



Newsletter of the Peoria Area Music Teachers Association March 2012

Editor: Liz Reed

Website: pamta.org

2011-2012 Officers: **President** – Polly Steward-Sharp, **Past President** – Rebecca Gnagey, **First Vice President** (Programs) – Kay Landerdahl, **Second Vice President** (Membership) – Brenda Conroy, **Secretary** – Liz Reed, **Treasurer** – Karen Thompson

Monday, March 26, 2012
First Christian Church
6400 N. University, Peoria
10:00 a.m. Meeting

BUILDING A FIRM FOUNDATION

Developing Winning Technical Skills

Brenda Conroy will lead a presentation and discussion on this important subject.

UPCOMING PAMTA EVENTS

ELECTION OF OFFICERS – A slate of officers will be presented for election at the April meeting for the 2012-2013 year. Officers who have another year on their term are: Brenda Conroy, 2nd Vice-President (Membership Chair) and Karen Thompson – Treasurer. Liz Reed has agreed to be on the slate for Secretary. We still have a need for a member to be on the slate for President and one to be on the slate for 1st Vice-President (Program Chair). Please let Polly Sharp know if you would be willing to serve in either one of these positions. The terms are for two years.

HONORS RECITAL – This recital will be held at 3:00 p.m. on Sunday, April 22nd at First Christian Church. Please see either your PAMTA handbook or the PAMTA website for the requirements for this recital. Deadline for entrants is Sunday, April 8th. Reminder: There is a \$5.00 fee per entrant. If you have any questions, please contact Rebecca Gebbink, Recital Chair.

SONATA/SONATINA FESTIVAL – Yes, it is not too soon to be thinking about this. It will be held early in 2013, probably in February. We are looking for a chair or co-chair persons for this event just as soon as possible. Please let Polly Sharp know if you could help PAMTA out this way.

MAY LUNCHEON – Our May 21st meeting will be a luncheon at Weaver Ridge at 11:00 a.m. We will have a room to ourselves and will be ordering off the menu. Think about bringing a guest. Let Kay Landerdahl know if you will be attending.

SENIOR RECITAL

Jared Rixstine, student of *Myrna Beitz*, and a resident of Washington, Illinois, will present his senior recital on April 21st at 6:00 p.m. in the Lecture Recital Hall at ICC. Jared has won both the junior and senior high scholarships from PAMTA and also won the Bradley University competition last November. His program will include music by Bach, Beethoven, Chopin, Gershwin, and Debussy. Jared plans on being a piano performance major at a college still to be decided.

Rebecca Gebbink sends greetings from Abu Dhabi, UAE where she is visiting her daughter and her family. Becky would like to call your attention to the **THIRD ANNUAL GRADE SCHOOL PIANO COMPETITION sponsored by Schertz's MusiCenter & Bradley University**. You have probably received a mailing from them. Please think about entering students in this. It is for 1st through 8th graders in the Peoria area (this includes outlying communities such as Morton, Washington, Chillicothe, etc.) There will be two winners from each grade who will have the opportunity to perform in a Winners Recital that day – Saturday, June 2nd. To enroll, go to www.pamta.org and click on "Parents and Teachers."

Liz Reed would like to invite you to see *Big River* at Peoria Players Theatre. It opened last weekend and runs again this Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday at 2:00 p.m. Liz has a brief vocal solo in the show as she portrays Miss Watson, the sister of the Widow Douglas. The plot of the show is Mark Twain's Huck Finn story. Liz also has roles as a townsperson and a mourner. The delightful and beautiful music is by Roger Miller.

Monster Concert 2012 Final Report

Susan Twitty reports: The concert went well overall. The usual last minute issues were simply taken care of on the spot. We always expect the unexpected. Future chairmen would do well to keep this in mind.

Most students were prepared. Some comments to me were to consider the audition process - others felt that two rehearsals, plus the mandatory dress rehearsal would be fine.

MusiCenter provided the instruments for the concert - 12 Kawai digital pianos. Many teachers suggested we return to acoustic pianos, instead of digital.

PAMTA volunteers were wonderful! We had plenty of help.

The last 2 concerts were held at Five Points Washington which is a lovely but expensive venue. Brian Garnant from Five Points suggested that we consider managing our own ticket sales, as that would save us several hundred dollars. Some thought can be put into that idea.

Co-chair, Karen Thompson has already reported on our ticket sales, which were down quite a bit. I suggest that PAMTA look at the Monster Concert overall and consider fresh ideas from some of our newer membership.

Should the event take place in 2 years, Co-chairmen should be chosen very soon. The executive board has received a concert report at the January executive board meeting.

Thank you for being such a help in this "monstrous" undertaking.