Frederick County Music Teachers Association

2026-2027 Handbook

Table of Contents

Membership Directory	*1*
Officers and Committees	*2*
Monthly Meeting Schedule	*3 - 4*
Student Events	*5*
FCMTA Halloween Recitals	*6*
FCMTA Holiday Cafe	*7*
MSMTA Keyboard Musicianship Testing	*8*
FCMTA Senior Living Recitals	*9*
FCMTA Ensemble Festival	*10*
FCMTA Sonatina/Sonata Festival	*11*
MSMTA Music Theory Testing Program	*12*
FCMTA Spring Teacher Recitals	*13*
Performance Award Program	*14*
Bylaws	*15 - 18*
Past Presidents List	*19*

The FCMTA website can be located by visiting www.fcmta.info or www.msmta.org and clicking on the link for Local Associations. All information and forms for entering events will be available from these websites.

2026-2027 FCMTA Membership Directory

Laurel Carroll (piano, theory)
2738 Flintridge Drive
Myersville, MD 21773
571-336-5936
laurelnotes@gmail.com

Peggy Chung (piano, theory)
Urbana, MD 21704
703-909-1693
peggy.pianostudio@gmail.com

James DeWire (piano, history)
6821 Larkspur Square
Frederick, MD 21703
717-448-5691
jaydewire@gmail.com

Peggy Flickinger (piano,voice)
9190 Trammels Alley
Libertytown, MD 21762
301-676-1590
pflickinger6716@gmail.com

Carol Havelka (violin, viola, Early Childhood Music)
5001 Reels Mill Road
Frederick, MD 21704—7318
carol.havelka@gmail.com

Nick IntVeldt (piano)
20612 Beaver Creek Rd.
Hagerstown MD 21740
301-302-7520
n.intveldt@myactv.net

Alberta K. Issaq (piano)
8103 Clearfield Road
Frederick, MD 21702
301-694-8779
middlec@comcast.net

Hai Jin (piano)
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Gaithersburg, MD 20878
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Wendy Johnston (piano, Organ)
3105 Spring House Court
Woodbine, MD 21797
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Sheila Jones (piano)
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Adamstown, MD 21710
301-874-6384
sheila_rose@msn.com

David Loy (piano, voice, organ)
600 Knights Bridge Dr
Hagerstown, MD 21740
(301) 791-7730 (home)
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wloy313221@aol.com

Melissa Mackley (piano)
16614 Buford Dr.
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Christel Meyerle (piano, voice)
9339 Bishopgate Dr.
Frederick, MD 21704
301-874-2851
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Gary L. Mullenax NCTM
18 Shady Lane
Martinsburg, WV 25401-5277
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Christine Pappas (piano)
10 Holder Court
Boonsboro MD 21713
301-639-7439
pianolady322@hotmail.com

Kim Perseghin (piano, guitar, flute)
6621 Edgewood Rd
New Market, MD 21774
301-676-6809
kim@kimperseghin.com

Tatjana Podjaski-Desler (piano)
6960 Snead Court
Middletown, MD 21769
301-682-4992
Tpd28@comcast.net

Bobbie Rastall, NCTM (piano)
6777 Sunnybrook Drive
Frederick, MD 21702
301-378-2278
r.rastall@comcast.net

Kim Roberts (piano)
8204 Greenvale Drive
Frederick, MD 21702
301-662-0376
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Toni Serini (piano, chamber music)
712-1/2 N. Market St Frederick, MD 21701
410-553-5392
toniserini@gmail.com

Karen Skelly (piano)
1341 Wheatley Drive
Emmitsburg, MD 21727
301-606-2264
tali2lacey@comcast.net

Theresa Shykind (piano, composition, theory, jazz)
8749 Indian Springs Road
Frederick, MD 21702
301-631-1234
downtownpianoworks@gmail.com

Cindy Taylor (piano)
904 Twin Oak Court
Frederick, MD 21701
musicwithcindy@gmail.com

Susan A. Ward (piano, woodwinds)
5916 Broad Run Road
Jefferson, MD 21755
301-964-0900
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Miyako Zeng (piano)
7370 Hilltop Dr
Frederick MD 21702
301-846-4738
miyakoz@hotmail.com

2026-2027 Officers and Committees

Elected Officers:

President:	*Karen Skelly*
Vice President:	*Christine Pappas*
Secretary:	*Sheila Jones*
Treasurer:	*Cindy Taylor*

Committee Chairpersons:

Halloween Recital:	*Toni Serini, Carol Havelka*
Holiday Community Outreach:	*Tatjana Podjaski-Desler*
MSMTA Keyboard Musicianship Testing:	*Laurel Carroll, Kim Roberts*
Sonatina/Sonata Festival:	*Tatjana Podjaski-Desler, Christine Pappas*
MSMTA Music Theory Testing:	*Karen Skelly*
Senior Center Recitals	*David Loy*
Ensemble Festival:	*Karen Skelly, Laurel Carroll*
Spring Teacher Recitals	
Spring Teacher Duets Day	*Toni Serini*
Nominating Committee:	*TBD/January 2027*
Librarian:	*Nick IntVeldt*
Historian:	*open*
MSMTA Newsletter:	*Karen Skelly*
FCMTA Handbook:	*Karen Skelly*
Webmaster:	*Nick IntVeldt*
Performance Medal:	*Nick IntVeldt*
Advertisement/Membership:	*Tatjana Podjaski-Desler*

FCMTA Monthly Meeting Schedule 2026-2027

Sept. 8: ***Business Meeting****: 10:00 AM, Trust Meeting Room, C. Burr Artz Library, Frederick*

Oct. 13: ***Music Ornamentation, Jay DeWire*** *10:00 Middletown Methodist Church, 7108 Fern Court, Middletown. Come learn about Music Ornamentation as it applies to the categories of Baroque ornaments and talk about ornaments and rhythm. Then we'll look at one or two examples of pieces where we have evidence of how a composer embellished the written score.*

Nov. 10: ***Internet Cafe, Revisited, Bobbie Rastall****. 10:00 Location: TBD.*
Let's cruise the internet once again! Bring your iPads or laptops to do your surfing. Bobbie has a list of sites that might be of interest. Music Theory is not the only thing available. We'll look at teaching Music History and lead sheets too. We will also look at a few music handling apps so you can use your iPad to store your digital music and perform from. Bobbie will have her page turning pedal so teachers can take a look. Bring your own suggestions and favorites!

Dec. 8: ***Holiday Gathering*** ***host ~ Tatjana Podjaski-Desler,*** *10:00 - 12:00.*
Location: 6960 Snead Court, Middletown. Come gather for holiday singing and sweet treats! Bring cookies or other sweet treats to share and your holiday music. .

Jan. 12: ***Business Meeting*** *10:00. Location: TBD*

Feb. 9: ***Unwinding the Upper Body: A Practical Approach to Tension Relief , Dr. Stacy Benner****.*
This practical workshop is designed specifically for performing artists who carry the weight of their craft in the neck, shoulders, jaw, and upper back. Participants will explore why tension accumulates in these areas, how posture, breath, and repetitive movement patterns contribute, and simple strategies to interrupt the cycle. Stacy blends clinical insight with accessible movement to help artists release strain and restore ease. The workshop concludes with a calming chair-based yoga practice to integrate the concepts and support long-term upper-body comfort.

Mar. 9: ***Jazz Piano Like a Pro, Quentin Walston.*** *10:00 Location TBD*
Quentin has a new book called "Jazz Piano Like a Pro" that is an intermediate repertoire book which aims to give students the stylistic nuances of different types of jazz. He'll play from the book and explain the subtle articulation and stylistic differences of jazz piano.

April 13: ***Beyond the Ink: From Lead Sheet to Masterpiece - the Prequel! Nick IntVeldt***

Location: 20612 Beaver Creek Road, Hagerstown. 10:00. Having focused in his last three presentations on Lead Sheet realization and improvisation (including teaching of the fundamentals as well as solo and duet experimentation), Nick now time warps to the actual beginning of the process: Composition of the Lead Sheet itself. This presentation will cover rudimentary composition techniques for students, resulting in Lead Sheets that can then be realized and improvised according to the methods described in his prior three seminars. Simple elements of musical form, melodic line, harmonization, and chord progression will be covered, which, when properly taught to students, should give them the basis for creation of a Lead Sheet. When then combined with techniques for improvisation, students should then be able to turn their composition into the Masterpiece we all want to hear. The presentation will begin with a quick review of the manner in which Nick teaches improvisation of Lead Sheets.

May 10: ***Business Meeting and Election of Officers****. Location: TBD*

June 8: ***Duets et al*** *10:00*

We plan to hold the duet gathering at UUCF again. Ample parking, no steps. This is an opportunity for us to gather, perform, and enjoy making music together. Duets ask us to reach out to another member, to get out of our cocoon and work together to bring a piece of music to life. It's an opportunity to get to know another member of FCMTA in a different setting. Piano duets, piano and violin, flute and oboe, whatever combination you can muster. It's also an opportunity to swap music, bring books you no longer use and swap for some music that's new to you. And of course, socialize!

Student Events 2026-2027

The hosting of student events will be in accordance with the Frederick County Health Department recommended guidelines, in accordance with the recommended Center for Disease Control (CDC) considerations, and venue requirements. These will be continually evaluated throughout the year and decisions will be made with the health and safety of students, families, and teachers as the priority.

October 24, 2026	***FCMTA Halloween Recitals*** *Recitals for students to perform Halloween-themed music*
December 6, 2026	***FCMTA Holiday Cafe*** *Community Outreach event, held at a local coffee shop in an "Open Mic" format for students to share music with the community.*
February 20, 2027	***MSMTA Keyboard Musicianship Testing*** *Maryland State keyboard musicianship testing program. See MSMTA.org.*
TBD	***FCMTA Sonatina/Sonata Festival*** *Festival for students to perform two pieces, one of which is a sonatina or sonata, in a formal recital setting and receive written comments and evaluation from an adjudicator.*
February 27, 2027	***MSMTA Music Theory Testing*** *Maryland State theory testing program. See MSMTA.org.*
TBD	***Recital at Buckingham's Choice Senior Living Center*** *Providing music to enrich local seniors' lives.*
April 18, 2027	***FCMTA Ensemble Festival (Sunday afternoon)*** *Festival for students to perform duets, trios, or any collaboration/combinations of instruments, voice, etc.*
TBD	***Teacher Studio Recitals*** *Individual studio or combined recitals under the FCMTA umbrella*

All teachers registering students must be available to help on day of event.

FCMTA Halloween Recital

***Chairpersons**: Toni Serini, Carol Havelka*

***Date:** October 24, 2026*

***Location:** Christ Reformed United Church of Christ*
12 South Church Street, Middletown, MD 21769

Time:** **1pm - 5pm

***Fee: $15.00 per student.** Teachers please write **one check** from your studio **(payable to FCMTA)** for the total fees, and send to Cindy Taylor, 904 Twin Oak Court, Frederick MD 21701 by **October 2, 2026**. Or send money by PayPal to fcmtatreasurer@gmail.com.*

***Registration:** Registration forms from parents are due to their child's teacher **September 25, 2026.** Registration forms can be found online at www.fcmta.info. Completed forms should be emailed to Carol at carol.havelka@gmail.com, no later than **October 2, 2026**.*

***Repertoire:** Halloween music, or music with a "spooky" sound.*

***Time Limit:** Total performance time should not exceed 4 minutes.*

The Halloween recital provides a relaxed, non-competitive performance opportunity for our students. Both solos and ensembles are welcome. Each student who participates will be given a certificate.

Note:** Students are encouraged to wear costumes! **No Glitter

- *Memorization for the Student Recitals is encouraged but not required.*
- *Teachers who enter students MUST be available to help on the day of the recital.*
- *Participants MUST remain for the entire recital section.*
- *No "flash" photography is allowed during student performances. Family members are welcome to videotape their student's performance, as long as it is done quietly and discretely.*

FCMTA Holiday Cafe

Chairperson: *Tatjana Podjaski-Desler*

Date: *December 6, 2026*

Location: *Beans and Dreams Coffee Shop, 203 East Main Street, Middletown, MD*

Time: *Recital times between 2 - 5 PM will be assigned two weeks ahead.*

Fee: *None*

Deadline: *Send an email no later than* ***November 21, 2026*** *to Tatjana Podjaski-Desler at tpd28@comcast.net including the name and age of student, level of pieces, title(s) and composer(s), timing of performance. Total of 1 - 5 minutes per performance.*

During this event at Beans and Dreams, a Middletown Coffee Shop, students of all ages and levels are welcome to perform festive music and holiday tunes while family and friends enjoy hot drinks, indulge in a variety of pastries and snacks ($), and hopefully have a relaxed and enjoyable afternoon.

This event is open to the public and are welcome to browse the connected "Trolley House Market," which offers a wide assortment of Christmas and holiday gifts and other items for purchase.

In this open mic style event, students perform on a baby grand as background music for the gathered crowd. There performing time will range from 1 - 5 minutes (depending on signups). The idea is that students experience the "entertaining" aspect of performing and therefore multiple songs in a row are encouraged.

There will be three one-hour programs, starting at 2PM, 3PM and 4PM. Holiday and festive repertoire is encouraged but not mandatory.

We especially invite intermediate and advanced level students to participate.

Teachers are very welcome to perform also.

MSMTA Keyboard Musicianship Testing

Co-Chairs: *Laurel Carroll and Kim Roberts*

Date: *February 20, 2027*

Location: *Christ Reformed United Church of Christ*
12 South Church Street, Middletown, MD 21769

Time: *Individual times assigned. TBA (assigned 3 weeks in advance)*

Fee: *$15.00 per student per level*

Deadlines: ***Online registration*** *and fee due by* **January 10, 2027.**
(Go to msmta.org; click on "Activities Calendar." Scroll down to Keyboard Musician ship Exam (under "Exams" for information and online registration.)

Rules: *See Keyboard Musicianship Syllabus at www.msmta.org "Members Only "section. Ask Kim or Laurel any questions you have about this testing program.*

Description: The Keyboard Musicianship Program *is a comprehensive program designed to develop many musical skills. The categories (called modules) are:*

1) Scales – Chords - Arpeggios
2) Transposition
3) Sight Reading
4a) Harmonization
4b) Lead Sheet Realization
5) Improvisation

Each module has 12 levels which are clearly described in the syllabus. Accuracy, good fingering and are stressed in the technical module of Scales and Arpeggios. Transposing is one of the easiest modules, as all levels are prepared in advance. Sight Reading stresses rhythmic accuracy and continuity. Harmonizing requires correct chord placement and chord choices, in addition to reading skill. Lead Sheet Realization gives students the opportunity to read a lead sheet and improvise with the required style for each level. Creativity is important in Improvisation, which has a wide variety of choices.

The testing is done on an individual basis with clear guidelines set up for the judges. The Scales – Chords - Arpeggio Module is required and must progress to a higher level for each subsequent test. Students choose at least two other modules to take.

The syllabus provides teachers with a graded system of teaching the above topics. Taking the test provides students and teachers with a goal to work towards as well as the satisfaction of a goal well met. All students receive a certificate of participation for each level completed. Trophies are awarded for completing multiple levels.

FCMTA Senior Living Recital

Chairperson: *David Loy*

Date: TBD

Location: *Buckingham's Choice Senior Living Center*

Time: *afternoon*

Fee: TBD

Registration: Deadline is TBD, by email to wloy313221@aol.com

Repertoire: *Student/Teacher Choice*

Time Limit: *Total performance time should not exceed 4 minutes*

> *The Senior Living Recital provides a relaxed, non-competitive performance opportunity for our students to share their music with senior citizens in the Frederick area.*

Notes:

- *Memorization for the Student Recitals is encouraged but not required.*
- *Teachers who enter students MUST be available to help on the day of the recital.*
- *Participants MUST remain for the entire recital section.*
- *No "flash" photography is allowed during student performances. Family members are welcome to videotape their student's performance, as long as it is done quietly and discreetly.*

FCMTA Ensemble Festival

Co-Chairs: *Laurel Carroll and Karen Skelly*

Date: *April 18, 2027*

Location: *Christ Reformed United Church of Christ, 12 South Church Street, Middletown, MD*

Registration Deadline: ***March 28, 2027***

1. *Ensembles of any kind are welcome, if at least one performer is a student of a current FCMTA teacher. Parents, teachers, and friends are welcome to join the ensemble.*

2. *Each ensemble may perform up to two pieces if the performance does not exceed the following time limits:*

   Elementary Level: 3 minutes
   Intermediate Level: 4 minutes
   Advanced Level: 5 minutes

3. *No memorization is necessary. Arrangements or transcriptions are acceptable.*

4. *Students must bring the original printed music to use during the performance.* ***No photocopies are allowed.*** *Music printed from purchased CD files or electronically purchased is acceptable and will be treated as original music.*

5. *A* ***$15.00 fee*** *will be charged for each ensemble performance. A student performing different instruments in different ensembles must pay fees for each entry. All fees are nonrefundable.*

6. *Ensembles will be grouped in open recitals. Performers are required to stay for the entire recital. Family members and teachers are welcome and encouraged to attend these recitals.*

7. *All students should arrive 10 - 15 minutes before their scheduled recital time.*

8. *Teachers must* ***email their Master List*** *(on the fcmta.info website) to the chair, Laurel Carroll (laurelnotes@gmail.com)* ***no later than*** ***March 28, 2027****.*

9. ***Make payment via*** *PayPal to fcmtatreasurer@gmail.com. If you cannot use PayPal:* ***mail one check****, payable to* ***FCMTA,*** *for the* ***total amount due from all your students****, to: Cindy Taylor, 904 Twin Oak Court, Frederick MD 21701, no later than* ***March 28, 2027.****.*

10. All teachers entering students in the Festival must be willing and able to assist with the event.

FCMTA Sonatina/Sonata Festival

Chairpersons: *Tatjana Podjaski-Desler, Christine Pappas*

Date: *TBD*

Location: *Frederick Community College,7932 Opossumtown Pike, Frederick. Park in Lot 9.*

Time*: All day; individual times to be announced two weeks before the Festival.*

Fee: $20 per student*. Teachers must be a member of FCMTA. Teachers please write* ***one check*** *from your studio* ***(payable to FCMTA)*** *for the total fees, and send to Cindy Taylor, 904 Twin Oak Court, Frederick MD 21701, postmarked by* ***TBD.*** *Or send money by PayPal.com.*

Deadlines: *Registration forms must be submitted by email to Tatjana Podjaski-Desler at* tpd28@comcast.net

Description: *FCMTA will host its 18th Annual "Sonatina/Sonata Festival" this year. This is an opportunity for piano students to perform a selection from the vast repertoire of Sonatinas and Sonatas, as well as a contrasting piece. Students will be placed into groups of about 12 students, and will perform in a recital-like format, while a piano adjudicator evaluates their performance. All students will receive a written evaluation by the adjudicator and a certificate.*

Students must play ***one sonatina or sonata movement*** *and* ***one contrasting piece*** *of the teacher's choice. The contrasting piece must be in a* ***contrasting style*** *(the second piece may be from the same period, but it should contrast in style). The contrasting piece should be the same level of difficulty as the sonatina or sonata. (The teacher may choose to use any edition of the music, but the music must remain intact: no simplified or shortened versions will be acceptable.)*

The student's repertoire must not exceed 10 minutes, total, for levels up to the Advanced Level. Advanced Level time limit is 15 minutes. ***Memorization is preferred - students who use music will have points deducted for memorization but still may participate.*** *Each student is to have his/her copy of the original music ready to present to the judge. Students with photocopied music will be DISQUALIFIED from the event. Music produced from CD files, procured from public domain sources such as the Petrucci Music Library (imslp.org), or electronically purchased music is acceptable.*

Repeats are generally not to be taken in the sonata or sonatina movement, except for short repeats (8 - 16 measures), or for balance of the form. At the discretion of the teacher, repeats may be used in the contrasting piece if it serves to enhance the music. Both D.C. and D.S. should be taken as indicated. Keep time limits in mind when deciding about repeats.

All teachers registering students must be available to help with the festival.

MSMTA Music Theory Testing Program

Chairperson: *Karen Skelly*

Date: February 27, 2027 for Frederick center (varies by center) (usually mornings)

Fee: *$15.00 per student per level*

Deadline: ***Online Only registration*** *and fees to MSMTA by* ***January 16, 2027*** *for Frederick Center. Payment must be postmarked by* ***January 16, 2027****. (Go to* ***msmta.org****; click on "Activities Calendar." Scroll down to Theory Exams(under "Exams" for information and online registration.)*

Rules: *See MSMTA Student Activities Handbook and the RCM Theory Syllabus. (*msmta.org*)*

Description: *This popular program, begun nearly 35 years ago, offers testing in music theory and ear training at 12 levels. Students may begin at any level and may take up to two levels in one year. There are no age or grade restrictions for any level of the test, and adults frequently participate as well. Starting in 2019, tests followed the Royal Conservatory of Music Syllabus.*

Awards: *Four different Theory Awards can be earned by students for excellent scores. Points are also awarded towards the Jr. and Sr. DMA awards.*

This event is sponsored by Maryland State Music Teachers Association.

Testing will be done in person at local centers. Teachers wishing to have students test at other centers must register directly with that center (online) by deadlines listed on the MSMTA.org website. The deadline and date varies by center.

January 16, 2027 is the deadline for online registration for the Frederick Center.
The check and the print-out of the application must be mailed to Elena Eliseeva and post-marked by February 6, 2026.

Frederick Testing Center Location: *Evangelical Lutheran Church,*
31 East Church Street, Frederick, MD
There is a parking garage directly beside the church.

Testing times will be distributed to registered teachers by February 14, 2027.

Grading will be completed and tests returned to teachers as soon as possible.

All teachers registering students must be available to help on testing day.

FCMTA Studio Recitals

Chairperson: *TBD*

Date: *TBD*

Location: *Christ Reformed United Church of Christ, 12 South Church Street, Middletown, MD*

Time: *TBA*

Fee: Rental costs for the venue will be split among participating teachers.

Registration: *Teachers must contact Bobbie Rastall to request time at least one month in advance.*

FCMTA teachers may request time to hold their own Studio Recital at a shared venue. Teachers with smaller studios can team up with another teacher(s) if desired.

Each studio will be assigned a specific time to hold their recital, and a reception after if desired.

FCMTA PERFORMANCE MEDAL AWARD

This award is for students of FCMTA teachers, to encourage students to participate in FCMTA events as well as other performance opportunities, and also to encourage concert attendance.

Students earn points toward the "FCMTA Performance Trophy Award" as follows:

- ***20 points for performing in any FCMTA or FCMTA-sponsored event***
  (Examples: Halloween Recital, Ensemble Festival, Sonatina Festival, Senior Living Center Performances, or the MSMTA Musicianship Testing or the MSMTA Theory Test given in Frederick County.) ***An additional 10 points are awarded to students who earn a "Superior" rating at an FCMTA-sponsored event.***

- ***20 points for performing in any event sponsored by an FCMTA teacher***
  (Example: Studio recitals by FCMTA teachers.)

- ***10 points for performing in a non-FCMTA event***
  (Examples: MSMTA Composer's Circle, WVMTA event, church performance, retirement home performance, etc.) Performance must be done with the student's primary instrument, or sung if the student is a voice student. No more than 20 points total for this category.

- ***5 points for ensemble performance***
  (Examples: Performing in a school band concert or singing in a church choir on Sunday. Performance does not have to be with primary instrument.) No more than 10 points total for this category.

- ***10 points for attending a seated concert (instrumental or vocal recital)***
  A Concert Attendance form must be filled out and submitted to the teacher to sign. The student's teacher must approve that the concert is of sufficient value to warrant awarding points for attendance. In general, eligible concerts include local community (e.g., school) concerts as well as those by professional organizations. Attendance must be in person.

To earn the FCMTA Performance Trophy, students must acquire the following number of points in the following categories:

Performance Participation Points Required: 100
(Minimum of 60 points from FCMTA-sponsored events)

Concert Attendance Points Required: 30

Total Number of Points Required: 130

Program forms and information are available at www.fcmta.info*. Teachers are responsible to gather all documentation and keep track of points. After all requirements have been met, the teacher sends the completed application and documentation of each event (including scores sheets for judged events) to the Performance Trophy Chair:*

Nick IntVeldt, 20612 Beaver Creek Road, Hagerstown, MD 21740

Medals will be available to the student's teacher about one month after the application is received.

BYLAWS

of the

FREDERICK COUNTY MUSIC TEACHERS ASSOCIATION, INC.

Affiliated With

MARYLAND STATE MUSIC TEACHERS ASSOCIATION, INC.

and

MUSIC TEACHERS NATIONAL ASSOCIATION

Article I - NAME

The name of this organization shall be FREDERICK COUNTY MUSIC TEACHERS ASSOCIATION, INC., referred to as FCMTA, affiliated with the Maryland State Music Teachers Association, Inc., and the Music Teachers National Association (MTNA).

Article II -PURPOSE

1. The Association is an educational, non-profit organization, non-stock membership corporation, and the purpose for which it is formed and the business or projects to be carried on and promoted by it are as follows:

(a) To elevate and to maintain a standard of music study and thereby increase appreciation for the art of music and skill in its performance.

(b) To assure parents and students that they may feel confident that they are under professionally competent instruction when studying with one of its members.

(c) To inform its members concerning advances and practices in the profession, and to organize and conduct clinics, workshops, and meetings.

(d) To cooperate and participate with professional music organizations of mutual interest, and to maintain a close affiliation with the Maryland State Music Teachers Association and the Music Teachers National Association.

(e) To raise funds in order to: 1) conduct the Association, and 2) provide and promote educational opportunities in music for students, with particular emphasis on Frederick County.

2. Said organization is organized exclusively for charitable and educational purposes, including, for such purposes, the making of distributions to organizations that qualify as exempt organizations under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or corresponding section of any future federal tax code.

3. No part of the net earnings of the organization shall inure to the benefit of, or be distributable to its members, trustees, officers, or other private persons, except that the organization shall be authorized and empowered to pay reasonable compensation for services rendered and to make payments and distributions in furtherance of the purposes set forth in the purpose clause hereof. No substantial part of the activities of the organization shall be the carrying on of propaganda, or otherwise attempting to influence legislation, and the organization shall not participate in, or intervene in (including the publishing or distribution of statements) any political campaign on behalf of or in opposition to, any candidate for public office. Notwithstanding any other provision of this document, the organization shall not carry on any other activities not permitted to be carried on (a) by an organization exempt from federal income tax under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or corresponding section of any future federal tax code, or (b) by an organization, contributions to which are deductible under Section 170(c)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code, or corresponding section of any future federal tax code.

4. In the event of the dissolution of this organization, any funds remaining in the treasury after the payment of any outstanding debts shall be contributed to Music Teachers National Association or another 501(c)(3) organization.

Article III - MEMBERSHIP

1. Qualifications. Qualifications for each member are as outlined in the Bylaws of the Maryland State Music Teachers Association.

2. Membership. Membership in MTNA and MSMTA is required in conjunction with local Association membership. The member shall have the right to vote and to hold office.

3. Dues. Membership dues shall be approved by the FCMTA Board of Directors.

4. Renewal. Each member shall renew membership by paying MTNA, MSMTA and FCMTA dues. These combined dues are paid to MTNA at the beginning of each fiscal year.

5. Termination. Membership in the Association may be terminated by the member or revoked by the Association as prescribed in the Maryland State Music Teacher Bylaws.

Article IV - MEETINGS

1. Meetings. There shall be a minimum of six monthly membership meetings from September through June. The time, place, and content of the meetings shall be decided upon by the Board of Directors of the Association and published on the FCMTA website (fcmta.info).

2. Special Meetings. Special membership meetings may be called by the president or the Board of Directors.

3. Quorum. The presence of twenty-five percent (25%) of the Active members of the Association shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at any membership meeting.

4. Voting. At any regular or special meeting of the members of the Association, each member in good standing shall be entitled to one (1) vote on any question or issue voted on by the membership. Except as otherwise provided by these Bylaws, all matters shall be decided by vote of a majority of members present, provided a quorum is also present, except that in any election of officers, the office(s) to be filled shall be filled by the candidate(s) who receives the highest number of votes cast.

5. Voting By Officers/Directors. Officers/Directors shall be elected by the membership at the April meeting as further provided in Article V. There shall be no cumulative voting rights by any officer/director or member.

Article V - OFFICERS AND ELECTION

1. Officers. The officers of this Association shall be a president, a vice president, a secretary, and a treasurer who shall be elected by ballot or voice vote at the April membership meeting. These officers and the immediate past president shall constitute a Board of Directors.

2. Election. At the regular January membership meeting, the president shall appoint a nominating committee of at least two (2) members. At the March meeting, this Committee shall present the names of candidates for each office. At the April meeting, nominations for any office may be made from the floor by any member. At the close of nominations, all officers shall be elected by ballot or voice vote by a majority of members present. Officers shall assume their duties at the beginning of the fiscal year, July 1. Each officer shall transfer records of that office to the successor. Each officer shall serve for one year or until his/her successor is duly elected and qualified, or until removed by the membership by quorum vote. A vacancy in any office may be filled by the Board of Directors for the unexpired term of office.

3. President. The duties of the President of the Association shall be to:
   (a) serve as chief officer; direct and conduct the business of the Association;
   (b) preside at all meetings of the Association and the Board of Directors;
   (c) appoint a chair of all committees, including the Nominating Committee and the Audit Committee and have supervision of the same;

(d) act as an ex-officio member of all Committees;
(e) fulfill any duties which the Maryland State Music Teachers Association, Inc., shall require including attending meetings of the MSMTA Executive Board, the Annual Business Meeting or the Biennial Convention activities at each MSMTA Annual Business Meeting or Biennial Convention;
(f) perform all other duties as the office may require. See "Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised."

4. Vice President. The duties of the Vice President of the Association shall be to:
(a) perform the duties of the president in his/her absence, and assist the president in executing that office;
(b) assume the duties of the president, including the voting privilege on the MSMTA Executive Board, in such case as the president may be absent, incapacitated or unable to complete a full term of office;
(c) organize the programs for the monthly meetings;
(d) perform other duties as the office may require.

5. Secretary. The duties of the Secretary of the Association shall be to:
(a) keep minutes and records of all membership and Board of Directors meetings;
(b) receive all written reports of other officers and retain them for the future use of the Association and its respective officers;
(c) conduct all correspondence of the Association;
(d) publish notice of regular and special membership meetings when appropriate.

6. Treasurer. The duties of the Treasurer of the Association shall be to:
(a) pay the debts of the Association approved by the membership;
(b) submit monthly reports at the membership meetings;
(c) receive dues and other monies on behalf of the Association.

Article VI - BOARD OF DIRECTORS

1. Directors. The affairs of the Association shall be managed by its Board of Directors, which consists of the duly elected officers of the Association, including the immediate past president.

2. Chair. The president of the Association shall serve as Chair of the Board of Directors.

3. Term of Office. The term of office of each director shall be one (1) year and until his/her successor is elected and qualified.

4. Special Meetings. Special meetings of the Board of Directors may be called by or at the request of the president or a quorum of the Board of Directors. Oral or written notice of any special meetings shall be given to each director personally by the secretary within ten (10) day prior thereto, and shall include the time and place of the meeting, and may describe the business to be transacted.

5. Quorum. Three directors shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at any meeting of the Board of Directors, but a majority of the directors present at any meeting may adjourn the meeting until a later time without further notice.

6. Expenses. Directors as such shall not receive any salaries for their services, but by resolution of the Board of Directors, a sum fixed for expenses of attendance, if any, may be allowed for attendance at any regular or special meetings of MSMTA. Nothing herein contained shall be construed to preclude any director from serving the Association in any other capacity and receiving compensation therefore.

Article VII - COMMITTEES

1. Nominating Committee. A nominating committee shall be appointed by the president at the January meeting. The committee shall consist of two (2) to five (5) members, the number being determined by the president. At the March meeting the committee shall present the names of candidates for each office. At the April meeting, nominations for any office may be made from the floor by any member. At the close of nominations all officers shall be elected by ballot or voice vote of a majority of members present.

2. Audit Committee. An audit committee of two (2) members shall be appointed by the president at the April meeting. The committee will audit the treasurer's books and submit a report to the President before July 1. The report shall be read at the September meeting.

3. Other Committees. The president shall appoint other committees and committee chairs as deemed necessary by the membership. The duties and functions of any other committee shall be determined by the membership. Any appointed committee shall be dissolved upon completion of its duties.

Article VIII - CONTRACTS, CHECKS, DEPOSITS AND FUNDS

1. Contracts. The Board of Directors may authorize any officer or officers, agent or agents of the Association, in addition to the officers so authorized by these Bylaws, to enter into any contract or execute and deliver any instrument in the name of and on behalf of the Association, and such authority may be general or may be confined to specific instances.

2. Payment. All checks, drafts, or orders for the payment of money, notes, or other evidences of indebtedness issued in the name of the Association shall be signed by such officer or officers, agent or agents of the Association, and in such manner as shall, from time to time, be determined by resolution of the membership.

3. Funds. All funds of the Association shall be deposited, from time to time, to the credit of the Association in such federally insured banks or other depositories as the Board of Directors may select.

4. Contributions. The Board of Directors may accept on behalf of the Association any contribution, gift, bequest, or device for any purpose of the Association.

Article IX - FISCAL YEAR

The fiscal year of the Association shall commence on July 1 and shall end June 30 of the following year.

Article X - WAIVER OF NOTICE

Whenever any notice is required to be given under the provisions of Maryland law or under the provisions of the Articles of Incorporation or by the Bylaws of the Association, a waiver thereof in writing signed by the person or persons entitled to such notice, whether before or after the time stated therein, shall be deemed equivalent to the giving of such notice.

Article XI - AMENDMENT

These Bylaws may be amended by a two-thirds (2/3) affirmative vote of the members present at any legally constituted meeting of the membership, provided that the amendment does not conflict with the Bylaws of the MSMTA and that notice of the proposed amendment has been given to each member at least two weeks in advance.

PAST PRESIDENTS

The Frederick Piano Teachers Association, later to become the Frederick County Music Teachers Association, was established in 1971. The group sponsored an Annual Piano Festival for many years, as well as concerto competitions, concerts and scholarships.

The list of past presidents is incomplete. If you have information to help us complete the list, please contact us.

Dorothy Freed ……..1971 - 1972
Marguerite Hess……1972 - 1973
Frances Shober……..1973 - 1974

Madeline Young…….1976 - 1977
Dorothy Freed……1977 - 1978
Patricia Bucheimer…….1978 - 1979
Mary Kay Janson……1979 - 1980

Madeline Young……..1981 - 1982
Mary Kay Janson……1982 - 1983

Kathryn Nicodemus……1984 - 1986

Judy Umstead…….1989 - 1991

Mary Kay Janson……1994 - 1996
Pam Mathews…….1996 - 1999
Susan Ward…….1999 - 2001
Roberta Rastall……2001 - 2003
Erin Runkles……2003 - 2005
Karen Skelly……2005 - 2007
Laurel Carroll……..2007 - 2011
Theresa Shykind……..2011 - 2012
Laurel Carroll……..2012 - 2016
Sheila Jones…….2016 - 2021
Peggy Flickinger…….2021 - 2023
Karen Skelly…….……2024 -2027