

AKTA Board Members
2011-2012

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New Email Address

Your next AKTA newsletter will be sent from pianoakta@gmail.com. Please take a moment to add this to your address book, and ensure continued delivery to your inbox. Thank you!



UPCOMING EVENTS

- October 7** – AMTA Board Meeting (see page 4)
 - October 21** – Coffee Chat (see page 2)
 - October 24** – Svetlana Velichko/Anton Belov Recital (see page 2)
 - November 4** – Coffee Chat (see page 2)
 - November 5-6** – MTNA Strings Competition
 - November 12-13** – MTNA Piano Competition
 - January 13** – Coffee Chat (see page 2)
 - February 10** – Coffee Chat (see page 2)
 - February 11** – Piano Ensemble Ribbon Festival
 - March 2** – Coffee Chat (see page 2)
 - March 24-28** – MTNA National Conference
 - May 5-6** – Alaska Piano Competition
 - August 10-11** – AMTA Conference in Anchorage (see page 4)
- AKTA Board Meetings:** Fridays at 9:00-11:00 a.m. at Alaska Music and Sound, 1000 Ingra Street, Oct. 28, Nov. 18, Jan. 27, Feb. 24, March 30, and April 27. All members are welcome to attend.

Are you looking for more piano students?

AKTA offers a free listing for local members on the “Find-a-Teacher” page at www.pianoakta.org. Send your name, preferred email, instrument(s) you teach, and area of Anchorage or city to: Linda Green, leadpipe@gci.net.

President's Letter

Happy Fall Fellow Teachers:

Welcome to another year of piano adventures with our students and AKTA. I sit here wondering, what I can possibly offer this year as your President. We all share the same interests, a love of music, teaching, students, families and friends. Our lives are filled to the brim with a variety of activities that keep us going forward at hyper speed. The thought of adding one more item to our daily schedules makes us all want to scream. But as we become more and more overburdened with duties, we tend to forget a very important person in our lives: *ourselves!* An opportunity to do something for ourselves could be just what the "Dr." ordered. As a solution I would like to suggest our monthly coffee chats, board meetings and programs. These would be a chance to sit back and relax, gather with individuals that enjoy the same things as you, share your ideas, look for support and teaching

suggestions, meet some new friends and reestablish some old friendships.

We as an organization are still very much alive and functioning. The amount of activities that we do depend on the help we can receive from you the membership. I have in place an amazing board that has supported this organization for many seasons. I could not do this without them. We look forward to hosting our annual Duet Ribbon Festival, Coffee Chats, Spring Adjudications and next summer Anchorage will be hosting our State Conference. We are very excited to have lined up for this event Ingrid Clarefield and Scott Smith McBride.

Watch for reminders throughout the year for these events. Check out our website, www.pianoakta.org or call any of the board members listed here to answer any of your questions.

In Rhythm,
Gretchen Thomas

Private Piano Teachers

Are you looking for some fresh ideas?
Do you have a heartwarming success story?
Need a place to meet teachers like yourself?
Do you have teaching ideas or concerns?
Then this informal gathering is for you.

Coffee Chat with Gretchen (the lady in pink)

Friday at 9:30 am

October 21

November 4

January 13

February 10

March 2

Kaladi Brothers on Brayton Dr.

For more information, call Gretchen at
563-1463 or 301-6805.

Voice and Piano Recital

The Russian Alaskan Academy of Music invites you to "Songs of Love," a unique concert dedicated to the 200th anniversary of Franz Liszt, performed by Anton Belov, baritone, and Svetlana Velichko, piano. The program includes *Dichterliebe* by Schumann, *Three Sonnets of Petrarch* by Liszt, and works by Rachmaninoff, Glazunov, Metner, and Schumann-Liszt.

- Sunday, October 23 at 4:00 p.m.
- Sydney Laurence Theater, Alaska Center for the Performing Arts
- Tickets are available at CenterTix.net or by calling 263-ARTS (263-2787)

Dr. Belov will also present a free multimedia lecture on *Dichterliebe* as it fits into Romanticism. Friday, October 21 at 7:30 p.m. at Anchorage Lutheran Church, 15th and N Streets.

Sheet Music

Most of you know by now that Diane Moore retired and closed the Keyboard Cache this past summer. We are very thankful to her for supplying sheet music to the Anchorage area music community over the past 35 years. This is an adjustment for the piano community, and many teachers are feeling lost about how to obtain music for their students now. Below are listed a few websites that sell sheet music, and two local businesses that have a selection of music in their stores.

Alaska Music and Sound

1000 Ingra Street, (907) 272-4676, www.horndoc.com

We are happy to report that we've stocked up on all sorts of piano method books, including Alfred, Bastien, Suzuki, Faber, and possibly a few others. They are ready for purchase at our store. We're very thankful for the many teachers, parents, and students who have already come in to shop with us for their books. We don't have any immediate plans to have much contemporary/currently popular sheet music, only because our space limits us. But, we do intend to carry method books, for sure . . . plus scales, theory, etc. If there is a particular title or method that teachers would like to see us carry for their students, please send an email to Emily Weaver, weaver.m.emily@gmail.com, giving her as much information as possible: title, composer, publisher, product number or ISBN, and approximately how many they would like to see us keep on hand. Additionally, if teachers haven't already been by, we would love to have them stop in and take a look.

If a book is not available when a customer requests it, we will take their name, the title, and someone will get back to them as soon as possible with information on how soon we can get it for them, cost, etc. We are making book orders frequently, and generally, a customer shouldn't have to wait too long to get what they need if it is in stock with the publisher or distributor.

We do also have a small collection of "vintage" sheet music & books that a teacher is consigning through our store. I browsed through it the other day. Some pretty interesting and unique items.

We're looking forward to being of service to the keyboard community in any way we can, and are always open to suggestions and comments on how we can improve.

Warmly,
Barbara Kagerer
AK Music & Sound, Home of The Horn Doctor

The Music Man

521 W Tudor Road, (907) 561-7001,
www.musicmanstore.com

Diane's retirement has left quite a hole in Anchorage, especially with you piano teachers. We wish her the best and have enjoyed working with her over the years. We are trying to cover some areas that she served so well.

Many of you are familiar with the Pasch family. Music Man founder Kurt Pasch has been committed to music and music education in Anchorage for over 50 years. He was my Jr. High band director in the early 1960's, and has taught at the private, high school and college level in Alaska. The company was founded by him to support the school music programs and has continued under the leadership of his son Karl, principle clarinetist with the Anchorage Symphony and founder of the Civic Orchestra.

Following his vision we are currently expanding our music offerings to fill your diverse needs. In the piano music area I've started stocking Faber & Faber (including Adult and Advancing), Alfred Basic Piano Library (prep through 4, Complete, and Adult), Dozen A Day, Suzuki Piano 1-7, John Thompson, Bastien, The Russian School, and anything else I've been asked to carry to serve our piano community. I also have some artist books, Bach, Chopin, Mozart, etc, but I'll probably concentrate on methods for now. With your help we can supply Anchorage's basic print music needs, and will special order anything for you. Discovering the methods used by such a diverse teacher base is daunting, and I hope any teachers that need books I have not mentioned will contact me at (907) 561-7001 with their needs.

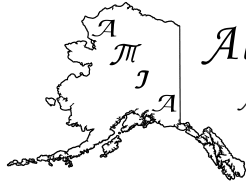
We pass out a teacher list to customers coming into the store and it should be an advantage to you to ask to be put on that list.

We also stock Yamaha digital pianos and offer them in a rent to own program as well as for sale.

Thanks,
Al Green
Manager, The Music Man

Websites

www.sheetmusicplus.com
www.pianoatpepper.com
www.musicnotes.com
www.everynote.com
www.burtnc.com



Alaska Music Teachers Association

Affiliated with Music Teachers National Association, Inc.

AMTA Meeting

All members are welcome to attend the next AMTA Board Meeting on Friday, October 7 at 9:15 a.m. at Kaladi Brothers on Brayton Drive. For more information, contact AMTA President Linda Green: leadpipe@gci.net

2012 AMTA Conference

Mark your calendars for next summer's AMTA conference, August 10-11, 2012 in Anchorage. Ingrid Clarfield and Scott McBride Smith are the guest speakers, two highly accomplished musicians and educators who often present together. Watch for more information in future newsletters.

AMTA Adjudications

The AMTA board has decided not to bring an adjudicator to Alaska this fall. Spring adjudications will be held as usual around the end of April/beginning of May. Future newsletters will announce other performing opportunities for your students. AKTA has the largest membership of piano teachers in Alaska, and every student who participates helps to keep adjudications and other events alive and successful.

In place of a formal adjudication this semester, consider inviting a colleague to listen and give comments to your students. Your students could benefit from hearing new ideas, or some of the same concepts presented from a different angle. Many times we repeatedly try to get a point across to a student, but only when they hear the same concept outside of the studio does it finally click. This is just one of the many joys of teaching – find out what works to inspire each student, and make it happen!