



BCMTA Newsletter

Broward County Music Teachers Association

Member of MTNA & FSMTA

October 2013

www.bcmta.org

President's Message

Greetings!

A new season is well underway as we await the first breath of cool air from the north. Calendars are filling up with opportunities to inspire our teaching and give us a new perspective in our ever-changing profession. How fortunate we are to have chosen a field that can never be the least bit boring! There is always a new idea or a new way of communicating an existing one just around the corner for discovery. I hope you all are planning to attend both the **District VI Mini-Conference** on October 19th and the **FSMTA Conference** coming up Nov. 6-9 in Jacksonville for a fresh dose of inspiration! (Read on for details)

A good time was had by all at our annual BCMTA Open House which took place on September 8, 2013 at the beautiful Herb Skolnick Center. Your newly elected Vice President of Programs, **Barbara Muze**, did a wonderful job planning an inspiring afternoon to kick off the new season.

We began by introducing your new Executive Board and thanking outgoing officers **Dr. Jennifer Donelson** and **Dr. Irena Kofman** for their exemplary service. A beautiful program of amazing performances by competition winning students followed:

Untainted, Matthew Weisfeld

Matthew Weisfeld, piano

Composition Competition Entrant
Student of Barbara Muze

Nocture in Eb Major Op. 9 No. 2, F. Chopin

James Zhu, piano

Winner of BCMTA Intermediate A Piano Competition
Student of Roxanne Stevenson

Prelude from English Suite No. 2, J.S. Bach

Jonathan Reichenberger, piano

Winner of BCMTA Intermediate B Piano Competition
Student of Maria Gomez

Prelude in Bb Op. 23 No. 2, Rachmaninoff

Diego Villacrez, piano

Winner of BCMTA High School Competition
Student of Edith Sorin

Thank you to those students who performed and to their teachers for nurturing such extraordinary talent.

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. . . .President's message continued

During our BCMTA Member Recognition segment of the program, **Karola and Uwe Zehme** were toasted for celebrating their 50th Wedding Anniversary. Two of our members, **Mary Beth Purchase and Annamarie Cockreham**, were recognized for their work and commitment at the state level. **Edith Sorin and Roxanne Stevenson** were recognized for their special teacher/student relationship and longstanding commitment to excellence in teaching.

Judith Burganger was recognized as a retiring Professor Emerita from Florida Atlantic University where she has been a faculty member and esteemed Artist In Residence since 1980. Judith was also thanked for the many Pedagogy Workshops that she held which included an open invitation to all BCMTA members and their students. Judith will continue to maintain her home studio.

Susanna LaJoie was honored for her retirement from 55 years of teaching. (Please see the article featuring Susanna LaJoie.) Both Susanna and Judith received standing ovations and a beautiful rose bouquet.

The next item on the agenda was to introduce our Committee Chairs and announce an opening for Competition Chair. Since then, **Maria Gomez and Jennifer Baeck** have stepped up to fill this position. Thank you ladies! And, thank you to all Committee and Executive Board members for your willingness to serve. We stand united in our mission to further the cause of excellence in music education.

Our new Vice President of Membership, **Maria Gomez**, did a beautiful job introducing six new members to BCMTA, **Jamila Sahar, Dr. Jennifer Baeck, Lehins Aragon, Nick Raspa, Ariel J. Ramos, Loni White** and welcoming them with gifts. As each new member spoke briefly of their background, it was clear that we are blessed to have such an accomplished group of talented men and women join us. Welcome again to all of you! We look forward to all you will bring to BCMTA.

After a prayer of gratitude, we adjourned to enjoy a time of fellowship and a feast of foods beautifully prepared by each member in attendance. Many thanks to the Herb Skolnick Center staff and the City of Pompano Beach for sponsoring our event in such a beautiful venue.

I hope to see you all on October 19th! Don't miss it! Please register right away if you haven't done so already. Have a great year!

Enthusiastically yours,

Sheri Garlock



FSMTA District VI Enrichment Day 2013

A one-day mini conference featuring
musicians and clinicians who are

"Treasures from the Gold Coast"

GOOD NEWS EVERYONE - the deadline to register has been
extended to tomorrow Monday, October 14!!!

Get your check for \$10 in the mail TODAY.

Where else can you get lunch AND a great conference
for only TEN BUCKS?!?

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2013

St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church
1400 Riverside Drive, Coral Springs, FL 33071
9:00 Registration & Continental Breakfast
9:30 - 4:30 Mini Conference
(see schedule on next page)

Plus

****7:30 pm - Concert by Cellist Jonah Kim with Tao Lin, piano**

CONFERENCE COST: ONLY \$10 per Teacher

FYI - conference is open to the General Public, please invite your friends
\$5 per Student

(conference, lunch & continental breakfast included)

Registration Deadline: ~~October 12~~ OCTOBER 14

(Walk-ins will be accepted. The fee will still be \$10 but
lunch will NOT be included with Walk-in registration.)

Please print this page and fill out the registration form below. Detach bottom portion
and mail along with **check made payable to FSMTA District VI** to:
Rhonda Danielson - 8300 159th Court N., Palm Beach Gardens, FL 33418

Name: _____ e-mail: _____

Registration fee(s) _____ @ \$10 + _____ Student(s) @ \$5 = total of \$ _____

Jonah Kim Concert tickets _____ @ \$15 = total of _____

Total amount enclosed = _____

A light, deli-style lunch will be offered. Gluten free and vegetarian options
will be available.

FSMTA District VI Enrichment Day 2013

*A one-day mini conference featuring
musicians and clinicians who are*

“Treasures from the Gold Coast”

MORNING SESSION

- 9:00 am Conference Registration & Continental Breakfast
- 9:30 - 10:15 Teaching Students to Read From a Chord Chart/Lead Sheet
Presenter - Sheri Garlock
- 10:30 - 11:15 Student Day - Made Simple to Understand
Presenter - Sue Colvert
- 11:30 - 12:15 The Harp and its Relation to the Piano - Lecture/Performance
Presenter - Anne Akerson

LUNCH

12:15 - 1:15

A light catered fare of salad and sandwiches

AFTERNOON SESSION

- 1:15 - 2:15 Master Class
Presenter - Giselle Brodsky
- 2:30 - 3:30 Panel on Preparing Students for Performance and
Competitions -Donald Waxman, Moderator. Panel members:
Maria Gomez, Marilyn Mims, Catherine Gavin, William Noll
- 3:45 - 4:30 Lecture/Demonstration/Performance - Maestro William Noll
“The Musical Pedagogy of *Rhapsody in Blue*”

~~~~~

**\*\*ADDED BONUS:** Cellist Jonah Kim (featured artist at the 2012 FSMTA Fall Conference) will be performing a concert at St. Mary Magdalene Church in the evening at 7:30 pm.

*Friends of Music is offering specially priced \$15 tickets for FSMTA teachers.  
Grab dinner with a friend after the conference & join us for the concert*

- 7:30                Friends of Music Concert featuring cellist, Jonah Kim with  
Tao Lin, piano



## *2013 FSMTA Annual Conference*

Jacksonville, FL

~ November 6-9, 2013 ~

Omni Hotel

*"I will make room for the restorative (and healing power) of music in my life today" ~*  
Auerbach

EVERYTHING you need to know, including schedule, registration and hotel information  
can be found on the FSMTA website: <http://www.fmta.org/conference.asp>

## *Schedule your students NOW for* **Musiethon**

**January 17, 18, 19, 2014**

BCMTA's Only Annual Fund Raiser that supports All Student Activities and  
Operations of the organization.

Time is available on a first-come-first-served basis.

Please consider studio size of participation and time slots available.

If you have a small studio, pair up with colleagues to have your students play duets  
together as well as solos to fill 30 minutes!

15, 30, 45, and 60 minute time slots are available.

Friday: All Times are FILLED

Saturday: 11:00 am - 7:30 pm

Sunday: 12:00 - 5:30 pm

Contact: Annamarie Cockreham via email [ascjc@bellsouth.net](mailto:ascjc@bellsouth.net)

Please request two or three options for your studio time.

The first available time will be given.





*It's a New Day . . .*

## *Student Day!*

Thank you for your patience as we are in the process of reorganizing our system for Student Day. We are making progress one step at a time. Many thanks to our Student Day Committee for their hard work!

Please carefully follow the instructions on the Student Day Teacher Information form.

**Please also note the postmark deadline is October 18, 2013.**

**This Teacher Instruction form along with the new Student Registration form are located on [www.bcmta.org](http://www.bcmta.org) /Calendar & Events /Student Day. In addition, we've provided an interactive link to an FSMTA Tally form that will be useful for keeping record of your student's evaluation scores. You may type directly onto this form and save it and/or print it for your records.**

**IMPORTANT: PLEASE MAKE SURE YOU HAVE RENEWED YOUR MEMBERSHIP DUES BY OCTOBER 18 IN ORDER FOR YOUR STUDENTS TO PARTICIPATE IN STUDENT DAY.**

PLEASE NOTE: When navigating to the NEW BCMTA website, be sure to type [www.bcmta.org](http://www.bcmta.org) into your browser and click on the website directly. (Shortcuts listed below the website will sometimes take you to the old website. We are in the process of correcting this issue.) To access the calendar, click directly on the Calendar & Events tab at the top. To access Student Day, see the drop down menu on the Calendar & Events tab.

Best of luck as you prepare your students for a successful Student Day experience!

**[CLICK HERE for Student Day Details on the BCMTA website](#)**

# *An Interview with Susanna LaJoie*

by Sheri Garlock

When I heard that Susanna LaJoie was retiring from piano teaching and offering her extensive music library for sale even as she just celebrated her 80th birthday, I thought it appropriate to celebrate her career. After all, independent music teachers do not receive "gold watches" or "company severance packages" upon retirement. However, we can certainly be honored by our fellow colleagues. As Susanna closes one door and opens another in her life focusing on her wonderful family which includes several grandchildren and a great-grandchild, we will honor her lifelong commitment to music education.

Susanna was born in Durham, North Carolina in 1933. Her mother was a piano teacher and her father was a clergyman. Both parents encouraged her to play the piano beginning at the age of 3 1/2. Susanna continued to study with her Mom until she reached school age. After high school, Susanna went on to major in music at the University of NC at Greensboro receiving her Bachelor's degree in piano performance. She feels her most useful experience in college was her extremely demanding piano pedagogy class taught by Mrs. Atkisson who had also taught Susanna's mother. This teacher required that students go through hundreds of teaching pieces and books to evaluate the specific goals that could be reached by the study of each piece. Practice teaching was also required with many one-on-one experiences.

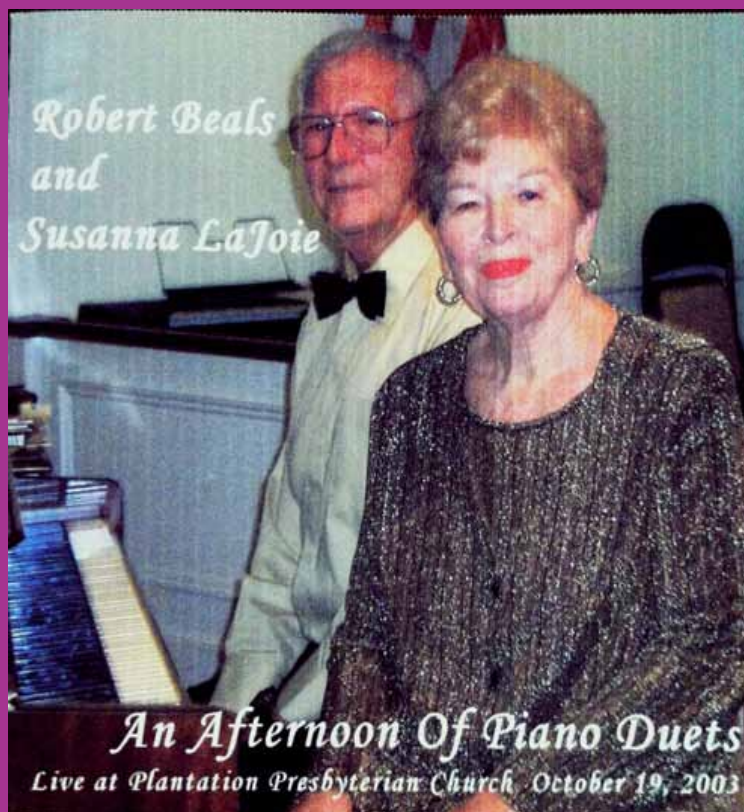
After graduation from college, Susanna taught privately in Greensboro and did advanced work studying the organ. In 1955, Susanna met and married Leo LaJoie who was an accountant by profession but also played clarinet and saxophone as a professional jazz musician. Susanna and Leo moved to Florida in 1955 to make South Florida their home. Susanna began her South Florida career by teaching kindergarten music. After her two daughters, Lisa and Debra, and a son, Richard, were in school, she opened her home piano studio. Susanna joined BCMTA near the beginning of its establishment in 1968 and served as President for two years. She is also a long standing member in the National Federation of Music Clubs, the National Guild of Piano Teachers, and the American Guild of Organists. Susanna has enjoyed serving as an certified adjudicator for local and state Federation Junior Festivals.

## **What is your philosophy for teaching?**

I feel that my purpose was to instill a lifelong of music in each student by their exposure to music of the great masters.

## **Did you continue to perform during your years of teaching?**

Yes. I enjoyed performing Piano duet music with Diane Garvin, Sue Colvert, and most recently Bob Beals. Bob and I incorporated video scenes along with our performances of such great works as "Carnival of the Animals" Pictures of War by Alfredo Casella. Other performances included works by Saint-Saens, the Sonata by Poulenc, the Brahms "Hungarian Dances" culminating in the recording of two CDs in collaboration with Robert Beals.



# An Interview with Susanna LaJoie

... continued

## **You played the organ along with the piano?**

Yes, I have enjoyed playing the organ in several churches throughout the years ending my organ career in the Trinity Methodist church in Lighthouse Pointe.

## **Where have you taught?**

In addition to my home studios in Plantation and Sunrise, I taught at Broward Community College as an adjunct piano teacher for 29 years.

## **Did you teach specific age groups?**

I've taught all ages from age 6 through adulthood and some of my most enjoyable students have been adult students. The adults I've worked wanted to learn and it gave me great pleasure to see them progress.

## **What advice would you give to young teachers?**

Don't allow people to take advantage of your time by treating you as the "baby-sitter." Establish your boundaries from the beginning and have a written policy that is adhered to.

Susanna feels very blessed to have enjoyed her fulfilling career for 55 years and will cherish the memories of her students always.



Susanna LaJoie at the 2013 BCMTA Open House

## New BCMTA Committee Members

Special thanks to the following members for stepping up to the plate and volunteering to serve on these important committees.

BCMTA's success depends on the selfless contribution of so many of its members. Thank you for helping to guide us to glory!

### **STUDENT DAY COMMITTEE**

Chair- Mary Beth Purchase  
Sheri Garlock  
Dianne Garvin  
Sandra Greenland  
Maria Gomez  
Jamie Fenton

### **BUDGET COMMITTEE (new)**

Marie Budinsky-Maher  
Annamarie Cockreham  
Maria Gomez

### **COMPETITION COMMITTEE**

Maria Gomez  
Jorge Herrero  
Dianne Garvin  
Irena Kofman

*Thank You*



# CHOPIN

FOUNDATION

OF THE UNITED STATES

## REMINDERS:

- 1) *Chopin for All* FREE Concerts start on November 2 at the Broward County Main Library. The first concert features Corbin Beisner, an exceptional young American pianist in a program of Chopin & Liszt. These FREE Concerts are a great way to introduce students to live performances.
- 2) Teacher recommendations for students to participate in the April *Chopin for All* concert are due by January 31, 2014. Please visit the website [www.chopin.org](http://www.chopin.org), e-mail the Foundation at [info@chopin.org](mailto:info@chopin.org), or call them at 305-868-0624 for more details.

## PLEASE NOTE

The deadline for the District VI Concerto Competition is

**December 31, 2013**

Applications must be postmarked prior to or by this date.

**No postmarks of 2014 will be accepted.**

The competition will be held at Palm Beach Atlantic University on

**February 1, 2014**

**Application and information are on-line at  
[www.fmta.org](http://www.fmta.org)**

# Welcome

Six new members were officially made members of the organization at the First General Meeting and Open House on September 8, 2013:

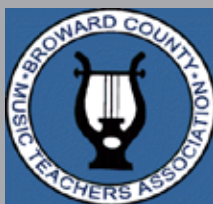
Jamila Sahar  
Dr. Jennifer Baeck  
Lehins Aragon  
Nick Raspa  
Ariel J. Ramos  
Loni White



Edith Sorin welcomes new member Jamila Sahar

New member:  
Jamila Sahar  
(joined by her husband) and  
Nick Raspa





## *Executive Board*

|                            |                      |
|----------------------------|----------------------|
| President                  | Sheri Garlock        |
| 1st VP, Programs           | Barbara Muze         |
| 2nd VP, Membership         | Maria Gomez          |
| 3rd VP, Student Activities | Mary Beth Purchase   |
| Treasurer                  | Marie Budinsky-Maher |
| Recording Secretary        | Jamie Fenton         |
| Corresponding Secretary    | Annamarie Cockreham  |
| Directors                  | Sue Colvert          |
|                            | Sandra Greenland     |
|                            | Wanda Wiranis        |
| Parliamentarian            | Dianne Garvin        |

## *Committee Chairs*

|                                                                          |                         |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Musicthon                                                                | Wanda Wiranis           |
|                                                                          | Annamarie Cockreham     |
| FSMTA Student Day                                                        | Sandra Greenland        |
|                                                                          | Maria Gomez             |
|                                                                          | Dianne Garvin           |
|                                                                          | Jamie Fenton            |
|                                                                          | Marybeth Purchase       |
|                                                                          | Sheri Garlock           |
| Scheduling                                                               | Dianne Garvin           |
|                                                                          | Peggy Gallagher         |
| Honors Recital                                                           | Matthew Johnson (N)     |
|                                                                          | Nancy Kenney (N)        |
|                                                                          | Annamarie Cockreham (S) |
|                                                                          | Larry Minsky (S)        |
| Photography                                                              | OPEN                    |
| Hospitality Chairman                                                     | Diana Heller            |
| E-mail Correspondence                                                    | Carolyn Morgan          |
| Summer Camp Scholarships                                                 | Peggy Gallagher         |
| Composition Chairman                                                     | Marie Budinsky-Maher    |
| Competitions Chairs                                                      | Maria Gomez             |
|                                                                          | Jennifer Baeck          |
| Referral Service                                                         | Diana Heller            |
| Audio & Video Librarian                                                  | Karola Zehme            |
| Greenspan & FSMTA President's<br>Community Service Award/<br>Scholarship | Joanna Greenspan        |
| Newsletter Editor/Publicity                                              | Barbara Muze            |
| Website Editor                                                           | Jamie Fenton            |
| Jazz, Pop, Rock Festival                                                 | Sheri Garlock           |

Please contact BCMTA President, Sheri Garlock if you would like to join the board or serve on a committee.

## *Memorial Scholarship Fund*

A scholarship fund has begun in the memory of our beloved members "as well as family and friends of members" who have passed away.

Once the Fund has reached the \$10,000, BCMTA will determine how to best disburse the interest toward endowed scholarships.

Please mail your tax deductible donations to BCMTA Treasurer, Marie Budinsky-Maher.

407 SE 28th Avenue  
Pompano Beach, FL 33062

**Checks are payable to BCMTA. Thank you.**

## *A 🎵 from the Newsletter Editor...*

Classified Ads, Business Cards, and Larger Ads are all welcome in the BCMTA Newsletter!

This publication reaches around 100 teachers and musicians by mailing list and is available online at [BCMTA.org](http://BCMTA.org).

Please contact Barbara Muze at [bmuze@bellsouth.net](mailto:bmuze@bellsouth.net) for additional information. Thank you!

### *Advertising Rates:*

BCMTA Member Prices  
(Non-members add \$10)

\$15 – Classified or  
Business Card  
\$20 – 1/4 Page  
\$25 – 1/2 Page  
\$30 – Full Page

• ALL ADS RUN FOR 3 ISSUES •

**PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO BCMTA AND  
MAIL TO:**

Marie Budinsky-Maher.  
407 SE 28th Avenue  
Pompano Beach, FL 33062

Teacher news, event information, directory updates, student news, & advertisements are all welcome! Not all important announcements may fit the newsletter schedule. If you have something that needs to promptly reach BCMTA members, please e-mail Sheri Garlock ([missheri@comcast.net](mailto:missheri@comcast.net)). Announcements will then be distributed by E-mail Correspondent, Carolyn Morgan.



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- November 15, 2013
  - February 15, 2014
  - March 15, 2014
  - April 11, 2014
  - April 12, 2014
- or by appointment

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