

NewsNotes

President's Notes

Susan Atkins, NCTM, VMTA State President

Dear VMTA Members,

It's hard to believe that very soon, December 1, in fact, I'll be saying goodbye as your president. But this isn't goodbye—it's hello! Hello to our new president, Elizabeth Caluda. Beth has done a fantastic job as our president-elect, planning and executing two terrific conferences.

By the time you read this, we'll be looking ahead to the State Conference and Competitions at George Mason University, October 26–28, 2017. A big shout-out to Elizabeth Caluda who is working hard on preparations. I hope to see you all there, whether you decide to attend the competitions or the workshops given by our guest artist, Ingrid Clarfield. This promises to be a fun and informative conference.

Another event coming up, which only happens once every 9 years; Virginia is hosting the Southern Division Competitions at Liberty University in Lynchburg, VA, January 13–15, 2018. We welcome you to attend and even serve as a room monitor if you'd like. Let's do Virginia proud and show the other Southern Division states our best.

Have you seen the new MTNA website? I've been exploring it the last couple of days and I encourage you to do so also. The website is easier to navigate and has many resources for teachers and students. You'll find many perks of membership on this website. Be sure to read the eJournal that will spark your creativity and help you in your teaching.

One more thing before I go—would you consider volunteering with VMTA? It would be a great way to give back to this great organization.

Musically yours,

Susan Atkins, NCTM
President, VMTA ■

FALL 2017 CONFERENCE AND COMPETITIONS SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE...

Beth Caluda, President-Elect

“Something for Everyone...” is the focus of this year's VMTA Fall 2017 Conference and Competitions to be held Oct 26–28, 2017 (Thursday through Saturday) on the campus of George Mason University in Fairfax, VA.

You spoke and we listened! **Ingrid Clarfield** is our Conference Artist. The Opening Session on Friday morning features the movie *Take a Bow*, which chronicles her life story as a musician, how she overcame paralysis, and how she continues to thrive in her career. In addition, she will be presenting a pedagogy session (*The Road to Chopin*) Friday afternoon, a masterclass with students of various ages and abilities on Saturday morning, and a showcase of her publications with Alfred Music on Saturday afternoon. Alfred Music has graciously agreed to fund that showcase in part.

Other suggestions from last year's conference evaluation have been implemented as well, including a less crowded schedule and ending the conference late Saturday afternoon to allow those of us who are Church Musicians to return home in time for Sunday morning services.

The complete conference schedule can be found on virginiامتa.org. Inevitably, the schedule is subject to change. Updates will be sent via periodic emails or visit the VMTA website listed above.

I look forward to seeing you in October at George Mason University. Please e-mail me with any questions or clarifications at the contact info below.

Virginia Music Teachers Association
c/o Elizabeth Caluda
139 Bell Haven Circle
Stephens City, VA 22655
ecaluda@su.edu
■



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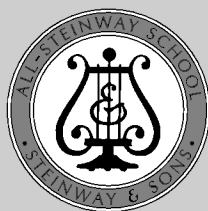


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UNIVERSITY
Shenandoah Conservatory



SHENANDOAH CONSERVATORY

- Learn from internationally accomplished faculty in a creative and supportive artistic community
- Experience a vibrant performance culture rich with concerts and recitals, including our highly acclaimed World of the Piano concert series
- Participate in masterclasses with visiting artists
- Prepare for a meaningful and satisfying career
- Keyboard Faculty: Ieva Jokubaviciute, John O’Conor, Karen Walker, and Thomas Mitts



For More Information Contact (540) 665-4581
admit@su.edu
su.edu/VMTA

2017 Conference: Something for Everyone...

CONFERENCE FEES

VMTA Members

Early Bird registration (deadline **Sept. 30, 2017, 11:59 PM**)—\$80.00
Registration after September 30, 2017—\$100.00
Daily registration—\$30.00

Non-members

Early Bird registration (deadline **Sept. 30, 2017, 11:59 PM**)—\$100.00
Registration after September 30, 2017—\$125.00
Daily registration—\$45.00
Individual Workshops for non-members—\$15.00 per workshop
Concert tickets for non-members—\$15 per person per concert

Full Registration Includes:

- all workshops
- one (1) ticket to the Concerto Winners' Concert Friday night (additional tickets are available for \$15 each)
- the Commissioned Composer concert (Sat, Oct 28, 4:00 PM)
- hospitality table throughout the day
- post-concert nightcaps on Friday night (one (1) complimentary drink, then cash bar)

Daily Registration Includes:

- All daily activities
- Hospitality table

To register online and pay via check or PayPal, go to:
www.virginiamta.org.

HOTELS

Hampton by Hilton Fairfax City

10860 Fairfax Boulevard
Fairfax VA 22030
(703) 385-2600

- 15 rooms
- 2 double beds
- \$ 139.00 per room per night plus 12% tax Thursday night
- \$ 99.00 per room per night plus 12% tax Friday night
- Included: complimentary breakfast, complimentary high-speed internet access, free parking, free local calls, fitness center, and a business center open 24 hours. All rooms are equipped with microwaves and refrigerators, iron and ironing board, coffee maker, hairdryers, and security safes.
- Cut-off date: **October 12, 2017**

Call the Hampton Inn at (703) 385-2600, option 2, on or before **Thursday, October 12, 2017** to make a room reservation. Identify yourself as part of the Virginia Music Teachers Group (Group Code – VMT). All reservations must be guaranteed with a major credit card. The hotel will not hold any reservations unless secured by a credit card.

You can also reserve a room online. Go to fairfaxcity.hamptoninn.com, then:

- Select the dates
- Select number of rooms
- Select number of guests
- Go to Special rates
- Enter **Group Code** (NOT "Promotional Code"): VMT

The rooms for the group will automatically display and you can reserve right away. The link works well. **Be sure to enter VMT in the Group Code box, not the Promotional Code box.**

Reservations for all guests must be received on or before **Thursday, October 12, 2017**. After October 12, 2017, the hotel will release any unreserved rooms for general sale. At the hotel's discretion, reservations may be accepted at the Virginia Music Teachers group rate on a **space and rate available basis**.

Courtyard Fairfax Fair Oaks

11220 Lee Jackson Memorial Highway (Rte. 50)
Fairfax, VA 22030
(703) 273-6161

- 40 Rooms
- King with fold-out sofa
- \$109.00 per room per night plus 12% tax
- Included: free high-speed internet, free parking, fitness center, bistro. All rooms are equipped with mini-refrigerators
- Cut-off date: **October 5, 2017**

Call Marriott Reservations at 1 (800) 321-2211 or (703) 273-6161 on or before **Thursday, October 5, 2017** to make room reservations. Identify yourself as part of the Virginia Music Teachers Association Fall 2017 Conference and Competitions Room Block group. All reservations must be guaranteed with a major credit card. The hotel will not hold any reservations unless secured by a credit card.

You can also use the following link to make your reservation:

http://www.marriott.com/meeting-event-hotels/group-corporate-travel/groupCorp.mi?resLinkData=Virginia%20Music%20Teachers%20Association%20%5Eiadfo%60vmtvmta%7Cvmtvmtb%60109.00%60USD%60false%604%6010/26/17%6010/28/17%6010/5/17&app=resvlink&st_top_mobi=yes

This link works well.

Reservations for all guests must be received on or before Thursday, October 5, 2017. After October 5, 2017, the hotel will release any unreserved rooms for general sale. At the hotel's discretion, reservations may be accepted at the Virginia Music Teachers Association Fall 2017 Conference and Competitions Room Block's group rate on a **space and rate available basis**.

DIRECTIONS TO GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY

Go to www.gmu.edu

- In the Search box, type in "Directions to GMU"
- Click on "Campus Maps and Directions"
- On the banner at the top, click on "Fairfax" (you can also find "Maps" from that same banner—choose "Fairfax" from the drop down menu)
- Choose from the drop-down menu

Parking is available in a parking ramp next to the deLaski building. Rates are per hour with a maximum rate of \$15.00 per day. For those of you who have electric cars, there are charging stations in the parking ramp (just sayin').

(continued on page 5)

Certification Profile: Holly Rodgers, NCTM

by Anne James, NCTM



Becoming certified in two different instruments means almost twice the work, Holly Rodgers learned when she applied for certification in both piano and flute. The best way to tackle it, she found, was to do the same project for both instruments before turning to the other projects. The musical analysis took the longest, partly because it involved the most writing. When it came time to record the video she used one student for both piano and flute.

As a public school ESL teacher who also teaches private piano and flute lessons, her time was in short supply. Rodgers multitasked when possible—taking her projects with her and making use of down time. When it looked like time was running out she paid for an extension that enabled her to complete her application in 2015. “One reason I decided to become certified was that having credentials really distinguishes you as a teacher.”

A self-styled “military brat,” Holly Rodgers grew up in various localities but attended the same elementary school in Burke where she is now an ESL teacher. After graduating from Lake Braddock High School she earned a bachelor’s degree in music education at LSU with piano her major instrument and flute her secondary. She took a job for two years as a band director in Texas, which has some of the best band programs in the country. For example, the school where she taught was in a poor neighborhood but had two band halls.

When Rodgers decided to seek a school job in Virginia, it turned out to include work with a high school marching band plus class piano plus English as a second language. As the year went by she found the part she enjoyed the most was ESL, so she enrolled in master’s work in multilingual/multicultural education, first at the University of Mary Washington and later at George Mason University. She is now licensed to teach Music, ESL and English Literature from pre-kindergarten through high school.

Currently two-thirds of Rodgers’ music students are pianists and one-third flutists. They range from age seven to a senior who recently played her senior recital on piano, flute and cello. Rodgers herself “experiments” with cello and accompanied her student. As she notes, to receive her degree she had to be conversant with all the instruments.

“I am looking for students who are going to be music lovers for life, regardless of whether they do it for a profession. I want my students to enjoy what they play. I expose them to a wide range of music so they are well rounded. I try to make them happy so they are motivated to practice. I use analogies to help the students have a personal connection with what they are playing. With my horseback-riding student, for instance, I use riding analogies.”

A member of the Springfield Music Club (NFMC) and MTNA, Holly Rodgers enters students in the Springfield Club’s Sonata Festival and Jazz Festival in addition to the Federation’s Junior Festival and National Guild of Piano Teachers auditions. ■

CERTIFICATION

Diane Beyer Perett, PhD, NCTM
dbperett@gmail.com
VMTA Certification Chairperson

What a good time it is now to pursue national certification, just as school is getting underway and you are organizing your studio and implementing teaching goals for the coming year! I hope many of you independent teachers or college faculty, who are not yet certified, will decide this is the time to get started.

There are no tests to take.

And VMTA offers a \$100 rebate of the application fee to any Virginia teacher who achieves certification.

The letters NCTM show the world outside VMTA that we music teachers are professionals, just as doctors and lawyers are professionals—that we aspire to and maintain high standards for ourselves in our teaching and that we are committed to lifelong learning. Completing the process of national certification leads even the best of teachers to a higher level of excellence. Don’t we owe our students that excellence?

Please read the certification information on the MTNA website, as well as the articles about certification in each issue of the *AMT*.

College faculty members, submit your application to MTNA now, in order to receive the administrative verification form to be completed by your dean or supervisor.

Independent teachers, start work on one of the required teacher profile projects now, and submit your application either now or partway into the process, if you feel you may not be able to finish the five projects within a year. All but one of the projects can be completed before you ever officially submit your application for certification to MTNA, and that can buy busy teachers a little extra time.

Your local certification chair and I are happy to answer your questions, find mentors, and form study groups to help you earn your national certification.

Please let one of us know if you are interested. ■



2017 Conference: Something for Everyone...

PRELIMINARY COMPETITION SCHEDULE

THURSDAY, OCT 26 — HARRIS THEATRE

MTNA Junior Woodwinds Competition
MTNA Senior Woodwinds Competition
MTNA Young Artist Woodwind Competition
MTNA Chamber Music Competition (Woodwinds)

FRIDAY, OCT 27 — HARRIS THEATRE

MTNA Junior Piano Competition
MTNA Young Artist Piano Competition

FRIDAY, OCT 27 — MUSIC AND THEATRE BUILDING

MTNA Junior Strings Competition
MTNA Senior Strings Competition
MTNA Young Artist Strings Competition
MTNA Young Artist Chamber Music Competition (Strings)

SATURDAY, OCT 28 — CHORAL ROOM

MTNA Senior Piano Competition
MTNA Senior Piano Duet Competition

SATURDAY, OCT 28 — MUSIC AND THEATRE BUILDING

Virginia State Auditions

PRELIMINARY CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

Competition Information (including Winners' Recital) in red.

THURSDAY, OCT 26

8:00 AM – 6:00 PM (Harris Theatre)
– MTNA JR/SR/YA Woodwinds Competitions
– MTNA Chamber Music Competition (Winds)

10:00 AM – 3:00 PM—VMTA Leadership Summit (Johnson Student Center)

4:00 PM—VMTA Executive Committee meeting and dinner (Johnson Student Center)

FRIDAY, OCT 27

8:00 AM – 5:00 PM—Exhibitors set-up (deLaski lobby)

8:00 AM – 6:00 PM (Harris Theatre)
– MTNA JR/YA Piano Competitions

8:00 AM – 6:00 PM (Music and Theatre Building 2018)
– MTNA JR/SR/YA String Competitions

8:00 AM – 6:00 PM (Music and Theatre Building 2030)
– MTNA YA Chamber Music Competition—Strings

9:00 AM – 9:30 AM—Coffee, Tea, and Catch-up (deLaski 3001)

9:30 AM – 10:30 AM—**Opening Session**—*Take a Bow: The Ingrid Clarfield Story* (deLaski 3001)

10:30 AM – 10:45 AM—Break

10:45 AM – 11:45 AM— **Linda Monson: Joyful Anticipation!** – *Overcoming Stage Fright* (deLaski 3001)

11:45 PM – 1:30 PM— IMTF Meeting, Gabriella Ryan, presiding (Johnson Student Center) or Lunch on your own

1:30 PM – 3:00 PM—**Ingrid Clarfield: The Road to Chopin**
Your student is dying to play the Minute Waltz, but they're still in Book 3 of their method book! How do you get them there? In this ses-

sion, teachers will discover repertoire that will prepare students for the technical and musical challenges they will encounter in their first Chopin pieces (deLaski 3001)

3:00 PM – 3:15 PM— Break

3:15 PM – 4:15 PM—**Richard Masters** – *Baroque Brits: A Bridge to Bach* (deLaski 3001)

4:15 PM – 4:30 PM—Break

4:30 PM – 5:30 PM—**Paulo Steinberg: Brazilian Music: Dance, Choro, and Song (deLaski 3001)**

5:30 PM – 8:00 PM—Dinner on your own

8:00 PM – 10:00 PM—**Concerto Winners' Concert** (Harris Theatre)

10:00 PM – 11:00 PM—Post-concert Nightcaps

SATURDAY, OCT 28

8:00 AM– 4:00 PM—Exhibitors (deLaski lobby)

8:00 AM – 4:00 PM—VMTA State Auditions (Music and Theatre Building 2018)

8:00 AM – 4:00 PM—MTNA SR Piano Competitions (deLaski Choral Room)

8:00 AM – 4:00 PM—MTNA SR Piano Duet Competition (deLaski Choral Room)

8:30 AM – 9:45 AM—VMTA Business meeting (Music and Theatre Building 1023)

10:00 AM – 12:00 PM—**Ingrid Clarfield: Masterclass** (deLaski 3001)

12:00 PM – 1:30 PM
– Certification Roundtable Lunch
– Collegiate Chapter Lunch (Johnson Student Center) or
– Lunch on your own

1:30 PM – 2:30 PM—**Ingrid Clarfield: Alfred Showcase**
Classics for the Developing Pianist: Core Repertoire for Study and Performance and the just-released Study Guide, sponsored by Alfred Music Company (deLaski 3001)

2:30 PM – 2:45 PM—Break

2:45 PM – 3:45 PM—**Elizabeth Blades: Let the Ease Be With You – Taming Tension and Performance Anxiety with the Feldenkrais Method** (deLaski 3001)

3:45 PM – 4:00 PM—Break

4:00 PM – 4:45 PM— **John Winsor: Commissioned Composition Presentation and Performance** (deLaski 3001)

5:00 PM – 6:00 PM—**Winners' Recital** (Harris Theatre)

6:00 PM—End of Conference ■

VMTA FALL FESTIVALS

Debbie Sacra, Fall Festival Coordinator



It's time again for the Fall Festival! Encouraging your students to participate is a great way to get them off to a fast start this fall.

In Richmond, the Festival will take place Saturday, November 4, 2017.

Northern Virginia's date is set as Saturday, November 11, 2017. In Roanoke, the Festival will be Saturday, November 18, 2017. The Winchester (Shenandoah) Fall Festival is still to be arranged.

See below for the registration deadline and chairman for each location in addition to exact Festival location. No late applications will be accepted.

You may enter students in piano, piano duet, organ, strings, woodwinds, brass, percussion, classical guitar, accordion, or voice. Students must play one piece from the Contemporary Period containing at least one contemporary idiom. The second piece must be chosen from any historical period other than the Contemporary Period. In certain localities, pieces that are traditionally composed (perhaps from a method book) are accepted for the non-Contemporary piece, but only for beginning students. Please check with your local Fall Festival Chairman concerning this. Both pieces must be memorized. There are only two exceptions to this rule: 1) students in Levels III or IV who play an avant garde piece may use their music if this has been cleared by the local chairman prior to the registration deadline or 2) entries in piano duet or organ. No photocopied music is allowed. Only originally composed music is accepted, no simplifications or popular music.

Check the VMTA Yearbook under "General Regulations for All VMTA Events" and "VMTA Fall Festivals," for further information and regulations. Also check page 3 of the VMTA Yearbook for the contact information of each chairman.

Festivals will be held in the following locations with these registration deadlines and local chairmen:

Northern Virginia: October 5; Jan Bode, Virginia Moore, & Lori Santos, Chairmen; held at Cherrydale United Methodist Church, 3701 Lorcom Lane, Arlington, VA 22207.

Richmond: October 9; Savannah Hatcher & Ellis Dunton, Chairmen; held at St. Catherine's School, 6001 Grove Ave., Richmond, VA 23226.

Roanoke: October 13; Bittsy Hall & Julie Atkins, Chairmen; held at Hollins University, Roanoke.

Winchester (Shenandoah): TBA; Beth Caluda, Chairman; held at Shenandoah University.

Thanks for your participation!. ■



24th Annual GALBRAITH WORKSHOPS WITH JENNIFER EKLUND

March 9, 2018 | 10 a.m. | Talmadge Recital Hall

Eklund, an avid composer and arranger who focuses on writing music that connects with today's students and aids teachers in keeping their studios thriving, is the author of the *Piano Pronto* method book series and owner of Piano Pronto Publishing.

Jennifer holds a B.A. in music and an M.A. in musicology.

SESSIONS

Are you ready for progress? *How Piano Pronto can help you grow your studio.*

Are you maximizing your days? *Strategies for effectively teaching preschoolers, teens, and adults.*

Composition Corner. *How to set yourself apart by adding composition to your teaching toolbox.*

Evening recital by students performing Eklund's compositions and a student composition master class.

Free and open to the public. Preregistration is recommended.

REGISTER BY MARCH 2: brownpapertickets.com/event/3033451

Lunch is provided for attendees that have preregistered.

HOLLINS
UNIVERSITY



For more information: 540-362-6511 or www.hollins.edu

Reports

2017 NORTHERN DISTRICT AUDITION COMPETITION RESULTS

Saturday, June 3, 2017
George Mason Univeristy
Music Theater Building
4400 University Drive
Fairfax, VA 22030

81 students registered
78 students participated
3 students withdrew

Level IA	Student	Teacher
1st Place	Ella Kim	Marjorie Lee
1st Place Alternate	Jessica Chen	Lisa Sarratt
2nd Place	Kalan Warusa	Marjorie Lee
3rd Place	Olivia Wu	Oxana Titova
Honorable Mention	Robert Goodner	Rosita Mang
Honorable Mention	Davanee Li	Marjorie Lee
Honorable Mention	Sophia Liu	Jun Yang

Level IB	Student	Teacher
1st Place	Anna Bray	Marjorie Lee
1st Place Alternate	Arthur Ding	Marjorie Lee
2nd Place	Aaron Liu	Jun Yang
3rd Place	Jacqui Go	Silva Blazquez
Honorable Mention	Jessica Wang	Marjorie Lee
Honorable Mention	Kathleen Wang	Margarita Gramaticova
Honorable Mention	Tianna Wang	Oxana Titova

Level II	Student	Teacher
1st Place	Tan Nguyen	Lisa Sarratt
1st Place Alternate	Adrian Cheung	Oxana Titova
2nd Place	Nicole Papenfuss	Silva Blazquez
3rd Place	Joanna Cheng	Marjorie Lee
Honorable Mention	Lauren Elizabeth Kim	Lisa Sarratt
Honorable Mention	Qi Wei Chen	Lisa Sarratt
Honorable Mention	Andrew Zhang	Marjorie Lee

Level III	Student	Teacher
1st Place	Christopher Papenfuss	James Litzelman
1st Place Alternate	Austin Huang	Jun Yang
2nd Place	Evan Hu	Marjorie Lee
3rd Place	Ashley Lee	Marjorie Lee
Honorable Mention	Lynne Bai	Marjorie Lee
Honorable Mention	Jenny Tan	Jun Yang
Honorable Mention	Jialin Tso	Lisa Sarratt

Judges		
Levels IA and IB	Hsiu-Hui Wang	David Holmes
Level II	Julee An	Martin Labazevitch
Level III	Mayron Tsong	Gabriel Dobner

Lori Santos, chairman
Aphrodite Mitsopoulou, co-chairman ■

Virginia Music Teachers Association

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