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(Affiliated with Music Teachers National Association)

Conference Program
(Revised)

November 6, 2021

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About Fred Karpoff

Fred Karpoff is a winner of the MTNA Frances Clark Keyboard Pedagogy Award, a Steinway Artist, and Professor of Piano at Syracuse University. After recovering from a career-threatening injury, his life's work is realized through guiding teachers and pianists toward more efficient, healthful and expressive playing as the Artistic Producer of Entrada Piano.



Fred Karpoff

Learn more at entradapiano.com

Table of Contents

President’s Letter.....	4
President Elect’s Letter.....	5
MTNA President and Executive Director/CEO Letter.....	6
MTNA Southern Division Director’s Letter.....	7
Administrative Board.....	8
Chapter Presidents.....	9
Past VMTA Presidents/MTNA Mission.....	10
VMTA New Members.....	11
VMTA Member Milestones.....	12
Workshop Presenters - Live Presentations on November 6 th	13-14
Conference Schedule for November 6 th	15
Nationally Certified VMTA Members.....	19
Certification News.....	20
Newly Certified Member Highlights.....	21
VMTA Member Video Workshop Presenters.....	22-26
VMTA 2021 Commissioned Composer Premiere.....	27-28
VMTA State Auditions Winners.....	30
VMTA Concerto Winners.....	31
History of the Beginning of VMTA.....	32

Advertisers Index

Entrada Piano.....	2
Piano Showcase.....	10
Jordan Kitt’s Piano.....	16
James Madison University.....	17
Virginia Commonwealth University.....	18
Shades of Blue Studios.....	18
Washington and Lee University.....	29
George Mason University.....	29

President's Letter



Welcome to the Virginia Music Teachers Association's 2021 Conference – our second virtual one! It was pretty much a given that our 2020 conference would have to be online, and we joined every state affiliate of MTNA, in adapting to the pandemic and reinventing our conference as a virtual one last year. 2021 has been a year of some return to normalcy; however, Covid-19 has stubbornly refused to go away, and we thus are happy to present our virtual conference once again for everyone's enjoyment, safety, and comfort.

I do hope you will join us for our presentations by our MTNA President Karen Thickstun, NCTM and for a presentation by Dr. Fred Karpoff, Artistic Producer of Entrada Piano (entradapiano.com). And I do hope you'll watch the videos of winners of our various competitions this year, which also were once again virtual. I would also like to thank our advertisers – please take a look at the main conference page on our website and scroll down to the section where our advertisers are in the spotlight. Please click on the thumbnails to enlarge each of their photos to learn more about each of them.

A special thank you to our President-Elect, Lynn Kleisler, who has done a most impressive job of managing our conference during this crazy season – she deserves the highest praise for her work in organizing our live conference and then worked quickly to transition it to a virtual one again this year. I am grateful that she has basically done double the work to bring us our second virtual conference – she certainly has gone far above the call of duty, and none of this would be possible without her unfailing commitment to bringing us a wonderful conference. Thank you, and BRAVA, Lynn!!

Finally, I thank each of you – our teacher members – for making VMTA such a vibrant, active, state affiliate with members who continuously work to advance their teaching skills and deepen their understanding of music and teaching through conferences such as ours. I hope you join us for our workshops, which will all be presented in real time on Saturday, November 6. I hope you watch all our competition winners' videos, and I hope you browse through our advertiser listings. Above all, I hope you remain safe and I hope you remain well.

Best wishes --
Narciso Solero
President, Virginia Music Teachers Association

President Elect's Letter



Dear VMTA Friends and Colleagues,

I want to welcome you to our 2021 VMTA Virtual Conference! Although we are disappointed that we had to quickly pivot and transition from a live conference to a virtual one, we are grateful that we will be able to have some live presentations on November 6th. Our MTNA President, Karen Thickstun will be presenting two *live* workshops for us on the day of our conference launch. Dr. Fred Karpoff, founder of *Entrada Piano*, will be giving us wonderful technique tips that day too in his presentation. Keep in mind that we will also have on-demand video presentations that will become available throughout the month on our website from our very talented VMTA members. You can find details about their presentations in this book.

Performances from students are always a favorite component of our conferences. Along with the video workshop presentations, we will also have video recitals to look forward to throughout the month. They will include winners of the VMTA Concerto Competition, VMTA State Auditions and the MTNA Competitions. The Commissioned Composer Premiere will also be on the website for you to enjoy.

My hope is that you will feel inspired and motivated as you participate in this virtual conference. The videos will remain on the website through February to give you time to enjoy them at your leisure and to watch them as many times as you would like.

Before I close, I would like to give a special thanks to Roma Scriven, Sally Copeland, Laura Cardin, Christy Tallamy, Mary Ann Medlin, Susan Atkins, Michele Carragan, John Winsor and Mun Lee Han for their help, advice and support of this conference. Our organization is so lucky to have so many members with special talents and gifts. That is what makes VMTA so wonderful to be a part of!

Best wishes,

Lynn Kleisler, NCTM
VMTA President Elect



MUSIC TEACHERS NATIONAL ASSOCIATION

Dear Virginia MTA Members:

On behalf of your MTNA colleagues across the country, we want to add our welcome to the Virginia State Conference. Gathering with your friends and colleagues from around the state is a very special benefit of membership—a benefit that offers multiple educational and social opportunities for you to grow as a music teaching professional.

At conferences like this, you, the music teacher, become the music student. And as you participate in professional development, new information and techniques are learned, which ultimately become the basis for new ways to teach your students. This enriching relationship, of constantly receiving and giving away, is vital to your success as a music teacher as well as to the success of your students.

As you consider additional opportunities for professional development and networking, you are invited to attend the upcoming MTNA National Conference in Minneapolis, Minnesota, March 26–30, 2022. It promises to be the most inclusive conference ever. During this long-awaited return to in-person conferences, you will be able to attend more than 100 informative sessions, inspiring master classes, and an exhibit hall with the latest music, products and innovations. Highlights of the conference include evening recitals by violinist Adrian Anantawan, the Cann Sisters Duo, the Formosan Duo and pianist Ursula Oppens. In addition to a full face-to-face experience, MTNA will offer a virtual option for attendees that will include curated content from the in-person event. The 2022 MTNA National Conference will be an unforgettable time to learn and share whether you attend in Minneapolis or from your home or studio!

Again, welcome to the Virginia state conference. Please enjoy every moment of it.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Karen Thickstun".

Karen Thickstun, NCTM
President

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Gary L. Ingle".

Dr. Gary L. Ingle
*Executive Director &
Chief Executive Officer*



Dear Friends and Colleagues,

On behalf of Southern Division, welcome to the VMTA Annual Conference!

I'm excited VMTA is having a virtual conference. I'm extremely thrilled that Karen Thickstun, MTNA President, and Fred Karpoff are presenters. I currently have the privilege of serving with Ms. Thickstun on the MTNA Board! Your President-elect, Lynn Kleisler, has done a superb job planning this event and transitioning this conference from in-person to virtual!

I have greatly enjoyed working with your president, Narciso Solero! His enthusiastic leadership has been such an asset to VMTA and MTNA! Lynn Kleisler has also attended several MTNA State Presidents meetings, and she has been phenomenal in her dedication to VMTA.

I have been amazed with the adaptability of musicians during the past eighteen months. All of us and our students are extremely fortunate that we have been able to continue lessons and have music in our lives. You have been a force and necessity in our students' lives, and are contributors to the survival of music. Our students need us more than ever, and I commend you for your inspiration and commitment!

All of you are essential to MTNA and VMTA! By supporting MTNA, VMTA, and your local associations, you are keeping the tradition of sharing and teaching music to future generations and perpetuating the art of music. MTNA is extremely appreciative of all your work and everything you bring to the music teaching profession. MTNA, VMTA, and our local associations help us collaborate and stay connected. I encourage to you continue to expand and develop your teaching, and to grow as a musician!

I am especially privileged to serve you, as Southern Division Director and MTNA National Board of Directors member! Please do not hesitate to contact me or ask for help. See you in Minneapolis, at the 2022 MTNA National Conference in March!

Sincerely,

Linda Li-Bleuel, NCTM
MTNA Southern Division Director

VMTA Administrative Board
Executive Committee 2019-2021
(Effective December 1, 2019)

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Narciso Solero

Secretary
TBD

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Christy Tallamy, NCTM

President Elect
Lynn Kleisler, NCTM

Treasurer
Mun Lee Han, NCTM

Appointed Officers

Certification
Diane Perett, NCTM

IMTF
TBD

State Chair for Collegiate Associations
TBD

Historian
Michele Carragan

Parliamentarian
Dr. Lise Keiter

State Chair for Local Associations
Roma Scriven, NCTM

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Betty Ann Spiers, NCTM

MTNA Young Artist Competition
Dr. Lynne Mackey, NCTM

Collaborative
Dr. Richard Masters, NCTM

MTNA Foundation
Roma Scriven, NCTM

Commissioned Composer
Hope Armstrong Erb

NewsNotes Editor
Jeanette Winsor, NCTM

Concerto Competition
Dr. Susan Ha

NewsNotes and Yearbook Advertising
TBD

Keyboard Skills
Lynn Kleisler, NCTM

Sight Reading - Piano
Fay Barss

MTNA Competitions Chair
Dr. Lise Keiter

Sight Reading – Single Line Instruments
James Tobin

MTNA Chamber Music Competition
Dr. Lynne Mackey, NCTM

State Auditions
Kimberly Parker

MTNA Junior Performance Competition
Rebecca Watson

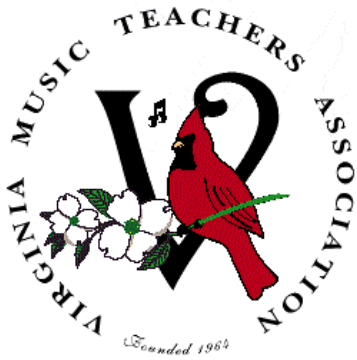
Theory
Gianne Ge Zhu

MTNA Senior Performance Competition
Dr. Lise Keiter

Webmaster
John Winsor

MTNA Student Composition Competition
Dr. Samuel Wellman, NCTM

Yearbook Editor
Dr. Peter Ryan, NCTM



VIRGINIA MUSIC TEACHERS ASSOCIATION CHAPTER PRESIDENTS – 2021-2022

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PENINSULA	Alisa Bohon	alisabohon@gamil.com
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ROANOKE VALLEY	Terry Criner, NCTM	teach88keys@yahoo.com
SHENANDOAH	Elizabeth Caluda, NCTM	ecaluda@su.edu
VIRGINIA BEACH	Susan Atkins, NCTM	theatkins4@verizon.net

Acknowledgement & Thanks

*We are grateful for the support of our advertisers and donations from our members. They help us meet our mission of education and service to students and teachers in our great state. A great big thank you goes to **Roma Scriven, Hope Erb and Jeanette Winsor** for their monetary donations. The Advertiser Index is on page 3 of this book.*



VMTA Past Presidents

Donald Bolger	1964-1969	Betsy Cole Wells, NCTM	1997-1999
Donald Truesdell	1969-1973	Jeanette Winsor, NCTM	1999-2001
Jean F. Reif	1973-1997	Martha K. Smith, NCTM	2001-2003
Leigh K. Scruggs	1977-1979	Kimberly Peachy, NCTM	2003-2005
Melissa W. Marrion, NCTM	1979-1981	Wanda M. Hall, NCTM	2005-2007
Maryen Herrett	1981-1985	Debra Gunnerson, NCTM	2007-2009
Fay Barss	1985-1989	Lisa Withers	2009-2011
Joanne Haroutounian, NCTM	1989-1991	Gabriella Ryan, NCTM	2011-2013
Virginia Koun	1991-1993	Paulo Steinberg, NCTM	2013-2015
Roma G. Scriven, NCTM	1993-1995	Susan Adkins, NCTM	2015-2017
Ken Lee	1995-1997	Elizabeth Caluda, NCTM	2015-2017

MTNA VISION AND VALUES

The mission of MTNA is to advance the value of music study and music making in society and to support the professionalism of music teachers. The mission is accomplished by members who teach with competence, act with integrity, volunteer services to MTNA programs, provide professional support for colleagues and communities, and comply with all laws and regulations that impact the music teaching professions.

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Welcome To Our New and Reinstated Members!

Lena Afanaseva	Munkhbaigali Khaliun	Kimberly Elise Ryan
Arda Andonian	Jie Hyue Kim	Vida Saadati
Alisa Bedker	Joanne S. Kim	Kristofer Jon Sanchack
Steven Benson	Mary-Hannah Klontz	Julian Schwarz
Alexander Joseph Bernstein	Melody Kucks	Steffany Ann Shock
Alyssa Beyrodt	Sarah Lantz	Larisa Loredana Simington
Kristin Bourlas	Jaina Lanum	Schuyler Slack
Lisa Powell Carter, NCTM	In Hwa Lee	Kelley Spencer
Lisa Chartier	Yejin Lee	Alisha Brisson Stamper
Xi Chen	Kristine Lowkis	Elizabeth Suoranta
Yerin Choi	Galla M. Matekova	Lisa Skaggs Thomas
Adelaide Coles	Sohee Moon	Cuong Hung Van
Helen J. Craig	Rebecca A. Muller	Rebecca Hagen Watson
William J. Crone	Christine Niehaus	Kristin West
Colin Doherty	Katherine A. Nies	Sharon K. Witherell
Caroline E. Freeman	Miranda Osorio	Qianni Yang
Ryan Ginnan	Fedor Ouspensky	Kwan Yi
Marsha Dembo Giusti	Rok Palcic	Dan Zhang
Mary Katharine Grady	Woobin Park	Ziwei Zhou
Dona Hettipathirana	M Alan Pearce	
Christopher Ray Hibbard	Hexin Qiao	
Marina Hwang	Amanda Nicole Raymond	
Nadia Ilardi	Victoria Redfearn Cave	
Mark Pavel Irchai	Rebecca Reiss-Korc	
Kathleen Jacobi	Ginny Richards	
Ozzie W. Johnson	Hayley Rose	
Haven Nathaniel Kahn	Marti Ross	
Angela R. Kelly	Emily Ruth	



We are so glad you that you are part of our organization!!!



VMTA Member Milestones

LONGEST STANDING MEMBERS: 53 Years!

Walter Noona & Carol Noona

MEMBER OF 50 YEARS

Melissa Marion, NCTM



MEMBERS OF 40 YEARS

Jeanette Winsor, NCTM

Kenneth Lee

Christine Hagan, NCTM

James Prodan

Betsy Wells



MEMBERS OF 30 YEARS

Ki Kim

Jolanta Szewczyk

Katherine Nelson-Tracey

Ruth Barolsky

Joan Jurenas

Susan Ticknor

Rene Johnson, NCTM

Rose Peak

Meredith Buchanan

MEMBERS OF 20 YEARS

Maria Yefimova

Cora Lee Khambatta

Edrie Weekly

Christiane Huff

Natalie Yampolsky

Lynne Denig

Olga Roberts

Noriko Donahue

Sarah O'Brien, NCTM

Shaune Levitt

Sukkyong Clough

MEMBERS OF 10 YEARS

Sung Shin Park

Joshua Miller

Hee Soung Kim

Mi Hyang Joo

Rachel Harmatuk

Christy Tallamy, NCTM

Carol Cook

Selena Xu

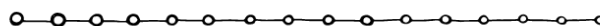
Laura Cardin

Peter Ryan, NCTM

Cheng Yin Len

Woori Kim

THANK FOR SHARING YOUR TIME, YOUR TALENT, AND YOUR MUSIC WITH THE VMTA!



Our Workshop Presenters on November 6th



MTNA President Karen Thickstun, NCTM, teaches piano pedagogy at Butler University, directs the Butler Community Arts School and maintains an independent studio. Thickstun holds degrees in piano performance/economics from Duke University, business administration from University of Virginia and piano pedagogy from Butler University. Three of her pedagogy students have received MTNA's Mary Sue Harris Studio Fellowship award. She advises the Butler MTNA Collegiate Chapter, which has presented at state and national conferences.

Thickstun served as MTNA Secretary-Treasurer from 2013–2015 and MTNA Vice President from 2015–2017. Recent national appointments include membership committee chair, grants and awards task force chair, MTNA Teacher of the Year committee chair and strategic planning committee. She served as director of East Central Division from 2008–2010, chairing the Local Associations Forum.

Thickstun authors a tri-annual column, "It's All Your Business," for *American Music Teacher*. Karen's articles have also appeared in *Keyboard Companion* and *Clavier Companion*. She has presented business and pedagogy sessions at MTNA National Conferences, National Conference for Keyboard Pedagogy and state/local conferences. Thickstun has been active in Indiana MTA as state president, trustee chair, and various state and local positions. She received the Distinguished Service Award in 2002 and the Teacher of the Year award in 2008.

As founding director of the Butler Community Arts School, Thickstun provides leadership and vision. Serving more than 2,000 children through private lessons, group classes and camps, instruction is provided by more than 100 Butler University students that she mentors in professional teaching practices. Working with afterschool programs, community centers and United Way agencies, Thickstun has developed a network of community partners to provide access to the arts for inner-city youth. To fund outreach classes and need-based scholarships, Thickstun has written and received grants for more than \$100,000 annually for the past eight years.

Karen's Workshops

Title: "An Entrepreneurial Mindset in a Disrupted World"

As we emerge from the pandemic, how can our profession move forward? How can we let our hopes, and not our fears, shape the future? This session will share insights from the fields of business and neuroscience for moving forward with innovation, creativity and compassion.

Title: "MTNA Resource Gems"

Do you know the full value of your national membership? Explore some of the lesser-known benefits, including inside tips on MTNA grants, new business resources, music discounts, and more!



Dr. Fred Karpoff presents workshops and masterclasses throughout North America and abroad, including appearances at the past several MTNA Conferences, the National Conference on Keyboard Pedagogy, and the East-West Asia Conference. He is regularly featured as the conference artist and/or clinician at state and provincial music teachers' association events, including those of Texas, California, Oregon, Oklahoma, Kansas, Connecticut, New York, Pennsylvania, Utah, Alabama, Alberta, and North and South Carolina.

A former Artistic Ambassador for the United States Information Agency, Karpoff is a prize winner in the San Antonio, Dublin, and Competition Internationale international piano competitions. As a guest artist at music festivals in the U.S. and Europe, he has collaborated with many of America's foremost musicians. In addition to his critically acclaimed CD release, *Heroic Tales: Piano Music of Edward McDowell*, Renegade Classics issued his

live Beethoven Trio performances with musicians at the Skaneateles Festival and *This Moment* and *Snapshots* with soprano Rebecca Karpoff.

He has performed as a soloist and collaborative pianist on four continents, including venues in Germany, France, Luxembourg, Belgium, Ghana, Zimbabwe, Ireland, Finland, Italy, China, India, and North America. He has been fortunate to study with Leon Fleisher, Ann Schein, Robert Weirich and Yoheved Kaplinsky, and to have had extensive coachings with Karl Ulrich Schnabel and Richard Goode. He holds the Doctor of Musical Arts degree from the Peabody Conservatory and his undergraduate training took place at Northwestern University.

Fred Karpoff has served as visiting professor at the Eastman School of Music and is an international Steinway Artist. He guides teachers and students toward more efficient, healthful, and expressive piano playing as founder and Artistic Producer of Entrada Piano at entradapiano.com. He is Professor of Piano and Ensemble Arts at the Setnor School of Music at Syracuse University, which has honored him with the Excellence in Graduate Education Faculty Recognition Award. His education includes a M.M. and D.M.A. from Peabody Conservatory of The John Hopkins University and a B.M. from Northwestern University.

Fred's Workshop

Title: Practice Pointers for Perplexing Passages -- Plus Effortless Trills and Tremolos

Dr. Fred Karpoff will share multiple practice strategies for solving repertoire conundrums, drawing upon passages recently submitted by piano teachers that pose problems for their students or themselves. Teachers requested "tips and drills" for playing these spots confidently and accurately, redistributing awkward passages, and memorizing effectively, and the featured repertoire includes fast chromatic scales, jumps, pedaling issues, legato fingering for smaller hands, trills, double trills, and more. We will provide a PDF of the examples via the website, so that you may follow the scores while Fred demonstrates solutions for us. Additionally, Fred will amplify his presentation with a segments of his session, *Effortless Trills and Tremolos*.

Schedule for Saturday, November 6, 2021

(Live Presentations via Zoom)

- 10:00 - 10:45 Karen Thickstun, NCTM - Music Teachers National Association President
Presentation: *"MTNA Resource Gems"*
- 11:00 - 12:30 General Business Meeting – All VMTA members are invited
- 12:30 – 1:30 Lunch Break
- 1:30 – 2:45 Dr. Fred Karpoff – Piano Professor at Syracuse University
Artistic Director of Entrada Piano
Presentation: *"Practice Pointers for Perplexing Passages – Plus Effortless Trills and Tremolos"*
- 3:00 – 4:00 Karen Thickstun, NCTM – Music Teachers National Association President
Presentation: *"An Entrepreneurial Mindset in a Disrupted World"*
- 4:00 Closing Remarks



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2021-2022 AUDITION DAYS
November 1, December 11,
January 22 (virtual), February 12

2022 JUNIOR AUDITION DAY
April 9

JMU College of Visual and Performing Arts



PHOTO BY BOB ADAMEK

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 Department of Music

is pleased to announce

Spring 2022 Audition Dates
for Fall 2022 Admission

- Friday, January 28, 2022, 4 pm-8 pm
- Saturday, February 5, 2022, 10 am-5 pm
- Saturday, February 12, 2022, 10 am-5 pm*
 *(no VOICE or JAZZ auditions on this date)
- Monday, February 21, 2022, 10 am-5 pm

For more information please visit our site:
<https://go.vcu.edu/music>



The Music program at Virginia Commonwealth University has a long tradition of preparing students to develop their skills as performers, teachers, and scholars. VCU alumni can be found in literally every aspect of the music profession, from teaching at all levels, to performing, to creating music for media of all types, to the music business. Come join us and we will prepare you for a lifetime of music.



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Yuko Farman
Cynthia Flanagan
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Carla Ann Fosbre
Elaine Gallo
Eve Ginnett
Rita Busse Gulliksen
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Ruta Smedina Starke
Sharon G. Stewart
Megan Renee Stuart
Pamela F. Stump
Christy Tallamy
Lian E. Valente
Sharon A. Walker
Christine B. Ward
Barbara Joan Weddle
Samuel E. Wellman
Jeanette Ruth Winsor
Kimberly Witt
Lisa K. Wold
Victoria Wyatt
Jeanine Faircloth Zisi



Certification News

Congratulations to **Candace Cleary, Melissa Dvorak, Francesca Hurst, and Megan Stuart**, who became nationally certified during the past year.

Several other Virginia teachers are midway in the process, and I hope many of you, both independent music teachers and college faculty members, will decide this is the year to go for it. I am certain you will be glad you did.

With 80 teachers certified at this time (13.8% of our state membership), Virginia ranks 34th nationally. In the highest-ranking state, New Hampshire, one-third of the membership is nationally certified. That could be a goal for us in Virginia, too, but the main goal for each of us is a personal one -- professional excellence.

The letters NCTM show the world outside VMTA that we music teachers are professionals, just as doctors and lawyers are professionals --- that we aspire to and maintain high standards for ourselves in our teaching and that we are committed to lifelong learning.

The MTNA website provides guidance for beginning and completing the certification process. In addition, your local certification chair and I are happy to answer your questions, find mentors, and form study groups to help you earn your national certification.

Please let one of us know if you are interested.

Diane Beyer Perett, Ph. D., NCTM (dbperett@gmail.com)
VMTA Certification Chairperson

Newly Certified Member Highlights

Candace Clearly



Completing the NCTM was a rewarding and enjoyable experience for me! I put it off for quite a time because I thought I was too busy to complete the projects, but I'm grateful that my colleagues encouraged me to proceed! I learned so much from watching and analyzing the videos of my own teaching. And articulating all of my studio goals, processes and policies means I now teach more consistently from student to student. Working on to my local teacher community, and now that I'm certified I have more credibility with potential students.

Considering the relatively small amount of time required to complete certification, it was a fantastic investment!

Francesca Hurst



I was looking for different professional development opportunities during the pandemic. At a local (virtual) MTA meeting, people were talking about MTNA Certification. I decided to pursue certification because of the possibilities for attracting new students. I am on the piano faculty of a university, so I used the administrative verification process, and I would recommend it highly.

Francesca is on the piano faculty of The Catholic University of America and served for nine years on the adjunct faculty of Trinity

Washington University. Outside of university teaching, she maintains a thriving private piano studio, and is a member of the Northern Virginia Music Teachers Association, Music Teachers National Association and the College Music Society. She holds a DMA and MM in piano performance from Catholic University, as well as a BFA in piano and a BA in Italian from Tulane University. You can find more information about Francesca at francesahurst.com.

Our VMTA Member Workshop Presenters



Christy Tallamy, NCTM of Little Ears Music Studio (LEMS) in Loudoun County, Virginia. LEMS offers both private music education and music publishing services. She is the founder and editor of Conversations at the Piano Bench, an annual student-driven composition collection. Prior to opening her studio, she worked as a marketing and public relations officer for a Small Business Development firm. She went on to work as a marketer and writer in a Maryland-based Publishing House. She received her BA in Communications and Marketing from Lee University.

Title of Presentation: “Conceive, Create, Complete: Shaping Musical Minds through Composition”

Composition engages the complete musical mind-- promoting critical and creative thinking. It is a bridge between learning music and understanding music. Yet we often view composition as an extra or even advanced skill-- one we don't have time to teach. In this presentation, you will learn how to mentor your students in developing basic composition skills, how to efficiently incorporate composition into your regular lessons, and how to inspire students to conceive, create and complete their musical skills.



Dr. Eric Ruple, Pianist and Steinway Artist, is Professor of Piano at James Madison University (Virginia, USA). He received his doctoral degree in Piano Performance from the University of Michigan, with additional degrees from The University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music, and Arizona State University. He is a nationally certified music teacher, and enjoys an active career as a soloist, chamber musician, and teacher. Performances include several solo concerts at Steinway Hall in New York, and at the Kennedy Center in Washington D.C., including a performance of Beethoven's "Diabelli" Variations. He has also performed at several American Liszt Society conferences (most recently in fall of 2018), as well as other performances throughout the United States. He was a featured guest, with Ian Zook, at the 2014 International Horn Symposium, and he and Mr. Zook released a CD of 20th century horn/piano sonatas under the "MSR Classics" label. Recent solo programs have featured either the music of Beethoven, Liszt, or 20th century piano music. He has been a guest adjudicator in both Hong Kong and the Philippines.

As keyboard player with the Virginia Symphony Orchestra, he has been a part of many and varied performances, from harpsichord in Vivaldi's "Four Seasons" to featured piano soloist in Bernstein's "Prelude, Fugue and Riffs", to harmonium in the VSO's recording of Mahler Symphony #8, and most recently, he has been principal synthesizer soloist in the ongoing "Harry Potter in Concert" series.

Dr. Ruple served as Interim Director of the School of Music at James Madison University from 2019-2020.

Title of Presentation: "The Big Move: Transitioning High School Music Students to the University"

This workshop is an opportunity to hear about the opportunities for high school music students to continue music studies in the college or university of their choice. Dr. Ruple believes that even today, especially today, being a music major in college is one of the "sneaky-best" choices a student can make for their college career. The world is changing fast, job opportunities are changing fast, but the skills developed in music study are among the most critically important for success in the new world we live in, whatever one's final career path will be. Whether your students intend to become a music major or not, aspire to being a professional musician or not, there are a multitude of ways to stay connected to musical experiences and education.



Dr. Wanchi studied both piano and violin in her native Taiwan. Though she won several youth piano competitions as a child, she eventually opted in favor of violin “because I could take the violin anywhere I wanted.” She chose well, earning admission to the prestigious Curtis Institute of Music in Philadelphia. Her violin teachers in this country included Daniel Heifetz, Shirley Givens, Jaime Laredo, Jascha Brodsky, Dorothy Delay and Naoko Tanaka. Wanchi currently serves as Full Professor of Violin at JMU and also as a concertmaster of the Waynesboro Symphony.

Her CD recordings of the Sonatas of Eugène Ysaÿe, and complete Partitas and Sonatas of J.S. Bach for unaccompanied violin, both on the Centaur Records label, have been excellently reviewed (“... her incisive technique and an exceptionally rich and beautiful tone. . .” by Phil's Classical Reviews, Audio Video Club of Atlanta).

She is an active solo and chamber music performer at venues including Kennedy Center, Carnegie Hall, Lincoln Center Curtis on Tour, and numerous festivals in the world. Her fourth CD on the Centaur label, which presents music by William Walton and Benjamin Britten in a collaboration with longtime friend and pianist Robert Koenig, was released in May 2019. She serves as Concertmaster for the Waynesboro Symphony Orchestra since 2014. Wanchi plays a modern American violin made by Feng Jiang of the Greg Alf studio in Ann Arbor, Michigan.

Title of Presentation: “Practice effectively using limited resources for Beginning, Intermediate and Advanced level Students and Ourselves”

When there is a shortage of time or monetary means for our students to purchase a wide variety of etudes and scales books, I find it imperative to invent new methods using the only resource they have. This resource could be one Xerox copy of an orchestra excerpt that was handed out by their orchestra director, a Suzuki book, a movement or a concerto printed out from IMSLP.ORG

Over the years, I find that I have had to improvise new methods right on the spot, such as creating a variety of rhythmic, harmonic and melodic patterns based on isolated sections straight from that very piece of music in front of them. Different types of challenges may have included shifting, rhythm, and intonation. Methods will be explored and demonstrated in the presentation using limited resources. Repertoire excerpts from three different skill levels will be discussed.



Andreas and Zhu Duo have been performing together since 2015. They were invited to perform nationwide including at the Duke University in 2015 and the Annual Convention of the National Flute Association in 2019 and 2021. Their new CD album “Beyond Bossa—Brazilian Romantic Works for Flute and Piano” will be soon released by Orpheus Classical with its full endorsement and support.

Brazilian flutist **Guilherme Andreas** received First Place in the 2020 International Music Competition "Paris and London" Grand Prize Virtuoso and 2019 Concert Artists International Virtuoso Competition's professional division. Andreas was recently named Principal Flute of Symphony Number One in Baltimore for the 2018/2019 season and is also a Teaching Artist with Education Through Music in NYC. He was also recently appointed as a Trevor James Alto Flutes Artist, selected to be a member of the 2019 Global Leaders Program, and awarded the Sphinx Connect 2019 and 2020 Fellowship and SOPA 2020. Andreas has also been back at performing in New York City and has recently appointed Adjunct Professor with University at Albany teaching Music Theory through a partnership with New Visions for Public Schools in NYC.

Pianist **Gianne Zhu** has given intensive solo and collaborative performances in the USA, China, Germany, Italy, and Malta, as well as in participating in competitions. Her recent solo accomplishments include winning the 2019 Washington International Piano Festival and playing at the Kennedy Center. She was also a finalist of the 1st Brescia International Piano Competition in Italy. In addition, she won the third prize at the 2016 West Virginia International Piano Competition and played Chopin E-minor Concerto with the JMU Symphony Orchestra after she won the 2016 JMU Concerto/Aria Competition. Ms. Zhu also has a passion for advocating new music: Her lecture-recital focused on two piano solo works by American composer Augusta Read Thomas. The performance was highly praised by the composer and featured on her website. Her completed dissertation was on the same topic with a concentration on exploring the unpredictability in these two sets. Currently Ms. Zhu serves as the state music theory chair of VMTA and is a private instructor teaching in Northern Virginia and South Maryland. Ms. Zhu holds bachelor's and master's degrees from Peabody Conservatory, and she is completing her doctorate at James Madison University.

Title of the Presentation: The Colorful Sound of Brazilian Romantic Music for Flute and Piano – Exploring Standard and Newly Uncovered Repertoire

The goal of the presentation is to introduce standard and newly uncovered repertoire by Brazilian classical composers. We will be performing selected romantic works by Villa-Lobos, Miguez, and other Brazilian classical composers. Before performing each piece, we will explain the background of these compositions and the challenges that performers may face when playing these pieces. When talking about Brazilian music, Bossa Nova and Samba may be the only two styles that come up to one's mind, and Heitor Villa-Lobos was probably the only Brazilian classical composer who was well known to the world. However, Brazilian music, especially its classical music, contains much broader content.

Between 1882-1894, several Brazilian composers received financial support to study in Europe. Some studied in the Paris Conservatory and in Europe, were able learn from musical personalities of the time. Back in Brazil, composers such as Leopoldo Miguez, became a great promoter of the then called "music of the future", mainly preconized by Wagner's followers.

At the time, Brazilian composers visited conservatories in France, Belgium, Germany, and Italy, collecting suggestions for the improvement of music teaching in Brazil. Meanwhile very important works came to life such as the Sonata Op. 14 for Flute and Piano (transcription), which is very similar to works by Frank, Faure, Brahms, Chopin and Wagner. We believe that these works should not be only known by the audiences in Brazil, but also across the globe.

VMTA 2021 Commissioned Composer Premiere

John Winn, Composer
Hope Armstrong Erb, Pianist

Composition: Modalities

I. Away

II. Amidst

III. Above

IV. Alongside



JOHN WINN is a composer and musician living in Richmond, Virginia. A former student of Allan Blank and Doug Richards at VCU, he received his Master of Music degree in Composition in 1995. Mr. Winn has composed music for independent film, for jazz ensemble, Shakespeare plays and various chamber music configurations. Speculum Musicae clarinetist and Columbia University professor Allen Blustine programmed John's solo clarinet piece "Running, Skipping, Jumping" in concerts for children in the mid-1990s.

John has written incidental music as well as original music for the songs in two Shakespeare productions - *The Tempest* (Sonnet Repertory Theatre, NYC) and *As You Like It* (Cornell University). Mr. Winn's string quartet *The More Things Change...* was commissioned in 2009 for the Oberon String Quartet and was premiered by that ensemble in Richmond. It was also programmed in 2016 as part of the summer chamber music festival *Loon Lake Live!* (Loon Lake/Saranac Lake, NY).

In 2005 *Loon Lake Live!* released a CD of John's music which included his *Adirondack Suite* for strings, harp and clarinet as well as his song cycle, *Songs For Modern Times* for string quartet and voice. In 2011 Mr. Winn composed a suite for jazz band to celebrate the 100th anniversary of St. Christopher's School. The piece, titled *Centennial Suite*, was performed by the school's student jazz band that year.

Mr. Winn also works as an arranger, recently arranging music for the Virginia Repertory Theatre production of *Ella and her fella Frank*. He also orchestrated Susan Greenbaum's song "This Life" for her 2019 concert performance with the Richmond Symphony Orchestra. His arrangements of three George Gershwin songs were just played in an October 2021 performance of the *Violins of Hope* series of concerts that featured members of the Richmond Symphony.

Mr. Winn also maintains an active career as a performer having taken the stage at the Kennedy Center's Terrace Theater and Millennium Stage in Washington, DC many times and has performed and taught across the world in countries as diverse as Cambodia, Russia, South Korea, Mexico and Turkey. John has been on the music faculties at VCU, University of Richmond, Longwood University and Virginia Union University. He currently teaches music at St. Christopher's School in Richmond.



HOPE ARMSTRONG ERB will tell you her favorite music is whatever she is playing right now. As pianist and conductor, she has performed in North America, Europe, Asia, and Africa in a wide range of genres – vocal and instrumental chamber music, solo piano, choral and orchestral masterworks, opera, musical theater, jazz, folk, world music, and new music premieres. Proclaimed “a wonder in her ability to maintain a high standard in both performance and teaching” she has taught in public and private schools K-12 and at VCU and University of Richmond. Currently she offers private instruction in piano, theory, and composition, and coaches and accompanies professional and student instrumentalists and vocalists. Hope is chair of the VMTA commissioned composer program and is delighted to premiere John Winn’s four movement *Modalities* for solo piano.

We are proud to announce that last year our 2020 VMTA Commissioned Composer Anna Evas <https://annaevas.com/> received an Honorable Mention from the MTNA Distinguished Composer Selection Committee for her piano solo suite *Celestial Garden!*

Our 2022 VMTA Commissioned Composer is Dr. Paul Kim. Conductor, composer, and violinist Paul Sanho Kim is an associate professor at Old Dominion University.

If you are a composer or know a composer in Virginia who would like to be considered for future commissioning years, get information at MTNA Commissioned Composer Guidelines https://www.mtna.org/MTNA/Engage/Commissioned_Composer/Commissioned_Composer.aspx and contact Virginia Composer Commissioning Chair Hope Armstrong Erb at hope.armstrong.erb@gmail.com.

Thank you for your interest in new music!



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2021 VMTA STATE AUDITIONS WINNERS

Piano IA First Prize:

Entrant #1 – Karissa Lin (Mihyang Joo, teacher)

Piano IA Second Prize:

Entrant #4 – Stephen Chen (Ruta Smedina-Starke, teacher)

Piano IA Honorable Mentions:

Entrant #7 – Anne Tang (Margarita Gramaticova, teacher)

Entrant #3 – Chelsea Li (Elizabeth Sjolund, teacher)

(There were seven entrants in the Piano IA competition.)

Piano IB First Prize:

Entrant #12 – Charles Zhao (Marjorie Lee, teacher)

Piano IB Second Prize:

Entrant #9 – Emery Que (Margarita Gramaticova, teacher)

Piano IB Honorable Mention:

Entrant #11 – Lauren Kang (Alisa Bohon, teacher)

(There were five entrants in the Piano IB competition.)

Piano II First Prize:

Entrant #17 – Felix Xu (Margarita Gramaticova, teacher)

Piano II Second Prize:

Entrant #15 – Sophia Lin (Marjorie Lee, teacher)

Piano II Honorable Mention:

Entrant #16– Maria Neal (Maria Yefimova, teacher)

(There were six entrants in the Piano II competition.)

Piano III First Prize:

Entrant #21– Ethan Zhou (Margarita Gramaticova, teacher)

Piano III Second Prize:

Entrant #24– Harrison Benford (Nancy O’Neill Breth, teacher)

Piano III Honorable Mention:

Entrant #20 – Maxyn Hallare (Jolanta Szewczyk, teacher)

(There were five entrants in the Piano III competition.)

Violin III First Prize:

Entrant #26– Donovan Williams (Hope Armstrong Erb, teacher)

(There was one entrant in the Violin III competition.)

Kimberly Parker

VMTA State Auditions Chair

2021 VMTA Concerto Competition Winners

Piano High School

Winner:

Viet Dao (student of Maria Yefimova)

Piano High School Senior-College

Winner:

Colin Carmody (student of Maria Yefimova)

Strings High School

Winner:

Ari Cho Han, violin (student of Wanchi Huang)

Woodwinds High School

Winner:

Lily Walters, flute (student of Jennifer Lapple)

Alternate:

Jiwoo Hwang, flute (student of Youn Young Yi)

Honorable Mention:

Kate Lee, flute (student of Youn Young Yi)

Woodwinds High School Senior-College

Winner:

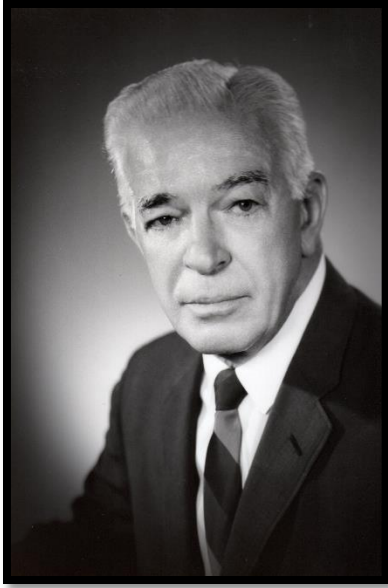
Erin Eady, clarinet (student of Garrick Zoeter)

Congratulations to all students and their teachers! This year's judges were Hai Jin (piano), Rachel Ordaz (woodwinds), James Nesbit (woodwinds), and Yu-Chia Hsiao (strings).

Dr. Susan Ha

VMTA Concerto Competition Chair

History of the Beginning of the Virginia Music Teachers Association



Donald Bolger

The Virginia Music Teachers Association (VMTA) was founded in 1964 and the first meeting was held on November 1, 1963. It was the 44th state chapter to be founded for MTNA. The first President was Donald Bolger who was a faculty member at Hollins College. He received his education from the Eastman School of Music, Rochester, NY. He held a Bachelor of Music and Master of Music degrees. He remained the President until 1969.

The first three chapters were set in Martinsville (Henry County), Norfolk, and Roanoke in this order. According to the Roanoke World News, (Thursday, November 2, 1965) the first state conference (convention) was held November 28-30, 1965 at the Hotel Jefferson in Richmond. Miss Polly Gibbs presided over the convention as the Southern Division President of MTNA and who was a speaker at the event. She discussed "A Look at Our Profession". At this convention, a plan of teacher certification was adopted.

Miss Anne McClenny of Hollins College was chairman of the Teacher Certification Plan. Miss Joan Curnutt of Longwood College was named Chairman of a proposed Student Activities Program. George Luntz of Mary Washington College, was the first Vice President. Mrs. J. Montague Holland of Richmond was named Second Vice President. Neel B. Clark of Fredericksburg was named the Secretary and Mrs. Henry C. Charlton was the Treasurer. The convention pianist was Roy Hamlin Johnson, Associate Professor of piano at the University of Maryland. He opened the convention with a recital and gave several lectures on piano teaching.

At the convention, President Donald Bolger said, ***"I can assure you the convention activities will be of great interest to all music teachers. There, we may renew our minds with fresh ideas to educate the students who we influence; we may be inspired to do a better job of teaching; we may enjoy fellowship with friends old and new; and find within ourselves a new zeal to carry on the work of VMTA."***

An ad for VMTA that today would be a mission statement said:

"It is the goal of V.M.T.A. to provide the highest standards of musical instruction for students of all levels of advancement, beginner through college."

The first All-State Auditions were at Longwood College and held on February 6, 1966. The auditions were open to High School and College students representing the areas of Piano, Organ, Strings, Voice, and Orchestral instruments. The winners would be one HS and one College winner (with an alternate) who would represent Virginia in the MTNA Divisional Auditions in Atlanta (March 27-30, 1966). Repertoire was two memorized compositions. The second President (1969) was Dr. F. Donald Truesdell, head of the music department at the College of William and Mary. He held degrees from the University of Michigan and the Eastman School of Music.