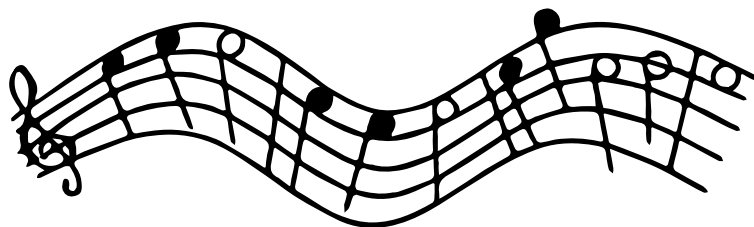


STAFFLINES

Monthly Newsletter of the Tidewater Music Teachers Forum



“The Magic of Imagery” With Catherine Rollin Saturday, September 20th, 2025



TMTF is excited to announce that our September clinician, **Catherine Rollin**, will be offering a masterclass following her workshop on **Saturday, September 20th**. We are seeking four students (plus two alternates) of different levels, late elementary and up, to perform music composed by Catherine Rollin. Wonderful repertoire can be found in her series *Pathways to Artistry* and *Museum Masterpieces*, but is not limited to these collections. The application deadline is **September 6th** and should be mailed to:

Emily Denniston
3496 Landstown Court
Virginia Beach, VA 23453

Please use the attached application for this event. The masterclass will take place at Chandler Recital Hall at Old Dominion University on their brand new **Steinway Model D Concert Grand!**

****Please note: this workshop and masterclass is taking place on **Saturday, September 20th**, which is not our usual meeting date. The workshop will take place at 10:00 AM in the Composer's room, followed by a catered lunch, and the masterclass will begin at 2:00 PM in Chandler Recital Hall.*

Catherine Rollin is a pianist, composer, clinician, author and teacher of prize-winning students. Her more than 400 published pedagogical compositions are recognized worldwide for their combination of musicality and “teachability.” As a clinician, Catherine has given over 300 workshops and masterclasses throughout the U.S., Canada, Japan and Taiwan. Her efforts as a composer, clinician and author are an outgrowth of her work as a teacher. Finding the answers to help her students develop artistic, relaxed and confident technical skills led Catherine to insights featured in her groundbreaking series, “Pathways to Artistry.” Catherine’s ASCAP award winning books, “Museum Masterpieces” feature her original piano works inspired by great art masterpieces from museums around the world. Catherine wrote this series after seeing how her students’ creativity was sparked by artwork imagery. She is also the co-author of the 2011 edition of the highly regarded college text, “Creative Piano Teaching.” All of the many facets of Catherine’s work emanate from her central passion for teaching.

Piano Master Class Registration Link **Catherine Rollin**

**Be one of the first to perform on ODU's new
Steinway Model D Concert Grand!**

Masterclass: Saturday, September 20th, 2025 at 2:00 PM

Location: Chandler Recital Hall, Old Dominion University

Deadline: September 6th, 2025

Student's Name: _____

Student's Age: _____

Teacher's Name: _____ Phone: _____

Teacher's Email: _____

Composition: _____

Composer: _____

Level (elementary and up): _____ Performance time: _____

Please note that space is limited. We have room for only 4 students and 2 alternates.

There will be a limit of 1 student per teacher. Ms. Rollin will be working with each student for a time appropriate for their level (less time for elementary levels, more time for intermediate and advanced.) Maximum playing time is 5 minutes. Please choose the piece accordingly. The repertoire list will be provided to Ms. Rollin and she will choose the performers.

The Master Class fee is \$15.00 per student. Registration form may be sent by mail or virtually, but a check is requested for the fee. Please make your check payable to TMTF. If the student is not selected to perform, the fee will be returned. Mail registration form and check to:

Emily Denniston
3496 Landstown Court
Virginia Beach, VA 23453
denniston.em@gmail.com



President's Letter August 2025

New decades always come with thoughts of change- what have I done in the past that was good, what do I want to do in the future, what changes need to occur?

This summer as I enter a new decade, I have been thinking of things that make me happy- teaching is such a big part of this- and what might I do to improve in the upcoming year. I have enjoyed becoming more active in workshops and discussions with my TMTF, VMTA, and MTNA colleagues and friends. I have gotten some good teaching ideas for my students of all ages and have challenged myself to make the time to enter them in different activities in fall and spring that will inspire and encourage their practice and enjoyment.

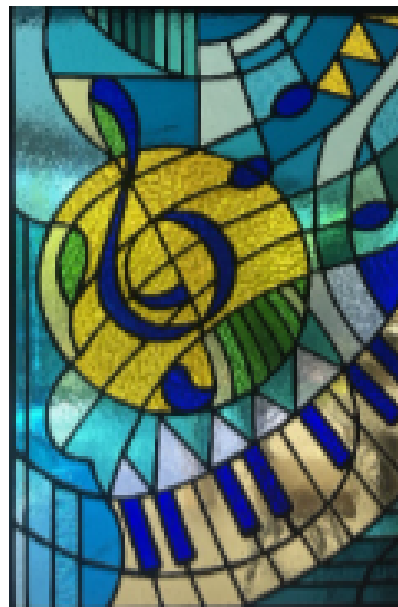
As TMTF enters its 61st year, please thoughtfully consider what it means to be a member, both for you and your studio, and aspire to participate as fully as possible. Our workshops this year are excellent- varied and engaging. Please bring a friend and encourage others to attend or join. The more, the merrier!

I look forward to seeing you at our September workshop and masterclass with Catherine Rollin.

Musically yours,
Sally

Sacred Music Festival

**It's our first TMTF event
of 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 held at Thalia Lynn Baptist Church on Virginia Beach Blvd and at Monumental Methodist Church in Portsmouth on Saturday, November 15, 2025.

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

Donna Halleck
Sacred Music Festival
Chairperson

2025 VMTA Conference

It is my pleasure to announce that our 2025 VMTA State Conference will be hosted in Northern Virginia at George Mason University in Fairfax, Virginia from November 6th to November 8th.

We hope you will set aside the time and make plans to join us!

Warm Regards,
Christy Tallamy, NCTM
VMTA President-Elect

Get Involved in TMTF!

We have plenty of opportunities to get involved in by helping with events, such as judging, administering various tests, auditions and recitals. These are excellent opportunities to contribute your talent and connect with other music teachers.

Contact the event chairperson or president or president-elect for opportunities you are interested in helping out with.

We would greatly appreciate your presence!

Yearbook Ads Reminder

The deadline for placing an ad in our yearbook is coming up quickly. If you are interested in placing an ad or renewing your previous one, please let me know by August 15th.

Thank you!
Lynn Kleisler, NCTM
Yearbook Ads Chairman

TMTF Lunch RSVP Announcement



Please RSVP by September 12 if you plan to attend TMTF's September catered lunch following the 10 am Rollin Workshop. The masterclass will begin at 2 pm. RSVP to Tidewater MTF at tidewatermtf@gmail.com.

TMTF 2025-2026 EVENT CALENDAR

Attention Event Chairpersons: Please confirm that your event dates are correct, and notify Emily Denniston if any changes need to be made.

July 2025						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
		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		

4 Independence Day

21 DEADLINE: Stafflines News

August 2025						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
					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						

1 TMTF Executive Board Meeting at TBD

18 Norfolk Public Schools - First Day of School

20 Cape Henry Collegiate - First Day of School

21 DEADLINE - Stafflines News

25 Suffolk & Virginia Beach Public Schools - First Day of School

26 Norfolk Academy - First Day of School

September 2025						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
	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				

1 Labor Day

2 Chesapeake Public Schools - Firsts Day of School

20 TMTF Meeting/Workshop/Luncheon - ODU at 10AM

20 Catherine Rollin Masterclass - Chandler Recital Hall at 2PM

21 DEADLINE: Stafflines News

October 2025						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
			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 TMTF Executive Board Meeting (Zoom or Google Meet) 10AM

10-11 NC State Conference at App. State U.

13 Columbus Day

17? TMTF Meeting/Workshop - Location TBD

17 DEADLINE - Sacred Music Festival

21 DEADLINE - Stafflines News

31 Halloween

TMTF 2025-2026 EVENT CALENDAR

November 2025						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
						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						

1 DEADLINE - Achievement Award Resignation
 2 Daylight Savings (move clocks back 1 hour)
 6-8 VMTA Conference at GMU
 9 DEADLINE - TMTF Student Recital - VA Beach
 14 DEADLINE - Play-A-Thon
 15 Sacred Music Festival - Thalia Lynn Baptist Church, VA Beach
 15 Sacred Music Festival - Portsmouth Chesapeake - Monumental UMC
21 TMTF Meeting/Workshop
 22 Harold Protsman Piano Competition at ODU
 23 Student Recital - VA Beach - Coastal Unitarian/Universalists Church
 TBD Student Recital - Portsmouth
 27 Thanksgiving Day

December 2025						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
	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			

5-7 TMTF Play-A-Thon
 19 DEADLINE - VMTA Theory Test
 21 DEADLINE: Stafflines News
 24 Christmas Eve
 25 Christmas Day

January 2026						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
				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

1 New Year's Day
 16 DEADLINE - VMTA Keyboard Skills/Sight Reading Tests
 16 DEADLINE - TMTF Levels of Progress
16 TMTF Meeting/Workshop
 18 Martin Luther King Jr. Day
 21 DEADLINE: Stafflines News
 31 VMTA Theory Test - ODU
 31 DEADLINE - Play-A-Thon Pledges to Teacher

TMTF 2025-2026 EVENT CALENDAR

February 2026

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
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

1 DEADLINE - Student Recital - Norfolk

6 TMTF Executive Board Meeting (Zoom or Google Meet)

15 Student Recital - Norfolk - Royster Memorial Presbyterian Church

? Student Recital - Portsmouth

18 President's Day

20 TMTF Meeting/Workshop

20 DEADLINE: Stafflines News

22 TMTF Sight Reading/Keyboard Skills Test - ODU

March 2026

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
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				

2 DEADLINE - Play-A-Thon pledges to TMTF

2-6 Cape Henry Collegiate Spring Break

2-6 Norfolk Academy Spring Break

7 TMTF Levels of Progress - VA Beach and Portsmouth

8 TMTF Levels of Progress - VA Beach and Norfolk

8 Daylight Savings (move clocks ahead 1 hour)

13 TMTF Meeting/Workshop

14 DEADLINE - TMTF Glover Scholarship Auditions

15-21 ODU Spring Break

21 DEADLINE - TMTF Honors Auditions

21 DEADLINE - Glen Mayberry Auditions

21 DEADLINE: Stafflines News

21 DEADLINE - VMATA Eastern District Auditions

21-25 MTNA Conference - Chicago, IL

April 2026

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
		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			

5 Easter

6-10 Chesapeake & Virginia Beach Public Schools Spring Break

6-10 Norfolk Public Schools Spring Break

6-10 Suffolk Public Schools Spring Break

17 TMTF Meeting/Workshop

18 TMTF Glover Scholarship Auditions

21 DEADLINE: Stafflines News

25-26 TMTF Honors Recitals Auditions

TMTF 2025-2026 EVENT CALENDAR

May 2026						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
					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						

1 DEADLINE - Achievement Award Documentation

1 DEADLINE - TMTF High School Seniors' Recital

1 TMTF Executive Board Meeting

2 VMTA District Auditions

2 TMTF Glen Mayberry Auditions

10 Mother's Day

15 TMTF Meeting/Workshop/Luncheon - Conference Highlights

16 TMTF Honors Recitals Rehearsals - 3PM

17 TMTF Honors Recitals and H.S. Seniors' Recitals

21 DEADLINE - Stafflines News

25 Memorial Day

June 2026						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
	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				

21 Father's Day

30 DEADLINE - MTNA Membership Dues

Happy Birthday



August

5 Bethany Jacob

31 Susan Atkins

September

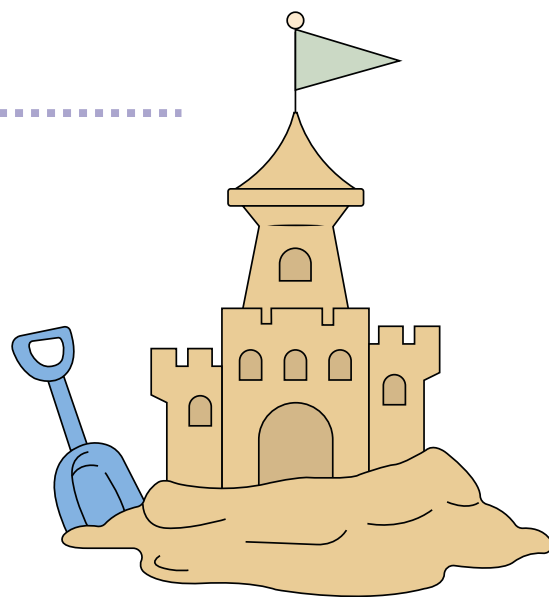
2 Josephine Jones

11 Patricia Kennedy

16 Sharon Alston

20 Tonya Holland

30 Vernon McCart





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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 the Stafflines Editor

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pianoshowcaseva.com
Greenbrier Mall

J. Scott Bailey
President

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

KAWAI



Tidewater Music Teachers Forum

Local Chapter of the Virginia Music Teachers Association Affiliated
with the Music Teachers National Association

Violet Cusher, Editor | 31 Sinton Road | Newport News, VA 23601