



# The Florida State Music Teacher

affiliated with Music Teachers National Association

April/May 2011



## President's Message *by Marc J. Hebda*

Spring is upon us in Florida. This means, in addition to the pollen everywhere (at least in north Florida), that it's performance season, when we look forward to competitions, adjudications and recitals where our students show the fruits of their – and our – labor. This is the time of year when hard work pays off, our teaching is validated by other professionals, and our students learn life lessons through a variety of performance experiences – “character building”, I think my mother called it. And building it is. While we have been chipping and prodding away at incremental progress throughout the year, this is a time when we, and many others, see the growth manifested. We see our students taking shape, maturing, improving. It's the great reminder of why we do this year in and year out. It's how we leave something of ourselves behind us.

Then, there are those of us who take that a step further. While many of us are thinking of closing out the year in a month or so, there is one musician in particular who is closing out a virtual lifetime of teaching. I'm bringing this to everyone's attention not because

he was my teacher, although that is a point of personal privilege. I do so because he is an exemplar of leadership in our association and in our profession in so many ways. I'm writing of Leonard Mastrogiacomo who will retire from the Florida State University College of Music this spring after 51 years of teaching and performing. Leonard's accomplishments as a performer in duo piano with his wife, Norma, are well-known, as are his many years of service, including as President, of FSMTA. He has produced a golden thread that runs through the hundreds of students who owe their careers to him, and further through many more hundreds of young musicians whom they have taught. For many, this would be legacy enough.

What sets Leonard apart as a

leader, however, is his deliberate attention to succession – to growing and promoting new leadership. So many of us have been quietly nudged and encouraged by Leonard into positions of responsibility in FSMTA. So many of us have been the recipients of his mentorship and wise counsel. When Leonard retires in April, he will do so in the knowledge that, while he leaves behind him a void in our hearts, he leaves no void in leadership for FSMTA. Rather, he leaves a full bench of new leaders whom he has equipped to continue to grow in his shadow. There is no greater tribute to a leader than the success of those who follow him. I'll be doing my best to live out that tribute for the rest of my career. Congratulations, Lenny!

### DATES AND DEADLINES

- |              |   |
|--------------|---|
| May 14       | FSMTA Competitive Events Day – Florida State University, Tallahassee* |
| June 11      | Executive Board Meeting – Cabot Lodge, Gainesville                    |
| July 31      | Deadline for Applications – Excellence in Teaching Award*             |
| July 31      | Deadline for Applications – Local Association of the Year Award*      |
| November 3   | FSMTA Foundation Gala – Daytona Beach*                                |
| November 3-6 | FSMTA Conference – Daytona Beach*                                     |

\*See article in this issue

## Membership Update

by Anna Fagan, Vice-President for Membership

**Since the previous newsletter, FSMTA is very pleased to welcome the following new members:**

Nathan Bronkema (SCFMTA)  
Joyce Loke (BCMTA)  
Jiwon Kim (VCMTA)  
Zachary Johnson (SSMTA)  
Michael Bies (PBCMTA)  
Olga Konovalova Fernandes (PBCMTA)

Jian-Jun Chen (GVMTA)  
Jacob LaVallee (RMTA)  
Laura Miller (SSMTA)  
Azusa Bies (PBCMTA)  
Craig L. Cooper (SCFMTA)



New and renewing members will receive an e-mail from MTNA which contains their MTNA membership ID number. Please save this e-mail, as you will need that ID number to access secure sections on the websites as well as for competition entries. You are most welcome to contact me at the e-mail address below if you have lost your ID number.

Remember that the FSMTA website is updated monthly, so the most accurate member information is always available online at [www.fmta.org](http://www.fmta.org). Please send any address or contact information changes to:

**Anna Fagan • 2806 Imperial Point Terrace • Clermont, FL 34711 • [anna\\_fagan@hotmail.com](mailto:anna_fagan@hotmail.com)**

## FSMTA 2011 Competitive Events Information

by Mary Griffin Seal,  
Vice-President for FSMTA Competitive Events

The annual FSMTA District Concerto competitions have recently been completed. During the past month of March, 158 students in our nine FSMTA districts competed in their own area District Concerto Competitions. These entrants competed in the categories of Piano, Voice and Strings. Winners of these events will be performing and competing for the State Concerto Competition in May during the FSMTA Competitive Events Day on Saturday, May 14, 2011, at Florida State University in Tallahassee. Please mark this date on your calendar and consider supporting your area students by attending this exciting event. All of the competitions are free and open to the public, and teachers and interested students are very much welcome and encouraged to hear the fine performances of our FSMTA students.

In addition to the State Concerto Competition, other events which will take place during Competitive Events Day are the Byrd Piano Ensemble Competition, the Gray Perry Young Collegiate Piano Competition, the Pre-college Chamber Music Competition, and the Pre-College and College Guitar Competition. Again, all of these events are open to the public and free of charge.

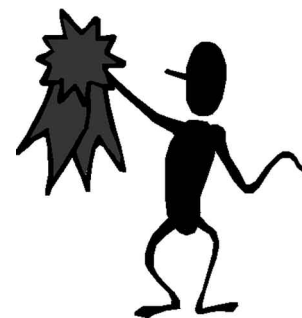
Look to the FSMTA website under Student Activities/Competitive Events for directions to the school, schedule of events, and other pertinent information which will be posted during April as it becomes available. Competition results will also be posted on the website.

Our students and teachers and the district and state coordinators all work extremely hard to prepare for these events and deserve our support. I hope to see you there!

## FSMTA AWARDS

by Michelle Snow, FSMTA Teacher Awards Chair

Now is the time to start thinking about those applications for FSMTA's two prestigious awards: Local Association of the Year and Excellence in Teaching. The awards are presented at the annual state conference and the winners are eligible for national recognition through MTNA. We have



had some outstanding winners of the Excellence in Teaching Award the past few years, but no applications for the Local Association of the Year award. There are wonderful things being done all over the state to promote and sustain the role of music in our communities by hard-working, civic-minded members of our local associations, so please take a moment to review the application on our website and consider submitting for that award.

The applications can be viewed and downloaded from our website at [fmta.org](http://fmta.org). Click on Members, then on Annual Awards. The deadline for applications is July 31, 2011, so you still have plenty of time to collect pertinent materials and documentation to assemble your portfolio. Any questions? Call Michelle Snow (850)926-7627 or email her at [jfmhms@sprynet.com](mailto:jfmhms@sprynet.com).

# THE Arts

Fighting for \$\$\$\$\$\$, AGAIN!

by *Sonja Rozier,*  
*Arts Awareness and Advocacy Chair*

It's testing time in Florida schools. Articles are appearing on the news about the approaching FCAT tests and the effect that they will have on the individual school system. If Senate Bill 736 is passed in the Legislature, these tests will also determine merit pay for teachers. I listen to all of these reports, wonder about the future of our students and actively support the arts. While I fight to keep the arts in our schools, it is easy to find many reasons that students need the arts to grow to be well-rounded adults. One example is the opportunity to participate in MPA.

The Music Performance Assessments give students in grades 6 – 12 the opportunity to be evaluated by a professional judge for solo, ensemble or group performance. Many of you, I am sure, have been asked to be a piano accompanist for these students. I was greatly blessed again this year to spend three weeks rehearsing for Solo and Ensemble Evaluation. I was amazed at the time and dedication of these musicians. While their choral, orchestra, band or private teacher helped them learn the music, perfecting the performance with their accompanist was a new challenge. These students beg to rehearse "one-more-time" either before or after school. These young musicians are thrilled to receive a Superior and yet understand why they might have received an Excellent. They were proud of their performance and stated "I did the best I could". They even politely thanked the judge for listening to their performance. I was so proud of them.

Now that the arts are under attack again by Federal and State budgets, I can only hope that these life skills will not be lost by cutting programs in our schools. Gov. Scott and his educational advisor stated "the arts should not be taught in school. If parents want their child to have this education, they should pay for private lessons". Will budget cuts take away the chance for self-pride that I witnessed in MPA students? Pick up the phone, call your representatives and tell them that you support the arts.

## DISTRICT 9 CELEBRATES MTNA'S INTERNATIONAL DAY OF COLLABORATIVE MUSIC

by *Becky Barlar, District 9 President*

MTNA designated 2010-2011 as the Year of Collaborative Music (YCM). The YCM celebrates the importance of collaborative music-making in society and in the profession worldwide. MTNA further designated Saturday, January 22, 2011, as the International Day of Collaborative Music (IDCM), one special day devoted to collaborative music-making throughout the world.

In celebration of this event, District 9 held their annual conference on the morning of Saturday, January 22, at the Roberts Music Center at Eckerd College in St. Petersburg. After the business meeting, the Duo Turgeon presented a workshop/recital called "Double for Your Trouble: The Magic of Collaborative Music-Making". Duo-pianists Edward and Anne-Louise Turgeon are currently members of the keyboard faculty and ensemble-in-residence at Florida Atlantic University's Dorothy F. Schmidt College of Arts and Letters, School of the Arts, in Boca Raton. Their performance inspired all of those in attendance, and District 9 would like to thank the Turgeons again for their participation in this event.



## We Need Your Current Email Address!

by *Becky Barlar,*  
*FSMTA Newsletter Editor*

**When you renew your MTNA and FSMTA dues, be sure to include your current email address with your renewal. This will enable you to receive your FSMTA newsletter without interruption when we convert from the print format to the online format with the August 2011 issue of the newsletter. If you are uncertain whether or not we have your correct information, please send an email to Vice-President for Membership Anna Fagan at [anna\\_fagan@hotmail.com](mailto:anna_fagan@hotmail.com) and she will update your email address in her database if she does not already have the correct information. We want all of our members to have access to the newsletter, so your cooperation in this matter is vital. Thanks in advance for your help.**

# FSMTA 2011 Conference November 3 - 6

**“Better Together...Stretching the Limits of Collaboration”**

by Anne McLean, FSMTA 2011 Conference Chair

You won't want to miss this year's State Conference. It will be held at the **Hilton Daytona Beach Oceanfront Resort** where every delegate will have a beautiful ocean-side room and all the presentation/exhibit/banquet settings will be in one spacious area of the South Tower.

Following our theme of **Collaborative Music** (and beyond), you can expect to be delighted by a collaboration between a piano duet team and a dance ensemble, **“Orchesis”** (from Bethune-Cookman University), while other presentations will range from new applications in music technology (**Michelle Sisler**) to lecture/recitals for small ensembles (instrumental or vocal), a piano masterclass with **Rebecca Penneys**, a vocal masterclass with **Kimberly Saunders Randall**, and adventurous performances of newly-composed music by brilliant young graduate students of central Florida.

Inspired to join the “call to present” at the Conference? Please contact Bettina Flory at [bettinas.pianos@bettinaspiano.com](mailto:bettinas.pianos@bettinaspiano.com).

One of the publishers showcased this year will be the **Frederick Harris Music Company** with illustrations of the exciting new piano series *Pattern Play* developed by **Forrest Kinney**. Another will feature a piano duet workshop by **Dallas Weekley and Nancy Arganbright** representing **Kjos Publishing Company**.

The **Concerto Winners Concert** will be held at the **Bethune-Cookman Performing Arts Center** on **Friday, November 4th**, featuring winners of the Florida State Concerto Competitions accompanied by the **Stetson University Orchestra** with conductor **Anthony Hose**.

Our **Concert Artist** this season will be the fabulous English pianist **Howard Shelley** in collaboration with chamber musicians from Volusia County and Stetson University. This particular musical collaboration will transcend the boundaries of chamber music with displays of brilliant offerings by Schubert, Hummel and Mozart. This concert will be held at the **Bethune-Cookman University Performing Arts Center** on **Saturday, November 5th**.

The **MTNA Competitions** will be held at Daytona State College with rehearsals on Friday, November 4th, and competitions on Saturday, November 5th.



**Howard Shelley** has performed with many of the world's leading orchestras and conductors over the past 40 years. The London-born pianist made his official debut at

Wigmore Hall in 1971. He has since appeared in several hundred televised concerts and performed on more than 100 recordings. Blessed with imaginative interpretive skills and prodigious technique, Shelley is the first pianist ever to perform Rachmaninoff's complete solo piano works in public, which were broadcast live on BBC in a series of five recitals. Shelley was recently ranked among the top 10 classical pianists in the world by Classic FM Magazine.

Families of delegates and presenters are encouraged to join us at the Conference. **There is no charge for children 18 and under when they occupy the same room as their parents.** At Ocean Walk Shoppes, the family is well taken care of with kid-friendly stores and children's menus at every restaurant. For some splashy fun, Daytona Lagoon water park sits right across the street from the Hilton Oceanfront Resort. **Special offers will be available for families** to Daytona's attractions such as the Manatee Scenic Boat Tours, Go Kart City, Hog Heaven, Ponce De Leon Inlet Lighthouse, Museum of Arts & Sciences, Hawaiian Falls Golf, and the Daytona 500 Experience.

Look for registration forms, future presentations and hotel information on [www.fmta.org](http://www.fmta.org).

**Register online soon for the special rate! \$92.00 plus tax!**

**Better Together!**



S-t-r-e-t-c-h-i-n-g the Limits  
of Collaboration ...

**FSMTA 2011 Conference  
Daytona Beach**

November 3-6, 2011



# Teaching the Music Beyond the Notes by Forrest Kinney



Over the past thirty-two years of teaching music, I have pondered one issue in nearly every lesson. As music educators, we strive to ensure that our students understand the intent of composers and play their notes accordingly. Yet even when students play everything correctly, there is no guarantee that they are actually listening to or feeling the music. All too often, the cognitive burden of converting swarms of black notes into intricate

choreography consumes their attention. My wife Akiko and I have developed an approach to help students discover the music beyond the notes that we now enjoy sharing with our colleagues.

I am convinced that improvisation is the most essential part of each lesson because it is sometimes the only time during the lesson that the student can forget the notes and directly feel the music. By doing so, the student gets a taste of how music originates and grows.

I looked for materials to teach improvisation and discovered that nearly all were limited to the jazz idiom or the elementary level. Others required a grasp of theory that exceeded the desire and abilities of most of my students. So, I have composed and collected many hundreds of patterns for improvisation in all keys and levels and in most musical styles. Many of these are included in the new *Pattern Play* series that was published by Frederick Harris Music in March 2010.

With the right approach, students can begin improvising as early as their first lesson. Music teachers who are fearful of playing without a score can also quickly learn to improvise because the foundation for music making has already been laid. It is usually simply a matter of providing a supportive, inviting environment—a rich soil—and then the gift of music can flower in the most unexpected places.

Don't miss Forrest Kinney's Showcase Presentation on *Pattern Play* for Frederick Harris Music Company at our 2011 FSMTA Conference on Saturday, November 5th.

# MTNA

## FOUNDATION

by Adrienne LeBlanc, President-Elect

A very special thank you to Lesia Schulha, Mary Webb and the 2010 Conference committee for their extremely generous donation to the MTNA Foundation. We all appreciate the many hours of hard work all of you put in for the success of the conference as well as your consideration of the Foundation. It is members like you that make our organization strong.

Before we know it, we will be receiving our dues renewal notices for the 2011-2012 membership year. With your renewal also comes the opportunity to make a donation to the MTNA Foundation which does so many wonderful things for our students as well as for us teachers. Your contribution is important regardless of the amount. Please consider including a donation when you return your membership dues.

A very large THANK YOU to all of you who have been so generous to the Foundation. The national office sent a list acknowledging the following donors for the 2nd, 3rd and 4th quarters of 2010:

Angela Baptiste  
Garry Bell  
Theo Boylan  
Carolyn Bradford  
Gloria Cook  
Rhonda Danielson  
Kinuyo Engelbrecht  
Anna Fagan  
Luba Geyer  
Alla Gorelik  
Betty Hines  
Sue Holder  
Denise Homsley  
Cynthia Kam  
Vladimir Khokhlov  
Paulette Kilts  
Helen King  
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Cheryl Tschanz  
Eileen Varnadore  
Barry Volkman  
Dallas Weekley  
Melissa Westman  
Sheron White  
Barbara Willis



## CERTIFICATION NEWS

by Helen Hartman Dingus, FSMTA Certification Chair

Congratulations to Marie Budinsky-Maher, Peggy Gallagher and Mary Beth Purchase who recently received MTNA Certification. These three FSMTA members were notified of the successful completion of all requirements for MTNA Certification in Piano. MTNA certification is a significant accomplishment of which someone may be justifiably proud.

For any FSMTA member who is interested in FSMTA Certification, please know that this chairman stands ready and eager to assist in any way possible. I can be reached by phone, email or the U.S Postal Service.

Good luck to all!

Helen Hartman Dingus, FSCTM, NCTM

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# Florida State Music Teachers Foundation Report

by Paulette Kilts, FSMTF President

We give our thanks to the following for their donations:

<u>Robert Sherwood Jr. Piano endowment:</u>		Capt. High P. Lyon	50	Claudia J. Stanny	200
Doris and Cleatus Barnett	\$ 25	Nancy MacDonald	20	Linda Stark	20
F. Vic Bokas	20	Melvin and Terri L. Maxwell	75	Ellis Storey, Jr.	35
Ila Brown	25	Susan Myrick	40	Rose Marie & Gordon Tyrell	25
Bill & Anita Clarke	100	Julia Murphy	100	Sam & Pam (Mary) Waite	30
Joan Wilson Greene	50	Marion Nass	100	Jane Weekley	15
Emily & Ronald Hedgecock	100	D.M. or Maria Nelson	20	Dr. Robert & Verna Whitmore	100
Mary Lillian Herron	50	Roger & Shirley Olsson	25	Paul & Marolyn Willden	100
Lisa P. Hilliard	50	Elsie E. Parker	100	<u>Sue Bentley Colvert Young Artist Piano performance endowment:</u>	
Mary Holway	50	Elizabeth Paxton	100	Dr. Diane Garvin	\$687
Sharon S. Kerrigan	100	Mr. & Mrs. Leon Pepin, Jr.	500	<u>FSMTF funds:</u>	
Mary Ann Koetz	25	Aren & Monica Platt	100	Greater St. Petersburg MTA	\$ 75
Jayne B. Lawless (John)	50	Patricia J. Richm	25		
Doris Lea	50	Peter & Heidi Rubardt	200		
		Gertrude Sherwood	25		

In January of 2011, FSMTA gave \$3375 to the Foundation. \$1400 of this money has been placed in the President's Fund to make it a fully funded endowment. The remainder will be used for administration of the Foundation or placed in the Scholarship Development Fund. This fund assists awards which are not fully endowed. Thank you, FSMTA, for your commitment to the Foundation.

Special thanks go to the 2010 State Conference committee which has given the Foundation a gift of \$3000.

Make plans NOW to attend the 2011 State Conference Foundation Gala on Thursday, November 3. We will enjoy relaxing with a cash bar and lovely buffet dinner in a room overlooking the Atlantic Ocean. The event will be held in Daytona Beach at the Shores Resort and Spa just 10 minutes south of our conference hotel. The "Atlantic Room" on the top floor of the resort will be the perfect place to spend the evening with friends, hear a musical presentation and take advantage of an opportunity to support the work of your Foundation. Watch for more details with conference registration materials and on the website.

Thank you for your continued support of the FSMT Foundation.



## MTNA requests Article Submissions

MTNA is looking for submissions to American Music Teacher and the MTNA e-Journal.

AMT is a refereed journal that welcomes submissions from all areas of the music teaching profession. MTNA seeks well-written, engaging articles that offer original perspectives.

The purpose of the MTNA e-Journal is to provide members, especially those in academia, an online, peer-reviewed journal which features in-depth, scholarly, research-oriented articles enhanced through the use of sound, image and video links. It is published four times during the academic year: September, November, February and April.

AMT and the MTNA e-Journal will not consider manuscripts that have been submitted to any other publication. If you have an idea for an article, but have not written a manuscript, you may e-mail a query to gauge interest ([amt@mtna.org](mailto:amt@mtna.org) or [ejournal@mtna.org](mailto:ejournal@mtna.org)). A query should include a brief outline, the angle and tone that will be used and a list of suggested illustrations or other supporting materials. In a separate document, include your name, address, telephone number, fax number and e-mail address. MTNA retains and controls the copyrights to all published manuscripts. Feature articles in AMT are any length up to 3,000 words; e-Journal articles are more than 3,000 words in length.

For information about AMT readership, photos and illustrations, preparation and submission, peer review of the submissions and compensation, go to

<http://www.mtna.org/Publications/AmericanMusicTeacher/SubmitManuscript/tabid/300/Default.aspx>.

For information on guidelines and submission information for the e-Journal, go to

<http://members.mtna.org/ejournal/onlineguidelines.pdf>.

# MUSIC TEACHER SCAM ALERT

MTNA has become aware of a scam directed toward music teachers. As many of you are likely aware, there has been a marked increase in the efforts of individuals performing acts of fraud via the Internet. Until recently, these acts were not specifically targeted to independent music teachers. However, over the past few weeks many music teachers have received e-mails inquiring about having international students study with them. The person sending the e-mail poses as a parent interested in having his or her child or children study with them. The music teacher is offered prepayment for a certain amount of lessons, and once a cashier's check is sent and in the bank, the teacher is asked to refund a large portion of the check because of some emergency or to pay for the fees the "parent" incurred in transferring the money and obtaining the check or for their children's travel. The cashier's check is an elaborate counterfeit and it takes the bank longer than usual to discover the fake.

If you receive an e-mail similar to one of those above, do not respond to them. Due to the high number of these scams, it is impossible to investigate each e-mail. If you or someone you know have lost funds because of this type of fraud, please contact your local field office of the Secret Service. A list of field offices is available at [http://www.secretservice.gov/field\\_offices.shtml](http://www.secretservice.gov/field_offices.shtml).

For more information about common types of Internet fraud, visit the FBI website at <http://www.fbi.gov/about-us/investigate/cyber/cyber/>.



## MTNA E-JOURNAL

The February 2011 issue of the MTNA e-Journal, MTNA's online-only publication, is now available at [www.mtna.org](http://www.mtna.org). Featured in this issue is an article entitled "Practicing to Perform: Practice Tools to Battle the Performance Anxiety Plague," by Rebekah Jordan-Miller and an article entitled "How Did They Play? A History of Keyboard Touch," by Sandra Soderlund.

## Member Insurance Programs

Through the Trust for Insuring Educators (TIE) and Forrest T. Jones & Company, MTNA is now offering comprehensive health care insurance along with a variety of other new insurance products for members. TIE is an organization established to bring together educational associations to secure competitive insurance plans and rates.

In addition to comprehensive health care, the following programs are available to MTNA members:

- Professional Liability
- Private Practice Professional Liability
- Group Term Life
- 10-Year Level Group Term Life
- Group Disability Income Protection
- Group Accidental Death & Dismemberment
- Identity Theft Protection
- Personal Auto
- Long-Term Care Insurance Evaluation Service



Also the trust provides association insurance services, including:

- Association Professional Liability
- Directors and Officers Liability
- Property/Casualty Coverage
- Convention Interruption Insurance



To find out more about the coverage available to MTNA members, visit [www.ftj.com](http://www.ftj.com) or contact the insurance administrators, Forrest T. Jones and Company, at (800) 821-7303. Availability

of insurance varies from state to state.

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*affiliated with Music Teacher National Association*

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