



Virginia Music Teachers Association Blue Ridge Chapter Report 2012-2013

Blue Ridge Chapter is comprised of a small group of teachers from a wide geographic area stretching from Bluefield to Abingdon. Although small in membership, Blue Ridge Chapter is sponsoring four events during the 2012-2013 teaching year.

On Friday, September 28, Roma Scriven, NCTM, of Roanoke, presented a three-part workshop in Marion, Virginia at Melody Payne's home, entitled "The Uniqueness of One, Connecting the Dots, and A Burst of Color", an informative workshop featuring the unique student, parent, and teacher roles in music lessons, ideas of how to inspire our students to be successful musicians through effective practice techniques, and adding color to music in order to achieve a higher level of artistry within each performance.

On Saturday, November 17, the Blue Ridge Music Teachers Association held our annual Kelly Strickland Hymn Festival at Grayson Hall in Snyder Auditorium of Wytheville Community College. The festival is named in memory of Kelly Strickland, founder and first president of the BRMTA, who taught in Marion, Virginia, for many years. She deeply appreciated the rich heritage of church music and initiated this hymn festival as a way to foster a love of hymn playing within the BRMTA students. Twenty-one students from the studios of Ellen Corbett (Marion), Lisa Moxley (Bluefield), Melody Payne (Marion), and Catherine Valley (Wytheville) performed hymn arrangements in a variety of styles. This year's Hymn Festival was hosted by Catherine Valley.

Our annual Master Class is scheduled for Saturday February 23, at Emory and Henry College in Emory, Virginia, and Dr. Melody Payne, NCTM, will be the clinician.

On Saturday, April 27, our annual Ribbon Festival will be held at Wytheville Community College. Students will perform a variety of solo pieces in the style of their choice by memory. Each student will receive an award ribbon for participation in this event.

Our year-end business meeting date and time are TBA, but will be held in June. Agenda items include evaluating the 2012-2013 teaching year, planning



the events of the 2012-2013 teaching year, and updating our new website, located at www.blueridge.musicteachershelper.com.

2012-2013 Officers:

Dr. Melody Payne, NCTM, President
Catherine Valley, Vice President
Dr. Lisa Withers, Secretary/Treasurer

We currently have 6 active members and 2 retired members.

Respectfully submitted by Melody Payne.