

# the SDMTA

## Newsletter



### President's Message

Greetings to all SDMTA members! I recently attended the National Conference in Las Vegas. Our very own Janeen Larsen was recognized as the South Dakota Foundation Fellow at the Gala Dinner on March 23. Please join me in congratulating her on this award. She gives of herself to this organization, and we appreciate her dedication to the music profession. It was a great conference and everyone enjoyed it.

Our SDMTA Professional Development Conference will be held June 11-13 at the Washington Pavilion in Sioux Falls. There will be wonderful educational events as we again partner with Dakota Sky International Piano Festival. The headliner artist will be Dr. Douglas Humpherys, chair of the piano department of Eastman School of Music. He will present a solo piano recital on Thursday evening. On Saturday he will conduct a master class and a workshop. By the way, Dr. Humpherys conducted a master class at the recent National Conference. We are indeed privileged to have him here in June.

Another solo piano recital will be presented by Dr. Gregory DeTurck on Saturday evening. He is a theory and performance lecturer at the University of Pennsylvania. His workshop will take place on Friday. Also, Deanna Wehrspann, our commissioned composer for 2015, will perform her intermediate level piano suite "Poetic Preludes." A salon concert will be Friday evening with impressive performers. We have additional workshops and social events planned. School teachers can earn contact hours for renewal of their SD Teaching Certificate. Also points can be earned for MTNA or SDMTA Certification. We will have a general business meeting at this conference, as well.

The member fee for our Professional Development Conference is \$40.

### Foundation Report

On the evening of Monday March 23<sup>rd</sup> Janeen Larsen was honored as MTNA Foundation Fellow at the National Conference Gala and Dinner in Las Vegas, NV. I had the honor of attending the Gala and Dinner along with Janeen Larsen, Kay Fisher, Diane Ketel, Arlene Krueger, and Susanne Skyrn. I look forward to seeing you all at our upcoming Dakota Sky state conference where we will again have the nomination raffle for the travelling plaque.

Christina Humpal



Janeen Larsen  
pictured

### Contents:

Pg 1	Pg 2	Pg 3	Pg 4	Pg 5	Pg 8-10
President's Message	Membership Report	Cert. Report	Board Listing	LA Reports	Minutes
Foundation Report	Meet a Member	Website Report	Competition Report	Pg 6-7 Conference Info	

## President's Message Cont.

(Just think, the public will pay \$25 for each of the three recitals.) This member fee is a great bargain for us. The schedule and registration form can be found in this newsletter. If you plan to go, please pre-register so that the conference committee can prepare ahead of time. In addition, information will soon be on the SDMTA website. I look forward to seeing you June 11-13!

-Kay Fischer

## Membership Report

Thank you for your membership in MTNA. I want to remind you that your 2015-2016 renewal statements should be arriving in the mail. You may renew your membership online by using your membership number and zip code. Your membership card will be sent in the mail within a few weeks of your renewal. This is also an excellent time for you to review your profile and make any necessary changes.

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome the following new members to MTNA in 2014.

### High School Students:

Miguel J. Beal - Rapid City  
Kortney Brunner - Nisland.

### Teachers:

Elaine Bond – Summerset  
Kathryn Butterfield – Sioux Falls  
Charlyse A. Cade – Sioux Falls  
Mary C. Handcock – Long Valley  
Muriel Kaufman - Freeman  
Hannah Kuelbs – Sioux Falls  
Darya Ann Levesque – Sioux Falls  
Darren Matthes – Sioux Falls  
Stephanie Oeltjenbruns – Bruce  
Suzanne Olawsky – Webster  
Sheila Williamson – Brookings

I would like to remind you to visit the SDMTA website and review the many benefits offered to its members – credit card services, debt collection services, legal consultation, member discounts, personal/professional insurance products, professional support/peer connections, ongoing education, and invaluable resources/publications.

Thank You,  
Nancy Syring, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President/Membership

## “Meet a Member”



**Name:** Susan Winters

**Home:** Sioux Falls, SD

**Member SDMTA since:** around 1990

**Born:** Sparta, Wisconsin 1958

**Raised:** On a farm in the LaCrosse Wis area

**Education:** BA Music Education from Viterbo University in LaCrosse, Wis.

**Current jobs:** Self-employed piano teacher, Owner/Director of Kindermusik by Bright Beginnings Studios

**Family:** Husband, Jeff / Two children, Sarah and Josh/ (almost 4) grandchildren, Noah, Otto, Sawyer Marie, & a baby girl on the way / dog, Beethoven

**Favorite Composers:** Frederic Chopin and Melody Bober

**Favorite Pianists:** Jon Kimura Parker, Petronel Malan, Jose Feghali

**Most Influential Musicians/Teachers:** Karen Kendrigan, Mary Helen Schmidt

**Hobbies/Activities:** Walking, Reading / Member of St. Vincent de Paul / Accompanying for various church services and other events

**Why I like SDMTA:** Love the opportunities it provides for learning and growth, Love meeting other teachers around the state and networking.

*Help us go green ☺*

*Receiving this newsletter by snail-mail?*

*By providing SDMTA with your current email  
we can save time and \$\$*

*You can send updated email information to  
Bethany Foote at [footeflutes@hotmail.com](mailto:footeflutes@hotmail.com)*

## MTNA ...for a more musical tomorrow

MTNA's forums recently met at the 2015 National Conference in Las Vegas, Nevada. The minutes of their individual meetings are now available on MTNA's website. The forums provide a medium for open discussion and expression of ideas related to the appropriate forums. The forums meet annually at the MTNA conference where initiatives, projects and services are discussed with the best ideas recommended to the MTNA Board of Directors for their consideration. Currently, the forums include: Arts Awareness and Advocacy; Collaborative Performance; College Faculty; Collegiate Chapters; Independent Music Teachers; Local Associations; and Wellness.

To learn more about what the individual forums discussed, [click here](#).

Follow MTNA on  
Facebook & Twitter



Be a part of a more musical  
tomorrow. [Join MTNA!](#)

MTNA membership has its benefits.  
[Renew Today](#) | [Update Your profile](#).

MTNA National Headquarters  
1 W. 4th St., Ste. 1550 Cincinnati, OH 45202  
Phone: (513) 421-1420 or (888) 512-5278 Fax: (513) 421-2503

## Certification Report

I know we are all excited about the upcoming conference this summer!

Just a reminder that continuing educational credit is available for attending these excellent workshops.

At this time, we have 21 members in South Dakota who are nationally certified. This is great, but we certainly want to invite more to join us! If you have any desire to get the process started, please visit the website: [mtnacertification.org](http://mtnacertification.org) for more information. I would be happy to answer any questions you may have.

I will be available at the conference to visit with you and give you more details there as well.

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.

If you have any desire to learn more about this process, please feel free to contact me. I look forward to seeing you all at the conference!

Sue Winters, SDMTA Certification Chair

## Website Report

Information will be posted in the next few weeks concerning our upcoming Dakota Sky Conference. Also, as local associations update documents for the upcoming year, I will be happy to post them on the website. Accessing the website to download documents from the local association can help reduce the cost of paper copies for each local association.

Christina Humpal



*Arlene Krueger, Diane Ketel, Kay Fischer  
– at MTNA convention*

## Board Listing

President: Kay Fischer  
 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-President: Symeon Waseen  
 Immediate Past-President: Susanne Skyrn  
 Treasurer: Deb Kalsbeck  
 Secretary: Susan Keith Gray  
 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-President (Membership): Nancy Syring  
 Certification: Susan Winters  
 Competition Chair: Mary Walker  
 J. Earl Lee Foundation: Christina S. Humpal

### LA Presidents:

Marcela Faflak, Aberdeen  
 Tammy Knudtson, Brookings  
 Brenda Ruedebusch, Huron  
 Symeon Waseen, Black Hills  
 Theresa Stehly, Sioux Falls

### Appointments and Committees:

Competition Site Chair: Symeon Waseen  
 Conference/Competitions 2015 Committee:  
     Mary Walker, Competitions Coordinator  
     Nancy Syring, IMTF  
     Cheryl Koch, Conference Booklet  
     Cheryl Koch & Deb Kalsbeck, Registration  
 Conference Steering Committee: Kay Fischer,  
     Symeon Waseen, Susanne Skyrn,  
     Blake Proehl  
 Foundation Committee: Christina S. Humpal,  
     Arlene Krueger, Cheryl Koch,  
     Susanne Skyrn  
 Nominating Committee: Susan Keith Gray,  
     Janeen Larsen, John Walker  
 Newsletter Editor: Marcela Faflak &  
     Bethany Foote  
 Community Outreach: Susan Keith Gray  
 Archives: Cheryl Koch  
 Grants and Publicity: Susan Keith Gray  
 Website: Christina S. Humpal  
 Collaborative Performance Chair:  
     Susan Keith Gray



*Dessert at  
MNTA  
Convention*

### Editors' Info

*Please send any additions, corrections or comments to:  
 Marcela Faflak [faflakm@northern.edu](mailto:faflakm@northern.edu)  
 or Bethany Foote [footeflutes@hotmail.com](mailto:footeflutes@hotmail.com)*

### **Newsletter Deadlines –**

*Winter: January 15  
 Spring: April 15*

## Competition Report

Enclosed with this Newsletter is a Handbook for the 2015 Competitions in Spearfish, November 6-7.

While the rules stay the same, we might be switching to the online registration this year, so please watch out for the the new competition registration forms and directions to be send out to all membership during summer.

Mary Walker  
 SDMTA Competition Chair

## Local Area Reports

**The Brookings Music Teachers Association** met every month starting in August, with our last meeting of the year occurring in May. We had 3 scheduled Student Recitals throughout the year. We held a Piano Carnival in November for students in grades K-9. This event is held once every two years and is very popular with our students. Students also played at the Festival of Trees in December. Our annual Piano Festival was held in March. Numbers were about the same as last year. Election of officers for the 2015-2016 year will take place at our May meeting.

Submitted by

Tammy Knudtson, BMTA president

**HAMTA(Huron):** The Huron Area Music Teachers Association sponsors one major event each year. This past fall we held two boys' recitals with the theme "Anything Goes!" Students performed piano and guitar solos and duets. A variety of music including classical, traditional, popular and video game music was programmed. Admission was free. Donations were given to our local Music Hardship Fund. This year three hardship scholarships were given. Programs have included "Hymn Playing on the Piano", "Teaching Note Reading", and "How to Get Students to Practice: Advice for Teachers and Parents". Members enjoyed a Christmas social at a local Huron restaurant.

Beverly Bigge

**The Aberdeen Area Music Teachers Association** met four times this past school year. Our activities focused on student-oriented events. In October we provided a performance experience for students preparing to compete in the SDMTA/MTNA competition. In November we held a Student Composition Recital. Traditionally, on the first Saturday of December, our students provided music all day in Aberdeen Lakewood Mall. In February registered students participated in the NSU Piano Day master class, conducted by Dr. Marcela Faflak. We planned a Duet Recital for April, but that had to be cancelled due to many school conflicts; we will try again next year! Although there are only 11 active members in our local association, everyone counts and we appreciate our members' dedication and expertise. Thank you!

Marcela Faflak, AAMTA president

**The Black Hills Area Music Teachers Association** met twice this past membership year. Events included Fall and Spring Southern/Northern Hills Recitals, a duet extravaganza at the Rushmore Mall, a workshop with Craig Knudsen, and our upcoming Spring Festival on the Black Hills State University campus. Everyone is excited for their students to perform recitals on the new Steinway recently acquired by BHSU! BHAMTA also has a Facebook page. Check it out and "like" it at <https://www.facebook.com/BlackHillsAreaMusicTeachersAssociation>.

Symeon Waseen

### Sioux Falls Area Spring Report

The Sioux Falls area SDMTA had a great year. We are grateful to Shoppert's Piano Gallery for providing the new location for our meetings. Our programs included topics of motivating students, studio policy, harp literature and technique, dealing with tricky rhythms and Piano guild information. We also hosted a holiday brunch for our members.

We were pleased to honor our long time member Arlene Krueger at our last meeting. The members showed their appreciation for her involvement in SDMTA and the Piano Guild by presenting her with a bouquet of flowers and a monetary offering. God Bless you Arlene!

We facilitated our Piano Festival, all boys recital and the duet recital. We also presented a piano teacher's workshop last fall featuring Steven Heslasug, and we hosted the Fall SDMTA piano competitions. Many of our members are preparing for the Piano Guild Auditions held at Augustana on May 14-22. We are also gearing up for the Dakota Sky conference.

Theresa Stehly Sioux Falls President.



### SDMTA 2015 PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE

You are cordially invited to attend the SDMTA Annual Conference in Sioux Falls, June 11-13, 2015. Once again we will join with the Dakota Sky International Piano Festival at the Washington Pavilion for an exciting and stimulating weekend of music. The member's \$40 registration fee includes three evening recitals plus masterclasses and workshops with two distinguished artists and pedagogues: Dr. Douglas Humpherys of Eastman Conservatory and Dr. Gregory DeTurck of the University of Pennsylvania. Additional workshops will provide motivation for teaching in creative ways. There also is plenty of time to socialize with colleagues you don't see often enough. The complete schedule is below so browse it, read about our special guests and send in your reservation early!

#### THURSDAY, JUNE 11

2:00–4:00 pm: Master class with Dr. Gregory DeTurck [Belbas Theater, Washington Pavilion]

5:00 pm: Board Of Directors Meeting [Canton Room, Commons Building, Augustana College]

7:30 pm: Recital by Dr. Douglas Humpherys, Eastman School of Music [Belbas Theater]

#### FRIDAY, JUNE 12

9:30-10:30 am: SDMTA Workshop [Belbas Theater]

Dr. Symeon Waseen, Black Hills State University—"Getting students started with composition"

10:30-11:00 am: BREAK

11:00-12:00: SDMTA Workshop [Belbas Theater]

Dr. Linda Christensen, NCTM, Nebraska Music Technology Consultant  
"iPad apps for increased student engagement and motivation."

12:00–1:00 pm: SDMTA Workshop [Belbas Theater]

Dr. Gregory DeTurck, University of Pennsylvania School of Arts and Sciences—"Didactic Direction"

1:30-3:30 pm: SDMTA Luncheon/Program with Independent Music Teachers Forum

[Friendship Room, Our Savior's Lutheran Church, 33<sup>rd</sup> & Summit]

Performance of 2015 SDMTA Commissioned Composition by Deanna Wehrspann  
General Membership Meeting

7:30 pm: Salon concert [Mary W. Sommervold Hall in Husby Performing Arts Center, Washington Pavilion]

#### SATURDAY, JUNE 13

9:00-10:00 am: Children's Concert [Belbas Theater, Washington Pavilion]

10:00 am–12:00 pm: Master class with Dr. Humpherys [Belbas Theater]

12:00-1:30 pm: LUNCH (*on your own*)

1:30–2:30 pm: SDMTA Workshop [Belbas Theater]

Dr. Douglas Humpherys, Eastman School of Music

"Notation = Character: Using Details in the Score to Help Students with Expression in Performance"

5:30 pm: SDMTA Banquet [Atrium, Performing & Visual Arts Building, Augustana College]

7:30 pm: Recital by Dr. Gregory DeTurck [Belbas Theater]

**SDMTA & Dakota Sky International Piano Festival  
2015 PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE  
Sioux Falls, South Dakota • June 11-13, 2015**

**Advance Registration Form** (postmarked no later than June 1<sup>st</sup>)

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ CITY/STATE/ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL \_\_\_\_\_

Identify any office held \_\_\_\_\_ Are you State Certified? \_\_\_\_\_ Nationally Certified? \_\_\_\_\_

**CONFERENCE FEES**, includes all concerts, workshops & masterclasses

\_\_\_\_\_ **\$40.00** Member (\$45 if not paid by June 1<sup>st</sup>)      \_\_\_\_\_ **\$20.00** Student  
 \_\_\_\_\_ **\$80.00** Non-Member  
 \_\_\_\_\_ **\$ FREE.** I am a NEW member      **Registration Amount**      \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**MEAL RESERVATIONS**

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

• **FRIDAY IMTF Luncheon, Premiere of 2015 SDMTA Commissioned Composition  
& General Membership Meeting**

1:30 p.m. in the Friendship Room at Our Savior's Lutheran Church

The menu will be: chicken salad croissants, potato salad, fresh fruit, cheesecake, coffee & water

\_\_\_\_\_ **Yes, I will attend the luncheon. My fee of \$10 is included.**      \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_ **I will not attend the luncheon, but will be there for the meeting.**

• **SATURDAY Banquet**

5:30 p.m. in the Atrium at the Performing and Visual Arts Center at Augustana College

The menu will include a house salad, dinner rolls, potatoes au gratin, green beans, dessert, water and coffee plus a choice of:

\_\_\_\_\_ Pork Tenderloin with Demi Glaze  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Herb Roasted Chicken Breast with Citrus Glaze  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Vegetarian Option, please

\_\_\_\_\_ **Yes, I will attend the dinner. My fee of \$23 is included.**      \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**TOTAL (check to SDMTA)**      \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**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*).

Print this form and mail it with a check to:  
(Check payable to SDMTA)

**Deborah Kalsbeck, SDMTA CONFERENCE  
800 Candlewood Lane  
Brookings, SD 57006**

# SDMTA General Membership Meeting

June 28<sup>th</sup>, 2014

5pm, Minerva's, Sioux Falls

Special guest Ken Christensen was introduced. Ken thanked everyone for the invitation and was very impressed with the quality of the workshops and performances at the conference. He invited everyone to the 2015 MTNA conference in Las Vegas, NE, March 21-25.

Secretary's Report, Danie: The minutes from the November 2013 General Membership Meeting were approved.

Treasurer's Report, Cheryl: The decision to put this year's conference expenses on the 2012/13 budget has already been approved. The 2014/15 budget has already been approved. There has been deficit spending. We have been spending two CDs that are now worth a combined \$23,000.

2015/16 budget: The food budget has been taken out because many places are charging a facilities fee. It works very well to have everyone order for themselves at a restaurant. We will not be printing the program books any longer. There was an insert in the Dakota Sky book that provides what used to be in the beginning of the program book. For competitions there will be printed copies outside of each venue. The commissioned composer fee of \$450 is on the 2015/16 budget. The hope is that the combined expenses for the conference and the competitions will go down by partnering with Dakota Sky. SDMTA sold very few advertisements for Dakota Sky. The piano tuning budget has not been raised yet but may need to be in the future. The general SDMTA accounts should be ok, but if needed we can cash one of the CDs. The J. Earl Lee CD will need to be cashed to give money to students going to national. The budget was approved.

Local Association Reports:

Kay, Aberdeen: There are 14 new members. There were 2 events this year, Christmas Music at the Mall and a composition recital. They have an independent piano festival with 250 participants.

Black Hills, Simeon: Black Hills has a new Facebook page. They have sent out information for the SDMTA website. Dates as well as personal assignments for events throughout the year have been finalized.

Brookings, Tammy: Brookings has 5 business meetings a year and welcomes several new members. Many students participated in a Festival of Trees recital. The Jr. Piano Festival numbers were down last year. A piano carnival is being planned for the fall.

Huron, Beth: Huron has 8 very active members and meets 5 times a year. They had Piano Extravaganza with 8 pianos, guitars and violins. Teachers held their own Christmas recitals at nursing homes, churches, etc. There will be an American music boy's recital.

Sioux Falls, Theresa: Sioux Falls will be holding their meetings as Schoppert's Music. Steve Hesla will be coming in October to do a Piano Teachers' Clinic.

Foundation Report, Christina: Janeen Larsen is the 2015 Foundation Fellow. Arlene is passing the plaque to Frank Aiello. In November we will do a plaque raffle at the conference. When you renew your membership you can donate to the Foundation Fund.

Presidents Report, Susanne: Deanna Wehrspann will be the commissioned composer for 2015. Next year the competition will be hosted by BHSU. A thank you note from

## Meeting Cont.

**Alice Brown** was read for her travel stipend to go to National. SDMTA received an award for Best Membership Growth and Sustainability in the West Central Division at the MTNA conference in Chicago.

Nominating Committee Report, Susan: The 2014-2016 slate of officers is: Kay Fischer, President; Symeon Waseen, President-elect/1<sup>st</sup> VP; Nancy Syring, 2<sup>nd</sup> VP (Membership and IMTF); Danie Crowley, Secretary; Deb Kalsbeck, Treasurer; Susanne Skyrn, Immediate Past-President. Currently we are looking to replace Danie Crowley as Secretary. The slate of officers was approved. We are also looking for someone to be Certification Chair as Katie is resigning.

New Business: The membership voted to cash out the J. Earl Lee CD and put part of the funds in the SDMTA checking account. The motion to cash the General Fund CD, if needed, was also passed. It was decided that putting video of the conference online was too costly. Brookings uses online registration for their festivals, discussion was had to see if it is possible for SDMTA to do so. Brookings does not collect payment online, however. It would also be nice to design a template for teachers to enter a student's repertoire into so that the competition chair would easily be able to merge and print repertoire lists.

Conference Report, Cheryl and Susanne: 33 registered for this year's conference, 3 of which were new members. 33 out of 147 members attended the conference.

Discussion was had about the success of the new format. A need for more breaks, even if just at Leonardo's Café, was brought up. Everyone enjoyed the workshops and performances. Ken brought up how SDMTA's conference was comparable, if not better than, Texas' conference. He encouraged us to continue the conference with Dakota Sky.

Meeting Adjourned,

Danie Crowley, Secretary