



## DSMTA Newsletter December, 2009

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### *Business meeting minutes- Highlights*

Treasurers Report: June Rietdorf and Eric Benson now have access to our Fidelity account. As of Oct., 2009: Checking Account: \$7,929.84 Fidelity Account: \$12,743.32

Eric nominated Marian Lee for President Elect and Lydia Jacobson as VicePresident for Communications.

Theory Festival Report: Christine DelBeau will be Chairperson. Fee will be \$8.00 per person.

There is a new application coming out. Applications should be mailed to Jean Pyle.

The syllabus is available for purchase from Sharon Parker. The aural test has been rewritten. Students can earn extra points towards trophies: 2 points by attending a professional concert and taking notes. 3 points for volunteering at festivals

Eric proposed that DSMTA start a Collegiate Chapter of MTNA at the University of Delaware. The MTNA Convention is in New Mexico. Eric is not able to go. DSMTA now has 71 official members.

Submitted by Kate Regan

### *A Message from the President ....*

2009 has been a year of transition for the DSMTA and its members. It has been a while since our last newsletter, and I would like to give an overview of the year.

The year started on a sad note with the passing of former DSMTA President Irene Struve. At her memorial service the remembrances and anecdotes by her friends and family showed just how much she touched everyone.

Later in the year, **Ben Whitten** stepped down as DSMTA President due to health considerations. Ben has been a force for Delaware as well as the MTNA. His leadership and insight will be missed.

We were able to fulfill one of Ben's goals by launching the DSMTA Website. [www.delawaremusicteachers.org](http://www.delawaremusicteachers.org) is up and running. It is still a work in progress but members have access to downloadable forms for the Festivals and Competitions as well as a listing of Upcoming Events.

DSMTA also conducted the Festivals for Theory, Ensemble and Solo Piano as well as the MTNA Competition.

The DSMTA Convention was on November 14<sup>th</sup> at the beautiful Center for the Arts at the University of Delaware. It was a great day with 30 members in attendance. Please see the article in the newsletter for more details.

During the business meeting at the Convention, important matters were discussed and voted on. Two new members were added to the DSMTA Board by acclamation: **President-Elect Marian Lee and Vice-President for Communications Lydia Jacobson**. The members also decided to pursue creating an MTNA Collegiate Chapter at the University of Delaware.

The Delaware State Music Teachers Association was founded in 1960 with this mission: "**To encourage and maintain teaching excellence among music teachers throughout Delaware**". This makes 2010 the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of our Association's mission. Here's to a good year-

*Eric Benson  
President*



## Treasurer's Report



### DSMTA Fiscal Year End June 30, 2009 (Updated October 15, 2009)

Beginning Balance: \$7,116.68 (3/31/09) DE National Bank checking acct.

Ending Balance: \$8,377.27 (6/30/09) (actual - \$7327.27)

**Balance (10/15/09) \$7,929.84**

#### INCOME:

5/4/09 - 50.00 Solo fest. Donation  
5/4/09 - 420.00 MTNA dues rebate  
\$ 470.00 Total income this period  
(\$384.00 - \$86.00 NSF check from solo festival)

#### EXPENSES:

5/1/09 - \$66.00 Elayne Penn – fest. Supplies –seals  
5/4/09 - \$641.50 Liveware Pub. – (\$500 solo/\$141.50 theory)  
5/4/09 - \$50.00 June Rietdorf - postage from 7/04 to 5/09)  
5/4/09 - \$27.65 Sprint - theory  
5/11/09- \$64.50 Jean Pyle – food for theory & solo scheduling  
5/11/09- \$60.00 Elayne Penn – solo fest. Help  
6/2/09 - \$1275.60 Champion Trophies – festivals  
6/2/09 - \$1000.00 Dr. Paul Head – UD music scholarship  
**\$3,185.25 Total expenses this period**

As of July 23, 2009 – June Rietdorf and Eric Benson have full trading authority for the Fidelity Investment Account.

*Respectfully submitted,*

*June Rietdorf*

*DSMTA Treasurer*

## DSMTA Convention 2009 – Survey Results

*submitted by Marian Lee*

A big thanks to everyone who took the time to fill out the survey given out at this year's convention. The response was overwhelmingly positive and "excellent" was used over and over again describing the DSMTA Convention experience. One member wrote "This is the best convention I have attended in Delaware. It was very smoothly organized and everything was well-planned." Another member wrote "I was pleased with all the sessions and the chance to visit with members. Sessions spoke to a variety of aspects, all of great interest and importance"

Many were complimentary with the venue saying it was "absolutely wonderful!" and that "Gore Recital Hall is truly beautiful, with the Steinway on the stage, and wonderful facilities." There were many good suggestions for improvement. The most overwhelming sentiment seemed to be that we have coffee for the afternoon session!

Recommended topics for future conventions were vocal technique/pedagogy, student composition, overcoming learning difficulties with elementary students (different types of learners), preparing students for college, chamber music, historical subjects, applying "Alexander" to young students, exploring more repertoire, ways to encourage practicing (tips for students who have very little time to practice).



### *Upcoming Events*

**NDMTA Recital and Master Class**

**Sunday, December 6, 2009 – 12:30PM  
(DEADLINE Nov. 18<sup>th</sup>)**

Recitals at 1:00 PM and 3:45 PM

Master Class at 2:05 PM

Gore Recital Hall

**NDMTA Piano Recital**

**Sunday, February 14, 2010**

12:30 PM, 1:20 PM, 2:30 PM, 3:30 PM

Gore Recital Hall

**DSMTA Festivals**

Vocal, Instrumental,  
Piano Ensemble and Concerto

**Sunday, February 28, 2010 - 12PM**

Amy DuPont Building

**DSMTA- Theory Festival**

**Sunday, March 7, 2010 - 8:30AM**

Amy DuPont Building

**SDMTA- Piano Marathon**

**Saturday, February 27, 2010**

Dover Mall

**SDMTA- Competition (entries due 3/13)**

**Saturday, March 27, 2010**

Wesley College

**NDMTA Recital**

**Sunday, April 18, 2010**

12:30 PM, 1:20 PM, 2:30 PM, 3:30 PM

Gore Recital Hall

**DSMTA Piano Solo Festival**

**Saturday & Sunday, May 8-9, 2010 - 12PM**

**(DEADLINE March 17<sup>th</sup>)**

Amy DuPont Building

## DSMTA Convention 2009



The *Louise and David Roselle Center for the Performing Arts* was a beautiful setting for the 2009 DSMTA Convention. Lectures and student performances took place in a state-of-the-art concert hall. The facility also provided a grand entrance lobby for the reception area and an auditorium for a catered lunch, which was followed by a business meeting of the membership. *Congratulations to Dr. Marian Lee for doing such a great job organizing this event!*

## Convention Activities



DSMTA President *Eric Benson* greeted members as they arrived at the convention. *Dr. Holly Roadfeldt-O'Riordan* lectured on "Cultivating Creativity Through Sound" and presented many musical examples useful for students in all levels of advancement. *Jan Baty* demonstrated the Alexander Technique assisted by her little friend who allowed us to understand exactly what takes place in the student's skeletal structure when playing the piano. *Dr. Marian Lee's* memorial tribute to the great pianist Gyorgy Sandor included pedagogical examples from his book "On Piano Playing: Motion, Sound and Expression"



*Professor Christine Delbeau* conducted a Chopin Master Class with participants Sara Scott, who played the Nocturne in C# minor, Audric Baal, who played the Nocturne in Eb, and Richard Miller, who played the Etude in Gb.

Pictured from left to right are Sara, (student of Joan Craft), **Professor Delbeau**, AJ, (student of Lillian Schaube) and Richard (student of Linda Barone.)



An appreciative audience was treated to performances by the talented participants in DSMTA's statewide competition in piano, voice, woodwind and composition. From left to right: Stephen Chen (piano, David Brown); Beatrice Hsieh (piano, David Brown); Alison Hsieh (piano, David Brown); Madeline Laird (voice, Mary Ellen Schaubert); Cara Tozzoli (voice, Marian Johnson-Healy); Abigail Adams (voice, Marian Johnson-Healy); David Xu (piano, Linda Barone); Wesley Wagner (composition, Jacqueline Faulcon); Joyce Li (woodwind, Vincent Marinelli); Angela Li (woodwind, Dr. Donna Delaurentis);

DSMTA wishes the best of luck to the winners in each category as they go on to compete at the Eastern Division conference.