piano Duo - Sue Miller and Allison Bangarter - in a concert of music written for two pianists by composers who are still living. Upon entering the stage door, audience members will enjoy a display of new art by local artists. While Bach and Beethoven will always have a place in musicians' hearts, this program presents the work of some of the most exciting new and upcoming composers of the 20th and 21st centuries. Highlights include the rhythmically provocative set of Latin dances called "Recuerdos" by William Bolcom and Ned Rorem's "Six Variations for Two Pianos" which explores contemplative and rhythmically exciting variations. Commissioned specially for the Brava Piano Duo, this concert includes the world premiere of "Alternance" by composer David Batchelor. Be prepared for an intimate evening of new music and new art.

\$10 adult admission, \$5 Students

TEACHER SPOTLIGHT

This section will rotate teachers in our area each month, in an effort to encourage networking and getting to know each other better.

LISA PETTIT

Lisa Pettit studied piano at Brigham Young University and received a Bachelor of Arts Degree in 1992. She also has a Master of Music Degree from Colorado State University in Music Therapy. She has been teaching piano for 23 years. She taught group piano as an adjunct faculty member for The College of Southern Idaho, Hailey, Campus for 3 years and have been on the piano faculty for the Sun Valley Summer Symphony Music Institute since 2015. She recently became the organist for Emmanuel Episcopal Church in Hailey as well as serving as an organist for her LDS congregation. Lisa is also a Kindermusik educator and enjoys sharing music with young children and their families. She currently teaches 30 students ranging in age from 6-85. She has lived in Hailey for 14 years with her husband, Rich, and their three children- Haylee (20), Josh (18) and Rachel (15). She loves to garden, cook and crochet.

SONATINA/SONATA COMPETITION 2017 INFORMATION

Date: November 11, 2017

1. Registration is online.
2. No registration is complete without full payment and payment must be made by Oct. 13.
3. Payment can be made online with a credit or debit card.
4. Fees - Levels 1-5 (\$15), levels 6-12 (\$18), Duet (\$21 to be shared by the two participants)
5. Each teacher is required to work 30 minutes for each registered student on the day of the competition. If a teacher cannot do so, he/she may have another adult do the work on their behalf. The adult may be a student's parent, a friend, a spouse, or someone the teacher hires to take her place.
6. Registration opens Sept. 1 and closes Oct. 13.
7. Solo works must be memorized, but the duets do not have to be memorized.

IMPORTANT CHAPTER NOTES

Anybody who has an idea for a group teacher discussion should contact Corrine regarding leading a discussion at a future meeting. We would love to hear from anyone who would like to share!

Don't forget to always inform IMTA and MVMTA of any email address changes. We will not be responsible for members missing notifications if you have changed your email addresses and not notified us.

Also, please don't forget to send Corrine an email if you'd like your phone number listed on the website's teacher directory, which is only viewable by MVMTA members.

OTHER NEWS

Congratulations to Allison Bangerter, she was awarded an MTNA Teacher Enrichment Grant. Allison was also able to attend the Alan Fraser Piano Institute this summer!

MVMTA now has a website! In case you haven't checked it out yet, check it out now! It will be an important tool for registration, directory, and other things for our members. Thanks to Corrine Van Dyk for coordinating with Heidi Leben of Handmade Designs to put together such a beautiful, functional website! You can find it at magicvalleymta.org.

MVMTA is also on Facebook! If you have a Facebook account, take a minute to search for Magic Valley Music Teachers and "like" the page. We won't post updates that we don't already email on there, but it can be a positive way to be more visible to the community. If you have any suggestions for posts or use of the MVMTA Facebook page, contact Tonya Robertson.