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Greetings TMTA Members.

Spring Break has come and gone and the end of the school year is fast approaching. Signs of springtime are all around us - the bluebonnets are peeping out, the robins are serenading us, and the students are frantically practicing to prepare for all the upcoming events in their busy schedules.

In this issue you will find last minute details about the convention, along with information concerning the many activities available to you and your students in the next few weeks. If you have any questions please visit the TMTA website or contact an officer, director, or chairman.

This past year has been one of great sorrow for TMTA as we experienced the loss of four of our past presidents – Susan Hamman Allen Carlisle (1964-1966), Andrew Mihalso (1982-1984), Patricia Powers (1986-1988) and Ken Newsome (2000-2002). Many of us remember them for their leadership and experience and for the time they so generously gave to TMTA.

So now we enjoy the springtime, take a few moments to reflect on the past, and to look to the future. Come to Arlington in June and experience the wealth of opportunity available to teachers, students and families.

See you there!

**Janelle Schlaudt, NCTM**

President

## It's Time to Play

**Diane Delk, NCTM**

Our Convention is right around the corner! There are lots of enthusiastic preparations going on, and this should be another exciting Convention. If you have not already registered, please do so quickly – before the online registration closes!

You get substantial discounts by registering BEFORE May 1, so visit <http://www.tmta.org/convention/registration.php> today.

You'll certainly want to stay nearby to make the most of the exciting Convention activities, so be sure to reserve your room before the room block sells out. Just follow this convenient link for online room reservations: <http://www.tmta.org/convention/reservations.php>

Do you want to see what to plan to attend? The Convention Brochure is online and a convenient way to budget your time to take advantage of everything Convention has to offer. The brochure is at this link: <http://www.tmta.org/assets/pdf/conventionbrochure.pdf>

Getting around in the Metroplex is easy – follow this link for some help: <http://www.tmta.org/convention/travel.php>

Are some of the families in your studio coming to Convention for the first time? Send them to this link for answers to their questions: <http://www.tmta.org/convention/faq.php>

Be sure to pass along the information for online registration to your students and friends.

The TMTA Convention Hotel is the Sheraton Arlington Hotel, located at 1500 Convention Center Drive, Arlington, TX 76011. It is conveniently located adjacent to the Arlington Convention Center, near attractions such as Six Flags and the baseball stadium.

All Convention events, including the Performance Contest Semi-Finals and Finals, will be located in either the Sheraton Arlington Hotel or the Arlington Convention Center.

Convention room rates are \$122 plus applicable city, county, state or federal taxes, resort fees or other Hotel imposed fees that may apply at the time of room occupancy. The rate is in effect until 12:00 P.M. May 18, 2010. After that date, full rates will apply.

Parking at the Sheraton Arlington Hotel is complimentary. Here is the link for hotel reservations: <http://www.starwoodmeeting.com/StarGroupsWeb/res?id=0912165853&key=876B9>

And here is the link for online registration for the Convention: <http://www.prestoregister.com/cgi-bin/order.pl?ref=Wolfgang&fm=1>

I hope this Convention will be fun for you, your students, their parents and guests and for all our wonderful session presenters and exhibitors. Come to PLAY!!

## Student Activities

**Vice President for Student Activities**

**Debra Hadfield, NCTM**

This has been an exciting year of growth for TMTA Student Affiliate events. Each of the Coordinators has a brief article included in this Prelude. Please read each article carefully, and refer to the Spring 2010 *Texas Music Teacher*, TMTA Handbook, and TMTA.org website for additional information.

Congratulations to each teacher who chose to offer TMTA Student Affiliate events and the five TMTA Convention Student Activities to their students this year.

April 15 was the deadline for entering four of the TMTA Convention Activities: All-Star Festival, Digital Keyboard Orchestra Reading Session, Chamber Music Clinic, and June Leondar Chamber Music/Ensemble Contest. May 1 is the deadline for Convention Projects.

I hope you have had a rewarding year of teaching, and are looking forward to celebrating student achievements during this year's TMTA Convention.

I encourage you, your students and their parents to attend the Fargason Concert on Friday evening, June 11. Our Texas MTNA/TMTA Performance Contest student winners are outstanding. I can't think of a better motivational experience for our youth!

This year I've met many happy music teacher volunteers. I am reminded of Albert Schweitzer, a winner of the Nobel Peace prize, and who was also an accomplished musician. Schweitzer said, "I don't know what your destiny will be, but one thing I know: the only ones among you who will be really happy are those who will have sought and found how to serve."

The teacher volunteers I've worked with this year seem to have found their destinies; their legacies will be that they were music teachers.

Schweitzer advised, "Do something for somebody every day for which you do not get paid." If you want to accept this challenge, TMTA has many opportunities for you! Please volunteer! Create your own joyful destiny.

I look forward to meeting with you at Convention. See you in Arlington!

**A Big Thank You!**

**Heather Rathnau, NCTM**

I would like to extend a big thank you to the judges for the MTNA/TMTA Student Composition Competition this year. Thank you for your insightful, encouraging comments to the student contestants. The three judges for the Texas competition were Ronald Bennett, NCTM of Odessa, Scott McAllister of Baylor University in Waco and Susan Ogilvy of Denton.

**This year TMTA has contracted with Videos of Goodness to provide professional videography services during the ensemble concerts. For those of you opting for a DVD this year, Videos of Goodness has guaranteed to have them in the mail within thirty days following the convention for pre-orders. In addition to purchasing a full program on DVD, you will have the opportunity to purchase digital downloads of individual ensembles. These clips will be on the Videos of Goodness website within two weeks of the convention. You will have the option of getting these digital downloads in HD, so they will look great on your computer or big screen hdtv and last for years to come.**

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## MTNA Collegiate Members

**Denise Parr-Scanlin**

The Texas Collegiate Chapters of MTNA will hold their conference during the TMTA Convention in Arlington. The Collegiate Conference is scheduled for Saturday June 12 from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm. The schedule of activities is as follows:

9-10:30 Presentation of student papers/research/programs. Local collegiate chapters may select proposals from among their membership and then forward the proposals to me by April 30. Proposals will be reviewed by a panel and presenters will be contacted by May 10. No more than four proposals will be selected for the conference. It is recommended that presentations not exceed twenty minutes.

10:45-noon Teaching Master Class. Students will work in pairs for an exercise in playing the roles of teacher and of student. The lessons will be critiqued by a guest commentator. Those interested in participating should contact me by April 30.

12-12:45 Collegiate Chapters Forum – Chapter reports and discussion of various topics of interest.

1:00 Lunch – a "buy-your-own" for 2009-2010 chapter presidents and advisors; of course, everyone is invited to join in!

I look forward to seeing you in Arlington!

**Denise Parr-Scanlin**  
Texas Collegiate Chapters Chair  
[dparr@wtamu.edu](mailto:dparr@wtamu.edu)  
806-651-2852

## Calling All Delegates

**Heather Rathnau, NCTM**

This year Associations will not be required to submit names of delegates, but delegates need to be chosen.

Please don't forget to elect delegates for the TMTA Convention in June. The delegate meeting is Sunday evening, June 13th. This year the New Faculty and Commissioned Composer recitals have been moved to earlier in the Convention. There will be a short General Session to finish up business followed by the Delegate Assembly, which will consist of breakout sessions for Associations to share ideas. The plan is to make it informative and fun!! It will be here before you know it. Hope to see you there!

Each level corresponds with a school grade level, and compliments the World of Music program. It also offers additional topics besides those in World of Music. There are several topics for each level, with several activities involving websites listed under each topic. Each level is designed as one page, which may be printed. Students may check off the activities as they complete them. There are signature lines for both the student and an adult approved by the teacher. It is recommended that students have adult supervision while on the internet.

TMTA is not offering awards for this program, but teachers may provide any studio incentives they desire. Teachers need to notify Dorothy Kirkpatrick, NCTM if sites are no longer available, or if they have new sites to recommend. Please email her at [dkpianostudio@sbcbglobal.net](mailto:dkpianostudio@sbcbglobal.net).

## TMTA Online Music Appreciation

**Dorothy Kirkpatrick, NCTM**

Want to see Prokofiev introducing his concept of *Peter and the Wolf* to Walt Disney? Or a Complete History of Opera presented in ten minutes?

A new 12-Level Music Appreciation program is available at [http://www.tmta.org/students/music\\_appreciation.php](http://www.tmta.org/students/music_appreciation.php). This program was developed by volunteers, and is offered at no cost. We plan to have a preview display set up at the Convention in the "Play Area" for students and parents to preview.

Each level corresponds with a school grade level, and compliments the World of Music program. It also offers additional topics besides those in World of Music. There are several topics for each level, with several activities involving websites listed under each topic. Each level is designed as one page, which may be printed. Students may check off the activities as they complete them. There are signature lines for both the student and an adult approved by the teacher. It is recommended that students have adult supervision while on the internet.

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