



# Pikes Peak Music Teachers Association

# Newsletter

April/May, 2009

PPMTA is a non-profit organization affiliated with Colorado Music Teachers Association and Music Teachers National Association. Meetings are the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each month at Calvary United Methodist Church unless noted otherwise. The newsletter is delivered as a service to members of PPMTA.

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## President's Corner

As this is our last newsletter for this year, I wanted to take this opportunity to share some thoughts with you after two years as President. It's truly been an enlightening experience - one filled with personal and professional growth in ways I had not expected. I've made many new friends within PPMTA and CSMTA, and have so enjoyed participating in new activities because of this role. We've certainly had some challenges because of the numerous changes that have taken place including the loss of many of our venues. But change is good and PPMTA has developed some new relationships within our community.

I truly believe PPMTA is a wonderful organization with a wealth of experience, talent, and knowledge within our membership. It is a privilege and an honor to have been President. Thank you PPMTA.

Musically speaking,  
Donna

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## MEET THE MAESTRO!

Are you planning to attend this master class with Lawrence Leighton Smith, conductor of the Colorado Springs Philharmonic? What a grand opportunity for teachers, students, and parents, so invite them all as this event is open to the public. We will have two piano soloists, two vocal and piano teams, and a chamber group performing for Maestro Smith who will coach them after their performances. The event will take place at 9:30am at the Colorado Springs Conservatory located at 1600 N. Union Blvd. A reception will follow.

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## Membership Renewals 2009-2010

Just a friendly reminder for you to pay your membership renewals early so your membership does not expire. If MTNA doesn't receive your membership renewal before August 1, you are not eligible to participate in the 2010 Spring events.

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## 2009-2010 PPMTA Board

On behalf of the Nomination Committee, I would like to announce who has stepped up to the plate and volunteered to be on the PPMTA Board for 2009 - 2010. Many thanks to each one of you for your commitment!

- President: Joan Sawyer (One year term.)
- VP Programs: Bonnie Litten
- VP Student Activities: Jan Saffir
- VP Membership: Christy Barry
- VP Publicity: Susan Hayward
- Treasurer: Janet Davidson
- Secretary: Clara Ring

Thanks to these members' willingness to serve, PPMTA is sure to have a great year ahead!  
Sylvia Holt, NCTM

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## No April General Meeting

Instead of the April General Meeting, we will have a short meeting before the Lawrence Leighton Smith's Master Class on April 11<sup>th</sup> to vote in our new Board. See you at the May Brunch / General Meeting.

## **CSMTA State Conference**

Are you going to State Conference this year? Early registration is due by April 20, 2009 and there is a cost savings for early registration. If you haven't attended State Conference before, I'd certainly encourage you to do so. There is a wealth of information shared during the three-day conference in workshops and presentations. And the added benefit, of course, is developing new friendships, meeting your state officers, sharing in the decision making process of CSMTA, hearing guest artists, and participating in SPA. All the information can be found in the January *Notes & News*. Hope to see you there!

## **Festival Chairs and Committees for 2009-2010**

Jan Saffir, VP Student Activities, is in the process of recruiting members to chair our 2009 -10 Festivals. Please consider taking on the role of Chairperson or Committee member for one of the Festivals next year. Without our volunteers, none of these wonderful events would happen. As Chair/Committee member, you organize and plan all of the details for the Festival. Your commitment is short term and if you've never worked on a Festival Committee, it is a terrific learning opportunity. Our planned Festivals for next year include: Fall Latin Music Festival, Competitive Historical Era Festival in February, Non-Competitive Historical Era Festival in March, Achievement Day in April, and Senior Recital in May (dates and times TBA). So, please give Jan a call if you are interested in one of these opportunities. If Jan calls on you, please say 'YES!!'

## **Senior Recital**

May 8, 2009 7:00 p.m., Calvary United Methodist Church  
Chairs: Kearin Ragsdale 591-9042  
kearinrags2@aol.com  
and Colleen Baily 471-8736 bailyxpiano@q.com .  
Applications are due April 8, 2009 to Kearin Ragsdale, 5535 Zapato Dr., Colorado Springs, CO, 80917. Please provide an original color, wallet-

sized photo and a short biography with the entry form for each senior performing. Scanned photographs will not be accepted. Each senior will play one selection of their choice (duets are included). The recital is formal (prom-style dresses, suits and ties). Family and friends are cordially invited to attend. A reception will be held after the recital.

## **Spring Brunch**

This year's Spring Brunch will be on May 12th at the home of Jan Saffir and Paul Stephens. The General Meeting will begin at 9:30am, and installation of officers, performances and social time will follow. If you would like to perform, let Jan Saffir know by May 1st. Please bring a brunch dish to share. Their house is not on mapping sites online. From Academy and Union, go south on Union to Damon (.8 mile). Right on Damon to Campus Bluffs Ct. Right on Campus Bluffs Ct. to the end of the cul-de-sac on the right. 4467 Campus Bluffs Ct., 80918, 282-8589.

## **PPMTA Teachers Accepting Students**

*All piano unless noted otherwise. Contact [jsaffir@truman.edu](mailto:jsaffir@truman.edu)*

Holly Aldridge: 719-227-1497, Downtown;  
hollyaldrige@live.com

Bonnie Ackerman: 719-329-8810, Piano, Organ,  
Theory. Travels to Students' Homes  
Bernardine Barcellos: 719-380-9689, Barnes/  
Peterson

Eileen Brownson: 719-637-3376 Murray/  
Constitution 80915

Donna Caulfield: 596-3958, Power/Barnes  
Lauren Ciborowski: 633-4240, North Downtown  
80907

Diana Crawford: 593-8575, Briargate 80920

Anna Dinsmoor: 264-0193, Powers/Dublin

June Ewell: 481-5893, Monument

Ben Gahart: 633-1239, Broadmoor/Skyway (Piano,  
Organ)

Susan Hayward: 599-8388, Rockrimmon

Sylvia Holt: 228-1585, Union/Fillmore 80909

Susan Humphreys: 719-448-9233, Fillmore/Union  
Rowene Mahoney: 719-633-8047, Northwest  
Abe Minzer 527-8776, Broadmoor/Skyway  
Jan Saffir: 719-282-8589, Near Univ. Park 80918  
Paul Stephens: 719-282-8589, Near University  
Park, 80918  
Ellie Stites Swanger: 719-266-6522, Briargate/Pine  
Creek/ Black Forest  
Brenda Tagen: 685-3811, Central/Downtown

## **New Emails**

Colleen Bailey bailypliano@q.com  
Janet Davidson jmptdavidson@q.com

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## **Board Meetings**

Board meetings are scheduled bi-monthly on the first Tuesday of the month at the home of Donna Caulfield unless noted otherwise. Please call Donna to confirm the meeting and location (596-3958). Final meeting: April 7, 2009.

## **Thank You to So Many!!**

- 2008-09 PPMTA Board Members: Sara McDaniel, Jan Saffir, Jill Hanrahan, Susan Hayward, Claire Odermann, and Clara Ring. Thanks for the many hours you have dedicated to PPMTA!!
- 2008-09 Festival Chairs and Committees: Kearin Ragsdale and Bonnie Litten, Clara Ring, and Jodie Jensen who put the Fall Ensemble Festival together. Whew, was that a fun day!!
- Joan Sawyer and her Committee who organized a highly successful Competitive Sonatina Festival.
- Susie Marten, June Ewell, and Jan Armstrong who were the folks who put on the Non-Competitive Sonatina Festival. Students, families, and judges were delighted with the performances and well-organized event.
- Achievement Day: Jill Hanrahan and Silvia Holt. It'll be a happy day for participating students.

- Senior Recital: Kearin Ragsdale and Colleen Baily. Aren't our seniors lucky to have this special event just for them!
- Lawrence Leighton Smith Master Class: Thank you Sara McDaniel for giving us this wonderful opportunity.
- Handbook Committee: Bob and Jan Armstrong, and Jill Hanrahan. We are so lucky to have you.
- Refreshment Committee: Pamela Morris and committee. We so enjoy the goodies you have for us each month.
- Audit Committee: Christy Barry, Susie Marten, and Claire Odermann. Thanks for keeping us on our toes and in good financial order.
- Nomination Committee: Susan Hayward, Clara Ring, and Silvia Holt. Thanks for making all the phone calls and finding members willing to lead PPMTA in 2009-2010.
- Website Coordinator: Barbara Taylor. Thank you Barb for bringing us into the 21st century.
- Newsletter Editor and Committee: Jan Saffir and Christy Barry. Thank you Jan and Christy for getting the word out.
- CSMTA Poster Committee: Pamela Morris. Thank you for the time you put in on our poster for Conference. You make us proud of whom we are.
- Holiday Brunch and Spring Brunch Hosts: Janet Davidson, and Jan Saffir and Paul Stephens. Thanks Janet for your flexibility in December when we cancelled the first brunch due to bad weather and opening your home again the following week! Jan and Paul, we so appreciate you. Thanks for opening your home to us next month.



## MTNA Competition Guidelines: Important Changes for 2009-2010

1. **Junior Brass** competition is discontinued.
2. The piano concerto requirement for the **Senior and Young Artist** levels has been discontinued.
3. The performance times have been modified to fit the performance requirements:
  - a. **Junior:** all students will have twenty (20) minutes of performance time.
  - b. **Senior: State level:** twenty-five (25) minutes for brass, piano, piano duet, string, woodwind. Voice will have twenty (20) minutes.  
**Division/national levels:** thirty (30) minutes for brass, piano, piano duet, string, woodwind. Voice will have twenty (20) minutes.
  - c. **Young Artist: State level:** thirty (30) minutes for all categories. **Division/national levels:** forty (40) minutes for brass, piano, string, woodwind. Voice will have thirty-five (35) minutes.
  - d. **Chamber Music: State level:** thirty (30) minutes. **Division/national levels:** forty (40) minutes
4. Accompanist fees have also been adjusted:
  - Junior: \$80 for forty-five (45) minutes rehearsal and performance (no change).
  - Senior Instrumental: \$150 for sixty (60) minutes rehearsal and performance.
  - Senior Voice: \$90 for forty (40) minutes rehearsal and performance.
  - Young Artist Instrumental: \$175 for sixty (60) minutes rehearsal and performance.
  - Young Artist Instrumental: \$200 for ninety (90) minutes rehearsal and performance.
  - Young Artist Voice: \$175 for sixty (60) minutes rehearsal and performance.

Please contact me if you have further questions.

---Linda Stump, NCTM, MTNA Director of Competitions. (719) 633-4820,  
[lindastump@mtna.org](mailto:lindastump@mtna.org),  
[lindastump@comcast.net](mailto:lindastump@comcast.net)

## Performances

**Colorado Springs Children's Chorale - A Classical Afternoon Sunday, April 19, 2009, 4:30 p.m. in Shove Chapel, Colorado College**  
*Suggested donation: \$10 for adults and \$7 for children.*

*For further information call: Colorado Springs Children's Chorale (719) 633-3562*

**Bowed Piano Ensemble - On Sunday, April 5 at 3:00 p.m., First Christian Church at Cascade & Platte is presenting the fascinating Bowed Piano Ensemble from Colorado College. The ensemble will present a preview of their European tour concert. A free will offering will be taken.**

*First Christian Church and the American Guild of Organists are presenting a **Bach Celebration Weekend**. On Saturday evening, March 28 at 7:00 p.m., Gail Archer, organist from Yale University, will team up with dramatic readers and a visual presentation of historical images to present Words of Albert Schweitzer and the Music of J.S. Bach. On Sunday, March 29 at 3:00 p.m., the 10th annual Bach Celebration Concert will feature concertos, solo works, and chorales for audience singing, followed by a reception. Students may come up play the harpsichords following the concert. A free will offering will be taken at both programs, held at First Christian Church at Cascade and Platte.*



## **PPMTA Newsletter Deadlines**

Aug/September: July 15th  
November/December: Oct. 15  
January/February: December 15th  
April/May: March 15<sup>th</sup>

## **PPMTA Advertisers**

We are fortunate to be supported by generous local and internet businesses that buy ads in our handbook. Please review their ads and support them with your patronage and referrals! Thank you.

Amateur Pianists Intl.  
Colorado Springs Chorale  
DJ's Music Box  
First Christian Church Concerts  
Graner Music  
KCME Radio 88.7 FM  
Kid's Music Playground  
Len Rhodes Music  
Meeker Music  
Mynett Musical Repair  
Pianos New and Used  
Piano Pedagogy Classes  
Pikes Peak Young Composers  
Precision Piano Tuning  
Prima Music (online)  
Rockley Music Co., Inc.  
Rocky Ridge Music Center  
Wells Music

## **SURVEY:** **MTNA 2009 Independent** **Music Teachers** **Top Issues Project**

Please print the form on page 6 and mail it to:

**Sara McDaniel, NCTM, 5525 Wagon Mater Dr.,  
Colorado Springs, CO, 80917**

**OR** go online to **[www.comusicteachers.net](http://www.comusicteachers.net)** to  
take the survey.

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**Other Issues that are of concern to me:**

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**Money Issues**

- Marketing myself as a music teacher
- Taxes, records, deductible expenses
- Financial planning for retirement and life and health insurance
- Making a living at teaching and setting my fees accordingly

**Parent/ Student/ Teacher Relationships**

- Positive communication with parents and students
- Developing effective studio policies and following through on them
- Teaching children who are over scheduled in today's society
- Having access to online resources and education for parents of music students

**Community Relations**

- Respect in my community for what I teach and what I know and do
- Neighborhood Zoning issues
- Being an advocate for music in my community
- Working with public school music educators

**Education and networking**

- Continuing education
- Finishing a music degree, certification
- Being connected to other teachers
- Continue my own instrumental study