

SDMTA Newsletter

Fall 2013



President's Message

In the last several years the SDMTA Board has been investigating the possibility of splitting the conference and competition aspects of our organization. The opportunity to partner with the Dakota Sky International Piano Festival for the professional development side of our annual meeting is well worth considering. Here are some of the reasons for our thinking that this might be a positive change:

- Attendance at our fall conference averages 30-35 members. The amount of work required to put on the conference is not commensurate with the attendance.
- Changing our format or the season of our conference might motivate more of our members to attend or even attract new members. Dakota Sky is held in the summer. The fact that our members tend to have a less intense schedule in the summer may allow more of us to attend a summer event as we wouldn't have to cancel as many lessons as we do for our fall conference.
- Partnering with Dakota Sky would allow us to present more varied educational opportunities with high caliber artists and pedagogues. It might attract new members because it wouldn't be strictly for our group. Our financial support of the Festival would give them added revenue to hire the types of presenters who would interest us. In return, SDMTA members would receive a reduced rate for these workshops.
- We think of ourselves as primarily studio teachers, but increasingly studio teaching now is becoming an adjunct to a regular full-time job. Many of our music graduates teach full-time in the schools and then teach lessons on the side. They may or may not join SDMTA, but they almost certainly will join SDMEA.
- All-State Chorus and Orchestra are held the week prior to our conference. A recent development for SDMEA has been to add a slate of workshops for faculty attendees. Teachers may opt to attend SDMEA's workshops while their students participate in the chorus and orchestra, rather than join us a week later. An added incentive for them is that they can receive renewal credits for their teaching licenses through the SD Department of Education. It may be possible for us to offer teacher certification/license renewal points through the increased workshop possibilities that partnering with Dakota Sky would provide.

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President's Message continued

In August Cheryl Koch and I met with the administration of Dakota Sky to discuss the possibilities. We envision the event running Thursday through Saturday the last weekend of June. The Dakota Sky Board has voted to change their dates to the end of June, enabling us to join them for the final weekend of the Festival. There would be workshops and master classes during the days and recitals in the evenings, utilizing the world-class performers and pedagogues that present at Dakota Sky. We could have up to six educational events plus 2-3 concerts. Our registration fee would remain the same, \$40 as of 2013. Non-members would be allowed to register but for a higher fee. The registration would allow members to attend all workshops, master classes, concerts and other events.

The MTNA/SDMTA competitions would remain as they are now, held the first weekend of November and on a rotating basis among the state universities. Payment of the \$40 registration fee for the summer conference would cover attendance at the competitions: there would be no additional fee for that.

Our conference income is generally between \$6000 and \$10,000, so we could make an "up front" contribution of \$2000 to Dakota Sky to help them with their expenses, plus at least a part of the registration fees. We would retain enough to cover our expenses. SDMTA would be included in the name of the Festival and our members would still be free to present workshops. We would also hold a general membership meeting as a no-host dinner or luncheon.

In projecting a budget for the two events, we found that we would not be spending more to hold two separate events. Utilizing the resources of Dakota Sky would provide a significant saving both financially and in the amount of work required now of our members to put on a yearly conference.

In October we will be sending out an on-line ballot to the membership to vote on the joint conference with Dakota Sky. I urge you to think over the proposed change, send your feedback or questions to me or to your local association president, and then vote on your preference. More information will be available at the conference in Brookings. Until then I wish you all a productive fall!

Susanne Skyrm, SDMTA President

Professional Development Day

Dear Teachers,

Please plan to attend the Professional Development Day on Friday, Nov. 8 at Conference!

You will enjoy the sessions with your colleagues, and you can look forward to taking numerous ideas back to your teaching studios. Dr. Paul Wirth, our conference guest pedagogue, will be presenting the following two workshops: "Teaching Strategies for Teens" and "Teaching Musicality." To know more about Dr. Wirth, read his biography below.

Another workshop will be: Dr. Symeon Waseen presenting "Dr. Strangesound or How I Learned to Stop Worrying and Love New Music." Join Dr. Waseen as he suggests how to teach, listen to, and perform new and unfamiliar genres of music. Topics will include helpful pedagogical terminology, listening habits and techniques, philosophical angles, and analytic tools. The discussion will center around a performance of Mario Davidovsky's Pulitzer Prize-winning *Synchronisms No. 6* for piano and tape.

We also have Carol Flower and Theresa Stehley presenting "Tips and Tricks to Inspire Your Students." They will share many creative and useful ideas from their own piano studios. Nikita Mndoyants, our conference guest artist who was one of the six finalists of the 2013 Van Cliburn Piano Competition, will be present for a question and answer session. His recital will take place Friday evening. We will look forward to Dr. Corliss Johnson speaking at the IMTF Luncheon on the topic of "Making Real Jazz at the Piano." Christina Harbaugh Humpal is planning an Athol Conservatory Quiz Bowl (jeopardy-style), so don't forget to review your music history.

I hope to see you all at Conference!

Kay Fischer, SDMTA 1st Vice President

Conference Accommodations

There are no reserved rooms or special rates, as you can usually get just as low a rate on your own. The following are recommended hotels in Brookings:

Hampton Inn & Suites, (605) 697-5232

- Holiday Inn Express Hotel & Suites, (605) 692-9060
- Fairfield Inn & Suites, (605) 692-3500
- Days Inn, (800) 225-3297
- Super 8, (605) 692-6920



UNIVERSITY OF
SOUTH DAKOTA

You will always be a teacher; now explore your student's development, understand their motivation or even conduct research. The University of South Dakota's Master of Arts in Counseling and Psychology in Education with a specialization in Human Development and Educational Psychology is online and on your time. For more information, visit www.usd.edu/cde/online-ma-cpe.cfm. Apply today at www.usd.edu/cde/apply.cfm. Contact us at 605-677-6240, toll free at 800-233-7937, or cde@usd.edu.

South Dakota Music Teachers Association Newsletter Announcement Form

You have expressed an interest in announcing a music event in the SDMTA Newsletter. Newsletters are published and circulated to our membership three times each year: Fall, Winter and Spring. Most of our members receive the newsletter electronically, but we continue to send hardcopy publications to those who request them.

Your announcement must be submitted in Word (.doc/.docx) or Portable Document File (.pdf) format and be limited to 200 words or less. Any graphics must be embedded in the copy. To submit an application, fill out this form and save it to your computer. Attach both this form and your announcement copy to an e-mail and submit to our newsletter coordinator, Dr. Marcela Faflak, marcela.faflak@northern.edu, by the deadlines:

- FALL: September 15
- WINTER: January 15
- SPRING: May 15

Print a second copy of this form and mail your check of \$25 payable to SDMTA to: SDMTA Treasurer, Cheryl Koch at PO Box 456, Freeman, SD 57029.

Name _____

Mailing Address _____

City, State, Zip _____ Member of SDMTA? _____

E--mail _____ Phone _____

Does your business have a special relationship with SDMTA? _____

Foundation Report

What do nose flutes, kazoos, and our favorite Conservatory have in common? Grab your thinking caps we will be having an Athol Conservatory Quiz Bowl at our state conference! As a Foundation Fundraiser the cost is \$1.00 to watch and \$5.00 to participate. Questions will cover music history, theory, and SDMTA history. We will also have some crazy prizes! We are also gathering some great prizes for a raffle and the Traveling Plaque returns to the banquet. Our 2015 MTNA Foundation Fellow nominee is Janeen Larsen. I look forward to seeing you all at the state conference in Brookings!

Christina Humpal, SDMTA Foundation Chair

Editor's Info

Please send any additions, corrections or comments to:

Marcela Faflak
faflakm@northern.edu
or Bethany Foote
footeflutes@hotmail.com

Newsletter Deadlines

Winter: January 15
Spring: May 15
Fall: September 15

2013 SDMTA CONFERENCE PRELIMINARY SCHEDULE

Please go to www.sdmata.org for updated information or to register

November 7-9 Brookings, SD

Schedule is subject to change

Thursday, November 7

- 7:30 am –10:30 pm Rehearsal rooms available
 7:30 am Registration begins at Performing Arts Center
 10:00 am –12:00 pm Master class
 Times TBA Competitions:
 SDMTA Collegiate Voice I, II, III
 All levels of MTNA and SDMTA Brass, Woodwinds, Strings
 MTNA and SDMTA Collegiate piano
 MTNA Junior and Senior Piano
 5:00 - 7:00 pm Board Meeting and Dinner, location TBA

Friday, November 8

- 8:00 am Registration begins at PAC
 9:00 am - 5:00 pm Exhibits and Resource Tables at PAC
 Times TBA Competitions:
 SDMTA Senior Voice
 MTNA Senior Voice
 MTNA Young Artist Voice
 9:00 am – 5:00 pm Professional Development Day, Student Union (USU):
 Dr. Symeon Waseen: *Dr. Strangesound or How I Learned to Stop Worrying and Love New Music*;
 Dr. Paul Wirth: *Teaching Strategies for Teens*; Nikita Mndoyants: *Q & A session*;; Carol Flower
 and Theresa Stehley: *Tips and Tricks to Inspire Your Students*; Dr. Paul Wirth: *Teaching
 Musicality*
 Panel Discussion with Christina Harbaugh Humpal: *Athol Conservatory Quiz Bowl*
 12:00 - 1:30 p.m. IMTF Luncheon - Dr. Corliss Johnson: Making real jazz at the piano, USU
 5:30 pm - 7:00 pm Banquet and General Membership Meeting, McCrory Gardens Visitors Center
 7:30 pm Brookings Chamber Music Series - Nikita Mdooyants, piano, PAC

Saturday, November 9

- 7:30 am Registration begins
 All day Competitions: All levels of SDMTA Elementary, Junior, and Senior Piano
 SDMTA Piano Duets

Artist Preview

The guest artist this year will be Van Cliburn Finalist and Russian composer and pianist Nikita Mndoyants. Coming from a family of professional musicians, Mndoyants began to play piano and compose music at a very young age. He entered Central

Music School in Moscow in 1995 and gave his first public recital two years later when he was eight years old. In March of 1999, the ten-year old Nikita appeared at the Sibelius Academy Concert Hall in Helsinki. His extraordinary performance there was recorded and issued on a CD in 2001.

Mndoyants graduated from the Moscow Central Music School with honors as a pianist and composer in 2006. During his studies at school, he won several national and international piano and composition competitions. In the summer of 2005 Mndoyants studied in the Tel-Hai Piano Master-classes in Israel, where he won First Prize in The Concerto competition.

In November of 2007 he won the First Prize of The VII International Paderewski Piano Competition in Poland and also special prize for the best semi-final recital. Nikita was a Finalist of 14th Van Cliburn International Competition in 2013.



SDMTA Website Report

Our website (www.sdmata.org) is one of the first things people may see from our organization. Potential new members may visit the site as a decision point for membership, students glean information from the site for upcoming competitions, and current members access our site to stay up to date on the latest happenings. With this in mind, I have redesigned our site so that it is user-friendly, visually appealing, and informative.

There are currently pages for each local association and I would like the information to be complete. Local association officers, please forward any materials you would like on the site such as information about your association, officers, events, and any documents you would like your members to be able to download. I would also like to post a landscape picture on each local association site as a background, and if you have pictures from events I will be happy to post them as well.

If you notice anything that needs updated or corrected on our website please let me know. Information should be sent to my email address: christinaspianoprogram@gmail.com

Thank you!

Christina Humpal, SDMTA Webmaster

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS:

Marie-Elaine Gagnon, Vermillion (cello)

Muriel Kaufman, Freeman (piano)

Lori Ann Miller, Spearfish (piano/voice/guitar)

Amber Waseen, Spearfish (flute, music ed, saxophone)

CERTIFICATION REPORT

I know you are all getting ready to head to a fantastic state conference! Please take some time out of your busy schedule to read the following announcement on reduced certification fees for students. (ALL members should read this as it states reasoning for obtaining your certificate.) This could be a great opportunity for your student members to earn their Professional Certificate and carry the title NCTM:

The MTNA Board of Directors and the National Certification Commission are pleased to announce reduced application fees for college/university students seeking National Certification. The Board of Directors recently approved a 50% reduction in the application fees for students. That reduces the fee from \$200 to just \$100! The MTNA Professional Certification Program exists to improve the level of professionalism within the field of music teaching. It benefits both the members of the profession and the public who interacts with the professional. For the music teaching professional, certification provides prestige, recognition and the potential for student recruitment and increased earning power. For the public, certification helps readily identify competent music teachers in their community. Attaining Certification is the first and foremost way to practice professionalism. It identifies you as a professional music teacher. You can graduate with your academic credentials and your teaching credentials by becoming a Nationally Certified Teacher of Music. Visit our website, www.mtnacertification.org, for more information and to download the Collegiate Certification Application.

Katie Miller, SDMTA Certification Chair

“MEET A MEMBER”

Name: Danie Crowley

Home: Sioux Falls

Member SDMTA since: 2003, I think?

Born: 1985

Raised: Canton, SD

Education: Bachelor of Music from USD

Current jobs: Piano Teacher

Favorite Composers: Debussy has always been my favorite. I also enjoy Schubert and Haydn.

Favorite Pianists: Lately I have been enjoying Valentina Lisitsa.

Most Influential Musicians/Teachers: Lucetta Johnson and Dr. Skyrn

Hobbies/Activities: Running, hiking, cooking

Why I like SDMTA: I joined SDMTA because of all the opportunities it offers me as a teacher.

COMPETITION REPORT

This year we are returning to our older method of snail mailing applications along with the check to the respective chair. Too many checks were arriving after the deadline and that makes it challenging for the individual competition chairs. Members **MUST** have paid their membership dues **BEFORE** students send in their applications. Please adhere strictly to these deadlines. It makes it extremely difficult for everyone involved when some do not abide by the guidelines. The chairs have a lot of work to do to get schedules and program book information ready in a short amount of time and it complicates their work when some do not follow the deadlines. Please read the 2013 Handbook carefully. Both the Handbook and application form can be found on the SDMTA website. Also note that **ALL** application forms **MUST** be typed. They will be returned to the teacher if they are not.

Last year we experimented with awarding only a Performer's Certificate in SDMTA categories where there was only one contestant. Because this was not well received, we have decided to go back to our previous system or allowing the judge to decide whether or not to award a first place or not.

All of the competition chairs have remained the same for this year. Please thank these volunteers when you are in contact with them. If you have any questions, please contact your respective chair. Good luck on your student preparation—we'll see you at the competition in Brookings Nov. 7-9!

Marilyn Schempp, SDMTA State Competition Chair



The Chopin Foundation of the United States, Inc.

ATTENTION PIANO TEACHERS!

Do you know?

The Chopin Foundation's mission is to assist young talented American pianists in their career development.

The Chopin Foundation offers young pianists:

National Chopin Piano Competition of the USA

The NCPC is open exclusively to USA pianists. The winners receive cash prizes, a concert tour and are sent to Warsaw, Poland (all expenses paid) to enable them participation in the International Chopin Piano Competition, the oldest and most prestigious music competition in the world.

**The next NCPC will be held in Miami, FL
February 21-March 1, 2015**

Public Performance Opportunities

The Chopin Foundation provides young musicians with the chance to perform in a special concert series in South Florida and in collaborations with other presenters around the USA.

Scholarships

The Chopin Foundation grants scholarships to promising piano students ages 14 through 17, and offers the "Chopin Prize" at the MTNA Piano Performance Competition.

And Much More....

For more information please visit www.chopin.org, send an email to info@chopin.org, call 305.868.0624, or send a letter to:
Chopin Foundation of the United States
1440 79th Street Cswy, Suite 117
Miami, FL 33141

Chopin Foundation of the US, Inc. is non-profit, federal tax exempt national organization. Donations to the Chopin Foundation are tax deductible to the extent indicated by law.

MTNA GRANTS FOR 2014

Remember applications for the Affiliate, Teacher and Program Enrichment Grants must be received by **January 3, 2014**, to be considered by the selection committees. **All applications and supporting materials must be submitted online** through the MTNA Foundation website.

Program Enrichment Grants are provided to organizations seeking "seed funds" to assist with the creation of grant application materials that can lead to more funding from other organizations.

Teacher Enrichment Grants are provided to music teachers for private study, specific college-level course work or other projects that will enhance the performing and teaching skills of the applicant. Teacher Enrichment Grants may be used for private study, college-level course work or special projects in performance, pedagogy, music theory and composition. The grant is not intended to be used to pursue course work toward a degree, for travel funds or for ongoing projects. However, a grant may be approved for one additional year at the discretion of the Teacher Enrichment Grant Evaluation Committee. The number of grants awarded in any year is determined by the number of qualified applicants and available funds. For more information or to apply, go to <http://www.mtna.org/mtna-grants/teacher-enrichment-grants/teacher-enrichment-grant-guidelines/>

Affiliate Matching Grants are available to MTNA-affiliated Local Associations and State Affiliates. These matching grants provide assistance for projects and programs that provide professional and educational development, as well as promotion of music in the state and community.

Local Association Start-Up Grants are awarded to newly forming MTNA-affiliated local associations for projects that provide educational opportunities for students and teachers. Grants are also given for projects that support the promotion of music in the immediate community.

To apply or to find out more about these grants, visit the Grants Page on the MTNA Foundation website.

CONFERENCE COUPON

If you are a new member this year of SDMTA,
this coupon is for you.

This entitles _____ to receive
(your name)

one free conference registration for the
2013 SDMTA Conference
South Dakota State University, November 7-9, 2013.

For one-time use only.

You must send in THIS coupon with your registration.

2013 South Dakota Music Teachers Association Conference Brookings, South Dakota • November 7-9, 2013

Advance Registration Form *(postmarked no later than October 19th)*

NAME _____ PHONE (____) _____
 ADDRESS _____ CITY/STATE/ZIP _____
 E-MAIL _____
 Identify any office held _____ Are you State Certified? _____ Nationally Certified? _____

Please check conference schedule for more detailed information.

CONFERENCE FEES *

Amount:

\$40.00 Member *(\$45 if not paid by October 19th)/ \$55.00* Non-Member *(includes all workshops)*

\$ FREE. I am a NEW member (Conference Coupon attached) \$ _____

**Family members may attend their child's auditions at no charge.*

MEAL RESERVATIONS

There will be no opportunity for meal reservations once you get to the conference.

• **FRIDAY IMTF Luncheon** at University Student Center **\$8.00** \$ _____

____ Yes, I will be attending the IMTF meeting & luncheon

(The Lazy Summer BBQ. The meal actually costs \$11 but BMTA will subsidize each meal \$3)

• **FRIDAY Banquet and SDMTA General Membership Meeting**

Dinner at the McCrory Gardens Conference Center is **\$18.00**.

The Sicilian (Romaine Salad, Roasted Broccoli, Confetti Rice, Chicken Marsala with Rigatoni/Meatballs + dessert/drink)

[Vegetarian Option substitute request: ____]

____ Yes, I will attend the business meeting and dinner. \$ _____

____ I do **not** want the dinner, but plan to attend the meeting.

COMPETITION ASSISTANCE

I understand that if I enter students in the competition, I will monitor or recruit someone to serve in my place. Check the appropriate box:

____ I prefer to monitor on **Thursday** **Friday** **Saturday** *(circle your preference)*

____ I will recruit someone to monitor and let the site host know by **Nov. 1** who that person is.

Teacher's signature _____

TEACHER CERTIFICATION

____ Check here if you would like to attend workshops and masterclasses to earn contact hours that count towards the renewal of **Department of Education** teaching licenses *(more detailed information will be at the conference).*

TOTAL ENCLOSED: *Please make a single check for total amount payable to SDMTA.* \$ _____

Print this form and mail it with a check to: Cheryl Koch, SDMTA CONFERENCE
 P.O. Box 456
 Freeman, SD 57029

[CUSTOMIZE SECTIONS IN ITALICS AND SEND TO YOUR LOCAL CHURCH/SCHOOL./STUDIO/NEWSPAPER OR NEWSLETTER.]

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: September 21, 2013

CONTACT:

Melody Maker

Owner, Top Notch Music Studios

(133) 323-4433; melody@melody.music

Local musicians to attend Music Teachers state conference

Ms. Melody Maker of Busyville, South Dakota and three of her piano students will attend the 59th annual state conference of the South Dakota Music Teachers Association, held at South Dakota State University in Brookings, November 7-9. Concerts, workshops and student competitions are the featured activities of the annual fall event. Guest presenter and adjudicator for this year's conference is Paul Wirth of the Wirth Center of the Performing Arts in St. Cloud, Minnesota. Also featured is 2013 Van Cliburn competition finalist, Nikita Mndoyants. Additional state and regional performers, clinicians and adjudicators will be featured.

The South Dakota Music Teachers Association (SDMTA) was founded in 1955 to serve the needs of studio teachers teaching music to individuals or small groups of students. The organization is an affiliate of Music Teachers National Association (MTNA), a group which now has a membership of 24,000 music professionals in fifty states and the District of Columbia. SDMTA is further supported through five local associations in Aberdeen, the Black Hills, Brookings, Huron and Sioux Falls.

Three of Ms. Maker's students will participate in the Elementary and Junior piano competitions on Saturday, November 9. Performers are Furious Fingers, age 11, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Parent Fingers, Powerful Chords, age 13, son of Ms. Solid Chords, and Gentle Soul, age 12, daughter of Ms. Good Woman and Mr. Helpful Soul. Each student will perform two memorized pieces and receive written comments from the competition adjudicators. Last year, two of Ms Maker's students placed/performed in the SDMTA state competitions.

Ms. Maker has owned and taught at Top Notch Music Studios since 1992 and is a member of the Local Area Music Teachers Association. She has a bachelor's degree in music from Best University and serves as pianist for the Busyville Community Choir. Ms. Maker completed her music teachers certification through MTNA and her state certification through SDMTA in 1994. She teaches solo and group piano lessons with additional classes in music theory, music history and music performance. Ms. Maker's students perform in the annual City Christmas concert, Top Notch Studio annual recitals and in SDMTA and Piano Teachers Guild festivals and competitions. The Top Notch Music Studios' Fall recital will be held on Sunday, December 4th at 3:00 p.m. in the Beautiful Church at 17 Autumn Lane in Busyville. The public is invited to attend. For information about Top Notch Studios, please call 133-323-4433.

For information about SDMTA and MTNA, Call Local area memberat or visit www.sdmta.org.