



Foothills Music Teachers Association

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www.fmtamusic.org

February 2014

February 19- 9:30 a.m.

"Creative Teaching Pieces from the Past 75 Years"
with Christelle Menth

Rockley Music Center, 8555 W Colfax Ave. Lakewood, CO

FMTA MEETING: February 19- 9:30 a.m.

The February program will feature our very own awesome member, Christelle Menth, who will be presenting a fascinating topic, "Experimenting with Sound—Creative Teaching Pieces from the Past 75 Years". She'll be talking about various techniques used in what we normally call "20th-century" or "modern" or "contemporary" music. Part of the presentation will address defining what we mean by that. Then, she'll talk about and describe a few of those techniques and show pieces/books that are good representations of them. You won't want to miss this! Christelle is an outstanding teacher and a wonderful pianist and her insights into "contemporary" music will be valuable to all.

ACHIEVEMENT DAY IS HERE!

It will be held on March 8th at Colorado Christian University. Registration must be in the hands of Carrie Christensen NO LATER than February 8th. Registration forms are available on the FMTA website at <http://www.fmtamusic.org/2013/12/29/achievement-day-2014/>. You may also find all the details about levels and options as well as practice tests at the CSMTA website <http://www.comusicteachers.net/achievementday>. Please send registration forms to 2195 Zang St., Golden, CO 80401. Please remember a stamped and self-addressed envelope and Carrie will mail you your schedule the week of February 17th. If you have any teenage students that would like to volunteer anytime during the day of March 8th then please contact Carrie at 720-635-1178 (cell) or 303-238-1796 (home). We are excited for a fun-filled day for teachers and students alike! Come join the fun!

SONATINA FESTIVAL 2014

Please enter your students and join us for this year's FMTA Sonatina Festival! Remember the deadline for the FMTA 2014 Sonatina Festival Entries is Saturday, March 5, 2014! Forms are on the website at www.fmtamusic.org. The event is Saturday, April 5, 2014 and winners Recitals are on the same day this year in the evening. Both the festival and same day recitals will take place at Colorado Christian University. Send entries, check payable to FMTA and postage paid return addressed envelope by deadline date to: Linda Pott, FMTA Sonatina Chair, 6042 Field Street, Arvada, CO 80004. We also need volunteers for food! Please contact teresahegyi@comcast.net to volunteer!

PERFORMANCE OPPORTUNITY AT SUNRISE ASSISTED LIVING CENTER

CALLING ALL STUDENTS who want to share a piece or two with residents @Sunrise Assisted Living Center. FMTA students have the program from 3:00-4:00 p.m. on Sunday, February 16. This is a great opportunity for students to play in a casual setting for a very appreciative audience; all ages and levels welcome. Contact Alfred Born at bornmenth@comcast.net to reserve a spot.

PROFESSIONAL READING PROGRAM (PRP)

Come join us and share your knowledge and interest in discussing the following books: **Musicians Journey**, **The Savvy Musician** and **Lessons From a Street-Wise Professor**. Please bring a list of 3 ideas, points of interests and subjects to share from all three books. This will help to tie the books together for all readers. Everyone is welcome. Please RSVP. **February 18, 2014**, Tuesday, 9:30-11:00 a.m. Home of Arlyce Black, 6708 W. Arbor Drive, Littleton, Co. 80123 303-795-8162, arlyceb@gmail.com *Lessons from a Street-Wise Professor: What You Won't Learn at Most Music Schools* by Ramon Ricker, 2011 (256 pages) Soundown Inc. ISBN: 978-0-9828639-0

FMTA SCHOLARSHIPS

Scholarships applications are due by the April FMTA meeting from seniors intending to be music majors or minors, or from high school undergraduates wanting to attend a summer music camp or institute. Standing rules and the application forms are located on the website at <http://www.fmtamusic.org/student-scholarships/> Please send to LaVon Cooper, P.O. Box 77, Granby, CO 80446. Call LaVon if you have any questions at 970-887-2954.

MEET OUR NEWEST MEMBER

A WARM WELCOME to FMTA's newest member, Joy Knipps. Joy teaches piano in her home in the Green Mountain area. Please take a moment to introduce yourself and make a new friend

DOUBLE CONGRATULATIONS!

We would like to congratulate Becky Fitzmaurice for successfully completing her MTNA certification! She is now officially a Nationally Certified Teacher of Music! We would also like to congratulate Becky for the birth of her daughter, Clara Jane Fitzmaurice. She was born at home on Sunday, February 2, weighing 7 lbs 14 oz, 21.25 inches long. After working all summer and through the fall, Becky completed her certification process six days before her baby girl, Clara Jane, arrived on Super Bowl Sunday!

MTNA AND CSMTA CONFERENCES

The 2015 MTNA Conference will be in Las Vegas. But if you want to avoid the glitter and neon lights, plan to go this year to Chicago in March 2014. Or if you prefer to attend an outstanding educational conference closer to home in Ft. Collins, be sure June 4-6, 2014 is on your calendar. If you can only go for a day, plan now for a babysitter. Or if you can stay a night or two, plan now for a roommate. You won't want to miss out on these fantastic opportunities.

MOTION APPROVED ON" NSF"

Notice to all FMTA Members: At the January FMTA meeting a motion was approved that should a member write a check that is returned for "Non Sufficient Funds (NSF)", the teacher will be responsible for all bank charges incurred.

NEW STUDENT REFERRAL

If you have openings, or if you are receiving calls from students you cannot take, please contact FMTA's Student Referral Chair, Alfred Born at (303) 984-7464 or email him at: bornmenth@comcast.net

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

If you would like to submit an article to be included in our monthly newsletter, please email Jan Tuttle at rjtuttle@comcast.net by noon of the first Wednesday of the month.

From Our Presidents Desk:

While preparing students for Achievement Day, I was again reminded what a great resource the AD guidelines are for helping our students develop their technical skills. After students have gone through the circle of 5ths playing 5 Finger Patterns and tonic chords.....then what? By correlating scales, chords and arpeggios with the level of the student, so much can be accomplished in a year. If you are wondering when students should move to two octave scales or when arpeggios should be played in one hand as opposed to hand over hand, these techniques have all been laid out in the AD guidelines. This resource should be appreciated and valued and used on a daily basis as we help students with their technical development.

After a very brief business meeting on Feb. 19th, we will be continuing the discussion we started in January on writing critiques for students. "How's My Kid Doing?", an article on p. 17 of the February/March 2014 AMT magazine, which we all receive, has excellent thoughts on what is beneficial for students to hear, both in their lessons and in written comments from AD. Hopefully, you can find the time to read this article in the next week or so.

And speaking of taking time to read, be sure to just play for your own pleasure from time to time. As our students learn the value of playing musically and accurately, we need to enjoy hearing our own music, too. It's great therapy! ~ Kathryn Hammer

CALENDAR OF FMTA EVENTS

February 8, Entry Deadline for Achievement Day

February 14, 10:00a.m.- Performance Group, home of Kathryn Hammer, (303-988-9565)

February 18, 9:30 a.m.- PRP at the home of Arlyce Black (303-795-8162 to RSVP)

February 19, 9:30a.m.- FMTA meeting; *Christelle Menth, Creative Teaching Pieces from the past 75 years.*

March 1, 2014 CSMTA Concerto Competition Winners Concert at Littleton United Methodist Church.

March 5, Entry Deadline for Sonatina Festival

March 8, all day-Achievement Day – CCU

March 14, 10:00a.m.- Performance Group, home of Janyce Austin-Peck, (303-216-2159)

March 19, -No Meeting This Month- (MTNA conference)

March 22-26,- MTNA National Conference, Chicago, Illinois

April 5, all day- Sonatina Festival – CCU, **NOTE: Honors Recitals same day!**

April 11, 10:00a.m.- Performance Group, home of Margaret Wahl, (303-238-3465)

April 16, 9:30a.m.- FMTA meeting; program TBA

April 26-27- CSMTA Rising Stars Festival- Regis University, Arvada

April 26, time TBA- CSMTA Student Theory Assessment (STA). at Regis University

May 9, 10:00a.m.- Performance Group, home of Betty Witt, (303-423-9709)

May 21, 9:30a.m.- FMTA meeting; *Teacher Musicale-* FMTA Teachers and Scholarship Recipients

June 4-6- CSMTA Conference, Colorado State University, Ft. Collins, CO.