

STAFFLINES

Monthly Newsletter of the Tidewater Music Teachers Forum



Friday, November 15, 2024

Walter & Carol Noona
“Life on the 88 Keys”

Location: ODU Diehn Center for the Performing Arts
Diehn Composers Room (Rm. 192)
1339 West 49th St., Norfolk, VA 23529

10:00 Business Meeting & Workshop

12:00 Lunch

Walter and Carol Noona have been married for 65 years! They met at the University of Illinois where Walter was studying for his Masters’ Degree in piano Performance and Carol had just transferred to Illinois as a third year undergrad in the same discipline. Both needed credit in Duo/Performance so a crafty professor assigned them a partnership in two Piano Studies. (This man had a reputation for causing marriages!)

During the course of his musical career, Walter has explored all aspects of music. After studying with such fine teachers as Bristow Hardin, Robert Carter, and Soulima Stravinsky, he began as a concert pianist and Artist in Residence at Xavier University in New Orleans. At all times he has been a teacher, working at all levels from beginners to competitors in National Competitions. His composition of creative music for publications has existed side by side with his studio work. He and Carol toured for many years presenting publication workshops for teachers.

Besides the Virginia Beach Pops and Virginia Symphony Pops, Walter has also conducted many of the orchestras of the United States and Canada. He Served as personal conductor for Ethel Merman during the last few years of her life. His interest in jazz led to the creation of the Walter Noona Trio, a sophisticated ensemble that performs regularly. Choral music and church work is also figured into the mosaic of his life. He has been active as a conductor of civic choruses and church choirs throughout his life. He currently Leads the St. Gregory the Great Choir at 11 AM Mass each Sunday.

Continued on the next page.

Carol Menke Noona was born and raised in the suburbs of Chicago. She has been a teacher from the beginning of her musical career, taking her first students at age fourteen. Her American Conservatory teacher, Howard Hanks, a protege of Louise Robyn, one of our country's early pedagogists, taught all of his performing pianists the art of teaching. Other influencing teachers at the conservatory were Leo Sowerby and Edwin Fissinger.

Carol met Walter while she was studying with Joseph Battiste, an artist taught by Nadia Boulanger. Walter and Carol not only became husband and wife but also a musical team for life. Early in their marriage, they performed as a two-piano team. Later, they formed their own separate piano studies in Virginia Beach and Norfolk. Here, they wrote and tested many compositions published for aspiring pianists. Carol has always had a great interest in church music and currently serves as the Minister of Music at St. Gregory the Great Catholic Church.



PRESIDENT'S LETTER NOVEMBER 2024

A few weekends ago, I had the pleasure of attending the North Carolina Music Teachers Association Conference in Greensboro, NC. It was a heartwarming time for the NC teachers to just be able to get together after the destruction that Hurricane Helene brought to many members in the state.

The conference started off with "Lightning Talks" which were a few selected NC teachers speaking on various topics for 5 minutes each. I was amazed how much I learned from them in their short amount of time! Topics were lesser known composers, counterpoint, tips and takeaways during lessons and a few others.

Kevin Olson was the guest clinician who encouraged us to have our students compose and improvise so that they can become more creative. Another speaker mentioned with A.I. (artificial intelligence) out in our world now, we have to help our students become problem solvers. When we play, we have to figure out on our own where we play from: the fingers, wrist, elbow, arm, etc. Us musicians are problem solving all the time and A.I. is not able to help with those skills.

The guest artist was Dan Tepfer who played Bach's Inventions and Reinventions, which were pieces of his own that he composed. It was a really great concert where classical met jazz on piano. If you get the chance, look him up! <https://dantepfer.com>

I am now looking forward to the Virginia Music Teachers Conference at Virginia State University on November 7-9. I hope to see you there!

Laura Cardin
Co-President



Unfortunately, I have decided to step down as co-president as of this month. Right now, I need to focus on my treatment for the illness I have been battling for nearly a year. I have enjoyed working as co-president alongside Laura, who has been supportive of my decision and is willing to take on the role of president through the end of the 2024-2025 year. I'll continue to assist with Stafflines for as long as I can. Thank you so much for your understanding.

Yuko Farman
Co-President



TMTF Play-A-Thon



The deadline for this event is here! Registration is due by November 11th. The dates for the Play-A-Thon this year are December 6th, 7th and 8th. It will be held at Greenbrier Mall in Chesapeake in front of Piano Showcase. Please use the current registration form that can be found in the 2024 Activity Book. Other Play-A-Thon forms can also be found there such as the Student Pledge Form, Letter to Parents, Teacher Guidelines, etc. Please take a moment to read through all of them. **Now is the time to start handing the "Pledge Sheets" out to your students** to give them time to secure pledges before the event although they have until January 31, 2025 to turn in their pledge money to be considered eligible for one of the monetary prizes. Often, the holidays are the best time for students to collect pledges from friends and families.

Students of all levels and any instrument are invited to share their love of music by performing at this fun event. All students will receive a little prize after they perform. 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 for this event. Memorization is not required!!!

More information about this event can also be found in the TMTF Yearbook. **Please note that it is a requirement for a teacher's studio to participate in this event if entering students in the Glover Scholarship Auditions, Glen Mayberry Competition or receive money from the Louise Garrow Memorial Scholarship Fund this school year.** As well as helping our three scholarship funds, students will also have an opportunity to win cash prizes themselves if they bring in one of the three highest amounts of pledge money! Remember to tell students that donations are tax deductible.

Please consider entering some of your students in the event this year if you have not done so before!

Chairman: Lynn Kleisler, NCTM
Co-Chairman: Elizabeth Smith

Bring a Friend to Our Workshops and Earn Rewards!

Invite a fellow music teacher to join you at any of our TMTF Workshops! When you bring a friend, both of you will receive a \$10 Music & Arts gift card as a thank you.



Teachers' Recital Launches Year-Round Soirées

The TMTF Teachers' Recital was established in 2006 to provide teachers an opportunity to showcase their talents with the Tidewater Community as well as an opportunity for professional growth. Newly renamed in 2024, we will offer several teacher soirées over the year based on interest and availability. If you are interested, contact the chairperson, Elizabeth Sjolund.

Chairperson: Elizabeth Sjolund
(757) 420-7059
landk627@aol.com



TMTF CALENDAR

November 2024

1		DEADLINE - Achievement Award Registration
7-9		VMTA State Conference at Virginia State University
3		DEADLINE - TMTF Student Recital - VA Beach
3		DEADLINE - TMTF Student Recital - Portsmouth
11		DEADLINE - TMTF Play-A-Thon Registration
15	10:00 a.m.	TMTF Meeting/Workshop - Clinicians: Walter & Carol Noona <i>Old Dominion University's Diehn Center for the Performing Arts</i> 1339 West 49th Street, Norfolk, VA. 23529
16		TMTF Sacred Music Festival <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Thalia Lynn Baptist Church, 4321 VA Beach Blvd, VA Beach, VA 23452</i> • <i>Monumental UMC, 450 Dinwiddie St, Portsmouth, VA 23704</i>
19		Student Recital - VA Beach - Coastal Virginia Unitarian Universalist Church
TBD		Student Recital - Portsmouth – TBD
23		Harold Protsman Piano Competition – Diehn Performing Arts Center, ODU (Not a TMTF event)

December 2024

6-8		TMTF Play-A-Thon - Greenbrier Mall, Chesapeake
20		DEADLINE - Theory Test
21		DEADLINE - Stafflines News



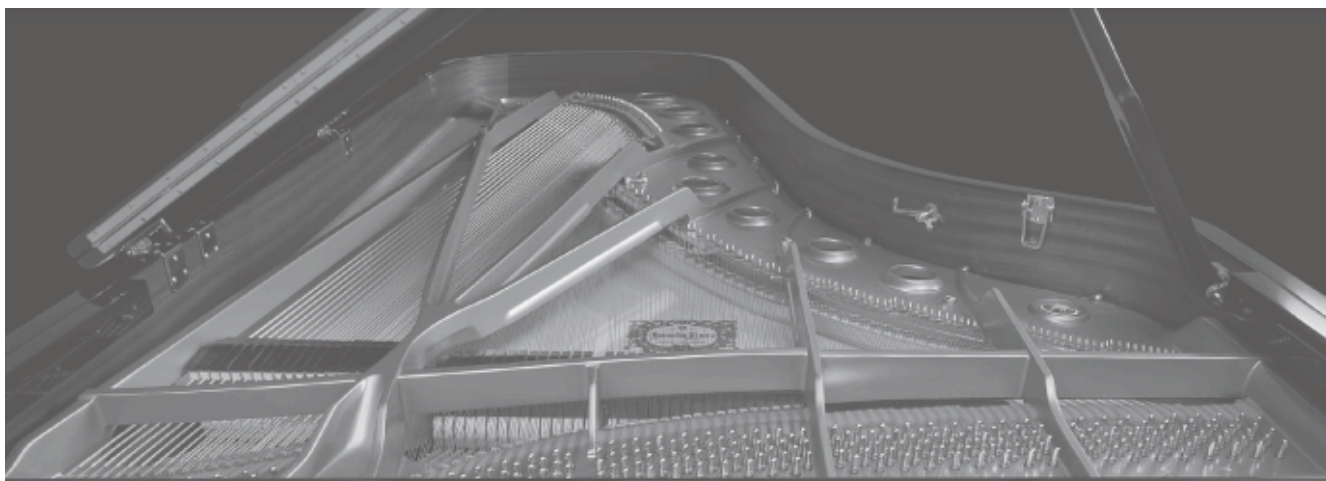
November

- 1 Carol Cook
6 Lonell Riddick

December

- 31 Christina Anderson





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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 Yuko Farman, NCTM, 9052 River Crescent, Suffolk, VA 23433

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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