



## FALL NEWSLETTER

August 27, 2013

Welcome back, everyone, to another season of teaching music to Vermont's young and young at heart! New this year at QUAD State is a topic of interest to teachers of all instruments: Music and the Brain. Invite a colleague to come with you to Gorham, Maine on Saturday October 5, 2013. Take time to enrich yourself so that you can inspire your students.



I'm eager to hear how to design experiences that lead to substantive and lasting changes on how learners think and behave. I am interested in how the brain and music can become an essential tool for growth and development. It's exciting to discover new research in order to teach with vitality.

While the registration deadline for the conference and lunch is Friday, September 6, 2013, there's still time left to register for the sessions. Come and join the teachers of Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire and Vermont in a well-planned professional and motivating conference. Link to the registration form by visiting the VMTA web site at [www.vermontmta.net](http://www.vermontmta.net).

A bonus for all who travel to Maine for the QUAD State Conference – enjoy the lobsters and wild blueberries!

### Marie Johnson, VMTA President

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#### **President**

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#### **Composer Commissioning**

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## 2012 - 2013 VMTA Calendar

- September 11, 2013** Registration Deadline for MTNA Student Competitions  
**October 5, 2013** Quad State Convention at University of Southern Maine, Corthell Hall  
**November 10, 2013** Competitive Auditions at the Richmond Library  
**December, 10, 2013** VMTA Winter Newsletter Deadline for articles, reports and member news  
**March 29, 2014** Spring Festival at St. Michael's McCarthy Arts Center
- .....

Planning is underway to have an educational piano deconstruction at some point in the coming year. Venue and details have yet to be worked out. 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 an "in" for a great location? 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](mailto:dncnghands@comcast.net) and share your ideas or contacts with her. Thanks in advance!

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VMTA has been listed as a Bronze Donor (\$500-\$999) in in the Camp Ta-Kum-Ta 2012 annual report. Thanks go to all of the teachers and students who participated in the VMTA Collaborative Music Weekend on January 22-22, 2012 at University Mall. Let's begin to plan for our February 2014 Collaborative Weekend.

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**THE MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY** will be delivered electronically in your e-mail unless you request a hard copy. Please contact Teresa Miranda at [tgmiranda@comcast.net](mailto:tgmiranda@comcast.net) or by phone at (802) 893-1919, if you would like to pick up a hard copy of the Membership Directory at the Quad State Convention or if would like to have your hard copy mailed to you.



## Vermont's Commissioned Composer

MTNA is dedicated to encouraging the creation of new works by American composers and annually assists its affiliated state associations in the generation and performance of new music through the national composers commissioning program. A newly commissioned composition receives its premiere performance at the conference of the state MTA that commissions the work... <http://www.mtna.org/programs/commissioned-composer/>

Diane Huling has been chosen as Vermont's Commissioned Composer for 2013 and will perform Vermont's Commissioned Composition in Maine at our Quad State Convention. Her Premiere Performance of THREE SONGS, music by Diane Huling and lyrics by Harold Holden has three movements:

1. The Beggar's Lot
2. End of Day
3. La Pastora Fida



It will be performed by Arthur Zorn and Diane Huling.

Arthur Zorn attended the Manhattan School of Music and the High School of Music and Art in his native New York City. After graduating with special honors in music education from Lyndon State College in 1972, he began teaching music and was appointed chair of the Fine Arts Department from 1986-1996 at Spaulding High School in Barre, Vermont. He was awarded Spaulding's, "Teacher of the Year" in 1994; was Jaycee's Outstanding Young Educator and was a finalist for Vermont's State Teacher of the year. Zorn retired from teaching after serving in Barre for thirty years. Zorn is also an abstract impressionist visual artist. His premiere art show, 'Improvisations' opened in July 2004 at the Bundy Gallery in Waitsfield, VT. He has presented several exhibitions that also include his own musical improvisations and compositions. He has performed one of his own major works, "January 25, 1945" (The Liberation of Auschwitz) on Vermont Public Radio. He is currently organist and director of music at the Bethany Church and Center for the Arts in Montpelier.

Diane Huling holds two performance degrees from the Eastman School of Music, with post-graduate work from Westminster Choir College. She has worked with Maria Luisa Faini, Leonard Shure and Dalton Baldwin, as well as performing in master classes for Paul Badura-Skoda, Greta Kraus and Malcolm Bilsson. Ms. Huling's teaching career is extensive, beginning with public school music in Vermont, private school music in Cambridge, MA, and college teaching at Dartmouth College, Lyndon State College and Johnson State College, where she received full professorship before taking an early retirement. Ms. Huling has also conducted, with positions as Artistic Director and co-founder of Montpelier Chamber Music Society, Musical Director of Vermont Opera Theatre and co-conductor of Montpelier Combined Choirs... <http://dianehuling.weebly.com>

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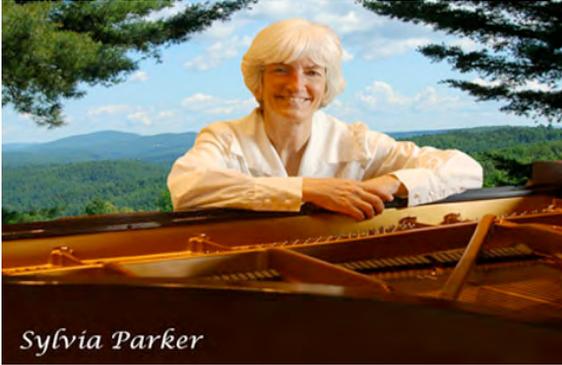
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## Member News



**Sylvia Parker** presented a paper entitled “Bartok’s Other Mikrokosmos” at the College Music Society International Conference in Buenos Aires, Argentina this summer.

**Abstract:** Béla Bartók collected folk melodies of Eastern Europe from 1904 through 1918. During that time he set many of them for voice, piano, and other instruments to make them accessible to audiences and players unfamiliar with the rich heritage of peasant music. Most of those settings focused on particular nationalities—

for example, Hungarian in *For Children Vol. 1*; Slovakian in *For Children Vol. 2*; Romanian in the *Sonatina*, *Romanian Folk Dances* and *Colinde*. In 1931 he returned to setting folk songs in 44 Violin Duos, written as a pedagogical project to provide high quality material for young violinists. These settings gathered together folk material from many different sources into an eclectic mix of nationalities. In 1936 he selected six of the Duos and rearranged them for piano as the *Petite Suite*. A virtual microcosmos of Eastern Europe, its six pieces present Old-style and New-style Hungarian melodies, a Walachian dance tune, Romanian violin and bagpipe melodies, and a Ukrainian song. The presentation includes field recordings of the original melodies, live performance, and Bartók’s own performance of the *Petite Suite*.

For additional information you can view Sylvia’s television interview broadcast with WCAX TV in 2011 celebrating the 70th anniversary of composer Béla Bartók’s visit to Vermont. Sylvia Parker tells stories about Bartók, performs some of his piano music, and leads a walk in the woods where the cottage he visited once stood, just down the road from her own. You will find links to this interview at Sylvia’s personal website at <http://www.uvm.edu/~sbparker/>

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### News of my students:

As he prepares to enter three national piano competitions, Alan Chiang, age 15, played in masterclasses and studied with two internationally known teachers this summer, Arie Vardi (at Bowdon’s summer piano institute) and John O’Conor (at the Adamant school). He also performed in a master class for pianist Shai Wosner at the Lake Champlain Chamber Music Festival.



Ivan Voinov will enter the Peabody Conservatory (Johns Hopkins) this fall as a composition major.

David Ro will enter Dartmouth College.

Former student Samantha Angstman graduated with a Bachelors degree in piano performance from the New England Conservatory, and will begin her Masters at SUNY Stony Brook.

### Paul Orgel



**Elaine Greenfield** reports that due to an increase in performance and teaching activity, there has been a paradigm shift in her professional world. This has resulted in the need to revamp and revise two web sites... a daunting and time consuming task. Much new material will be added, including more extensive information about my teaching, with a variety of new musical excerpts. An announcement will be made when completed. Thank you for your continued connection (which is treasured), and best wishes for a fabulous teaching season!

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*Photo taken by Saint Michael's student Meredith Johnson '08 while studying abroad in Namibia during her junior year.*

I had an extremely busy July, teaching both at our homegrown Green Mountain Suzuki Institute and at the Kankakee Valley Piano Camp and finishing up with the National Piano Pedagogy Conference in Chicago. Both the GMSI and Kankakee weeks are very open to non-Suzuki pianists and lots of fun and inspiration takes place at both: also lots of Chamber music for the 10 year olds and up, a great opportunity for our budding pianists. Both have websites. Check them out for your students! Cynthia Huard and Alison Cerutti both taught and accompanied at GMSI and had a great time. Speaking of Alison, she did a super job accompanying Mitchell Goff in the 3rd movement of the Tchaikovsky Piano Concerto at the VYO Hermance Comp. (so now he knows the entire concerto!) I urge you all to make sure you and your students watch the Dec. 31 performance with the VYO of the first movement. It is easily available on You-Tube as are other performances by this amazing family of four brothers at their Goff Brothers site on YouTube. At the NCKP conference I met up with Phyllis Lehrer and Ingrid Clarfield again. They have a wonderful set of new music books just out called **CLASSICS FOR THE DEVELOPING PIANIST-CORE REPERTOIRE FOR STUDY AND PERFORMANCE**, Alfred Publishing Company. These books are wonderful. I snapped up Books 4 and 5 right away. The earlier books are full of great coaching tips for convincing performances right where the students can see them every day. Phyllis Lehrer was my teacher of choice for Christopher Mc Williams, a young man with Aspergers and enormous pianistic talent who needed a college and teacher who was nurturing as well as terrific. Phyllis and Westminster Choir College/Rider University provided both and I am proud to say Christopher just completed his Masters degree in Piano Pedagogy there and is teaching at the Westminster Conservatory. Thank you, Phyllis.

**Marilyn Taggert**



Recently, I had a lively discussion with one of my students about how unforgettable my meeting with Emil Gilles was at our elementary educational program in Czechoslovakia. On a monthly basis, our school would invite the best artists to visit our class. We children enjoyed personal and close contact with these legendary heroes. In the afternoons, our school organized concerts where these artists would perform only for us.

This memory invoked an idea to organize something very similar with the same impact. I was telling Natalie Neuert, the Director of Lane Series, that I would like to organize meetings for our students with the medalists of the Cliburn Competition: **Sean Chen** (October 2, 2013), **Beatrice Rana** (February 7, 2014), and **Vadym Kholodenko** (April 11, 2014) who will be playing in Burlington as part of The Lane Series. I think that it would be very interesting for the children and the teachers to see how these talented young pianists prepare for the concert: what routines they use for their warm ups and how they organize their practice time on the piano. Natalie got very excited and expressed her full support for this endeavor. I have a meeting with her on September 5. She would like to know how many students and teachers would be interested in participating in these events.

If you are interested, please email me at [pkepka@comcast.net](mailto:pkepka@comcast.net) with a preliminary number of your students who will be interested in participating in these events by September 5.

I hope that this will encourage our students to practice even more diligently and possibly spark an interest in professional music careers. These events will give them something very special, as a gift for their commitment to playing the piano, and will hopefully inspire others.

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MUSIC TEACHERS NATIONAL ASSOCIATION

The 2013 MTNA Directory of New Music and Instructional Materials is now available on the MTNA website. The directory can be accessed by clicking <http://members.mtna.org/NewWebsiteForms/MTNAOrg/search.asp>.

The directory is searchable by publisher, title, author, keyword and level of difficulty, and provides information for many of the various new products available music teachers. Inclusion in this directory should not be considered an endorsement by MTNA.

Be sure to check out the following publishers who participated in the 2013 Directory of New Music and Instructional Materials and who also advertised in the August/September 2013 issue of American Music Teacher magazine:

- Brookside Press
- Hal Leonard Publishing Corporation
- Indiana University Press
- Keys to Imagination



Recital dates have been set for the BBVMTA. The first recital will be on **Sunday, November 10** at the Richmond Free Library. VMTA competitions will follow. The second recital will be on **Sunday, February 16** at St. Paul's Cathedral. Information has gone out to current members. If you have not received the information, please contact Patty Bergeron at [pberg@myfairpoint.net](mailto:pberg@myfairpoint.net) or 878-9873.

Patty Bergeron

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# VMTA Treasurer's Report July 1, 2012 - June 30, 2013

## ACCOUNT BALANCES

### MONEY MARKET ACCOUNT :

Starting balance	\$10,851.81
Interest Income	\$23.65
<i>Ending Balance</i>	<i>\$10,875.46</i>

### CHECKING ACCOUNT:

Starting Balance	\$545.80
Net Income/Expense	\$939.06
<i>Ending Balance</i>	<i>\$1,484.86</i>

**OVERALL TOTAL** **\$12,360.32**

## INCOME AND EXPENSE

### INCOME::

Competitive Auditions Income	\$105.00
Composition Entry Fee	\$50.00
Performance Entry Fee	\$55.00
Fall Convention Registrations	\$1,355.00
Member Dues	\$1,240.00
Donation for leftover ski passes	\$60.00
Donor Program	\$235.00
Sponsor Ads	\$1,300.00
Spring Festival Income	\$900.00
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$5,195.00</b>

### EXPENSE:

Competitive Auditions Expense	\$284.90
Facilities	\$50.00
Performance Judge	\$50.00
Performance Travel Grant	\$175.00
Postage/supplies/copies	\$9.90
Fall Convention Expense	\$1,830.57
Clinician	\$1,000.00
Clinician hotel, meals	\$431.80
Facilities	\$100.00
Lunches, supplies, postage, copies	\$298.77
Member Support: Music-COMP	\$175.00
Nat'l Convention Travel Reimbrsmnt	\$1,000.00
Member Recognition	\$27.99
MTNA Foundation	\$100.00
Newsletter Expense	\$138.00

Officer Expense	\$128.55
Publicity Expense	\$177.52
VYOA ad and directory listing	\$119.00
Website	\$58.52
Spring Festival Expenses	\$393.41

**TOTAL EXPENSE \$4,255.94**  
**NET INCOME AND EXPENSE \$939.06**

**\*DONATIONS-IN-KIND, EXPENSES-IN-KIND (TO THE EXTENT REPORTED)**

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Consultation - WynFish	\$360.00
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