

SOUTH SUBURBAN MUSIC TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

November 2016 Newsletter

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Website: www.ssmtamusicteachers.org

CALENDAR

- November 8: **November SSMTA Meeting;
Arapahoe Road Baptist Church,
780 E. Arapahoe Road**
- November 11: **CU Music Day (please see article herein)**
- November 12: **SSMTA Ensemble Event – Schmitt Music**
- November 26: **Deadline: Registrations due for SSMTA December Student Recital**
- December 10: **SSMTA December student recital at Skyview Presbyterian Church**
- December 13: **SSMTA Meeting/Holiday Musicale/Potluck; Arapahoe Road Baptist Church,
780 E. Arapahoe Road**
- December 27: **Deadline: SSMTA Student Achievement Day Registrations due**

TEACHER REFERRAL

If you have any openings for new students, please contact our SSMTA Referral Chair Linda Vogan: (303) 908-1694; or denlinvog@comcast.net. Also, if you know of any potential students that you cannot accommodate, please give them Linda's contact information!



MEASURE FOR MEASURE

from Gloria Ross, President

Did you have a ghoulishly great Hallowe'en? My students loved the Hallowe'en theme at our October studio class, and two of my students performed at the SSMTA Hallowe'en Recital. I enjoyed fun music and saw some terrific costumes at that event. It was especially entertaining to hear new member Eric Jones providing the rhythm section to his student's stellar rendition of the *Ghostbusters* theme. So great to see students reveling in the spirit of the season.

Our SSMTA recitals are such a wonderful venue for our students to demonstrate and experience pride in their progress, as well as to earn points toward an SSMTA Performance Medal.

Our next recital is December 10. Be sure to fill out your registration form and send payment to Pam Simpson, so she receives it by November 26th!!

SSMTA Ensemble Festival is just around the corner, so I know you're all putting the final touches on your student performances.

I'm writing this column on the morning we had a refreshing rain shower — the first moisture from heaven we've had in a month or so. I was so excited! Weird, huh? We've experienced what I would call a 'normal' autumn — not normal for Colorado, though. Since moving here 28 years ago, my only complaint about the climate was the abrupt season changes from winter to summer and back to winter. This year's we've had such graceful transitions, and it's been great for those of us who enjoy golf and other outdoor activities.

Our duo-piano group is starting up again, so if anyone would like to join us this year, please contact Barb Galuzzi or Patty Kershaw.

Think about sharing one of your favorite pieces with us at the December Musicale and plan on sticking around for the potluck luncheon. It's always great to socialize over great food. When the sign-up folder makes its rounds, add your name to the list.

Patricia Chen will present Tuesday's programs on *Piano Music from Spain*. Patricia knows this genre extremely well, so her presentation promises to be informative and delightful to the ears. See you then!

ACCOMPANIST REFERRAL LIST

Linda Cody, 796-0369; Stephen Fiess, 791-6473; Barb Galuzzi, 906-0430; Betsy Johnson, 719-649-2521; Carol Rankin, 477-2686; Cheryl Saborsky, 771-2532; Elaine Van Dellen, 955-5790. Please contact newsletter editors if you wish to have your name added to this list!

CU MUSIC DAY

from Alejandro Cremaschi

Greetings! I would like to invite **YOU and your students** to join us for the Music Day event at CU/Boulder on **Friday, November 11**, in the Imig Music Building at CU. Music Day is a great opportunity for you and your high-school students to meet our faculty and current students, and learn about our music degrees and programs. (It is held during the Veterans' Day holiday to allow high-school students to attend).

Please invite your High-School students to attend this event. It is designed for students who are considering music as a major, minor, or double-major in college, and for those who may not major in music but who want to explore their music options at CU.

While students are encouraged to arrive at 8:00 a.m. for a full day of activities, piano teachers are welcome to join **us at 1:30 p.m.** for refreshments and a "meet-and-greet" session, and for Q&A and a current-student showcase at **2:00 p.m.**

Student registration for the day is available at <http://colorado.edu/music/admissions/visit-college>

If you are planning to attend the afternoon piano gathering, please let me know by e-mail at alejandro.cremaschi@colodrado.edu

I hope to have the pleasure of meeting you and your students in person on November 11.

Best wishes,
Alejandro Cremaschi

MINUTES OF OCTOBER 11, 2016

SSMTA MEETING

The October SSMTA general meeting was called to order at 9:34 a.m. by SSMTA President Gloria Ross. Correction: There was an error in the September minutes posted in our October newsletter. It read "*The May SSMTA general meeting...*" instead of "*The September SSMTA general meeting ...*"

MEMBERSHIP

New member Dan Christian introduced himself. He has taught over 30 years in public schools.. Currently, he teaches violin, viola, and string bass.

TREASURER'S REPORT

As of October, 2016, there is a balance of \$4,870.00 in our checking account; and \$10,000.00 in our CD savings. Our SPARKS fund is at \$751.00

STUDENT ACTIVITIES

SSMTA 2016-2017 Student Recitals

Pam Simpson is currently in charge of the three upcoming SSMTA Student recitals: December 10, 2016, April 8, 2017 and February 11, 2017

SSMTA 2016 Ensemble Event

Yoko Ashcroft, Marilyn Madsen, and Smita Rodrigues are the chairs for this event. This year, Ensemble Event will be held at Schmitt Music on **November 12th**. There will be seven recitals scheduled. Please send your application by **October 17** or bring it to our October Meeting. We need help in various areas in order to have a smoothly-run Festival. Please let Yoko know if you can help.

SSMTA 2017 Achievement Day

Kaye Craig has asked for volunteers to head up various committees at SSMTA Student Achievement Day. Those in charge of testing would like to train a new person.

Patricia Chen volunteered to be one of the judges for upper level students.

There will be some new games in the game room! Leila Viss will run a Junk Yard Rhythm Band to amuse and inspire. Achievement Day will be held on **February 25**. **The due date for registrations and payment is December 27.**

SSMTA 2017 Masterworks Festival

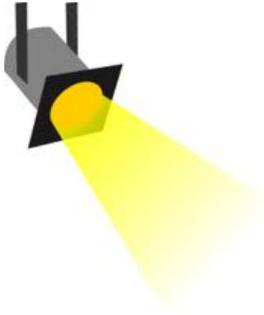
Cathy Motter is the chair, with Robin Stewart assisting.

The Festival is scheduled for **March 11**, with the *Honors Recital* on March 12.

The due date for registration for Masterworks Festival is January 28th. If there is a repertoire piece that you are not sure would be acceptable, please send a copy of the piece to Robin Stewart. She will decide if it fits the requirements for Masterworks Festival.

Respectfully submitted,

Nazila Nekoerad



SSMTA MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

This month's SSMTA Member Spotlight features SSMTA member Kathy Van Arsdale

Kathy Van Arsdale

Kathy Van Arsdale is a Consultant for *the International Piano Teaching Foundation*, and serves on its Board of Directors. A graduate of the University of Colorado, Boulder (BMusEd), and the University of Denver (MA in Music Education), she is listed in *Who's Who in America*, and *Who's Who Among America's Teachers*, nominated by her students. She is a vocal, choral and piano judge for the Colorado High School Activities Association and The National Guild of Piano Teachers, having worked in Colorado, Wyoming, Maryland, Montana, Florida, and Virginia; and has adjudicated numerous piano festivals in the Denver area. She is a consultant to the *Bravo! Vail Music Festival Educational Outreach Program* involved in curriculum development, teacher evaluation and training.

Kathy Van Arsdale has served as President of *Pacesetters of Colorado*, Vice President of *CSMTA*, President of *SSMTA*, and District I Vocal Representative to the *Colorado Music Educators Association*. As a member of the *Colorado All State Choir* Board, she directed the Metro Denver All State Choir Auditions for ten years. For 28 years, she has chaired the Highlands Ranch/DTC *National Guild of Piano Teachers* Auditions.

Married for 48 years to Dr. Peter Van Arsdale, a professor at the University of Denver and cultural anthropologist, their three children are all musicians, having played piano throughout high school. Two were two-time *All-State Choir* singers. One sang at the Grammy Awards. Another played harpsichord in Colonial Williamsburg for her work-study while an undergraduate at the College of William and Mary. Now they are a local attorney supervising 38 lawyers and paralegals for the Social Security Administration; a psychologist and Assistant Professor at Marymount University in northern Virginia; and an opera singer performing primarily in Europe — just finishing Arturo in “Lucia” in Tours, France; and off to sing Tamino in “The Magic Flute” in Nice. (He sings “Messiah” in Chicago in December).

Committed to the high calling of music education, Kathy taught General Music K-5 in Jefferson County Schools, middle school in Cherry Creek Schools (where she is co-founder of the *Challenge School*, a magnet school for academically advanced and motivated learners), and high school choir for 18 years at Denver Christian HS. She teaches the *Pace Method of Comprehensive Musicianship* to teachers throughout the Rocky Mountain region. Her piano and voice studio is located near Park Meadows, where two of their three grandchildren are students.

SSMTA MEETING DAY SCHEDULE
November 8, 2016

9:10 -- 9:30 a.m.	Arrival/Social Time/ Browse SPARKS music
9:30 -- 10:20 a.m.	SSMTA General Meeting and
10:20 – 10:35 a.m.	Break/Browse
10:35 – 11:35 a.m.	Program

PLEASE HELP THE MEETING RUN SMOOTHLY

Help is needed from 8:30 to 9:00 a.m. to set up the tables with boxes of SPARKS music.

Please arrive on time for refreshments if you plan to partake, and be seated at the tables by 9:30 a.m. so we can begin the meeting on time.

Let's continue to be respectful of all those in attendance at the meeting by giving your undivided attention to the meeting in progress and refraining from private conversations.

OUR NOVEMBER SSMTA PROGRAM

The November meeting program will be presented by well-known speaker Patricia Chen on the subject of *Piano Music from Spain*. Please plan to attend this interesting and informative program!

REFRESHMENTS FOR OUR NOVEMBER MEETING

Thank you to Marilyn Madsen, Betty Berry, and Gloria Ross for bringing refreshments for this month's meeting!!

Ongoing thanks to Barb Galuzzi for taking such good care of hospitality at all of our meetings and student events!

