



MARYLAND STATE MUSIC TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

Our
66th
year

Affiliated with Music Teachers National Association

www.msmta.org

a publication of the Maryland State Music Teachers Association

February 2025



FROM THE PRESIDENT

Greetings and Happy New Year,

First, I would like to commend the conference committee for organizing an excellent conference on Sunday, October 20, 2024.

Of special note are the outstanding presenters, Dr. Lorena Brougher and Andrew Rosenbaum, the talented students who played for the masterclass, and, of course, the special treat of a mini-recital by the incomparable Brian Ganz.

As we look ahead to a new year filled with performance activities for our students, I am deeply grateful for the exceptional student activities event chairs. Their passion for music and our students is evident in the dedication and hard work they invest in planning and executing the various festivals, auditions, tests, and competitions.

I am looking forward to attending the MTNA 2025 Conference in Minneapolis March 15-19. We plan to have a Maryland area dinner on Tuesday evening before the concert so please e-mail me if you plan to attend the conference. We look forward to celebrating Dr. Carol Wolfe-Ralph being honored as a 2025 MTNA fellow at the gala. We also congratulate Douglas Guiles, 2017 MTNA Fellow, who will be listed on the inaugural Teacher Honor Roll.

This year, more than ever, we are called to hold steadfast to one of our missions—using our love for music to heal and unite, as music so powerfully does. Let us celebrate who we are. We are the bridge-builders, the connectors, and the custodians of what makes us human. As musicians and music educators, we nurture the ability to experience and express complex emotions through music. Music beckons us to think critically, to adapt creatively, and to cultivate empathy and imagination. Plato said it best, “Music gives a soul to the universe, wings to the mind, flight to the imagination, and life to everything.”

Sincerely,

Edwina E. Hunter

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At the Board meeting on January 27, 2025, members unanimously voted to accept the generous offer from Frederick County MTA member Bobbie Rastall to host her Intermediate Classical Anthology database on the MSMTA website. The database currently contains over 31,862 titles.

Bobbie meticulously compiled this list by reviewing every intermediate classical anthology she could find, cataloging the pieces within each so that users can easily locate a specific work, regardless of which anthology they have.

This resource will be available on the MSMTA website soon.

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COMPOSERS AND IMPROVISERS CIRCLE

Ann S. Matteson Composers and Improvisers Circle

Opus 30 - 2024

Sunday December 8, 2024

Three o'clock in the afternoon

The Composer's Circle had a record Twenty-Three student performers plus Composer Li-Ly Chang. A very enjoyable afternoon of original compositions was enjoyed by all. Founder **Ann Matteson** attended and hosted a reception afterwards with Chair **Deborah White-Bondhus**. Many thanks to **Joanna Greenwood** for doing our composition booklet.

Studios Represented: *Patricia Blanchard, Ken Chen, Douglas Guiles, Haemi Erikson, Krista Keyser, Li-Ly Chang, Shisa Suskey, Deborah White-Bondhus, Miri Frenkel-Yacubovich, Dr. Tzi-Ming Yang, Yaling Yeh*



MSMTA CONFERENCE

We had a fabulous virtual conference on Sunday, October 20, 2024.



Conference committee with Brian Ganz:

L-R: Junko Takahashi, Edwina Hunter, Brian Ganz, Deborah White-Bondhus and Yoon Huh

Our Conference began with **Lorena Brougher** and a presentation on ADHD. Lorena Brougher went through some common truths and misconceptions about the way our ADHD brains learn and think. She shed some light on the unique strengths of these often-misunderstood students and lastly, shared a short list of resources for the busy piano teacher. This was a very informative presentation on teaching students with ADHD that many of us see in our studios.



Our next presenter **Andrew Rosenblum** discussed Baroque Music at the Piano:

How Understanding Harpsichord Techniques Influences Interpretation of Baroque Music on the Piano.

This presentation outlined some of the core principles of phrasing and interpretation at the harpsichord and explored ways in which these practices can be successfully applied to the modern piano.

MSMTA CONFERENCE

We followed Mr. Rosenblum's presentation with a Master Class for Intermediate and Advanced Students with clinician **Brian Ganz**.

Featured performers in the Brian Ganz Master Class:

Albert Xu: Beethoven, Sonata in F Minor, Op. 57: 1st movement

Yunbo Li: Chopin, Nocturne in Db Major, Op. 27 No. 1

Zack Lam: Scriabin, Fantasie in B Minor, Op. 28

Selection Committee judges:

Dr. Carol Wolfe-Ralph, Edwina E. Hunter, and Debra Merritt

Following the Masterclass Mr. Ganz performed a Chopin Mini- Recital

Polonaise op. 40 #1

Mazurka op. 17 #4

Ballade op. 23 in G Minor

Polonaise op. 53 in Ab Major



COMING OCTOBER 2025...

Look for upcoming information on our 2025 Conference
on Sunday, October 12, 2025 from 1-7 p.m.

Kevin Chase, MTNA President will be presenting
along with **Thomas Hecht** – Mini Recital and Master Class!!!!

LOCAL ASSOCIATIONS



With Montgomery County Music Teachers Association's return to the Rockville location of Jordan Kitt's Music, we had a nice gathering for our first general membership meeting of the '24-'25 school year. CPA Mike Nie's presentation on 10 Tax Tips for the Private Music Teacher provided timely advice and information about an opportunity for members to make a donation to MCMTA through Smart1040 LLC. Then in November, we announced the affirmative vote to expand our Outstanding Music Achievement Awards to the Elementary and Middle School levels, and Dr. Simon Finlow gave a wonderful presentation entitled Piano Studies and Etudes: Are They Music?

Each of the fall months held two student events. Our first series of Judged Recitals and Elementary Recitals were held in October. In November, we held our Celebrating Music Festival and Intermediate/Advanced Recitals. More Judged Recitals and the Elementary "Holiday" Recitals via Zoom were held in December, followed by on-line video-submissions for Intermediate/Advanced Recitals in January. We are very grateful to Dr. Michael Angelucci, Dr. Kent McWilliams, Nancy Breth, Dr. Teodora Adzharova, Narciso Solero, and the teachers of MCMTA who have served as adjudicators, devoting their time and sharing their knowledge with our students. Most importantly, none of these events could have happened without the organizational efforts of the Chairs of these events and those who volunteered to help. We appreciate the hard work of Yuri Chayama, Olga Soukhoveeva, Miri Frenkel-Yacubovich, and Bonnie Kellert.

On a sad note, in mid-December, we learned from former member Michele Rohan about the passing of former President Joselyn Makowski on December 16, 2024. Jo served as President of MCMTA from 1989-1991. We send our heartfelt sympathies to Joselyn's family, and we thank Helen Smith Tarchalski, who has graciously offered to write a tribute to Jo which will be published in the June newsletter.



Along with more student events, we will have two more meetings in the months ahead. In March, we'll have a presentation by Quentin Walston, Jazz Improvisation Made Accessible: Techniques for Every Music Educator. Concluding our school year will be our Members' Concert in May – all instruments and ensembles are welcome!

Debra E. Merritt
President, MCMTA



MUSIC TEACHERS ASSOCIATION OF SOUTHERN MARYLAND

Greetings from Southern Maryland!

MTASM had an exciting and productive beginning to our teaching year as we welcomed several new members and held our Traditional Hymn Festival, Fall Recital Day, and Keyboard Musicianship testing day. Our annual Christmas Marathon recital day was truly a marathon, with 132 students and 11 teachers participating in 7 recitals beginning at 8:15 a.m.

We were truly saddened this fall by the passing of MTASM founding member Barbara Graham. Her spirit and inspiration shone brightly as we honored her at our fall recital day. We felt her presence at our Christmas Marathon, one of her favorite events. As a former student, now a young adult, said so movingly as he honored Barbara at her memorial service, "I first knew Mrs. Graham when I was a child and she was my piano teacher. Now that I am an adult, I can see how much she has influenced me to be the man I have become. I will never forget her. Thank you, Mrs. Graham." MTASM will also never forget her. Thank you, Barb. Rest in peace.

2025 is getting off to a busy start with an Ensemble recital day, recitals as part of the Kalnasy Concert Series, our MTASM Spring Festival and an Honor Recital along with the MSMTA theory test, high school exam, and competitions. Our monthly Pedagogy Discussion Group continues on, with shared learning, great fellowship and wonderful potluck meals keeping us warm on these cold winter days. Best wishes from MTASM for a productive and joyful spring!

Patricia Blanchard and Mary Stevens, co-presidents
Music Teachers Association of Southern Maryland



Frederick County Music Teachers Association

Frederick County MTA has had a busy year so far, starting with our Halloween Recitals in October. About 80 students participated with spooky music, costumes, and a witch MC. Bobbie Rastall led our first Professional Development meeting entitled “Internet Cafe 2024” in October, and we had a wonderful presentation from Nancy Breth in November on “Technique without Tears”. She also gave us a short session on Introducing students to Bach Inventions. We ended 2024 with our Holiday Gathering.

January 2025 started with a Business Meeting, and we’ve welcomed two new members this month. February will hold Keyboard and Theory Exams, then March will continue with Senior Living recitals and the Sonatina/Sonata Festival. Mixed Studio Recitals will be in May. Teacher meetings will focus on New Formats for Music Lessons (February), a tour of Peabody Prep in Frederick (March), and Improvising Duets from a Lead sheet in April. May will be our next Business Meeting, and June will end the teaching year with an annual Teacher Duets get together.

Karen Skelly, President FCMTA

GREATER COLUMBIA MUSIC TEACHERS ASSOCIATION



GCMTA has had a wonderful fall season!!

We started with a great masterclass hosted by Dr. Bok Hwa Kim and clinician Dr. Michael Adcock on Saturday, November 16, 2024 at First Evangelical Lutheran Church Ellicott City, MD.

Performing students were:

Claire Suh- Sonatina in C Major, Op. 36, No. 1: III. Vivace M. Clementi

Jolina Pang - Le Petit Nègre C. Debussy

Heather Sun - Sonata in C Major, K. 545: I. Allegro W.A. Mozart

Jiulin Song - Variations in D Major, Op. 40, No. 1 D. Kabalevsky

Boyce Chen - Sonata in B Minor, Hob. XVI:32: I. Allegro moderato F.J. Haydn

Participating teachers: Dr. Bok Hwa Kim, Janice Puckett, Ellen Suh, Helen Weems, Deborah White-Bondhus.



Pictured L-R

Dr. Adcock, Dr. Kim, Deborah White-Bondhus, Janice Puckett, Helen Weems and David Holmes

Carroll County Music Teachers Association

On Monday, September 9, 2024 CCMTA held its first General Meeting of the academic year at Menchey Music in Westminster, MD. Eight members attended. Business included a current Financial report, 2024-2025 Calendar completion, and new officers for 2024-2025 were also finalized: Teresa Bliss, president and acting treasurer; Kathy Novalis, assistant to president; David Kreider, vice-president of programs; Jane Dennis, secretary. Our newest member, KT Allenbaugh gave a very interesting presentation on tribute bands and their variations, and how the cover music they perform affects the pieces our students work on.

Saturday, October 19, 2024 we presented the annual CCMTA Recital - Dressed For the Music: A Costumed Recital. 19 students (23 registered students, but 4 could not attend due to illness and sports tournaments) and two of our member teachers performed at Carroll Lutheran Village, Krug Chapel in Westminster, MD. As always this was a fabulous and fun event where we enjoy inviting the wonderful residents of Carroll Lutheran Village.

On Monday, November 11, 2024 was our next CCMTA General Meeting at Menchey Music in Westminster, MD. Six members attended. Financial report and other current business was discussed. Rachel Passerini presented a recent and fascinating New York Times article on a newly discovered Chopin Prelude. This included the performance of the A Minor Prelude by the pianist Lang Lang.

Saturday, December 7, 2024 CCMTA put on a Playathon at Carroll Hospital Center in the lobby on the grand piano. 6 students and 4 teachers played holiday classics. Money collected from registrations (\$5 per entrant) was matched by CCMTA and made as a donation to the Carroll Hospital Foundation. This event took the place of our annual Music in the Mall Holiday playing event. The CHC Lobby, a special venue, was very accommodating and enjoyable and we hope to build and improve on it for this coming year.

Upcoming CCMTA Events:

General meeting on Monday, February 3, 2025 at the studio of Dr. David Kreider. A discussion of Baroque and Classical ornamentations will be presented.

CCMTA annual Solo & Ensemble Festival Recital on Saturday, February 22, 2025 at Carroll Lutheran Village, Krug Chapel.

**CCMTA Masterclass on Saturday, March 22, 2025 at The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints chapel. Our clinician will be LURA JOHNSON, the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra resident pianist!

Ms. Johnson will also present a recital on Friday, March 21, 2025 at Carroll Lutheran Village, Krug Chapel at 7:00pm.

Thank you for following our CCMTA news and upcoming events!

Teresa Bliss President, CCMTA

Carroll County Music Teachers Association



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www.weinbergcenter.org



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Sundays At Three

<https://sundaysatthree.org>

Sundays At Three presents chamber music played by many of the exceptional professional musicians who live and work in the Baltimore-Washington region, or were raised in Howard County:

Location: Christ Episcopal Church, Columbia, Maryland

Time: 3:00 p.m. to approximately 5:00 p.m.

High school students admitted free.

Younger children admitted free with an adult.



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Mission Statement

Silhouette Stages' mission is to produce theatrical works and events that:

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General Admission Adults: \$25.00

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Season Tickets: 20% discount

Groups of 10+: 5% discount



MSMTA CONFERENCE

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www.musicalartsinternational.org

Musical Art International inc. began in 1995 as a cultural outreach program and a nonprofit organization in Montgomery County, Maryland. It presents several concerts a year. Its artistic mission is to encourage and inspire audiences of all ages in the appreciation of solo and chamber music, to uncover the tremendous wealth and variety of music in its repertoire and to celebrate new music of diversity, equity and inclusion. Distinguished artists have brought their expertise, insight and passion to celebrate the world music in the concert.

We are looking forward to explore this exciting music journey with you!

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"**Dynamic Duos** is a collection of eight duets by Baltimore composer Hillary Kruh in a variety of styles: jazz, classical, contemporary.

While not technically challenging, they are rhythmically and harmonically unusual. One of the duets is in 5/8 time! These duets will keep the students on their toes!"

<https://hillarykruh.squarespace.com/original-duets-sheet-music-for-piano-students>.

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MSMTA is now accepting advertisements in its newsletter. Space is limited to two pages total, so ads will be accepted on a first come, first-served basis. Rates are:

	Member	Non-member
1/8 page	\$20	\$30
1/4 page	\$40	\$50
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For more information, contact Wendy Johnston
at:

wendyjpiano@gmail.com