

STAFFLINES

Monthly Newsletter of the Tidewater Music Teachers Forum

Friday, January 19, 2024



Teacher's Round Table Led by Susan Atkins
"Problems with Parents? We Have Answers!"

Location	Jordan Kitt's Music 5164 Virginia Beach Blvd., Virginia Beach, VA 23462
9:30	Coffee & Breakfast Treats
10:00	Business Meeting and Workshop
12:00	Lunch

Susan Atkins, NCTM is the owner and instructor for the Piano Learning Center in Virginia Beach. A love for music and sharing the knowledge of music has led Susan to be involved in many music teacher organizations. She has served as the president of the Virginia Music Teachers Association and has twice served as the president of the Tidewater Music Teachers Forum. Susan keeps her piano playing skills current with freelance and volunteer playing opportunities in the Hampton Roads community.

Workshop Description

Anecdotal evidence gathered when chatting with other music teachers shows that dealing with parents is a major concern for teachers. In my own studio, the students are sometimes much easier to teach than the parents are to do business with. Come to the Teacher Round Table and share your stories, tips, and strategies. What lessons have you learned in your teaching experience that could be passed on to other teachers? What questions do you have?





President's Letter January 2024



Happy New Year! I trust this letter finds you in good health, and that you enjoyed a wonderful holiday season surrounded by loved ones. As we reflect on the past, our first quarter was a success, thanks to the dedication and hard work of our members who actively participated in various workshops and events.

Looking ahead, we anticipate more enriching events that will be beneficial to both teachers and students alike. Your continued involvement is crucial to the success of our forum, and we are excited about the opportunities that lie ahead.

This month, we will have a Teachers' Round Table led by Susan Atkins, where we will delve into discussions about navigating challenges with parents (more details on the first page). I am looking forward to the exchange of ideas and experiences during this session.

As private piano teachers, it is important for us to have a space where we can openly discuss our experiences, share valuable insights, and support one another. This sense of connection becomes especially vital as we may often find ourselves feeling isolated in our individual teaching practices.

I encourage you to participate in this session, as your input and perspectives matter so much!

Wishing you a harmonious and successful New Year!

Co-President
Yuko Farman

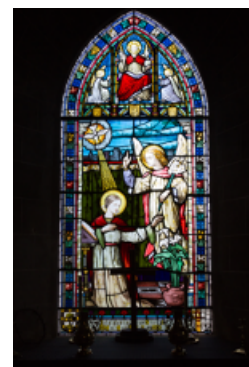
Sacred Music Festival

Our Festival was held on Saturday, November 11, 2023 in 2 locations: Thalia Lynn Baptist Church in VA Beach and Monumental Methodist Church in Portsmouth. We had 5 teachers participating with 37 students registered. Everything moved along smoothly as 34 students came and performed. Some of the students have make-ups scheduled as they had conflicts for the day.

Thank you to all the teachers that participated and helped to make the day a success:

Yuko Farman
Josephine Jones
Lynn Kleisler
Mary Ann Medlin
Elizabeth Smith

Donna Halleck, Chairman
TMTF Sacred Music Festival



Get Involved in TMTF!

We have plenty of opportunities to get involved by helping with events, such as judging, and administering various tests, auditions, and recitals. These are excellent opportunities to contribute your talent and connect with other music teachers. If you are interested, please contact our co-president, Laura Cardin or Yuko Farman.

TMTF Play-A-Thon

The TMTF Play-A-Thon was a great success this past December 1-3! Many thanks to all of the teachers and students who participated in this event and helped to make it a success. I would like to give Elizabeth Smith, our Co-Chairman, a special shout-out for all of her extra help during the three-day event. I would also like to thank Scott Bailey at Piano Showcase for the use of the pianos and the store during our event.

Please remind your students to turn in their pledges to you as soon as possible. The pledge money (checks only) with a completed **"Teacher's Studio Schedule and Pledge Validation Form"** sheet should be sent to me. This form can be found in the Activity Book. I need the form completed with the student names and money collected to determine who receives one of the top three cash prizes. For students to qualify for one of these prizes, their pledge money has to be turned in by the deadline date of **January 31st**. The final deadline for all pledge money to be turned in is March 1st.

Thanks again to all who helped make this event successful!

Lynn Kleisler, NCTM
Play-A-Thon Chairman



2024 Levels of Progress

Event Dates: March 9 and 10, 2024

Registration DEADLINE: January 19, 2024
(Postmark date)

Registration Fees: \$12.00 for each solo entry
(\$17.00 for non-members) \$ 7.00 per student
for ensembles **(\$12.00 for non-members)**

It's time to prepare your students for TMTF Levels of Progress. You can find the registration form in the 2023-2024 TMTF Activity Book or download it from our website, www.tmtf.org under the "Members Only" tab.

Reminders,

- Memorization of pieces is optional. TMTF still highly encourages memorization, but we also realize that this is not always possible. Levels of Progress is intended for students of ALL ages and abilities, so we want to be sure all students are able to participate.
- Other than a portion of our membership dues, Levels of Progress is the only TMTF event that provides funds for the organization itself. Your participation will help us continue to provide quality presenters for our meetings and the best possible opportunities for our teachers and students.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact me at munleehan@gmail.com

Musically yours,
Mun Lee Han, NCTM
Levels of Progress Chair

2024 Sight-Reading and Skills Test

The VMTA Helen Parker Sight Reading will be administered with the VMTA Skills Tests on -

Sunday, February 25, 2024
at Diehn Performing Arts Center
Old Dominion University

The registration DEADLINE is **January 19, 2024.**

The POSTMARK date is the same as the DEADLINE date.

There will be no make-up dates.

The syllabus is available from the State Chairperson. Detailed 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.

Local Co-Chairperson

Sarah Lantz 484-437-6327
laurelinwen@gmail.com
Mun Lee Han 757-214-5439
munleehan@gmail.com

Skills Test State Chairperson

Lynn Kleisler 757-925-0248
lynnkleisler@yahoo.com

Sight Reading Test State Chairperson

Fay Barss 804-282-7725 faysmusic@gmail.com



Certification Meeting

Start the new year off right by coming to our monthly Certification Meeting.

Date: Friday, January 12, 2024

Time: 10:00 am - 11:30 am

Location: In-person at Susan Atkins' house - 4537 Biscayne Drive, Virginia Beach, VA 23455

RSVP to Susan Atkins, TMTF Certification Chair

pianolearningcenter@gmail.com
757-282-8220

Want to Zoom? - RSVP to receive the link.

Want more information? Visit
Certification.mtna.org

The MTNA certification program is an excellent way to boost your teaching skills and your income. Come to the meeting and find out more!

TMTF Facebook Private Group

Tidewater Music Teachers Forum VMTA
members
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

January 2024

- 19** **DEADLINE - TMTF Levels of Progress**
- 19** **DEADLINE - VMTA Keyboard Skills and Sight Reading Tests**
- 19** 10:00 a.m. TMTF Meeting/Workshop
Jordan Kitt's Music - 5164 VA Beach Blvd., VA Beach, VA 23462
- 21** **DEADLINE - Stafflines News**
- 27** VMTA Theory Test - Webb Center, ODU
- 31** **DEADLINE - Play-A-Thon pledges (Student awards deadline)**

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



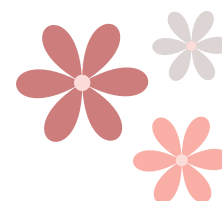
Happy
Birthday

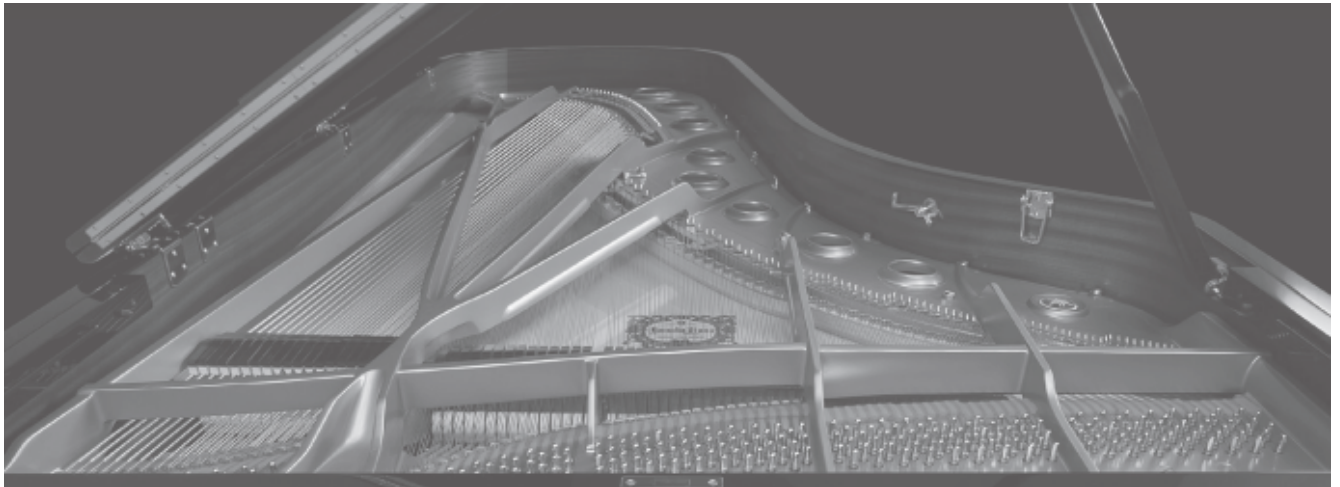
January

- 5 Hugh Middleton
- 7 Geraldine T. Boone
- 12 Romaine Hardy
- 12 Nancy Whitfield
- 17 Agnes Han
- 20 Susan Grice
- 28 Jeanette Winsor

February

- 3 Jane Gallatin
- 22 Alisa Bohon
- 25 Katherine Wright





Y A M A H A

JORDAN www.jordankitts.com
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Virginia Beach, VA 23462
(757) 497-8929

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

Showcase

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