



Foothills Music Teachers Association

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

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April 2019

FMTA Meeting:
April 17- 9:30-11:30 a.m.

“Do I Have to Memorize This?”
Presented by Carol Tarr

Rockley Music Center, 8555 W. Colfax Ave. Lakewood, 80215

FMTA MEETING MEETING AND PROGRAM -APRIL 17, 9:30-11:30a.m.

Carol Tarr is a prominent cello instructor and long time FMTA member, and we are fortunate to learn from her during our program this month! All of her teaching life, Carol has been fascinated that some students can take a piece from the learning stages to the memorized stage quite easily and quickly. Others struggle with this, and often are not willing to try. Why is that the case? We will discuss strategies and learn games that can facilitate the process and maybe even make some of it fun! Please join us on the 17th for our meeting and program!

MAY MUSICALE- MAY 15!

Our May Musicale is right around the corner on May 15th. This is an opportunity for teachers to perform for each other after a delightful breakfast and end-of-the-year meeting. We have had fabulous programs in the past and look forward to hearing our colleagues perform this year. **Please email Carrie Christensen at carrie.pianoteacher@gmail.com by May 5th if you are interested in performing.** Please include the name of your piece, composer, and the duration of the composition. We look forward to hearing many of you perform!

PROFESSIONAL READING PROGRAM -THURSDAY APRIL 18TH

All Meetings are at the home of Arlyce Black, 6708 W. Arbor Drive, Littleton, Co. 80123, from 9:15-11:00 a.m. Please RSVP to her at arlyceb@gmail.com or call 303-795-8162. The next meeting is Thursday, April 18, 2019 and we will be discussing “*The Musician’s Way*” by Gerard Klickstein, (Oxford University Press, 2009). Everyone is welcome to attend! If you have not read the book, you will be inspired to read the selection of books.

Suggestions for getting the most out of the reading program:

- Apply new ideas as you and your students work on music from these composers.
- Share ways you have been and are being influenced by the great composers
- Come to the 2019 Professional Reading Conference Workshop so that we can learn from each other!

SONATINA FESTIVAL 2019

Our Sonatina Festival was a wonderful event. We had 112 students from the studios of 30 teachers. We cleared \$441.17 over expenses. Our two Honors Recitals were held in the late afternoon with 34 students playing.

Plans for next year's Sonatina Festival are currently under way. Next year the registration will be on-line on the website, which will make it so much easier to enter! If members have ideas or suggestions, please let the chairs know. Submit any suggestions for judges.

The Repertoire List for next year is currently being reviewed. Recommendations for consideration of repertoire should be submitted by April 30th to Brenda Ohlschwager. A new list will be updated on the website by June 1st. A hard copy library is being prepared to have available at meetings for teachers to review the sonatinas on the repertoire list and determine pieces for their students.

COMMUNITY PERFORMANCE OPPORTUNITIES

Mark your calendars! The third annual Farmers Market Festival is coming up on Saturday, August 24th starting at 10:00a.m. at the Four Seasons Farmers & Artisans Market in Wheat Ridge. The festival is a non-competitive, community-based opportunity for students to perform in a beautiful indoor setting. This is a great opportunity to keep your students practicing throughout the summer. If you are interested in having your students participate, a signup sheet will be passed around during the April and May FMTA meetings. Confirmation for performance times will be made in early summer. Questions? Contact Lorian Bartle at 720-353-2902 or info@BartleGuitarStudio.com.

FESTIVAL FOR CREATIVE PIANISTS- JUNE 5-8, 2019

We are encouraging teachers to have their students register now as there will only be 40 students accepted. For all students under age 19, the registration fee is \$95. Composition Competition – No additional fee. There are three levels this year so beginners will have a winning opportunity. Repertoire is due May 18. The judges are: John Salmon, Kevin Olson and Wynn-Anne Rossi. For questions, contact Evelyn Billberg at ev.billberg@gmail.com

Schedule of Events: Take a look at the events there is a lot going on this year. We have added Wednesday evening with a recital of alumni. <https://www.abundantsilence.org/schedule-of-events.html>

Application Forms:

Festival: <https://www.abundantsilence.org/application-form.html>

Composition: <https://www.abundantsilence.org/written-composition-submission-form.html>

Repertoire: Due May 18, <https://www.abundantsilence.org/repertoire-submission-form.html>

CSU PUEBLO MUSIC CAMP

Consider the Southern Colorado Music Adventure Camp for part of your summer music plans! At CSU Pueblo Campus on July 8-12 for Pianists and String Players, age 8-18. Cost: Tuition \$300, Room and Board \$280 See their website for more information! Website: www.csupfestivals.com and Contact: socoamc.pueblo@gmail.com

CSMTA CONFERENCE- MAY 30-JUNE 1

Don't forget to register for our fabulous State Conference! It is at Regis University this year (nice and local!) on May30- June 1st. See <https://www.comusicteachers.net/conference> for more details and to register now!

FREE MASTER CLASS

The piano professors at CU are offering a free Master Class at Schmitt Music on April 6th at 10am. Teachers and students are invited to come see what CU has to offer!



PRESIDENT'S CORNER

I love that the sun is still shining when I am done teaching (most days!) and all the excitement of spring performances! I just finished performing with a community orchestra last week and I am playing in a clarinet choir this week. With students in Solo and Ensemble competition and our Spring Recital coming up, I am feeling the rush of trying to get it all done. I always learn a new piece on the piano for my recital and finding time to practice two instruments is no joke. I am also offering a music camp this summer, my first ever! I am nervous, but super excited. All of my friends and colleagues at FMTA have been a big part of encouraging me in my musical and professional pursuits. I have observed Arlyce Black's amazing Piano Camps, collaborated with Carrie Christensen, and received inspiration for being more creative from Jan Tuttle. I could list so many names and experiences I have had through the musical community we have built here in FMTA.

I am so grateful for the opportunity I had to attend the 2019 MTNA National Conference. (Thank you FMTA!) It was awesome to see so many familiar faces, Colorado had a strong presence at Nationals. It was fun to see old friends and make some new friends. I got to spend some time at dinner with our State President elect Uri Ayn Rovner and what a great time I had learning about him and all he does in the musical community. I got to spend time with Connie Char, an awesome, longtime FMTA member who normally works during our monthly meeting time. We found that we are kindred spirits! I also reconnected with some friends I made last year at Nationals; three awesome piano teachers who run www.4dpianoteaching.com. We have such amazing opportunities to learn, grow and mentor through our local, state and national music friends.

Spokane was beautiful (colder than I thought it would be!) and the convention center was very large, so I got a lot of steps in every day! I went to some great sessions on performance anxiety, building up your business, using the Dalcroze method in our studios, creating better recordings at home, piano group class ideas, getting to the bottom of practice excuses and my favorite was "Creating Music Addicts: the Psychology Behind a Successful Music Studio". In this session, she talked about the six human needs: certainty, variety, significance, love and connection, growth and contribution, and how we as music teachers can identify what our student needs and how to best meet those needs. It was so fascinating. If I had to compare it to last year, well, it wasn't Disney World! Ha-ha! But what I was blown away by is how much I still learned even though it was not my favorite conference. The opportunities for learning and growth are so available to us through our professional organization, take advantage! Step out of your comfort zone and meet a new friend. Attend a class and find something you didn't know or that you see differently now. Mentor another teacher, old or young. We all have things we can learn from each other!

April Larsen
FMTA President

SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE

On November 1-3rd, Regis University is offering up-to a full tuition scholarship to their University for upcoming high school seniors through a Piano Competition. See www.regis.edu/pianocompetition for more information or email musiccompetition@regis.edu with questions.

CONCERT

Have you ever wanted to hear a Clarinet Choir?! Come hear them play as a prelude to the Denver Pops concert this Saturday, April 6th at Central Presbyterian Church located at 1660 Sherman St. in Denver. Music starts at 3:30!



TEACHERS: ARE YOU READY TO TAKE THE PLUNGE?

MTNA Certification may be the next step to take your teaching and studio to a whole new level. The 5-part process is outlined at www.mtnacertification.org. You can also access this information through our FMTA website. And remember, FMTA will reimburse ½ of your application fee upon completion! Elaine Van Dellen NCTM, would love to help you achieve this goal. Call her at 303-955-5790.

ORGAN SCHOLARSHIPS

Do you have a student interested in the organ? Look into the scholarships and summer programs offered through the Denver Rocky Mountain Chapter of the American Guild of Organists. See their website for more detail. www.ago.drmc.org

UPCOMING DATES AT A GLANCE -see full calendar with details at [FMTA EVENTS CALENDAR](#)

April 12, 10:00 a.m.- Performance Group, Home of Kathy Hammer

April 17, 9:30-11:30a.m.- FMTA Meeting and Program, Rockleys Music Center

April 18, 9:15-11:00- Professional Reading Program, home of Arlyce Black

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.