



KCMTA Newsletter Vol. 15, #4
January 2015
www.kansascitymusicteachers.org

Jennifer Fink, NCTM, President
Dr. Janet Fetterman, NCTM, President-Elect
June Bonge, Newsletter Editor

President's Corner



Dear Colleagues,

Welcome to the start of 2015! I hope each of you and your loved ones experienced a wonderful and joy-filled holiday season.

For many of us, the start of a new calendar year is a time to take stock of the year that has passed and make resolutions for the one to come. Perhaps, still feeling satiated from our holiday indulgences, we'll vow to be more healthy. Or resolve that now that the holiday recital is over, that we'll take more time at each lesson to work on sightreading or scales. As we contemplate our goals for the new year, I want to pass on a bit of insight from a speaker I was privileged to hear recently: *Consider your margins*.

Webster's dictionary defines margin as "an extra amount of something (such as time or space) that can be used if it is needed." As busy independent professionals juggling active studios, volunteer roles and family obligations, we sometimes operate with very little time, resources and energy to spare. Need proof? Think about how many times you've revised (or contemplated revising) your make-up lesson policy, to guard what "margin" you do have! All too often, we encounter students who operate in the same maxed-out way, with little time to relax (or sometimes to practice, for that matter!).

Healthy margins are essential to our success as teachers – they give us room to be flexible and nurturing, rather than frustrated and drained. And perhaps more importantly, they give us and our students the space and mindset we need to be creative.

As we prepare for a new semester, I invite you to join me in looking for ways that, little by little, we can build and

preserve our margins – personally, professionally, and in the influence that we hold over our students as they learn to balance their own lives and schedules. In doing so, I hope all of us enjoy a happier and healthier new year of music making!

Musically yours,

**Jennifer Fink, NCTM
President**

jen@jenspianostudio.com

Important Newsletter Change

KCMTA is grateful to June Bonge for serving as our newsletter editor for the past 18 months. We wish her well as she moves on to new pursuits!

Please send all future newsletter submissions to Jennifer Fink (jen@jenspianostudio.com).

As a reminder, all newsletter articles are due by the 15th of the month.

Support KCMTA in our 100th Anniversary year with a donation to Music Circles

Your tax-deductible donation to the Music Circles program helps our organization continue to provide exciting and dynamic opportunities for young musicians across the Kansas City metro area.

Donations can be made online at
www.kansascitymusicteachers.org/contribute

January Workshop

Julia Scherer, MM, NCTM, VP Master Lessons
sheerjoypiano@gmail.com

A Teacher's Guide to New Fingering Concepts

Presented by Dr. Steven Spooner

January 6, 2015

10:00 AM

Schmitt Music



Critics and audiences have unanimously hailed the distinctive and compelling performances of Naxos recording artist **Steven Spooner**, describing him as “a pianist in the tradition that many believe died with the likes of Horowitz, Arrau, Bolet, Cziffra, and Wild. His talent, to my ears, is easily the equal of most major pianists of today” (FANFARE MAGAZINE). Passionately devoted to the solo recital, Steven has been engaged and often re-engaged at prestigious venues all over the world and this past season has daringly reinvented the solo recital format by allowing audiences to vote for one of several programs he has prepared. Steven is a star on the new XOTV show called A Life of Music.

Steven has been unusually successful in the limited number of international piano competitions in which he participated—he was a prizewinner at each of the seven international piano competitions he entered and top prizewinner at both the Hilton Head International Piano Competition and the Artlivre International Piano Competition. He captured First Prize and was recipient of the Niekamp Career Grant as most outstanding pianist in French music at the Paris Conservatory. His performances and recordings of works by Liszt have garnered particular attention worldwide.

Steven has released 15 recordings on the Naxos, TMG, EMR Classics, Everythingmusic, and IU recording labels. He studied at Paris Conservatory, Moscow and Tbilisi Conservatories in the former Soviet Union, and Indiana University, Bloomington. In 2008 he was the final recipient of the Ivory Classics Foundation prize that enabled him to study with the legendary virtuoso Earl Wild. He serves as a guest artist at several international music festivals each year and is increasingly in demand for his engaging masterclasses at major music institutions. Steven currently serves on the piano faculty at the University of Kansas and is a Steinway artist.

You can follow Steven's many fascinating and inspiring pursuits at the links below:

www.stevenspooner.com

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Steven-Spooner>

<http://www.youtube.com/user/stevenspooner>

<https://www.xotv.me/a-life-of-music>

I'll bet you are as curious as I am to learn about the new fingering concepts that Steve is going to introduce. New concepts for the new year—what a terrific way to launch into KCMTA's centennial!



Hit the jackpot at the 2015 MTNA National Conference—with an array of sessions, exhibits and special guests, you can't lose!

The Rio Hotel in Las Vegas will play host to nearly 2,000 music teachers, students and industry experts March 21–25, 2015, for the annual 5-day celebration of the music teaching profession.

Highlights of the Conference will include evening recitals by Sir James and Lady Jeanne Galway, the Canadian Brass, and Ann Schein. Lang Lang will present an advanced piano master class, and Scott McBride Smith will conduct an intermediate piano master class.

Conference attendees have the opportunity to network with colleagues from around the globe, experience sessions by internationally known pedagogues and witness performances by accomplished artists and budding student competitors.

After the conference, share your “winnings”—and don't let what happened in Vegas stay in Vegas!

For more information, and to register, visit www.mtna.org. A discounted fee is available to teachers who register before February 3, 2015.

KMTA to Honor Dr. Jack Winerock as a 2014 MTNA Foundation Fellow

Dear Fellow KMTA (and KCMTA) Members and Friends,

What successes are you enjoying in your studio this year? Have they included benefits from your local association, KMTA, or MTNA? If you've participated in even one event, you've enjoyed (at the very least) some unique camaraderie besides the opportunities for you or your students.

MTNA, through its Foundation Fund, provides financial aid for state and local association projects, (perhaps it supported the activity you enjoyed recently!) **and it could provide support to you for continuing study!**

From now through January 15, we have an opportunity to make a proud acknowledgement of a tremendous Kansas contribution to music education here, and across our nation, while helping to support the far-reaching work of the Foundation Fund!

I'm sure you've heard that KMTA has selected Dr. Jack Winerock, Professor of Piano and Director of the Piano Division at the University of



Kansas School of Music, as our 2015 MTNA Foundation Fund Fellow honoree. You know that Dr. Winerock has achieved national and international acclaim as a performer, teacher, and lecturer. His degrees are from Juilliard and the U. of Michigan. He has received numerous honors and his students have won prizes in national and international competitions, including the

Chopin Competition in Warsaw, the MTNA National Competition, the National Federation of Music Clubs Competition, and the Johanna Hodges Competition. Many of his students hold important faculty positions in Europe, Asia, and the United States. In fact, we welcome back to Kansas Dr. Michael Kirkendoll, student of Dr. Winerock, as the new piano faculty member at KU!

You can honor the legacies being created for us by Dr. Winerock and by the MTNA Foundation as you help us raise \$1,000 for the Foundation Fund in his name. Go to mtnafoundation.org and scroll down to the "Make a Contribution" box. You can contribute online or print a PDF form to mail with your check. **Make sure to check the Fellow box below the list of endowments, and write Dr. Winerock's name on the line.**

We intended to have a table filled with teachers from Kansas to surround our 2014 Fellow, Dr. Steinbauer, as he was honored at last year's Conference Gala. But several of us were happily crowded over to another table by those from other states who were eager to see Dr. Steinbauer celebrated! I'm sure the same will happen this year! Perhaps two tables will be filled with those expressing their support for Dr. Winerock's continued work to elevate the level of musical knowledge and education in Kansas (as our KMTA purpose-statement exclaims) and beyond!

Sally Buxton, KMTA President
(Reprinted from KMTA eNews)

KCMTA Calendar 2015

January

- 6 Workshop & General Meeting @ Schmitt Music, 9:30 a.m.
- 13 Executive Board Meeting @ Schmitt Music, 9:30 a.m.
- 31 DEADLINE for Concerto Competition & Recitals Enrollment

February

- 3 Workshop & General Meeting @ Schmitt Music, 9:30 a.m.
- 10 Executive Board Meeting @ Schmitt Music, 9:30 a.m.
- 21 Concerto Competition & Recitals @ Schmitt Music

March

- 1 DEADLINE for Achievement Auditions Enrollment
- 3 Workshop & General Meeting, Board meeting @ 9 a.m. before workshop
- 4 DEADLINE for Music Progressions Enrollment
- 21-25 MTNA National Conference – Las Vegas

April

- 1 DEADLINE – Outstanding Teacher Service Award Nominations
- 7 Workshop & General Meeting @ Schmitt Music, 9:30 a.m.
- 10-12 Music Progressions @ Village Music Academy
- 14 Executive Board Meeting @ Schmitt Music (Budget Meeting), 9:30 a.m.
- 18-19 Achievement Auditions
- 26 Achievement Auditions Honors Recital

May

- 2 Concerto Competition Winner's Recital @ Tri-City Ministries
- 5 Workshop & General Meeting @ Schmitt Music, 9:30 a.m.
- 19 Executive Board Meeting @ Schmitt Music (Calendar Meeting), 9:30 a.m.
- 23-24 Pianos on Parade Grand Kick-Off @ Union Station

Directory Update

Please note Janet Howard's new email address:
jhpiano3@gmail.com

KCMTA Heritage Philharmonic Young Artist Concerto Competition & KCMTA Concerto Recital

Dr. Kari Johnson, chair
karijohnsonpiano@gmail.com

Calling all Young Artists! The KCMTA Concerto events are fast approaching! The KCMTA-Heritage Philharmonic Concerto Competition offers exceptional piano and instrumental students an opportunity to perform in concert with the Heritage Philharmonic and earn scholarship prize money.

Competitors should prepare one memorized movement of a concerto from the standard repertoire. All selections must be approved by the conductor of the Heritage Philharmonic. Please contact Kari Johnson with any repertoire questions.

High school pianists and instrumentalists age 14-18 as of the competition (February 21) are eligible to enter. All students must bring proof of age with them to the competition. (Failure to bring this will result in disqualification.)

First-place winners will perform with the orchestra in concert on Saturday, May 2, 2015. For more information and enrollment forms, visit the KCMTA website.

Do you have a student who's not quite ready to perform with an orchestra? Have them perform on the Concerto Recital. This non-competitive recital is an opportunity for performance of concerti of piano, solo instrument, or vocal aria. This recital will be on February 21 following the concerto competition. For more information, visit the KCMTA website.

The post mark deadline for both events is January 31.

Please contact Kari Johnson with any questions.

Congratulations!

KCMTA congratulates **Linda R. Kennedy, NCTM** for achieving the status of Nationally Certified Teacher of Music. The MTNA Professional Certification Program exists to improve the level of professionalism within the field of teaching music. Linda has worked the past 12 months through the local NCTM 101™ program to complete this wonderful career accomplishment.

Linda administers a dynamic School of Piano and Voice in south Overland Park, and she has instructed students for over 30 years. KCMTA. Linda is an active member of MTNA, KMTA, KCMTA, OMTA and Federated Music Teachers of Kansas City, and she served as a board member and event chair for KCMTA for several years in addition to other executive duties with other music organizations.

Some might question why a successful experienced teacher such as Linda would bother to pursue national certification. Linda shares, "Completing the NCTM Certification has given me the expression in my instruction to use innovative and exciting new techniques that encourage and motivate each and every

student to achieve their highest level of musicality. The NCTM course has given me the permission to ask students for their absolute highest level of concentration and effort on every single piece and competition. I have learned more intense levels of goal setting and discipline for my students, making them the most amazing musicians that they can be."

NCTM 101™ is a course of study and mentoring service offered free of charge to KCMTA teachers by creator and director Lisa K. Studtmann, NCTM. Please email Lisa at *lkstudtmann@hotmail.com* for additional information. You may find more details about the MTNA Professional Certification Program at mtnacertification.org

KCMTA Congratulates

Roxie Hammill, NCTM

for successfully completing the MTNA Professional Certification Program!

January Birthdays

- 
- 3 Lisa Cattanach, NCTM
 - 4 Jennifer Lacy
 - 5 Milla Portman
 - 6 Aurelien Boccard
 - 9 Dovie Fields
 - 11 Jean Drumm
 - 16 Rhonda Meeker
 - 18 Bobbie Perkins
 - Jane Blessing
 - 21 Beth Grace, NCTM
 - 23 Deana Haines
 - 25 Joseph Myers
 - 26 Marcia Fernandez
 - 27 Annette Adams

Announcement

Fall Festival Plaques will be available for pick-up on January 6, 2015 at the KCMTA meeting.