



Conroe Music Teachers Association Newsletter

April 2006

Dates to Note

Sun., April 9	Musicianship Olympics
Fri., April 21	General Meeting 11 a.m.
Sat., April 22	Betty Clappitt Piano Contest 7 p.m. Recital
Friday, April 14	DEADLINES: CMTA Senior Awards Entries TMTA Senior Award Entries Summer Camp Scholarship Entries
Sat., April 29	CMTA Play-a-thon MC Young Artists Contest
May 30-June 3	Ensemble Rehearsals
Tues., June 6	Honors Concert
June 9-11	TMTA Convention

GOT OPENINGS?????????????

Dianne Kaldor needs to hear from you!!!

If you currently have openings or are anticipating having some openings in your teaching schedule for taking additional students next fall, contact Dianne now. She also needs to know if you DON'T have openings as well.

General Meeting

CMTA GENERAL MEETING FRIDAY, APRIL 21st

11:00 am

Woodlands Public Library

Some of the items on the Agenda are:

- Voting for Member of the Year
- Nominations and Voting for 2006-2007 Executive Board Positions
- Bylaw Revision Proposal
- Details and reservations for May Dinner

In order for CMTA to conduct business at the general meeting, we must have a quorum. Please plan to attend this VERY important meeting, beginning at 11 a.m. Be there to cast your vote!

Reminder: ONLY 2 CMTA General Meetings remain for 2005-2006. All requests for exemptions must be mailed/emailed to Doris Lum, President, during April for consideration at the May Executive Board Meeting.

How about a nice catered dinner and beautiful music for about \$20?

The May meeting of CMTA will feature performance contest winners performing for us, and a lovely catered dinner to enjoy. You may bring guests for the same low price per person. Exact price, time, place and other details will be announced at the April meeting. Reservations will be taken at the meeting or by emailing Doris Lum. This is sure to be a delightful evening for everyone.

HAVE YOU REGISTERED YET?

TMTA Convention is at Hyatt Regency at DFW June 9-11

Visit <http://www.tmta.org/images/2006.htm> for information and registration.

Betty Clampitt Piano Contest and Winners' Recital

The CMTA Betty Clampitt Piano Contest

will be held

Saturday, April 22nd,

at the

Wildwood United Methodist Church

8911 FM1488.

Winners' recital will begin at 7 p.m.

Everyone is welcome to attend – free admission.

For directions and map to the church, www.wildwood-umc.org.

For participating teachers, information has been sent via email and mail. A total of 21 CMTA teachers have entered 113 students in grades 1-12. Winners are selected from each grade level. Good luck to all!

FOR YOUR LISTENING PLEASURE

**Sam Houston State University
Presents Free Concerts**

"Chopin Soiree"

A recital of Chopin music given by the piano students
in the SHSU program
Wednesday, April 19
7:30 p.m. in SHSU Recital Hall

Faculty Trio Concert

Brahms B Major Trio
Shostakovich Trio in e minor
Sergio Ruiz on Piano with
SHSU Violin and Cello Professors
Wednesday, May 3
7:30 p.m. in the SHSU Recital Hall

Montgomery College Presents

Faculty Piano Duet Concert

Featuring Diane Delk and Greg Ristow
Wednesday, April 26th
Montgomery College Campus
Time TBA

Special Good Friday Concert

**FRIDAY, APRIL 14th
7:00 p.m.**

JOHN RUTTER'S REQUIEM

**Featuring the
Wildwood United Method Church
Chancel Choir
And
The Montgomery High School
Madrigal Singers**

**Presented at
Wildwood United Methodist Church
8911 FM1488**

FREE ADMISSION



COMPETITIONS

An excerpt from the letters sent to the MTNA National finalists:

A word about sportsmanship: every student who attends this competition is highly talented, accomplished and deserving. Part of the excitement and challenge of competition is in knowing that on that one day, a winner will be named. How you behave when declared a winner or not declared a winner will be a greater measure of your character and of what you have learned from this wonderful experience than perhaps any other criteria. Plan now to display a positive and encouraging attitude to everyone regardless of the results of the competition. . . In ten or twenty or more years, all of you will have only distant memories of the results of this competition, but may still be friends with those you meet here.



NEXT CMTA NEWSLETTER DEADLINE FOR ARTICLES: FRIDAY, APRIL 28TH. PLEASE SEND PEDAGOGY TIPS AND OTHER ARTICLES TO blandreth@houston.rr.com.

Congratulations to CMTA Student Affiliate Yanira Soria, a student of Sergio Ruiz.

Yanira Soria, a high school senior, won the high school piano division of the Crescendo Music Awards (www.crescendomusicawards.org) last week in Oklahoma. The competition is open to students nationally and has both a high school and collegiate division with very high levels of pianism and musicianship. She won \$1000 for winning the competition on Friday, and then returned to the concert stage for the winners concert on Saturday evening, where she was awarded the "People's Choice Award," an award where the audience chooses their favorite performer among all the winners. This award resulted in an additional \$1000...not bad for a 17-year-old!! By the way, she is an alumnus of last year's piano camp as well...(see text box at right for camp info).

Sam Houston State University's School of Music Piano Camp for students entering grades 7-12

**July 10 - 14, 2005
Sunday - Thursday**

Resident Camper: \$455 - Day Camper: \$330
Entry Deadline: Friday, June 24, 2005

The Piano Camp is a unique opportunity for piano students to study with professional pianists in a concentrated musical atmosphere.

Students can register on-line at our website
<http://www.shsu.edu/music/camps/piano/index.html>

They can download a registration form, or I can mail them a form if they can contact me directly.

If you or any other teacher or students have any questions, please feel free to contact me. Thank you so much for your help and support.

Sergio Ruiz
Director of Keyboard Studies at SHSU

Competition News

TMTA District Performance Contest

We had a sizable number of outstanding performers in our Local TMTA Performance Contest for this year (approx. 20!). CMTA's 500+ Student Affiliate enrollment for the year qualified us to send as many as three winners in each age category to the next level of the competition.

Ten local performers were selected by our judge, Jill Kitzmiller, to advance to the District Competitions, which were held at Baylor University on March 4th. The local competition had been unusually competitive this year, but the District Competitions proved to be much more so. In view of this, CMTA would like to highly commend all students who advanced to District, and performed so well on that level!

On the district level of the competition only two winners in each age category (from all the associations in the district) are selected to advance to the final rounds at the TMTA Convention in June. In spite of the very stiff competition at district level this year, the following students still managed to be among the few performers selected for special recognition—either as an alternate, or one of the winners to advance to state level:

Piano Solo (grades 7-8) Tonya Belosludtsev (Bakina) 2nd Alternate

Piano Solo (grades 9-10) William Lian (Bakina) 1st Alternate

Piano Solo (grades 11-12) Rishabh Sinha (Harris) 2nd Alternate

Piano Concerto (grades 9-10) Ben Donahoo (Harris) one of two unranked winners selected to advance to state

Piano Concerto (grades 9-10) Lye-Ching Wong (Delk) 1st Alternate

Congratulations to all students and teachers!

PUBLICATION CONTEST ENTRIES

I have received the publications entries back from state. We had 2 teachers participate with 6 entries this year; however none placed at the state level. If you want names of the students, I can email that to you as well. The returned entries & certificates to Hall's Musik. Donna Ryan, Publications Chairman

SPRING FESTIVAL A SUCCESS

CMTA's first Spring Festival was held on Saturday, April 1, at Faith United Methodist Church with 62 students participating. Thanks goes to these students for their wonderful playing and preparation and to the 7 teachers who helped make this a very good Festival!!

Marc Layton
Spring Festival Chair

THANK YOU

Many thanks to Forshey Piano Company for permitting CMTA to use their lovely new facilities in The Woodlands (free of charge) for this year's local TMTA Piano Performance Contest. Very special thanks go out to John Rice, store manager, for his warmth and invaluable personal assistance on the day of the event. The store could not have been more accommodating to students, parents and teachers!
Don Harris, Performance Contest Chairman

THANK YOU!!

To Pace at H&H Music on FM1960 near I-45 for helping CMTA to provide good quality instruments for competitions and events.

THANK YOU

Thanks to all of our contest chairpersons, hosts and other contributors who make CMTA events possible for our students.