



West Virginia Music Teachers Association

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Association



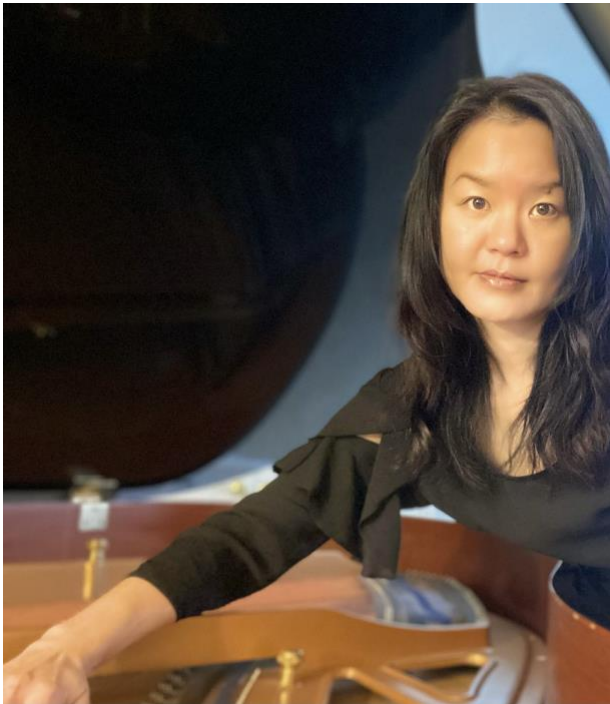
www.wvmta.org

WVMTA News Volume 59, Issue 4, September 2024

Notes from the President, Dr. Yuhsuan Liao, NCTM

It's hard to believe that the WVMTA State Conference is already just around the corner! This year's conference will be taking place at Shepherd University October 11-12, and the President-Elect Danielle Bellamy has planned a wonderful and inspiring conference well worth your time to travel to Shepherdstown.

Congratulations to the 2024 Distinguished Leader of the Year Dr. Johan Botes! You can read more about Johan later in this newsletter, and you are invited to join us when we will be recognizing him during the Conference Banquet on October 11. Thank you, Johan!



We are also glad to be able to provide financial assistance again to an African American applied music student by way of our \$500 scholarship. The recipient is a wonderful young musician, who loves taking piano lessons, and whose family is more than appreciated of our support. Congratulations to **Luka Dearing**, and thank you to his piano teacher, Rayme Pullen (District 2) for the nomination.

Huge thanks to Rayme Pullen, Jenny Anderson, and the rest of WVMTA board officers on updating the WVMTA Student Performance Plan over the summer. You may find the updated version on our WVMTA homepage. I look forward seeing each one of you at our state conference in Shepherdstown next month and want to remind you of the 2025 MTNA National Conference that will take place on March 15-19, 2025, in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

I wish all of you a musically fulfilling year and look forward to seeing you soon!

Best wishes,

Yuhsuan Liao

President, WVMTA

Notes from President--Elect, Daniel Bellamy

The 2024 WVMTA State Conference will be held in person at Shepherd University on October 11-12. A big thank you goes to Yuhsuan Liao for being site coordinator and Miles Helmick for being competition coordinator!

Guest Artist Concert

I am excited to announce that we will host Billboard #1 Dr. Joshua Wright as our Featured Guest Artist. He will be performing an evening recital on Friday, October 11, and he'll conduct a piano master class on Saturday morning, October 12.

“Billboard #1 artist **Dr. Josh Wright** has delighted audiences across the United States and in Europe. The *Washington Post* described him as a pianist possessing “rarer gifts – touch, intelligence and the ability to surprise.” His work in the field of online music teaching and performance has reached over 175,000 subscribers and nearly 20 million views. Josh is a listed Steinway Artist. He was inducted into the Steinway & Sons Teacher Hall of Fame in October 2019. “

Please check out his full biography and impressive body of content on his website and YouTube Channel:

<https://www.joshwrightpiano.com/>
www.youtube.com/@joshwrightpiano

Presentations

We will also enjoy three diverse presentations. Stay tuned for more information about our guests and their presentations!

1. Dr. Michael Langer (SC): Limestone University
“Improvisation as Political Resistance: Frederic Rzewski’s “North American Ballads”
2. Nicole DiPaolo (IN): Indiana University
“Teaching the Hypermobile Piano Student”
3. Felicia Zhang (CT): President, Connecticut State Music Teachers Association
“New Century Piano/Music Teaching in Business A-Z”

Accommodations

I have reserved blocks of rooms at the Holiday Inn in Charles Town. The hotel is 15 minutes away from the Shepherd University campus.

Holiday Inn Express (681 Flowing Springs Rd, Ranson, WV 25438)
Phone: 304-725-1330 Conference Rate: \$139 per night (+tax)
Must book by 9/10/24

Booking link: <https://www.hiexpress.com/redirect?path=event-facilities&brandCode=EX&localeCode=en®ionCode=1&hotelCode=CWVSR&PMID=99801505&GPC=MT&cn=no&viewfullsite=true> If book via phone, mention WVMTA.

Call for Master Class Participants

If you have advanced students who would like to perform for our Featured Guest Artist Dr. Josh Wright in the master class, please also write to me at danielsbell97@me.com. Stay tuned for the online conference registration form, we will post it on the WVMTA website and email to the members in the coming weeks. Have a great summer and I look forward to seeing everyone at the conference!!

Daniel Bellamy
President-Elect

WVMTA Treasurer's Report, Bruce Rous

Truist account balance
\$ 28,275.65

Paid all reimbursements submitted to me.

Filed tax-exempt status.

Opened a Money Market account and transferred \$25,000 to that account, so we are earning interest. APR is 4.5%, variable. This is a liquid account, however any monthly transactions over 6 will be charged.

Respectfully submitted,
Bruce Rous

WVMTA Teacher of the Year Award

August 31st was the deadline to submit nominations for the 2024 WVMTA Teacher of the Year. According to rules as set up by the WVMTA Administrative Board on October 25, 1996: "Nominations will be limited to three." Also according to rules, the qualifications are:

- Demonstrates innovative teaching and creative musicianship and,
- Has held membership in WVMTA for at least five (5) years.

Past Teacher of the Year Awards Recipients:

1991 Peggy Johnston, NCTM	1992 Christine Kefferstan, NCTM
1993 Carol Beall, NTCM	1994 Linda Seime, NCTM
1995 Lena Lim, NCTM	1996 Mary Wilson
1997 Ray Martin, NCTM	1998 Leslie Petteys, NCTM
1999 Ruth Carder, NCTM	2000 Catherine Crotty, NTCM
2001 Bonnie Miltenberger	2002 No award given
2003 Lya Cartwright	2004 Olive Meyer, NCTM

2005	Mila Markun, NCTM	2006	Scott Beard, NCTM
2007	Elaine Tutt	2008	Vicki B. Cavendish
2009	Harriet Tucker, NCTM	2010	Jan Jemison Smith, NCTM
2011	Mary Ellen Morrison, NCTM	2012	Hooi Yin Boeey
2013	Christene Kefferstan, NCTM	2014	Carole Kriewaldt
2015	No award given	2016	James Miltenberger
2017	Henning Vauth, NCTM	2018	Mary Wilson
2019	Jacob Womack, NCTM	2020	John Morrison
2021	Ian Jessee	2022	Dr. Gerald (Jerry) Lee
2023	Robert Ellis	2024	No award given

WVMTA Distinguished Leader of the Year

- This award is based on accumulated years of leadership and service contributed to the organization, over and above 10 years.
- This award will be based on whether the award was or was not already received by a particular member previously. The award CAN be granted to the same individual more than once.

This award will be based on the recommendation, every year, of the current committees' research and records (If you are interested in becoming a future member of the Awards Committee, please notify Dr. Yuhsuan Liao at YLIAO@shepherd.edu). The Distinguished Leader of the Year Award was begun in 2006 and replaced the "Member of the year Award."



Johan Botes is known for his extraordinary versatility as a soloist, collaborative musician, and teacher; a career which has brought him recognition in concerts around the world. A native of South Africa, Botes showed musical promise from an early age. Among many notable awards in his native country, he was the 2007 First Prize Winner of the Third UNISA/Vodacom National Piano Competition playing Rachmaninoff's technically demanding Third Piano Concerto to a standing ovation; a performance for which he also won the Desmond Willson Memorial Prize for best concerto in the final round. Most recently, he was chosen as 2nd Prizewinner in the American Prize national non-profit competition for the performing arts in both the solo and concerto divisions.

As a soloist, Johan has performed in venues worldwide. He has appeared as soloist with the Chamber Orchestra of South Africa, the KwaZulu-Natal Philharmonic Orchestra in Durban, Juneau Symphony (AK), Bainbridge Symphony (WA), Auburn Symphony (WA) as well as the Texas Chamber Orchestra. He also performed in Prague with the Hadrec Kralove Orchestra and toured to Bulgaria in 2005 where he played with the Varna Philharmonic Orchestra.

An equally accomplished organist, he passed the Performers Licentiate in Organ of UNISA in 2006 with distinction and was invited for the overseas bursary competition, where he was awarded the Stephanus Zondagh Overseas Music Scholarship.

Back in West Virginia, Johan took over the duties as Newsletter editor for WVMTA in 2014. He presented at the WVMTA conferences in 2014, 2018 and 2022. He became president elect of the organization in 2019, a position that takes 6 years to complete. Johan is currently the Eastern Division Certification Commissioner for the national MTNA organization as well.

Dr. Botes holds a D.M.A in Piano Performance from the University of Texas at Austin and a M.M from the Guildhall School of Music and Drama in London. He received another M.M. as well as his B.M. from the University of Pretoria in South Africa. He is currently Associate Professor of Piano at Marshall University in Huntington, WV. During the summers, he is also the Piano Area Coordinator at Interlochen Arts Camp in Michigan, USA.

Member of the Year Honorees

1991 Mary Shep Mann, NCTM	1992 Bobby Loftis, NCTM
1993 Judy Lambert, NCTM	1994 Jane Mangus, NCTM; Sandra Hastings
1995 Mila Markun	1996 Marija Sommer, NCTM
1997 Marguerite Bostonia, NCTM	1998 Jean Douglass, NCTM
1999 Connie Arrau Sturm, NCTM	2000 Olive Meyer, NCTM
2001 No Award given	2002 No Award given
2003 James Miltenberger	2004-05 No Awards given

Distinguished Leader of the Year Honorees

2006 Barbara Heckert	2007 Carol Beall, NCTM
2008 Mary Wilson	2009 Karen Taddie, NCTM
2010 Gary Mullenax, NCTM	2011 Janna Kisner, NCTM
2012 Scott Beard, NCTM	2013 Mary Lynne Bennett, NCTM
2014 No award given	2015 Mary Ellen Morrison, NCTM
2016 Laura Hamm, NCTM	2017 Gerald (Jerry) Lee
2018 No award given	2019 Hooi Yin Boey
2020 Vicki Cavendish	2021 Dr. Jacob Womack, NCTM
2022 John Morrison	2023 Dr. Henning Vauth, NCTM
2024 Dr. Johan Botes, NCTM	2025

MTNA Certification – WVMTA Challenge and Incentive

\$200 Reimbursement Check Available for Any Newly Certified NCTM!*

Yes, for anyone who successfully becomes a NEW NCTM! No stipulations. Receive a \$200 award from the WVMTA board for completing certification, which covers the entire fee. Find out the latest information on requirements for the National Certification Program at www.mtnacertification.org.

*This award does not apply to people who complete their renewals or their permanent professional certificates. This award is only for new certifications. Contact vauth@marshall.edu, for more information.

WVMTA Scholarship for an African American Applied Music Student (AAAMS Scholarship)



The scholarship committee is pleased to announce Luka Dearing as recipient of the AAAMS scholarship. Luka was recommended by his piano teacher, Rayme Pullen. We wish you all the very best in your musical endeavors.

Dr. Yu-Hsuan Liao
President, WVMTA

Notes from the Membership Chair, Dr. Jerry Lee

- With view to the 2024-2025 membership year, using the month of April 2024 as a starting point, according to dues paid during April 1, 2024 – August 31, 2024, WVMTA confirms 47 members, including 3 collegiate members.

Membership updates from June 1, 2024 – August 31, 2024:

WVMTA welcomes Ann Marie Bingham, from Huntington, WV, as a new active member specializing in clarinet and oboe.

WVMTA welcomes Mary Love, from Harpers Ferry, WV, as a new active member specializing in piano.

- If you haven't already done so, please renew your membership to WVMTA for the 2023-2024 year.
- In addition, please encourage and recruit new members to join WVMTA so that our organization stays as strong and active as possible!
- To join online and to learn more about specific member benefits, please visit the following website and click on the link towards the top of the page, "Join + Renew": www.mtna.org
- The text below is from MTNA, describing the benefits of membership:

Choices for a More Musical Tomorrow

MTNA offers a number of membership types for teachers, students and those involved in the music industry. For well over a century, MTNA has been the backbone for a collaborative community of music-teaching

professionals, connecting both the seasoned educator and those at the beginning of their career.

Membership with MTNA does more than simply complement your career as a music professional—it supports, supplements and shapes it. It empowers music teachers nationwide to become better educators through networking, leadership, mentoring and educational opportunities.

MTNA Membership Delivers:

- **Peer Connections**—a network of outlets, forums and channels for like-minded individuals in the music profession to collaborate and communicate, both locally and nationally
- **Ongoing Education**—conferences, events and advice on teaching tips and pedagogy, technology and web trends, master classes and informational sessions
- **Invaluable Resources**—access to countless benefits, from Certification, publications and consultation services to competitions, teacher enrichment grants and insurance

Notes from the WVMTA composer commissioned chair, Dr. Yu-Hsuan Liao

It was 2019 when we had the WVMTA commissioned composer selected, after 5 years of absence, I am happy to announce that we will have new commissioned work premiered at the 2024 WVMTA State Conference.

Shepherd University faculty Dr. Stefan Swanson has been selected as the 2024 WVMTA commissioned composer. His new work “Songs from the Ancients” for flute, cello, piano, and percussion, will be premiered at the 2024 WVMTA State Conference.

Districts Reports

Mid-Ohio Valley MTA/District IV Report:

Mid-Ohio Valley District 4 will have the Fall Festival on November 17 at Trinity Episcopal Church in Parkersburg. Music Therapist Abby Dodds will present a program at the event.

Laura Hamm, NCTM, Chair

The MTNA National Conference, held annually, brings together the most representative cross-section of the MTNA membership. This year, evening recitals, a keynote speaker and four master classes will be among the headlining events at this premier conference for studio music teachers. Arrive a day early to take advantage of the five Pedagogy Saturday tracks. And, all the annual favorites like the Exhibit Hall, showcases and the MTNA Competitions will be back!

2024 Conference Planning Committee

Noreen Wenjen, Torrance, California (chair)
Scott Donald, Austin, Texas
Jacob D. Fitzpatrick, St. Paul, Minnesota
Jennifer Foxx, Goodyear, Arizona
Raphaelita Shakira Justice, Pottstown, Pennsylvania
Ashley Wise, Galena, Ohio
Veda Zuponicic, Cherry Hill, New Jersey
Peter Mack, NCTM, Seattle, Washington (ex officio)
Brian Shepard, Cincinnati, Ohio (ex officio)



News is published quarterly online at www.wvmta.org and mailed to members who do not have an email address. If you have a change of street address or email address, contact MTNA at www.mtna.org or call 888-512-5278

Dr. Johan Botes, Newsletter Editor, japbotes@gmail.com

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