

# VERMONT MUSIC TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

*Affiliated with Music Teachers National Association, Inc.*

*February 4, 2011*

## WINTER NEWSLETTER

### A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

As you read this the VMTA web site is under construction and the committee, **Lilly Ramsey**, **Barbara Williams**, our web master **Lisa Goodrich** and I are anxious to see the final product on a process that began last June. We have had the help of many along the way. Our sponsors and other people in the music community gave us many tips based on their own experiences. One tip ultimately led us to a graphics designer we could even afford, Clair Dunn at VT2000! Lisa spent HOURS on a design which we will own and be able to use without any worry of copyright and cut our costs dramatically. She did this on a program that we can also reproduce fairly easily over the years ahead. A big thank you to Lisa! We were going for a bright, youthful and simple classic style to attract younger perspective teachers over the years ahead without looking dated. We hope you are pleased with the results. We will send out a note when the new link with a new address is fully operational.

Looking back at the fall, we were so fortunate to have a group who so successfully ran the Fall Convention and the various MTNA student competitions. We have a new chair for MusicLinks, **Judy Vanesse**. Recently we premiered a new activity, state wide, a fundraiser and performathon as part of MTNA's national Day of Collaborative playing. A special thank you to **Patty Bergeron** and **Lynn Smith** for chairing this event. So many of you worked to make this a great event for music students in Vermont. Spring Festival is coming up at St. Michael's and many of you are at work in preparing your little Mozart's for this already.

As president, I occasionally like to take stock of VMTA. When I spend that moment, I am left with gratitude. You are an amazing group! Thank you!

**Jane Goldstein, VMTA President**

### 2011 VMTA SPRING FESTIVAL

The VMTA Spring Music Festival is scheduled for **Saturday, April 2, 2011** in the **McCarthy Arts Center at Saint Michael's College**. Please email the Festival Chairman, **Lilly Ramsey** at [cldkramsey@comcast.net](mailto:cldkramsey@comcast.net) to receive by email an Excel attachment to complete and return to Lilly with teacher, student and performance information. If you are unable to do the electronic enrollment please call Lilly Ramsey at 802-879-7425. There is a great deal of work to be attended to after entries are in: schedules arranged, rooms assigned, programs printed, certificates made out, ribbons ordered, judges assigned and notified as well as teachers. Therefore, please observe the **February 18, 2011 registration deadline**.

### 2011-2012 VMTA CALENDAR

**February 18, 2011**      **Registration Deadline for VMTA Spring Festival**  
**April 2, 2011**        **VMTA Spring Festival, St. Michael's College, Colchester, VT**  
**June 8, 2011**      **VMTA Summer Newsletter Deadline for articles, reports & member news**

#### VMTA 2010/2012 Officers: (VT Area Code is 802)

<u>President:</u> Jane Goldstein      496-3418	<u>Convention:</u> Patty Bergeron      878-9873	<u>Membership:</u> Elaine Greenfield      864-9209
<u>President Elect:</u>	<u>Non-Competitive Auditions:</u> Lilly Ramsey      879-7425	<u>Web Development:</u> Lisa Goodrich      872-7554
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**Burlington Branch VMTA**

BBVMTA held its ninth "Monster Concert" on **Saturday November 13, 2010** at the Trinity Baptist Church in Williston. **Ginger Yang Hwalek** of Maine was the Monster Concert Conductor. It was an extremely exciting and valuable experience for all those who participated. BBVMTA commissioned a piece by composer Robert Vandall for this monster concert. The piece, titled Festival Toccata, was an excellent piece to end the concert with.

**Bravo and Thank You to Patty Bergeron, Monster Concert chair**, for all of her hard work and time spent in making this event successful: scheduling the site, coordinating with the piano dealers, assigning parts & scheduling the students in the ensembles, sending out mailings to the piano teachers, and all the other many details. Thank you also to Dick Johnson and Dale Howe of **Frederick Johnson Pianos Inc.**, Ole Hansen of **Hansen & Son Pianos**, and Ed and Emily Hilbert of **Hilbert Pianos Inc.** for their generous support of this event. They provided the use of and moved 5 pianos to the concert site. Thank you to all the teachers who turned pages for the ensembles during the rehearsals and the concert, and to the teachers who supervised the ensemble groups as they waited "back stage" for their turn to perform both at the dress rehearsal and also the concert. Thank you to Barbara Williams who hosted the conductor at her home for the two day event.

The following teachers had students participating in this Monster Concert: **Patricia Bergeron\***, **Joan Bach Foster**, **Ana Gerard\***, **Lisa Goodrich\***, **Brenda Logee Hall**, **Gale Hansen-Patenaude\***, **Marie Johnson\***, **Arielle Hanudel**, **Elizabeth Metcalfe**, **Teresa Miranda\***, **Susan Nicholas\***, **Andrea Orlyk**, **Lilly Ramsey\***, **Mary Ann Samuels**, **Jina Smith**, **Lynn Smith\***, **Keren Wheeler\***, **Barbara Williams\***. The teachers with the asterisk \* after their name performed in the teachers ensemble.

**Thank you to Liz Metcalfe and Ana Gerard**, BBVMTA Co-Recital Chairs, for organizing the Dec. 5, 2010 student recital held at St. Paul's Cathedral. There was one recital at 2:30pm and 12 students performed. The students were from the studios of **Patricia Bergeron**, **Marie Johnson**, **Susan Nicholas**, **Paul Orgel**, **Melody Puller**, and **Barbara Williams**.

Other BBVMTA events this year include:  
**February 13, 2011    BBVMTA Student Recital**  
**2:30 PM    St. Paul's Cathedral**  
 (Postmarked Registration deadline Jan. 29)

**June TBA    Year End Luncheon**  
 If you would like to host this function, please contact  
 Patty Bergeron at 878-9873.

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**Central Vermont Activities**

By Jane Goldstein

Nancy Zorn of the Green Mountain United Way sent the following information for your consideration, especially teachers in Central Vermont. They are holding the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Kaleidoscope of Talent, Saturday, March 5, 2011 at Spaulding High School Auditorium. The object is to showcase local talent and build community. More detailed information and applications are available at their website [www.gmunityedway.org](http://www.gmunityedway.org). Click on 5<sup>th</sup> Annual A Kaleidoscope of Talent or on Special Events on the homepage. Nancy can be reached at 229-9532 during office hours for any questions that come up.

**Judy Vanesse** and **Jane Goldstein** will be leading a discussion on professional opportunities in MTNA, VMTA, NHMTA, Musiclinks and other organizations on Wednesday, February 16. The meeting will begin promptly at 10:00 and run to 11:30. Fredrick Johnson Pianos, in White River Junction, graciously offered to host and are helping with the planning. The hope is to introduce and remind teachers in the Norwich/Hanover/White River Junction to groups that could help with their students and their own professional development. We are grateful to FJ Pianos for their continued support in so many ways.

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Newsletter for more details.**

**MUSICLINK FOUNDATION**

By Judy Vanesse

As music teachers we are always looking for ways to share our gift of music with others. We cherish our students and hope to take them to a level of proficiency that will serve them well throughout their lives.

What can we do about a student who must quit lessons because of a financial hardship within the family? What about those children who have musical potential, but whose families cannot even consider lessons because of financial need?

The MusicLink Foundation is a non-profit organization dedicated to helping link teachers with deserving students to give them the opportunity to have lessons they might not otherwise have. Teachers willing to reduce their fee by at least half can enjoy the support of the MusicLink Foundation in discounted music and teaching materials, assistance with getting their student a practice instrument, reimbursement for out-of-pocket expenses incurred on behalf of their MusicLink student and much more. Join the network of nearly 300 teachers nationwide making a difference in a young person's life.

If you would like to learn more about MusicLink or you are already teaching a child at a reduced rate because of financial need, please contact: Judy Vanesse by email at [jvan2006@comcast.net](mailto:jvan2006@comcast.net) or by phone at (802) 295-9092. For further information, visit the MusicLink website at [www.musiclinkfoundation.org](http://www.musiclinkfoundation.org)

## VMTA Collaborative Music Weekend – Jan. 21-23, 2011

By Patty Bergeron

The University Mall was filled with the sounds of music on the weekend of January 21-23. The VMTA helped in celebrating a year of collaborative music. MTNA named January 22 as the International Collaborative Day of Music.

One hundred and fifty one students from twelve studios provided music for patrons of the mall. Many students performed solo piano works. Some played duets. Others performed in small ensembles inviting their friends to join them (8 guests performed on various instruments). We even had a group of wonderful flutists! It was great seeing the students collaborating to make such beautiful music.

Another aspect of collaborating came from the fact that we asked the students participating to find sponsorship. Monies raised from sponsorship is being donated to Camp Ta-Kum-Ta. It is quite impressive to see how generous people can be and to see how they support these fine musicians. Final totals are not yet determined, but the donation should be more than \$5,000! Two students that participated in this event do attend Camp Ta-Kum-Ta.

Co-chairs of the Collaborative event were **Patty Bergeron** and **Lynn Smith**. Teachers that had students participating were: **Patty Bergeron, Jane Goldstein, Lisa Goodrich, Norine Grant, Marie Johnson, Laurel Maurer, Elizabeth Metcalfe, Lilly Ramsey, Mary Ann Samuels, Jina Smith, Lynn Smith, and Barbara Williams**.

The VMTA is also lucky to have such wonderful sponsors for this event. **Hilbert Pianos** provided a beautiful Kawai grand for the students to play. What a treat! **Green Mountain Piano Moving** provided their services moving the piano. Quite an impressive thing to watch. **Physicians Computer Company** sponsored the cost of using the mall. PCC is the proud sponsor of the Lake Champlain Chamber Music Festival. If you can, these concerts are well worth checking out. We also thank the University Mall, IHOP and Essex Outlet Cinemas for providing gift certificates. **Thank you to all that made the event such a success!**

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## VMTA Level of the 2010-2011 MTNA Student Performance Competitions

By Elizabeth Metcalfe

Anthony Speranza went to Eastern Division as the Vermont Representative in the Young Artist Woodwind Division. He did not place in that competition. However he was part of a Saxophone and Piano Trio who won the Chamber Music Performance Competition. He is a student at Hartt Music School in CT but his address is Vernon, VT.

## VMTA Level of the 2010-2011 MTNA Student Composition Competition

By Jody Woos

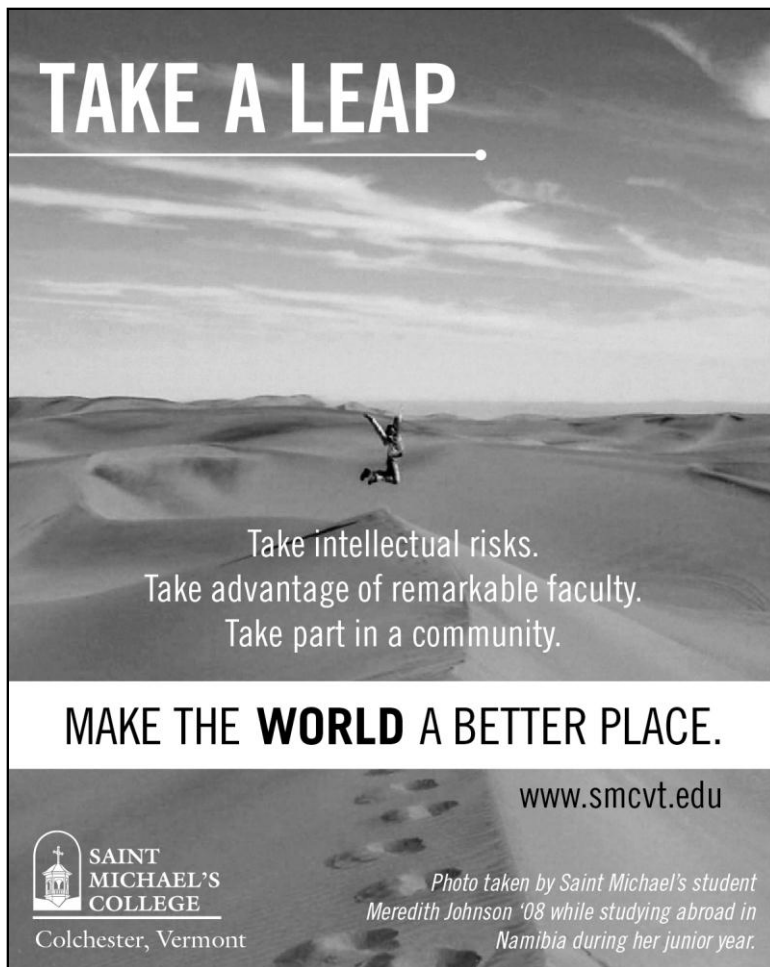
Last fall, we had one entrant in the 2010-2011 Composition Competition, who went on to represent Vermont in the Eastern Division Competition. Ivan Voinov studies piano and composition with **Paul Orgel** and entered in the Senior category with his piece, *Emerald Sunrise*, scored for flute, euphonium, harp, violin, viola, violoncello, contrabass, and percussion. Our judge this year was Matt Podd, originally from Vermont, and now living in New York City. Matt completed his undergraduate degree in composition at Ithaca College and went on to do his masters at Eastman. Matt's report to us and to Ivan gave very thorough and thoughtful comments on the piece's rhythm, harmony, melody, timbre, stylistic continuity, and form/structure. Both Ivan and Paul Orgel found the report constructive and useful for Ivan's future development as a composer. The Eastern Division Composition Competition results were recently announced. Benjamin Nuzzo from Massachusetts, a student of Alla Cohen, was the winner and will go on to the National Competition this spring.

## 2010 VMTA Fall Convention

On October 9, 2010 VMTA Fall Convention was held at Richmond Library Performance Room. All who attended were treated to a wonderful day with clinician Joanne Haroutonian. Workshops presented were **Beyond the Notes: Lessons that Realize the Total Value of Music, A Palette of Touches, Stylistic Subtleties: Guiding Students on the use of Rubato, Pedal, Nuance and Creatively Exploring Music Theory.**

There were excellent handouts given to the teachers prepared by Joanne Haroutonian. Congratulations to Kailey Yang, student of **Barbara Williams** and to Chelsea Huber, student of **Lynn Smith**, who were the "student volunteers" that Joanne worked with to demonstrate in two of the workshops. Frederick Johnson Pianos was on hand with a well-stocked supply of literature for us to peruse and purchase.

Thank you to **Patty Bergeron** who organized this convention and to **Jane Goldstein** for hosting Joanne for this event.




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

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**VMTA MEMBER NEWS**

**New Phone number:**

Andrea Orlyk 802-489-5388

**We welcome new members:**

**Jennifer Mary Groves**

23 Elmer Place  
Milton, VT 05468  
grovesjennifer@sbcglobal.net  
802-893-8454  
Flute

**Carol Hewitt**

5 Tower Terrace  
Burlington, VT 05401  
carolchewitt@yahoo.com  
802-863-5732  
Piano

**Marie Helene Belanger**

1820 Route 14  
East Calais, VT 05650  
info@GreenMountainSchoolofPiano.com  
802-456-7035  
Piano

**Judy Vanesse**

267 South Street  
Wilder, VT 05088  
jvan2006@comcast.net  
802-295-9092  
Piano, Voice, Accompanying

**Judy Vanesse** became interested in music at an early age. She began playing by ear at age 4 and began private instruction at 7. After 8 years, she began her studies with Denver Oldham, a Juilliard graduate who resided in the same town in NY. She studied with Mr. Oldham prior to entering music school in North Carolina where she received a bachelor's degree in music education, piano major, voice minor and transferred to Chapel Hill to pursue a degree in church music. After returning to NY she worked for RCA records for the piano and opera producers while teaching piano at the LI Association for Performing Arts, directed by Denver Oldham. She vacationed and subsequently moved to Bermuda where she studied with professor Geoffrey Tankard of the Royal School of Music. She studied for 5 years with Professor Tankard, sat the Royal School Exams in the practical (piano performance) and the theory elements through the final exam receiving the prestigious Feraz Award for pianist of the year in 1975 and 1976. Judy was the principal pianist with the Bermuda Opera Guild and Gilbert & Sullivan Societies. She has been a church musician conducting cherub choirs, youth choirs, adult, mens' choruses and accapela groups of up to 200 members strong, handbell choirs and small instrumental groups both in NY, Bermuda, Florida and Vermont. She has taught piano for over 30 years.

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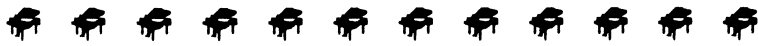
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From retired VMTA Member **Joyce Flanagan**: Want to read articles about famous pianists such as Artur Rubenstein, Claudio Arrau or Vladimir Ashkenazy? Or peruse articles on how to teach teenage beginners or see illustrated bars on how to teach pedaling or memorizing? Or get all sorts of teaching advice from the beloved Frances Clark? Come and take a pile of "The Clavier" magazines, from the 80s through 2002 that are piled under my desk. Contact Joyce at [flanagan.tj@gmail.com](mailto:flanagan.tj@gmail.com)

From **Paul Orgel**: TWO concerts of Romantic Era chamber music. The concert held Feb. 1<sup>st</sup> at St. Michael's College celebrated Schubert's birthday (one day late.) The program included Robert Schumann, Three Romances, Op. 94, Frederic Chopin, Barcarolle, Op. 60, Edvard Grieg, Violin Sonata No. 1 in F, Op. 18 and Franz Schubert Piano Trio No. 1 in B-flat, Op. 99. The performers were Laurel Ann Maurer, flute, Ira Morris, violin, John Dunlop, cello,

Paul Orgel, piano. The second concert will be held on Friday Feb. 11<sup>th</sup> at 7:30pm in the UVM Recital Hall, free admission. The program will include Ludwig Van Beethoven, Violin Sonata No. 5, Op. 24, Robert Schumann Fantasy Pieces, Op. 73 for cello and piano, Franz Schubert and Carl Loewe "An die music", "Der Erlkoni": 2 settings and the Franz Schubert Piano Trio No. 1 in B-flat. The performers will be Colleen Jennings, violin, Ira Morris, violin, John Dunlop, cello, Erik Kroncke, bass and Paul Orgel, piano. Also, news about my students: Kevin Wang, a junior at South Burlington High School, was the winner of the Vermont Philharmonic's Jon Borowicz Concerto Competition and will perform Gershwin's "Rhapsody in Blue" on Feb. 5 at the Elley Long Center and Feb. 6 at the Barre Opera House. Former student Samantha Angstmann, now a sophomore at the New England Conservatory, is a co-founder of the Burlington Ensemble, a new chamber group with a busy concert schedule.

From **Stuart Carter**: Six students auditioned for All State this year. All of them improved so much, it surprised me. I've several intermediates in a growth pattern right now. Some experiment with jazz, others with classic playing styles. Recent additions to my informal curriculum include lessons in practice strategies, attitude growth, using music practice as a model for learning other subjects, and completing assignments. Ever notice how students don't get they should practice what you covered in the previous lessons? Right now, my students are being held accountable for their assignments. If they can't do what we covered previously they practice it in the lesson, right then. Some are amazed at how much had been covered in the lesson that they never heard of before! Talk is cheap, practice builds skills.

**Elaine Greenfield**, half of the Transcontinental Piano Duo, announces a new CD, with duo partner Janice Meyer Thompson of Arizona State University. *French Four Hands with the Elegant Erard (1877)* is being released this month by Centaur Records. Elaine and Janice plan a release concert here in Burlington on May 20th, which will feature selections from the CD with the opportunity to hear the recorded version, on an historic instrument of the period, as a comparison. The CD will available at the concert, and is currently available by contacting Elaine Greenfield. It is also available from Centaur Records, Amazon, and iTunes. While Ms. Thompson is in town, she will conduct a master class, free and open to the public, on Saturday, May 21st, St. Paul's Cathedral, 9:30 am - noon. The Duo is also in the process of designing a new website, which will soon be on line as <http://www.TranscontinentalPianoDuo.com>. All of the Duo's recordings will be available there. Greenfield Piano Associates will perform their annual recital Friday, June 3rd, St. Paul's Cathedral, 7:30 pm.

**Jody Woos**, executive director of the Green Mountain Suzuki Institute (GMSI), is pleased to announce to all VMTA members that this year's institute will offer piano teacher training for Suzuki Book 1. Joan Krzywicki from Pennsylvania

will offer the eight-day course during the July institute, beginning on Sunday, July 10 and continuing through Sunday July 17. The course consists of 28 hours of class time and a minimum of 15 hours of observation time. GMSI offers a unique opportunity to observe 17 master instrument instructors including VMTA members **Marilyn Taggart** (piano), **Cynthia Huard** (piano), and **Laurel Ann Maurer** (flute). There are a number of prerequisites for this course. See the GMSI website, [www.greenmountainsuzukiinstitute.org](http://www.greenmountainsuzukiinstitute.org) for more information, or contact Jody at 802-453-2360 or [jwwoos@gmavt.net](mailto:jwwoos@gmavt.net).

Tim Woos, former piano student of **Cynthia Huard**, and now studying composition at the Curtis Institute of Music, was one of four Young Composers at the first Lake Champlain Chamber Music Festival (LCCMF) in 2009. Soovin Kim, LCCMF Artistic Director, has decided to program Tim's *String Quartet* as part of the festival's Winter Encore series. In addition to Tim's piece, the concerts will include works by Murray Shafer, David Ludwig, Antonin Dvorak and Franz Schubert. Performers at the concerts will be Soovin Kim (violin), Hye-Jin Kim (violin), Hsin-Yun Huang (viola), Edward Arron (cello,) Peter Wiley (cello) and William Tiley (bass). Concerts will take place on February 25 in Plattsburgh and on February 26 at the Elley-Long Music Center in Colchester. Tickets are available through the Flynn Center Box Office.

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The Governor's Institutes of Vermont offer intensive, participatory experiences to motivated teenagers interested in learning more about areas they are passionate about, such as the Arts, Asian Cultures, Engineering, Information Technology,

Math, Science and Technology, or Current Issues and Youth Activism. Seven residential summer Institutes and one interdisciplinary Winter Weekend Institute provide affordable opportunities for every Vermont 9<sup>th</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup> grade to meet professionals and peers from around the state on college campuses, have fun, and enhance their academic credentials. Please visit [www.giv.org](http://www.giv.org) for more information or call Coleen at 802-229-4757.

### 2010-2011 VMTA Sponsor Advertisers

Jane Goldstien, VMTA President, reports that **VMTA Full Year Sponsor Advertisers** for 2010-2011 are: **American College of Musicians, Darrell's Music Hall, Ellis Music Co. Inc., Frederick Johnson Pianos Inc., Green Mountain Piano Moving, Hansen & Son Inc., Hilbert Pianos, Neil A. Kjos Music Co., Physician's Computer Co., and Saint Michael's College.** We also thank the contact persons for each of the above businesses: Pat McCabe-Leche, Michele Edington, Joan Ellis Tabor, Dale Howe & Dick Johnson, Lowell Trecartin & Sarah Rollins, Ole Hansen, Emily & Ed Hilbert, David Paul, John Canning, and Susan Summerfield. Their ads were published in the 2010-2012 VMTA Membership Directory. Their ads are also published in this 2011 Winter Newsletter, and will be published in the 2011 Spring Festival Program and in the 2011 Summer (June) Newsletter. The **Spring Festival Sponsor Advertisers only** is **BBVMTA**. Their ad will be published in the 2011 Summer (June) Newsletter and the 2011 Spring Festival Program. **VMTA** sincerely **thanks** all these businesses for their generosity and support.



## **VMTA Professional Development Scholarship Fund**

The VMTA Board voted in June 2007 to establish an annual professional scholarship fund, making a limited amount of money available each fiscal year (July 1 - June 30) to VMTA members only, for personal, professional educational purposes. Members are eligible to receive assistance once in a three-year period, and may apply any number of times.

Members may request an application from the VMTA President, **Jane Goldstein**, PO Box 1055, Waitfield, VT 05673, or email: jrj\_goldstein@gmavt.net. This application will include questions such as description of the proposal, the amount of money requested, purpose, goals, and time frame. The completed application must be sent by US mail to Jane Goldstein at the address above, and cannot be postmarked before July 1, 2011. Decisions will be made on a first come, first served basis with the award split between a maximum of 2 members for a given year. In the event that the first 3 applications are received on the same day, then a lottery will be used to choose the 2 applicants to receive the award. If accepted, money would be held in escrow, awarded retroactively, following receipt of documentation of completion.

Please note: if applying for scholarship monies to reimburse a program spanning two fiscal years and the monies for the first of those two years is already awarded, a VMTA member may choose to enroll in that program and, submit a second application along with other members on the earliest date in the following fiscal year with the understanding this means there is no guarantee the money will be awarded to him/her because of the lottery scenario.

**Norine Grant** is the recipient of the VMTA Professional Development Scholarship Fund for 2010-2011 fiscal year. She will be using this scholarship to attend the 2011 MTNA National Convention.

### **2011 MTNA National Conference**

March 26–30, 2011 in Milwaukee, Wisconsin

The MTNA National Conference provides a great opportunity to learn, communicate with your colleagues, sharpen your teaching methods, gather the latest information and revitalize your career. Attendees have the opportunity to see some of the best pedagogues in the world, the most seasoned performers, the latest teaching products and colleagues from across the country. Professional workshops, sessions, industry showcases, master classes, free evening recitals—are all an excellent way to bring in spring and recharge your teaching batteries. Read the February/March 2011 issue of the AMT magazine or check out the MTNA website [www.mtna.org](http://www.mtna.org) for all the details about the conference schedule, registration, concerts, clinicians, etc.

### **VERY IMPORTANT – Need VMTA Member Contact Information for VMTA website**

An email was sent to all VMTA members in January asking for input by February 7<sup>th</sup> on what contact information each of you wishes to have on the VMTA website that is currently “under construction”. Some of you have not responded to that email. If you wish more than just your name and teaching field on the website, then you need to email Barbara Williams immediately at [barbara-williams@comcast.net](mailto:barbara-williams@comcast.net) and state what your preferences are for your listing as a VMTA member on the VMTA new website.

***From the Newsletter Editor: A Very Sincere Thank You to all of you who have sent member news and written articles for this newsletter. You have made my job so much easier and have made the newsletter much more interesting. The next newsletter deadline is June 8, 2011.  
Happy New Year!***