



STAFFLINES



Monthly Newsletter of the Tidewater Music Teachers Forum



Friday, March 18, 2022

Newton Piano

3750 Virginia Beach Blvd., Virginia Beach, VA 23452

Eric Ruple, DMA

Piano Master Class

9:30 Coffee

10:00 Business Meeting/Workshop

12:00 Lunch

Registration

To register your students, please use the form in this newsletter or look for it in your email inbox. Please note that space is limited. We have room for 3 students and 1 alternate. Applications will be accepted first come, first served. There will be a limit of 1 student per teacher. Dr. Ruple will be working with each student for 20-25 minutes. Maximum playing time is 5 minutes. Please choose the piece accordingly. The repertoire list will be provided to Dr. Ruple and he will choose the performers. If the student is not selected to perform, the fee will be returned.

Biography

Steinway Artist Eric Ruple is on the piano faculty at James Madison University. He enjoys an active career as a solo and chamber musician, including several performances at the Kennedy Center in Washington, DC and Steinway Hall in New York. He is also pianist for the Virginia Symphony Orchestra, including principal keyboard role in the ongoing "Harry Potter Live" concerts. He was also featured in Bernstein's "Prelude, Fugue and Riffs" with the VSO Jazz Ensemble. His recording "Musica Incognito" with hornist Ian Zook has earned unanimously positive reviews from several national and international publications. He is president of the Shenandoah Valley/JMU Chapter of the American Liszt Society and is a regular adjudicator in Hong Kong. In 2019-2020, he served as Interim Director for the JMU School of Music. He received his doctoral degree from the University of Michigan.



President's Letter - March 2022

Dear Fellow Music Teachers,

I like to collect stories. The most fun are stories about young piano students and the funny things they say. I have a 5-year-old Kindergartener who has been taking lessons from me for only a few months. I started him on one of the Bastien Theory Busters workbooks and he loved it so much, he came back the following week having done quite a few more pages than what I assigned. He especially enjoyed the jokes and riddles in the book and wanted to read them to me. Who knew he was reading chapter books? Did I mention he's 5? Then he started telling me jokes and riddles he had made up. One was: "What does playing the piano do for you?" Answer: "It makes you happy!" It makes me happy that playing the piano makes him happy!

If you missed Nancy Breth's presentation at the February meeting, don't fret. You can see her at the virtual MTNA National Conference. Not only can you see the entire conference from the comfort of your own home, but you have months to do it. Register for it at [MTNA.org](https://www.mtna.org) and prepare to be wowed.

Join us for our next meeting on March 18 at Newton Piano. It's a master class and because the original teacher wasn't available, we welcome back Dr. Eric Ruple from JMU. Register your students using the form in this newsletter, or look for it in your email inbox. Contact: Susan Ha.

Musically yours,

Susan Atkins, NCTM
757-282-8220 (cell)
pianolearningcenter@gmail.com



Scholarship Opportunity

The Virginia Beach Chorale presents an annual Lou Sawyer Memorial Scholarship. The scholarship is awarded each year to a graduating high school senior from the Hampton Roads area who has been accepted by a college or university and plans to major in music. Applications are due April 1st. More information can be found at

www.virginiabeachchorale.org/scholarship

Crystal Villanova





VMTA 2021 Virtual State Conference

The rest of the video workshop presentations and competition winners are now on the VMTA website for you to view. They will remain there through June for your leisure to see. I hope you will take some time to see our talented students play and dedicated teachers do their presentations from our great state.

Lynn Kleisler, NCTM
VMTA President

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Glover Scholarship Auditions

This is just a friendly reminder that the deadline for the Glover Scholarship Auditions is **March 11th**. Please make sure that **two** typed judging sheets accompany each student application. If a student's application form has two sheets, please make sure that they are stapled together so that they do not get mixed up with other application forms. Also, please **do not** staple the applications to the judging sheets. They should all be mailed in a large envelope and not folded. More detailed information can be found in the TMTF Yearbook and TMTF Activity Book.

Lynn Kleisler, NCTM
Glover Scholarship Chairman

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♪ *Play-A-Thon* ♪

The pledge money is now in and the final report for the 2021 TMTF Play-A-Thon which was held last December 3rd -5th is now complete. We had 150 students participate representing 13 TMTF teachers. The total amount of money collected for the event is \$7,471! That is fantastic considering that our participation numbers were down this year.

The teachers who have students that will be monetarily awarded for bringing in the highest amount of pledge money are as follows:

1 st place (\$100 award)	Student of Donna Halleck	\$556
2 nd place (tie) (\$75 awards)	Students of Laura Cardin & Mary Lee Taylor	\$200 (each)
3 rd place (tie) (\$50 awards)	Students of Mary Ann Medlin & Lynn Kleisler	\$150 (each)

The dedication of all of the teachers who participated in this event is to be highly commended. The teachers whose studios brought in over \$1,000 are Donna Halleck (\$1,172), Mary Ann Medlin (\$1,165) and Joan Edwards (\$1,060). Those that brought in over \$500 are Susan Atkins (\$565), Josephine Jones (\$603), Lynn Kleisler (\$750) and Laura Cardin (\$849). Many thanks to *all of you* who helped to make this event a wonderful success!

Lynn Kleisler, NCTM
Play-A-Thon Chairman



**The Early Registration deadline is
March 15**



Thank you for participating in the 2022
VMTA Sight Reading and Skills Tests

Here are the results:

Skills Test:

Teachers: 6

Students participated: 92

-Superior: 77

-Excellent: 15

Sight Reading Test:

Teachers: 6

Students participated: 76

-Superior: 37

-Excellent: 31

-Very Good: 1

-Good: 1

We would like to thank everyone who helped out on Test Day. Some of you worked behind the desk, others kept the students safe by cleaning the piano keys. These volunteers, Ethan DeGuia, Ashani Warusavitharana, Anisha Warusavitharana and Peixu Wang, kept the tests running, and we thank you for your time. Special thanks to the judges – especially Yuko Farman, Sarah Lantz, Jeanette Winsor, Bethany Jacob and Kelsey Jamerson - for volunteering their time to judge.

We would like teachers to inspire their students to join in the Skills and Sight Reading test next year as well, for the sake of technique and musical growth. We encourage you to spread the word so that more young musicians have the opportunity to learn and test themselves in an encouraging environment.

Thank you again!

Mun Lee Han_{NCTM} and Sarah Lantz
(Co-chairs of Sight-reading and Skills Test)



TMTF Calendar

March 2022

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		

3/5- TMTF Levels of Progress - Portsmouth, Va Beach

3/6- TMTF Levels of Progress - Va Beach, Norfolk

3/11- DEADLINE - Glover Scholarship Auditions (Ref. p. 3)

3/18- DEADLINE - TMTF Honors Recitals Auditions

3/18- TMTF Meeting - Clinician: Dr. Ben Corbin

"Piano Master Class" at Newton Piano, 3750 Va Beach Blvd., Va Beach, VA 23452

2/21 - DEADLINE Stafflines News

April 2022

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

4/9 - TMTF Glover Scholarship Auditions

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

4/15 - DEADLINE - Glen Mayberry Scholarship Auditions

DEADLINE - VMTA Eastern District Auditions*

4/21 - DEADLINE Stafflines News

4/22 - TMTF Meeting/Workshop - Clinician: Hai Jin

Jordan Kitt's Music, 5164 VA Beach Blvd.,
Virginia Beach, VA23462

***Change of location:** VMTA Eastern District Audition will be held at William & Mary Ewell Hall

HAPPY
BIRTHDAY



March

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

April

- 10 Joan Edwards
- 18 Brenda Watkins

2021-2022 Piano Master Class Registration

Dr. Eric Ruple

Masterclass **Friday, March 18, 2022, 10:00 a.m.**
Location **Newton Piano** (3750 Virginia Beach Blvd, Va Beach, VA 23452)
Deadline **March 12, 2022** (Registration form must be received by this date
via email or mail)

Student's Name _____

Student's Age _____

Teacher's Name _____ Phone Number _____

Teacher's Email _____

Composition _____

Composer _____

Level (Intermediate or Advanced) _____ Performance time _____

Please note that space is limited. We have room for 3 students and 1 alternate. Applications will be accepted first come, first served. There will be a limit of 1 student per teacher. Dr. Ruple will be working with each student for 20-25 minutes. Maximum playing time is 5 minutes. Please choose the piece accordingly. The repertoire list will be provided to Dr. Ruple and he will choose the performers. If the student is not selected to perform, the fee will be returned.

The Master Class fee is \$12.00 per student. Please make your check payable to TMTF.

Registration Forms:

By MAIL

Susan C. Ha
736 Maryland Ave #B
Norfolk, VA 23508

By EMAIL:

Susan Ha at susanhapiano@gmail.com.
Registration fee can be sent via mail,
PayPal, or Venmo.

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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

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