

## *Ruggero Piano Teacher Merit Award*

The *Ruggero Piano Teacher Merit Award* was established in 2010 to recognize piano teachers that demonstrate outstanding performance and dedication to their students, communities, and affiliated organizations. Ruggero Piano owners Richard and Deborah Ruggero have long recognized the importance of music instruction and performance, not only for the educational and social benefits, but also for the wonderful mentoring that exists between teacher and student. They offer this annual cash award as a thank you to teachers who are respected by their peers, appreciated in their communities, and loved by their students.

The initial meeting to determine the award specifics took place between Richard and Deborah Ruggero, Diane Blanchard, RPTA President, and Lafrida Shewmake Preston, RPTA Treasurer. There have been a few modifications along the way and hopefully this latest edition will serve well for the foreseeable future.

### Nomination Criteria and Application

The *Ruggero Piano Teacher Merit Award* recognizes teachers who have made a difference in their students' lives, contributed to the advancement of music in their community, and made significant contributions to RPTA, NCMTA, MTNA and other similar organizations. The recipient(s) is chosen annually from applicants and receives an award of \$500. The award is to be presented at the October meeting hosted by Ruggero Piano. A minimum of two nominees is required in order for the award to be presented in that year. Nominees' names are removed from the applications to insure anonymity until the selection has been made. Prior recipients are not eligible to receive the award.

An applicant must be nominated by one of their peers. A peer is defined as a Raleigh Piano Teacher Association member in good standing and actively teaching. **The application form along with any supporting documents must be submitted in duplicate to the current RPTA President postmarked by June 15.**

**Following are examples of the type of documents that should be submitted with the application:**

1. Teaching/professional achievements, and number of years teaching experience
2. Evidence of teaching excellence
3. Accomplishments/contributions to RPTA, NCMTA, MTNA and other similar organization
4. Community involvement
5. Former student or parent letter of support
6. Professional colleague letter of support
7. Letter of recommendation from the nominating RPTA member

Please fill out the nominee application and checklist sheet, sign and date the application, and submit the entire package to the RPTA President by June 15th. The application and checklist can be found on the RPTA Website.

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## **Application and Checklist**

Name of nominee: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing address: \_\_\_\_\_ City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

RPTA member submitting the nominee: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing address: \_\_\_\_\_ City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Included with the application are the following documents (check all that apply)

\_\_\_\_\_ Teaching/professional achievements, and number of years teaching experience

\_\_\_\_\_ Evidence of teaching excellence

\_\_\_\_\_ Accomplishments/contributions to RPTA, NCMTA, MTNA and other similar organization

\_\_\_\_\_ Community involvement

\_\_\_\_\_ Former student or parent letter of support

\_\_\_\_\_ Professional colleague letter of support

\_\_\_\_\_ Letter of recommendation from the nominating RPTA member

\_\_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_

- ***All Documents must be turned in to the RPTA Presedent by June 15 for that year's selection***

***Date submitted*** \_\_\_\_\_ ***by*** \_\_\_\_\_  
signature

# **Ruggero Teacher Merit Award Winners**

**2011**

*Marie Willet & Margaret Evans*

**2012**

*Amy Gardner & Pamela Tsai*

**2013**

*Tom Lohr*

**2014**

*Chrissy Ricker & Rovanda Mormann*

**2015**

*Jeanine Skinner*

