



# STAFFLINES

Monthly Newsletter of the Tidewater Music Teachers Forum



## President's Notes

Dear Fellow Music Teachers,

After an interesting spring and summer, the fall semester is now here.

Our first meeting for the new school year was a success! Michelle Sisler, founder of Keys to Imagination, gave an extremely useful presentation on resources for "Teaching with Music Apps". I was so happy to see so many of you either in person or on Zoom. Many thanks to Lynn Kleisler and Susan Atkins for arranging this wonderful session. Handouts and brochures from this meeting will be available at our next meeting.

All 2020-2021 Yearbook and Activity Books have been mailed. If you prefer or would like another one for reference, a digital copy of these books can be downloaded from [www.tmtf.org](http://www.tmtf.org) under "Members Only" tab.

Please note that we have two events coming up this fall. The Sacred Music Festival is coming up quickly and is scheduled for November 14th at two locations, one of which is new. The Play-A-Thon is scheduled for December 4th, 5th and 6th and will be at two locations also. Please check your Yearbook and Activity Book for the deadlines and detailed information about each of these important student events.

In case you missed the emails, the 2020 VMTA State Conference and 2021 MTNA National Conference will be in a virtual-only format. Be on the lookout for more upcoming information in your email. Also, more information will be coming out soon on the VMTA and MTNA websites.

I wish you all the best as we continue to teach and bring the gift of music into our student's lives.

**Mun Lee Han, NCTM  
TMTF President**





## October Meeting Friday, October 9, 2020

**Dr. Eric Ruple, NCTM**

### **My Year With Franz Liszt and Harry Potter**

at Holiday Inn

5655 Greenwich Rd, Virginia Beach, VA 23462

9:30 Sign-in

10:00 Business Meeting and Workshop

12:00 Lunch\*

\*Join Dr. Ruple in a discussion on how to help your high school seniors prepare for a college music degree

Pianist and Steinway Artist Dr. Eric Ruple, NCTM is from the United States of America and is Professor of Piano at James Madison University (Virginia, USA). He received his doctoral degree in Piano Performance from the University of Michigan, with additional degrees from The University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music, and Arizona State University. He is a nationally certified music teacher, and enjoys an active career as a soloist, chamber musician, and teacher. Performances include several solo concerts at Steinway Hall in New York, and at the Kennedy Center in Washington D.C., including a performance of Beethoven's "Diabelli" Variations. He has also performed at several American Liszt Society conferences (most recently in fall of 2018), as well as other performance throughout the United States. He was a featured guest, with Ian Zook, at the 2014 International Horn Symposium, and he and Mr. Zook released a CD of 20th century horn/piano sonatas under the "MSR Classics" label. Recent solo programs have featured either the music of Beethoven, Liszt, or 20th century piano music. He has been a guest adjudicator in both Hong Kong and the Philippines.

As keyboard player with the Virginia Symphony Orchestra, he has been a part of many and varied performances, from harpsichord in Vivaldi's "Four Seasons" to featured piano soloist in Bernstein's "Prelude, Fugue and Riffs", to harmonium in the VSO's recording of Mahler Symphony #8, and most recently, he has been principal synthesizer soloist in the ongoing "Harry Potter in Concert" series.

Dr. Ruple served as Interim Director of the School of Music at James Madison University from 2019-2020.

What began as a particular project to student Franz Liszt's *Années de pèlerinage*, turned into an opportunity to play the keyboard part of the Harry Potter films with the Virginia Symphony. What could be more different! But instead, what became more interesting is the important compositional link between these two worlds. This workshop is the story of Liszt the innovative genius leading to Richard Wagner's great operas. From the birth of American film music through to Star Wars and ultimately the Harry Potter series.

**In-person attendees:** Please RSVP to Susan Atkins to reserve your spot. [pianolearningcenter@gmail.com](mailto:pianolearningcenter@gmail.com) Because of social distancing, we are limiting attendance to 20. There will be no food or beverages at this meeting. Masks are required for all attendees.

**Zoom attendees:** Check your inbox for an invitation link. This program will not be recorded.



## **SACRED MUSIC FESTIVAL TIME IS HERE!**

Don't forget to register your students by October 16. Mun Lee has put our registration forms on our website and you can fill them in and email them to me. You can't get much easier than that. If you'd rather, fill in the form on page 17 of your Activity Book and email or regular mail it to me. If it is ready by October 9th, you may give it to me personally at our October meeting.

This year we have two locations to choose from again:



Thalia Lynn Baptist Church  
(Correction from the Activity Book)  
4392 Virginia Beach Blvd.  
Virginia Beach, Va 23462

Monumental United Methodist Church  
450 Dinwiddie St.  
Portsmouth, VA 23704

Each student should play 2 pieces. Memorization is not required. One may be a Christmas piece. More details are listed in the Activity Book.

Teachers, remember, if we don't teach love of sacred music and give confidence in performing to our future church musicians, who will?

"Making melody in your heart to the Lord"

Donna Halleck

## **TMTF Play-A-Thon**

It is time to start thinking about and preparing for the TMTF Play-A-Thon. The dates for the event are December 4th, 5th and 6th, 2020. It will be held at Greenbrier Mall in Chesapeake and at Pembroke Mall in Virginia Beach. The **deadline for registration is November 13th**. Detailed Information about the event can be found in the TMTF 2020/2021 Yearbook and the TMTF 2020/2021 Activity Book. Covid protocol will be strictly followed this year to ensure that all students and teachers are safe.

All students, from beginning to advanced, vocalists and instrumentalists, are invited to share their love of music by performing. They can play seasonal, hymn, classical, duets, popular, or ensemble music, etc. Pieces that students prepared for the Sacred Music Festival could also be used. Memorization is not required!

**It is a requirement to participate in this event if you are going to enter students in the Glover Scholarship Auditions or Glen Mayberry Competition.** As well as helping our three scholarship funds, students will also have an opportunity to win cash prizes themselves! Remember to tell students that donations are tax deductible. If you have not before, I hope you will consider entering some students in this event this year.

Chairman: Lynn Kleisler

Co-Chairman: Elizabeth Smith

## 2021 VMTA Skills Test

The VMTA Skills Tests will be administered on -

- 1) **Saturday, February 6, 2021** at Marsh School of Music in person
- 2) **Sunday, February 7, 2021** at Jordan Kitt's Music in person and online via Zoom platform.

The registration DEADLINE is **January 8, 2021**. The POSTMARK date is the same as the DEADLINE date.

A syllabus is available from the state chairperson and costs \$10.00 or a free download from the VMTA website ([www.virginiamta.org](http://www.virginiamta.org)) may be obtained.

Detail information and the application forms can be found in the TMTF Yearbook and the Student Activity Booklet.

Please encourage your students to participate in these tests as the preparation involved in preparing will definitely be educational and rewarding for them.

Mun Lee Han (Local Chairperson) 757-214-5439 [munleehan@gmail.com](mailto:munleehan@gmail.com)  
 Lynn Kleisler (Skills Test State Chairperson) 757-925-0248 [lynnkleisler@yahoo.com](mailto:lynnkleisler@yahoo.com)

### TMTF Calendar

October 2020						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

### October

- 9th 10:00 TMTF Meeting - Clinician: Dr. Eric Ruple, NCTM  
 "My Year with Franz Liszt and Harry Potter"  
 at Holiday Inn  
 5655 Greenwich Rd, Virginia Beach, VA 2346216
- 16th 10:00 TMTF Executive Board Meeting
- 16th **DEADLINE - Sacred Music Festival**
- 21th **DEADLINE - Stafflines News**

November 2020						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

### November

- 1st **DEADLINE - Achievement Award Registration**
- TBA VMTA Fall Conference & Competitions
- 13th 10:00 TMTF Meeting/Workshop  
 Clinician: Dr. Sarah Rushing, NCTM
- 13th **DEADLINE - TMTF Play-A-Thon**
- 14th TMTF Sacred Music Festival



**2020 Eastern District Results**

**Scholarship Winner**



**Level IA**

	<u>Student</u>	<u>Teacher</u>
1st place	Lauren Kang	Alisa Bohon
Alternate	Scarlett Horner	Liz Sjolund
H.M.	Matthew Chow	Susan Atkins

Congratulations to Kristian Quilon, winner of the Glenn Mayberry Scholarship. He is attending Old Dominion University with a double major, with an emphasis on sound recording technology. He is the student of Elizabeth Sjolund.

**Level IB**

1st place	Bradley Song	Galina Epelman
Alternate	Andrew Chow	Susan Atkins
2nd place	Anna Ying	Elizabeth Sjolund
3rd place	Wrenyi Umstattd	Galina Epelman
H. M.	Hannah Ying	Elizabeth Sjolund

**2021 VMTA Sight Reading Test**

The VMTA Executive Board has voted to cancel 2021 VMTA Helen Parker Sight-Reading Test. The Sight Reading requirement for 2021 District Auditions is waived.

**Level II**

1st place	Isaac Li	Galina Epelman
Alternate	Lydia Li	Galina Epelman
2nd place	Matthew Fan	Alisa Bohon
3rd place	Leo Tang	Galina Epelman
H.M.	Will Jiang	Mun Lee Han

**Level III**

1st place	Edric Han	Teresa Falk
Alternate	Christine Gyure	Alisa Bohon
2nd place	Ritchie Bui	Alisa Bohon
3rd place	Daniel Khalil	Alisa Bohon
H. M.	Alan Schuster	Alisa Bohon

Congratulations to the students and teachers above and to all students who prepared and participated in this years virtual Eastern District Auditions. There were 30 applicants with 27 competing. The students represented 8 teachers. Thank you to the 2020 judges: Tristi Chan; Karen Krieger, Vanderbilt University; Paulo Steinberg, James Madison University; and Kwan Yi, East Carolina University.

Respectfully submitted,

Alisa Bohon, Eastern District Chair



HAPPY BIRTHDAY



**October**

- 15th Mary Taylor
- 21st Elizabeth Smith
- 27th Elizabeth Ann Baker
- 29th Kelsey Jamerson

**November**

- 10th Avelina Ibarra
- 25th Amanda Lea Marsrow
- 30th Susie Keele

### Stafflines Advertising Rates

The following advertising rates are for Stafflines news that is not related directly to TMTF activities.

Two to three line announcement such as a recital or job opening: No Fee

One half page (8.5" x 5.5"): \$10.00

Full page (8.5" x 11"): \$20.00

Make check payable to TMTF and send along with your ad to

Yuko Farman, NCTM  
9052 River Crescent  
Suffolk, VA 23433

### Need Students?

Want to refer students?

Look no further than the TMTF website: [www.tmtf.org](http://www.tmtf.org)

You can submit your contact information and teacher profile to our webmaster

**Mun Lee Han**

[munleehan@gmail.com](mailto:munleehan@gmail.com)

If you need to refer a student simply give them the webmaster address: [www.tmtf.org](http://www.tmtf.org)  
It's that easy!

### **Tidewater Music Teachers Forum**

Local Chapter of the Virginia Music Teachers Association

Affiliated with the Music Teachers National Association

**Yuko Farman, Editor | 9052 River Crescent | Suffolk, VA 23433**