

# Michigan Music Teacher

PUBLICATION OF  
THE MICHIGAN  
MUSIC TEACHERS  
ASSOCIATION

*Affiliated with Music Teachers National Assn.*

Vol. LV No. 4 March 2007

## PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Dear Members,

I'm sure your New Year has started with a flurry of activities!

Many of you are very involved in the Student Achievement Test event preparations. This is probably the one event that involves the greatest number of our members in one single activity. We really appreciate all the efforts of the organizers, test writers and proofreaders, local chapter chairpersons, and teachers who are diligently preparing students. Our best wishes to all teachers and students participating in this valuable experience. Following the local chapter testing dates, those students who qualify will

be eligible for Semi-Finals on April 21<sup>st</sup> and Piano and Vocal Finals on May 5<sup>th</sup>. Be sure to check your current MMTA Directory (page 29) for more details.

MMTA was the host of the East Central Division Competition held at Central Michigan University in Mt. Pleasant on January 26 – 28. Kudos go to Mary Siciiano for a very well organized event. Adrienne Wiley worked as liaison and representative of Central Michigan University; all details were well covered and certainly helped this event run smoothly. The students performed at amazing technical and musicianship levels, a pleasure to enjoy!! Look for Michigan winners listed elsewhere in this issue. Our congratulations to all participating students and their teachers! Complete list of East Central Division winners will be printed in the Music Teacher Journal (Official publication of the Music Teachers National Association.) winners will compete in the National Competition at MTNA Conference in Toronto, March 23 – 26.

February 4<sup>th</sup> was the MMTA Concerto Competition event organized under the capable hands of Deborah Moriarty. Thank you for a job well done, Deborah! This competition took place at Michigan State University, East Lansing. The near zero degrees and travel hazards didn't keep our contestants and their accompanists from performing a most stellar program. Winners, teachers, and judges are listed elsewhere in this issue. Congratulations to all participants and their teachers.

Thank you to all members that have taken the time and effort to write to our Local and State politicians to express your opinions regarding the consideration of initiating a "general services tax" which would add a tax on services such as music lessons. My appreciation to Cindi Robertson, our local chapter coordinator chairman, for her promptness on forwarding to all local chapters, the information that I received mid-January regarding this possible tax issue. We will keep you posted on further developments.

I really enjoy reading the newsletters and announcements that I have received from the local chapter news editors and secretaries. You are all doing a fantastic job! VERY active groups!

I look forward to attending the MTNA Conference in Toronto, Canada, March 23<sup>rd</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup>, hope to see many of you there!! (See December/January issue of "American Music Teacher Journal" or the MTNA website: "<http://www.mtna.org>" for details and registration forms.)

**"What lies behind us and what  
lies before us  
are tiny matters compared to  
what lies within us!"**

Ralph Waldo Emerson

Sincerely,

Isabelle Tulk,  
President



**NOTE** Information regarding submission of articles and ads may be found on page 2.

Please send all copy to the editor by the due date.

# MICHIGAN MUSIC TEACHER

Official Publication of

**MICHIGAN MUSIC TEACHERS ASSOCIATION**

Affiliated with

**MUSIC TEACHERS NATIONAL ASSOCIATION**

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MMTA Web Site: [www.michiganmusicteachers.org](http://www.michiganmusicteachers.org)

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Full Page \$140.00

2/3 Page \$120.00

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1/4 Page \$70.00

Less than  
1/4 Page \$60.00

Submit Ads to the MMT  
editor with a check payable  
to MMTA. Fees are for one  
issue only.



## DEADLINE

FOR THE

JUNE MMT

IS MAY 1

**All materials must be  
received by the due date.**

## CHANGE OF ADDRESS OR E-MAIL

Send to

Cheryl Cameron, Membership Chair: [cheryl@cheryls-music-studio.com](mailto:cheryl@cheryls-music-studio.com)

~ or mail to: ~

Cheryl Cameron, 5514 State Road, Fort Gratiot, MI 48059, (810) 385-9888

# LOCAL ASSOCIATIONS

Cynthia Robertson – local association chair

It is with sincere pleasure that I announce the re-activation of the West Oakland Music Teachers Chapter. (Formerly an in-active group). CONGRATULATIONS!

This brings me to ponder the terms active vs. in-active. What does being an active chapter mean to MMTA? Does being an active chapter mean that more members of the chapter participate at the State Level? Does being an active chapter mean that more members of the chapter contribute articles to the MMT? Does being an active chapter mean that more members of the chapter send students to State Competitions? Does being an active chapter mean that more of their students participate in the SAT testing? What exactly is an active chapter?

Certainly the location of the chapter might have an effect on the activity level of that particular chapter. I know first hand the frustrations of scheduling around snowstorms to say nothing of an hour or more drive! However, this doesn't necessarily make a group in active.

I also do not think that the numbers of members should determine active vs. in-active local association. An active chapter can be made up of a few very motivated individuals.

Each Local Association is made up of individual members. Ask yourself what are YOU doing for your Local Association. Are you stepping up to the plate and supporting your Local Association with your time and energy, or are you sitting on the sidelines? Ask yourself what you can do to help your Local Association be MORE ACTIVE. And then ask yourself what being an active member means to you and once again –

CONGRATULATIONS!  
to the WEST OAKLAND MUSIC TEACHERS for re-instating their active status

## LOCAL ASSOCIATION MEETINGS

Ann Arbor Area Piano Teachers Guild-Kerrytown  
Concert House-9:00 am

March 15- Lecture-Recital of Four Hand Music-Remy and Arianna Loumbrozo, Piano Duo

April-19- *What the Harpsichord Can Tell Us About Baroque Music on the Piano*-Edward Parmentier, Professor of Harpsichord and Early Music, University of Michigan

Capitol Area Music Teachers Association-Marshall  
Music 9:30 am

March 13- *Making Three Hands out of One and Other Magic at the Piano*-Catherine Rollin

April 10- *Expression Through Articulation: Reading the score in Classical Period Style*-  
David Abbot-Associate Professor of Piano, Albion College  
May 8- CAMTA Scholarship Winners Recital-Plymouth Congregational Church

Livonia Area Piano Teachers Forum- 9:30 am  
Hammell Music 2700 East Maple Rd Commerce  
March 7- *Chopin Sonatas*-University of Michigan doctoral candidate Christina Chang

April 4- *Piano Music of Composers From The Philippines*- Roy Coloma

May 2- *Award for Piano Performing Excellence Recital*

Metropolitan Detroit Musicians League-10:00 am  
Evola Music 2184 Telegraph Rd. Bloomfield Hills

March 19 - *Alexander Techniques*- Jonah Weisskopf

April 23 - *Topic to be announced*- Deborah Moriarty, Michigan State University

May 21 - *Student Winners Recital*

Port Huron Music Teachers Association

April 20 - *Composing With Your Students*-Bernadine Johnson- 10:00 am -Lost Chord Clinic 1602 Griswold Street, Port Huron



# MMTA CONCERTO COMPETITION RESULTS

The annual MMTA concerto competition was held on February 4, 2007 at Michigan State University. Congratulations to all winners and teachers who participated.

## Elementary Division

First Place- Heather Shen, Teacher- Isabella Vilensky  
Second Place- Elizabeth Xiong, Teachers- Catherine Rollin and Isabella Vilensky  
Third Place- Heather Gu, Teacher- Marta Pietrzyk  
Honorable Mention- Emma Sandberg, Teacher-Gabriel Bolkosky

Adjudicators: Derek Polischuk, Assistant Professor of Piano and Director of Piano Pedagogy at MSU, and Leon Gregorian, Professor of Music, Director of Orchestras, Head of Graduate Orchestral Conducting Program at MSU

## Junior Division

First Place- Bo-Kyung Hwang, Teacher- Thomas Lymenstull  
Second Place- Christina Li, Teacher- Aviram Reichert  
Third Place- Christine DongHee Lee, Teacher- Dmitri Berlinsky  
Honorable Mention- Emily Wang, Teacher-Catherine Rollin  
Honorable Mention- Christine Wu, Teachers- Mary Siciliano and Logan Skelton

Adjudicators: Marie-France Lefebvre, Assistant Professor of Piano at MSU, and George Vatchnadze, Assistant Professor of Piano at MSU

## Senior Division

First Place- Kaisaer Ainiwaer, Teacher- Thomas Lymenstull  
Second Place- Tristan Savella, Teacher- Thomas Lymenstull  
Third Place- Brian Cho, Teacher- Michael Coonrod  
Honorable Mention- Ingrid Gan, Teacher- Mary Siciliano

Adjudicators: Derek Polischuk, Assistant Professor of Piano and Director of Piano Pedagogy at MSU, and Leon Gregorian, Professor of Music, Director of Orchestras, Head of Graduate Orchestral Conducting Program at MSU

# COMMUNITY OUT REACH AND PUBLIC EDUCATION

Do your studio parents know that you are a member of the Michigan Music Teachers Association?

Do your studio parents understand the degree of professionalism you strive to achieve – and the continued educational opportunities available to you – as a member of the Michigan Music Teachers Association?

Do the elementary, middle, junior high and high school music teachers in your community understand the partnership they have with you as a private music teacher?

In most cases, our students, parents and schoolteachers have a cursory understanding of who we are as professional music teachers. They appreciate the skill and knowledge we have, are willing to compensate us for imparting that knowledge, but perhaps do not understand the level of artistry and professionalism that is inherent in the purposes of this organization to which we belong.

That sounds mighty important, doesn't it? And it is! For this reason, President Isabelle Tulk is interested in revitalizing the Community Outreach and Education committee within the MMTA. I have agreed to serve as chairperson for that committee, and I encourage every member of the MMTA to consider how he or she can generate a greater awareness of our organization among their own students and within their communities.

If you have participated in any special event directly connected with your local association (other than Student Achievement Testing), or if you have participated in the Music Achievement Award Program or Music Study Award Program sponsored by the Music Teachers National Association (MTNA), please contact me and let me know. If you have made contact with the local school music teachers in your area, and work collaboratively with them to benefit your students musical education, please let me know. If you have not yet done these things, but are interested in how they may benefit your students and your studios, please let me know! I'm interesting in the activities local association members have undertaken to connect with their communities, and to coordinate our efforts.

As members of this wonderful professional fraternity, we have great opportunities available to us that we would not have alone. Let's reach out together to promote and encourage the understanding, appreciation and study of the art of music.

Nancy Whitecar, "<mailto:growmusic@comcast.net>"

