



# STAFFLINES

Monthly Newsletter of the Tidewater Music Teachers Forum



## President's Notes

Dear Fellow Music Teachers,

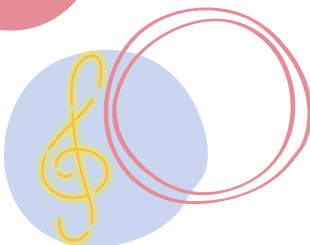
I hope this message finds you well as we ease into the end of the summer term. I'm sure most of you are working hard to figure out how to run your studios this fall on top of what to do about any school-age children you might have. For the first time in our lives, we as music teachers don't have to compete with sports and school music programs that demand so much of their time and attention!

As we look to the future, we remain hopeful for upcoming events. I'm looking forward to reconnecting with all of you on September 18th for our first general meeting at the Holiday Inn on Greenwich Road in Virginia Beach. We will be handing out the 2020-2021 Yearbooks and Activity Books at the meeting. Our workshop presenter will be Michelle Sisler from Keys to Imagination. Please join us! An email will be sent out soon with more details on this workshop.

The Board held a Zoom Meeting on August 14th and made some important decisions regarding our 2020-2021 events. One of them is that we have made online payments an option for some of our events. Stay tuned for more information in our next Stafflines or check out our website [www.tmtf.org](http://www.tmtf.org) when we finalize the registration forms.

I want to thank each of you for your continued membership and support of TMTF. See you on September 18th!

**Mun Lee Han, NCTM**  
**TMTF President**



# ***SEPTEMBER MEETING***

***Friday, September 18, 2020***

**at Holiday Inn**

**5655 Greenwich Rd, Virginia Beach, VA 23462**

Join us for a virtual presentation by Michelle Sisler of Keys to Imagination, LLC. Bring your iPad with you to this meeting to learn how to incorporate it into your teaching. Keys to Imagination materials will be available for sale and door prizes. In addition, a special gift has been prepared for each attendee.

Face masks are required as we and our hosts at Holiday Inn must follow the governor's orders and CDC guidelines. Unable to attend in person? Join us via Zoom. Look for instructions and invitation in your email inbox. The workshop will not be recorded.

R.S.V.P. by September 4 to Susan Atkins with your lunch order. Check your email inbox for lunch selections. Boxed lunches can be taken home if you don't wish to eat at the meeting.

**9:00 Registration and Coffee/Breakfast**

**9:45 Workshop**

**11:30 Business Meeting**

**12:00 Lunch**



## **Michelle Sisler, Chief Manager / Instructional Designer**

When Michelle was little, she used to sit down at her toy piano and play songs by ear, along with the jukebox. This was how her parents discovered her talent and love for music and enrolled her in piano lessons at the age of seven. Michelle enjoys being creative in her teaching, making lessons interesting and fun for all students; her use of technology and creative teaching materials have gained her national recognition. Michelle has presented sessions at The National Conference on Keyboard Pedagogy, Music Teachers National Association conference, and various state conferences and local groups, and has taught piano on Crystal Cruises. She has written technology articles for Keyboard Companion, a series of technology articles in Clavier, and reviews in American Music Teacher. Michelle has co-authored Studio Makeover, Technology "Addition"®, Double Click Curriculum®, Are We There Yet? A Musical Journey Around the Globe®, Sebastian Sharp and the Case of the Missing Manuscript, Road Trip: America the Beautiful and more.

“Michelle Sisler is a retailer with a ‘music teacher’s heart’. She not only has the resources and materials that make a studio into a vibrant and interesting experience, but she also kindly instructs music teachers like you and me who feel confused or need help. She is easy to approach at workshops and her contact information is readily available on the net. I have never found her to be too busy to assist me with even the smallest, most insignificant matters.”

Nancy L, Indiana.

Michelle currently lives in Owatonna, MN with her husband, Kevin and their twins, Brandon and Brianna. In her spare time, she enjoys scrapbooking and traveling.

### iPad iDeas: Teaching Music with Apps

Discover how to easily incorporate your iPad into your teaching. Learn how teachers are creatively using mobile apps to engage their students to learn theory, compose music, play games, learn online, record and provide feedback, teach in groups, teach music history and practice. Make your teaching more fun and effective!

## TMTF Calendar

September 2020

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			

### September

- 18 TMTF Meeting/Workshop - Michelle Sisler
- 21 DEADLINE - Stafflines News**
- 26 Eastern District Auditions

October 2020

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

### October

- 9 TMTF Meeting/Workshop - Dr. EricRuple
- 16 TMTF Board Meeting
- 16 DEADLINE - Sacred Music Festival**
- 21 DEADLINE - Stafflines News**

## Sacred Music Festival

### CALLING ALL TEACHERS:



Get those students ready with two Hymns or Sacred Pieces to play for the SMF in November. We are still planning for this event which is scheduled to take place on Saturday, November 14th. Deadline for registration is Friday, October 16th.

The pieces do NOT have to be memorized and it offers a great opportunity for students to accomplish a goal early in the year. I hope many of you will take advantage of this opportunity.

**Danna Halleck, Chairman**

# HAPPY BIRTHDAY

### September

Josephine Jones	2
Elizabeth Edler	6
Sharon Alston	16
Jessica Tuttobene	17
Debra Newton	25
Christina Ward	28
Vernon McCart	30

### October

Mary Taylor	15
Elizabeth Smith	21
Elizabeth Ann Baker	27
Kelsey Jamerson	29

### MTNA Certification Now is the time!

Are you thinking what I'm thinking? After frantically switching my teaching studio to an online format - with mixed results, I must say - I can now take a step back, take a deep breath, and ponder, what else can I be doing? What would be productive and benefit my professional teaching career? Why not work towards MTNA certification?

Unfortunately, we can't have any in-person meetings just yet, but if you're interested, I'll be glad to do a Zoom meeting when it's convenient for you. First take a look at the MTNA certification website - [www.mtnacertification.org](http://www.mtnacertification.org). There you'll find lots of information, and more than a few questions, I dare say.

Well, bring it on - that's what I'm here for.

Just think, in less than a year, you could proudly sport those 4 little letters after your name - NCTM - Nationally Certified Teacher of Music.

Now is the time to get started - Contact:

**Susan Atkins, NCTM**

pianolearningcenter@gmail.com  
757-282-8220 (cell)

### Important MTNA Competitions Information for 2020!

#### Hello, Everyone --

I hope you're staying well, safe, and in good spirits as we continue to navigate our way through these still uncertain days. VMTA is currently working to adapt our events as needed for the upcoming year to transition to online events as needed; please be on the lookout for detailed information about all our events for 2020 - 2021 within the next few weeks. In the meantime, the deadline for the MTNA Competitions in Virginia will be held ONLINE this year. Our state competitions chair, Dr. Lise Keiter, and I have been in numerous conversations with Linda Stump, MTNA National Competitions Coordinator, to transition the competitions from live events to online competitions for this year. Virtually all the states are going digital this year; MTNA has developed detailed information and procedures for this that will be communicated should you register students.

#### Meanwhile, what you need to know now about the MTNA competitions -- from Dr. Keiter:

Due to Covid-19, the 2020 MTNA Competitions will be by Video Only. There will not be a live competition this year at the State Level in Virginia.

#### The Application process is in two steps:

1. Complete your Application ONLINE on the MTNA Website **HERE**.  
**The Application Deadline is Sep. 16, 2020 at 3 pm ET.**  
**Do not send videos with your application. That is a separate process.**
2. You will send in your video separately. You will not be submitting your video to the MTNA Website.  
**The Video Deadline is October 19, 2020.**

**Complete instructions for Video Submissions will be sent out in early September (Note that we are not ready to accept videos yet). Please wait for further instructions.**

If you have any questions in the meantime, please contact Dr. Lise Keiter, MTNA State Competitions Chair for Virginia at **LKeiter@marybaldwin.edu**.

**Important: If you intend to enter the MTNA Competitions and plan to send a video, you must first submit your application (by Sep. 16).**

Once again, please direct your questions about the MTNA competitions to Dr. Lise Keiter (**LKeiter@marybaldwin.edu**); if you ask me, I will have to relay your question to her anyway and a response may be delayed.

As always, please stay safe, stay well, and all the best for the upcoming academic year.

Sincerely,

**Narciso Solero**  
**President: Virginia Music Teachers Association**  
**Studio: 703 820 3308**  
**Cell: 703 655 1017**

#### TIDEWATER MUSIC TEACHER'S FORUM 5/22/2020 to 8/20/2020

ASSETS	
Savings Account	\$3,004.36
Checking Account	\$27,056.44
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$30,060.80</b>

SAVINGS ACCOUNT	
Opening Balance	\$3,004.29
Interest for May, June, July	\$0.07
<b>CLOSING BALANCE</b>	<b>\$3,004.36</b>

CHECKING ACCOUNT	
Opening Balance	\$27,691.03
Levels of Progress	\$3,632.00
Membership	\$400.00
Yearbook Ads	\$480.00
Program (cancelled)	\$250.00
Ex. Advertisement	-\$30.01
Ex. Achievement Awards	-\$133.36
Ex. Play-a-thon	-\$669.77
Ex. Glover Scholarship	-\$352.05
Ex. Operations	-\$175.55
Ex. Programs	-\$3,517.77
Ex. Holiday Dinner	-\$195.50
Ex. Stafflines	-\$81.63
Ex. Yearbook	-\$240.95
<b>CLOSING BALANCE</b>	<b>\$27,056.44</b>



## 2020-2021 TMTF CALENDAR (as of August 27)

### August

- 14 TMTF Board Meeting
- 21 **DEADLINE - Stafflines News**
- 31 **DEADLINE - 2019-2020 Eastern District Auditions**

### September

- 18 TMTF Meeting/Workshop - Michelle Sisler
- 21 **DEADLINE - Stafflines News**
- 26 Eastern District Auditions

### October

- 9 TMTF Meeting/Workshop - Dr. Eric Ruple
- 16 TMTF Board Meeting
- 16 **DEADLINE - Sacred Music Festival**
- 21 **DEADLINE - Stafflines News**

### November

- 1 **DEADLINE - Achievement Award Registration**
- TBA VMTA Fall Conference & Competitions
- 13 TMTF Meeting/ Workshop - Dr. Sarah Rushing, NCTM
- 13 **DEADLINE - TMTF Play-A-Thon**
- 14 Sacred Music Festival - Virginia Beach & Portsmouth

### December

- 4-6 TMTF Play-A-Thon - Chesapeake & Virginia Beach
- 21 **DEADLINE - Stafflines News**

### January

- 8 **DEADLINE - VMTA Keyboard Skills/Sight Reading Tests**
- 15 TMTF Meeting/Workshop - Yuko Farman, NCTM
- 15 **DEADLINE - TMTF Levels of Progress**
- TBA **DEADLINE - Student Recital - Portsmouth**
- 21 **DEADLINE - Stafflines News**

### February

- TBA Student Recital - Portsmouth - Zion Baptist Church
- 6-7 TMTF Sight Reading/Keyboard Skills Tests
- 8 **DEADLINE - VMTA Theory Test**
- 12 TMTF Board Meeting
- 14 **DEADLINE - Student Recital - Norfolk**
- TBA **DEADLINE - Student Recital - Chesapeake**
- 19 TMTF Meeting/Workshop - Dr. Susan Ha
- 21 **DEADLINE - Stafflines News**
- 21 Student Recital - Norfolk - Royster Memorial Presbyterian
- TBA Student Recital - Chesapeake

### March

- 6 TMTF Levels of Progress - Virginia Beach, Portsmouth
- 7 TMTF Levels of Progress - Virginia Beach, Norfolk
- 12 **DEADLINE - TMTF Glover Scholarship Auditions**
- 12 **DEADLINE - TMTF Honors Auditions**
- 13-17 MTNA Conference - Atlanta, GA
- 21 **DEADLINE - Stafflines News**
- 26 TMTF Meeting/Masterclass - Dr. Maria Yefimova\*\*
- 27 VMTA Theory Test

### April

- 10 TMTF Glover Scholarship Auditions
- 16 TMTF Meeting/Workshop - Diane H. Blanchard, NCTM
- 21 **DEADLINE - Stafflines News**
- 24-25 TMTF Honors Recitals Auditions
- 28 **DEADLINE - Eastern District Auditions**
- 28 **DEADLINE - Glen Mayberry Auditions**

### May

- 1 **DEADLINE - Achievement Award Documentation**
- 1 **DEADLINE - TMTF High School Seniors' Recital**
- 14 TMTF Board Meeting
- 15 TMTF Honors Recitals Rehearsals - ODU
- 16 TMTF Honors Recitals and H.S. Seniors' Recital
- 21 TMTF Meeting/Workshop/Luncheon - Conference Highlights
- 21 **DEADLINE - Stafflines News**
- 22 Eastern District Auditions - CNU
- 22 TMTF Glen Mayberry Auditions - CNU

### July

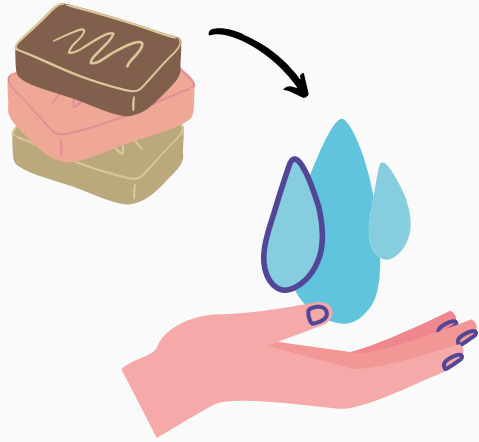
- 21 **DEADLINE - Stafflines News**

\*\*Meeting/Workshop will be held at Newton Piano instead of Jordan Kitt's Music

Please note: Check the monthly Stafflines, Yearbook and Activity Booklet for more detailed information as well as to confirm dates & locations to make sure that they have not changed.



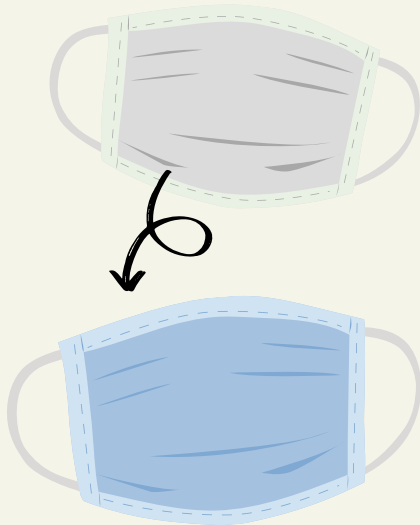
# A GUIDE TO MASK USE



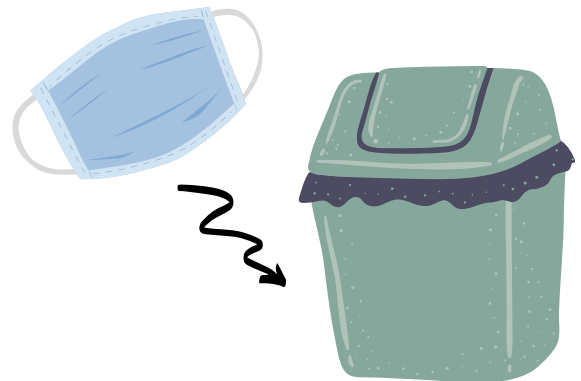
Before putting on a mask, clean hands with alcohol-based hand rub or soap and water.



Cover mouth and nose with mask and make sure there are no gaps between your face and the mask.



Replace the mask with a new one as soon as it is damp and do not re-use single-use masks.



To remove the mask: remove it from behind (do not touch the front of mask); discard immediately in a closed bin; clean hands with alcohol-based hand rub or soap and water.

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

Need Students?Want to refer students?

Look no further than the TMTF website: [www.tmtf.org](http://www.tmtf.org)

You can submit your contact information and teacher profile to our webmaster

**Mun Lee Han**

[munleehan@gmail.com](mailto:munleehan@gmail.com)

If you need to refer a student simply give them the webmaster address: [www.tmtf.org](http://www.tmtf.org)  
It's that easy!

**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**