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# STAFFLINES

Monthly Newsletter of the Tidewater Music Teachers Forum

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**Friday, February 16, 2024**

Memorization: Insights into Historical Practices  
and Modern Adaptations

Presented by Zachary Deak, DMA

Location: Old Dominion University

Music Library at Diehn Composers Room

The Reading Room (Rm. 192)

10:00 Business Meeting and Workshop



## Workshop Description

Throughout much of the 20th century, pianists have been expected to perform from memory, yet the reasons behind this practice continue to spark curiosity and debate. Drawing insights from various historical periods, we will explore the art of memorization across cultures and traditions. From the memorization practices of the Renaissance to those of monastic orders, we will uncover how memorization has shaped diverse traditions. Our exploration will extend to the present day, where we will investigate the evolving attitudes toward memorization in contemporary piano pedagogy and performance. This examination will prompt reflections on the enduring significance of memorization in today's musical landscape.

Taking a practical approach, I will also offer insights into effective memorization techniques and strategies for piano students.

## Biography

**Pianist Zachary Deak** has appeared in recitals as a soloist and chamber musician in the United States, France, Morocco, Portugal, Moldavia, and the United Kingdom. He has concertized at venues such as the Dorothy Chandler Pavilion, Cité de la Musique, Salle Cortot, l'Archipel, in Paris, the Casa de Musica in Porto and the Theatre Micaelense in Ponto Delgada as well as l'Institut Francais in Agadir, Morocco. (Continue on the next page.)

The recipient of numerous awards, Zachary received the Hopkinson silver medal at the prestigious Chappell Medal Piano Competition in London in 2012. In 2013, he had the privilege to work intensively with the eminent pianist Maria Joao Pires in Paris and Brussels.

A graduate of the Ecole Normale de Musique de Paris and the Royal College of Music in London, Zachary received his Doctor of Musical Arts Degree in Piano Performance from the University of Southern California under the guidance of Dr. Stewart Gordon.

A dedicated teacher, Zachary has taught at Cal State University Los Angeles, Cuesta College San Luis Obispo and is currently Assistant Professor of Piano and Musicology at Old Dominion University in Norfolk, Virginia.

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## President's Letter February 2024

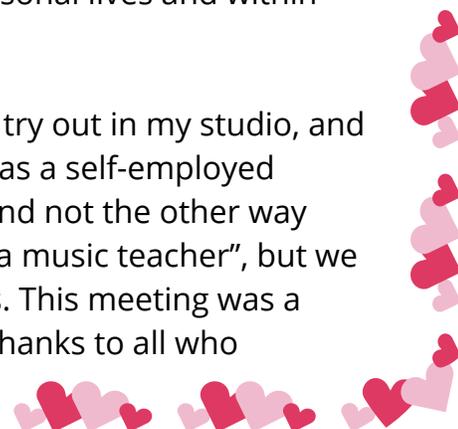


Hello and Happy New Year!

We kicked off our first meeting of 2024 with a fun and informative round table discussion regarding dealing with parents and much more. This discussion was led by our Immediate Past President, Susan Atkins - thanks Susan for coming up with great questions and topics for us to discuss, for leading us in our conversations and getting us back on track when needed!

It was so nice to have this dedicated time to talk with colleagues and hear their opinions and experiences in their studios. There were only a few of us in attendance at the meeting, but it was a lovely turnout of teachers. We had a good variety of stages in teaching: teachers within their first five years to those who have been in the business for more than twenty years, all who have experienced many changes of living and lifestyle in their personal lives and within the families in their studios.

I came away from the meeting with several new and different ideas to try out in my studio, and I wrote down a few quotes from teachers which had an impact on me as a self-employed business owner, especially one regarding fitting people into my time and not the other way around. Sometimes, we may feel and may be treated like we are "just a music teacher", but we are so much more than that! We are teaching life skills to our students. This meeting was a great reminder to respect myself as a business owner and musician. Thanks to all who participated!



## Play-A-Thon

This is just a friendly reminder for teachers who participated in the 2023 Play-A-Thon to remind their students to finish collecting their pledge money so that it can be turned in by the deadline date of **March 1st**. This is a TMTF requirement to be able to participate in the David Carr Glover Scholarship Auditions and the Glen Mayberry Scholarship Auditions. It is also a requirement to be eligible for a Louise Garrow Memorial Scholarship. Please be sure to include your "Studio Schedule and Pledge Validation Form" with the student's information filled in (name and pledge amount) when you send it to me. Also, please do not send me your student's Pledge Sheets.

Thank you!

Lynn Kleisler, NCTM  
Play-A-Thon Chairman

## Membership Roster Updates and Corrections

### Phone number correction

Debra Newton : 757-615-9278

### Email update

Sarah Lantz: slantz@jordankitts.com



## Certification Meeting

Start the process or just get more information about MTNA Certification.

**Date:** Friday, February 23, 2024

**Time:** 10:00 am - 11:00 am

**Location:** In-person at Susan Atkins' house - 4537 Biscayne Drive, Virginia Beach, VA 23455  
RSVP to Susan Atkins. Want to Zoom? - RSVP to receive link. Want more information? Visit [Certification.mtna.org](https://certification.mtna.org)

Susan Atkins, NCTM  
Chairperson, Certification  
757-282-8220  
[pianolearningcenter@gmail.com](mailto:pianolearningcenter@gmail.com)



## TMTF Facebook Private Group

Tidewater Music Teachers Forum VMTA  
members  
[facebook.com](https://www.facebook.com)



Welcome! This is the new private discussion group for members of Tidewater Music Teachers Forum. It is opt-in only. When you visit the group, ask to join and you will be added by an admin. Our public-facing Facebook PAGE is for people to learn more about TMTF, programs, and events. This private Facebook GROUP is a member-to-member group for discussions, questions, opportunities, community and studio events of interest to members, requests for teachers with student openings, carpools for chapter events.....anything musically related that you'd like to share with your colleagues. [No MLM or sales posts, please.]

Cynthia Vaughn, TMTF Private Group Admin

# TMTF CALENDAR

## February 2024

- 4** **DEADLINE - TMTF Student Recital - Norfolk**
- 9** 10:00 a.m. TMTF Executive Board Meeting via Zoom
- 11** **DEADLINE - TMTF Student Recital - Portsmouth**
- 16** 10:00 a.m. TMTF Meeting/Workshop - Clinician: Zachary Deak, DMA  
*Diehn Performing Arts Center, Old Dominion University*
- 18** Student Recital - Norfolk - Royster Memorial Presbyterian Church
- 18** Student Recital - Portsmouth - West Side Christian Church
- 21** **DEADLINE - Stafflines News**
- 25** VMTA Sight Reading/Keyboard Skills Tests - Diehn Performing Arts Center, ODU

**Snacks and coffee are no longer provided at the monthly meetings.**



## March 2024

- 1** **DEADLINE - TMTF Play-A-Thon** (participation in scholarship events deadline)
- 8** 10:00 a.m. TMTF Meeting/Workshop - Clinician: Kwan Yi  
*Jordan Kitt's Music - 5164 VA Beach Blvd., VA Beach, VA 23462*
- 9** TMTF Levels of Progress - Portsmouth, Virginia Beach
- 10** TMTF Levels of Progress - Virginia Beach, Norfolk
- 16** **DEADLINE - TMTF Honors Recitals Auditions**
- 16-20** MTNA Conference - Atlanta, GA
- 21** **DEADLINE - Stafflines News**

**LOP is a prerequisite for the Honors Auditions.**



Happy Birthday



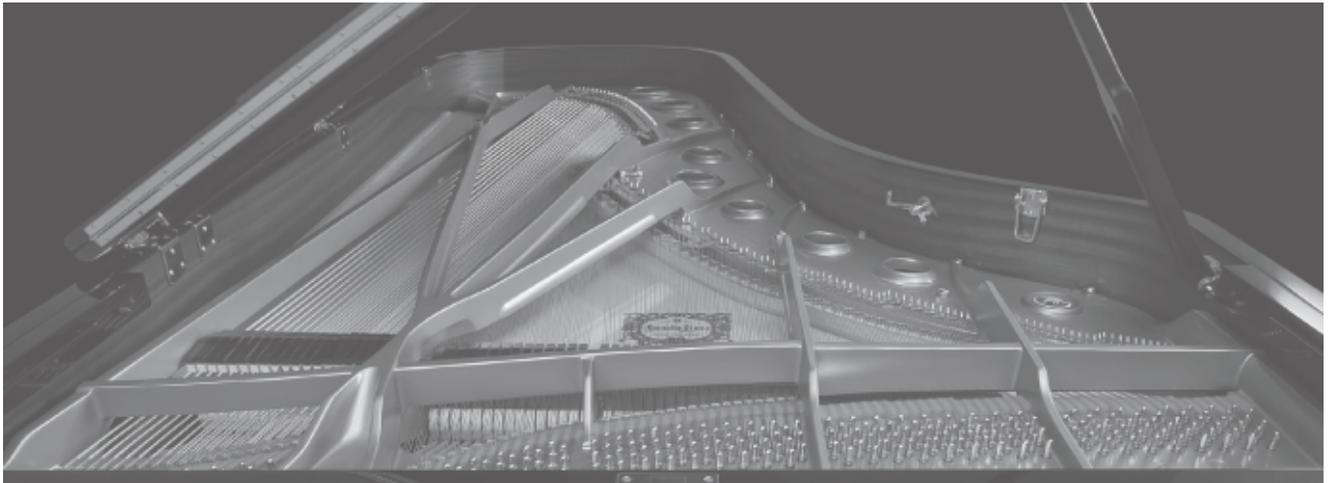
### February

- 3 Jane Gallatin
- 10 Destiny Koiman
- 22 Alisa Bohon
- 25 Katherine Wright

### March

- 1 Laura Cardin
- 18 Mary Ann Medlin
- 19 Walter Noona
- 21 Rebekah Ruth-Nieto
- 22 Elizabeth Sjolund
- 30 Cathy Bryan
- 30 Galina Epelman





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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

# Piano

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## Showcase

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pianoshowcaseva.com

Greenbrier Mall

**J. Scott Bailey**  
President

# KAWAI



(757) 420-1130  
(757) 714-3307 Cell  
pianoshowcaseva@yahoo.com

### 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**