



STAFFLINES



Monthly Newsletter of the Tidewater Music Teachers Forum



Request a grant for free VMTA Conference Registration

TMTF has been awarded two “Golden Tickets” which will pay for the conference registration fee for two of our chapter members. (Recipients will be responsible for travel and hotel.)

To apply for these grants, email TMTF President Sally Copeland tisewatermtf@gmail.com

- Name
- Contact info
- Why you would like to attend this year’s VMTA conference?
- Is this your first VMTA conference?

Application deadline July 1, 2026

Recipients will be announced in August.



President's Letter June/July 2026

Masterclasses, workshops, recitals, conventions, and other educational events are now completed and “in the books” - thank you to our members for their support, dedication, and participation throughout the year. We also wish Violet Cusher congratulations on her high school graduation and much success as she begins her collegiate studies next year, and we thank her for her faithful service to our organization with creating and sending the monthly Stafflines.



TMTF Board Members have met to schedule wonderful events for you and your students for 2026-2027. Please be sure to put our first meeting on Saturday, September 12 on your calendar as we will host noted composer and educator Dennis Alexander for a workshop and masterclass. Teachers may submit students to perform pieces by any composer for the masterclass, although it is nice if they have a selection by Dennis himself. We are looking forward to seeing everyone again at this inspiring event.



We hope that you will invite area music teachers to join our organization and encourage them to participate in the many events and workshops that we offer. The workshops that are planned are not only educational and fun but provide a time of fellowship to catch up with friends. I look forward to serving my second year as your TMTF area President in the upcoming year and have included a few photos of the May meeting, lunch, and baby shower for Emily.



Happy Summer and see you in the fall!

Best,
Sally

2026 Eastern District Results Cristopher Newport University

	Student	Teacher
Level IA		
1 st Place:	Ethan Zhang	Mun Lee Han
Alternate:	Fiona Lineberger	Alisa Bohon
2 nd Place:	Emma Chow	Susan Atkins
3 rd Place:	Peter Reshko	Alisa Bohon
H. M.	Isabella Mak	Galina Epelman
H. M.	Olivia Wang	Galina Epelman
Level IB		
1 st Place:	Anna Wang	Alisa Bohon
Alternate:	Iris Huang	Mun Lee Han
2 nd Place:	Rachel Chen	Galina Epelman
3 rd Place:	Liam Guingab	Josephine Jones
H. M.	Rinzen Llanto	Galina Epelman
Level II		
1 st Place:	Matthew Chow	Susan Atkins
Alternate:	Skylar Green	Alisa Bohon
2 nd Place:	Ema Shimoura	Alisa Bohon
3 rd Place:	Atrina Wang	Galina Epelman
H. M.	Chelsea Li	Liz Sjolund
Level III		
1 st Place:	David Zimmerman	Alisa Bohon
Alternate:	Lauren Kang	Evelyn Lam
2 nd Place:	Maya Elsaadat	Alisa Bohon
3 rd Place:	Neil Durbin	Alisa Bohon
H. M.	Cathlyn Li	Alisa Bohon
H. M.	Jack Duggan	Alisa Bohon

There were 33 applicants and 32 participated. Congratulations to the students and teachers recognized above and all students who prepared and participated. The judges this year were: Dr. Sukyung Yang, Hampton University; Kent McWilliams, University of Mary Washington; Daniel Inamorato, College of William and Mary; and Dr. Seung-Hye Kim, Christopher Newport University.

Respectfully submitted, Alisa Bohon, Eastern District Chair

TMTF Annual Honors Recitals

TMTF 59th Annual Honors Recitals concluded at the DiHen Performing Arts Center on May 17th, 2026. The two recitals, featuring 42 students from 10 teachers, celebrated their hard work, dedication, and musical achievements.

Thank you to everyone who helped make this event a success. We are proud of each and every student!

Mun Lee Han, NCTM (TMTF Honors Recital Chair)



TMTF Masterclass Offerings

TMTF is excited to offer not just one, but two piano masterclasses for the coming year!

Our first masterclass is scheduled for Saturday, September 12th with Dennis Alexander. Please see the attached application. All levels of repertoire are accepted.

Our second masterclass is scheduled for Friday, April 9th, 2027 with Keith Snell. All levels accepted, but students are required to perform a composition by David Carr Glover.

Piano Master Class Registration**Dennis Alexander****Perform on ODU's new Steinway Model D Concert Grand!**

Masterclass: Saturday, September 12, 2026 at 2:00 PM
Location: Chandler Recital Hall, Old Dominion University
Deadline: August 29, 2026 (postmark)

Student's Name: _____

Student's Age: _____

Teacher's Name: _____ Phone: _____

Teacher's Email: _____

Composition: _____

Composer: _____

Level (elementary and up): _____ Performance time: _____

Please note that space is limited. We have room for only 4 students and 2 alternates.

There will be a limit of 1 student per teacher. Ms. Alexander will be working with each student for a time appropriate for their level (less time for elementary levels, more time for intermediate and advanced.) Please choose the piece accordingly. The repertoire list will be provided to Ms. Rollin and she will choose the performers.

The Master Class fee is \$15.00 per student. Registration form may be sent by mail or virtually, but a check is requested for the fee. Please make your check payable to TMTF. If the student is not selected to perform, the fee will be returned. Mail registration form and check to:

Susan Atkins
4357 Biscayne Dr.
Virginia Beach, VA 23455
pianolearningcenter@gmail.com

TMTF EVENT CALENDAR

June 2026						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
	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				

21 Father's Day

30 DEADLINE - MTNA Membership Dues

Happy
Birthday



June

6 Meghan Hutton

12 Helen Heifetz

18 Cynthia Vaughn

July

2 Lynn Kleisler

9 Wanda Hall

16 Donna Halleck

18 Sally Copeland

20 Barbara Poindexter

August

5 Bethany Jacob

31 Susan Atkins



Get Involved in TMTF!

We have plenty of opportunities to get involved in by helping with events, such as judging, administering various tests, auditions and recitals. These are excellent opportunities to contribute your talent and connect with other music teachers.

Contact the event chairperson or president or president-elect for opportunities you are interested in helping out with.

We would greatly appreciate your presence!



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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 the Stafflines Editor

Piano

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pianoshowcaseva.com

Greenbrier Mall

J. Scott Bailey
President

KAWAI



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Tidewater Music Teachers Forum

Local Chapter of the Virginia Music Teachers Association Affiliated with the Music Teachers National Association

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