



WINTER NEWSLETTER

February 5, 2014



Hello everyone!

Short dark days this season challenge us to find other sources of light to brighten our winter. Music students find joy in anticipating holiday performances. Once January 2014 arrives, preparing for VMTA's Community Play-a-thon will continue this spark. It's to be held at the University Mall in South Burlington on February 7, 8 & 9 to benefit the Ronald MacDonald House. Focusing onward with energy, the non-competitive environment of Spring Festival encourages each musician to reach personal goals and instills excitement for quality practicing. VMTA's Spring Festival is Saturday, March 29 at St. Michael's College.

Focusing on joyful music always makes my days brighter and encouraging my students to write down the spirited melodies and harmonies they invent adds liveliness to the lesson. For the second year, VMTA offers it members a chance to become involved with MUSIC-COMP, an online mentoring program empowering student composition using a newer, easier version of Noteflight. Sandi MacLeod is eager to help you get started. Contact her at sandi@vtmidi.org.

Joyful music and its relationship to the brain will be explored in depth at our Fall Conference scheduled for October 4, 2014 at the Richmond Library with Lois Svard. Mark your calendars now! The next time you meet a fellow music teacher, take a moment to explain how much student motivation and professional learning VMTA provides.

Looking forward to seeing you at VMTA events.

Marie Johnson, VMTA President

.....

CONGRATULATIONS TO SUSAN NICHOLAS ON BECOMING NATIONALLY CERTIFIED. She successfully completed the lengthy five-part process of writing a teaching philosophy, analysing several teaching pieces, video taping lessons, describing her teaching studio, and discussing business policies. Susan's application was supported in part by a scholarship from VMTA. She received notification of her success from Gary L. Ingle, Executive Director & CEO of MTNA on November 21, 2013. She's now Susan Nicholas, NCTM. Bravo, Susan!

Sylvia Parker, VMTA Certification Chair

.....

SYLVIA PARKER'S ARTICLE ENTITLED BÉLA BARTÓK'S OTHER MICROCOSMOS has been accepted for publication in MTNA's e-Journal. It is about Bartók's Petite Suite for piano and includes analysis, photos, field recordings, and recordings of Bartók himself performing the six movements. According to MTNA, the article may take another year before actual publication.



2013 - 2014 VMTA Calendar

February 7-9, 2014	Collaborative Music Event at University Mall
February 21, 2014	Deadline to register for the VMTA Spring Festival
March 22-26, 2014	MTNA National Conference in Chicago, Illinois
March 29, 2014	Spring Festival at St. Michael's McCarthy Arts Center
April 5, 2014	Piano Deconstruction Event at Trinity Baptist Church
May 12-17, 2014	National Guild of Piano Teachers Auditions at St. Michael's College
May 1, 2014	VMTA Summer Newsletter deadline for articles, reports and member news
October 4, 2014	Fall Conference with Lois Svard, THE MUSICIANS GUIDE TO THE BRAIN
October 4, 2014	Competitive Auditions at the Richmond Library

Spring Festival



The 2014 VMTA Spring Festival will be held on Saturday, March 29th at St. Michael's College McCarthy Arts Center in Colchester, Vermont. To register, please email Lilly Ramsey at cldkramsey@comcast.net. Lilly will email you an Excel attachment to complete and return to her. Please refer to your VMTA Spring Festival Newsletter for all of the information that you will need. If you did not receive the Spring Festival Newsletter in January please contact Teresa Miranda at 802-893-1919 or tgmiranda@comcast.net.

Lilly Ramsey, VMTA Non-Competitive Auditions

President

Marie M. Johnson
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mdjkiln@juno.com

President Elect

Unfilled at this time.
Contact Marie Johnson if
interested in this position

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Composer Commissioning

Lynn U. Smith
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Competitive Auditions

We are planning to hold our VMTA Competitive Auditions on Saturday, October 4th, 2014 because it will coincide with the VMTA Fall Convention. On that day we will have a wonderful pianist and experienced judge, Lois Svard from Bucknell University, as our guest clinician. This would provide an audience of teachers and students to hear our competitors perform their programs. As was the case last year, the location will once again be the Richmond Library.

If you are considering entering a student or students and need information about the Vermont competition please let me know. The general requirements for the competition, as outlined by MTNA for last year's competition, may still be available online at www.mtna.org. The 2014 requirements will be published in the April/May MTNA Magazine and will be on line at that time. Registration is not accepted until August 2014 for a deadline which is usually the 2nd week of September.

Elizabeth Metcalfe, Competitive Auditions



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Piano Deconstruction

Planning is underway to have an Educational Piano Deconstruction on April 5, 2014 at Trinity Baptist Church. We hope to attract both students and the general public to this event and give them a greater appreciation for the instrument's design as well as spotlight the VMTA along with members of the Piano Technicians Guild. Lisa Goodrich would welcome your assistance in whatever form. Perhaps you have a connection with someone in the mass media and would like to help publicize the event once the time comes? Perhaps you would like to help with logistics the day of the deconstruction. Please contact Lisa at dncnghands@comcast.net and share your ideas or contacts with her. Thanks in advance!

Lisa Goodrich




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☐ Mr. ☐ Mrs. ☐ Miss _____
(Print or Type Name and Address)

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

2014 – 2016 VM TA Slate of Officers

Our nominating committee chair, Marie Johnson, presents the following slate of officers to be voted on at the VM TA business meeting during our VM TA Spring Festival on Saturday March 29, 2014.

VM TA would not exist without members volunteering their time, skills and expertise to help run all the programs and services that are offered. We'd like to give a very sincere thank you to all of our members who have volunteered below:

Proposed VM TA 2014-2016 Officers

President: Marie Johnson

President Elect:

Past President: Marie Johnson

Secretary: Claire Black

Treasurer: Sarah Williams

Convention: Patty Bergeron

Non-Competitive Auditions: Lilly Ramsey

Competitive Auditions: Elizabeth Metcalfe

Certification: Sylvia Parker

Newsletter: Teresa Miranda

Membership: Melody Puller

Composer Commissioning: Susan Nicholas NCTM

Web Publicist: Arielle Hanudel

Collaborative Music Weekend



It's Collaborative Weekend again!!! February 7, 8, and 9, 2014 marks our third Collaborative Weekend of Music at The University Mall in South Burlington. This year, we are raising money for the Vermont Ronald McDonald House. The VM TA board decided that a minor percentage of the funds raised would remain with the VM TA to underwrite expenses for the weekend as well as to help fund some of our other programs. The major share will be forwarded to the Ronald McDonald House. Since VM TA is a 501(C)3 organization, ALL donations are tax exempt.

Students do not have to participate in fund-raising to be a part of this event. It is entirely up to you as the teacher how you would like to handle the fund-raising. I will have a donation box at The University Mall and the following forms should help you in your fund-raising efforts. Please feel free to print as many as you need. Forms will also be available on the VM TA website soon. Donation forms should be submitted to me at the mall or mailed to my home address: 66 Logwood Circle, Essex Jct., VT 05452. All checks should be made payable to VM TA.

I currently have 9 studios participating for a total of more than 9 hours of music! I would love to schedule more!!! I still have some available slots and would be happy to open more time if necessary.

This is such a fun event with great advertising for our organization as well as for your individual studios. There are no specific rules...this is your time for your studio and students to share their music and to have fun!

To book times, please e-mail me at luspiano@gmail.com or call 802-879-8970. If you have any questions, suggestions or would like to volunteer to help, please feel free to e-mail or call. I'm looking forward to seeing YOU and your students at The Mall!!!

Lynn Smith, 2014 Collaborative Coordinator



VERMONT MUSIC TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

www.vermontmta.net

COLLABORATIVE DAY OF MUSIC

Dear Students,

Once again, VMTA is sponsoring the Collaborative Day of Music at the University Mall in South Burlington, Vermont. This is a day to share your music with those who might not attend a recital or concert, this is a day to raise money for families experiencing the critical care of a child at Fletcher Allen Healthcare, this is a day to let your peers know that making music is FUN!!! I hope you choose to use this day(s) for one of these reasons.

Your teacher will fill you in on all the details and make sure you're prepared for this venture. Let's work together to make this a great experience for all involved. I want to see YOU at The University Mall either Feb 7, 8, or 9, 2014!!!

Lynn Smith

Chairman

VMTA Collaborative Day of Music

p.s. you don't have to raise money for the Ronald McDonald House to be a part of this event.....that's entirely your choice.



VERMONT MUSIC TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

www.vermontmta.net

COLLABORATIVE DAY OF MUSIC

Vermont Music Teachers Association is hosting its third Collaborative Day of Music, February 7, 8, and 9, 2014. This special weekend is set aside to heighten music awareness and to encourage students of all levels to share their music. We are again pleased to enhance the “collaborative” effort and raise funds for the Vermont Ronald McDonald House.

All donations are fully tax deductible. Checks should be made out to VMTA, then a single check will be presented to the Ronald McDonald House. To learn more about this organization, visit their website at www.rmhcvt.org. Please retain this letter as a receipt of your donation.

We hope you’ll share your music at The University Mall in South Burlington, either Friday, Feb 7 from 6:00-8:00pm, Saturday, Feb 8 from noon until 5:00pm or Sunday, Feb 9 from noon until 3:00pm. Please retain this letter as your receipt of donation.

Receipt of Donation

Vermont Music Teachers Association-Collaborative weekend of music

Feb 7-8-9, 2014

University Mall, South Burlington, VT

Name of Donor: _____

Amount: _____

Student performing: _____

From the studio of: _____

Checks should be made to VMTA.

All donations are fully tax-deductable

VMTA Website: <http://www.vermontmta.net>

I would like to share information about how you can take part in making our website an effective tool for the VMTA. Please direct people to our website who you think may want to become members. Think of it as a “virtual” representation of our professionalism, and a “font of information” which may give prospective members reasons for joining that may not have otherwise occurred to them. Send your studio parents and students to the site. Encourage them to read our newsletters. Support our sponsors, and learn about the variety of VMTA activities our studios have to offer. An easy way to encourage our VMTA website use is to simply email the link, www.vermontmta.net, when sending notices to your studio families. In the future you will have access to the VMTA Member Handbook on the Teacher Opportunities page.

If you know of an event that would benefit our members, please pass it along to the President and me. For example, if you’ve just been to an amazing workshop or concert, you can record your impressions in writing, save it in PDF format and email it to me at dncnghands@comcast.net. I can place a link to your article in the scroll on the homepage or in the regional news section where it will remain easily accessible to be read from any internet ready device. Please remember to edit your article before sending it to me.

I will update names, phone numbers, and address changes within a few days to several weeks. Please use dncnghands@comcast.net when contacting me about the website. Do not use the contact page on the website. This link is intended for nonmembers.

I envision our website as a way to keep us more closely connected through shared experiences and communication. Vermont may be small but we are spread out. I hope this tool can help us span the distances. If you know of some outstanding events in your region and want to make sure everyone in the organization has easy access to the particulars, please send the information to me at dncnghands@comcast.net. Thank you in advance for helping to make our VMTA website an effective tool for all of our members.

Lisa Goodrich, VMTA Web Publicist

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Piano Guild Auditions, run by the American College of Musicians, will be held at the McCarthy Arts Center, St. Michael’s College on May 12-17. If you have questions regarding these auditions contact local chairperson, Patty Bergeron, at 878-9873, or pcberg@myfairpoint.net.



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If you haven't yet made plans to attend the 2014 [MTNA National Conference](#), register today! This year's conference will take place at the Chicago Marriott Downtown Magnificent Mile, March 22–26. There is truly something for everyone at MTNA's annual national conference, as we present a program focused on the needs of today's music teaching professional. Register before February 1, to receive a member's discount. To register for the conference, click [here](#).

The Chicago Marriott Downtown Magnificent Mile is the official hotel of the conference. MTNA's room block is expected to sell out, so be sure reserve your room soon. You can reserve your room online by clicking [here](#).

If you are interested in arriving early, the Performing Arts Medicine Association (PAMA) is offering a Health and Wellness half-day multidisciplinary course on Friday, March 21. The course is designed to further the knowledge and skills of clinicians and music educators working with musicians or music students. This course will take place from 1–5:30 p.m. at the Chicago Marriott Downtown Magnificent Mile. You must register through PAMA to attend this workshop. Information and registration information are available at <http://www.artsmmed.org/>.

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*Photo taken by Saint Michael's student
Meredith Johnson '08 while studying abroad in
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Quad State Convention 2013



The Maine Music Teacher Association hosted the Quad State Convention at the University of Southern Maine on October 5, 2013. Vermont had a strong representation. **THE BRAIN AND MUSIC** was the topic for the conference this year.

Robert Duke was the first presenter. He is the head of Music and Human Learning at the University of Texas, Austin. He directs the Psychology of Learning program at Colburn Conservatory of Music in Los Angeles. He is the most recent recipient of the MTNA Frances Clark Keyboard Pedagogy Award. His talk was titled, **BEAUTIFUL**. He spoke about reasons that formal education often fails to make lasting changes in how learners think and behave. As teachers, we must have a vision of our students as accomplished learners and understand that the goal is "expressive inflection". Duke encouraged our allegiance to "elegance and simplicity" in our studios. Start the lesson with engaging questions, "what do you want to say with this music?" Set up something that the student is capable of in the first 15 minutes. Our job as the teacher is to then take the hardest thing away (such as in T-ball) and create a positive environment for the student to express emotion. Duke shared several you-tube videos of the youngest children expressing strong emotions in music and movement. He asks that as educators we should understand that children get this! We teach excellent position, note accuracy, and rhythms and fail to support the student in making an emotional connection to the music and the instrument. He urges us to "undo" what often is taught in formal education settings and support musical intentions with a strong vision of our students as accomplished musicians, knowing how we want to see the student at the end of the experience. By changing the expectations of our teaching we can affect changes in learning and behavior that are lasting. "Teach as if **BEAUTY** matters! "



Duke's most recent book, [INTELLIGENT MUSIC TEACHING: CORE PRINCIPLES OF EFFECTIVE INSTRUCTION](#) is available at Amazon. He has numerous talks on the web and a great presentation on Cornell Cast.



Alan Wittenberg was the second speaker. Alan is a Certified Music Therapist. He is a pioneer in the field of Music Therapy and has implemented innovative programs in Japan, Russia, France, and Maine. His mission "is to bring the power and beauty of music to those who have little access to it in Maine". He describes this therapy work as "play therapy with sound", noting several examples from the Nordoff Robbins Program at NYU. He works with energy and emotion with those who are often without spoken communication and may be troubled working in structured environments. His examples of numerous vocalizations from non-verbal clients were quite remarkable working by scaffolding from the need and ability at hand. His work is clinical yet his intentions are similar to Duke's. He notes "we all want to be heard. What is it that you are trying to do? Let me help you."

He listed some print resources:

[THIS IS YOUR BRAIN ON MUSIC](#) by Levitin, [MUSICOPHILIA](#) by Sachs, and [RHYTHM, MUSIC AND THE BRAIN](#) by Thaut. You can explore more about the use of music as therapy at [THE NORDOFF ROBBINS CENTER](#) online as well as the [LIBRARY OF CONGRESS: MUSIC AND THE BRAIN SERIES](#). Alan Wittenberg's website is www.surrymusictherapy.com



PANEL DISCUSSION: Marcel Hebert, Robert Duke, Alan Wittenberg, Dr. Richard Sullivan

Susan Nicholas NCTM

Diane Huling: Vermont's Commissioned Composer

VMTA members who attended the QUAD State convention were privileged to hear the premier performance of **THREE SONGS** performed by Diane Huling and Harold Holden. The three movements are as follows:

THE BEGGAR'S LOT

END OF DAY

LA PASTORA FIDI

Diane Huling, Vermont's 2013 Commissioned Composer, has an interesting musical background. Let's read about it in the following interview with Marie Johnson.



WHAT IS THE FIRST MUSICAL EXPERIENCE YOU REMEMBER?

My first musical experience was around age 3. My mother was a piano and trumpet teacher and would have recitals for her students. Instead of the usual nerve-wracking formal recitals, she would have little skits and dances and "fun" songs for them. I remember being on stage for a musical number of some old-fashioned song while somebody played the trumpet. I also remember lifting my skirt to the audience! - a real grandstander, even then! Of course, it wasn't my "own" musical performance, but my life even at that age was filled with music. Since my brothers and sisters and parents all played instruments, we had quite a few different musical ensembles within the family, including a little Dixie-land band.

TELL US ABOUT YOUR MUSICAL BACKGROUND.

I played piano and we had a clarinet, a trumpet, a trombone, and I think a French horn. My mother arranged the music for us and my father often helped us with the musical "interpretation." At one point, he went in another room while we were rehearsing, after telling us that we "needed to be ready for anything" if we were going to perform, and he started throwing pots and pans around, making as much noise as possible. We were supposed to keep playing, of course.

I began lessons with my mother at age 6 and outgrew her piano expertise around age 10. She found a Polish pianist in our town, a wonderful woman who had survived the concentration camps in World War II. She was inspiring and encouraged me to play Chopin; she gave me a book for my birthday with a selection of Chopin pieces, including Polonaises, Mazurkas, Etudes, etc. She would play them for me, and then I would read them. My love for Chopin came from her. Tragically, having made it through WWII and having been reunited with her husband from whom she'd been separated, she was murdered. At age 12, I was blessed with another incredible teacher; Maria Luisa Faini, an Italian concert pianist who had moved to this country. She was a classicist and a fantastic technician and musician; I followed her to the Eastman School of Music and studied a total of eleven years with her. It is to her that I owe my piano technique. Of course, I went on to study with other people, including Dalton Baldwin, Leonard Shure, and in master classes with Malcolm Bilsson and Paul Badura-Skoda.

My performing career has been long, though not unbroken; I have played on three continents, all over Europe, in South America, over most of the eastern United States. I've given debuts with a violinist at Carnegie Hall, in the Purcell Room in London, in Paris. I've also coached and performed German Lieder for over 30 years - which was a wonderful background for my composition of the songs that I just wrote for the MTNA convention. Of course, I wasn't able to pursue a dedicated performance career because I was teaching full time as well; I became a professor at a state college in Vermont and taught piano, theory

and composition there. It was very demanding and I had little time to tour. But now that I'm retired, I have more time to perform; I give at least 25-30 concerts a year, including chamber music and concerto appearances. (I'll be playing with the Montpelier Chamber Orchestra again next fall - it's an orchestra that I helped found nearly twenty years ago.)

HOW DID YOU MEET ARTHUR ZORN?

I first met Arthur Zorn 35 years ago, although I didn't have a lot of musical contact with him until recently. He took over my church position at Bethany Church in Montpelier, VT and we've kept in touch; he sings with me at concerts there, I play solo recitals and accompany his choir for special church events. We have been artistic admirers of each other now for several years and when I was creating these songs, I asked if he'd sing them. The beauty of this was that I could write specifically for his voice - it was a dream!

DO YOU PLAN MELODY OR HARMONY FIRST WHEN YOU COMPOSE AND WHY?

As for my compositions, I write harmonies first; they're the "color." The harmonies offer a mood and a direction, which I sort out as I ponder the words. (Even if I'm writing piano music or chamber music, the colors, shading, and the building or easing of tensions come from the harmonies.) I suppose it's somewhat like colors to a painter. I'm an oil painter - strictly an amateur - and I am a bit obsessed with colors and shading; the color makes things dance and pull back or push forward. It isn't just about a hue; it's about movement. In my musical compositions, I start with that, and then of course think about the structural architecture, and then I think about the melody and how the voice moves and what the singer's range is, etc. To top it off, I think about the undulation of the words, their rhythms, and that further suggests the pitches of the melodies. Of course, this isn't something that is mechanical; it's organic and everything gets sorted out in bits and pieces. Composing began as a sort of exploratory project for me, but quickly became another very personal expression of my own.

WHAT IS ONE THING WE'D BE SURPRISED TO KNOW ABOUT YOU?

As for a startling thing about me: I'm probably a very boring person! I love life and everything that surrounds me! I love Vermont because I am entrenched in exquisite beauty, nature, fascinating people, (my own) messy gardens, and of course, my barnyard animals. I have a goat, two geese and seven chickens. Sometimes I have to compete with the goose, who can drown out even a Liszt Hungarian Rhapsody! But the goat loves Chopin; I've seen him right outside my studio window, listening, with his eyes closed... Lastly, I'm married to a boat builder and we have many dreams of combining a nice long boat trip - round trip from Lake Champlain, down the Mississippi, into the Gulf and then back again along the eastern shore - with concerts along the way - I suppose that's a surprise!

WHAT DO YOU REMEMBER AS THE MOST EXCITING MUSICAL EXPERIENCE IN YOUR LIFE?

As for the most exciting musical experience - that's impossible to say, I think. I'm sure I could say that playing the Beethoven Kreutzer Sonata in Paris to a rapt audience is high on the list, or Carnegie Hall. Playing for elementary school students in South America on a piano that only had 55 working keys - and they weren't consecutive - was also a highlight of my life - all the students lined up afterward and kissed me! But really, each performance becomes a momentary rapture - when the audience suddenly gets so quiet that I know they're swept up in the music; there's a physical and energetic connection that happens that's magical; it's addictive. I find every performance more exciting than the last.

Marie Johnson, Interviewer

Additions to Membership Directory

Your Membership Directory included all members that renewed or joined the VMTA by September 9, 2013. The following members are not included in your directory or have changed their contact information. We would like to welcome our new members as well as make changes in our membership directory for our members with new contact information.

Marie-Helene Belanger

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Piano

Claire Black

South Burlington, VT 05403

claireblack@hotmail.com

518-796-4188

Piano

***Joan Bach Foster**

PO Box 312
Warren, VT 05674

802-496-5502

Piano, Voice

***Norine Grant**

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grantine@gmail.com

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Piano Trad./Suzuki
Early Childhood Music

***Keren (Wheeler) Johnson**

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Cell: (802) 458-7685

Home: (802) 453-3936

Piano, Voice

***Brenda E. Logee**

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Piano

***Susan Nicholas NCTM**

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Piano

***Linda Rizvi**

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Member News



Polly van der Linde is pleased to report that five young pianists from Vermont were awarded merit and need-based scholarships to attend the 2013 Summer Sonatina International Piano Camp (for young pianists of all levels of ability between the ages of 7 and 16) in Bennington, Vermont last summer. This year, there is an ongoing fund drive from devoted Sonata Piano Camp attendees (these are adults who attend piano camp when the children's camp isn't in session throughout the year) to support more scholarships for the 2014 season. More information can be learned by visiting our website at www.sonatina.com.

In a few weeks, Polly will be giving several piano master classes in NYC and San Francisco, CA to amateur adult pianists and talented teens who will perform and receive instruction from Polly.

At this time of year, there's always plenty of activity going on at 5 Catamount Lane (where both the Sonatina and Sonata piano camps take place). Currently there are renovations going on: new rugs, floors, a new practice room in addition to planning our 2014 season: scheduling trips to Tanglewood and Saratoga, contracting faculty and even deciding the delicious meals that we can always expect at Sonatina.

Bennington College, where Polly also teaches, is looking for a Piano Intern to start in mid-February, for the Spring 2014 semester. This position is perfect for a recent graduate who sight reads well and enjoys accompanying (singers) in addition to teaching beginner group piano classes. More information can be found on the Bennington College website at <https://webinfo.bennington.edu/Jobs/JobListings.cfm>

Polly enjoys writing and maintains a blog about her various roles teaching piano, offering thoughts on music, sharing pictures, being a Mom, etc. It's a nice way to stay in touch with things that occur on a daily basis at Sonatina. It can be found at www.pianessa.wordpress.com

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Paul Orgel announces two local solo recital programs:

On March 2nd, Sunday afternoon at 3:30, I'll play a program of little-known, but great late-Romantic piano music by Ernest Chausson, Josef Suk, and Max Reger in my faculty recital at UVM. This is a preview of a new CD in the works. Admission is free.

On Friday evening, April 4th, at 7:30 PM in the McCarthy Arts Center, Saint Michael's College, I'll perform a program of music by Haydn, Beethoven, Schubert, Verdi/Liszt, and Chopin. Admission is free.



News of my students: Alan Chiang, Teddy Ninh, and Annie Meadows were chosen to play on this year's Young Artist's Recital at St. Paul's Cathedral in Burlington, Alan and Teddy in solo pieces, Annie accompanying her sister, Julia Meadows, soprano. Thanks to Elaine Greenfield for organizing this event.

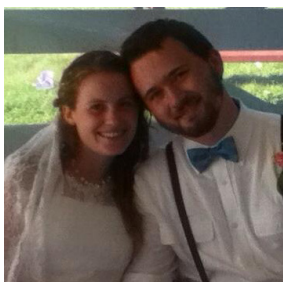
Alan Chiang performed in the regional round of the MTNA Senior Piano Competition, as Vermont's state representative.

Henry Wu performed a movement of a Schubert sonata on a new series showcasing members of the Vermont Youth Orchestra in solo performances at the Elley Long Center.



Elaine Greenfield here, reporting my new website is ready to view. It contains extensive teaching information, and includes countless audio samples (solo, collaborative and student), plus photo galleries. Please click <http://www.elainegreenfield.com> to visit. (Please refresh browser or empty cache if necessary.) On Saturday, February 15, 9:45am - 2:30 pm, I lead a workshop, **THE ART OF PHRASING**, at my studio, 47 Proctor Ave, South Burlington. Guests and auditors welcome. Those interested, please contact me at pianist@sover.net or phone 864-9209 for information. On Friday May 16, 7:30pm, Greenfield Piano Associates and St. Paul's Cathedral Arts present guest pianist, Matthew Manwarren, in recital at St. Paul's Cathedral. Manwarren also conducts a piano master class, Saturday Morning, May 17, 9:30 - Noon. The class

is co-sponsored by Cathedral Arts and GPA, and is free and open to the public. All are welcome. The GPA Annual Recital, **INTO THE 20TH CENTURY**, takes place Wednesday, May 28 at the Richmond Library and Friday, May 30 at St. Paul's Cathedral, both at 7:30 pm. In June, I am excited to announce a concert with flutist Pamela Guidetti of Philadelphia, formerly of New England, and protégé of the great French master, Marcel Moyse. **THE GUIDETTI/GREENFIELD DUO** team up once more, renewing a 20 year collaboration, presenting **A SPRING EVENING OF MUSIC AND ART**, Friday, June 13, 7:30, St. Paul's Cathedral, Burlington. The concert features many familiar flute piano works, solo piano & solo flute works, and a special display of Pamela Guidetti's oil paintings. Pamela is now also a celebrated artist in oils. Hope you can make it! Check out <http://www.elainegreenfield.com> for audio samples of the Duo's performances.



The year of 2013 has been an amazing and life-changing year for me as a teacher. The transition from being a full-time college student to a college graduate (University of Vermont, B.A. Piano Performance) was amazing in itself and was amplified when my best friend, Jonathan Johnson, proposed to me and we began wedding planning. Somehow, in the middle of all the wedding plans, Jonathan found time to be an incredible help to me in organizing and putting on my annual Piano and Voice Recital in May for my music students in St. Albans. All the students were excited to meet my fiancé and several attended my wedding on August 10th in Georgia, VT. My husband is an artisan bread baker in Lincoln, VT (Potato Hill Bakery), and although I would love to have more students that are a little closer to my new location, I found it too difficult emotionally to give up my students in Franklin County, so I have been renting a location in St. Albans and making the drive three days a week to continue teaching my students. However, this spring, my teaching arrangements will be very different. My husband and I were delighted to learn that I was pregnant with our first child, who is due in May 2014. Although it has been a difficult decision, we have decided that it will be best for our family if I retire from teaching in the Franklin County area and only continue teaching at our home in Lincoln. I am looking forward to building my student base in the Lincoln/Addison County area, and would love to have referrals from my colleagues in the VMTA. I will be having my student recital and finishing my teaching for the school year in March this year. I'm hoping to resume teaching in Lincoln and take on new students in my area beginning in June, as the baby is expected at the beginning of May. I am ready for the challenge! I am delighted to have so many fantastic students and colleagues who have been so supportive and excited for me as I begin my new life as a wife and mother. Best to all of you in 2014!

Keren Wheeler Johnson



A number of years ago, I was given a free piano sight unseen. I accepted it while hoping that maybe my children could practice on it while I taught. Upon inspection, my piano technician, Ole Hanson, refused to tune it because he would be “stealing my money.” In this case, I should have judged the book by its cover... and so I was on to the task of making lemonade. It occurred to me that the piano should have a proper laying to rest. What educational purpose can we give it? Hmmm... thus was born the initial concept.

My personal mission grew into a larger mission when it was wed with the desire to create greater public exposure for the VMTA and in turn for the Guild of Piano Technicians. Last June, I spoke with Emily Hilbert who appeared to have been waiting for me to propose the idea to her. So many great ideas spilled out of her that within the time it took me to drive from work in Williston to Patty Bergeron's home for the end of the year board meeting, I remained in my hot, humid car in Patty's driveway for a good five minutes before forcing myself to call a temporary end to our conversation. In November, Ed, Emily, my husband, Dave, and I moved the piano from our back mudroom up the hill around the side of our house and into the garage. In December, the Trinity Baptist Church in Williston agreed to host us. In January, the Hilberts and I met to work out some of the particulars. I believe some people have already booked this date on the their calendars! I will begin sending out notices of the event to various news outlets (VPR, local TV stations, Seven Days, etc...) in the coming weeks. We are hoping to have the event filmed and perhaps have it aired on the public access channel if not tidbits on the evening news. Once again, I invite you to share any ideas you have with me via my email. Are you willing to help out on the day of the event? We will need many hands to assist. Please promote this educational event. We are talking about having interested parties (first come, first serve?) walk away with a “piece of the action” - literally. In any event, we will be designing the event to be interactive, educational, and free to the general public with some suggestions as to age appropriateness. (For example: This free event is meant for children from 5 to 105 as long as they are able to sit and listen when required and able to follow directions when “reconstructing” pieces of the piano. This is necessary to ensure the educational nature of this event for all participants and to insure the physical safety of all participants.) Maybe an emergency “babysitting room” is in order in case a young parent wanders in with a few rambunctious young ducklings alongside her older scholars... As you can see, I am somewhat brainstorming at this point. Feel free to join me and share your wisdom! Do you have any “ins” with the press? Do you have an interest in the event and wish to commit your name to my list of volunteers ? (please, oh, please!) My email is dncnghands@comcast.net. Please indicate the nature of your communication via the title of your correspondence. Thank you in advance for all you will do, in arrears for all you've done, and right now for taking the time to read and consider my requests. Here's to a bright, community-filled, music-making New Year!

Lisa Goodrich



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