



## 2011 Spring/Summer Newsletter



I joined my local MTA chapter in 2000. Hard to believe it's been over 10 years now. Even though I had a teacher who was a member of PMTA when I was a young teenager, it didn't even cross my mind to look for a professional association to join when I started teaching. It wasn't until I moved from Arizona to Utah when I saw a blurb in the paper about a new chapter in our area inviting teachers in the area to come to a chapter meeting. I then remembered the opportunity I had in participating in the PMTA Ensemble when I was younger because my teacher was a member and thought I should check it out.

The first meeting I attended was held in the back of a glass repair store. The owner's wife had been a big supporter of the arts and they had turned the back of the store into a recital hall for teachers in the community to use at no cost. What a blessing that was for the local teachers to have that available to us. The chapter was brand new so it only had a handful of members, but I distinctly remember how each teacher was friendly and very welcoming. I knew immediately that morning that I would be joining and was very excited about the new opportunities that would come not only to me but to my students.

I started serving along side with many wonderful teachers in that chapter immediately. I had learned very quickly that when you dive in and get involved that the rewards are returned to you ten fold. My studio flourished, I made good friends with my colleagues, I stepped out of my comfort zone often and grew both personally and in my teaching. I learned and continue to learn so much!

The MTNA program to me is so much more than an association to be a member of. It is something that I hold dear to my heart. I truly believe that you are never too old to learn something new. If I just learn one new idea at a meeting or conference that I attend, then it was worth my time to be there. Times are changing, are we keeping up with those changes? This is important. This is coming from someone who has always struggled with changes since I was a little girl. I would fight it as much as I could but regardless how much I resisted, the change would still come, and it never failed; I would look back on the experience of that change and not only did I survive but a lot of times those changes were for the better! As we complete this year and step into a brand new year we may ponder the changes that are needed or that may be happening whether we like it or not. A big change for me was to begin as President a few months earlier than anticipated and at such a busy time of year when there is so much to get done. Will I survive? You bet! And I will probably even grow from it. This year I would encourage you to step out of your box and do something different in your studio, make a new friend in the chapter, invite a teacher who isn't a member to try out a meeting, attend a meeting yourself if you haven't done so in a while, attend conference this June. Whatever you do, do something that will allow yourself to grow this year and may your studio flourish because of it!

Jennifer Foxx  
PMTA President

**NEW Board Members for**  
Phoenix Music Teachers Association ~ 2011-2012

**PMTA BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**ELECTED OFFICERS**

PRESIDENT	Jennifer Foxx
PRESIDENT-ELECT	Pamela Joy Smith
V.P. OF STUDENT ACTIVITIES	Camille Conforti
V.P. OF TEACHER ACTIVITIES	Gail Quackenbush
CORRESPONDING SECRETARY	Annie Taylor
RECORDING SECRETARY	Jennifer Eisel
TREASURER	Georgia Sears

**ADVISORY POSITION**

PAST PRESIDENT	Barbara Tilson
PARLIAMENTARY/ADVISORY	Irene Kuniski

**COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS**

**Student Events**

FALL FESTIVAL	Tatyana Eldridge
	Bobbi Stoutenburgh
MUSIC AT THE MALL	Becky Bender
	Muriel Long
PIANO ENSEMBLE	Susan Shiner
CELEBRATION OF MUSIC	Yelena Goldberg
PIANO RECITAL SERIES	Linda Porter
VOCAL STUDENTS	Betty Campbell
SCHOLARSHIP	Liz Owens

**Teacher Events**

MEMBERSHIP/NEW MEMBERS	Genny Rafferty
PERFORMANCE PLUS	Jo Ann Smelser
SHARING PLUS	Gail Chang

**ASMTA PROGRAMS**

ARIZONA STUDY PROGRAM	Carol Hill
	Bobbi Stoutenburgh
CERTIFICATION	Angelica Prado-Stern

**ADMINISTRATIVE POSITIONS**

ATTENDANCE	Pamela Joy Smith
HISTORIAN	Gail Chang
HOSPITALITY	Cheryl Studer
LIBRARY	Dorothy Dungan
COMMUNITY OUTREACH	Mary Jo Becker
REFERRAL SERVICE	Jim Sage
WEBSITE/TECHNOLOGY	Peggy Rostron
YEARBOOK	Susan Traylor

**THANK YOU** to the 2010-2011 board members and all who had served on various committees this past year; and most especially a big thanks to Barbara Tilson for serving as President the last couple years. Your countless hours of service are appreciated. We wish Barbara the best in Texas with her family! Welcome to the new board members for 2011-2012. I look forward to working with each of you and getting to know you better.

## **CELEBRATION OF MUSIC**

The Celebration was a success! We had 18 teachers that registered 40 students. Kids played very well, judges made good and fair decisions and the Winners Recital was one of the best so far. Thank you to all who helped make this event a success!

## **ENSEMBLE**

Announcing the 60<sup>th</sup> annual PMTA Piano Ensemble! Yes this will be the 60<sup>th</sup> annual PMTA Piano Ensemble so I know you are going to want to start planning for your students to attend. Maybe this is the year you reach out to some alumni that participated years ago or decide to perform with the teachers group. I am sure you and your students will want to be part of this important event.

We are in the planning stages, so nothing is definite except the following.

1. We have commissioned Kevin Olson to write a piece especially for our event and he will be here to work with the students and also hold a workshop for teachers the day before ensemble. Keep watching your newsletter and monthly email announcements for more details.
2. We are making one change this year. We will not be presenting an ensemble reading session at the first PMTA general meeting. We are instead offering all the teachers the opportunity to look over and read through the ensemble selections in an informal open house setting. These will be scheduled in September, one on the east side and one on the west side. Again, watch your monthly announcements for all the details.

As always, your support and help are greatly appreciated as we prepare for this wonderful event. We hope to see all past participating teachers and their students next year and if you have never participated, maybe this is the year you will decide to join this time honored Arizona tradition.

Submitted by:  
Susan Shiner  
PMTA Piano Ensemble Chair

**FIRST ADULT RECITAL** was held in Bobbi Stoutenburgh's studio Saturday, April 16, 2011. There were eight pianists participating in varying degrees of proficiency. For some, this was a first time performance outside their respective studios, and despite the nerves, everyone played very well. There were several observers with their teacher – all saying they would like to participate in the next recital!! I am again offering my studio and would like to suggest another adult recital in the Fall.

Bobbi Stoutenburgh, NCTM

## **ARIZONA STUDY PROGRAM**

The Arizona Study Program has just completed another successful year!. Evaluations were April 29 and 30 at AZ Piano and Scottsdale Community College. The 50+ teachers who volunteered their time before, during and after the evaluation days testify to the importance and merit of this program. Over 400 students were evaluated, including 15 Level 12s. Of those, 12 were graduating seniors receiving a total of \$2,950 in James Anthony awards. A special congratulations to Vincent Wang, a student of Bobbi Stoutenburgh, who completed all 12 levels with A programs! Complete results will be in the annual report and the next PMTA newsletter.

Adjudicators for the evaluations included Evonne Beattie, Mandy Bopp, Gail Chang, Dean Elder, Emily Helvey, Carol Hill, Fran Kaspar, Snezana krstic, Diane Legge, Sherry Lenich, Garnet Mallery, Andy O'Brien, Georgia Sears, Barbara Spoelman, Barbara Stoutenburgh, Radmila Stojanovic-Kiriluk, Annie Taylor, Nataly Thran and Ruth Yandell. Thank you all for the advice and encouragement you shared with our students and teachers.

If you are interested in summer classes for ASP repertoire, technique and theory, please let us know. The school year is too busy but we're looking into the possibility of summer classes.

Respectfully submitted,  
Carol Hill and Bobbi Stoutenburgh, Co-Chairs

## **2011 FALL FESTIVAL**

It feels like yesterday, but in fact our last Fall Festival of 2010 was about a half year ago. And another one is on its way.

We have decided on a new exciting theme for the next Fall Festival of 2011. The Fall Festival's theme for this year will be "From Baroque to Modern". Each student will perform two pieces: one from BAROQUE or CLASSICAL period and the other piece from ROMANTIC or CONTEMPORARY / MODERN (Jazz, Ragtime and Blues are acceptable). This requirement gives each student the opportunity to explore the music literature from the Baroque period to our days to find that pieces which fit his / her individuality.

The Fall Festival 2011 will be held at Glendale Community College on October 22-23, 2011. The Auditions will be on October 22, 2011; the recital of the Gold Medal Winners will be held at the Performing Arts Center of Glendale Community College on October 23, 2011.

Teachers, please read carefully the revised Fall festival pages in the 2011-2012 Year book when it is published and help your students follow all the requirements.

Have a good summer! The Fall Festival Committee

## **ASMTA Conference 2011**

"A Collaborative Musical Experience"

June 3 and 4, 2011 at the Westin La Paloma Spa and Resort

Come join us for a jam-packed two-day conference highlighting local state talent and excellence in teaching. Meeting times will be from 8am-5:30pm Friday and Saturday June 3 and 4, 2011. Presenters include Forrest Kinney (co-author of Pattern Play), The Transcontinental Duo, Duo West, Jennifer Foxx, Lori Frazer, Gail Fischler, Linda Lazzeroni, Walter Cosand, Denny Coiro, Lynnette Barney, Sally Bonkrude, Radmila Kiriluk, Jelena Vladikovic, Yolanda Dyche, Gloria Singleton and Mike Kaminski. There are so many topics to choose from that you will want to plan to attend both days to explore all that this conference has to offer. Please look for the schedule in the ASMTA Musigram and/or online at [www.asmta.org](http://www.asmta.org)!

In addition to our wonderful sessions, Friday night provides a very special social hour, dinner, and concert that you won't want to miss. This years concert features several guest artists including The Transcontinental Duo of pianists Janice Meyer Thompson and Elaine Greenfield, Duo West with Sherry Lenich(piano) and Ian Ginsburg(cello), as well as our own Harmonica Pierre, recently featured on America's Got Talent. Saturday morning includes a unique breakfast on the patio along with our annual state general meeting.

The Westin La Paloma is accommodating a great guest room price for us of \$89.00 per night during this event. This truly is a great rate at a really nice resort. There are also discounts for us on golf and spa items if you mention our group when making reservations. Reservations can be made at our [group page](#) or by calling the Westin and asking for the ASMTA room block. **You must book your room by May 15, 2011 to get this rate!**

As always at our state conference, we will be holding a silent auction. We are currently looking for donated items to include in the silent auction. You personally might want to contribute to the silent auction. Do you have books, music boxes, decorative items that you no longer want or need? Also, you can contact people you do business with and ask for gift certificates. Items do not have to be musical. For information or suggestions, please contact Diann Lopez at [dialope@aol.com](mailto:dialope@aol.com) or 520-822-6401.

There will be two master class opportunities at the conference. One is for middle/high school students who are interested in improvisation and the other is for intermediate to advanced students of either solo or duet literature. Please contact Lynnette Barney at [creativekeys88@gmail.com](mailto:creativekeys88@gmail.com) if you have a student(s) you wish to participate.