

# TAMTA NEWSLETTER

*Tulsa Accredited Music Teachers Association*



## Nelita True Workshop and Master Class

Saturday, September 11th at Saied's 71st St. Store

Registration: 8:30 a.m.

### From Your TAMTA President, Barbi Cottingham

I trust everyone had a restful summer and is ready to dig in to a new school term. We have an exciting workshop ready with Nelita True from Eastman School of Music. Sandy Pierce has put together a wonderful agenda to maximize Nelita's time with us. You don't want to miss a minute.

Thank you so much to everyone that has contributed ideas and services and (gentle reminders) to help me adjust to the Presidency. I know we all lead very busy lives, but I am especially aware at this time that it really takes us all working together to make our organization a success. I am also realizing the great heritage of TAMTA and the tremendous role it plays in the cultural world of Tulsa and influence we have in the lives of so many students through the years. So, I am depending on you to be a team with me to continue this great heritage and pull together for a successful year.

Thank you for trusting me. We are going to have a great year!

Sincerely,  
Barbi Cottingham, TAMTA President

### Postmark Deadlines

Sept. 14	MTNA Competitions
Oct. 1	OMTA Jr. Auditions
Oct. 20	TAMTA Festival
Oct 24	OMTA Jr. Honor and Collegiate Auditions
Nov. 17	Christmas Playathon
Jan. 15	Young Musicians
Jan. 19	Sonatina Competition
Jan. 28	Tulsa North District Aud.
Jan. 29	Sr. Auditions
Feb. 5	Tulsa South, Strings, Owasso District Auditions
Mar. 23	Scholarship/ Spindler
May 1	Provisional videos/notebook

Since Nelita True made her debut at age seventeen with the Chicago Symphony her career has taken her to numerous major cities of the world and to all fifty states in America. She was a visiting professor at the St. Petersburg Conservatory in Russia, and has been in China more than 20 times for recitals and master classes. Her most recent recital in Boston was cited as one of the "Ten Best Classical Performances of the Year". Ms. True has been a jury member for many major competitions around the world. A Phi Beta Kappa graduate of the University of Michigan as a student of Helen Titus, Ms. True went on to study at Julliard with Sascha Gorodnitzki, and then earned the DMA with Leon Fleisher at the Peabody Conservatory. In Paris, she studied with Nadia Boulanger on a Fulbright grant. Formerly Distinguished Professor at

the University of Maryland, Ms. True is currently Professor of Piano at the Eastman School of Music. Many of her students have won top prizes at national and international competitions, including an unprecedented five First Prizes in national MTNA competitions. Ms. True was awarded the Certificate of Merit by the Alumni Association of the University of Michigan, the Eisenhart Award for Excellence in Teaching at Eastman, the 2002 Achievement Award from MTNA, the Lifetime Achievement Award in Graduate Education from the University of Rochester, and a Lifetime Achievement Award from the National Pedagogy Conference. Ms. True was featured in four videos, "Nelita True at Eastman" and has been the subject of many feature articles. She has been invited to record over 100 works for Advance, Mark, Educo and Academy.



**Piano Teacher's  
Resource Kit**  
by  
Karen Harrington

Congratulations to Karen on the publication of her new book! The reproducible pages include valuable resources for piano teachers and music teachers alike. The worksheets, puzzles and games are created in 5 levels from beginning to intermediate. Over 80 pages of worksheets on notespelling, rhythm, chords, key signatures, Soduko games, crossword puzzles, practice charts and more! All pages are perforated for ease in copying. Perfect for group or private instruction, teachers will appreciate the wide variety of activities and well-graded worksheets that can be used over and over again. Karen's new book can be found on p. 4 of the Leonard flyer we all received recently through the mail. You can also order it through Leonard's web site on the Educational Piano page.

---

**Music Donations should be  
brought to Oct. Meeting**

Teachers who have music to donate toward the sale at the Festival should bring it to the October General meeting at Harweldon. That will give Jody Naifeh time to sort and price it before the Festival. The money raised by selling music goes toward the TAMTA Scholarship Fund.

---

**Welcome to TAMTA!**

TAMTA would like to extend a warm welcome to our new Patron Member, **Bill Miller Piano Warehouse**. We would also like to welcome two new members who joined over the summer: **Jane Leslie Bass**, who has returned to the Tulsa area and is accredited in Piano and Voice, and **Nicole Biggs**, who has been studying at OU and is now teaching in Missouri. We hope to see you both at the Nelita True Workshop!

**Minutes of the TAMTA Executive  
Board Meeting, June 2010**

(condensed)

The meeting was called to order by President Barbi Cottingham. Jo Dee Tinkel read the board minutes from the May meeting. The minutes were approved as read.

Danny Calhoun gave the Treasurer's report, mentioning that June was a rather active month, with scholarship funds being paid out. He also stated that travel grants totaling about \$700 were paid out to students traveling to regional events.

Committee reports: District Audition chairs had a discussion about the benefit of music-oriented businesses being present at TAMTA events as well as the possibility of featuring such businesses in the newsletter.

Kathy Wilson mentioned that end-of-year reports were required at one time from audition chairs, and that a manual for each position served on the board should be recovered and passed on to incoming board members. Procedure manuals need to be updated and implemented.

The subject of delayed OMTA reimbursements for audition expenses was brought up and a motion was made by Kathy Wilson that TAMTA will reimburse audition chairs if payment has not been received within thirty days of their reports being mailed to OMTA. The motion passed.

District Audition chairs should check with TU, ORU, and the Orchestra League for help soliciting workers to assist at auditions. TAMTA teachers entering students in District Auditions will now be required to work a full day the day of the audition.

Corresponding Secretary Young- Eun Chung read a thank you note from the Calhouns thanking TAMTA for the Babies R Us gift card. She also read a thank you note from Gloria Johnson in regards to the OMTA Fellowship she was honored with in May.

Discussion was held about holding the Playathon at the Barnes and Noble 41st Street location. The possibility of having the event at both locations and running them concurrently was also brought up.

Karen Harrington, Program chair, introduced the program for 2010-11.

Workshop Chair Sandy Pierce reported on the Nelita True workshop set for Sept. 11th, 2010 at Saied's 71st Street location. She also briefly discussed possible clinicians for the 2011-2012 workshop.

President Cottingham presented the calendar for the upcoming year and announced the next board meeting would be in her home on September 3rd, 2010.

Danny Calhoun moved to adjourn. Respectfully submitted,  
Jo Dee Tinkel for Esther Fellows

**Minutes of the TAMTA Executive  
Board Meeting, September 2010**

The home of Barbi Cottingham

The meeting was called to order by President Cottingham. Minutes of the June board were read and approved. Danny Calhoun reported that TAMTA had a surplus at the end of 2009-2010. Laven Sowell's donation was reported and his letter was read by Young-Eun Chung. Danny filed an e-postcard with the IRS confirming TAMTA's non-profit status.

Gloria Johnson reported that OMTA handbooks will be received soon. Check your personal information to make sure it is correct. She expressed thanks to Auda Marie Thomas and Eileen Fox for many hours spent on the handbook over the summer. Changes were made to Senior Auditions, which are described in the handbook.

Young-Eun Chung reported that she sent a get well card to Inki Cho, who was in a car accident and is recovering, and a sympathy card to Mary Sallee on the death of her father.

District Achievement Chairs reported with some discussion regarding judges and ideas for finding additional volunteers, if they are needed. Kathy Wilson will see if TAMTA can apply to TCC so students can accrue service hours by helping at auditions. Young-Eun Chung reported that the 41st Barnes and Noble will not be an option for the playathon. She is still waiting to hear from her contact at the 71st location.

Amy Cottingham reported on her chairs for Festival. Facilities Chairs are Sandy Pierce and Vicki Walker, Hospitality is Barbi Cottingham,

## Minutes (cont.)

Monitor Chair is Sharon Pennington, and Judge Chair is Roberta Lewis. She has secured all the judges.

Barbi Cottingham reported that Jr. Auditions will be held at ORU this year. The judges are secured.

Sandy Pierce reported all is ready for Nelita True's workshop on Sept. 11th. Jane McGrath has been engaged for the 2011 workshop. Possible topics were discussed.

Sharon Yenser reported that mailers with workshop information and posters were sent out and she is exploring public service announcements for radio and TV. Rich Fisher may do an interview.

Meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Esther Fellows

---

## Thank you, Laven Sowell!

TAMTA has received a generous donation from one of its distinguished members, Laven Sowell, to begin a new instrumental scholarship and add to the existing Laven Sowell Vocal Scholarship. The text of the letter accompanying the donation follows:

Dear Phillele,

This will confirm our very pleasant conversation of July 30th.

I have the utmost respect for the contributions TAMTA makes to our community, and a great fondness for the organization and its people. At this time I would like to continue my support of TAMTA in a tangible way.

Enclosed please find a check for \$25,000 to be allocated as follows: half to supplement the existing funds in support of the scholarship known as the Laven Sowell Vocal Award and half to fund a new scholarship to be known as the Laven Sowell Instrumental Award, to be awarded annually to a student instrumentalist satisfying

(continued)

TAMTA's usual criteria for such scholarships.

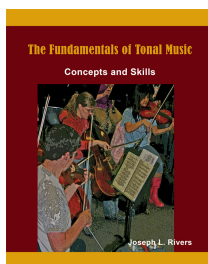
Once again, I enjoyed our visit and trust that this gift will assist TAMTA to fulfill its worthy mission in the future, as it has in the past.

Sincerely,

Laven

---

Fundamentals of Tonal Music, is a new textbook by TU professor, Joseph Rivers. He is a concert and film composer and teaches composition, film scoring and music theory. His book is available through CreateSpace.com and Amazon.com.



---

## TAMTA Financial Report for 2009 - 2010

July 1, 2009 to June 30, 2010

	In	Out
Bank Charges		\$71.97
Donations	\$447.86	\$1456.02
Dues	\$1466	\$75.00
Fees	\$99	
Festival	\$8,177	\$3,864.07
Historian	\$27.64	
Luncheons	\$1994	\$2,066.11
Misc.		\$19.55
Newsletter		\$8.00
OMTA Aud.	\$433.23	\$604.16
President		\$162.60
Program		\$449.00
Sonatina Comp.	\$1283.66	\$843.39
Spindler Comp.	\$1276.18	\$1276.18
Video Library		\$6.71
Website		\$139.06
Workshop	\$1120	\$499.69

(Balance: \$2,810.38)

## Financial Report (cont.)

Yearbook		\$426.19
Young Musn's	\$420	\$150
<b>Totals</b>	\$16,717.43	\$12,145.34

## Scholarships

### Paid in 2009-2010

Gourley Piano	- \$1,200
TAMTA Memorial	- \$0 (\$800 awarded)
Rosemary Huff	- \$600
TAMTA String	- \$0 (none awarded)
Laven Sowell Vocal	- \$1,200
TAMTA Vocal	- \$0 (none awarded)
Summer Camp	- \$0 (none awarded)

### Balances as of Aug. 31, 2010

General Fund	\$13,239.56
TAMTA Scholarship	\$9,948.62
Huff Scholarship	\$1,070.00
Gourley Scholarship	\$3,990.00
Laven Sowell Vocal	\$25,567.72
Laven Sowell Instrml.	\$12,500.00
Spindler-Lynch Award	\$13,287.18

---

## TAMTA Rosters

Thanks to Janell Whitby, who has once again spent a good part of her summer compiling the TAMTA roster. It is a big job and she does it very well. Please pick up your handbook at the registration desk on Saturday. Rosters that are not picked up will be mailed out.

## TAMTA Web Site

The web site has been updated with current dates and information. If you need to add, delete or change your information on the "Find a Teacher" section, please contact Kathy Wilson at [okathyw@sbcglobal.net](mailto:okathyw@sbcglobal.net).

## Lunch Reservations

If you do not receive a call about making a reservation, please contact your caller or Linda Nichols. Lunches are \$10.00. If you cannot come, we will try to sell your reservation, but if we can't, you are responsible for the cost.