

MUSIC TEACHERS NATIONAL ASSOCIATION

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Cincinnati, OH

December 4 – 7, 2008

MINUTES

PRESENT

President Gail Berenson, President-elect Ann Gipson, Vice President Janice Wenger, Secretary/Treasurer Judith Price, Immediate Past President Paul Stewart, Executive Director Gary Ingle (ex officio without vote), Fay Adams (Southern Division), Lezlee Bishop (Southwest Division), Thomas Ediger (East Central Division), Ellen Flint (Eastern Division), Debra Florian (Northwest Division), Celinda Hallbauer (South Central Division), and Karen Thickett (East Central Division)

Staff Present

Senior Deputy Executive Director Marge Bengel
Chief Operating Officer Brian Shepard

CALL TO ORDER

President Gail Berenson called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. on December 5, 2008. By general consent, the Board took selected agenda items out of sequence in order to accommodate the time of the MTNA auditor and the MTNA investment advisor.

BUSINESS

AUDIT REPORT

Kerry Roe of Clark, Schaefer, Hackett presented a financial statement analysis of the June 30, 2008 (FY 2008) audit of MTNA. Roe is the Clark, Schaefer Hackett partner in charge of the MTNA audit. The opinion letter issued by the audit firm stated that “in our opinion, the consolidated financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Music Teachers National Association, Inc. as of June 30, 2008.”

The Board expressed its deepest appreciation to Marge Bengel for her oversight of the audit.

Motion (Hallbauer) and second (Florian) to accept the audited Financial Statements from Clark Schaefer Hackett.

PASSED (Unanimous)

For additional information, Executive Director Gary Ingle distributed to the Board the representation letter in which he and Senior Deputy Executive Director Marge Bengel signed to verify that the information provided to the auditors was true and complete.

INVESTMENT PRESENTATION

Howard Kaplan of Kaplan, Litwin, Kaplan presented a financial overview of the MTNA investments: the long term reserves, Foundation Fund Endowment, McHose Trust, and Certification investment accounts. Much of the presentation was devoted to issues related to the current economic crisis and the appropriate MTNA responses to it. He also presented the revised Investment Policy and answered Board members' questions regarding it. The Board expressed its confidence in the work and guidance he and the firm provide MTNA.

The MTNA Board meeting was then recessed at 10:00 a.m. in order for the board to convene as the Board for the MTNA Certification Program.

The MTNA Board of Directors was reconvened at 1:30 p.m. that same day. By general consent, the Board took additional agenda items out of sequence to accommodate the time and presence of the MTNA attorney, Scott Gilligan.

Frances Clark Pedagogy Award Clarification

The Board considered a proposal from Immediate Past President Paul Stewart regarding the intent of the Frances Clark Pedagogy Award. The awards, selected by a committee comprised of Marvin Blickenstaff, Louise Goss, and Sam Holland and ratified by the MTNA Board have been given in the past to products developed by Yamaha and Frederick Harris. Stewart believes that the award was originally intended for only individuals and should not be given to corporations.

President Berenson and Executive Director Ingle presented documentation reflecting that when initiated, the award was designated to recognize a product and could be presented to companies, as well as to individuals.

Motion (Stewart) and second (Price) that the Board of Directors return the Frances Clark Pedagogy Award to its original guidelines – For individuals only.

FAILED (1 Yes, 10 No)

Advertisement Of Staff Positions To Members

The Board discussed a proposal from Immediate Past President Paul Stewart regarding staff position openings at MTNA. Stewart feels staff position openings should be advertised to all MTNA members on the MTNA website, including positions defined as computer-stay-at-home adjunct positions.

Executive Director Ingle informed the Board that MTNA members are always recruited and employed for appropriate positions (currently there are 5 MTNA members on the staff). Ingle assured the Board that all appropriate means will be utilized to advertise positions and hire the best individuals possible.

Motion (Stewart) and second (Price) that all staff position openings should be advertised to ALL MTNA members on the MTNA website.

FAILED (1 Yes, 9 No, 1 Abstention)

AMT Impromptu Proposal

The Board discussed a proposal from Immediate Past President Paul Stewart regarding the inclusion of products in the Impromptu section of the AMT under the section “Music Merchandise.” Stewart believes this constitutes free advertising to select, favored music industry companies, and that it is in non-compliance with the MTNA Business Relationship fairness policy. He feels that these companies should purchase an AMT ad if they want to announce and promote their new product. The other option is to accept the product for review and assign an expert to objectively review the product in AMT’s Reviews of books, videos, software and music for the professional music teacher.

In discussion of this proposal, the Board noted that the listing (not advertisement) of pedagogical materials and products in the “Impromptu” section of *AMT* supports both the Mission of MTNA and the strategic goals of the organization, inasmuch as such lists help to educate our members and keep them “current” with available materials, products, and trends in the profession. Furthermore, the Board noted that the list does not represent “select, favored music industry companies” since there is no attempt on the part of the editorial board or staff of *AMT* to highlight, delete, or in any way discriminate among products. The list is offered simply to notify the members of available products, materials, and trends.

Motion (Stewart) and second (Price) that the Board of Directors terminate free advertising offered to select, favored music industry companies in the Impromptu section of the AMT under “Music Merchandise.”

FAILED (1 Yes, 10 No)

Auditing Firm For National Election

The Board discussed a proposal from Immediate Past President Paul Stewart that MTNA employ an outside auditing firm to collect, tabulate, and verify the votes for all national MTNA elections. All member votes would be mailed directly to the auditing company by mail or electronically.

The Board questioned the additional expenses for an outside firm and the necessity of changing the current process that works well.

Motion (Stewart) and second (Price) that beginning with the 2009 national election, MTNA will contract an outside auditing company to collect, tabulate and verify the votes for all national elections.

FAILED (2 Yes, 8 No, 1 Abstention)

Foreign Travel/Representative Travel/Reimbursement

The Board's agenda listed three proposals submitted by Immediate Past President Paul Stewart for the Board's consideration. The proposals related to foreign travel, representative travel authorization, and reimbursed expenses. Stewart withdrew these proposals before any Board discussion.

Revision Of Board Member Responsibilities

The Board discussed a proposal from Immediate Past President Paul Stewart to revise a portion (**Meetings** section, item 2) of the *MTNA Statement of Individual Board Member Responsibilities*. He proposed that the phrase "...while supporting the majority decision on issues decided by the Board" be deleted from the statement: "Ask timely question at Board and committee meetings consistent with your conscience and convictions, while supporting the majority decision on issues decided by the board."

Motion (Stewart) and second (Price) that the Board delete "while supporting the majority decision on issues decided by the Board" from the No. 2 responsibility under Meetings in the MTNA Statement of Individual Board Member's Responsibilities.

FAILED (1 Yes, 10 No)

Proposed Bylaws Amendment-Regarding the CEO Title

Immediate Past President Paul Stewart originally proposed for this meeting an agenda item to approve an amendment to the MTNA Bylaws and forward the amendment to the MTNA membership for approval and ratification as follows: "That all references to the Executive Director in the MTNA Bylaws be amended to Chief Executive Officer." At the meeting, Stewart substituted a replacement motion:

Motion (Stewart) and second (Price): I move to rescind the following (A) December 2007 and (B) July 2008 motions to change the Executive Director's title to Executive Director and Chief Executive Officer (Dec. 07) and to change the Executive Director's title to Chief Executive Officer (July 08) AND to recommend to the membership a Bylaws amendment to amend the Executive Director's title to Chief Executive Officer.

December 2007 Board Meeting

(A) Executive Director title revision

Motion (Gipson) and second (Pachak-Brooks) that the Board revise and update the title of the Executive Director to "Executive Director and Chief Executive Officer."

Passed 10 Yes, 1 No (Stewart)

July 2008 Board Meeting

(B) Motion (Florian) and second (Adams) to reaffirm the decision of the prior Board to update and revise the title of the Executive Director to Chief Executive Officer and to affirm the decision of the State Presidents Advisory Council in March 2008 which also supported the prior Board's decision.

Passed Unanimous

FAILED (2 Yes, 9 No)

Bylaw Revisions

A proposal was submitted by MTNA President Gail Berenson that the Board of Directors review and take appropriate action on a proposed revision to the MTNA Articles of Incorporation and the MTNA Bylaws. She had included with the Board agenda copies of the MTNA Articles of Incorporation and MTNA Bylaws as revised by the MTNA attorney, Scott Gilligan. Gilligan had been asked to review and update the MTNA Bylaws with the Executive's new title and to bring other elements in line with current MTNA terminology and Articles of Incorporation. He also made revisions to conform the Articles and Bylaws to Ohio law.

In discussing the revisions, the Board determined that these updates of terminology and other revisions should be a part of a more complete review of the Bylaws. Rather than amending year after year, it was preferable to have one major revision at some point in the future.

Motion (Adams) and second (Ediger) that the Bylaws and Articles of Incorporation be reviewed in 2011 and that the Gilligan revisions be included.

PASSED (8 Yes, 3 No)

At this time, Mr. Gilligan departed, and the Board returned to the original sequence of the Board agenda.

MINUTES

The minutes of the July 2008 meeting were approved with the following changes:

Change “2008” to “2009” Achievement Award (page 7)

Change “2008” to “2009” Distinguished Service Award (page 8)

Insert “Executive Director and” in front of Chief Executive Officer (page 10)

REPORTS

National Officer Reports

Written reports were received from the following National Officers: President Gail Berenson, President-elect Ann Gipson, Immediate Past President Paul Stewart, Vice President Janice Wenger, and Secretary-Treasurer Judith Price.

Secretary-Treasurer Price recognized Executive Director Ingle to lead the board through the October 31, 2008 Financial Reports. He reported that the assets of MTNA are \$2,293,629.67 with liabilities of \$46,839.96. Income is \$1,130,402.99 with expenses of \$660,083.26. Unrestricted long-term investments are \$593,436.68. The Foundation Fund Endowment Account has assets of \$550,821.40 and the McHose Trust has assets of \$468,465.15. Ingle indicated that, as a result of the austerity measures toward expenditures instituted during the fall, MTNA’s cash position is some \$130,000 ahead of the same time last year.

Division Directors

Written reports were received from directors of all divisions: East Central (Karen Thickstun), Eastern (Ellen Flint), Northwest (Debra Florian), South Central (Celinda Hallbauer), Southern (Fay Adams), Southwest (Lezlee Bishop) and West Central (Thomas Ediger).

National Program Chairs

Written reports were received from the following national program chair: Composer Commissioning (Ann Witherspoon).

Standing and Special Committees

Written reports from the following standing and special committees were reviewed: *AMT* Editorial Committee (William Westney), 2009 Conference Planning Committee (Kenneth

Christensen), Finance Committee (Judith Price), Membership Committee (Ann Gipson), Pedagogy Saturday Planning Committee (Barbra English Maris), MTNA State Presidents Advisory Council (Scott Beard), and the Summit for MTNA Leadership Planning Committee (Ann Gipson).

The Foundation Fund Development Committee (Brian Chung), Nominating Committee (Paul Stewart), and Partnership Review Committee (Ann Gipson) submitted no reports at this time.

Ad Hoc Committees

A report was received from the Student Artwork Committee (Diane Higgins). Higgins reported the Student Artwork Competition was launched on Monday November 3, 2009 with a theme of Building Bridges.

Student Artwork Categories include:

- Mozart (age 5-9)
- Beethoven (ages 10-12)
- Chopin (ages 13-15)

Student artwork (in any medium) will be submitted online to the MTNA website between November 3 – December 15, 2008. Online MTNA membership voting will occur between January 5 – January 15, 2009, where the top five selections in each category will be displayed at the MTNA National Conference in Atlanta. A National Winner will be determined from each of the three categories by conference attendee votes. Winning selections will be on display at the MTNA National Headquarters, on the MTNA website, in the *American Music Teacher* magazine, and featured on recital program covers. At the 2010 MTNA National Conference, the 2009 winning artwork will be the focus of a fundraiser for the MTNA Foundation Fund.

Motion (Adams) and second (Price) to accept the report of the Student Artwork Committee and to dissolve this committee with the Board's appreciation to the chair Diane Higgins and the staff for their work on this important project.

PASSED (Unanimous)

Executive Director/CEO Report

A written report was received from Executive Director Gary Ingle. He reported the following:

1. After 45 years as the corporate sponsor of the MTNA Junior Piano Competition, Baldwin Piano has withdrawn its sponsorship. Since its acquisition by Gibson Musical Instruments, the fate of the piano company has been uncertain. Most, if not all, of its pianos are now being made in China, and that area is its focus. A new sponsor will be approached at an appropriate time.

2. The streamlining of our efforts in technology has enabled us to focus on our core operations in that area. The staff is completing the final few commitments with AIBs (to this point, there have been no negative comments to the headquarters). The technology for implementing the Student Artwork Competition, the national conference registration process, the discussion boards, and general functioning of our website have been the priorities.
3. MTNA supported the Texas Music Teachers Association Relief Fund for music teachers affected by Hurricane Ike with a \$3,000 matching contribution.
4. Additional bank accounts have been established to enable MTNA to fall within the FDIC guidelines and coverage.
5. In order to maintain a budget neutral position in employee health insurance this year (no increase was budgeted), he looked at eight different scenarios to keep the existing coverage and costs. Our premium had increased by 20%, which was lowered to 16% through negotiations. The best solution was to increase the deductible from \$2,500 to \$3,000 (\$2,100 of which is paid by MTNA as a Health Savings Account) and require employees (for the first time) to pay \$12 per paycheck toward the premium.
6. As part of our annual staff MTNA Foundation Fund emphasis, the MTNA staff (not including the Executive Director) tripled its contributions this year to \$2,143.00 with 100% of the staff contributing. The average gift is over \$100 per staff member.
7. The first contribution to the Lynn Freeman Olson Endowment Fund was received from Carl Fischer (Haydon Conner, president and CEO) in the amount of \$1,553.74.

In addition to his report, the Executive Director distributed a Board of Directors Calendar for 2008-2010, and a copy of the new welcome email to new members that includes hot links to important resources, programs, and services.

BUSINESS

Presidential Appointments

Motion (Adams) and second (Flint) that the Board of Directors ratify the following appointment:

AMT Editorial Committee for 2009-2011

T. Matthew Edwards

Missouri Western State University

PASSED (Unanimous)

The meeting was recessed at 5:00 p.m. on December 5.

The Board was reconvened at 9:00 a.m. on December 6. Immediate Past President Paul Stewart and Secretary-Treasurer Judith Price were unable to attend the December 6 meetings.

Collaborative Artist Initiative

A proposal was submitted by Vice President Janice Wenger to initiate and establish partnerships with other music organizations to promote Collaborative Music. She feels that MTNA would be the catalyst for the alliance of music organizations in this special project. She proposed several steps in which MTNA could pursue the goal, which would culminate in a Year of Collaborative Music.

Motion (Wenger) and second (Ediger) that the Board initiate and establish partnerships with other music organizations to promote Collaborative Music, culminating in a Year of Collaborative Music.

PASSED (Unanimous)

Motion (Hallbauer) and second (Ediger) to establish a five (5) person steering committee to develop a mission statement, strategic plan, and implementation timeline for events and activities, culminating in a Year of Collaborative Music.

PASSED (Unanimous)

Leadership Summit from Annual to Biennial Event

The Board discussed a proposal submitted by Secretary-Treasurer Judith Price and the Finance Committee to make the MTNA Summit for MTNA Leadership a biennial event. It was felt that in these times of economic uncertainty, MTNA must continue to monitor its spending, knowing that it has had a deficit in the last two years. The leadership of the state organizations is generally on a two year term, thus providing every state president an opportunity to attend one leadership summit in his/her term of office. Annual summits could be re-established when the economy is stronger and MTNA knows that the membership numbers will continue to be substantial, and the budget is once again showing a gain.

Several Board members expressed the importance of the Summit to the leadership development program of MTNA, especially for communication and networking among the state presidents.

Motion (Finance Committee) to make the Summit for MTNA Leadership a biennial event.

FAILED (Unanimous)

Update Financial Policy on Budget Process

The Board discussed a proposal from Secretary-Treasurer Judith Price and the Finance Committee that the Board revise and update the following statement in the MTNA Financial Policy for clarity: “The Executive Director is authorized to reallocate budget funds for any line item up to a line item maximum of \$10,000, so long as the overall approved budget net surplus or loss is not affected. Any change of income or expenditure which would negatively affect the approved net surplus or loss will be reflected in a budget revision recommended by the Executive Director and approved by the Finance Committee. A variance in the approved net surplus or loss of more than \$25,000 must be approved by the Board of Directors.” The final sentence is unclear if it means “any variance” or just a “negative variance.” In addition the policy is ten years old and the authorization amounts were based on a budget of almost half the current budget.

Motion (Finance Committee) that the Board add the word “negative” before the word “variance” in the final sentence and to change the Executive Director authorization from \$10,000 to \$20,000 and the approval by the Board be changed from \$25,000 to \$50,000.

PASSED (unanimous)

Board of Directors Minutes Policy

The Board discussed a proposal for the state presidents to receive *approved* copies of the minutes of the MTNA Board meeting within a reasonable amount of time following the meeting rather than receiving an unapproved draft as is the current process. This would necessitate a process for the Board to approve the minutes via email.

Motion (Wenger) and second (Hallbauer) that the Board approve its minutes via email and distribute the approved minutes to the State Presidents within six (6) weeks of the Board meetings.

PASSED (Unanimous)

Investment Policy

At its July 2008 meeting, the Finance Committee requested that the MTNA Investment advisor Donald Kaplan of Kaplan, Litwin, Kaplan be contacted for any recommendations for or revisions to the MTNA Investment Policy for presentation at the December 2008 meeting. The purpose of this Investment Policy is to assist MTNA and Investment Advisor in effectively supervising, monitoring and evaluating the management of the Association’s assets.

A proposed Investment Policy from Kaplan was included with the agenda book. The Board discussed the policy with Howard Kaplan, asking several questions

Motion (Wenger) and second (Adams) to accept the Investment Policy as recommended by Kaplan with an addition to the document of the current MTNA investment rations of 60-70% equities and 30-40% fixed assets and cash.

PASSED (Unanimous)

FY 2010 Dues Adjustment

Executive Director Ingle announced that, pursuant to Board policy, active member national dues will increase automatically by approximately \$3.00 to \$66.00 for FY 2010. This amount is determined according to the formula in the following resolution passed by the Board in 2001: **Motion and Second to raise active member dues annually based on the Consumer Price Index (CPI) rounded to the nearest dollar. PASSED.** The current average CPI through September 2008 is 4.60%. Once the average CPI for 2008 is released sometime in January 2009, the amount of the dues increase will be finalized.

2011 National Conference

The board discussed a proposal from Executive Director Ingle for the site of the 2011 MTNA National Conference. A favorable proposal had been negotiated with the Hilton Milwaukee Center and the Midwest Airlines Center for the dates of March 25-30, 2011. He distributed a summary of the pertinent information related to the proposed conference site.

Motion (Ingle) and second (Flint) that the Board of Directors accept the offer from Milwaukee, Wisconsin to host the 2011 MTNA National Conference from March 26-30, 2011 and to authorize Executive Director Ingle to enter into contracts with appropriate hotels and other vendors as required and necessary.

PASSED (Unanimous)

Travel Funds for Division Directors to State Conferences

The Board discussed a proposal from Director Lezlee Bishop (Southwest Division) to establish a limited travel fund for division directors to attend state conferences within their own divisions.

Motion (Bishop) and second (Florian) to refer this request to the Finance Committee for consideration at its June 2009 budget meeting for fiscal year end 2010.

PASSED (Unanimous)

2009 Frances Clark Pedagogy Award

Executive Director Ingle on behalf of Marvin Blickenstaff, President of the Board of Trustees of the Frances Clark Center for Keyboard Pedagogy and spokesperson for the Selection Committee, presented the committee's choice for the 2009 award. The

recipients are the Two- and Three-Part Inventions (Sinfonias) and Well-Tempered Clavier by Bach edited by Willard Palmer (posthumously)

According to Blickenstaff: At the time these editions were published, piano teachers were seeking a clear direction in Bach performance practice. Teachers were being admonished by adjudicators and clinicians that edited versions of the Bach works were not valid, yet Urtext editions gave little guidance in the area of articulation and ornament realization. Palmer's editions presented the best of both worlds: the basic text was an Urtext reproduction, and Palmer's scholarly choices of articulations and ornamentation, printed in light gray, gave the piano teachers authoritative solutions to their dilemma.

Motion (Ingle) and second (Adams) that the Board ratify the Two- and Three-Part Inventions (Sinfonias) and Well-Tempered Clavier by Bach edited by Willard Palmer as the recipients of the 2009 Frances Clark Pedagogy Award.

PASSED (Unanimous)

Junior Brass Competition

The board discussed a proposal from Linda Stump and the Competitions Committee to discontinue Junior Brass competitions. The committee's rationale is:

1. Entry numbers in the Junior Brass competition have been consistently low.
 - 01-02: 7
 - 02-03: 7
 - 03-04: 5
 - 04-05: 8 (there were two division competitions)
 - 05-06: 6
 - 06-07: 7 (only four participated in Toronto)
 - 07-08: 2 (one opted not to come to Denver so competition was canceled)
 - 08-09: 1 (refunded money to the single entrant)
2. Several brass teachers and brass judges were contacted asking their opinion on having a high-quality brass competition for the Junior age group. All contacted said they felt it was very difficult to have students who are proficient with technique and competition-level repertoire at that early age.
3. This competition costs MTNA in excess of \$2,000 per year (\$1700 for awards and the remainder for judges honoraria, meals, parking, etc.).
4. The sponsorship potential for a competition at this level is negligible.

Motion (Ediger) and second (Adams) that the Board discontinue the Junior Brass competition effective with the 2009-2010 competition year.

PASSED (Unanimous)

Piano Concerto Requirement at the Senior and Young Artist Levels

The Competition Committee recommended the elimination of the piano concerto requirement at the Senior and Young Artist levels, thus having just solo repertoire throughout the competition. The committee's rationale is:

1. There are many other concerto competitions for students (universities, orchestras, etc.) where the end result is the performance of the concerto with an orchestra.
2. We encourage cuts in the *tutti* parts of the concerto to cut down on the performance time, which does not really give the full effect of the concerto.
3. The students rarely get to perform any of their repertoire in its entirety because of time restrictions. The issue is compounded by the fact that the standard piano concerto repertoire ranges from a performance length of anywhere from 15 to 45 minutes.
4. We no longer have a major work requirement for the instruments, which we had before the rules revision. The major work requirement was dropped in the 2002 revision.
5. It is very difficult for teachers to plan a good program of solo repertoire knowing the concerto has to be added.
6. Teachers and students would be able to put together a solo program that could be played without cuts if they so choose. The quality of the performance would be consistent through all levels of the competition. We have had complaints that the concerto at the division competition was not up to the level of the solo repertoire.
7. Two pianos would not be required, which has been a problem in some divisions. There are certain division locations where this has been a critical problem both in terms of facilities and added tuning costs.
8. Accompanists would not be required for Senior and Young Artist Piano.
9. States could be encouraged to begin their own concerto competitions.
10. We now have our Senior Piano Duet competition, which is a collaborative effort and the older students have the Chamber Music competition available to them.
11. This could ultimately result in many more entries in the competitions.
12. The sponsors of the piano competitions are interested in seeing large numbers of entries to make it worthwhile for them to supply the award money (and piano from Steinway). We lost sponsors of other instrumental competitions because the entry numbers were low in their areas (e.g. guitar).

The committee also provided background information on the requirement:

1. Years ago, there was a required concerto and the national Senior winner performed with an orchestra at the national conference. The string winner and the piano winner alternated years.
2. The required concerto was removed, but the concerto requirement (major work) remained without benefit of performing with an orchestra at the MTNA national conference.
3. In the rules revision of 2002, the concerto was taken out of the state level beginning in the 2003-2004 competition year. One reason given was to increase participation at the state level, which was reflected in the new philosophy (*educational at the state level moving to the more outstanding students at division and national*).

4. Following the Denver conference, the following e-mail was received from a teacher of a YA finalist:

A concern I have involves the omission of the concerto at the state level in both the college and high school levels. At the state competition, many of the college students played 40 minutes of solo material--those who prepared, say 20 minutes or less were at a disadvantage. Yet, if someone then wins with 40 minutes of solo material, and then adds a 30 minute concerto --now 70 minutes of material for the next two levels of competition, the judge's time is only increased 10 minutes. So at the region and national levels, they will hear 50 minutes of a 70 minute program. As a result, my student was stopped 8 times during his performance in Denver. The judges ended up hearing snippets of each movement, with almost no movement being heard in its entirety. [He] said that the interruptions to his focus and concentration were terrible. Why are students not allowed to remove a piece from state to region, if their time is too much and the judges will never hear it all?

I assume that the reason concertos were taken out at the state level was due to the problem of finding good accompanists? If that is true, then why not just have the students play without accompaniment? And yet, accompanists are required at the state level in the vocal and instrumental categories, so why should the piano be any different? Also since the new rules allow for the teacher to accompany their own student, why doesn't this satisfy the problem? A number of years ago, I had a student who won the [] state competition without even learning a concerto. When he won the state level (which shouldn't have even happened), he did a crash course in learning a concerto, but did an awful job at the regional level. I was so disgusted with both the judging at the state level and his preparation that I never allowed him to enter another MTNA competition, just in case the judging was that bad again. I take it that one reason changes in repertoire is not allowed any more is to insure that the quality doesn't go downhill from the state to region and national levels. Yet not having concertos played at the state level seems to allow for exactly that problem; a person could win the state level and have an awful concerto performance at the region. My student is proof of this.

The same comments came from one of our top teachers who has had national finalists and winners at the Senior level. This teacher said it is very difficult to put together a well-rounded solo program for the state level with a 25-minute time limit and then only have an additional 5 minutes added at division for the concerto.

5. At the state level, the Senior students are allowed 25 minutes for the solo repertoire. At division and national, they get a total 30 minutes with the concerto. The YA students are allowed 40 minutes at state and 50 minutes at division and national. Keep in mind that we do not allow for changes of repertoire. This results in the judges having to hear parts of repertoire, and they would almost never hear the entire concerto offering. At the Senior level, the judges decide what portion of the concerto they want to hear. At the YA level, they are instructed to hear at least 25 minutes of the concerto, leaving only 25 minutes for the solo repertoire.

The Board discussed the issue in much depth.

Motion (Ediger) and second (Flint) that the Board eliminate the piano concerto requirement at the Senior and Young Artist levels, thus having just solo repertoire throughout the competition.

PASSED (Unanimous)

Motion (Wenger) and second (Hallbauer) to authorize the Competition Committee to examine the length of individual competition performance times, reducing most by about five (5) minutes. The Board of Directors empowers the Competition Committee to adjust all state competition lengths for consistency based on current state competition time. Divisional and National performance times do not need to be adjusted downward, but they may be considered.

PASSED (Unanimous)

Task Force for Young Artist Duo Piano Competition

Director Fay Adams (Southern Division) proposed the establishment of a task force to study the possibility of adding a Young Artist level Piano Duet competition to the national competitions. She believes that this new competition would encourage college piano ensemble playing, promote an important repertoire, and provide an opportunity for college or post secondary piano teachers to collaborate by jointly entering a piano duo team.

Motion (Adams) and second (Hallbauer) that the Board of Directors appoint a Task Force to study the possibility of adding a Young Artist Level Piano Duet Competition to the current National MTNA Competitions.

PASSED (Unanimous)

2010 Conference Chair

Motion (Gipson) and second (Flint) that the Board ratify Scott McBride Smith as Chair of the 2010 Conference Planning Committee for Albuquerque, New Mexico.

PASSED (Unanimous)

2010 Pedagogy Saturday Theme, Chair and Committee

MTNA President-elect Ann Gipson made a proposal regarding the 2010 Pedagogy Saturday theme. She indicated that the year 2010 is the 200th anniversary of Chopin's birth. As Chopin is synonymous with piano and piano pedagogy, the Board discussed the idea of taking this opportunity to focus on his importance and pedagogical significance.

Currently, MTNA is also working on a partnership with the Chopin Foundation of the U.S. and the 2010 Canadian Chopin Festival.

President-elect Gipson also recommended Janet Lopinski as chair of the 2010 Pedagogy Saturday. Dr. Lopinski is an active member of MTNA and is a Chopin expert, having written her dissertation on Chopin's music. She has the organizational skills, having already organized the 2007 Pedagogy Friday in Toronto. Janet not only possesses a passion for the topic and Chopin's life and music, but also the skills to coordinate a committee and organize a successful day.

Motion (Gipson) and second (Flint) that the Board of Directors designate Chopin as the topic of the 2010 Pedagogy Saturday in Albuquerque, New Mexico and ratify Janet Lopinski as chair.

PASSED (Unanimous)

e-Journal Proposal

A proposal was submitted by Executive Director Gary Ingle for an online electronic journal for AMT members, especially those in higher education. A task force had recommended such a publication, the Board approved the concept, and work has progressed steadily in its development. Ingle proposed an operational framework for this publication, to be called the MTNA e-Journal:

The MTNA e-Journal

Mission:

The purpose of the MTNA e-Journal is to provide our members, especially those in academia, an online, peer-reviewed journal, which features in-depth, scholarly, research-oriented articles enhanced through the use of sound, image, and video links.

Readership:

- Members of Music Teachers National Association receive the *e-Journal* as a member benefit. It will also be available through subscription to the music teaching community.
- Nearly 75 percent of MTNA members are independent music teachers; 15 percent are college/university instructors; 5 percent are students; the balance teach in other settings.
- Approximately 75 percent of MTNA members list keyboard as their primary instrument; voice, strings, woodwind, brass and percussion comprise the remaining primary instruments.

Structure:

The content of the MTNA e-Journal will be selected by the MTNA e-Journal Editorial Committee, which is composed of seven members representing a broad spectrum of academic and professional expertise. One member will be designated as chair. The

MTNA publications staff, led by the Director of Publications as Managing Editor, provides professional guidance and assistance to the committee and implements all publication procedures and policies. The MTNA Executive Director/CEO serves as publisher of the MTNA e-Journal.

Frequency of Publication:

Four times during the academic year in September, November, February, and April

Number, Length, and Format of Articles:

Maximum of 4 articles that will be more than 3,000 words each

Content Guidelines:

In-depth, scholarly, research-oriented articles

Submission Process:

Same as the submission process for AMT

Peer Review Process:

Same as the peer review process for AMT

Budgeting, Personnel, and Technology Requirements:

MTNA's current staff and technology are sufficient to undertake this new endeavor

Date and Timeline of Initial Launch:

September 2009 will be first issue

 Ratify peer reviewers at March 2009 BOD meeting

 Begin soliciting articles in A/M AMT and via e-mail in spring

 Announce at conference

Motion (Thickstun) and second (Adams) to establish the MTNA e-Journal as presented.

PASSED (Unanimous)

MTNA and ME

Executive Director Gary Ingle proposed the development of a national campaign that would merge "MTNA," the symbol of the personal, with the "e," the symbol of the electronic age. By combining and contracting them, you get "MTNA and e" or "**Me**." In doing so, our members would see, visually and emotionally, that "MTNA" is about "**Me**." A "**Me**" logo would be developed, and all things digital could be identified by it. MTNA's digital information would be bundled on the website in such a way that our members could personalize their "**Me**" page with, for example, selected articles from the MTNA e-Journal, or, **Me**-Journal. Ingle believes such a campaign would create a lot of "buzz," would focus attention on the supremacy of utilizing technology in meeting our members' needs, and would provide a visual symbol that MTNA is about intensely

personal experiences. It would reinforce the feelings that every member should have: “MTNA is for ‘Me’”!

Motion (Ingle) and second (Bishop) that the Board approve the “ME” concept and encourage the Executive Director to develop prototypes for a future presentation to the board.

PASSED (Unanimous)

Percussion Competition Partnership

Executive Director Gary Ingle presented an idea for partnership with the Percussive Arts Society. In the fall of 2011, the Percussive Arts Society (PAS) is celebrating its 50th Anniversary in Indianapolis. The PAS board is very interested in pursuing a plan to have a joint PAS/MTNA competition to celebrate this anniversary. The PAS/MTNA competition would be a single event partnership, marking the 50th anniversary of the PAS. It would be limited to the Young Artist level. The winner would be selected through a process that utilizes the state and division levels of MTNA’s competitions (it would be held “at” the MTNA state and division competitions, but it would not be “part” of the competitions). The finals would be at the Percussive Arts Society International Convention (PASIC) in Indianapolis.

After discussion and by general consent, the Board felt that MTNA is not able to support this project now, given the large number of current projects being implemented.

Pre-Collegiate Member Task Force

On behalf of the Membership Committee, President-elect Ann Gipson proposed a task force to consider issues related to establishing a pre-collegiate membership in MTNA.

Motion (Gipson) and second (Wenger) that the Board of Directors establish a task force to study the idea of pre-collegiate membership in MTNA and submit a report at the July 2009 Board meeting.

PASSED (Unanimous)

Partnerships

As required in the Guidelines for Relationships of Outside Organizations with Music Teachers National Association, a current list of partnering organizations was provided for the Board’s review.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Conference Finance Committee Meeting – Atlanta, Georgia

March 26, 2009 2:00 p.m. Presidential Suite, Westin Peachtree Plaza

Conference Board Meeting – Atlanta, Georgia

March 27, 2009 9:00 a.m. Room 1208, Westin Peachtree Plaza

April 1, 2009 9:15 a.m. – 10:15 a.m. Room, 1208, Westin Peachtree Plaza

Summer Finance Committee Meeting - July 9, 2009

Summer Board Meeting – July 10 – July 11, 2009

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 5:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Judith Price
Secretary-Treasurer