

January 2017  
Number 133

Affiliate of the North Carolina Music Teachers Association

# RALEIGH PIANO TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

## Monthly Meeting

Jan. 18, 2017

- 9:45, General Membership Business Meeting
- 10:45, Program: Masterclass by Dr. Stephen Taylor

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## From the President

### HAPPY 2017, EVERYBODY

Well, here we are in 2017 with all of its hopes and promises for prosperity, success and health. With the mandatory hibernation imposed on us this weekend, I found myself writing my first Christmas/New Year's letter to loved ones in over 5 or more years. Instead of being philosophical, motivational or insightful, I thought I would share a bit of myself with you in the president's article for the start-up of January. Here are some of the excerpts: *From family, childhood friends, neighbors, colleagues in school, church, teachers, mentors and former/current students, you have all made my life more vivid, more meaningful and much more blessed. Remaining single seems quite odd but I have come to the conclusion that God had to have me devoted to my musical development and contributions to do the work that he had in mind for me, at least up to now. I always have hope!! I turned 60 this year, but I don't look a day over 52!! (I have been diagnosed with delusional disorders!) My broken toe, turned foot, injections in the knees, forgetful nature and a myriad of other 'minor' ailments attest to attaining a full 5-decade-journey. My triumph before Christmas was losing 27 lbs. and I am working on the next 25 now. Cheers and applause are encouraged!!*

*My life in Wake Forest is a good life. God has blessed me with a wonderful church that provides a family of support, inspiring and spiritual renewal and opportunities to use my spiritual gifts through music. I love that I am here with Ryan, Catherine, and Roy. They are my "heart". My sister and their mother and wife, Sandra Dee, left us in 2012 but is never more than a heartbeat from our thoughts. Catherine surprised us with a note telling us that she named a star after her mom! I hope we can find it using Ryan's new telescope! We have dear friends and neighbors that care about us and with whom we always long to spend more time. Ryan is so delightfully smart and is realizing his goals by attending Wake County Tech (junior) working toward a technical degree in CAD (architectural drawings and more). Catherine is a junior at Wm Peace University (Raleigh) with a double major in theater and graphic design. She is thriving and radiates Sandra's spirit, a real gentle soul.*

*My studio is beyond what I had hoped for; though as it grows, I envision its next level of potential. We expanded this year and have approx. 3600 sf, giving us 11 private studios, an upgraded performance room, 16 teachers currently, and a full-time administrative assistant.*

**Continued on page 2...**

Looking ahead...

February 4-5  
Ensemble Festival

February 11  
Scholarship Auditions

February 25  
NCMTA District Contest

March 10-11  
Young Artist Auditions

March 18-22  
MTNA National Conference  
Baltimore, MD

April 23  
Student Musicale

## From the President, continued

*With a steadily increasing enrollment of 275-280 students, the administrative and marketing challenges that stretch my brain, imagination and budget is daunting at times. My personal teaching load is down to about 17-18 students which helps! It is VERY satisfying for me to have stayed in one place long enough to see students go from start to completion, sometimes teaching them all 12 years. What pride there is to see students from all of the teachers in the studio succeed and find where music fits into their lives. We receive regular reports of math scores and verbal skills improvement, winners in talent shows and joy of music making with their family and friends. A dream come true!*

*As the Raleigh Piano Teachers Association president, I find joy in caring for these amazing teachers. With a membership of 144, we are making an impact on many students' lives. We come together once a month at Meredith College to have motivational business and workshops on a wide variety of teaching/performing topics. We reach out to the community in a variety of ways. Our scholarships and performance opportunities are highlights. The annual Young Artist Auditions attract 90+ member/teachers who enter more than 900 students.*

*Home is a sanctuary for me. I find it peaceful, comfortable, and a place to enjoy renewable strength, to entertain friends and to enjoy my two delightful fur-children. I've discovered I like decorating and I have fun exercising that "itch" once in a while!*

*There are a number of ways that Christmas came together for me....hearing a sweet child's voice singing in any of our 6 winter recitals, our Hanging of the Greens service with brass, handbells and full organ, singing the final stanza of Silent Night a-cappella in a darkened sanctuary with candles lit one by one and lifted high by everyone in our packed Christmas Eve Service, laughter from Ryan and Catherine, and the sweetest thank you voicemail from the mom of a family my choir and parents of my studio help make Christmas happen for them.*

*My plans to travel to Anderson, SC this weekend were delayed for the second time. Perhaps I will be successful in the spring! Visiting family and friends has a remarkable energizing effect on me. As I send you greetings, I imagine each of your faces as I seal each envelope. Loving and reminiscing of you brings great solace. How lucky I am to have you as part of my past, present and future. I hope you are having a wonderful time with your family and friends. Write to me soon!*

*ILY (((♥))) Jeanine  
To all my RPTA Colleagues, I wish you great joy through inspired teaching.*

May our words be

**dolce,**

our hearts be

**giocoso,**

our spirits,

**con fuoco,**

and all our teaching,

**con amore.**

## Ensemble Festival

Thank you to all the teachers who are supporting this event and preparing your students for the February 4-5 festival.

### Reminders:

1. Location of the Ensemble Festival Rehearsals and Performance: Raleigh Vineyard Church, 6894 Litchford Rd., Raleigh, NC 27615. Directions are available at <http://raleighvineyard.org>
2. All store rehearsal times are filled at Hopper and Ruggero. Email Maxine if you want a time at Maus.
3. Rehearsal times for Sat., Feb. 4th are reprinted below. Plan to arrive 15 minutes ahead of start time to find your seats. Seating charts will be available for teachers to assist with this. We will run through each half of the program twice. Certificates will be available at the rehearsals for teachers to take the number they need.
4. Performance on Sunday, Feb. 5. Arrive at 2:10. The performance will start at 2:30pm and will end by about 3:45. Students should plan to remain for the entire program.

### **10:30-12:00 Dress Rehearsal**

Getting Started - Salvatore, Moorman, Butzow, Preston, Lohr  
Romp a la Mozart - Walker, Martin  
Over the Rainbow - Sparks, Ward  
Balloon Pop Polka - Burnette  
Greensleeves - Buster  
Go for It! - Martin, Walker, Warring  
1001 Nights - Sparks  
More - Mungalov  
Classic Rock - Salvadore  
Sonatina in C - Carlson, Carlson

### **1:00-2:30 Dress Rehearsal**

Jubilation Overture - Zeugschmidt  
Music of the Night - Blanchard  
Timber Wolves' Patrol - Moorman, Dacus  
In the Hall of the Mountain King - Rumball  
In Summer - Blanchard  
Side by Side - Buster  
The Phantom - Gandolf  
Heart and Soul - Blanchard  
Melody of Rains - Mungalov  
Tap Extravaganza - Humphrey, Haigler, Thomas, McKee  
Bumble Boogie – Mungalov

Maxine Salvatore and Bonnie Walker, Ensemble Festival Co-Chairs

## Scholarship Auditions

### RPTA Scholarship Auditions Reminders:

- Entry forms and checks for Scholarship Auditions are due January 18 at the RPTA Meeting by 12 noon at Meredith College.
- Scholarship winners are expected to perform at the February 19<sup>th</sup> Honors Recital to receive their prize.

Kathleen Vockeroth, Scholarship Auditions Chair

## Independent Music Teachers Forum

Do you have a teaching tip that you would like to share at our January meeting? It might be a group lesson activity or game... Or it could be a website that you have found helpful...Or a book that you might recommend!

Here's one New Year's teaching tip. In January, I encourage students to make a New Year's resolution concerning piano. It is really great when students come up with their own resolutions but sometimes I make suggestions. It could be something as simple as resolving to do their theory in pencil! (one of my pet peeves) or just resolving to do their theory!!! Or resolving to play one piece for a parent every week or every month. You can make it as easy or challenging as you & the student would like.

Then write the resolution on the inside cover of their notebook and revisit it every week or at the beginning of every month.

I hope that some of you try this idea!

Remember to email me with your own tips, ideas, book reviews, website recommendations!

Thanks so much!

Dottie Buster, Independent Music Teachers Forum Chair  
[dottie.buster@gmail.com](mailto:dottie.buster@gmail.com)

## January Program

RPTA is pleased to welcome Dr. Stephen Taylor to work with our students in a masterclass setting at our January program.

Pianist Stephen Taylor is approaching the thirty-year mark as a professional performer and teacher. As a soloist, Dr. Taylor has performed in recitals and with orchestras in the US and in Europe. A frequent collaborative performer, he has toured with solo singers, choirs and instrumentalists across the US, and in such diverse places as Germany, Austria, Italy, Vatican City, Scotland, Greece and Israel. He lectures frequently for music teacher organizations and has made presentations at state and national conferences sponsored by Music Teachers National Association, National Conference on Piano Pedagogy, and Music Educators National Conference. He enjoys adjudicating auditions, festivals and competitions, and is the author of several articles relating to piano pedagogy. His latest publication is a music review for MTNA's *Music Teacher* magazine.

Having served for ten years on the piano and pedagogy faculty at the University of South Carolina School of Music, he is currently in his tenth year on the faculty of the South Carolina Governor's School for the Arts and Humanities in Greenville, SC, where he teaches all piano-related lessons and coursework. Dr. Taylor has also served on the faculties of the SCGSAH *Academy* and *Discovery* programs since their respective inceptions in 1990 and 2004. Former students have attended such institutions as The Juilliard School, Northwestern University, Indiana University, UNC School of the Arts, and numerous other schools in the region. Current and former students have been prize winners in the Aloha International Piano Competition in Honolulu and in MTNA-sponsored competitions, as well as in many state concerto competitions.

Dr. Taylor holds performance and pedagogy degrees from The Juilliard School, the University of Louisville and the University of South Carolina, where his major professors included Ania Dorfmann, Lee Luvisi, Max Camp and Raymond Dudley.