

# MaineMTA Newsletter

Maine Music Teachers Association (MaineMTA)  
Affiliated with Music Teachers National Association (MTNA)

Fall 2022

September 8, 2022

From the president's desk...

Greetings MaineMTA Colleagues and Friends!

Another school year has begun with a flurry of activity in music studios across Maine. Over the summer, the MaineMTA Executive Board has been busy planning programs for the 2022-23 academic year that we hope will help to energize you and your students all year long!

On tap this October 15<sup>th</sup> is our biennial, Fall State Conference to be held at the Portland Conservatory of Music's new location (28 Neal Street, Portland) featuring the fabulous Martha Hilley, professor of music emerita from the Butler School of Music at the University of Texas, Austin. Our newest member to the board, VP of Programs, Maya Doumas and her team, are doing a great job organizing the day for us. We are SO looking forward to welcoming Martha Hilley to Maine and learning from her vast teaching experience. The MaineMTA website has all the conference information you need, but to learn more about Martha and the day's schedule, read on! For registration information, [click here](#). This is an in-person event but will also be live-streamed so don't delay, sign up today and invite a music teacher friend to join you!

Planning is well underway for our 2023 Pine Tree Music Competition (PTMC) to be held next May 13<sup>th</sup> at the University of Maine, Orono. In addition to the traditional competition model, we are offering a Virtual Evaluation Option as part of this same event. Amy Irish and her team are on the ball having already posted repertoire details and basic competition info on the MaineMTA website. For planning purposes, the PTMC 2023 application deadline is April 1, 2023. Be sure to save these dates! To jump to the PTMC 2023 website page for review, [click here!](#)

This weekend I'll be attending the 2022 MTNA Leadership Summit in Cincinnati, OH. I'm eager to see my MTNA music friends and catch up on the national scene. And speaking of national news, our very own Immediate Past President, Gulimina Mahamuti, is currently campaigning for election (February, 2023) as VP of the newly created Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee. To read her bio printed in the August/September issue of the *American Music Teacher* (AMT) magazine, [click here!](#) Good luck Guli!

In closing, I am honored to be the current captain of our sturdy ship and with your help, will do my best to guide us forward. As with any successful organization though, "it takes a village" to remain vital and strong. The MaineMTA Executive Board welcomes your voice and your ideas as we continue to support independent music educators in Maine.

Happy Teaching!  
See you in October!

My best, always,

Christine Kissack  
MaineMTA President



## Welcome New MaineMTA Members!

Michael Beling ..... Fryeburg  
Nell Britton ..... South Portland  
Delaney Clifford ..... Standish  
Oren Gauthier ..... Norway  
Lois Hasbrouck ..... Gorham  
Ally Hawkins ..... Portland  
Jessica Mehre ..... Veazie  
Heather Ann Ross ..... California  
Hans Spencer ..... Portland  
Mona Sripaoraya ..... Biddeford

## Save-the-Date!

### 2023 Pine Tree Music Competition

University of Maine, Orono  
Saturday, May 13, 2023

Application Deadline:  
Saturday, April 1, 2023

### Maine Music Teachers Association Executive Board (2022-24)

President ..... Christine Kissack  
President-Elect ..... Amy Irish  
Immediate Past President ..... Gulimina Mahamuti  
VP Membership ..... Jacqueline Savage  
VP Programs ..... Maya Doumas  
Secretary ..... Elizabeth Hasbrouck  
Treasurer ..... Eileen Ringel

**MaineMTA  
2022  
Fall State Conference**  
*(In person and live-streamed)*

**Featuring Martha Hilley**

*Professor of Music Emerita, UTexas, Austin  
Butler School of Music  
MTNA Immediate Past President*

**Saturday, October 15<sup>th</sup>**

**Portland Conservatory of Music**

*New Location: 28 Neal Street, Portland, ME*



**Don't miss this inspiring presenter!**

For registration information, [click here!](#)

**Invite a friend and  
register today!**

***Wanted!***

Students between the ages of 5-11 to work with Martha one-on-one in a Master Class at the Fall Conference. For more information, contact VP or Programs, Maya Doumas at: [mayadoumas@gmail.com](mailto:mayadoumas@gmail.com).

**Martha Hilley Bio**

Martha Hilley joined the faculty of The University of Texas School of Music in 1982 as coordinator of group piano and a member of the piano pedagogy faculty. Over the next 36 years she served two years as head of the keyboard division, five years as Associate Director of the School of Music as well as two different five-year terms as Director of Undergraduate Studies. Martha retired from the Butler School of Music on August 31, 2019.

Over the last 52 years, Ms. Hilley has been an active participant in workshops, conferences and seminars on the international, national, state and local levels. She has been co-curriculum coordinator with Lynn Freeman Olson and presenter for the International Pedagogy Workshops in Italy, Belgium, Norway, Australia, Austria and Hawaii and served as pedagogy faculty for the Fairbanks Summer Arts Festival in Alaska and Tunghai University's Summer Keyboard Institute in Taichung, Taiwan. She was keynote speaker and presenter for the 2013 *Encontro Internacional de Piano ed Grupo* in Goiania, Brazil. In 2014, Hilley was fortunate enough to be an attendee at the Polofonia Conference held at the Royal Conservatory of the Hague ("The Musician as Creative Entrepreneur"). In more recent years Martha has been a co-presenter at CEPROM, a pre-conference meeting to ISME and a co-presenter at the ISME Conference in Glasgow, Scotland. She was also a keynote speaker at the 2018 SEMPRE Conference in London, England as well as at the 2021 VI International Piano Pedagogy Conference (Brazil).

Professor Hilley's abilities as a teacher have been recognized on numerous occasions: 1983, Texas Excellence Teaching Award; 1988 one of four university-wide Dad's Association Centennial Fellowships; 1992, Orpheus Award presented by Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia; 1997, Outstanding Collegiate Teacher Award by the Texas Music Teachers Association; and in 1998, William David Blunk Professorship in recognition of outstanding undergraduate teaching and research. In 2000, she was chosen for membership in Leadership Texas and was elected the following September to the Leadership Texas Alumni Board of Directors. Other honors include induction into the Academy of Distinguished Teachers (UT Austin) 2005; Distinguished Service Award from the Music Teachers National Association spring 2008; University of Texas at Austin, Civitatis Award 2011-2012; MTNA Teacher of the Year 2014; and Lifetime Achievement Award, presented at the 2017 National Conference on Keyboard Pedagogy. She served as 2019-2021 President of MTNA and has assumed the role of Immediate Past President for a two-year term effective March, 2021 through March, 2023.

Articles by Hilley have been published in *Clavier*, *Piano Quarterly* and *Keyboard Companion* and within anthologies published by Routledge Press (UK). She is co-author of two college piano texts: "Piano for the Developing Musician" and "Piano for Pleasure." The texts were the first to embrace digital sequencer technology through disks furnished to teachers as well as the first to provide web-based computer tutorials, downloadable *pdf* and *mp3* files and dedicated web sites for each text.

# Conference Schedule

## Saturday, September 15

<b>9:00 AM</b>	<b>Arrival/Coffee/Welcome</b>
<b>9:30</b>	<b>Theory and Improv, The "PB&amp;J of Music"</b>
<b>10:45</b>	<b>Break</b>
<b>11:00</b>	<b>Don't Forget to Light Both Ends of the Candle!</b>
<b>12:15 PM</b>	<b>Lunch &amp; General Business Meeting</b>
<b>1:30</b>	<b>To Group or Not to Group, That Is the Question!</b>
<b>2:30</b>	<b>Break</b>
<b>2:45</b>	<b>Masterclass</b>
<b>4:30</b>	<b>Q &amp; A Session</b>
<b>5:00</b>	<b>Closing Remarks</b>

## Presentation Information

*Theory and Improv, the "PB&J of Music"* Piano teachers have the opportunity to be "perfect" theory teachers if they take advantage of the music their students are working on plus perhaps come up with some "fun" theory drills. (Martha is happy to share some sound files you can use, just ask her!) Add all of this to improvisation and you have activities that can be put into action regularly!

*Don't Forget to Light Both Ends of the Candle!* Have you thought of widening the scope of your students? What about preschoolers and senior citizens? Think "Music Readiness" and "Recreational Music Making." Included in this session will be hand-made materials for the young ones and what you might find in an Activity Bowl for the older students plus your current students. If you see things you like in the Activity Bowl, all you have to do is ask Martha and the pdf files will come your way!

*To Group or Not To Group—That Is the Question!* Have you ever thought about offering group lessons in your studio, but don't know where to start? In this session, Martha will show you all the in's and out's of working as a group music teacher. She'll discuss why group lessons are so important, and how you can get started with as little as one piano!

- What are group lessons?
- The benefits of group lessons.
- Monthly group classes vs. weekly group lessons.
- Partner lessons vs. larger group lessons.
- How to start small and grow.
- Activities and ideas to help you begin.

*Master Class* Over the coming weeks, two elementary and two early to mid-intermediate level students from Maine studios will be selected to work one-on-one with Martha. The preferred age range for participating students is between 5-11 years old and parents will be asked to make a \$25 donation to MaineMTA. This is an exciting opportunity for selected children, so we encourage you to nominate your students for the event as soon as possible. For more information, contact: [mayadomas@gmail.com](mailto:mayadomas@gmail.com).

## ***Local Association News***

Our two local associations, Penobscot ValleyMTA (PVMTA) in Bangor and SouthernMaineMTA (SMMTA) in greater Portland, are also busy organizing programs and events.

To learn more about these local programs, click on their titles below!

### **Penobscot ValleyMTA**

*(PVMTA)*

#### **Board Members:**

*President: Amy Irish*

*Secretary: Sojourner Hodges*

*Treasurer: Ginger Yang Hwalek*

#### **Upcoming PVMTA Events:**

**Fall Meeting:** October 7<sup>th</sup>

*Show and Tell from our Studios*

**Evaluations Recital:** December 3<sup>rd</sup>

**Winter Meeting:** February 3<sup>rd</sup>

*Fingering*

**Spring Meeting and Potluck:**

May 5<sup>th</sup>

Meetings begin at 9am with a brief coffee/tea gathering followed by a business meeting, then our scheduled topic. Joining via Zoom is also an option.

### **Southern MaineMTA**

*(SMMTA)*

#### **Board Members:**

*President: Jacqui Savage*

*VP of Programs: Alice Peterson*

*Secretary: Maya Doumas*

*Treasurer: April Masse*

#### **Upcoming SMMTA Events:**

**Fall Teacher Connect:** November 3<sup>rd</sup>

**Evaluations Recital:** December 3<sup>rd</sup>

**State Teacher Connect**

**(Zoom):** January 21<sup>st</sup>

**Spring Teacher Connect and Association Meeting:** March 11<sup>th</sup>

**Outdoor Music Celebration:** May 27<sup>th</sup>

## ***Music Swap at the Fall Conference***

*Do you have any new or lightly used piano teaching methods or repertoire that you no longer need? Maybe another member can use it? There will be a table set up in the main lobby at the Fall Conference for swapping scores.*

*No need to bring anything, but feel free to take!*

## Member News & Upcoming Concerts

On Sunday, September 18<sup>th</sup> at 2:00pm, soprano, Sarah Tuttle and pianist, **Bridget Convey**, will present *Songs From Here* featuring local poets at the Emery Community Arts Center on the UMaine, Farmington campus. The program is sponsored by Arts Farmington. For more information, [click here](#). On Friday, November 4<sup>th</sup> at 5:00pm, they will perform the same concert in Waterville as part of the community-based collaborative program, *November First Friday* event which is sponsored by Greene Block Studios. [Click here](#) for more information. Bridget also will perform with [VentiCordi](#) Chamber Music at Woodfords Congregational Church in Portland, on Sunday, November 13<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 pm. This program is sponsored by the Portland String Quartet Society. For tickets and information, [click here](#).

**Dr. Ginger Yang Hwalek** has been invited once again to be the conductor for the biennial Piano Monster Concert sponsored by the Greater Burlington, VermontMTA, January 27-28, 2023. This will be her tenth appearance working with students of teachers from this local association.

**Dr. Gulimina Mahamuti**, MaineMTA's Immediate Past President, was recently nominated as one of two candidates for election to the Vice Presidential position of MTNA's newly established, Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee. Nomination information was published in the August/September, 2022 issue of MTNA's *American Music Teacher* (AMT) magazine. To visit the page, [click here](#).

Also, with her duo partner, George Lopez, the Robert Beckwith artist-in-resident of Bowdoin College, they formed Duo Mundi George & Guli. They will be premiering live the four-hand version of composer José Elizando's *Danzas Latinoamericanas* along with other Latin American works at Rancho La Puerta in Tecate, Mexico on August 21 and 23, followed by concerts in Portugal, in which Dr. Gulimina Mahamuti will be presenting her lecture-recital on *Chinese Piano Literature in Xinjiang Music Style for Intermediate and Advance Students* at the 44<sup>th</sup> International European Piano Teachers Conference. Their 2022-2023 concerts will include performances throughout New England, North Carolina, Florida, Ohio, Kansas, Colorado, Oregon, and Texas. For more information, [click here](#).

On Sunday, September 25<sup>th</sup> at 2:00pm pianist **Dr. Patricia Stowell** will present a concert with singers in the Steinway Series at All Souls Church (10 Broadway St.) in Bangor. In the first half she will be joined by soprano Jennifer Bates to sing art songs by Edvard Grieg, Francis Poulenc, and will present four compositions that she composed herself. The program's second half will include three additional singers: mezzo, Marcia Grönwald Sly, tenor, Martin Lescault and bass, John D. Adams with pianist Douglas Beck to present Johannes Brahms' much beloved *Liebeslieder Waltzes*. You can become familiar with these beautiful waltzes in advance, by [clicking here](#). Come hear the many ways Brahms expresses love in the 18 poems of G.F. Daumer, a favorite poet and philosopher of the composer. Due to the singers' livelihoods, audience members are asked to wear masks. The concert is free and open to the public; donations are gratefully welcomed. Call the church with further questions or contact Patricia at [pastowell@gmail.com](mailto:pastowell@gmail.com).



From left to right: Secretary, L. Hasbrouck; VP Membership, J. Savage; President, C. Kissack; Commissioned Composer Co-Chair, L. Manduca; Immediate Past President, G. Mahamuti; Treasurer, E. Ringel; President-Elect, A. Irish; VP Programs, M. Dumas. (March, 2022)