

2021 August RMTA Meeting minutes

RMTA held a meeting via Zoom on August 29, 2021 due to the Covid Pandemic preventing an in-person meeting. Teachers in attendance were Christina Toole, Kathryn Nobles, Leigh Robison, Sandy Yeargan Shelley Reid, Kyla Zollitsch, Catherine Seigler, Amy Neal, Kay Greene, Jerico Vasquez, and Gina Hicks.

The meeting was called to order by Christina at 3:03 P.M. Shelley read the minutes from the May 2021 meeting. The minutes were approved as read.

Kyla then gave the treasurer's report. Our current balance in the checking account is \$1885.89. The current balance in the scholarship account is \$2029.79. Kyla informed everyone that this is lowest balance since she has been treasurer.

Next, we discussed whether we will be able to have Christmas on the keys. Currently, Floyd is not allowing visitors in the hospital. Kyla suggested having it at a church. We also discussed the possibility of having it at an assisted living facility. Kyla and Shelley will reach out to assisted living facilities to see if that is possible. Kathryn then mentioned the Oak Hill Christmas tours. In the past they have asked for pianists to play Christmas music during the tours. Kathryn will contact Oak Hill about having Christmas on the Keys there.

Christina asked if we want to give an Honorarium to Diane Boyd for the Zoom workshop on the theory test that she is giving on September 12. Diane is not charging anything for it. We voted unanimously to give her a \$50 honorarium.

Next, Christina asked if we should increase the stipend for the spring workshop/master class with Beibei Lin from \$250 to \$300. Jerico responded that \$150-\$250 is the normal amount for clinicians. We decided to leave it at \$250.

After that, we discussed GMTA business. The conference will be at Piedmont University in person from November 4-6, 2021. If it has to be cancelled due to Covid, refunds will be given. Anyone who attends the full conference also gets a ticket to the banquet. Jerico asked Kathryn if Berry has plans to start a student chapter of GMTA. At this point, they do not. Last year, GMTA asked for a gift basket donation for a raffle. They have not asked for anything this year. If they ask, we will decide what to contribute.

Christina informed us that GMTA has a new podcast series. If anyone is interested in being interviewed on the podcast, please email Christina.

We then discussed the GMTA auditions. At this point, no one is planning to enter any students.

The next topic was non- association events. These are:

Shorter Hymn Festival – September 26 from 2-4:00. Registration is due Monday September 13.

Four in Spirit - October 24th at 3:00 @ Fellowship Baptist Church

Next, we discussed the NFMC Junior festival and the Vivace system. Shelley explained how to add a student's preferred name and official document name. She asked that each teacher check their students and confirm their past performance history. The Junior Festival will be held on January 29 at Berry College. Each teacher must go to the GFMC website to federate their junior club by September 1. Christina will email the link to everyone tomorrow. After clicking the link, fill out the junior club registration form and pay the dues.

The next topic was scholarships. Kyla asked for what exactly could the scholarships be used. It was decided that seniors can use the scholarships for any college expense. Any other age winner must use it for continuing music education such as a music camp or music lessons.

Christina then asked about Covid protocols and contingency plans for RMTA events. At this point, we will plan for in-person events. Students will be asked to sit with their families and stay socially distanced. Masks are recommended but not required. The keys will be cleaned between performers.

We then reviewed the calendar of events for 2021-2022. No changes were made.

Next, the March workshop was discussed. The possible topics are:

Guided age pianism in China

Strategies for memorization; scientific research on memory and learning

How to teach ear training to precollegiate students

Several teachers have already heard the "Strategies for memorization" talk. The "Ear training" talk will be given at the GMTA conference. After the conference, we will see how many teachers heard that talk and will then decide which topic we want for our workshop.

Christina informed us that liability insurance is available for free for our RMTA events through MTNA. This will include coverage for damage, accidents, and injuries at events. It was unanimously agreed that we should take advantage of this opportunity. Christina will sign us up.

Lastly, we discussed starting a Facebook page. Jerico will create our page and make all teachers administrators so everyone can post pictures and events.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:08 P.M.