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From the desk of

Adrienne Wiley

Dear MMT Readers,

“Act as if” Do you remember this phrase? At the 2004 state Conference we had the pleasure of hearing Chick Moorman deliver a fascinating discussion that highlighted teaching moments from his books Spirit Whispers and Teacher Talk. His presentation of ideas and philosophies has stuck with me, and of course led to the purchase of several of his books. Upon leaving this year's Conference, I ran into and dialogued with a fellow teacher and colleague. Our discussion included the “act as if” phrase. What is this phrase and how can we use it???

“Act as if” empowers the owner that you give it to with the belief that they ARE. It is a bold step to offer up to another person in any context and here might be a sample of how I used it recently.

Monday morning class piano. Fifteen piano neophytes waiting to be shaped and conditioned into piano players. Actually, these are all music education students who are required to take piano, and this being Class Piano I, we have certainly covered the basics (“this is Middle C . . .” . . . “yes, you do have five fingers to work with at the piano” . . . and “please follow the fingering as it is given for the five-finger patterns - there is no need to invent your own . . .”) As I started to class I looked out to survey the classroom. There were fifteen bodies, slumped, legs crossed, and necks craning out from hunched over shoulders. How many times should I ask for better posture????!!! Well, I made a different choice, as they did too. Today I asked them to “act as if you are pianist and know the instrument intimately.” Well, go figure. Postures straightened out, legs were uncrossed, necks were in alignment with their bodies. What a different look they had! And: wow! We actually even sounded like real pianists too!

Well, that was the “act as if” phrase at work. No risks taken, just do it. It empowered each student to take charge and BE a pianist for that 50-minute class. Wow What a difference.

Back to the reality and what is happening within MMTA. After a huge and successful Conference led competently by Penny Draper, we are

now in a bit of a resting mode with respect to certain things. Our web page (created and maintained with utmost care by Eric Van de Vort) is continuing to evolve. If you have not had the time to get on-line and check it out, I would really recommend that you do so right away!

We have just completed the MTNA State Competitions at MSU. Do read through the results included in this MMT newsletter. In addition, we are all gearing up for Concerto Competition and SAT's in the spring. (Check our web-page for the forms for these events.)

As we pass through the big event of the semester (you know, Halloween!), we move into other extra-curricular activities such as football, and eventually basketball. You KNOW where that is heading! My house has gone from maintaining golf on the weekends, to basketball during the week. In addition, the fervor of the University of Kansas Jayhawks continues on each weekend . . . That mingled in with teaching

This is short and sweet at a time when we all are busy in the trenches of teaching! Please read on for other reports in our newsletter.

Warmly,

Adrienne Wiley, President

PS: Yes, I did start to write this while in the golf dome !!!!!



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.

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



DEADLINE

FOR THE
MMT IS FEBRUARY 1
FOR MARCH
ISSUE

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

~ or mail to: ~

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

2009 MTNA Competition Results

Sunday, November 1, at Michigan State University

Competitions Coordinator: Lia Jensen-Abbott

Junior Piano Competition

Junior Piano Winner: Michelle Lee (Faye Mao)
Junior Piano Alternate: Kangling Gu (Catherine Rollin)
Honorable Mentions: Jack Boezwinkle (Sheryl Iott) and Kathy Young (Catherine Rollin)

Adjudicators: Lori Sims, Joan Haggard, and David Abbott

Junior Piano Chair: Gail Lytle Lira

Senior Piano Competition

Senior Piano Winner: Steven Chang (Mary Siciliano)
Senior Piano Alternate: Allen Yuan (Arthur Greene)
Honorable Mentions: Christine Wu (Logan Skelton) and Jessica Xu (Faye Mao)

Adjudicators: Louis Nagel, Robert Palmer, and Phyllis Rappeport

Other Senior Competitions

Direct to National:

Woodwind: Jordan Lulloff (Joseph Lulloff)

Brass: Steven Lieb (Kenneth Kroesche)

Direct to Division:

Strings: Ken Kubota (Anthony Elliott)

Piano Duet: Emily and Kristin Beckman
(Helen Marlais)

Senior Competitions Chair: Lia Jensen-Abbott

Young Artist Piano Competition

Young Artist Piano Winner: Julia Siciliano
(Logan Skelton)
Young Artist Piano Alternate: Stijn De Cock (Logan Skelton)
Honorable Mention: Dylan Perez (Louis Nagel)

Adjudicators: Laura Melton, Yin Zheng, Robert Conway

Young Artist Woodwinds Competition

Young Artist Woodwinds Winner: Kevin Bene, saxophone (Joseph Lulloff)
Young Artist Woodwinds Alternate: Edward Goodman, saxophone (Joseph Lulloff)
Honorable Mentions: Jason Paige, clarinet (Justin O'Dell); and Andy Hall, saxophone (Donald Sinta)

Adjudicators: Samuel McIlhagga, John Sampen, Henning Schroeder

Young Artist Chamber Music Competition

Young Artist Chamber Music Winner: Sicilian Trio, piano trio (UM, Christopher Harding)
Young Artist Chamber Music Alternate: Echo Quartet, saxophone quartet (UM, Donald Sinta)

Adjudicators: Pauline Martin, Jeff Heisler, Tiffany Engle

Young Artist Competitions Chair: Arvi Sinka

Composition Competition

Composition Winner: Jacob Poliskey (Mary Ann Anschultz)
Honorable Mention: Darren Strand (Billie Netterwald)

Competition Chair: Adrienne Wiley

2010 Metropolitan Detroit Musicians League Programs

MDML programs are held at Evola Music,

2184 Telegraph, Bloomfield Hills

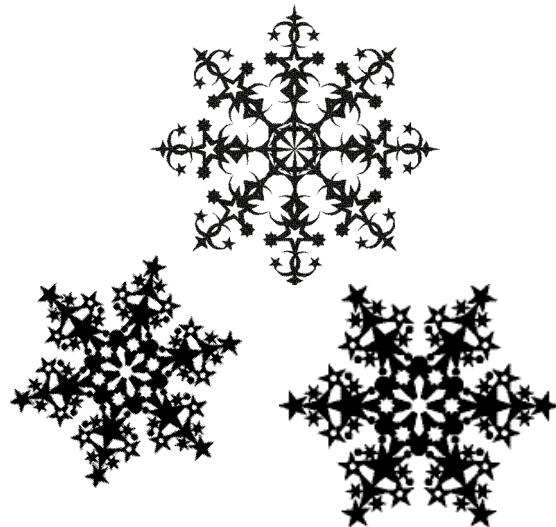
on Mondays at 10 a.m.

Contact Arvi Sinka, tel. 248 689-3459.

January 25: Michele Soroka
Elementary and Intermediate Pedaling

February 22: Tom Rosencranz
Master class

March 22: Joel Schoenhals
Schumann Fantasy



I AM INTERESTED IN THE MMTA CERTIFICATION

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ Zip _____

Instrument _____

Make Check for \$5.00 Payable to MMTA.

Send to:

NANCY WELSHMAN
6303 SURREY STREET
PORTAGE, MI 48084
PHONE: (269) 323-7693
E-MAIL: newelshman@charter.net

MMTA Directory Corrections

- 1) The name Kline, Ramona is incorrect. The corrected version should read: Kime, Ramona
- 2) The name Liberson, Judith Hath is incorrect. The corrected version should read: Liberson, Judy Hath





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