

Burlington Branch Vermont Music Teachers Association

August 2026

Dear Colleague:

The BBVMTA will hold its sixteenth "Monster Concert" on **Saturday January 23, 2027**. This event is open to students of BBVMTA member teachers only. The concert will consist of duets and trios performed on numerous pianos simultaneously, as well as a flute ensemble. It will be an extremely exciting and valuable experience for all those who participate. **Please read this letter and all material so that you understand all that is involved for this event to be successful.**

Rehearsals for the BBVMTA "Monster Concert" will begin Friday afternoon **January 22nd**. Rehearsals will continue Saturday, January 23rd, culminating with a dress rehearsal and public concert on Saturday afternoon, **January 23rd**. The rehearsals and concert will be held at Essex High School.

The conductor for the 2027 Monster Concert is **Wynn-Anne Rossi**. Wynn-Anne is an acclaimed American composer with vibrant educational outreach. She has a respect for all genres of music, and her diversity of experience and love of discovery are reflected in her expressions as a composer and presenter. With over 150 publications, her compositions have been widely distributed online and in music stores. Wynn-Anne has a specialty for bringing the art of composition to young musicians. Her two comprehensive series which encourage young pianists to compose are *Music by Me* (FJH Music) and *Creative Composition Toolbox* (Alfred Music). For more information, visit www.rossi-music.com or Wynn-Anne Rossi Music on YouTube. YouTube channel: <https://www.youtube.com/@rossimusic212> or YouTube channel Playlists: <https://www.youtube.com/@rossimusic212/playlists>.

It is important that students know that they will be making a commitment on both days. Please see the enclosed rehearsal schedule. There is much to be accomplished in a short time. It is important that:

1. Students must **arrive 15 minutes before** their scheduled rehearsal time. (However, they may leave as soon as their ensemble finishes rehearsing.)
2. Each participating student must attend the rehearsals on Friday and Saturday, as well as the dress rehearsal on Saturday after noon. Absences and tardiness will not be excused **Please note that if a student misses any rehearsal (including being tardy), they will not be allowed to perform in the concert.**
3. **A public concert will be at 4:30 on Saturday.** The concert is free; no tickets are needed for the concert. Doors will open at 4:15.
4. Each student will be scheduled to play in one ensemble, with the option of playing in an additional ensemble/ensembles if needed to fill parts. On the application form, you may check pieces from more than one group depending on each student's needs.
5. **When registering a student, please be sure to look at the music and not just go by age or level.** There are varying degrees of difficulty within a group. **It is important that you recognize your students' strengths.** Challenges may include rhythm and nuances in the music. **It is always better to have a student play a piece at an easier level.** They will find it challenging playing in a large ensemble, following a conductor and observing all markings within a piece. **Please note: all 2nd and 3rd grade students are to be in Group 1**, even if they are capable of playing at a higher level.
6. **No photocopied music will be allowed.** The list of compositions (including composer & publishing co.) to be performed is on the student application form.
7. There is much work to accomplish within a short time, and therefore, students should be **well prepared** before the first rehearsal begins.

Enclosed in this mailing are:

1. Teacher's Entry Summary Sheet
2. Student Application Form – Please print 2 sided and complete one per student.
 - Side 1- Student application with the list of music that will be performed.
Student application form must be signed by student, parent and teacher before parts can be assigned and include an entry fee of \$25 per student.
(There is no entry fee for teachers participating in the "Teachers only ensemble"). Please send **one check** per studio.
 - Side 2- Media consent form. To be completed and signed by a parent
3. Rehearsal Schedule.
4. Practice instruction sheet.
5. A copy of the piano accompaniment that will be used for the flute ensemble. We are looking for 3 pianists to accompany the group. Students doing this will need to be available on Saturday for a rehearsal with the flutes.

The **Application Postmark Deadline** is **October 15**. Assignment of pieces and parts will be made in the order that applications are received. Part assignments will be made for the first 20 students in a studio. If you have more students that would like to participate, additional student assignments will be made following the application deadline date. There are plenty of parts to fill, so all students will be assigned a part to play. Teachers will be notified by e-mail regarding student assignments by October 30th.

If you have any questions, please call Patty Bergeron at 802-318-2977 or e-mail pcberg86@gmail.com.

Sincerely,
Patty Bergeron
BBVMTA monster concert chair