

# KEY *Issue*



September/October 2018

## Letter from the President

### Fresh Start

As the summer heat goes away and the fall breeze comes in, each fall semester feels like a time when we can start anew. It is funny that as the seasons head into the dead of winter, we feel like we are just beginning. We can get all our students to practice that had troubles in the past. We can fill up our schedule with exciting new students. We can try out that new incentive or program that we never have before. If your summer was like mine, I used mine to rest and recharge for the new school year. Now, I feel ready to take on some new things and I encourage you to do the same! This year I am trying out a new lesson format called 20/20/20 lessons. I heard about this on Facebook and decided to jump in with both feet. These 20/20/20 lessons are where three students come into the studio for 1 hour and they take turns going through three 20-minute stations. One station is at the piano with the teacher and the other two can be anything you want! I have a piano keyboard station that is hooked up to an Ipad. Students can play lots of Ipad apps through the midi connection on the piano keyboard. The other station is a reading/writing station, where students can complete worksheets and read and

learn about different composers. These lessons are also great for duets and trios too! Piano can be such a lonely activity for lots of students and I feel that is a huge barrier that a lot of students cannot overcome. That is the main reason why I decided to try this format, it helps make piano more of a social activity. That is what I am trying new this fall. What are you most excited for this year?

**Sarah Mensen**

**President, SPPTA**

*Sarah Mensen*



**Sarah Mensen**

**SPPTA President 2016-2018**

**Sarah Mensen, SPPTA President**

# Calendar of Events

## SEPT/OCT 2017

### Monthly Programs

10:00 Social Time

10:20 General Meeting & Guest Speaker

10:30 Presentation

11:50 Board Meeting

September 12th, 2017

Location: Cadenza Music, St. Paul

149 Snelling Ave N,

St Paul, MN 55104

(Parking on street, behind the store or across the street at O'Gara's)

“Preparing Students for the MMTA Composition Contest”

Presented by Sarah Miller, MMTA Member

October 10, 2017

Location: Cadenza Music, St. Paul

“Am I Going to Prison? Answers to this and other copyright questions”

Presented by Kenneth Kunkle, Attorney;  
Springboard for the Arts

### Book Club – 10:00 am

Cafe Latte, Saint Paul

3rd Tuesday of the Month

Sept. 19

Oct. 17

### Upcoming Recitals

October

Location: Johanna Shores in Arden Hills

Date: Saturday, October 14

Deadline: Saturday, September 30

Time: 2:00-5:00pm

Programmer: Marilyn Henry

## Membership Directory Updates

WELCOME to these new or reinstating members of SPPTA! Please update your directory with their contact information, as needed.

**Darlene Zabadal**

**4920 Birch Lake Circle**

**White Bear Lake, MN 55110**

Please update your 2017-2018 SPPTA Handbook and Directory on page 7: The May 6, 2018 Student Recital is on SUNDAY, not Saturday.

Thank you for your attention to this update. If you find any other errors, please contact me at [monicakayallen@hotmail.com](mailto:monicakayallen@hotmail.com)



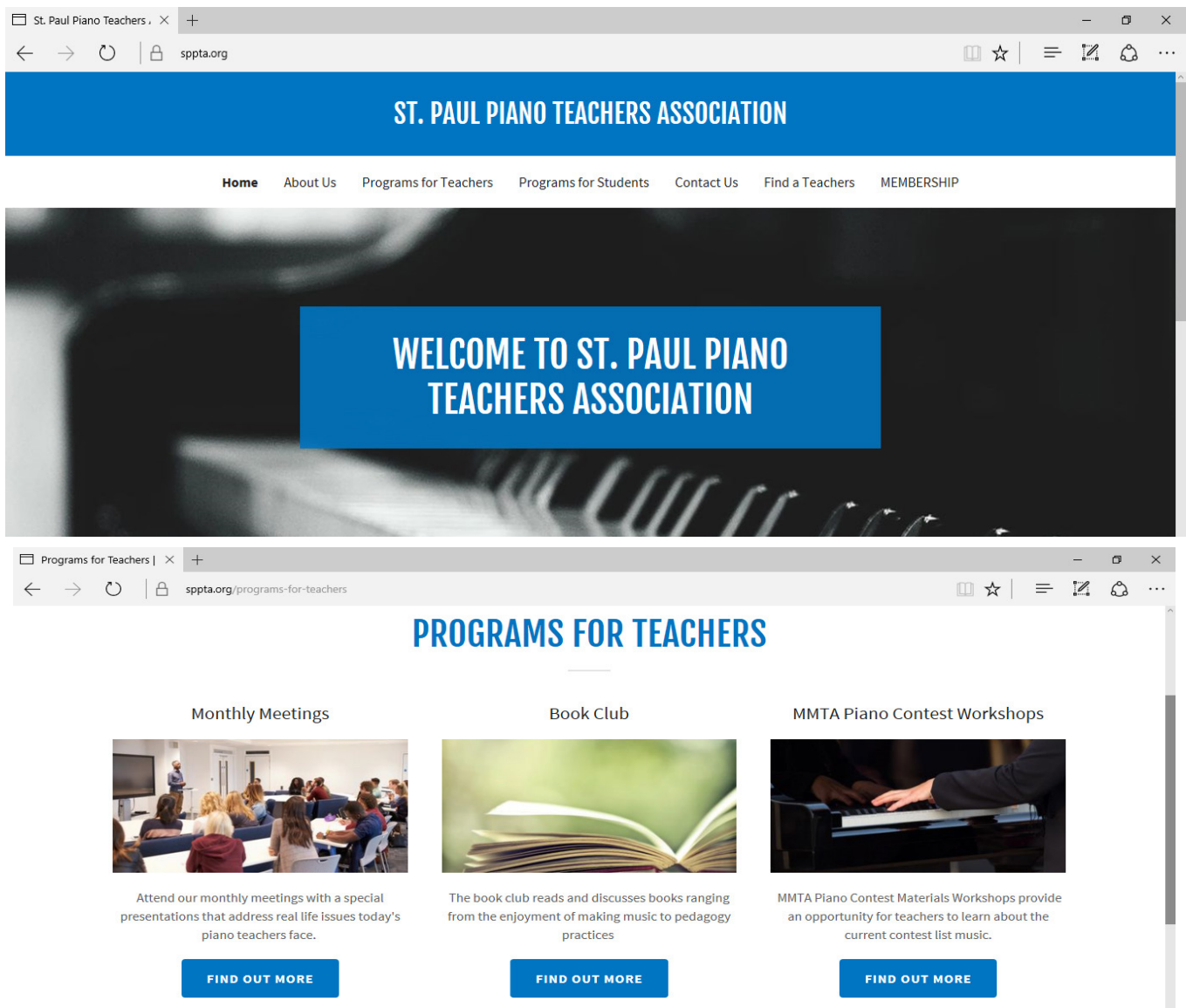
**Monica Allen**  
**Directory Chair**

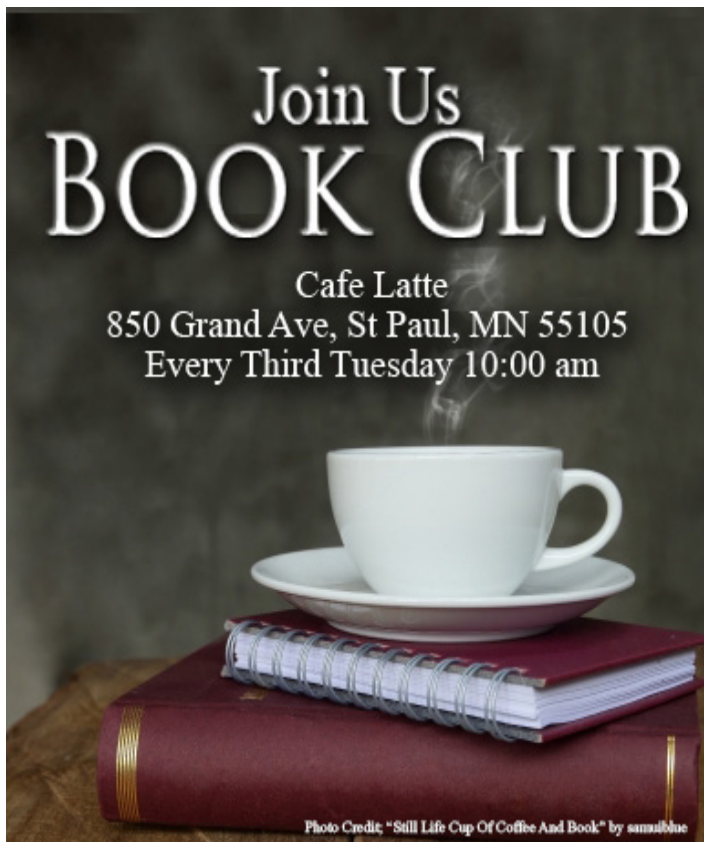
# SPPTA Website Updated

## Check it out!

[www.sppta.org](http://www.sppta.org)

SPPTA is excited to announce the launch of our NEW updated website [www.sppta.org](http://www.sppta.org). After spending the summer months redesigning the site, it now has a fresh new look. Our goal was to make it easier for you to find information about SPPTA's various programs. We had your needs in mind and have made it much more user friendly.





## RECITAL PROGRAMS

With the school year getting under way, now is the time when teachers really emphasize the necessity of goal setting with their students. In the music world we are part of, much of that means learning new repertoire and gaining confidence in performing. Participating in SPPTA recitals is a wonderful way to encourage students to grow in both of these areas.

This year sees some changes in the SPPTA recital program. As was experimented with last year, SPPTA is continuing to rotate venues for recitals and will be holding them in diverse and exciting locations including various churches around the Twin Cities, the Landmark Center, and Schmitt Music in Brooklyn Center.

This year also introduces the elimination of required memorization for students to receive participation points to working towards the SPPTA Recital Award Program. Memorization will still be required for students to qualify for nomination to perform in the spring SPPTA Honor's Recital.

We have also restructured the recital fees to make it simpler for teachers and their students. There will now be a flat \$10 registration fee per student.

I hope to see and hear many of your students performing in the coming months!

Happy music making!

Elsa Hosch, NCTM  
SPPTA Recital Chair



### **Come join us for inspiring conversations and a cup of coffee! September 19th, 10:00am**

First meeting will be on Tuesday, September 19th at 10:00-11:30am. at Cafe Latte ,850 Grand Ave, , St Paul, MN 55105 We meet in the coffee shop section, by the Victoria St. entrance.

At the first meeting we will be choosing books to read for the year. Come and join the discussion.

SPPTA members read and discuss books ranging from the enjoyment of making music to pedagogy practices. The group is very interactive with great discussions.



## Some History, and a New Face...

What concerto have been played by the most recent competition winners? This question was asked of me by a teacher considering placing a student in this year's event. I only knew the last four years – the years during which I have been helping – so I shared those, and then started digging. What pieces have been played? What composers have been represented? Here's what I found.

- 2003 Liszt's Totentanz
- 2004 Liszt's Concerto #1 in E flat Major
- 2005 Rachmaninoff's Concerto #2 Op 18, 3<sup>rd</sup> movement
- 2006 Prokofiev's Concerto #3 in C Major, Op. 26, 1<sup>st</sup> movement
- 2007 Brahms's Concerto #1 in d minor, Op 15, 3<sup>rd</sup> movement
- 2008 Saint-Saëns Concerto #2 in g minor, Op. 22
- 2009 Grieg's Concerto Number 1 in a minor, Op. 16, first movement
- 2010 Mozart's Concerto in d minor, K 466
- 2011 Beethoven's Concerto in c minor, Op 37, #1, 1<sup>st</sup> movement
- 2012 Beethoven's Concerto in c minor, Op 37, #3, 1<sup>st</sup> movement
- 2013 Grieg's Concerto in a minor, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> movements
- 2014 Beethoven's Concerto #1, Op 15, 1<sup>st</sup> movement
- 2015 Saint-Saëns Concerto #22 in g minor, 1<sup>st</sup> movement
- 2016 Schumann's Concerto in a minor, 1<sup>st</sup> movement
- 2017 .... to be determined on Saturday, December 2<sup>nd</sup>**



Beverly Olson,  
Concerto Chair

Place these titles into a playlist with Spotify or YouTube, and you have hours of fantastic, powerful, expressive piano music composed within the Classical, Romantic, and Contemporary era, and played by orchestras from around the world. For more than 30 years, the winners of SPPTA's Concerto Competition have been fortunate to have an orchestra with whom they, too, can perform their concerto in concert. Thank you, Mississippi Valley Orchestra, for an amazing on-going partnership, and for continuing to keep this opportunity for our students a priority, as leadership and artistic directors have changed through the years.

I am pleased to introduce Ho-Yin Kwok, the new artistic director for the Mississippi Valley Orchestra. He has been finalizing the amazing concert programming for the coming 2017-2018 season, and will be working with this year's concerto competition winner for the May 6<sup>th</sup> concert at Augustana Lutheran in St. Paul. Ho-Yin is described by *Classical Voice of North Carolina (CVNC)* as an "impressive conductor... outstanding in his attention to detail and his command of the big picture." Ho-Yin Kwok was twice-named Conducting Fellow of Eastern Music Festival in North Carolina, where he conducted the faculty ensemble, Eastern Festival Orchestra, and Guilford Symphony Orchestra. Ho-Yin has previously served as

assistant conductor of Collegium Musicum Hong Kong and assisted its debut in Carnegie Hall of New York City. He also conducted tours with the Hong Kong Baptist University Symphony in Southern China and concerts in Hong Kong Cultural Centre. Other previous conducting positions include conductor of Sacred Heart Canossian College Orchestra and St. Stephen's College Orchestra, with which he made his debut in Großer Musikvereinssaal, Vienna and won 1st Prize in the Summa Cum Laude International Youth Music Festival 2014.

Besides conducting, Ho-Yin is also a keen violinist. As a soloist, Ho-Yin has collaborated with orchestras of the University of Minnesota, University of Iowa, Hong Kong Baptist University, Collegium Musicum Hong Kong, Orchestra of Shenzhen Arts School and Hong Kong Youth Symphony Orchestra. He has performed solo in Hong Kong, Shenzhen, Leipzig, Munich, Vienna, Salzburg, Prague, Minneapolis and other cities around the world. Equally active is his participation as an orchestral player, serving as concert master for many orchestras, and collaborating in multiple ensembles.

Merging the perspectives gained by being concert master of the orchestra, a performing soloist, and artistic director and conductor, Ho-Yin Kwok possesses quite the expertise to offer the talented musician who wins this year's SPPTA Concerto Competition. Register your students through October 15<sup>th</sup>, and plan to attend what always proves to be an amazing event on Saturday, December 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2017 at the Brooklyn Center Schmitt Music auditorium.



## **MMTA Piano Contest Materials Workshops**

Please don't miss out on the opportunity to attend as many of the MMTA Piano Contest Materials Workshops as possible!! While these workshops do provide an opportunity for teachers to learn about the current contest list music, they offer SO MUCH MORE!! Even if you have no one or only a few students who will actually participate in the Contest, you will walk away from these workshops with new insights, inspiration, and know-how as you hear from our fine presenters about MANY aspects of teaching. These workshops are the best bargain in town! Please note that attendance at four workshops per year count as one point toward MTNA Recertification (NCTM) under "Attendance at local pedagogical programs". For workshop questions, call Sue Freeman Dopp Haugen at (612) 600-3807 or Barb Rossow at (651) 777-3423.

### **Location and time:**

**Brooklyn Center Schmitt Music Auditorium**

**Thursdays 10:00 - 12:30 p.m**

**Tuition per class: \$18 per workshop or \$90 for  
all six sessions paid in full at first workshop.**

**Checks only**

| <b>Date</b>  | <b>Contest Level</b>           | <b>Presenter</b>   |
|--------------|--------------------------------|--|
| September 7  | Senior B                       | Dr. Susan Billmeyer<br>(Note: complimentary Mimosa for all attendees!!!) |
| September 14 | Senior A                       | Dr. Stella Sick  |
| September 21 | Intermediate B                 | Dr. Herb Johnson   |
| September 28 | Intermediate A                 | Suzanne Greer  |
| October 5    | Junior B                       | Jean Krinke and Camille Buddecke   |
| October 12   | Junior A, Primary, Pre-Primary | Fern Davidson  |



**Sue Freeman Dopp Haugen  
Contest Workshops**

ASSOCIATION  
TEACHERS  
PIANO  
*Saint Paul*



SPPTA Publicity Chair  
1431 Avon Street N  
Saint Paul, MN 55117

