

TENNESSEE MUSIC TEACHER

Published by the Tennessee Music Teachers Association, an affiliate of the Music Teachers National Association
www.tnmta.org

March, 2018

Vol. 44, No.

2018 TMTA CONFERENCE



The 2018 TMTA Conference will begin on Saturday and Sunday, June 2 and 3, with auditions and will be hosted by AMTA and SMMTA at the East Tennessee State University Department of Music. A new feature will be the concert featuring ETSU musicians on Saturday evening. The TMTA Board Dinner will take its traditional time slot on Sunday evening and will be preceded by a recital of new faculty members in colleges and universities across Tennessee.

Monday morning will kick off with a session by the ETSU Collegiate Chapter with a session on ways to improve practice. Following this will be a piano Masterclass by Conference Clinician Seymour Bernstein. The Independent Music Teachers Forum Luncheon/Program will follow his session. Afternoon sessions will include a lecture demonstration about the interpretive indications in Chopin's Music by Seymour Bernstein, followed by a showing of the documentary on his life produced by the actor Ethan Hawke, Seymour: An Introduction (2014), and the TMTA Annual meeting.

Following dinner, conference artists Sergiu Schwartz (violin), Thomas Landschoot (cello), and Esther Park (piano) will collaborate for an exciting evening of chamber music.

Tuesday morning will lead off with a discussion of the Suzuki approach to violin and piano teaching. This will be followed by a masterclass in violin and cello. Wrapping up the conference will be a panel discussion with audience involvement regarding approaches to teaching music through the violin and piano by our guest artists and other invited panelists. The conference brunch will wrap up this year's conference and will begin at 2:00 pm.

Conference lodging will be at the Carnegie Hotel, a four star hotel, located directly across the street from the Department of Music. Rates are \$109 per night for king or double queen rooms. Call 866.757.8277 and mention TMTA Conference at ETSU for this special rate. Campus housing will also be available on the ETSU campus. Contact Kim Edwards Young, 423.439.7103, and mention TMTA Conference at ETSU.

Detailed conference information will be included in the next issue of the TMTA Newsletter.



Message from President Jeri Paolini

In my view, one of the most rewarding aspects of being a music educator is the opportunity to meet fellow music educators from around the world. In this photo, I have the privilege of sharing an evening with Chu-Fang Huang, a wonderful pianist from China. As a dear friend of ETSU's Department of Music, Chu-Fang plans to return this June to adjudicate and conduct master classes at the Inaugural 2018 ETSU International Piano Festival and Competition. This competition will be held immediately following TMTA's State Conference at ETSU. TMTA's Executive Board is pleased to offer two \$150 travel grants to attend the June state conference. To apply for these grants, see additional information highlighted in this newsletter.

TMTA is excited for our Southern Division winners, as they head to Orlando, March 17-21, for the MTNA National Conference and Competitions. Congratulations and best wishes to the following young artists – Hongni Wu, Young Artist Piano; Lauren Urquhart, Young Artist Voice; and the Music City Quintet, Chamber Music String. Tennessee

will be rooting for you! See the complete list of Southern Division results in this newsletter.

We also congratulate TMTA's Foundation Fellows, who will be honored at the MTNA National Conference Gala on Monday, March 19. We are proud of our recipients – Rachel Acuff, David Brunell, and Sandy Triplett - and thankful to all those who contributed to their sponsorship!

Due to the efforts of Valerie Middleton, Scholarship Endowment Fund Chair, and Olivia Ellis, Treasure, TMTA is now a recognized charity at Amazon Smile. Amazon will donate 0.5% of the price of eligible Amazon Smile purchases. For more information on how to register, visit the Scholarship Awards link at TMTA's website (tnmta.org).

For those of you who like to plan well in advance, please note that the TMTA 2019 Conference at MTSU in Murfreesboro will take place May 23-26, 2019. The teacher's conference, May 23-24, will precede the student competitions on May 25-26. The Executive Board realizes that this is Memorial weekend, but felt that it was the best solution to finding a workable date for all conference attendees and their students. The usual June weekend is not available, due to the Governor's School schedule at MTSU.

In just a few days, many of you will be heading to the MTNA National Conference in Orlando. We wish you safe travels, a fantastic experience, and please don't forget to convey TMTA's greetings to Mickey and Minnie!

June 2018 TMTA State Competition Information

- The requirement of 6 month's study with a teacher to enter competitions has been deleted. This change is effective immediately.
- Beginning in 2019, the Division competitions for MTNA will be held online.
- Tennessee's 2018 spring auditions will be held June 2-3 at East Tennessee State University in Johnson City, TN. Elementary and junior piano competitions will be held Saturday, June 2. Senior piano and all chamber, vocal, and instrumental competitions will be held Sunday, June 3.
- All students are expected to compete on an even level, i.e., in the same location, on the same day, with the same judge(s), and on the same instrument for pianists. This holds true for all state-level auditions in Tennessee. Should a category be so large as to need an additional day, an adjoining day will be utilized subject to the schedule of competition personnel. All other parameters must remain the same.
- Tennessee's fall 2018 competitions will be held October 19-20 at Vanderbilt University in Nashville. This includes all MTNA competitions and TMTA's collegiate and adult categories.
- Tennessee's fall auditions are always scheduled on a Saturday. Should any category have so many entrants that additional time is needed, the Friday afternoon/evening before will be utilized for that specific category, but ONLY if there is an overflow of entrants. The first choice will always be a Saturday. If there is a time conflict, it is up to the student to request accommodation, but accommodation cannot be guaranteed. Entrants are expected to have both days open to compete but must realize that both days may not be needed. Saturday will ALWAYS be used.

The TMTA competition handbook is available online, but hard copies may still be purchased for \$5.00 each.

Elaine Harriss

TMTA Competitions Coordinator

Announcements

TMTA New Faculty Recital

Extended Deadline: April 30, 2018

One of the conference events will be a recital by new faculty members. TMTA members who became new college faculty members during the past three years 2015-16, 2016-17 or 2017-2018 academic years are invited to perform on this recital.

Please contact Dr. Benjamin Caton (caton@etsu.edu) with your name, school, piece, and timing, by April 30.

Scholarship Awards Endowment Fund

Donate for FREE with Amazon Smile!

Do you shop on Amazon? If you designate the "Tennessee Music Teachers" as your preferred charity at smile.amazon.com, Amazon will donate 0.5% of your purchase to the TMTA Scholarship Endowment Fund, at NO COST to you! After enrolling, you will shop at "Smile.amazon.com" rather than Amazon.com. Please share this opportunity with everyone you know, and help us raise money for our Scholarship Endowment Fund!

Publicity/Facebook Chair Board Position Vacancy

Do you enjoy attending TMTA events, taking pictures, and designing Facebook pages? Then TMTA needs you! The Executive Board is looking for such a person to fill the Publicity/Facebook Chair vacancy. Please contact Jeri Paolini (paolini@etsu.edu) if you or someone you know may be interested.

Certification News

MTNA has recently awarded national certification in piano to Lora Gubanov from Memphis and Brook Balbuena from Germantown. Congratulations to both of these fine teachers.
Janet Sump, Certification Chair

State Conference Grants

The TMTA Executive Board is pleased to once again offer two **\$150 grants** to help defray expenses to the state conference in June. Those applying for a grant must be in their first ten years of regular TMTA membership. The full amount of the grant must be used towards expenses for the June 2-5, 2018 conference at ETSU in Johnson City. The deadline for submission is Sunday, April 1. The recipients will be announced by April 15th.

Please submit the following information by email to all of the committee members listed below.

- * Have you ever attended a state or national conference?
- * Do you attend local TMTA meetings?
- * Do you enter students in local TMTA competitions?
- * Do you enter students in state TMTA competitions?
- * What instrument (s) do you teach?
- * How many students do you currently teach?
- * What level students do you teach?
- * List memberships in other professional music organizations.
- * Have you held any positions in your local MTA or other professional music organizations?
- * Have you given any presentations to music organizations or in the schools? yy

The committee thanks you in advance. Best wishes to all!

Rachel Acuff - racuffribble@hotmail.com

Karen Ann Krieger - karen.a.krieger@vanderbilt.edu

Jerilyn Paolini – paolini@mail.etsu.edu

PLANNING AHEAD.....

March 17-21, 2018

MTNA National Conference

Disney's Coronado Springs Resort, Orlando, Florida

June 2-5, 2018

TMTA State Conference/Competitions

ETSU, Johnson City

Future TMTA Conferences: May 23-26, 2019 Murfreesboro, 2020 Memphis, 2021 Knoxville, 2022, Jackson; 2023 Chattanooga; repeating starting in Nashville

Future MTNA National Conferences: March 16-20, 2019, Spokane, Washington; March 21-25, 2020, Chicago, Illinois; 2021 Atlanta, Georgia; 2022 Minneapolis, MN

August 3-4, 2018

MTNA GP3 National Group Piano and Pedagogy Forum

Oberlin College

October 19-20, 2018

MTNA/TMTA Fall Competitions

Blair School of Music at Vanderbilt



Where are they now?—Melissa Yu

Melissa Yu studied piano for eight years with Dr. David Northington and Dr. David Brunell, both with the University of Tennessee, Knoxville. She still has fond memories from TMTA Competitions and always loved meeting piano students from all over Tennessee.

Besides music, Melissa loves math and computer science. Prior to entering college, she spent several summers as a research intern at Oak Ridge National Laboratory, winning national and international awards for her work. Melissa is now a junior at Harvard University working toward a Bachelor's degree in Computer Science. Last summer she interned at Jane Street Capital, a proprietary trading firm in NYC, applying her computer science and statistics knowledge to the field of finance; this summer, she will intern at an early-stage tech startup called Accompany in Silicon Valley that provides smart intelligence on people and companies to executives.

Currently, Melissa is working with two friends to build a tech startup of their own, Camelot.ai, an online platform which aims to cultivate and identify talent for education and recruiting, with a focus on data science and machine learning. They've partnered with a prominent quantitative trading firm, as well as the undergraduate machine learning class at Harvard, and are currently Beta testing. Even when she's busy with school and work, Melissa enjoys playing piano duets with her friends and doing serious research on the food scene in Cambridge.

Contact Deane Gray (deanegray@gmail.com) with names of students you would like to see featured in this section

Can you name this tune?



Teacher of the Year Submissions

Local teacher of the year honorees who would like to be considered for the state honor need to submit their bios and/or CVs and 2-3 letters of recommendation via email to Margaret Ann Randolph (mar2600@aol.com) no later than **May 1**.

The areas of evaluation, according to MTNA guidelines are:

Educational preparation (25)

- Basic training
- Continuing education

Reputation as an effective teacher (25)

- Students participation and ratings in auditions (TMTA and others)
- Achievements of students and former students in performance and teaching

General professional activity (30)

- TMTA participation
- Certification
- Other professional activity

Service to community and state as musician and teacher (20)

Upcoming Opportunities

For a comprehensive listing of opportunities, visit our website at www.tnmta.org/links.html

Congratulations to Tennessee's 2018 Southern Division Winners

Chamber Music String:

Winner: Music City Quintet

Teacher: Cornelia Heard

Hesoo Cha, violin; Emily Monroe, violin; Rachel Haber, viola; Eric Cho, cello; Miranda Shum, piano

Junior Performance String:

Honorable Mention: David Lugo, violin

Teacher: Miroslav Hristov

Senior Performance String:

Alternate: Jonathan Lugo, viola

Teacher: David Kovac

Young Artist Performance Piano:

Winner: Hongni Wu, piano

Teacher: Chih-long Hu

Young Artist Performance String:

Honorable Mention: Hesoo Cha, violin

Teacher: Cornelia Heard

Young Artist Performance Voice:

Winner: Lauren Urquart, soprano

Teacher: Amy Jarman

Young Artist Performance Woodwind:

Alternate: Keeheon Nam, clarinet

Teacher: Bill Jackson

CURB CONCERTO COMPETITION-NASHVILLE

11th grader **Sean Yang** at Houston high school, a student of Dr. Yukiko Whitehead, earned the Grand Prize for his performance of the third movement of the Piano Concerto in F# minor, Op. 20 by Alexander Scriabin. He will receive \$2,500 and two full subscriptions to Nashville Symphony's Aegis Sciences Classical Series, and will perform his winning selection with the Nashville Symphony as the featured soloist at the annual Side-by-Side Concert in May.

Chih-long Hu and Hongni Wu, below



Music City Quintet



Name that Tune answer: Beethoven Piano Sonata no. 30 op. 109 Vivace