

# **RMTA MEETING MINUTES**

## **Spring 2022**

On May 19, 2022, Catherine Seigler hosted the RMTA spring meeting. Members attending were Christina Toole, Leigh Robison, Jerico Vasquez, Catherine Seigler, Sandy Yeargan, and Shelley Reid.

Christina Toole called the meeting to order at 10:06 A.M. The minutes from the August 2021 meeting were read by Shelley. Catherine Seigler made a motion to accept the minutes as read. Leigh Robison seconded the motion.

Christina then announced that the MTNA conference will be March 25-29, 2023 in Reno, Nevada and the GMTA conference will be November 3-5, 2022 at Kennesaw State University. The pianist headliner for the GMTA conference will be Paul Barnes and the pedagogy headliner will be Wynn Anne Rossi.

Christina then reminded the group that the renewal deadline for our MTNA dues is June 30. She also reminded us that podcasts are still being made by BeiBei Lin. Any teachers interested can contact her and be interviewed for the podcast.

Next, Christina announced the slate of officers for the coming year. No changes will be made: President– Christina Toole, Vice President – Jerico Vasquez, Treasurer – Kyla Zollitsch, Secretary – Shelley Reid. Sandy Yeargan a made motion to approve the officers and Catherine Seigler seconded. The officers were approved.

The treasurer's report was read by Christina Toole because Kyla could not attend the meeting:

The RMTA accounts are healthy - Around \$500 short of pre-covid amounts. The balance in the scholarship account is \$2030.25 and the balance in the checking account is \$2499.35

We have 4 seniors studying music next year. Ellie Schwartz, Aden Conrad, Ruthie Walker and Seth Stringer. We will be giving \$400 in continuing music education scholarships.

RMTA donated \$350 to the Floyd foundation for their pediatric department from our Christmas on the Keys fundraiser. They said the kids were bored and needed fun games and toys to stay entertained. They plan to use the donation for that purpose.

River city bank was going to charge a monthly fee for our accounts. Kyla spoke with them and explained that we are a non-profit. Non-profits are exempt from the monthly fees.

Events for the next year were then discussed. It was decided that we should only host one workshop/masterclass during the year due to the cost of bringing in a clinician. This workshop will be held in the spring. Christina will check to see if Hu Mai is available with Alex Wasserman as a backup. Another new event this year is the June Montgomery recital which Kathryn Nobles will chair. Because Ms. Montgomery lives in Rome, RMTA will honor her and her work by hosting a recital of her music. Due to there being so many piano events, students will not be required to memorize the music. Kathryn will check to see if the recital can be held at June's church with a reception afterward. A possible date is February 26,2023.

The tentative calendar of events is as follows:

August 28 – Membership meeting (It was suggested that this event take place after college classes have begun in order to invite college students to join us.)

September 18 – Shorter Hymn Festival

October 2 – Fall recital at Shorter University

Chair – Jerico Vasquez

Deadline – September 25

November 3-5 – GMTA conference at KSU

November 13 – Jazz and Pop Competition at Berry College

Chair – TBA

Deadline- October 31

Fee - \$20

December 3 – Christmas on the Keys

Chairs – Kyla Zollitsch and Shelley Reid

Deadline – November 1

Fee - \$15

January 28? – Junior Festival at Berry College

Chair – Gina Hicks

Fee - \$20

February 26 – June Montgomery Recital

Chair – Kathryn Nobles

March 5 – Workshop/Masterclass at Shorter

Chair – Christina Toole

March 19? – Romantic Competition (Christina will confirm the date after checking the Unity Christian School calendar.)

Chairs – Amy Neal and Jerico Vasquez

Fee - \$20

TBA – Guild at Berry College

TBA – May Meeting and elections

After the calendar of events was discussed, Christina proposed that we start an RMTA Facebook page. Pictures of events would be posted. This would take the place of a memory book. Jerico will be the administrator. Teachers will email pictures to him and he will upload them.

Next, we discussed how to recruit piano teachers to the Rome area. Christina asked if there is any way to convince graduates to stay in town. She said that another organization made goody bags for piano students in college to spread the word about MTNA. Jerico suggested incorporating students into our RMTA group by having them do service for our events. Christina suggested a mentorship program. Jerico also suggested reaching out to teachers who are not currently members. Catherine said we should send an email to former members (e.g. Jason Kize, Denise Brown), letting them know what we're doing this year to see if they are interested in joining.

Jerico informed the group that the GMTA conference will be held at Shorter University in 2023 on the first weekend in November. They are hoping to get the Rome Symphony to accompany the concerto winners. RMTA will plan to help with the conference.

Lastly, Christina reminded the group to keep our minds open to new ideas. For example, another chapter had an event in which a clinician worked with students at different stages of learning a piece. Each student was given the piece at a separate time so he could give a short lesson on each stage of learning. Another possibility would be to have RMTA members perform for each other.

Just before we adjourned, Jerico suggested that we have a moment of silence to remember Glenda Potts and her contribution to RMTA. This was done and the meeting was adjourned at 11:06 A.M. Lunch catered by Chicken Salad Chick was enjoyed by all.

