

APRIL, 2011

# TAMTA NEWSLETTER

*Tulsa Accredited Music Teachers Association*

## APRIL PROGRAM

### “MOTIVATIONAL REPERTOIRE FOR TECHNICAL DEVELOPMENT” PRESENTED BY DR. JULIE KNERR, NCTM



We are pleased to have Dr. Julie Knerr with us today! Dr. Knerr currently is Adjunct Professor of Piano at Oklahoma City University, where she teaches group piano and piano pedagogy. She teaches private and group lessons to children in Norman, Oklahoma, as well. From 2006-2009 Dr. Knerr was Assistant Professor of Piano and Piano Pedagogy at the University of Missouri, where she taught applied piano, piano pedagogy, coordinated the group piano program, and taught children in private, partner and group lessons. She holds a PhD in Music Education with an emphasis in Piano Pedagogy from OU, where her dissertation on elementary level piano technique was nominated for the Best PhD Dissertation Award in 2006. Additional degrees include MM degrees in Piano Performance and Piano Pedagogy from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, where Dr. Knerr studied both piano and harpsichord, and a BM in Piano Performance from the University of Puget Sound. Her mentors in Pedagogy include Jane Magrath, Barbara Fast, and Reid Alexander. As an accomplished collaborative pianist, Dr. Knerr enjoys performing with both instrumentalists and singers. Her piano teachers include Duane Hulbert, James Barbagallo, William Heiles, Tim Ehlen, and Edward Gates.

### MTNA CONFERENCE REPORT by Karen Harrington

Philelle McBrayer, Roberta Lewis, and I returned March 30th from the conference in Milwaukee, WI. The weather was very cold and it even snowed while we were there. The conference, though, had some wonderful recitals and sessions. Some highlights include a collaborative recital with Denyce Graves, mezzo-soprano and Warren Jones, pianist; a group of three MTNA commissioned works for piano and two instruments by Eugenie Rocherolle, Nancy Faber and Robert Vandall; a session on Liszt transcriptions presented by Louis Nagel; a session on technology by Sam Holland; and competitions and winners' recitals. There were two dinners with other Oklahoma teachers, a Hal Leonard open house, and get-togethers with old friends. Hopefully many TAMTA teachers can attend next year's conference in New York City!

### Member News

Deepest condolences to **Gloria Johnson** on the death of her husband, Joel.

Congratulations to violinist **Jessica Fellows**, who won 3rd place in the MTNA High School Performance Competition! Also to violist **Daniel Fellows**, who was one of the seven finalists in the MTNA Young Artist Division. These are huge achievements and we are so proud of their mother/teacher, **Esther Fellows!**

**Philelle McBrayer** gave a wonderful acceptance speech at the MTNA Conference when she was awarded the Distinguished Service Award. Congratulations!

**Miriam Spindler-Lynch** is turning 100 years old near Christmas of this year. We love you, Miriam!

## Minutes of the TAMTA Executive Board Meeting, April 1, 2011

The meeting was called to order by President Barbi Cottingham. The minutes were approved as written.

Danny Calhoun read the Treasurer's report:

General Fund (2-28-11)	\$14,194.10
TAMTA Scholarship	\$ 9,267.58
Huff Scholarship	\$ 1,170.00
Gourley Scholarship	\$ 3,896.09
Sowell Vocal Award	\$25,473.72
Sowell Instrumental Award	\$12,444.00
Spindler-Lynch Award	\$14,019.68

Janell Whitby, on behalf of Vicki Walker, made a request that the Board allow Vicki's student to audition for a scholarship via video recording since the date had changed from the posted date in the TAMTA handbook and the student had an out of town commitment on the new date. The Board discussed the matter at length. A vote was taken, for which Janell absented herself, resulting in the decision not to allow a recorded audition. Both Karen Harrington and the Board expressed their desire to help the student in any way possible regarding scheduling.

Karen Harrington reported that Ed Gates will be the only judge at the Scholarship/Spindler-Lynch finals at Philbrook. The Board agreed that Ed is qualified to judge the one vocal entry and the one string entry.

District Chairs reported that theory tests have been graded and returned to the teachers. There was discussion about the annual conflict with the OMEA Solo and Ensemble Contest. The chairs will meet together and explore other possibilities for dates for the 2012 District Auditions.

It was moved that TAMTA contribute \$25 to the TAMTA Scholarship Fund in memory of Gloria Johnson's husband, Joel. Motion was approved.

## Executive Board Minutes (cont.)

Amy Cottingham will not be able to chair the Festival next fall, so we will need someone else to chair it. This prompted some discussion about the need for involving more members in leadership roles and how to train and prepare them.

President Barbi Cottingham suggested a meeting at her house for members who would like to hear audition chairmen and Board members discuss the various events and answer any questions about them.

Junior Auditions Chair, Barbi Cottingham, reported that she is starting the process for finding judges for the event.

Kathy Wilson reported the newsletter deadline is one week prior to the General Meeting.

Sonatina Chair, Barbi Cottingham, would like to have the Sonatina Committee meet next month to go over the various levels and potentially reassign some sonatinas to different levels.

Workshop Chair, Sandy Pierce, asked for suggestions for 2012. Karen Harrington suggested Jennifer Linn.

Arrangements Chair, Mary Hawthorne, is recovering well from surgery and will be back at our next general meeting. The menu for lunch features crepes.

President Barbi Cottingham adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,  
Esther Fellows, Recording Secretary

---

Be sure to attend the OMTA Conference the first weekend in June at OCU in Edmond. Hotel and conference information were detailed in the most recent OMTA newsletter. It looks like an exciting and inspirational event - hope to see all of you there!