

STAFFLINES

Monthly Newsletter of the Tidewater Music Teachers Forum

Friday, September 20, 2024

Helen Marlais

The Essentials for Success: self-directed and intelligent practicing



Location **Music & Arts**

1412 Greenbrier Pkwy #126
Chesapeake, VA 23320

9:00 Coffee & Breakfast Treats
9:30 Business Meeting and Workshop
12:00 Lunch and Door Prizes (Compliments of
Tidewater Music Teachers Forum*)

***Please RSVP to TidewaterMTF@gmail.com by Friday, September 13.**

Workshop Description

Dr. Marlais will discuss how to motivate students towards self-directed and intelligent practicing and how to teach students to play standard repertoire pieces musically and with excellent technique. Dr. Marlais will share her insights into how to take a student from the first week of practice to mastery of a piece. She will discuss important practice strategies, four stages to learning any piece, the psychological aspects of preparing a piece during the week, and how all of this supports and develops musicality.

Biography

Dr. Marlais' dedication to pedagogy for the young is sincere and unwavering. She has given more than 500 pedagogical presentations and master classes for pre-college students since 2002. One of the joys of her life has been creating materials to support piano teachers as they guide young musicians. The piano series that she has developed and written for The FJH Music Company have become an integral part of piano students' repertoire across the country and abroad. Excellent external reviews have come from the European Piano Teachers Association (EPTA), Canada, and the USA. The series, *Succeeding at the Piano®*, and *The All-in-One Approach to Succeeding at the Piano®*, *Succeeding with the Masters®*, *The Festival Collection®*, and *In Recital®* all have companion recordings. Other series that round out The FJH Pianist's Curriculum are: *Sight Reading and Rhythm Every Day®*, *Energize Your Fingers Every Day®*, *Play Your Scales and Chords Every Day®*, *The FJH Intervallic Reading Series®*, *Write, Play, and Hear Your Theory Every Day®*, the *FJH Adult Piano Curriculum*, and *In Recital®* for the *Advancing Pianist*. The *Contemporary Keyboard Editions®* focuses on piano music by contemporary art-music composers. Several of the series above have been translated for, and released in, South Korea, China, and Taiwan.

PRESIDENT'S LETTER SEPTEMBER 2024



I hope everyone had a restful summer and is starting the new school year with a fresh and energized mind. It is a perfect time to reflect on our goals and aspirations for the year ahead.

On a personal note, I have been under the weather recently and, unfortunately, haven't been able to attend any events or meetings. My participation in upcoming events will depend on how well I recover from this illness. However, one event I am particularly hopeful of attending is the Virginia Music Teachers Association (VMTA) Conference, held at the historic Virginia State University from November 7th through November 9th.

As private music teachers, we often find ourselves working in isolation. While YouTube and online courses provide invaluable resources, there is something uniquely inspiring about meeting in person especially when we can hear from guest clinicians. This year, we have Dr. Shelly Berg, a renowned Steinway artist and multi-Grammy nominated arranger and producer, as our guest artist and clinician. His expertise and experience promise to offer motivating and transformative insights. Please review the VMTA website for more information on the conference and Dr. Shelly Berg's impressive background.

In addition to the conference, we have an exciting lineup of monthly workshops you won't want to miss. These workshops are designed not only to enhance our teaching skills but, also to foster a sense of community among us. I believe that by continuing to engage in these collaborative learning opportunities, we can support one another and grow together as educators.

I am looking forward to reconnecting with all of you, whether at one of our workshops or the VMTA Conference.

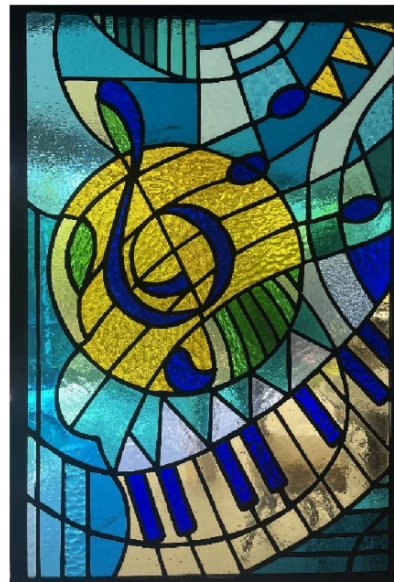
Wishing you all a successful start to the new school year.

Warm regards,

Yuko Farman, Co-President

SACRED MUSIC FESTIVAL

Prepare for our first TMTF event in the fall!



This is the best opportunity for your students to prepare pieces for Play-A-Thon, Christmas Recitals, church offertories, preludes and specials without the pressure of memorization.

This event will be at Thalia Lynn Baptist Church on Virginia Beach Blvd and Monumental Methodist Church in Portsmouth on Saturday, November 16, 2024. The deadline for **registration is October 18, 2024.**

If you're looking for good music to use, I highly recommend Wendy Steven's *Hymns I, II, and III* (www.Composecresate.com) And *Play Hymns* – from Alfred.com.

Don't let this event pass you by! Get Involved!

Donna Halleck

Sacred Music Festival Chairperson

Join us to learn about MTNA certification

Next Certification meeting:

Friday, September 13, 2024

10-11:30 AM

Zoom or in-person

Please RSVP to Susan Atkins (see below)

Wondering about the cost of certification?

VMTA and TMTF are offering a \$100 reimbursement each (total \$200) to offset the cost of certification.

For more information: certification.mtna.org

In the meantime, let me know if you have questions about the process or want to be on my contact list.

Susan Atkins, NCTM

Certification Chair

4537 Biscayne Drive

Virginia Beach, VA 23455

757-282-8220 - cell

pianolearningcenter@gmail.com

VMTA 2024 State Conference

Dear VMTA Members,

We are pleased to announce that the 2024 VMTA Conference will be held at the historic Virginia State University from November 7th through November 9th. Virginia State University is located 20 miles outside of Richmond in historic Petersburg and is one of two land grant universities in the state of Virginia. We would like to extend our deepest appreciation to a new VMTA member – Miles Massicotte – for facilitating this exciting collaboration.

Further details will follow soon. In the meantime, please mark your calendars. We hope to see you there!

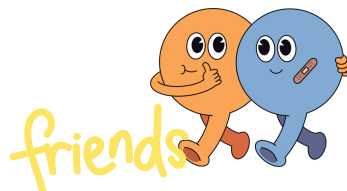
Sincerely,

Christy Tallamy, NCTM

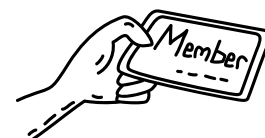
VMTA, President-elect

**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.

**Renew Your MTNA Membership
by August 30!**

Renew your MTNA membership by August 30 to ensure your contact information is included in our TMTF yearbook.



TMTF CALENDAR

September 2024

20	TMTF Meeting/Workshop
21	DEADLINE - Stafflines News

October 2024

11-12	NC State Conference
18	TMTF Executive Board Meeting (Zoom or Google Meet)
20	TMTF Meeting/Workshop
16	DEADLINE - Sacred Music Festival
21	DEADLINE - Stafflines News

Happy Birthday

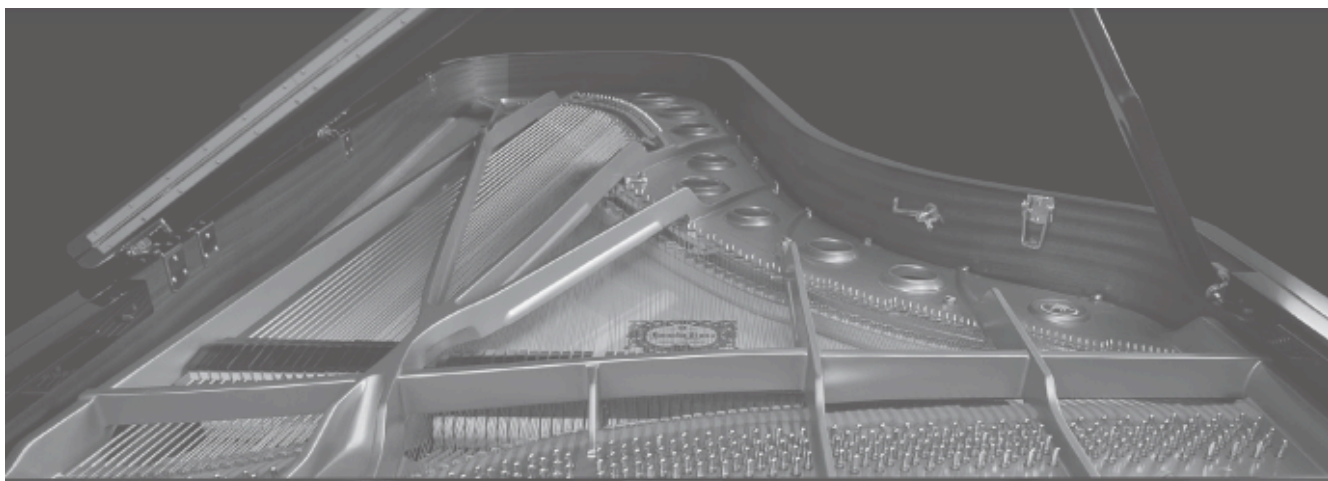
September

2	Josephine Jones
11	Pat Kennedy
16	Sharon Alston
17	Jessica Tuttobene
20	Tonya Holland
25	Debra Newton
28	Christine Ward
30	Vernon McCart

October

8	Julie Heard
11	Ashley Frye
15	Mary Taylor
15	Joshua Miller
21	Elizabeth Smith
27	Elizabeth Baker





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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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President

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(757) 714-3307 Cell
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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