

SOUTH SUBURBAN MUSIC TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

April 2012 Newsletter

President: Yoko Ashcroft (303) 470-5936

Membership Chair: Bonnie Kreutz (303) 378-5265

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CALENDAR

- April 1: **Deadline to apply for SSMTA excellence-in-music awards** (Linda Vogan, chair)
- April 10: **SSMTA April meeting**, Arapahoe Road Baptist Church (see information herein)
- April 14: **SSMTA Student Recitals**, Onofrio Music (see article herein)
- May 2: **SSMTA/DAMTA Performance Group**. Home of Blanche Greenberg, 8101 E. Dartmouth Ave., #39.; 9:00-11:30 a.m. RSVP (303) 755-7898.

TEACHER REFERRAL

If you have any openings for new students, our SSMTA Referral Chair Dorothy Lomme has requested that you call her as soon as possible. Her phone number is (303) 798-5579. *Thanks, Dorothy!*

ACCOMPANIST REFERRAL LIST

Linda Cody, 796-0369; Stephen Fiess, 791-6473; Barb Galuzzi, 936-1772; Alicia Johansson, 797-9630; Nancy Kettering, 204-6430; 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!

MEASURE FOR MEASURE

from Yoko Ashcroft, President

Greetings, SSMTA Colleagues!

The 2012 MTNA National Conference in New York was wonderful!! I was so grateful for the opportunity to be able to attend!!

This was the first time that I have been to an MTNA National Conference – I learned many new things. It was a real treat to see the outstanding leaders and teachers that are nationally known and be able to attend their Master Classes. One of the classes that I attended that was really interesting and will help me in my teaching and business was Kathleen Theisen's class on *"Studio Entrepreneurship: New ideas for succeeding financially in the music business while doing what you love!"* She highlighted three important steps to setting up a great business: Be passionate, Plan, and Work your Plan. You can get her handouts by going to her website at: www.KathleenTheisen.com Go to "Workshops," find "MTNA Conference," and click on "Handouts". (I also had some free time and to see the Broadway Play *"Mary Poppins"*. It was so amazing.)

Thank you again, SSMTA!!



MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 14, 2012 SSMTA MEETING

The meeting was called to order by SSMTA President Yoko Ashcroft at 9:35 A.M.

Minutes of the February 2012 meeting were approved as published.

Treasurer Gloria Ross read the Treasurer's report. The savings account balance is \$11,695.22, and the checking account balance is \$5,445.47.

PROGRAM

Kat Wagner announced that the March 2012 program would be presented by SSMTA member Vera Alder on the topic: *"The Classical Muses, or Surprise! --- Women Composing and Achieving Firsts in the Classical Era."*

TEACHING MOMENT

Mandy Ricks and Patty Kershaw shared teaching ideas that have proved to be successful in their studios:

Mandy Ricks:

There are plenty of music teaching ideas on blogs and websites, **most of which is free**. My two favorite websites are: <http://www.pianimation.com> and <http://pianodiscoveries.ca>

Both contain many ideas and plenty of free printables that my students have enjoyed.

Patty Kershaw:

- 1) Use Mapping Scales developed by Rebecca Shockley. Scales are played without using the 5th finger:
Right hand --- 1, 2, 3, 1, 2, 3, 4, 1, etc.
Left hand --- 1, 4, 3, 2, 1, 3, 2, 1, etc.
- 2) When practicing hands alone, both hands should remain on the piano.

STUDENT ACTIVITIES

2012 SSMTA Achievement Day:

The SSMTA Achievement Day update was presented by Patty Kershaw:

Student Registrants: **215**

Teachers Participating: **20** with registered students
5 participating to learn about Achievement Day
49 Performance Class participants

Foothills Canyon LDS Church waived the Achievement Day fee, and asked that the \$500.00 be used for scholarships.

Linda Vogan moved that the \$700.00 profit from the Halloween recital and the \$500.00 waived Achievement Day fee, total of \$1200.00, be divided equally to support three SSMTA projects:

\$400.00 to Excellence in Music Award
\$400.00 to Sparks
\$400.00 to the Educational Grant-Scholarship Fund

Patty Kershaw seconded the motion, and all present voted in favor.

2012 SSMTA Masterworks Festival:

Ardith Sloan presented a report on the Masterworks Festival. **19** teachers participated, **79** students were registered and there were 6 cancellations. Out of the **73** students who performed, **48** received a "1" rating. The event sustained a loss of \$560.23 due to increased expenses--- piano moving, janitor's salary, and judges' fees. There is a possibility that Masterworks Festival entry fees will be increased in 2013.

Thank you to all committees who helped with the Festival!



SSMTA STUDENT RECITALS

The last SSMTA Student Recital for the 2011-2012 year is scheduled for Saturday, April 14th, 2:00 p.m. and 3:00 p.m. at Onofrio Music.

Please note: Teachers' entry forms (available on the SSMTA website) and a \$5.00 fee per student **must be received by Pam by March 31st, 2012.**

Many thanks to Pam Simpson for her time and effort spent organizing these recitals!!

WEBSITE

Sheila encourages teachers to post student photos on the SSMTA website. These photos can be sent to Sheila and must be accompanied with the signed permission form which is available to print from the site. Sheila asked for a volunteer to assist her with the website responsibilities.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Linda Vogan requested that the Performance Award tally sheets (located on Page 18 of the 2011-2012 yearbook) need to be turned in to her immediately!!

The application deadline for the *Excellence in Music Award* is April 1, 2012. Information and forms are on Pages 19-20 in the SSMTA yearbook.

Dorothy Lomme asked for volunteer(s) to please take over the Historian responsibilities. ***Thank you to Dorothy for all of her service to SSMTA!!!***

Patty Kershaw reminded the group that Clavier magazine is available.

Gail Holman announced that the Ragtime Society of Colorado would present a concert at Onofrio Music on Saturday, March 17th at 7:00 p.m.

2012 CSMTA State Conference is Wednesday, June 6th through Saturday, June 9th, at the Ramada Plaza & Conference Center in Northglenn, CO.

Meeting adjourned at 10:30 A.M.

Respectfully submitted,
Jackie Garner

SSMTA MEETING DAY SCHEDULE

Tuesday, April 10, 2012

9:00 -- 9:15 a.m.	Board Meeting
9:15 -- 9:30 a.m.	Arrival and Refreshments
9:30 -- 10:30 a.m.	SSMTA General Meeting
10:30 -- 11:30 a.m.	April 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. This should also be the time that materials are put on the sign-in table.

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

Please plan to stay for the program.

AT OUR APRIL SSMTA MEETING

Our April meeting program, entitled "*World of Harmony*" will be presented by Debbie Center. Please plan to attend this interesting and informative program!

Teaching moments will be provided by Liane Rockley and Jackie Garner.

REFRESHMENTS FOR OUR APRIL MEETING

Refreshments for our April meeting will be provided by Gail Holman, Yoko Ashcroft, and Sheila Conolly-McKin.

Thanks, too, to all who have provided refreshments during this past year!

