

## MARCH 2011 GENERAL MEETING

Please join us this Friday, March 4th, at 9:30 a.m. for our monthly meeting at Timber Ridge Presbyterian Church. That date is the deadline for a number of our end-of-year events, including CMTA Member of the Year Nominations, Officer Nominations, and entries for the Betty Clappitt Contest and the Cash Award Contest. Please note that the Playathon entry date has changed to April 15th.



We have a fascinating program scheduled for this month given by Barbie Butler: a workshop on "Sound Healing." Studies have shown that sound can heal us at the cellular level. We know that the cells of our body are in constant motion and when they become out of balance, illness occurs. By using the right vibrations, the cells can entrain with those vibrations and be tuned and restored to their normal, natural state.

In the workshop, Barbie will give us some history and information on the subject, and then we will actually do some toning to experiment with sound. Finally, Barbie will play a crystal bowl so that we may experience that sound.

## MEMBER BIO

Barbie Butler, a member of our CMTA, is a piano instructor at Lone Star College in Kingwood, pianist in the Kingwood Pops Orchestra, pianist for the Unity Church in the Woodlands, and plays for Terrace Assisted Living of Kingwood.

She holds a Bachelor of Music Degree from LSU and Master of Music from University of Illinois. Barbie is a Certified Music Practitioner through the Music Healing and Transition Program.

After taking a 4 week intensive study last summer, Barbie became certified by the San Francisco Sound Healing Institute.

## CMTA MEMBER-OF-THE-YEAR

Submissions of nominations for the CMTA Member-of-the-Year will be taken at the CMTA General Meeting on March 4th. Submissions may also be made directly to Alecia Russell at [russels@consolidated.net](mailto:russels@consolidated.net). The purpose of the award is to honor those who serve CMTA and the local community through music.

Some suggested criteria for these nominations might be

- Office held in CMTA
- Committees served in CMTA and local events

worked at for CMTA

- Any other special services rendered to CMTA
- Judging CMTA or other musical events
- Public performance
- Public service in a music field
- Presentation of seminars or workshops for area teachers and/or associations

Please see the CMTA 2010-2011 yearbook, page 50 for more details.

## UPCOMING EVENTS AND DEADLINES

### Mar. 4 - General Meeting at TRPC

Entries due for

- Clampitt Contestl
- Cash Award Contest
- Member-of-Year Nominations
- 2012 Officer Nominations

### Mar. 6 - Performance Contest Winners Recital

### Mar. 26 - CMTA Spring Festival

### Mar. 31 - World of Music Test

### Apr. 1 - General Meeting at TRPC

- Officer Elections
- Senior Award Applications due

- Senior Scholarship Applications due
- Member of Year vote

### Apr. 3 - Cash Award Contest

### Apr. 9 - Clampitt Contest & Winners Recital

### Apr. 15

- TMTA All-Star Festival
- Playathon Entries due

### Apr. 30 - Playathon

- Collins/Kypke Camp Scholarship entries due

## PERFORMANCE CONTEST WINNERS RECITAL

All teachers, students, and families are invited to the CMTA Performance Contest Winners Recital at 4:00 PM this Sunday, March 6th, at Sherman Clay PianoMax, 7530 FM 1960 West in Houston.

Teachers, come out and support these students who will be playing to show appreciation for their hard work. Special thanks to Minnie Mosley for hosting the recital at her store.

## SUMMER MUSIC CAMPS

Here is a link for all summer music camps at Baylor University:  
<http://www.baylor.edu/busmc/>

**Metro MINI STORAGE**  
The right SIZE...The right PRICE

We Test  
Punch  
Trucks!

*It's all about **your** stuff!*  
That's why choosing Metro Mini Storage is *right* for you!

We gratefully acknowledge Metro Mini Storage on FM1488  
for their  
support of Musical Study and the work of Conroe Music Teachers Association.

3750 FM 1488      936-321-8200

**Metro MINI STORAGE**  
The right SIZE...The right PRICE

We Accept  
Visa    Discover    American Express    Mastercard



**Conroe Music Teachers Association General Meeting  
Friday, March 4, 2011 - 9:30 a.m.  
Timber Ridge Presbyterian Church  
7575 Alden Bridge Drive, The Woodlands**



**Call to Order**  
**Minutes from January 7, 2011 General Meeting** (Feb. 2010 mtg. canceled due to inclement weather)

**Reports**

- Officer Reports
- Event Reports
  - World of Music - Sharon Callahan
  - Theory - Mary Loy
  - Performance Contest - Doris Lum-Meyer
  - Spring Festival - Luanne Johns, NCTM; Mary Loy
  - Betty Clappitt Piano Contest - Shirley Cheung; Kristy Cox
  - Playathon - Holley King
  - Cash Award Contest - Don Harris
  - Chamber Music - Sheryl Speelman
  - Ensembles - Gena Hughey
  - End of Year Dinner - Polly Beaver

**New Business**

- Officer Nominations
- Member of the Year Nominations - Alecia Russell
- Texas Teaching Fellow Donations due to Becky Landreth by April 1
- TMTA Teacher Recognition Awards - discussion and vote
- TMTEF Donations

**Adjournment of Business Meeting and Door Prize Drawing**

*(Eligibility for door prize – CMTA members present at 9:30 and adjournment)*

**Program -- “Sound Healing” Workshop by Barbie Butler**

**March Dates to Remember**

- 4 (TODAY) Betty Clappitt Piano Contest Entries due to Shirley Cheung  
Cash Award Contest Entries due to Don Harris
- 6 TMTA/CMTA Performance Contest Local Winners Recital at Sherman Clay Piano/Max
- 26 CMTA Spring Festival
- 31 TMTA/CMTA World of Music Test

**April Dates to Remember**

- 1 General Meeting - 9:30 a.m. Timber Ridge Presbyterian Church  
CMTA Senior Award Applications due to Gena Huey  
CMTA Senior Scholarship for Continuing Studies in Music Applications due to G Hughey  
CMTA Officer Elections for 2009-2010  
Vote for CMTA 2009-2010 Member of the Year
- 3 Cmta Cash Award Contest
- 9 CMTA BETTY Clappitt Piano Contest and Recital
- 10 Legacy Concerto Concert
- 15 TMTA All-Star Festival, Keyboard Orchestra Reading Session, June Leondar Chamber  
Music/ Ensemble Music Entries to state chairmen
- 30 CMTA Playathon  
Camp Scholarship Applications Due to S. Teed, Senior Awards Due to State Coordinator



MUSIC TEACHERS NATIONAL ASSOCIATION

One of the highest privileges of MTNA membership is the opportunity to personally vote for your Board of Directors.

The Board is responsible for governance and oversees the organization on your behalf. It is an important right and one you should take advantage of.

This email is to remind you to exercise this privilege and vote. A slate of candidates and their biographies are found online at <http://www.mtna.org/AboutMTNA/NationalElections/tabid/634/Default.aspx> and on pages 50-52 of the February/March 2011 American Music Teacher magazine. Ballots must arrive at MTNA national headquarter by 12:00 midnight EDT March 4, 2011.

If you have not voted, there are several ways to cast your ballot and you will need your member number: 816751 to do so.

To vote electronically: Click here: <https://members.mtna.org/NationalElections/login.asp> or go to the MTNA website at [www.mtna.org](http://www.mtna.org), click on "National Elections" and follow the instructions OR send an e-mail to [mtna@mtna.org](mailto:mtna@mtna.org) containing your name, state, and the name of the candidates you are voting for.

To vote via mail: Detach the ballot found on page 53 of the February/March 2011 American Music Teacher magazine OR download a PDF version

of the ballot from the MTNA website at [www.mtna.org](http://www.mtna.org) by clicking on "National Elections" THEN complete the ballot and affix a first-class stamp and mail.

To vote via fax: Detach the ballot found on page 53 of the February/March 2011 American Music Teacher magazine OR download a PDF version of the ballot from the MTNA website at [www.mtna.org](http://www.mtna.org) by clicking on "National Elections." THEN complete the ballot and fax to MTNA national headquarters at (513) 421-2503. No mailing required

Don't miss this important opportunity to have a voice in your professional association!

## PLAYATHON

Please make note of the new deadline for entries for Playathon, which is now April 15th.

## ADDRESS CHANGE

Polly Beaver has moved. Her new address is 59 Barley Hall St, The Woodlands, TX 77382. Her phone number is still the same 713 855 2226. Please update your yearbooks.

## CASH AWARD COMPETITION

The following two pages hold all the relevant information for the upcoming Cash Award Competition from the event chairman, Don Harris. Please read and follow all instructions for participating in this great event.



*March Meeting Day is the  
Deadline for CMTA April  
Piano Competitions!!*



**NOTICE**

The Cash Award Application Form is on NEXT PAGE.

Please print out, one form per entry and mail completed forms to chairman Don Harris by the March 4<sup>th</sup> deadline. (Entries may also be turned in at March Meeting.)

**CMTA Cash Award Piano Competition**

**Sunday, April 3, 2011**

**Deadline for entries is March 4<sup>th</sup> !!**  
(Entries must be in hands of Chairman by this date!)

**Betty Clampitt Piano Contest**

**Saturday, April 9, 2011**

**Deadline for entries is March 4<sup>th</sup> !!**  
(Entries must be in hands of Chairman by this date!)



**CMTA is very proud of all students and teachers who are busy preparing for these exciting and challenging events!**



# CMTA Cash Award Piano Contest Application Form (2010-2011)

(Deadline for entries: Mar. 4<sup>th</sup> – Date of Event: Sunday, Apr. 3<sup>rd</sup>)

## Important Instructions to Teachers

Please thoroughly acquaint yourselves with all the main specifics related to the event before enrolling students.  
(The Event Description Sheet may be found on page 33 of the present CMTA Yearbook.)

This will be the 4<sup>th</sup> year for this very exciting event, and we are sincerely hoping you will enter as many students as you can. However, since it is a relatively new event (and somewhat broad in scope), we will all need to be very cautious in following contest rules as a safeguard in preventing any type disqualification for any one of our ambitious and hard-working young musicians. **(It is especially imperative to read all items listed under “Repertoire and Requirements” on the Event Description Sheet!!)**

Please print out a copy of this Application Form for each entry, fill in the appropriate information, and either mail it back to chairman with appropriate fees ((\$30/entry) by the deadline (March 4<sup>th</sup>)—OR turn the forms and fees in at the CMTA March Meeting. **(Mailed forms and entry fees should be sent to Don H. Harris, 3218 Forest Glen St., Spring, TX 77380) (One check to cover all students in class should be written to CMTA!)**

### STUDENT INFORMATION

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ email \_\_\_\_\_

School grade \_\_\_\_\_ Length of study \_\_\_\_\_

Scalés and cadences for three different keys must be performed. See Description Sheet for specifics.

**Theory Test Taken:** Level \_\_\_\_ Fall \_\_\_\_ Spring \_\_\_\_ Score \_\_\_\_\_

**Performance Selection # 1** \_\_\_\_\_

(include movement and opus number if applicable)

Composer \_\_\_\_\_

Performance time \_\_\_\_\_ Key of scale and cadence to be performed: \_\_\_\_\_

**Performance Selection # 2** \_\_\_\_\_

(include movement and opus number if applicable)

Composer \_\_\_\_\_

Performance time \_\_\_\_\_ Key of scale and cadence to be performed: \_\_\_\_\_

**Performance Selection # 3** \_\_\_\_\_

(include movement and opus number if applicable)

Composer \_\_\_\_\_

Performance time \_\_\_\_\_ Key of scale and cadence to be performed: \_\_\_\_\_

### TEACHER INFORMATION

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ email \_\_\_\_\_

## MAKE-UP LESSONS

Sharon Callahan found the following article while looking through Diane Delk's papers. It is a fabulous article worth sharing with the parents of our students!

### Make-up Music Lessons from an Economist's Point of View

By Vicky Barham, Ph. D.

I'm a parent of children enrolled in Suzuki music lessons. I'd like to explain to other parents why I feel - quite strongly, actually - that it is unreasonable of we parents to expect our teachers to make up lessons we miss, even if I know as well as they do just how expensive lessons are, and, equally importantly, how important that weekly contact is with the teacher to keeping practising ticking along smoothly. I think that it is natural for we parents to share the point of view that students should have their missed lessons rescheduled, but if we were to 'walk a mile' in our teachers' shoes, we might change our minds about what it is reasonable for us to expect of our teachers.

Like many parents, I pay in advance for lessons each term. In my mind, what this means is that I have reserved a regular spot in the busy schedules of my sons' teachers. I understand - fully - that if I can't make it to the lesson one week (perhaps my son is sick, or we are away on holiday, or there is some other major event at school) then we will pay for the lesson, but that my teacher is under no obligation to find another spot for me that week, or to refund me for the untaught lesson. And this is the way it should be.

In my 'other life' I am an economist and teach at our local university. Students pay good money to attend classes at the university; but if they don't come to my lecture on a Monday morning, then I am not going to turn around and deliver them a private tutorial on Tuesday afternoon. When I go to the store and buy groceries, I may purchase something that doesn't get used. Days or months later, I end up throwing it out. I don't get a refund from

the grocery store for the unused merchandise. If I sign my child up for swimming lessons at the local pool, and s/he refuses to return after the first lesson, I can't get my money back. So there are lots of situations in our everyday lives where we regularly pay in advance for goods or some service, and if we end up not using what we have purchased, we have to just 'swallow our losses'. On the other hand, if I purchase an item of clothing, and get home and change my mind, I can take it back and expect either a refund or a store credit.

So why do I believe that music lessons fall into the first category of 'non-returnable merchandise', rather than into the second case of 'exchange privileges unlimited' (which I think is one of the advertising slogans of an established women's clothing store!)? Speaking now as an economist, I would claim that the reason is that items like clothing are "durable goods" - meaning, they can be returned and then resold at the original price - whereas music lessons are non-durable goods - meaning, once my Monday slot at 3:30 is gone, my son's teacher can't turn around and sell it again. The only way she would be able to give him a lesson later in the week would be if she were to give up time that she had scheduled for her own private life; and that seems pretty unreasonable - I can't think of many employees who would be thrilled if their bosses were to announce that they couldn't work from 3:30 to 4:30 this afternoon, but would they please stay until 6:30 on Thursday, because there will be work for them then!

Many teachers hesitate to refuse our request to shift lesson times (because our busy

schedules \*do\* change), because unless they keep us parents happy, we will decide to take our child somewhere else for lessons (or to drop musical study), and they will lose part of their income. This is particularly true in areas with lower average income, where it can be particularly difficult to find students. So rather than telling us that 'well, actually, the only time when I'm not teaching and that you can bring your son for lesson is during the time I set aside each week to go for a long soul-cleansing walk, and I \*can't\* do that on Monday at 3:30 when you should have turned up', they agree to teach us at a time that really doesn't suit their schedule. Teachers who are 'nice' in this way often, in the long run, end up exhausted, and feeling exploited; they try to draw a line in the sand.

However, too few parents ask to switch only when absolutely necessary, and too many parents want lesson times when it suits them this week, which is not the same time that suited last week. The only time that I would feel entitled to discuss shifting a lesson time is if the reason I can't make the lesson is because (i) I have to do something for the Suzuki school and the only time at which that other event can happen is during my lesson time; (ii) my teacher were to ask us to participate in some other activity (e.g., orchestra, etc.) and that other activity were to create the conflict. If the conflict arises because my child is in the School play, and they have their dress-rehearsal during his lesson time, then I feel that I must choose between the two activities, and if he attends the dress rehearsal my private lesson teacher doesn't owe me anything.

During May, my eldest son will be missing three lessons because he is going to accompany

me on a trip to New Zealand to visit his great-grandparents. I do not expect my son's teacher to refund me for those missed lessons, or to reschedule them by 'doubling up' lessons in the weeks before or after our departure. Since there will be lots of advanced notice, I might ask her to consider preparing a special 'practice tape' for that period, or to answer my questions via e-mail, but if she doesn't have the time (the second half of April is going to be really busy for her, and she wouldn't be able to do the tape until more or less the week we left) and so has to refuse, then that's fine. I certainly don't expect her to credit me with three make-up lessons; there is no way for her to find a student to fill a three-week hole in her schedule during our absence. Instead, I hope that she will enjoy the extra hour of rest during those three weeks, and that we will all feel renewed enthusiasm when we return to lessons at the end of the trip.

Article Copyright © 2001 Vicky Barham

*Vicky Barham, Ph. D., is the mother of two children who are enrolled in Suzuki music lessons in Canada. She also teaches Economics at the University of Ottawa. The TMTA webmasters became acquainted with Dr. Barham through the Internet and were so impressed with her sound and logical expressions about music teaching that we asked permission to publish her ideas for all to share. Her ideas are expressed in two articles on this website. The article on make-up lessons may be printed and distributed to others as long as you do not charge any fee for the article and as long as you give Dr. Barham credit for the article. Thank you to Dr. Barham for so generously sharing her expertise with us.*