

**MMTA Board Meeting**  
**Friday, September 16th, 2022**  
**10:00am-12:00pm**

**Venue: Home of Valerie Stark**  
**Virtual: Zoom Meeting**  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5660781535>

**Meeting ID: 566 078 1535**

## **AGENDA**

### **1. Call to Order - 10:12 am**

#### **Roll Call by secretary Aleksandra Lvin 10:13 am**

- Jonathan Roberts, Yulia Potvin-Zhuravleva, Ranko Konishi-Houston, Dorothy Travis, Valerie Stark , Ellyses Kuan, Nilly Shilo, Alison Barr, Rebecca Helm, Vinh Pham, Vera Rubin, Esther Ning Yau (entered 10:24), Aleksandra Lvin
- Not Present: Leslie Hitelman, Jia Shi, David Ibbett

#### **Adopt Agenda 10:14 am**

### **2. Welcome and Introductions**

#### *a. Leadership Summit – President’s Report - 10:15 am (Report Attached)*

- Jonathan reports on his attendance at the leadership summit held in Cincinnati this past summer. He was happy to see that diversity, equity, and inclusion were being embraced by the organization
- He stresses that he wants to be of service to the members of the board and to help with their projects, events, and initiatives. Jonathan’s vision is to grow MMTA’s membership by marketing the organization better. Membership has remained steady despite the many benefits offered to teachers.

- Jonathan notes that Massachusetts does not have an art-work on display at the national headquarters. Discussion followed about starting a project to send in an artwork to represent MA.

*b. Introduction of New Board Members - 10:25 am*

Aleksandra - new secretary

Vinh Pham - independent teacher

David Ibbett - treasurer

**3. Reports of Officers 10:25 am**

*a. Membership Report - Yulia Zhuravleva - 10:25 am (Report Attached)*

- Yulia reports that membership was down during Covid, but has rebounded. Membership is at about 83% compared to the same time last year - which is a good number. There are a total of 190 membership subscriptions submitted by 9/14/2022.

*b. Treasurer's Report – Yulia Zhuravleva on behalf of David Ibbett - 10:25 am - (Report Attached)*

- Yulia reports that MMTA has over \$60,000 in its checking account - more than ever at the beginning of the year. Yulia thanks Ranko and Esther for bringing in much of that money with their programs.
- Yulia seeks 5 officers for the business entity summary to be submitted this month to the Commonwealth of Massachusetts for the transfer of the treasurer office from herself to David. The officers are to be Jonathan (president), Valerie (president-elect), David (treasurer), Aleksandra (secretary), Nilly (1st Vice-President). Yulia also seeks to update the names of officers who can access the bank account.
- Yulia to submit taxes before November 1st

- Yulia suggests transferring money from the checking account to the Jumbo certificate account. Valerie makes motion to transfer \$20,000. Alison seconds. Board votes unanimously.

*c. Communications Chair – Rebecca Helm - 10:35am - (Report Attached)*

- Rebecca reports that the deadline for submissions to the newsletter for the fall quarter is today, Friday, September 16. She asks to allow for 48 hours communication time. MMTA newsletter does not publish any promotions. All submissions should be in a “.doc” attached to an email - not in PDF.
- Jonathan to submit a president’s message for the newsletter

*d. Applications Chair – Valerie - 10:39 am - (Report Attached)*

- Valerie reports on the grants that are available to MMTA members and students, including grants for summer programs, grants for graduating seniors continuing in music, and expense grants for students participating in MMTA/MTNA events. No applications have been received this fall.
- Valerie asks the board to discuss removing the cap for the Bowker award for summer programs as the \$300 grant does not cover the expenses of summer programs. Instead, she proposes making it as per request or as per event/ need. MMTA typically does not deny any applications.
- Alison moves to remove the \$300 limit from the website for the Bowker award. Ellyses seconds. Board votes unanimously.

*e. MTNA State Composition Competition – Jonathan reports on behalf of Leslie - 10:43 am - (Report Attached)*

- MA has 13 entries from 7 teachers. There are 4 categories and we have one entry in each category. Because there is only one entry in the Young Artist category, that participant will automatically serve as the state representative in the division competition. Only one judge is needed as

there are no more than 7 entries in each category. The judge is to be Renee Baker - a wonderful composer.

- The judge is paid \$400. Each of the 7 teachers will pay a fee of \$25
- Jonathan asks about the fee for the non-member teacher. Board agrees on \$25 for the non-member teacher.

*f. MTNA State Performance Competition – Jonathan on behalf of Jia - 10:45am*

- Jonathan reports that there were many piano and young artists entries
- Jia will need volunteers on November 5th at Brandeis University
- Yulia reminds Jonathan and the board that MMTA usually sends the donation to Brandies. Jia to be notified.

*h. MMTA Music Connect Program – Alison - 10:49 am - (Report Attached)*

- Alison reports that the music connect program is healthy, but still has room to grow. The Music Connect Program is our local program, it is not part of the national Music Link program, and officers from other states were happy to hear about it. Several states would like to adopt something similar to our program.
- Alison asks that members do some outreach for the program to let people know that it is available.
- The program has room to grow because there is money left over.

*i. Commissioned Composer – Dorothy - 10:50 am (Report Attached)*

- Dorothy reports that two composers have been nominated. Rebecca will send out a request for more nominations in the newsletter. Nilly agrees to be on the committee with Dorothy and Jonathan. Dorothy expects more nominations.
- Alison thanks Dorothy and the committee for their work. At the summit Alison noted that there were not many states that have this program.

- Dorothy explains to new members that the committee solicits a composer to present a new work at the quad state conference. David Ibbett was commissioned by MMTA for the 2021 Quad State Conference.

*j. Judged Festival – Ranko - 10:53 am - (Report Attached)*

- Ranko reports that 2022 videos are ready to be published.
- Ranko worked with Lydia Reed-Guertin, Isabella Li, and Vinh Pham to create the required repertoire list. The theme is Eastern European composers.
- Ranko seeks advice to protect the festival and herself (as the festival chair) against copyright infringement of downloaded scores. Ideas were presented such as having students sign a release form if students use music that was bought online and/or printed at home. MTNA has a service that checks a score against ASCAP, however Eastern European composers may be outside of ASCAP making the situation difficult to navigate.
- This will be the first year Ranko runs the program in person. It is to take place at Salem State University.

*l. Bay State Contest Piano – Vera on behalf of Esther - 11:07 am - (Report Attached)*

*k. Bay State Contest Strings – Vera -11:07am - (Report Attached)*

- Vera reports that the new registration/scheduling system for Bay State Piano and Strings Contest does not work well for either of the chairs. Scheduling is very difficult for Strings especially due to orchestra conflicts and accompanist conflicts.
- Vera brings up several problems of the past year to be discussed by the board. To find a resolution the discussion will continue with a subset of the board.

- Ellyses thanks Alejandro for his help. Over the summer he created a single template for all the events.

*m. Independent Music Teachers Report – Vinh - 11:24 am - (Report Attached)*

- Vinh reports that he is working on creating a dedicated page on the MMTA website for independent music teachers. This may help increase membership as it informs teachers of the many benefits and resources available to them. Vinh has drafted a proposal of the webpage contents. Alison is helping Vinh create a welcome video. Dorothy thanks Vinh for his work.

*n. Certification – Nilly - 11:26 am - (Report Attached.)*

- Nilly reports that there have been no new candidates for certification. One candidate completed the program and got certification. Two more candidates are working on their projects, however their submission dates expired and they have not yet filed for an extension.

#### **4. New Business:**

*a. Nancy Oliver Scholarship Requirement, Proposed Amendment. - 11:27 am*

- Board discusses ways to include students who are unable to participate in the Bay State contests because their instruments are ineligible for the competitions. Board agrees it is better to establish a new scholarship instead of changing the rules of the Nancy Oliver.
- Valerie moves to create a new, continuing high school graduation scholarship that includes similar qualifications as the Nancy Oliver award, but without requiring participation in the Bay State competition during the senior year. The scholarship is to be called the MMTA Graduating Senior Scholarship. Dorothy seconds. Board votes unanimously.
- Valerie and Ellyses to create a new web page.

*b. Event Chair Compensation - 11:36am*

- Currently, only the Bay State Piano Contest chair is compensated for their event. Board discusses whether other event chairs need to be compensated for their events, and the official MTNA policy on compensating board members for their time and service. Dorothy suggests giving a discretionary budget to event chairs.
- This topic is to be discussed by the Performance Committee to better define “discretionary”.

*c. Proposed Benefit to Board Members*

- A proposal is presented to reimburse board members the annual MTNA and MMTA membership dues (\$91 National + \$42 State). Ellyses suggests this may help incentivise members to join the board, and will help the nominating committee.
- Alison moves to authorize a reimbursement for the MMTA/ MTNA dues for board members for 2022-23. The member is responsible for filing the reimbursement form with the treasurer. The member may decline if they so choose. Dorothy seconds. Board votes unanimously.

*d. Collaboration with NEPTA - 11:52 am*

- Board discusses a potential collaboration with NEPTA. Sivan Etedgee (NEPTA president) reached out to Jonathan about collaboration on an event this year. This may potentially increase membership in both organizations. Jonathan to continue speaking with Sivan to see how the organizations may work together in the future.

*e. Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) - 11:58 am*

- Jonathan reports that at the summit MTNA focused on initiatives for DEI and ways in which DEI can be developed at the State level.

- Alison has a connection at Roxbury Community College. MMTA may be able to use this avenue to build a relationship that would help MMTA take more steps to be more inclusive and diverse.
- Board agrees to discuss and develop this further.

## **5. Unfinished Business:**

a. *Per the MMTA Bylaws, the Nominating Committee shall consist of the immediate Past President (Ellyses Kuan) + 2 active members. - 12:01 pm*

- Currently on the committee are Ellyses, Nilly, and Dorothy. Nilly and Dorothy's terms are ending. Ellyses invites others to join.

b. To Do: fill vacancy for MAE chair.

- Jonathan to write a paragraph into the newsletter to seek MAE chair.

## **6. Announcements:**

a. Next Board Meetings:

- i. Friday, February 3rd, 10am-12pm on Zoom
- ii. Friday, June 2nd, 10am-12pm – Annual Membership Meeting
  - To be held at the home of Valerie Stark
  - And on Zoom

## **7. Adjournment 12:07 pm**

Respectfully submitted,  
Aleksandra Lvin



President's Report, September 16<sup>th</sup>, 2022  
Jonathan Roberts

Words cannot describe how grateful and excited I am to serve as MMTA's newest president with such a vibrant, active board.

We are living in very interesting, and sometimes confusing, times. Not only the (sort of) post-COVID era, but also a time when a renewed desire for community, inclusion, diversity, and equity is coming to the forefront of our culture. It's an exciting moment in history, and I am looking forward to all that our organization will accomplish over the coming year.

As president, I am looking at this position from a place of service. To be of service to the members of our board with each of your projects, events, and initiatives. To be of service to our members, making sure we are providing what they are looking for as part of our community. And to be of service to those who have not become members yet. After all, we are here to benefit the profession in addition to our own membership.

Over the coming months, I will continue learning more about the various event and ins/outs of the organization. My hope is to connect with each board member individually to learn more about what you want to do with your programs.

The MTNA Leadership Summit was extraordinary, and even more-so with our own director-elect Alison Barr in attendance. You could feel the passion for our profession with representatives from 47 of the 50 states, as well as the division directors and national board. Two items that were most striking to me were the many, many benefits that MTNA offers its members, and MTNA's commitment to DEI (diversity, equity, and inclusion).

Over my two-year term, my primary vision and initiative is to work to build our membership. From my conversations with other board members, we have a lot of great things going on, but our membership has for the most part remained the same. While I have not been part of the organization for very long, I see this as a marketing challenge. Finding new, compelling ways to reach non-members and show them how membership can improve their careers and lives.

Done well, I think most of the marketing could take care of itself by effectively sharing the benefits of being an MTNA member. When taken advantage of, it almost seems like a disadvantage to *not* be a member. Given the timeline of dues, it would be most effective to work on this earlier in the school year.

Outside of membership, my hope over the next two years is to ensure each board member feels that their program, event, or initiative has made progress that they can be excited about, and that can continue to be built upon over the course of many presidencies to come.

Thank you for placing your trust in me for this position. I'm looking forward to a great year ahead.

Jonathan Roberts  
President, MMTA

## MTNA Leadership Summit 2022

Somehow, in my four or five terms as State President (two in Maine and at least two in Mass.,) I've missed out on the Leadership Summit held in Cincinnati - a very intense weekend of education on governance, policy and member benefits of MTNA. State Presidents, Division Directors, Division Directors-Elect, MTNA Staff and National Officers all gather to explore what we can do for our members. This year, the first live summit since pre-COVID, the sessions were jam-packed with information. Even after 45 years of MTNA membership, there was a lot for me to learn. Most notable is how much is offered to MMTA members through our national affiliation! A special highlight was a tour of the gleaming offices of MTNA.

Go to the link below to find and explore a wealth of resources; really, it's an embarrassment of riches:

[https://www.mtna.org/MTNA/Business\\_Resources/MTNA/Business\\_Resources/Business\\_Resources.aspx?hkey=ad1787a2-5bb3-43ae-b7af-12b3bc767849](https://www.mtna.org/MTNA/Business_Resources/MTNA/Business_Resources/Business_Resources.aspx?hkey=ad1787a2-5bb3-43ae-b7af-12b3bc767849)

There you will find:

- Business Resources
- Legal Resources
- Studio Resources
- Insurance – Disability, Health, Instrument, Professional Liability
- American Music Teacher magazine
- Monthly E-Journal (archived!)
- Webinars (archived!)

Member benefits Member Discounts – including Pharmacy and Office Depot:

[https://www.mtna.org/MTNA/JoinRenew/Members\\_Only/MTNA/JoinAndRenew/Membership/Member\\_Only/Member\\_Only\\_Page.aspx?hkey=fa6eb7af-87bd-418c-8d72-63603b39a9c5](https://www.mtna.org/MTNA/JoinRenew/Members_Only/MTNA/JoinAndRenew/Membership/Member_Only/Member_Only_Page.aspx?hkey=fa6eb7af-87bd-418c-8d72-63603b39a9c5)

MTNA sponsors our Composer Commissioning Program and supports the work of our state on so many levels. Becoming involved more fully in MTNA will enhance your knowledge and your professionalism. The small but brilliant MTNA Staff works tirelessly to improve its services.

Please, please remember to SIGN UP to attend MTNA National Conference in Reno, Nevada, on March 25-29, 2023. It will change your life!

<https://www.mtna.org/MTNA/Engage/Conferences/Conferences.aspx>

Alison S. Barr

Photos: Eastern Division Meeting; Christine Kissack (Maine MTA President); William Chapman Nyaho, (MTNA's DEI Director, Scott Donald (Texas MTA President-Elect) Jonathan Roberts (Mass MTA President) and an airport photo in Boston.









# Massachusetts Music Teachers Association

## Membership Report

### September 2022

By 9/14/2022 MMTA have **190 membership** subscriptions submitted,  
including 20 new members as follow:

#### FIRST\_NAM

E	LAST_NAME	CITY	JOIN_DATE
Elizabeth	Abramowitz	Newton	7/14/2022
Lynn	Chang	Highlands	
June	Chen	Cambridge	4/15/2022
Hongge	Du	Allston	
Luann	Evans	North Reading	7/14/2022
Ioana	Flonta	Framingham	6/6/2022
Joshua	Friedman	Brighton	5/12/2022
Eric	Goode	Somerville	9/13/2022
Maryann	Han	Brighton	5/26/2022
Heather	Hancock	Acworth	6/29/2022
Colleen	Katsuki	Lincoln	8/25/2022
Max	Levinson	Newton	9/9/2022
Karen	Lindsay	Bedford	8/3/2022
Junling	Lu	Malden	5/16/2022
Ana	Popa	Quincy	
Alexander	Raab	Littleton	9/5/2022
Valerie	Ross	Washougal	
Joung Hoon	Song	Lexington	4/19/2022
Hsin-Lin	Tsai	Brookline	
Yi-Chen	Yeh	Canton	7/13/2022

MTNA Data suggests that by August 31<sup>st</sup>, 2022 Massachusetts MTA membership count has increased by 1.7%

		CURRENT	PREVIOUS	%	PREVIOUS
	State	MONTH	YEAR	CHANGE	YEAR
			MONTH	+/-	END
E	Massachusetts	179	176	0.00%	218

By the end of August 2022 83% members renewed their membership



(Comparing with 2021–2022-year end - 218 members).

Respectfully submitted,

Yulia Potvin

9/14/2022

**Massachusetts Music Teachers Association**  
**Profit & Loss**  
 July 2021 through June 2022

Accrual Basis

	Jul '21 - Jun 22
<b>Income</b>	
5000 · Program Registration Fees	23,431.04
5002 · Monthly Membership Dues	7,794.00
5007 · Program Teacher Fees	333.71
5010 · Dividends on Savings	816.43
5011 · Charitable Contributions	1,985.54
5096 · Miscellaneous Income	77.92
5500 · NMTA Commissioned Composer	750.00
	35,188.64
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>35,188.64</b>
<b>Gross Profit</b>	<b>35,188.64</b>
<b>Expense</b>	
Online Setup Fees	
Google Fees	102.85
	102.85
<b>Total Online Setup Fees</b>	<b>102.85</b>
6000 · Student Programs	
6001 · Judges Fees	12,560.00
6006 · Facility Expense	980.00
6009 · Refunds	196.03
6011 · Chair Compensation	1,000.00
6013 · Student Aides	1,197.00
6021 · Hospitality	1,042.82
	16,975.85
<b>Total 6000 · Student Programs</b>	<b>16,975.85</b>
6033 · Online Set up Fees	1,088.00
6100 · General Program	
6010 · Website Maintenance	547.67
6019 · Comm. Composer	2,000.00
6115 · Office Supplies & Postage	83.36
6117 · Board Compensation	683.50
6122 · Gifts & Miscellaneous	181.16
6100 · General Program - Other	77.43
	3,573.12
<b>Total 6100 · General Program</b>	<b>3,573.12</b>
6140 · Music Connect	2,412.50
6190 · Tax electronic filing fees	700.00
6196 · Harland Clarke Checks	4.77
6400 · Teacher of Year Party	
6124 · Gifts	163.13
6410 · Hospitality Items	539.14
	702.27
<b>Total 6400 · Teacher of Year Party</b>	<b>702.27</b>

**Massachusetts Music Teachers Association**  
**Profit & Loss**  
July 2021 through June 2022

Accrual Basis

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	<u>Jul '21 - Jun 22</u>
6810 · Teacher Enrichment	<u>390.00</u>
Total Expense	<u>25,949.36</u>
Net Income	<u><u>9,239.28</u></u>

## MMTA FINANCIAL REPORT

Balances:

	Balance by August 31 <sup>st</sup> , 2022:	Balance by August 31 <sup>st</sup> , 2021:
Checking account	<b>\$61,956.41</b>	<b>\$51,748.41</b>
Savings account	20,584.19	\$20,325.48
Jumbo Certificate	28,724.20	\$28,085.14

Bay State Piano Contest, Bay State Strings Contest and 2021-2022 Final Fiscal Year reports are uploaded as separate files.

Sincerely yours,

Yulia Potvin

9/15/2022

## Massachusetts Music Teachers Association Class QuickReport

Accrual Basis

Type	Date	Num	Name	Memo	Amount
<b>Bay State Piano</b>					
Deposit	05/25/2022		Paypal	PayPal Net	12,850.66
Check	05/26/2022	1069	Christopher Michael Guzman	Bay State Piano Judge	-450.00
Check	05/26/2022	1070	Luba Poliak	Bay State Piano Judge	-450.00
Check	05/26/2022	1071	Kyle Orth	Bay State Piano Judge	-450.00
Check	05/26/2022	1072	Tracy Elizabeth Cowden	Bay State Piano Judge	-450.00
Check	05/26/2022	1073	King Hei Eric Fung	Bay State Piano Judge	-450.00
Check	05/26/2022	1075	I-Lin Cheng	Bay State Piano Judge	-450.00
Check	05/26/2022	1076	Ana Sorina Popa	Bay State Piano Judge	-450.00
Check	05/26/2022	1074	Robert Durso	Bay State Piano Judge	-450.00
Check	05/27/2022	1077	Helen Morlais	Bay State Piano Judge	-450.00
Check	05/27/2022	1078	Daniel Del Pino	Bay State Piano Judge	-450.00
Check	05/27/2022	1079	Esther Ning Yau	Bay State Piano Compensation	-1,000.00
Check	05/27/2022		Alejandro M Cremachi	Judged Festival Tenutoweb	-592.50
Check	06/08/2022		Refund		-68.61
Check	06/15/2022	1080	Ching Min Cheng	Bay State Piano Judge	-450.00
Check	06/15/2022	1081	Lucy Tan	Bay State Piano Judge	-450.00
Check	06/15/2022		Refund		-68.61
Check	06/21/2022		Refund		-58.81
Total Bay State Piano					5,662.13
<b>TOTAL</b>					<b>5,662.13</b>

## Massachusetts Music Teachers Association Class QuickReport

Accrual Basis

Type	Date	Name	Memo	Amount
<b>Bay State Strings</b>				
Check	04/26/2022	First Church of Christ, Scientist	Bay State Strings Rental Fee	-730.00
Deposit	05/25/2022	Paypal	PayPal Net	2,281.17
Check	05/26/2022	Jaques Lee Wood	Bay State Strings Judge	-400.00
Check	05/26/2022	Daniel Stepner	Bay State Strings Judge	-400.00
Check	05/27/2022	Alejandro M Cremachi	MAE Tenutoweb usage	-100.00
Total Bay State Strings				651.17
<b>TOTAL</b>				<b>651.17</b>

**Massachusetts Music Teachers Association  
Class QuickReport**

Accrual Basis

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**Filters applied on this Report:**

**Account: All income/expense accounts**

**Class: Bay State Strings**

**Date: Custom**

Communication Chair Report  
September 16, 2022 Board Meeting  
Submitted by Rebecca Helm

Important Dates & Deadlines for 2022-23:

**Fall 2022**

Deadline for submissions Friday, September 16

To be published Monday, September 26

**Winter 2022**

Deadline for submissions Friday, December 2

To be published Monday, December 12

**Spring 2023**

Deadline for submissions Friday, March 10

To be published Monday, March 20

**Summer 2023**

Deadline for submissions Friday, June 2

To be published Monday, June 12

\*Please remember to allow at least 48 hours turnaround time for any requests for email/social media announcements to members.



## **Applications Chair Report**

**September 16, 2022**

**No applications have been received this fall.**

**Did you know that from MMTA there are student grants for:**

- 1. Summer programs (Bowker)**
- 2. Graduating senior pursuing further music study (Oliva)**
- 3. Expense grant for students participating in MTNA/MMTA events**

**For teachers AND collegiate members, there are travel grants for attending conferences.**

**For discussion at this meeting or in February, the current maximum Bowker scholarship is posted at \$300.00. Could this limit be raised or at least not posted, and determined according to the program ?**

**Ithaca College Summer Music Academy 2 week program for summer 2023 has tuition, room and board listed at \$2,300.**

**One week at UNH Summer Youth Music School for boarders can cost \$549 for junior program, or \$899 for senior program, plus extra for private lessons.**

**Other students are planning to attend a program in Italy, cost not known. Flights for students, and possibly for chaperone plus costs of the program, are considerably more expensive.**

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Valerie Stark**

## Report for 2022 MTNA Composition Competition

Massachusetts has 13 entries from 7 teachers in the MTNA Composition Competition.

There are four categories. We have entries in each category.

1 Young Artist, 6 Senior, 3 Junior, and 3 Elementary.

Because there is only one Young Artist entry, they will automatically serve as our state representative in the division competition. No category has more than 7 entries so we need only one judge this year.

The judge is a wonderful composer - Renee Baker.

<http://www.reneebakercomposer.net>.

Each of the 7 teachers will pay a teacher fee of at least \$25 directly to MMTA. One of the 7 teachers has submitted their teacher fee so far. MMTA receives a portion of the entry fee that students paid to MTNA.

The judge is paid \$400. I will submit the report to the treasurer after I request the check for the judge in mid October.

Leslie Hitelman,  
Composition Competition Chair

**September 16, 2022**  
**MMTA Board Meeting**  
**MMTA's Music Connect Program**

There has been ONE new Music Connect Application approved since June 3, 2022.:

30 45-minute lessons for the Academic Year 2022-2023

The volume of applications is not huge, but the program is mighty for those it helps. I would very much like to have help in identifying more students who could benefit, including those in any under-served populations. Most of our applicants are in the lower income bracket, though we were advised Not to require a tax return. I trust that all applicants are totally honest and supplying their true income range when asked.

**Reminder:**

**From our MMTA's Music Connect application:**

**“The teacher will not charge any additional tuition to the student’s family for the lessons under the MCP.**

**The teacher and the student’s family may separately agree that the student will receive additional lessons for the teacher’s regular tuition. “**

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. Also, thanks to Rebecca Helm for keeping our posts up-to-date.

Respectfully submitted,

Alison Barr

MMTA’s Music Connect Chair

[http://www.mmta.net/web\\_content.aspx?page\\_name=musicconnect](http://www.mmta.net/web_content.aspx?page_name=musicconnect)

MMTA believes that any child who has musical ability and interest in playing an instrument or singing deserves the opportunity to explore this talent. The MMTA Music Connect Program (MCP) offers music lessons tuition-free to students who have a demonstrated financial need and will study with an MMTA member in good standing. MMTA is thrilled to offer this program to our member teachers and their students! To apply as a Music Connect Program student or to recommend a student for study in your studio, please read thoroughly the Description for MMTA Teachers and the Description for Student’s Parent or Guardian below and download the appropriate form to complete your application. Applications may be filed and processed at any time during the academic year.



Board Report for Commissioned Composer <sup>Sept 16,</sup> 2022 Board Meeting  
submitted by Dorothy Travis Commissioned Composer Chair

Recommendations submitted so far;

1. Jose Elizando (by Ellyses Kuan)
2. Yoko Nakatani (by Valerie Stark)

A note requesting nominations from the membership will go out in the Fall. Nominations are due by November 1<sup>st</sup>.

The committee is comprised of the President (Jonathan), Commissioned Composer Chair (Dorothy) and Nilly Shilo.

## **MMTA Judged Festival**

Submitted by Ranko Konishi-Houston 9/14/22

### **2022 Judged Festival Winners' Videos**

During the summer, videos were created along with the 2022 Bay State Piano Contest by Harry Li, who did the project last year. The payment to Harry is \$1,200. The videos are ready to publish to the members.

### **2023 Judged Festival Required Repertoire List**

During the summer, Lydia Reed-Guertin, Isabella Li and Vinh Pham, and I, as a 2023 Require Repertoire Committee, created the list for the 2023 Judged Festival. The theme for this year is "Eastern European Composers."

### **Copyright**

Composers from Eastern European music scores are not easily available in the states. Some may be free to download on various websites. I am not very comfortable with copyright music issues, so I am getting advice and guidance from Jonathan on how I can address the members to be aware of copyright music when downloading free scores and protect myself as a Judged Festival chair.

### **Plan for 2023 Judged Festival**

The dates and location for the 2023 Judged Festival are TBA later. This will be my first year to run the in-person event alone. Meanwhile, I hope to share the Require Repertoire list sometime soon with members while I must work out the event details.

Thank you.

## **MMTA Bay State Piano Contest (BSPC)**

Report for 9/16/2022 board meeting

- This is 2nd year for the contest to be held with video submissions and also 2nd year we produced a winner's concert video. Harry Li is hired to produce the final videos for both Judged festival and Bay State Piano Contest. The videos are ready to be published. There will be media and email announcement to notify the member when it is published.
- Plan for 2023 BSPC will be in person in May/June 2023. We hope to be back at Boston Conservatory for the event. Before the pandemic, there is a change in personnel of contact at Boston Conservatory but I had a tentative yes from them in spring 2022 for 2023 event but will follow up again with more details.
- In terms of application fee for the contest, I am proposing to have a \$5 or \$10 raise as the fees had been kept the same for quite number of years. Hopefully this can generate some revenue to enable help to run and support administration cost of this and other events.

Esther Ning Yau  
Chair of Bay State Contest

## Bay State Strings contest 2022

Judges: Professor Daniel Stepner, violin

Professor Jacques Lee Wood, cello

Chair: Dr. Vera Rubin, competition pianist: Dr. Dina Vainshtein

The competition was scheduled on June 4<sup>th</sup> , it took place in First Church of Christ, Scientist of Needham, 870 Great plane Ave, Needham 02492

The church has a perfect design for the event, with one exception: it can't offer a warm up or rehearsal rooms.

In every other respect it was a beautiful location! There were plenty of free parking; the entrance to the church, the exit, the award ceremony place and a "green room" for the judges where all separated from each other and very large. The students and parents entered one door, and exited from another, crowding was easy to avoid.

The church recently obtained a very good Steinway grand piano. It was tuned, and the judges where comfortably sited on a good distance from the kids and each other.

It was 24 students, everyone was very excited, some of the kids played really amazing, and all together the event had a festive mood. A large, beautiful church hall, and a great acoustics really helped everything, especially after last two years of the Covid ordeal.

I planned the time spaciously, to avoid crowding, and to give the judges the time to discuss the performances. They did appreciate it. I considered the previous year's judges' complaints on the discussion time limitation.

We began the event at 9:30 AM, we had 1hour 15 min. lunch, which I bought at the nearest French Press café, and we finished with the last group award ceremony at 5:30PM.

V.R.





Vinh Pham  
MMTA Independent Music Teachers Forum Chair  
9/15/2022

Currently I'm working with Alison Barr and Ellyses Kuan to create a dedicated page on the MMTA website for Independent Music Teachers. We thought it would be a great way to attract Independent Music Teachers, MMTA members or non-members alike, and keep them informed about the many benefits and resources available from our organization.

I've drafted a proposal for the overall content of the page and am awaiting feedback from Alison, Ellyses and Jonathan.

I'm also going to help Alison in creating an Independent Music Teacher welcome video to put on the dedicated page!

## **Certification Report**

**Board Meeting. September 16, 2022**

**Nilly Shilo, Certification Chair**

There hasn't been any new certification candidate since my last report.

As for now:

One teacher has completed the program and was certified last year.

Two more candidates are currently working on their projects, but their submission dates have expired and they have yet to request an extension.

Respectfully submitted,

Nilly Shilo

Webmaster Report  
For September Meeting, 2022  
Submitted by Ellyses Kuan

Tasks completed over the summer:

- Major 2022-2023 MMTA events are updated on the website. (Please let me know if you see any incorrect information. Chairs if you don't mind taking a few minutes to go over your event and announcement on the website please make sure I have all your information posted correctly).
- All new officers should have their alias email addresses updated and tested properly.
- Website domain has been updated and renewed.

Incoming project:

- Working with Independent Teacher Officer Vinh Pham to create a new webpage for his office.