

November - December

President's Message

Year 2020 is going by so fast! I cannot believe that it is almost the end of the year! At the same time, this is my favorite time of the year because there are so many holidays coming up. Many of us have experienced quite a lot in this challenging year. Hope that the holiday spirit will cheer some of you up. There is some good news to be shared in the following.

Two MCMTA Teachers Being Certified & NCTM Study Group

Congratulations to Li-Ly Chang and Yee-Chen Pao who were granted the MTNA Professional Certification to become Nationally Certified Teacher of Music (NCTM) in year 2020. They will receive their certifications publicly at the Maryland State Conference which will zoom on November 15. Study group leading by Helen Weems (VP for Certification, MSMTA) was a great help for them in the process.

The next certification study group ZOOM meeting will be held on Wednesday, November 18, 2020 from 11 am – 1 pm.

Please contact Helen at weemspianostudio@gmail.com for information about this online meeting.

Membership Meetings

Every second Tuesday of the month (except January) at 10 am from September to May, via ZOOM. For the details of November presentation information, please read this newsletter. Non-MCMTA members are welcome to attend our meetings one or two times as visitors. Please share the information to your friends who might be interested.

Mini-Grants for needed Families

During this pandemic time, quite a number of families are struggling on personal finances, and missing in-person student activities. To help address these concerns, MCMTA is offering mini-grants to cover Student Activity Fees (50% or 100) for our school-aged student events. Mini-Grant is offered for the 2020-2021 school year only. As follows, please find the links for the Mini-Grant

Description/Procedure

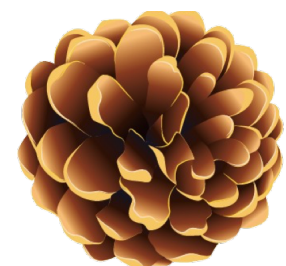
Document and the Mini-Grant Request & Submission Forms (teacher will be the one who sends the forms with the event fees).

Mini-Grant Description/ Procedure Document:

https://mcusercontent.com/a06f27da732da8f233eb295cc/files/e8923bc7-049a-43e5-8765-3991f23222f5/Grant_procedure.pdf

Mini-Grant Request & Submission Forms:

https://mcusercontent.com/a06f27da732da8f233eb295cc/files/78ba4bcc-91bb-4107-ae3d-fc918bfdee86/Grant_forms.pdf



Title: "Finding your allegro"
Presenter: Joel Weiss

Joel Weiss is a composer/teacher-consultant. A retired opera singer (and unsuccessful TV actor), Joel began working with professional singers who couldn't quite put together all the pieces. The sessions are not just focused on singing and technique, but also about theory and history and how they deepen the performance as well as the psychiatric side of being a performer and standing out in a very crowded field.

Joel grew up in Alexandria, VA (by way of numerous army bases around the world) and holds degrees from Catholic University and UNC Greensboro. After 20 years in NYC and Germany, he now lives in Lexington, SC with his wife, father-in-law and cats. He is a member of the SC MTNA.

November 10, 2020 Membership Meeting



Finding your allegro - A discussion on making music less robotic and more personal: the benefits of risk, the importance of individuation and the damage of trying to be perfect.



**December, 8,
2020
Membership
Meeting**



Members' Concert (via zoom) and sharing of recipes (in lieu of a potluck lunch).

If you are interested in performing, please email details of the repertoire you'd like to play. Up to **10 minutes of music *and* commentary.**

Deadline: November 13.

Email to igrueberg@yahoo.com

MINUTES FROM MCMTA
GENERAL MEETING
SEPTEMBER 8, 2020

President Alice Ma called the meeting to order at 10:07AM. The meeting was held in Zoom format.

Information from teachers who shared tips about teaching with technology at the May 12 general meeting was sent electronically in advance.

Alice thanked Eugenia Posey-Marcus for preparing the Student Activities Packet, and John Ralph for uploading it to MCMTA's website. The online applications have been updated and members can register for most of them online now. Sections of the SAP can now be printed out.

All MCMTA events through the end of 2020 are going with a virtual format. Some will be in Zoom format and some will use video submission. The Elementary Recital will use Zoom.

The recipient for the Grant for Continuing Education is Vivian Kwok. She learned about teaching with technology in an online course she took over the summer. She summarized what she learned in MCMTA's September/October Newsletter.

Junko Takahashi, MSMTA President and Co-Chair of MSMTA's 2020 Conference, encouraged everyone to attend the virtual event. It will be held Sunday, November 15 from 1-6 PM. The Conference is free but has an attendee limit, so those planning to attend should RSVP Junko at jutaka@verizon.net. Brian Ganz will do a lecture recital entitled *Chopin's Creative Laboratory: Mining the Mazurkas for Experiments in Sound*, Jeffrey Chappell is presenting *Fun, Easy, Teachable Improvisation*, and Dr. Carol Wolfe-Ralph will address taxes in her lecture *What the Independent Music Teacher Should Know*.

Helen Weems, VP for National Certification, will hold a study group in Zoom format on September 16 from 11AM to 1PM. Members who would like to join can email Helen or Alice.

Alice adjourned the business meeting at 10:30AM. VP for Programs Immanuela Gruenberg introduced Li-Ly Chang, who gave the presentation *Above and Beyond: Miniatures Character Pieces for Teaching or as a Teaching Tool for Compositions and Performing in Musicals*. Li-Ly has a varied musical career as solo, concerto, and chamber performer, and is a composer, teacher, lecturer, and adjudicator. Her full biography appeared in the September-October 2020 Newsletter. In this presentation she discussed and performed seldom heard literature that she described as, "Pieces of joy and hope to bring a new leaf for fresh start" from diverse composers including Leos Janacek, Theodore Kirchner, Cyril Scott, Norman Dello Joio, Richard Bennett, Dmitri Shostakovich, Ellen Zwilich, Richard Bennett, Hector Villa Lobos, Bela Bartok, Alexander Tansman, Leonard Bernstein, Robert Starer, and a premiere of a her own composition.

Respectfully submitted,

Tina Sinclair Smith
Recording Secretary



MINUTES FROM MCMTA
GENERAL MEETING
OCTOBER 13, 2020

President Alice Ma called the meeting to order at 10:07AM. The meeting was held in Zoom format.

Minutes from the September 8 general meeting were sent electronically in advance.

Alice mentioned that MCMTA is offering mini-grants (only in this school year) to any families needing help with event registration fees. We do not want financial hardship to prevent students from participating if they wish to.

Immanuela is still waiting for names of member volunteers to perform for the December general meeting. In addition to the Zoom performance, a recipe exchange will replace the pot luck luncheon.

Junko Takahashi, MSMTA President and Co-Chair of MSMTA's 2020 Conference, encouraged everyone to attend the virtual event. It will be held Sunday, November 15 from 1-6 PM. The Conference is free but has an attendee limit, so those planning to attend should RSVP Junko at jutaka@verizon.net. Brian Ganz will do a lecture recital entitled *Chopin's Creative Laboratory: Mining the Mazurkas for Experiments in Sound*. Jeffrey Chappell is presenting *Fun, Easy, Teachable Improvisation*, and Dr. Carol Wolfe-Ralph will address taxes in her lecture *What the Independent Music Teacher Should Know*.

Alice adjourned the business meeting at 10:13AM. VP for Programs Immanuela Gruenberg introduced Dr. Rozalie Levant, who joined us from Texas and presented the program *Practical Suggestions for Effective Fingering*, which dealt with difficult passages in music that teachers and students struggle with. Dr. Levant analyzed specific mental and physical actions that can help to eliminate technical problems.

Respectfully submitted,
Tina Sinclair Smith
Recording Secretary

MINUTES FROM MCMTA
GENERAL MEETING
May 12, 2020

President Alice Ma called the meeting to order at 10:10AM. The meeting was held in Zoom format.

There was a brief business meeting at which Carol Edison introduced and installed Sara Cronan as President-Elect.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:35AM. VP of Programs Immanuela Gruenberg then moderated a panel of MCMTA member teachers who shared what they had learned about teaching with technology. Alec Davis shared his observations and technical setup information. Robin Schultz spoke about how she teaches duos and duets online. Carol Brody, Mei-Yu Lin, Tina Smith, Junko Takahashi, Ella Wu and Michikko Yurko shared insights and ideas for how to keep students engaged.

The teachers provided links for hand-outs from their presentations.

Robin Schultz:

https://mcusercontent.com/a06f27da732da8f233eb295cc/files/84b2880b-6ea4-4a9e-90dd-4cca19bb9ea7/Virtual_duoduet_presentation_MCMTA_May_2020_5_.pdf

Alec Davis:

https://mcusercontent.com/a06f27da732da8f233eb295cc/files/87713ac6-b49a-4bf3-b28b-04b5aac82f7c/MCMTA_Covid_Lesson_Notes_Alec_Davis_1_.pdf

Carol Brody, Ella Wu and Michiko Yurko:

https://mcusercontent.com/a06f27da732da8f233eb295cc/files/e7f7c5c5-5ddb-4d38-ae96-40d3f57d25e5/From_Carol_Ella_Michiko_1_.pdf

Respectfully submitted,

Tina Sinclair Smith
Recording Secretary



**MSMTA Virtual Live Conference
Sunday, November 15, 2020
1:00 PM – 6:00 PM-zoom**

The conference will be free this year.

Deborah White-Bondhus & Junko Takahashi- co-chairs

Dear tMSMTA Members,

Please find enclosed information on the conference schedule. Please RSVP to Junko Takahashi at jutaka@verizon.net, so that we have an idea of participant numbers.

A zoom link will be send to you the week of the conference by a global e-mail.

Deborah White-Bondhus, Conference co-chair

Conference Schedule

**1:00 PM Brian Ganz - CHOPIN'S CREATIVE LABORATORY:
"Mining the Mazurkas for Experiments in Sound"**

2:30 pm Break

2:45 PM Jeffery Chappell – Fun, Easy, Teachable Improvisation

3:45 PM Break

**4:00 PM General Membership Meeting - Dr. Junko Takahashi - MSMTA
President**

**4:45 PM Dr. Carol Wolfe-Ralph – Tax Time! "What the Independent Music
Teacher Should Know"**

6:00 PM End