



Newsletter

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Fort Worth Music Teachers Association

Volume 7, No.8 February 2015

Editorial Musings...

I hope the break at Christmas time – so enriched by music - and the last days of 2014 which gave way to the start of the New Year, provided the perfect transition into the Spring Semester. The breaks that occur prior to each semester are always welcome as they allow us to reflect, evaluate and deal with the various tasks the semester unfolds.

Worth noting as we begin this semester is the growth of our association. Seven pianists joined our association last Fall; FWMTA can boast of eleven additional pianists who have chosen to become members. Their expertise in various areas will enhance a membership that is already richly blessed with musical knowledge and talent. Speaking of which brings us to the presentation that will be given on Tuesday, February 10 at Steinway Hall. Dr. Ilka Araujo, president of FWMTA will give a lecture cum demonstration on Myths and Truths on Piano Technique. Please plan to attend.

May this be a year of musical enrichment for us all.

Rosemary Solomons



**IN
MEMORIAM....**

JOSÉ FEGHALI

By Ilka Araujo
FWMTA President

It is with much sadness that the association mourns the loss of one of its members. José

de Almeida Feghali (1961-2014) was not just a brilliant pianist. He was a friendly, pleasant person, a great teacher – beloved by all his students and those who had the pleasure to study with him at master classes –an individual with much character, passion, curiosity, and modesty. His was first drawn to the piano while listening to his older brother practice for his lessons. One day José looked at his brother’s teacher and said he knew how to play all of his brother’s pieces. He sat at the piano and played everything with absolute perfection. He started lessons immediately, gave his first recital at the age of five, played with the Brazilian Symphony Orchestra at the age eight, went to the Royal Academy in London at the age fifteen, receive the first prize at the Van Cliburn International Competition at age twenty-five, and the rest is history.

His playing was colorful, passionate, sensitive, and faithful to the music. His own facility as a pianist did not deter his understanding of the technical difficulties others may have, and that made him a great pedagogue as well.

Feghali suffered from endogenous depression, which is different from the exogenous types of depression associated with stressful life events. The endogenous type is biological and hereditary. It is a complex condition generated by chemical imbalance and genetic factors. José Feghali was buried in Rio de Janeiro on December 30th. He will be missed by family, friends, students, colleagues, and the music world. The Fort Worth Music Teachers Association will make a donation in his memory to the Cliburn Foundation Junior Piano Competition and Festival.



From the Desk of...

Gloria Lin, VP for Programs

The next combined meeting of the Piano Teachers Forum and FWMTA takes place on Tuesday, February 10, 2015 at Steinway Hall. FWMTA president Dr. Ilka Araujo, will give a lecture / demonstration on the Myths and Truths of Piano Technique.

And on April 11, 2015, the recital at TWU will feature guest composer, Timothy Brown. Submissions of students performing Brown's works are now open and will be considered on a first-come-first-served basis.

Lucy Yacante – Recital Chair

Members please note the change in the recital date for March. The location (Martin Hall at TWU) and time of recital (4:30 p.m.) remain the same. **The new date is: Saturday, March 28, 2015**

Marolyn Rippe – World of Music Chair

Deadline for the World of Music registration is February 6, 2015. If you wish to encourage your students to participate, information about the World of Music program can be found on page 32 of the Yearbook. Questions or further information, call or e-mail me. 817-282-1430 rippestudio@msn.com

Linda Banfy – Fall Festival Chair

The annual Fall & Jazz Festivals took place on October 11, 2014 at Texas Christian University. The Festival era this year was music of the Classical period.

The students were adjudicated by Dr. Jane Andrews, Resa Carroll, Darrell Crim, Polly Ferraro, Dr. John Fisher, Stewart Koontz, Beverly Ryan, Belinda Scholl, Linda Secor and Erica Vosburg resulting in the following ratings: Superior 261; Excellent 11; Good 2. We would like to thank TCU for the use of its facilities and piano technician, James Williams for the tuning of the pianos used during the Festival.

Reva Jean Beck - Ensemble Chair

Please read the Yearbook for a description of Piano Ensembles. Twenty-five students from eight studios have already enrolled. If you have students working on one of the ensemble pieces, please phone me. The audition date is Saturday, February 21, 2015 at Steinway Hall.

I can be reached at 817-946-9678.

Jennifer De Santis – Membership Chair

Please join me in welcoming nine new members and two members being reinstated. Take a moment to acquaint yourself with the names of these accomplished musicians. Some new members opted to send in their bios providing us with an interesting insight into their passion for music.

The eleven new members are:

Elyse Emerich, Jose Garcia-Corona, Mary Guess, Jiyeon Han, Christine Pater, Molly Pittman, Spring Seals (reinstating), Lauren Curtin, Moira Hopfe-Ostensen, Barbara Haun, Marina Motet (reinstating)

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Christine Pater teaches private piano lessons at Christine Pater's Piano Studio in Fort Worth, Texas. She is a Professional Accompanist/ Collaborative Artist in the areas of instrumental, vocal and choral accompanying and the church pianist at Birdville Baptist Church in Haltom City, Texas. Christine previously was the Director and Instructor of Piano at McKinney Arts in Fort Worth, Texas. Prior to moving to Fort Worth, for fifteen years Christine was a Professor of Music and Piano Instructor at the Central American Theological Seminary in Guatemala City, Guatemala and a member of the Faculty of the Guatemala Bible Seminary in Chimaltenango, Guatemala, where she was also Director of the Music Department and Professor of Music and Missions.

She previously resided in Chicago where she maintained a private piano studio, was the Director of the Lathrop Community Music School, and was Staff Accompanist and Adjunct Professor of Piano at the Moody Bible Institute. Christine holds a Bachelor of Music degree from DePaul University of Chicago, Master of Arts degree from the Moody Bible Institute of Chicago, and Master of Music degree from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary of Fort Worth, Texas.

She has traveled extensively and has performed in various venues throughout the United States, Canada, Costa Rica, Cuba, Germany, Guatemala, Israel, Mexico, and the Slovak Republic.

Christine released her bilingual (English/Spanish) C.D. "*Wonderful, Merciful Savior*" for piano and vocal music in 2008.

Moira Hopfe-Ostensen holds Bachelor and Master's Degrees from the University of Alberta, Canada, in Piano Performance and Literature. She has also earned an Associate Degree from the Royal College of Music (Piano Pedagogy), a Licentiate Degree from the Royal Academy of Music (Piano Performance), London, England and a Doctorate of Musical Arts Degree (Piano Pedagogy), at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, Texas.

Dr. Hopfe-Ostensen has appeared as a solo and collaborative pianist throughout Canada, the United States, and Europe, and continues to be active as an adjudicator, examiner, and clinician. She is currently Adjunct Professor at the School of Music, Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, and is a member of the College of Examiners for the Royal Conservatory of Music Examinations, Canada, and the Music Development Program, United States.

Molly Pittman has been teaching piano lessons for ten years. She earned a BM in Piano Performance from Stephen F. Austin State University, and a MM in Church Music from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, Texas. She has taught elementary music at Crowley ISD for six years where she was awarded the District Heartbeat Award as well as the District Teacher of the Year 2012. While in Crowley she directed the Dallas Park Hand Bell Choir as well as the district's only group piano lab.

She currently teaches from her home in Fort Worth. She and her husband are expecting their first child in March.

Jose Garcia Corona - Born in Mexico City.

Teachers: Federico Schaffenburg and Maria Teresa Rodriguez in Mexico.

Georg Stieglitz in Essen (Germany).

Master classes: Jorg Demus and Gyorgy Sandor.

Degrees: Pianist Diploma

Bachelor Musical Education.

Master in Education and Artistic Research.

These degrees are from the I.N.B.A

(National Fine Arts Institute, Mexico)

Experience: Concerts as soloist and chamber music , recitals and lectures.

Teaching: 1 year at the Jugend Musikschule in Essen (Germany) and thirty-two years at the National Fine Arts Institute in Mexico City.

Elyse Emerich, originally from Flower Mound, Texas, earned her Masters of Music degree in Piano Pedagogy at Texas Christian University in May 2014, after receiving her Bachelors of Music degree in Piano Pedagogy from the University of Oklahoma. In addition to piano, Elyse has also enjoyed performing in and instructing competitive marching percussion ensembles for Drum Corps International

Barbara Haun – My passion is being a pianist, and have taught and played professionally since I was twelve years of age. Early on, I took lessons from Katherine Schotta who came (to Texas) from the line of Bach students in Germany. I specialize in classical and church music, serving on church staffs as the pianist-organist/music director.

Spring Seals –NCTM, received a Bachelor's Degree in Piano Performance with an emphasis in Pedagogy from Oklahoma Baptist University. She was awarded a graduate assistantship at Texas Christian University where she completed a Master's Degree in Piano Pedagogy. Spring Seals has given presentations at the National Conference on Keyboard Pedagogy, the Texas Music Teachers Association Convention, and the Texas Music Educators Association Convention. She teaches group and private piano at Parker Piano Studios in Southwest Fort Worth. She enjoys teaching piano students of all ages and in all stages of study and believes that everyone is capable of creating and enjoying music.

Announcements

The Fort Worth Civic Orchestra announces its annual Young Musicians Concerto Competition

The Fort Worth Civic Orchestra's Concerto Competition will be held on Saturday, March 21st 2015, at the Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, 2001 West Seminary Drive, Fort Worth, Texas.

The competition is open to residents of Tarrant, Parker, Johnson, Hood, Ellis, Wise and Denton Counties through 12th Grade, on any orchestral instrument or piano. Past prizewinners are not eligible to enter.

FWMTA teachers with aspiring students are asked to please complete the required entry form and return it with an application fee of \$30 and a tape/CD/DVD of the applicant performing 5 minutes of the movement of their chosen concerto by February 20th, 2015 to:

Lisa Poole, FWCO Concerto Competition,
210 Timber Trail, Weatherford, TX 76087

Invitations to compete in the competition will be sent out by March 13th, 2015.

1st Place prize: \$500 plus an opportunity to perform the movement of the Concerto with the Fort Worth Civic Orchestra during their Spring Concert on Saturday May 9th 2015.

2nd Place prize: \$250.

Entry forms and other information can be found on the FWCO website or by e-mailing Kristi Toler at the following address:

ktoler.fwco@gmail.com ktoler.fwco@gmail.com

Gloria Lin wishes to remind teachers and their students to prepare and present the music of Timothy Brown at the April 11, 2015 *Meet the Composer Recital* at Texas Wesleyan University. The composer will be present and share his thoughts on his oeuvre of piano music with the audience and the performers.

Executive Board Officers 2014 – 2015

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Technical Assistance provided by
Thomas L. Helmick

Newsworthy items of musical interest that you wish to share with your fellow members can be published in the Newsletter. Send news items anytime **from now until mid-April 2015** to r.solomons@tcu.edu if you wish them to be included in the next E-Newsletter