

A Bit of History

In January 1967, Loren Withers received a phone call from Frances Dunnagan (Brewer) proposing a meeting with Dorothy Fearing and Genevieve Best to discuss the possibility of beginning an organization for Durham piano teachers.

On January 24, 1967, the organizational meeting was held at Temple Baptist Church, with 35 teachers present. The first program was "Meeting the Common Problems of Piano Teachers," led by Clemens Sandresky, then NCMTA President, and Loren Withers of Duke University. Officers elected were: Frances Dunnagan (Brewer), President; Isabel Samfield, Vice-President; Dorothy Fearing, Corresponding Secretary; and Genevieve Best, Treasurer.

The organization was dedicated to the following purposes:

- to meet specific needs of teachers
- to raise teaching standards
- to stimulate interest in good music
- to aid student achievement
- to provide educational and inspirational programs
- to set up a strong code of ethics
- to dignify our profession in the community

In addition to meeting these goals, DMTA has expanded its programs throughout the years. In keeping with our philosophy of education and musical performance, DMTA has been involved in many student and teacher performances throughout the community.

Hjordis Tourian and Susan Kosempa started a junior club, which evolved into our student recitals. In 1970 the DMTA held its first performance festival, with Dorothy Kitchen as the inaugural chairperson. We now have about 500 students who perform each spring. Monetary awards for the festival come from funds raised at our Playathons and recitals and from private donations.

THOUGH DMTA WAS STARTED BY PIANO TEACHERS, TODAY WE ARE AN ORGANIZATION FOR ALL MUSIC TEACHERS.

Membership Profile

Please refer students seeking a teacher to the Membership Chairperson. All DMTA members seeking new students should fill out a membership profile, which follows on the next page or can be found at the DMTA website at <http://durhammusicteachers.org/membership-profile> . Send the completed profile to the Membership Chairperson.

DMTA Officers 2017-18

Elected Officers

President	Catherine Alderman	(919) 943-2567	president@durhamteachers.org
1 st Vice President Programs	Mila Karamushka	(919) 824-5610	programs@durhammusicteachers.org
2 nd Vice President Membership	Beth Robbins	(919) 624-2262	membership@durhammusicteachers.org
3 rd Vice President Publicity/Community Liaison	Jeanetta Hopkins	(813) 428-2811	newsletter@durhammusicteachers.org
Secretary	Debbie Menard	(919) 471-1886	secretary@durhammusicteachers.org
Treasurer	Robyn Snyder	(919) 383-4280	treasurer@durhammusicteachers.org
Scholarship	Frank Pittman	(919) 280-9198	scholarship@durhammusicteachers.org
Performance Festival	Jan Perry	(919) 475-3654	festival@durhammusicteachers.org
Members at Large	Ruth Selversen	(919) 381-4082	psalvesen557@aol.com

Appointed Positions

Handbook Editor	Keely Phillips-Carter	(229) 563-2466	keely@keelyphillips-carterstudio.com
Web Editor Historian	Jenn Hancock	(919) 309-9834	jenn@hancockpianostudios.com

DMTA Handbook
Teacher Information

Charles F. T. Nakarai	Meg O'Brien &	(919) 434-3213	nakarai@durhammusicteachers.org
Piano Competition (Loren Withers)	Tanya Smirnov	(919) 933-5757	mobrianpiano@gmail.com
MasterClasses: Piano	Deb Hollis		tanya_piano@yahoo.com
Voice	Sharon Szymanski		dlhollis@earthlink.net
Strings	OPEN		sszymanski@chsmanc.com
Harpsichord	Jenn Hancock	(919) 309-9834	jenn@hancockpianostudios.com
Student Recitals	Deborah Hollis	(919) 698-6566	recitals@durhammusicteachers.org
Adult Recital Program	Robin Snyder	(919) 383-4280	robingsnyder@gmail.com
Playathons	Jan Perry	(919) 475-3654	playathon@durhammusicteachers.com
	Debbie Menard	(919) 471-1886	

Harpsichord

The DMTA harpsichord is currently housed at the Triangle Music Studio in Studio D and is available for recitals and teaching programs upon request. To book access to the harpsichord, please contact Jenn Hancock at jenn@hancockpianostudios.com. The harpsichord was originally donated to the DMTA by Loren Withers. The harpsichord was painted by Susan Lawes of Heirlooms and completely renovated by John Santoianni. This project was funded by combining the following resources: a grant from the Mary Duke Biddle Foundation, The Charles F.T. Nakarai Memorial Fund, The Herb Posner Memorial Donation, The Charles F. T. Nakarai Piano Competition Fund, The Withers Fund and a donation from the DMTA General Fund. A great deal of credit goes to Linda Thurmond Smith who made the initial grant request and has been a liaison throughout this entire project.

Clavier Companion

Clavier Companion magazine is published by The Frances Clark Center for Keyboard Pedagogy and is a "practical magazine on early-level piano study." Group subscriptions are available at a lower rate of \$20 per year and begin in January. Please contact Jan Perry at (919) 475-3654 or janspiano@frontier.com to subscribe.

Frances D. Brewer Lending Library Monthly Newsletter

The library is housed at Triangle Music School, 4815 Hillsborough Road Durham NC 27705. Many piano method books, classical repertoire, textbooks. Hours are Wednesday 8:30am to 1:00pm or by appointment. Other hours by appointment, please contact Jennifer Hancock at jenn@hancockpianostudios.com to set up a time, or confirm the usual hours. You may also call the school, 919-309-9834.

Members receive a monthly newsletter which contains information on upcoming events and member. Newsletter position is open.

Newsletter Deadlines: All articles and updates should be submitted to the newsletter editor in a ready-to-publish form. Deadline for submissions is the first of each month.

Website

The DMTA has a web site. Simply go to durhammusicteachers.org and you will find us there. There is no need to log in. Our Calendar of Events will be easy to view and the current DMTA Handbook easy to access.

Susan Kosempa Teacher Enrichment Grant

Thanks to the generosity of her family, the DMTA is pleased to announce the Susan Kosempa Teacher Enrichment Grant. This grant is for independent music teachers who are DMTA members to use toward tuition, registration, travel, and other expenses towards a music project. These projects may include NCMTA workshop classes, NCMTA conference, MTNA convention, private lessons, and other continuing education opportunities. Teachers who receive a grant will give a report or program to the membership about their experience.

Each \$125 grant will be made available in the Fall, and another in the Spring. Applicants must fill out the application by the deadline and the committee will award one applicant each semester. Financial need does not need to be demonstrated in order to receive this grant.

APPLICATION DETAILS: Deadlines: Fall grant due 7/1, Spring/Summer due 2/15. Application is available on the DMTA Website. Please direct any questions to Jan Perry (janspiano@frontier.com) or Jenn Hancock (jenn@hancockpianostudios.com).

Meetings & Programs

Monthly teacher programs in the past usually took place the 3rd Tuesday of the month. In an effort to increase participation, DMTA will be having these meetings at different times and in different places. Information about the programs will be published in the monthly newsletters.