



Foothills Music Teachers Association

Professional Growth ~ Educational/Musical Excellence ~ Inclusive/Diverse Community

President: April Larsen
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March 2018

No March Meeting- Happy Spring Break!

Next Meeting is April 18th at Rockley Music Center

FMTA MEETING BOARD MEETING-MARCH 14, 9:15-10:30 a.m.

There will be no general meeting this month, but the board will meet at the home of April Larsen, 11462 W 17th Place, Lakewood at 9:15 a.m. See you in April at our next meeting featuring a round table discussion of Music Teaching Games!

SONATINA FESTIVAL-MARCH 10, 2018

The 2018 Sonatina Festival has 26 teachers and 103 students participating this year. Sonatina Festival Teachers may check the FMTA website on Saturday, March 10th throughout the day as winners are announced. Teachers are encouraged to have parents/students check the website as well, about 30 minutes after their class has finished. Teachers are responsible to notify all winning students in their studio. Recital times are 4:30 and 5:30 p.m. Please invite your entire studio, winners, participants and others. Plan to contact your winning students ASAP that day and inform them which recital they are scheduled to play at. Teachers can go to www.fmtamusic.org, check the homepage and click on the 2018 Sonatina Festival Winner's List. Results will begin to be listed after 11:00 a.m. The list will be updated as the day progresses, so check it periodically. All results should be in by 3:30 p.m.

Remember to pick up your forms in the teacher envelope between 3:30-4:00 p.m. that day in room 213. Your teacher code will appear on the outside of the envelope. If you cannot be there to pick up your envelope, make arrangements with another teacher to get it for you. Please do not try to get your envelope early from the tally room. This causes a great deal of confusion. Your patience is appreciated.

If you can donate an item for the luncheon or judge snacks, please contact the hostess, April Larsen at aprillarsenmusicstudio@gmail.com. Thank you for helping to make this year's Festival a success! If you have any questions, please contact Evelyn Billberg at 303-629-9209 or ev.billberg@gmail.com.

SCHOLARSHIPS APPLICATIONS DUE APRIL 18th

Scholarship applications from seniors intending to be music majors or minors are due at the FMTA April 18th meeting. Also, high school undergraduates wanting to attend a summer music camp or a summer training institution can apply to help with expenses. Standing rules and the application forms are located on the website on the [Scholarship page](#). Notice the change that digital videos are acceptable. Applications can also be mailed to LaVon Cooper, P. O. Box 77, Granby, CO. 80446. For any questions call LaVon at 970-531-5195.

OFFICER NOMINATIONS FOR 2018-2019

The nominating committee recommends the following persons to serve as our elected officers next year:

President: April Larsen
V.P. for Programs: Carrie Christensen
V.P. for Membership: Robin Braun
Secretary: Brenda Ohlschwager
Treasurer: Elinore Quander

Additional nominees will be accepted from the floor at our April meeting before the membership vote. Please be sure to attend this important meeting. Nominating Committee members: Elaine Van Dellen NCTM and Laura Rogers.

HAVE SOMETHING YOU WANT FMTA MEMBERS TO KNOW?

If you have an announcement about an FMTA event, community event, a concert, a piano for sale, accompanist needed or anything that you think FMTA members should know about, please remember to contact Jan Tuttle at janetmtuttle@gmail.com by the first Wednesday of every month, by noon, so she can put it in the newsletter! It is FMTA's policy not to bombard our member's email accounts with individual announcements and flyers that you forward to us, so please plan ahead if there is something you'd like to share in the newsletter. You may also contact April Larsen at aprillarsenmusicstudio@gmail.com if you'd like her to announce your information at our monthly meeting!

ATTENTION TEACHERS!

Have you created your studio policies and made them available to your students? Do you have a hand out or website that tells prospective students about you, your musical training, and teaching experience? Can you articulate your teaching philosophy? If your answer is 'yes', you have already completed over half of the requirements for National Certification. Why not get recognized for what you are already doing? All that remains is to apply, submit these things, analyze 4 teaching pieces, and record a few of your lessons. Once you are officially certified by MTNA, FMTA will reimburse ½ of your application fee. For complete information, visit www.mtnacertification.org. Submitted by Elaine Van Dellen, NCTM

COMMUNITY PERFORMANCE OPPORTUNITIES

Mark your calendars! On Saturday, August 25th, the third annual FMTA Recital/Information Session will take place at the Four Seasons Farmers & Artisans Market in Wheat Ridge starting at 10:00 a.m. This beautiful indoor venue is a great space for your students to gain valuable performance experience in a community setting. Give your students a motivating goal to work towards during the summer months! Students and teachers alike are welcome to perform for the community.

Contact Lorian Bartle at 720-353-2902 or info@BartleGuitarStudio.com to reserve a time slot for the event.

LOOKING FOR A MENTOR?

Do you wish you had someone who could help you with a certain area of teaching that you would like to strengthen? Check out our [List of Mentors](#) on our website!



PRESIDENT'S CORNER

With Sonatina Festival coming up this weekend, all of our "big" FMTA events are quickly coming to a close! It is time to start looking towards next year. But first I want to say a big THANK YOU to all the teachers and chairs and VP's who have made our events possible this year, we could not do it without you!!

As we move towards the end of the school year and summer, I encourage each of us to focus on professional development. With the National and State Conferences coming up, please consider how you can grow and stretch yourself. Being out of our comfort zones and continuing education really does make us better teachers. I have started listening to Tim Topham at the Creative Piano Teaching Podcast while I drive my kids around and it is really inspiring me! I encourage each of us to do something or help somewhere that can stretch us. We will be better teachers because of it.

I am so grateful for how much being your president has stretched me and I can't wait to meet Tim Topham in Orlando next week at MTNA's national conference!

Don't forget the board meeting next week at 9:15 at my house (11462 W. 17th Pl Lakewood 80215)

April Larsen
FMTA President

THE FESTIVAL FOR CREATIVE PIANISTS

The Festival for Creative Pianists is now receiving applications for the June 6-9, 2018 event in Denver. Application deadline is April 15th. Eligibility: Pianists up to age 19. Students play up to 15 minutes of any repertory: piano solo, piano ensembles, or concerto repertory, including movements of pieces.

Students compete for standard baroque through contemporary repertory prizes as well as for novel prizes that promote important abilities and repertory such as improvisations (any style), original concerto cadenzas and classical embellishing, original compositions, tasteful arrangements and transcriptions.

We seek to foster diverse and well-rounded musicianship that goes beyond the mere "autonomic wizardry" featured in most other competitions. Above all, pianists are urged to develop and showcase their unique talents and perform with individuality, personality, exuberance, originality and spontaneity.

World-class artist/teachers adjudicate students and provide constructive written and verbal feedback. Adjudicators are experts in both classical and jazz/pop styles as well as all forms of improvisation.

There is a special written composition Category (separate and optional). Judges perform finalists' works. Abundant Silence considers top piece(s) for web posting or publication.

Visit the website to become familiar with the festival. <https://www.abundantsilence.org/festival-homepage.html>
There are over 40 cash prizes awarded. Review the bios of the three judges: John Salmon, Wynn-Anne Rossi, and Evan Mazunik. Contact Evelyn Billberg for more information. 303-629-9209. ev.billberg@gmail.com

UPCOMING DATES AT A GLANCE see full details at <https://www.fmtamusic.org/events-calendar/>

March 9, 10:00 a.m.- Performance Group at the home of Kathy Hammer
March 10- Sonatina Festival at CCU, all day
March 14, 9:00 a.m.- FMTA Board Meeting at the home of April Larsen
March 17- 21- MTNA conference in Orlando, Florida
April 4, 9:30- Professional Reading Program at the home of Arlyce Black
April 13, 10:00-11:30 a.m. – Performance Group at the home of Betty Witt
April 18, 9:15-11:30- FMTA Meeting and Program at Rockleys Music Center
May 11, 10:00 a.m.- Performance Group at the home of Kathy Hammer
May 16, 9:15-11:30- FMTA Meeting and Program at Rockleys Music Center
May 31-June 2- CSMTA Conference, UNC, Greeley
August 25, 10:00 a.m.- Four Seasons Farmers & Artisans Market

FULL CALENDAR OF FMTA EVENTS FOR 2017/2018

A detailed list of all this year's calendar events, meetings and other happenings is just one easy click away on the FMTA website calendar! <https://www.fmtamusic.org/events-calendar/>

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