



Newsletter

Volume 7, Number 1

Fort Worth Music Teachers Association

September 2012

Greetings...

The first meeting scheduled for the fourteenth of September, 2012, signals the start of yet another event-filled year for us members of FWMTA. The calendar for the year 2012-2013 proudly encompasses events of particular interest to our students. The programs and presentations in the months of September, October, November (2012) and January and February (2013) were planned with us teachers/pianists in mind. Each meeting promises to be of particular interest to us as pianists and as educators. The support of our organization is evidenced in member participation in all of the events planned for the year.

It is the hope of your VP for Programs that members make every endeavour to attend FWMTA monthly meetings. The laurels gained for us by our students combined with our own show of support through attendance at the meetings, will make for a gratifying and eventful year that extends itself from the Autumn of 2012 to the Spring of 2013.

Rosemary Solomons, Editor

Upcoming Events

Teachers Meetings/Programs - September through November 2012

Friday, September 14, 2012

Dr. Artina McCain

Lecture/Demonstration: *Muscle Activation Techniques*

Friday, October 19, 2012

Dr. Jill T. Sprenger

Lecture/ Demonstration: *From the Alpha to the Omega*

Saturday, November 10, 2012

Master Class – Clinician TBA

All meetings at Steinway Hall 11 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Student Recitals:

Saturday, September 8, 2012

Saturday, October 6, 2012

Saturday, November 10, 2012, FWMTA/PT Forum

Saturday, December 15, 2012

(includes original compositions)

See FWMTA Yearbook for deadlines

Important 2012 Deadlines

September 13: Fall Festival

September 14: SA Registration

October 15: Theory Test Registration

October 29: Original Composition Contest

December 15: Publication Contest

See FWMTA Yearbook for more information and deadlines.

TMTA TEACHER OF THE YEAR AWARDS

by *Bonnie Dove* - Chairman, TMTA Teacher of the Year Awards

Teacher recognition at the state level is given in three categories: TMTA Teacher of the year Award, TMTA Outstanding Pre-Collegiate Teaching Award and TMTA Outstanding Collegiate Teaching Award. At the recent TMTA convention in June of 2012, the winners in each category were:

*** Teacher of the Year**

Andrea Stennet Warren, NCTM

(Given for outstanding service to TMTA and the local association)

*** Outstanding Pre-Collegiate Teacher of the Year**

J. Collins-Thompson, NCTM

(Given for outstanding achievement in pre-collegiate teaching)

*** Outstanding Collegiate Teacher of the Year**

Dr. John Solomons

(Given for outstanding achievement in collegiate teaching)

We are so very proud of our member, Dr. John Solomons for winning this, the most prestigious award presented by TMTA.

Since 1997, Dr. Solomons has served as Associate Professor of Piano and Keyboard Area Coordinator at the University of Texas at Arlington. Recently, one of Dr. Solomons' students was accepted at the Eastman School of Music and will be studying with Nelita True. Additionally, he has had great success as a solo performer himself, winning the Grand prize in the 13th Bartok-Kabalevsky-Prokofiev International Piano Competition, 1st prize in the Musical Research Society's Stewart Grant Competition and 3rd prize in the American Music Scholarship Association World Piano Competition, to name a few.

Our congratulations to Dr. Solomons for an award well-earned and well-deserved.

Student Affiliate Theory Testing

by *June Leondar*

ONE CLARIFICATION in Yearbook. Only one \$12.00 Teacher participation fee is required. The notation in #3 page 15 is incorrect. The participation fee is due when you send SA registration lists.

Theory Tests will again be available to Fort Worth Music Teachers students. See page 15-16 in our Yearbook for description of this program. **Things to check when sending lists:**

(a) Is the student enrolled as a Student Affiliate member. (b) Have you listed the student with the same name, grade level as registered. (c) Is the level of the test the student is to take marked clearly on your typed list. (d) Are you meeting the deadline date for sending lists to Chairman. Tests are ordered once for the testing period. If you are late sending your list, you are holding up test orders for all other teachers. Please don't be that teacher. Fall testing registration date is **October 15** with the test on November 4. Spring testing registration is **January 18** with the test on February 3, 2013. The fee of \$10.00 per student covers the cost of state grading (\$4.50 each test) and the medals (\$4.75 each) for students who make a 90 or above on the test at their grade level.

Some Changes: In case you had a need to contact TMTA's office manager please be advised that the office in Austin has been closed and contact can be made with the Office Manager, Christina Clark, at 512-927-7567; mailing address P.O. Box 831730, Richardson, TX 75083-1730. Email address: texasmta@tmta.org. The 2012-2013 Student Affiliate HANDBOOK was mailed to all those whose membership dues were received by July 30. Late membership enrollees will get this book at a later mailing. The Handbook is posted on line at the TMTA website. A complete list of the State leaders is printed on page 4 of this Handbook.

TEXAS MUSIC TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

If you want information about Texas Music Teachers Association please contact June Leondar, current chairman of TMTA Trustees. The Trustees are sponsoring a *Teacher Enrichment Conference* to be held at Baylor University, Waco, TX on November 16-17, 2012. An announcement brochure was sent to all members.

Events of interest to FWMTA members:

UTA Fall Keyboard Contest – **Saturday, November 3, 2012**

Hymn Festival – **Saturday, December 08, 2012**

A "Whole Note" of Thanks to Peggy Wiesner-Gates and Echo Wilson for their untiring efforts in compiling FWMTA Year Book with its detailed information accessed at the touch of a key.

And Jose Cubela for his efforts at making FWMTA's new logo a reality.

The Carnegie Hall/Royal Conservatory Achievement Program

By Dr. Jill T. Sprenger

Professor of Piano/School of Church Music

Dir. Southwestern Music Academy

(see next page)

...Carnegie Hall/Royal Conservatory Achievement Program

We have many wonderful programs in Texas such as our State Theory Tests, World of Music Program and TMTA Performance contests, but I wanted to let you know about a new program which will give our students a new option in the ***The Carnegie Hall/Royal Conservatory Achievement Program***. As I so believe in this new opportunity, I have accepted the position of Regional Associate for Texas for TAP. These two well-known music icons have joined to bring the long-time Canadian comprehensive assessment system to the United States, and I have already seen great improvement in both my Academy teachers' teaching as well as their students playing, after having hosted just one assessment day last April at our school. The practical exams our students took in piano and violin required a high-level technique element, which I believe has long been missing from other State performance tests. I hope you will go to: www.theachievementprogram.org. to learn more about this system. Feel free to contact me at jsprenger@swbts.edu with any further questions.

*While with an eye made quiet by the power
Of harmony, and the deep power of joy,
We see into the life of things*
- William Wordsworth

Prepared and edited by Rosemary Solomons