

MMTA Annual Association Meeting & Board Meeting

June 4, 2021

10:00-12:00 noon

held on Zoom

(1) Meeting called to order 10:00

Roll call taken:

Board Members Present: President Heather Rogers Riley, Imm. Past President Ellysses Kuan, Vice President Membership and Treasurer Yulia Zhuravleva, Vice President Certification Nilly Shilo, Secretary Valerie Stark, Jonathan Roberts, Dorothy Travis, Esther Ning Yau (arrived late), Vera Rubin, Ranko Konishi-Houston, Alison Barr, Rebecca Helm.

Officers absent: Leslie Hitelman, Jia Shi

Members at large attending Association Meeting: Caroline Ly, and Victoria Razumov.

Agenda for meeting was adopted unanimously.

(2) Heather welcomed all

(3) Treasurer's Report, Yulia Zhuravleva (report attached) It was requested to include all profit and loss reports of events by the end of June, when all events will have been completed. The Judged Festival was highly successful and reported a good profit.

(4) Membership Report Yulia Zhuravleva, (report attached)

(5) Vote on changes to Constitution: view:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1k3xj24LYhtnWwuPOXQGfxl5J3jykX0Oe/view?usp=sharing>

a. **Constitution, Article V, Section 1, and**

b. **Constitution, Article VIII - Publication of Constitution and Bylaws**

c. Proposed changes were read, Heather opened the vote, all changes were unanimously approved.

(6) Open member forum:

a. Victoria Razumov introduced herself, and spoke of programs which had benefited her studio, and also spoke of her process of achieving certification.

b. **One question: Why are board positions subject to change?** Alison Barr commented on how we are striving to remain relevant and current as an organization, which requires occasional re-thinking of positions and responsibilities. She congratulated all present for serving on the board.

c. **Heather asked, "What does MMTA do really well, and on the flip side what could it do better?"** Some said the timing of meetings could be more convenient, possibly more student opportunities to perform. Vera Rubin added that there could be more options for string players, as there are currently only two (Bay State Strings and the Performance Competition). There was discussion

about why the upcoming Performance Competition is planned to be virtual, with the problem that recordings do not necessarily transmit the sound of string instruments well. Some discussion ensued. Jonathan acknowledged the challenges and concerns, but also that there were many factors to consider concerning the competition, and many risks and unknowns about a live event, not the least of which is whether there would be a venue open to “outsiders” at that time.

The Annual Association meeting was adjourned at 10:30.

**The Executive Board Meeting was convened at 10:30.
(Esther Ning Yau joined the meeting at this point).**

(1) New Business

- a. Two Bowker Student Scholarship applications were presented and considered. Josephine Mages and Lillian Mages, sisters and string students applied.** The teacher was verified to be current as a member.
 - i. Alison Barr moved that the amount of the scholarship awarded be \$500 for each. Dorothy Travis seconded, and the motion unanimously approved.
 - ii. **Heather will send the award letter, asking for verification of attendance at the summer program, after which a check will be sent.**

- b. VOTE to update the Bylaws: view changes here:**
<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1MEZ3N1PbLTdc2GNJOTOpQJW7oTJeAm9/view?usp=sharing>
 - i. **Bylaws, Article I - Membership: Section 2 and**
 - ii. **Bylaws, Article IV, Section 1 - Membership Year**
 - iii. Heather read proposed amendments (report attached) regarding Collegiate membership. Discussion happened over including age limitation, which was removed from the wording of the bylaws, and other wording was adjusted.
 - iv. Alison Barr moved that we accept the changes in the bylaws as amended. Valerie Stark seconded, motion approved unanimously.
 - v. **Additional Bylaws changes:** Refers to nominating committee recommendations (see nominating committee report). The recommendation is that the President-Elect will also take on the role of Applications Chair, receiving and reviewing applications for student scholarships and teacher grants, to help the Pres.-Elect begin to understand the workings of the association with finances and grants. The second change was approved.

- c. **Nominating Committee report continued:** The official slate of officers presented for next term will be voted on at the next Annual Association Meeting (2022), at which time all will become official.
- i. **A vote was held to approve Jonathan Roberts to immediately fill the position of President-elect for 2021-22,** and begin as the Applications Chair in 2022. **Unanimously approved.** He will also need to be voted in by the membership for the next 2022-24 slate at the 2022 Annual Association meeting.
 - ii. Heather Rogers Riley has agreed to continue for a second term in 2022-24 as President, thank you, Heather.
 - iii. **A vote was held to immediately approve Ellysses Kuan as Archivist. Unanimously approved.**
 - iv. Now all immediate vacancies have been filled. Other nominations will be for next term, where two positions remain to be filled. (see report attached) The Committee also recommends trimming down the job description for the new social media jobs.
 - v. Jonathan asked what would be the ideal outcome for social media, and Heather clarified: engagement and content, sharing info on events. Meaning more visual documentation needs to happen. There was discussion about the most effective platforms for engagement. Ellysses clarified this position is about creating content, whatever platform is used.

(2) Reports of Officers

- a. Music Connect Program: Alison Barr(see report). There is still room for applications. 15 teachers have been involved so far. More publicity is needed, it is important to connect this to the zoom coffees, perhaps a post card to hand out at events for a physical connection.
- b. Webmaster: Ellysses Kuan (see report) She thanked Yulia and Heather for their assistance in getting people up and running with the new website. She emphasized the need for a timeline calendar to be included with job descriptions to anticipate upcoming deadlines and event announcements. There was some feedback on the challenges of the new website and competition registration and management site.
- c. Archivist report: Ellysses Kuan (see report) All materials are to be digitized, and she anticipates receiving more materials moving forward from officers and event managers.
 1. Ellysses requested authorization for professional assistance in digitizing archive material (\$675 anticipated expense). Dorothy moved to approve the expenditure, Valerie seconded, motion approved. Alison congratulated Heather and Ellysses on this work.

- d. Communications Chair: Rebecca Helm (see report) Rebecca reminded us the next newsletter reports are due immediately. Heather thanked Rebecca for the terrific job she has done this year.
- e. Performance Committee: Heather would like to meet with the committee before September to set up things for the coming year.
- f. MTNA Competitions: Jonathan Roberts (see report) Jonathan announced that the performance competitions will be held virtually by video again this year, and announced the deadlines: application deadline is September 15, 3:00 p.m. firm; the video submission deadline is Nov. 7.
- g. Judged Festival: Ranko Konishi-Houston (see report) 229 students participated this year, a large number. The registration and operation systems worked smoothly overall. There was one complication with students missing the deadline due to a misunderstanding of the video process.
 - 1. Ranko is wondering about making a winner's video for all to enjoy. She requested approval from the board for hiring an assistant to help produce such a video (a large project).
 - 2. Valerie moved and Heather seconded that Esther and Ranko both be authorized to hire assistance to make a winner's video from their virtual events. The motion passed.
- h. Bay State Contests: Vera Rubin (strings) Vera brought up the issue of students' parents joining MTNA to register their child in the Bay State String competition, as the student studies virtually with a teacher outside of the country. It was reported that MTNA has previously looked into the legalities of addressing this issue, and opted not to block this type of activity. It is an issue of concern.
- i. Vera also suggested re: the Judged Festival, that, given the current large size of this festival, perhaps a stipend should be offered to the director of the event. This is a topic for later discussion, perhaps in September.
- j. Bay State Piano: Esther Ning Yau (see report) Judges from outside MA have been hired for this year, also with diversity in mind.
- k. Composer Commission: Dorothy Travis (see report) Dorothy tells us the composer has written an article, which will be in the newsletter, and will explain some of his unique science/music work.
- l. Certification: Nilly Shilo (see report) She will contact the candidates that are late in sending in their videos, to check in with them, and remind them.

(3) Continuing/Unfinished Business

As the meeting time was past noon, the following things were noted by Heather as of most importance:

For all officers: Please download and update job descriptions from the agenda. By the end of June would be optimal, but definitely before September.

Of utmost importance is identifying timelines and general calendars, for the benefit of the Communications officer and the Webmaster, so they can create a master timeline and workflow to manage deadlines and announcements through the year.

(4) Announcements/ Other Business

2021-22 Board Meeting Dates

September 17, 2021

February 4, 2022

June 3, 2022

- Dorothy thanked Heather for her very hard work this year. And she also thanked Heather for committing to be president for another term.
- Esther Ning Yau asked about additional possible program to benefit teachers, as she heard from the PA MTA about an event happening this weekend for their teachers that sounded beneficial. Heather pointed out that this has already been on her agenda, and will be considered for the future.

Meeting adjourned 12:17 p.m.

**Respectfully submitted,
Valerie Stark, Secretary**

Bay State Piano Contest Report for June 4th 2021 meeting

This year's Bay State Piano Contest will be held on June 12th 2021 virtually.

There are 153 participants, 48 teachers registered this year .

There will be 10 judges, each with \$400 honorarium for the day. Due to the nature of being virtual, it presents a great opportunities to invite judges from other states and institutions that is otherwise not possible. Diversity is very much considered in the invitation of judges.

So far the tenuto web program is working out. There has been more than usual questions and emails to reply to in regards to emails being blocked with registration confirmation and issue in signing in account for registration. But Alejandro has been very responsive in solving issues and I believe it will be smoother next year.

The number of non member teachers' registration is more than usual, partly due to a rule change on the deadline for membership requirement. Hopefully next year, most of the non member teachers will be signing up as members.

More financial details will be available after the contest for next meeting.

Respectfully,
Esther Ning Yau
Chair of Bay State Piano Contest

Certification Report - June 4, 2021

I'm glad to report that MMTA has two NEW candidates that applied for Certification this spring:

Matthew Xiong - from Allston, MA

Victoria Razumov - from Cambridge, MA.

Two more candidates have been enrolled in the Certification program since May 2020:

Yuan Peng - from Waltham, MA

Ziyue MA - from Framingham, MA

All four candidates are piano teachers, and they will be getting their certification using the Teacher Profile Projects. I have confirmed this information with Melissa Curtis, MTNA's Certification Manager, yesterday.

It's very encouraging to have four candidates in the certification process given the difficult and limiting year that music teachers had due to the pandemic. I'm hoping this number will continue to grow next year.

Respectfully submitted,

Nilly Shilo

Certification Chair, MMTA

Commissioned Composer Report
Board Meeting June 4, 2021

For the Quad State Convention in October, David is working on a piece called ***Heart of the Galaxy***. It is based on a sonification of the electromagnetic spectrum from an Active Galaxy Nucleus – containing a supermassive black hole at the center. The MMTA version will be for advanced piano, beginner piano, and the theme will later become part of David's Black Hole Symphony to be presented next summer at the Museum of Science.

David is aware that Quad State may be virtual and is planning accordingly.

Rebecca Helm
Communications Chair
Board Meeting June 4, 2021

June 4 – deadline for Summer MMTA Newsletter submission

Since previous Board Meeting in February - Communicated various activities and events to MMTA members via Mailchimp, Facebook: Bay State String and Piano Contests, new website announcements, website tutorials, Judged Festival deadlines and results, Zoom coffee invitations

2021 MMTA Judged Festival

Online judging took place on Sunday, April 25, 2021, from 9:00 am to 6:00 pm

Income: Registration

We had 231 student registered: **\$8835.00**

But we had to refund Rit Mikulinsky. Her students Ariel Ioffe \$35.00 and Violet Zei \$35.00 = **\$70.00** (PayPal fee \$1.54 => **\$68.46**)

Total **229 students, 49 teachers** participated.

Total Income: \$8,765.00

Expense for Judges

We had **8 Judges**. We offered **\$360 honorarium for a full day**.

1. Julie Chiang
2. Adam Mayon
3. Penny Ouellette
4. Jonathan Roberts
5. Elaine Rombola Aveni
6. Kathryn Southworth Lundahl
7. Sarah Takagi
8. Margaret Tuttle

Total: \$360 x 8 = \$2,880

Expense for TenutoWeb

\$700 for all 4 events = \$175/event

1. Judged Festival
2. Bay State Piano Contest
3. Bay State Strings Contest
4. Musical Achievement Evaluations

Usage fee for Judged Festival (5%) from \$8835.00 => **\$441.75**

Total: ~ \$616.75

Total Judged Festival Expenses: \$3,496.75

Profit: \$5,268.25

Issue to consider

During the Judged Festival registration, I have encountered with few MMTA teachers who own small music schools. The head of the music school teachers wondered if he/she can register for all the participants from her school under his/her name. Since this is not possible, I wonder if we should encourage the small music schools to join MTNA's "Corporate and Institutional Membership"? The membership for this is \$200.

If the school paid the Membership fee, should MMTA Judged Festival allow the head of the music school teachers to register? If so, how many students are allowed to participate from each institution?

Request to the Board

I was planning to create Winner's video for Judged Festival, but I realized it would require a great deal of time and guidance to gather 118 winners' videos together to make a playlist on YouTube. As a result, creating the video is on hold for now. I had an opportunity to talk with Esther Ning Yau, the Bay State Piano Contest chair, and Heather Rogers Riley, the President, regarding this matter, and it would be a good idea to hire an intern to do this project. I cannot estimate the hours and cost, but I would like to request that the board approve if this is possible.

Thank you.

Ranko Konishi-Houston

MMTA Judged Festival Chair

6/4/2021

Membership Report

Massachusetts Music Teachers Association currently has 217 members.

As of May 31, 2021 Massachusetts Music Teachers Association has 217 members. In comparison with the same month in 2020, it is down by 14.5%. (254 members one year ago)

Respectfully,

Yulia Zhuravleva

MMTA Archive Overview, Planning and Timeline

Submitted by Ellyses Kuan

Accessibility:

Who will access the collection? MMTA Board and Officers

Platform:

Google Platform - Google Calendar (Events), Google Drive

Reason to use google platform:

1. MMTA archive is relatively small at the moment, most of the materials are from early 2000.
2. Google is user-friendly and the board is familiar with it
3. Google allows tagging in description field which is searchable and provide easy accessibility
4. Google products cross over with each other and allow easy conversion if needed

Consultation:

Network Solution

- Assisted me in using FTP and File Manager Managers in retrieving all the image and document files

Dan Liu

- Dan helped me accessed the former websites

Ryan Green, Director of Membership Development and Affiliate Relations, MTNA Office

- MTNA is currently using folders and subfolders.
- Build-in Search Functionality on Mac / PC

David Coppen, Head Archivist, Sibley Music Library, Eastman School of Music (Rochester, NY)

Clayton Cheever, Library Director, Norwood Public Library (Norwood, MA)

Timeline

Stage 1: Gathering all contents in digital format

I, Retrieve all data from former website

- A. Images / PDF Files (526 files)
 - a. Evaluating, sorting, renaming and storing

→ Status: Completed. 348 files are being processed.

- B. Webpages (39 Webpages)
 - a. Identify webpage type
 - b. Converting content into PDFs

→ Status: Completed. All pages being evaluated, sorted and converted into PDFs.

C. Events (266 event pages)

- a. Identify event type, data entering in google calendar including date, time, location
- b. Retrieving Winner lists and convert to PDFs
- c. Retrieving any Personnel Lists and converting to PDFs.
- d. Retrieving any images

→ Tentative deadline: End of August, 2021

II. Scan existing documents

- A. Paper Documents
- B. Photo Images

→ Tentative deadline: End of August, 2021

ACTION: Will need to hire an assistant from June to August to complete Task I-C and II. Estimate 50 hrs, need board approval. Budget: \$675 (50 hrs X \$13.50/hr MA minimum wage rate 2021)

Stage 2: Metadata Tagging and Uploading

Process: Evaluation, Scanning, Metadata Tagging, File Naming and Storing.

It will be an ongoing process given the amount of contents, hence

→ Tentative completion date: June, 2022.

Stage 3: Outline guidelines for archival practice and Identify Board Routine for collecting content on a regular basis

- File naming
- Folder and sub-folder creation and maintenance
- Establishing Keyword list, for example
 - Personnel Name: Last name, First Name (e.g. Kuan, Ellyses)
 - Corporate / institution name: Full name, Abbreviation (if any) (e.g. Music Teachers National Association, MTNA)
 - Year and Date (e.g. 1987, 2001_0501)
- Establish routine and expectation from board members to submit content on a regular basis
 - Board member name and bios
 - Event Information
 - Photos
 - Media

Stage 4: Presentation

The board can then decide how we use the content materials for presentations ideas on our website to capture the historical achievements and events of MMTA. (Long Term Goal)

An in-house historian who knows the history and inside out of MMTA would be ideal (Recommendation: past presidents: Alison Barr, Michelle Gordon and Joan Garniss)

June 4, 2021
MMTA Board Meeting

MMTA's Music Connect Program

MMTA's Music Connect grant program continues to serve financially deserving students of MMTA members.

Thank you to Heather Rogers Riley and all others responsible for getting our new and stupendous website up and running! It

<https://www.mmta.net/music-connect-program>

New Grants for Academic Year 2020-2021 (since Feb. 5, 2021, Board Meeting Report)

9 45-minute lessons at \$37.50 per lesson (approved May 20, 2021). Total to be paid: \$337.50

9 60-minute lessons at \$50 per lesson (Approved May 20, 2021). Total to be paid: \$450.00

Budgeted for fiscal year: \$5120.00

Donations as of February 2021 Board Report: \$791.37. No further donations have been reported at this time.

Many thanks to Valerie Stark and Dorothy Travis who continue to serve as our MMTA's Music Connect Committee, and to Yulia who is ever-helpful and prompt in all things financial. Thank you to Rebecca also, for faithfully posting reminders and alerts about the program

Respectfully submitted,

Alison Barr

MMTA's Music Connect Chair

Nominating Committee Report

Submitted by Ellyses Kuan

Nominating Committee: Ellyses Kuan (Chair), Dorothy Travis and Nilly Shillo

The nominating committee got together (via Zoom) 3 times and had a series of discussion based on the job description Heather drafted in the Feb board meeting (See Feb meeting minutes and reports), we have consolidated some of the responsibilities for certain officers and reached out to several potential candidates.

We are happy to announce the following positions have been filled for 2022-2024, with the exception of President-Elect, who will start in 2021 after the Annual Board Meeting.

President : Heather Riley

President-Elect : Jonathan Roberts

Application Chair : Jonathan Roberts

IMT Chair : Melissa Vinning

Archivist: Ellyses Kuan

Due to the pandemic, the nominating committee invites Heather to stay for another term (also because of her exceptional leadership) and she immediately accepts the invitation. Thank you Heather.

Starting 2022-2024, the President-Elect will officially be in charge and take over the responsibilities of Application Chair, overseeing all the scholarship and grant applications. Thank you Jonathan for stepping up as President-Elect. He agrees to remain as MTNA Competition Chair for 2022-2024.

Updates on Social Media Coordinator and Media Production Assistant: The Nominating Committee is having a hard time finding candidate(s) for these two positions as the scope of responsibilities is too broad for anyone and any volunteer. We looked at the job description again and identified the most important task/responsibility for the candidates to take/start on. Heather will help trim down the job description again to make it more direct and accessible. We are also exploring the options to reach out to MMTA membership for possible candidates.

State Competition Chair Report
June 4, 2021

After brief email discussion with the board, the decision has been made to make this year's competition virtual. While things may be relatively "normal" by November, there is no guarantee. Plus, we have no idea what the policies will be for venues to allow us to use their spaces in the fall. So, for everyone's peace of mind, we will plan on a virtual competition in the hopes that we will be completely in the clear to resume live competitions in 2022.

The format will be the same as last year, which worked very well.

The entry deadline is Wednesday, September 15th at 3pm. The applications will be available in August.

Videos will be due by 3pm on Sunday, November 7th. Winner's announcements will be made Sunday, November 14th.

Please let me know if you have any questions whatsoever, and looking forward to an exciting virtual competition this year!

MMTA FINANCIAL REPORT

May 31, 2021 MMTA bank account summary:

	Balances by January 31 st , 2021:
Checking account	\$58,962.23
Savings account	\$20,293.18
Jumbo Certificate	\$27,926.32

Respectfully,

Yulia Zhuravleva

Executive Board Meeting, June 4, 2021

Update Job Descriptions: TASKS

- 1) All job descriptions should be updated online **by end of June.**
- 2) Job descriptions should include:
 1. A general summary of the position/job
 2. A clear timeline of tasks involved in the position/event for the entire year (July - June).
 3. A detailed timeline/outline of **all communications** required for your event (MMTA announcements, emails, newsletter items, website calendar or event page, etc.)
 4. Notes about any other board members that you need help from or to collaborate with.
 - Examples: Communications Chair for announcements, Membership Chair for updated membership lists, Webmaster for updating website, etc.
- 3) Upload to: [Google Drive "Job Descriptions"](#)

Executive Board Meeting, June 4, 2021

In accordance with the MMTA BYLAWS ARTICLE IX- AMENDMENTS

Section 1. These Bylaws may be amended upon the recommendation of the Executive Committee at any meeting of the MMTA Board of Directors by a two- thirds vote. Written notice of the proposed amendment(s) must be submitted to the MMTA Board at least twenty-four (24) hours in advance of the meeting.

Vote to Approve changes to MMTA Bylaws, as stated below:

Current version, view [HERE](#)

VOTE #1: MMTA Bylaws, Article I - Membership: Section 2

Proposed change:

"~~Student~~ Collegiate Membership shall be open to all higher-education music students ~~from grade seven through the age of twenty-six (26) currently involved~~ enrolled in regular music study. Any student beyond the age of twenty-six (26) who enrolls in a college, university or conservatory as a full-time music student shall also have the option of ~~Student-~~ Collegiate Membership for a period not to exceed four (4) consecutive years. ~~Student~~ Collegiate members shall be entitled to attend programs of the Association upon payment of the registration fee and to receive the official Association publications, but shall not have the right to vote, hold office, apply for national certification or enter students into MTNA or MMTA competitions. "

VOTE #2: MMTA Bylaws, Article IV, Section 1 - Membership Year

Proposed change:

" The membership year for all membership categories except that of ~~Student~~ Collegiate Membership shall coincide with the fiscal year, July 1 to June 30. The ~~Student~~ Collegiate membership year shall be October 1 to September 30."

Annual Association Meeting, June 4, 2021

In accordance with the MMTA Constitution ARTICLE IX – AMENDMENTS

This Constitution may be amended upon the recommendation of the Executive Committee and the MMTA Board of Directors at any annual session of the Association by a two-thirds vote of those present, and in compliance with the laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. Written notice of the Proposed amendment(s) must be submitted to the membership of MMTA at least thirty (30) days in advance of the session.

AGENDA: Vote on Changes to Constitution

MMTA Constitution: current version, view [HERE](#)

1. Proposed change:

- **MMTA Constitution, Article V, Section 1:**

“The MMTA Board of Directors shall be composed of the Executive Committee, Applications Chair, Archivist, Bay State Contest Chairs, Communications Chair, MTNA Competition Chairs, Composition Commissioning Chair, ~~Scholarship Chair~~, Musical Achievement Evaluations Chair, Music Connect Program Chair, Judged Festival Chair, Independent Music Teachers Forum Chair, ~~Public Relations/Advertising Chair~~, Social Media Chair, Webmaster/Technology, Local Association Presidents and any other chairs appointed by the Executive Committee. The manner of appointment shall be defined in the Bylaws.”

2. Proposed change:

- **MMTA Constitution, Article VIII - Publication of Constitution and Bylaws:**

“The MMTA Constitution and Bylaws, and all legal documents, shall be available at all times to the membership on the Association website. “

Webmaster Report
Submitted by Ellyses Kuan

- Thank you Yulia and Heather for helping members who have been having troubles logging into their accounts since the launching of the website. Heather created an online tutorial to help members logging in for the first time.
- Regarding the Directory, Yulia is closely monitoring the development updates regarding Community Box, the platform to manage our membership database. We are hoping the new software updates can help us manage duplicate and updated member information.
- Events on the calendar are also being updated. For the rest of the year till June 30, if there are any special events or announcements that need to be posted on the website, please feel free to send them my way. Moving forward, I would like to ask program chairs to include their task timeline and event schedule in their job description. This will help me and Rebecca to plan scheduling posts and updates on our social media and websites. Rebecca and I will meet over the summer to come up with a master time line for all the annual events and announcement schedule.

Next steps:

- Fillable PDF - Research on fillable pdf tool and make our pdf forms available to members filling out the form directly. If you have any recommendations, please send them my way.
- Creating standardize and unified stock image for ourselves to reuse every year (Summer 2021)
- Google Workspace - I suggest we subscribe to Google WorkSpace and get a more professional email alias and more archival storage for our google drive

(e.g. webmaster@mmta.net, president@mmta.net instead of massachusettsmusicteacher@gmail.com). It is \$12 per user per month, and \$144 per use per year. Since it may get pricy, i suggest only 1 to 3 users on the google workspace instead of every one on the board (President, Webmaster/Archivist?)

Massachusetts Music Teachers Association
Annual Meeting and Board Meeting
June 4, 2021

Zoom Coffees

Our first Zoom Coffee was held on Monday, May 10 and it was, by all accounts, a HUGE success! Attending were President Heather Rogers Riley, Melissa Vining, Abigail Schoppe, Ellyses Kuan and Caroline Ly and Alison Barr.

This warm and incredibly supportive "chat" session brought home how essential it is that we exchange with and lean on one another through the entire expanse of our professional lives. We share so much more than we realize! We talked about what MMTA is doing well, including student programs like the Judged Festival, and what we could do more of, like professional development for teachers, offerings for non-piano teachers and their students, social opportunities that are accessible and inviting to all members, and enhanced use of social media outside of Facebook. We also briefly discussed the way in which some teachers had successfully reopened their school/studios to in-person learning.

We see these Coffees as a communication tool and also as a way of identifying members who might wish to become more involved in the future. They definitely foster a sense of belonging to the MMTA "greater whole."

Thank you, Heather, for attending and supporting these events and thank you to Rebecca for all the publicity!

Our next Coffees is scheduled for Saturday, June 12 at 11:00 a.m.

Here is the sign-up link:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1TJoJMTIJWGX35W2FoPvMhdKnWZ_7oKsq7rBOAgS8qIU/edit

And please let others know or come back again if you want to do so!!

Submitted by Alison Barr
Zoom Coffees Chair