

South Dakota Music Teachers Association
an affiliate of Music Teachers National Association

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President's Message

September is my favorite month of the year. It is so much fun to work with returning music students, and to get to know new ones. It is a time for fresh starts, a time to establish new goals for our students and for ourselves. I think this is a good time to review our reasons for teaching music. If we clarify our own personal missions and goals for teaching, it will help us convey to our students what we think is important. Are we teaching to further the art of music? To develop our students' minds? To make our students well rounded individuals? To help students appreciate music? To enable students to achieve a high level of performance ability? To help students to appreciate music? To make some extra money? To share the knowledge we have acquired? To share our love for music, or for an instrument? To help students to enjoy making music? To help the world be a better place? Perhaps all of these are important to you. If you can take some time to think about where your priorities are, and how to best communicate these priorities to students, it might make your teaching even more satisfying.

The main purpose of MTNA is "the advancement of music education." It is important that we all reflect upon each of the following stated purposes of MTNA and see if we can do anything new this year in our studios or our state organization to support these goals. Perhaps you could talk about these statements and questions in your local meetings.

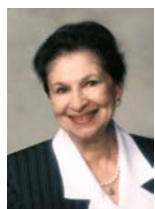
- a. *To conduct programs and activities to build a vital musical culture and an enlightened musical public for the benefit and the general welfare of all persons.* Are we encourage our students play in public? Are we encouraging or inviting students and parents to attend cultural events? Do we attend concerts to model behavior?
- b. *To ensure that every student shall have access to a balanced, comprehensive, and high-quality program of music instruction.* Do we need to have alternate class lesson times for theory, history or ensembles? Can we combine studios to accomplish this? Can we prove or demonstrate our competence if needed?
- c. *To improve the quality of teaching, research, and scholarship in music.* Are we sharing our teaching knowledge with anyone? How can we help the next generation of teachers to be better? Do we keep learning ourselves by reading books and articles about music or musicians?
- d. *To promote the involvement of persons of all ages in learning music.* Do we encourage older people to study music? Is there a way to ensure that more preschoolers in your community have music experiences? Can we expand our studios to include a wider age spread? Can we offer community music appreciation classes?
- e. *To foster the utilization of the most effective techniques and resources in music instruction.* Are we keeping up with the latest teaching strategies? Do we need to find someone to help us learn more about technology?
- f. *To facilitate the education of music teachers.* What are ways we can communicate our job satisfaction to our students and potential teachers? How can we nurture future teachers?

For the sake of the future of music, and for the sake of the development of our students, I hope we can all continually renew our commitment to teaching, clarify our personal missions, and find the energy to continue to share our passion for making beautiful music. I hope you all have a great beginning to this new teaching year, and I am looking forward to seeing everyone in Sioux Falls this November!

**Newsletters' Deadlines
For Submissions Are:
May 15 - Spring Newsletter
September 15 - Fall Newsletter
January 15 - Winter Newsletter**

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In Memoriam:

Alyce Berggren, a long-time SDMTA member, passed away on Saturday, September 5, 2009. SDMTA regrets the loss of our esteemed colleague and extends our condolences to Alyce's family.

SDMTA WEBSITE

You can find many of our state documents online at www.sdmata.org. Click Student Competitions to find application forms; click State Conference for conference registration forms (soon to be posted). The newsletter link is on the Home page. Local associations also post forms on their Local Association pages. LA presidents and committee chairs please send me your updated information.

Thank you.

John Walker, Webmaster

Amendments for Consideration at the 2009 General Meeting, November 6, 2009:

ARTICLE V: Officers

1. The title "first Vice President" shall be changed to "President Elect" to comply with MTNA titles.

ARTICLE VI: Board

1. The J. Earl Lee Chair will be an ex-officio (non-voting) members of the board.
2. The Foundation Chair will be ex-officio (non-voting) members of the board.
3. The Newsletter Editor will be will an ex-officio (non-voting) member of the board.

Note: The SDMTA Constitution may be amended upon the recommendation of the Board of Directors at any annual session of SDMTA by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the active members present and voting, provided a notice of such intended amendment be sent to each active member thirty (30) days prior to the voting. Such notices shall state the amendments up for consideration. Amendments may be proposed in writing by any member.

PLEASE SEND COMMENTS,
UPDATES & CORRECTIONS
TO NEWSLETTER EDITOR:

Marcela Faflak
faflakm@northern.edu, 605-226-3421

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
2009 SDMTA Conference
in Sioux Falls, November 5-7, 2009.

For one-time use only.
You must send in THIS coupon with your registration.

STATE FOUNDATION REPORT

It is always a joy to announce in this column the next South Dakota MTNA Foundation Fellow nominee, but this year I do so with a heavy heart. Alyce Berggren, Our 2010 nominee for the MTNA Foundation Fellow, died on September 5 in Aberdeen, South Dakota.

Alyce Bedrosian grew up in an Armenian family in Chicago. She attended North Park College and Northwestern University receiving a Master of Music degree, with additional study with Carl Friedburg at the Juilliard School in New York. Northern State Teachers College in Aberdeen hired her in 1947. She carried a return train ticket from her concerned father, but never used it. She taught piano, piano pedagogy, and keyboard literature at Northern State University. She was named "First lady of Aberdeen" in 1979 and Outstanding Faculty Member of the Year at NSU in 1987. She retired in 1991 and was named Emeritus Professor of Music.

During her tenure at Northern State University and in her retirement, she performed as a soloist, accompanist, and ensemble pianist. She toured the state for several years under the auspices of the South Dakota Arts Council, presenting 4-hand piano recitals with Allan Jacobson. The Aberdeen Arts Council presented her with a "Friends in the Arts" Award in 1990.

During their many years as music professors at Northern State University, Alyce and her husband, John (former Dean of Fine Arts at NSU) established a reputation for excellence in music as teachers, performers and mentors to their students. For this they received many honors: the establishment of a Music Scholarship Foundation; the South Dakota Governor's Award in the Arts for Creative Achievement and Outstanding Support in 1982; and the dedication of a recital hall at NSU in their names.

A long-time member of MTNA, Alyce served as State Certification Chairman and often presented workshops and master classes for SDMTA groups.

When I called Alyce this summer to ask her if we could nominate her for the Fellow Award, she was thrilled. She wrote "What a lovely surprise to learn of the MTNA nomination. I am greatly honored." This reminds me again of how important it is that we honor our longest-serving members and let them know how much we appreciate them while they are still around to receive our thanks. We are sad that Alyce won't

be with us to receive her award at the MTNA conference in Albuquerque, but grateful that she knew of the honor she was to receive.

Please donate generously to the Alyce Berggren MTNA Foundation Fellow award. We must raise \$1000 by January 2010 to honor Alyce with this distinction. Checks can be sent directly to MTNA National Headquarters at 441 Vine St., Ste. 3100, Cincinnati, OH 45202-3004. Make your check out to MTNA Foundation Fund and include "Alyce Berggren Fellow Fund" or "South Dakota Fellow Fund" in the memo line. You can also donate online by going to <http://www.mtnafoundation.org> and clicking on the link "Donate Online." Or you can donate at the Sioux Falls SDMTA conference, either directly at the MTNA Foundation display table or by supporting the raffle that will be held during the conference.

We will see you in Sioux Falls in November!
Susanne Skyrn, SDMTA Foundation Chair

CERTIFICATION REPORT

Greetings members,

How about becoming a South Dakota state certified teacher? It would be nice to have a large number of teachers state certified. Would anyone be interested in becoming a nationally certified teacher? There is money available to for a first time national certified member to help pay expenses. You may contact SMTA for more information.

There are so many reasons to be certified. One of the new items that have brought to my attention from the National office MTNA has partnered with D'Addario & Company and its new education site theLessonroom.com to provide members, especially nationally certified members, with another valuable resource to improve their music studios.

theLessonroom.com has video lessons, scorch lessons, interactive learning games, articles and other resources for both the teachers and students.

One of the greatest benefits to MTNA members is the free Teacher Directory. The directory allows students to search for teachers by location, instruments taught, country and even more. Consider becoming state and or nationally certified. It is very beneficial to your image in the community and to the education helps and the friends you meet.

Marie Schlosser, State Certification Chair
mhschlos@nvc.net or phone 605-329-2051

“Meet a Member”

Name: John Walker, D.M.A.

Home: Brookings, SD

Member SDMTA since: 1995

Born: Walnut Creek, California

Raised: Clayton, CA

Education: 1 year of community college; Bachelor of Music, University of California at Santa Barbara; Master of Music, San Francisco Conservatory of Music; Doctor of Musical Arts, University of Colorado at Boulder; Certificate, New School for Music Study (Princeton, NJ)

Current jobs: Associate Professor of Music and Director of Keyboard Studies, South Dakota State University. Patricia Noethe Pierce Distinguished Artist in Residence at SDSU. Principal piano, harpsichord and celesta for South Dakota Symphony Orchestra. Private studio piano teacher.

Family: Wife, Mary, duet partner and fellow piano teacher at SDSU; son Dorian (18) is a foreign exchange student in Campinas, Brazil, and plays trombone, cello, guitar, bass, and drums; first son Tristan deceased at age 16.

Favorite Composers: Beethoven, Mozart, Ravel

Favorite Pianists: Murray Perahia, Art Tatum, Martha Argerich

Most Influential Musicians/Teachers: Frances Clark, Nathan Schwartz (SF Conservatory), June Wilde (1st-12th grade, Concord, CA)

Hobbies/Activities: Composing, model airplanes, bike riding and walking, part-time covert operative for the shadow CIA.

Why I like SDMTA: I get to connect with my peers across the state and find out why piano people are the best people.

Due to the unforeseen vacancy of two positions on the Board, a slate of nominated officers will be sent to all members by October 5. Nominations may also be provided on the floor at the Business Meeting on November 6.

**Questions may be directed to
Janeen.larsen@bhsu.edu**

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

MTNA wanted to pass along some information to our state presidents regarding the 29th International Society for Music Education (ISME.) World Conference, which will take place August 1-7, 2010 in Beijing, China. Please forward this e-mail on as appropriate.

This biannual conference will be co-hosted by ISME., the China Conservatory of Music and The Chinese Society for Music Education in the National Conference Center of China which is just inside the Beijing Olympic Village.

The Conference Theme is "Harmony and the World Future" where music educators will discuss how to enhance good communication with understanding between nations, cultures, genders and different groups to promote more harmonious global development with harmonious music.

MTNA members wishing to attend and/or to incorporate ISME into an organized tour, July 31–August 15 after ISME, to Xian, Hangzhou, Suzhou, Shanghai with an optional three-day Hong Kong extension should contact Lois Harper, phone 1-800-267-8526 or look on her website [www.abc.ca/en/-ISME Educators 46.html](http://www.abc.ca/en/-ISME_Educators_46.html).

Before each ISME Conference, a new ISME commission will meet. The Forum on Instrumental and Vocal Teaching will be of special interest to music teachers. This Forum will have its first official meeting in Beijing just before the Conference, July 30 and 3, 2010 in Beijing.

This is a great opportunity to appreciate the best of the 8,000 year history of China—the Forbidden City, the Temple of Heaven, the Summer Palace, the Great Wall, the thousands of life-size clay warriors in Xian and so much more. The entire country of China may be the Eighth Wonder of the World!

SDMTA CONFERENCE PRELIMINARY SCHEDULE

November 5-7, 2009 • Augustana College, Sioux Falls, SD
Schedule is subject to change

Thursday, Nov. 5

9:00 am - 10:30 pm	Rehearsal rooms available
10:00 am	Registration begins
11:00 am – 5:00 pm	Competitions: SDMTA Collegiate Voice I, II & III SDMTA Collegiate Piano MTNA Junior Piano MTNA Young Artist Piano SDMTA/MTNA Strings
TBA	Voice Master Class Piano Master Class
5:00 - 7:00 pm	Executive Board Meeting
7:30 pm	Concert: Augustana Faculty String Quartet

Friday, Nov. 6

8:00 am	Registration begins
9:00 am – 5:00 pm	Exhibits and Resource Tables
9:00 am - 12 noon	Teacher Development Day Workshops: Janeen Larsen: Jumping into Jazz: Self Teaching Strategies for the Classical Pianist Thomas Ediger: Strategies for Teaching Composition Pierce Emata: Peak Performance through Project Management: Planning the Work and Working the Plan Marie Schlosser: Questions and Answers on Certification
12:00 noon	IMTF Luncheon: Teaching Tips from the Pros
1:00 am – 4:00 pm	Teacher Development Day Workshops (cont): Susan Keith Gray: Voicing and Balance for One or More Players Susanne Skyrn: The Ponteios of M.C. Guarnieri: Preludes with a Brazilian Style Eugene Gienger: Late Beethoven Piano Music - Sonata No. 28, Op. 101
1:00 am – 4:00 pm	Competitions: MTNA Senior Piano MTNA Senior Voice SDMTA/MTNA Brass SDMTA/MTNA Woodwinds MTNA Young Artist Chamber Music
5:00 pm – 6:00 pm	General Membership Meeting
6:00 pm	Banquet: Dinner Jeremy Hegg: Commissioned Composition - Piano Duet
8:00 pm	Guest Artist Recital: Pierce Emata, Piano

Saturday, Nov. 7

8:00 am	Registration begins
8:00 am – 3:00 pm	Competitions : SDMTA Elementary Piano SDMTA Junior Piano SDMTA Senior Piano SDMTA Piano Duet SDMTA Special Needs SDMTA Senior Voice MTNA Young Artist Voice
TBA	Voice Master Class Piano Master Class

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT DAY:

Get ready to be Inspired!

Friday, November 6, 2009

We have a wealth of very talented artists this year who have customized their presentations for you whether your students are at beginning or advanced levels:

- # Workshops: You will be ready to teach Jazz with Janeen Larsen, Composition with Thomas Ediger and prepare any student for a Successful Performance with our concert artist Pierce Emata. You will be comfortable teaching Balance of Melodic Lines with Susan Gray, a Beethoven Sonata with Eugene Gienger and Brazilian piano styles with Susanne Skyrm.
- # Information on SDMTA and MTNA certification.
- # The annual IMTF (Independent Music Teachers Forum) meeting and luncheon - a time for camaraderie, sharing ideas and Top Tips from the Pros.
- # Exhibits and Resource Tables
- # Music Dealers' Exhibits
- # ☐☐The General Membership Meeting – Keep up on all that SDMTA is offering for the year
- # The Banquet and Premier Performance of our Commissioned Piano Duet Composition
- # Guest Artist Recital: **Pierce Kagari Emata**, our conference artist and clinician brings to us an inspiring format for the solo pianist experience called **Concerts and Conversation: Evolution of the Tonal Palette from 1787 to 2004**. This will be a "Sneak Preview" of his 2010 CD. Concerts and conversation is a refreshing redefinition of today's classical music presentation which incorporates an informal and entertaining commentary about the music, composers, and the creative forces surrounding both, into an absolutely first-rate solo piano concert.

Hear 2009 SDMTA Commissioned Composition

Jeremy Hegg

"The Catbird Seat"

Piano Duet

Performed by Susan Keith Gray and Susanne Skyrm

Friday, November 6, 2009, 6:00 PM, Augustana College, Sioux Falls

*Pierce Emata in Concert - Concerts and Conversation:
Evolution of the Tonal Palette 1787 to 2004*

Sonata in A Major from Sonaten für Kenner und Liebhaber

Etude in A-Flat Major for the Left Hand

Estampes

Pagodes-Evening in Granada-Gardens in the Rain

Sestina Mutations (2003)

Intermission

Six Preludes for Piano

Allegro ben ritmato e deciso-Andante con moto e poco rubato-Rubato

Novelette in Fourths-Sleepless Night-Allegro Agitato

Dance Suite (tr. 1925)

Carl Phillip Emanuel Bach

Felix Blumenfeld

Claude Debussy

Michael Dalmau Colina

George Gershwin

Bela Bartok

Friday, November 6, 2009, 8:00 PM, Augustana College, Sioux Falls

The Executive Committee and the Conference Committee wishes to extend heartfelt thanks to all those who volunteered so freely and willingly of their time to organize this event.

Trish Hanson, Conference Co-Chair

2009 South Dakota Music Teachers Association Conference
Sioux Falls, South Dakota • November 5-7, 2009

Advance Registration Form
(must be postmarked no later than October 23rd)

NAME _____ PHONE (____) _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP _____

E-MAIL _____

For name tag information, please check: Are you State Certified? _____ Nationally Certified? _____

If State Officer, what is your title? _____

Please check conference schedule for more detailed information.

CONFERENCE FEES*

Amount:

\$35.00 Member/\$20 one day (*\$40/\$25 if not paid by October 23rd*)

\$50.00 Non-member/\$25 per day (*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** – *Sandwich & Salad Buffet* (Courtesy of SFAMTA) \$ FREE _____
_____ Yes, I will be attending the IMTF meeting and luncheon

• **FRIDAY Banquet & Commissioned Composition Premiere**
– SDMTA General Membership Meeting
Atrium of the Center for Visual Arts in the Augustana Humanities Building.

Cost for dinner is **\$18**. *The buffet will feature stuffed pork roast, roasted potatoes, vegetarian lasagna, braised vegetables, dessert.*

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

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

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

Mail form and check to:

Cheryl Koch, SDMTA CONFERENCE
2405 S. Mockingbird Circle
Sioux Falls, SD 57103-4426