

December Meeting: **Wednesday, December 7th 2016 /9:30AM**

BOARD MEMBERS

President: Alicia Operti
 Vice President: Christina Dragone
 Past President: Ann Chen
 Secretary: Eric Parker
 Treasurer: Linda Budge
 Member at Large: Irina Semenov

STANDING COMMITTEES

Awards (APPE): Sonia Geoffrey
 Ann Chen
 Certification: Janice Derian
 Historian:
 Honors Recitals: Ellen Nixon
 Barb Marek
 Membership: Irina Semenov
 Newsletter: Alicia Operti
 MMTA/SAT: Diana Munch
 Outreach Recitals: Ellen Nixon
 Kathy Ranus
 Rockin' the Keys: Janice Derian
 Teacher of the Year: Brenda Krachenberg
 Teacher Referrals: Debra Cox
 Website/ Margarete Thomsen
 Christine Smith

Guest Speaker: Gerardo Ascheri – Schoolcraft College

Location: Steinway Gallery - Commerce Twsp.

Topic: Overview of Piano Music from Argentina



Dr. Ascheri earned a DMA from Michigan State University where he studied with Ralph Votapek. He has a Master’s Degree in Piano Performance and Music Education from Indiana University of Pennsylvania and a Performance and Music Education Degree from Universidad Nacional de Rosario, Argentina where he studied with composer and pianist Roberto Carmano.

Dr. Ascheri received Suzuki training and teaches at various workshops and Summer institutes in many states as Michigan, Texas, Alaska and Massachusetts. He lives in Lansing, Michigan where he is an active teacher, music advocate, soloist and chamber musician. He is also the director of the Piano Teachers Certificate Program at Schoolcraft College, where he teaches applied piano and piano pedagogy classes.

Dr. Ascheri gives master classes and lectures regularly in Michigan. He is involved in several musical organizations and is currently the Chairman of the MMTA Piano Achievement Testing Committee.



From the President's Desk:

Dear Colleges:

I am looking forward to the arrival of 2017 with a mixture of challenges and anticipation both as a teacher and as a responsible decision-maker and member of LPTF, for the work laying ahead of us in the next three first months of the year.

Our Agenda for the near future includes certain changes aimed to simplify and shorten some of the tedious and time-consuming tasks, related to our student's auditions. We want to thank Doris Edwards and her husband Al for their tremendous contribution to SAT for years. While Doris is healing from surgery, we have had to consider ways to fill the void left without their help. An SAT Committee chaired by Diana Munch including Christine Smith, Margarete Thomsen, Janice Derian and Diana's husband Bob, along with the invaluable knowledge and supervision of Jeanne Thelen, has been formed for the purpose to simplify the process of student enrollment creating very user friendly online forms. The SAT Committee will deliver subsequent information soon and we hope to help everyone understand the new system at our January meeting in time for the deadlines.

The board decided to confer Honorary Membership status to Ruth Jones and Jean Steward. They both dedicated many years of genuine enthusiasm and effort to serve LPTF and its members with the utmost use of their abilities. Thank you, Ruth and Jean, for your contributions to the wellbeing and good functioning of our organization.

I would like to express our thanks to Isabelle Tulk for taking over the Vice-President 's job during Christina Dragone's inability of holding that position. Christina is now able to resume her functions and will continue to do so until the end of this term.

I hope I will see you all on December 7th.

Alicia Operti
LPTF President



Upcoming LAPTF Events:

Rockin' the Keys

December 3:

Laurel Park Place Mall, Livonia

S.A.T

Sunday, March 5, 2017 – Levels 1-3:

Schoolcraft Community College in Livonia

Friday, March 10, 2017 – Levels 8-10:

Steinway Piano Gallery of Detroit, Commerce Township late afternoon/evening

Sunday, March 12, 2017 – Levels 4-7:

Steinway Piano Gallery of Detroit, Commerce Township all day

Eastern District Semi-Finals: April 22, 2016

Steinway Piano Gallery of Detroit, Commerce Township

State Finals: Saturday, May 6, 2017

Michigan State University, College of Music, East Lansing

Honor recital:

Sunday, March 26, 2017-2 PM at Steinway Gallery

Award for Piano Performance Excellence:

Audition Date: April 15, 2017

Recital Date: April 23, 2017



Invitations for other Events:

MTNA National Conference 2017

March 18-22, Baltimore, Maryland

Other Notes of Interest:

Doris Edwards

She is recovering slowly and still remains in the Maple Rehab Center at 31214 Novi Rd. Novi.

Sharon Rea Scholarship: The Scholarship Fund was named in honor of teacher Sharon Rea, who passed away in the autumn of 2005. Sharon was a strong proponent of helping make attendance at summer music camp possible for any student who desired to go. Each scholarship is \$100. There is a limit of two applications per teacher and the student's teacher must be a member in good standing of LAPTF. When students are accepted into the camp of their choice, the stipend will be sent directly to the camp the student will attend. This scholarship is funded by contributions from our members and money collected in events organized for this purpose. Your help will be most welcome.

Your purchases on Amazon can be a good source of income for the scholarship. If you shop in Amazon, go to smile.amazon.com. LAPTF receives a small percentage of your purchase amount back whenever you shop thru this link and target our organization as the beneficiary.

Please correct in your Yearbook the e-mail address of Jacqueline Mahome. It should be: jmahome5516@att.net