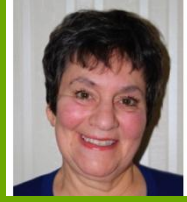




February 1, 2017

Winter Newsletter



2017

VMTA Calendar

February 12, 2017

BBVMTA Winter Recital

St. Paul's Cathedral

March 25, 2017

Spring Festival

The 2017 MTNA National Conference will take place **March 18-22, 2017** in Baltimore, MD at the Baltimore Marriott Waterfront. As always, you will be treated to outstanding array of informative sessions, master classes, thrilling concerts, and exhibits. Details on the MTNA website.

Welcome

President's Message – Winter 2017 VMTA Newsletter

Happy New Year to all:

On January 8, I volunteered to be a inside door monitor for the MTNA Eastern Division Competitions at the College of Fines Arts at Boston University. State winners from Maryland to Maine (12 states in all) competed in multiple competitions. Vermont was represented by Henry Wu (teacher Paul Orgel) in the Junior Performance Piano category and Thomas Bergeron (teacher Alan Parsley) in the Senior Performance Brass category. Tommy played the French horn. Tommy was awarded the first alternate meaning that he will perform in the MTNA national competition in Baltimore should the winner be unable to do so.

Impressive - impressive - impressive! I came back to Vermont with a very good feeling of how Henry and Tommy represented VMTA and Vermont. The quality and professionalism of all the students over multiple disciplines (voice to brass to piano) was incredible. I was relieved I did not have to be the judge!

On January 10, I attended the Young Artists Showcase Recital as part of the Cathedral Arts series. Eight young adult students performed in disciplines ranging from piano, French horn, voice, violin and flute. Impressive – impressive - impressive!

As teachers, we have begun a new year with our students. Not all will perform in these venues. However, each and every student has chosen to learn instruments that will be a life-long pursuit of the arts. Teachers are playing an active role. Encourage all of your students to not only practice, but also perform in some venue. It could be in school, their church or synagogue, or Spring festival.

Thank you for playing such an important role in your students' lives.

Marie M. Johnson, President

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MTNA Leadership Summit

Last September, I had the privilege of attending the MTNA Summit Conference in Cincinnati, Ohio. As a new attendee, I had no idea what to expect. But I was assured by more experienced VMTA board members that I would “learn a lot, and also have a great time.” I must say that it was exactly that – and more! I attended every lecture and meeting and came away with even more respect for MTNA as an organization than I had before as well as a deeper appreciation of it as an important service and advocate for the independent music teacher.

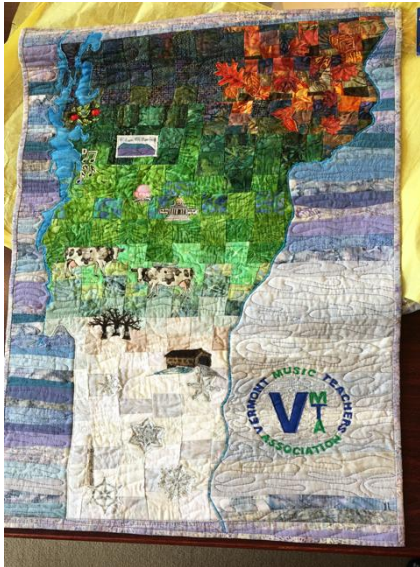
As the VMTA president-elect, I learned about the office, its responsibilities, and its relationship to the national organization. I met with the Eastern Division presidents and presidents-elect. I learned of the various programs that MTNA sponsors, such as the student competitions and the national conference.

I was also honored to give something back to MTNA on behalf of VMTA. Vermont quilter Terry Livak had created “Musical Inspiration of Vermont,” a beautiful wall hanging, which I presented to MTNA CEO Dr. Gary Ingle at the MTNA headquarters in Cincinnati. The quilt now graces the MTNA offices along with other works of art representative of each state in the nation.

It was an enlightening and inspiring trip that reinforced my long-held conviction that MTNA and VMTA continue to do important work in the field of music education.

Laurel Maurer, President Elect

“Music is not what I do; it’s who I am.”



Fall Convention Recap

The fall 2016 State conference was held on October 22, 2016 at the Richmond Free Library. The speaker for the event was Gilles Comeau. Dr. Comeau is a member of the Faculty of Graduate studies and the director of the Piano Pedagogy Research Laboratory at the University of Ottawa. He has a cross appointment in Human Kinetics in the school of Health Sciences as well. There were 16 attendees from VMTA and Maine MTA.

The general convention topic was as follows:

“Scientific research and brain studies: What do they have to do with music teaching and music reading?”

The presentation of very current research from the University of Ottawa Piano Pedagogy Lab was organized into four general topics.

Motivation: how can we address the large drop-out rate?

Predictors of drop out, parental concerns, cultural differences in work ethic

Learning by ear: is there supporting evidence?

Scientific support, playing by ear and reading proficiency, teaching implications

Piano method books and the introduction of musical notation

Introduction of musical symbols, sequencing and reinforcement in methods

This topic included research in eye tracking on the page. Fascinating!

Learning music: myths and reality

Brain plasticity and building brain circuits, sensitive age periods, cognitive benefits of music training

The concluding discussion was a strong and clear advocacy for the study of music for the sake of music and its emotional benefits, not for the contribution to the development of other skills that we often use as a reason for music study.

Please visit www.music.uOttawa.ca for information about the Piano Pedagogy Research Laboratory.

Save the Date

2017 QUAD STATE CONVENTION

The next Quad State Convention will be held on Saturday October 14, 2017. New Hampshire MTA will host the Convention and it will take place at the Concord Community Music School in Concord NH. The clinician will be Forrest Kinney. Kinney is an American pianist, teacher, columnist, and composer. He is the author of "Pattern Play" and "Chord Play" series for piano.

Please visit www.nhmta.net for further information and links to Forrest Kinney sites.



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*Photo taken by Saint Michael's student
Meredith Johnson '08 while studying abroad in
Namibia during her junior year.*

Competitive Auditions

The 2016 VMTA competitive auditions, facilitated by Claire Black, were held at the Richmond Free Library on November 13th. There were four entrants in three categories:

Junior Piano category

Miriam Viazmenski, student of Victoria Dobrushina
Henry Wu, student of Paul Orgel

Senior Brass category

Tommy Bergeron, student of Alan Parshley

Senior Composition category

Tracy Ferguson, student of Nancy Osborne

The adjudicator for the pianists was Su long Wong; for brass, Joy Worland; and for composition, Damon Ferrante. The judges offered written comments on the students' work, and Ms. Wong selected the winner and runner up for the piano division. Henry Wu won the state piano division, and Miriam Viazmenski was selected as Alternate. Tommy Bergeron and Tracy Ferguson were named State Representatives for their categories, per the procedure for divisions with only one entrant. In January, Henry Wu and Tommy Bergeron proceeded to the Eastern division competitions held in Boston, where Tommy was selected as the Alternate to the winner.

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Spring Festival 2017

The VMTA Spring Music Festival is scheduled for Saturday, March 25, 2017 in the McCarthy Arts Center at St. Michael's College in Colchester. Keyboard auditions will use a recital format, with each open audition block having a rotating panel of two judges. Recital format with one judge will be used for non-keyboard auditions.

All students will have open auditions scheduled in one-hour "audition" time blocks. The students should plan to check in with the monitor 10 minutes before the scheduled audition block is to begin, and they are expected to stay through the one hour audition block in which they are scheduled. Because of scheduling challenges, teachers should not count on being able to hear their students perform.

To register, please email Lilly Ramsey at cldkramsey@comcast.net. Lilly will email you an Excel attachment to complete and return to her with teacher, student, and performance information. After completing the electronic registration form, you will mail your registration check to Lilly. The deadline for registration and receipt of registration check is Friday, February 24, 2017 at 6 pm. Your registration check must be received in order for your registration to be processed.

Lilly Ramsey

2017 VMTA Spring Music Festival Schedule

8:30 to 9:00 am	Pick up Schedules
9:00 to 10:00 am	Auditions
10:00 to 11:00 am	Auditions
11:00 to 12:00 pm	Auditions
12:00 to 1:15 pm	Lunch & Business Meeting
(Please bring your lunch; beverage & dessert provided)	
1:30 to 2:30 pm	Auditions
2:30 to 3:30 pm	Auditions
3:30 to 4:30 pm	Auditions

LEVELS AND FEES

Keyboard:

Level I	Beginner to Mid Elementary	3 minutes	\$10.00
Level II	Late Elementary to Early Intermediate	5 minutes	\$10.00
Level III	Mid-Intermediate to Early Advanced	8 minutes	\$15.00
Level IV	Advanced	11 minutes	\$15.00

Non Keyboard:

All levels 11 minutes

Recital format with one judge will be used for all non-keyboard auditions. Non-keyboard repertoire is left to the discretion of the teacher. You will find sample programs below.

SAMPLE KEYBOARD PROGRAMS

These sample programs are only a very few examples of possible programming. The repertoire choices (and their sources) at each level are left up to the teacher. However, please follow all the audition rules from the previous page.

Level I: Beginner to Mid-Elementary (audition time limit: 3 minutes)

Sample Program A

- | | | |
|--------------------------------|---------------------|---------|
| 1. French Folk Song arr. Faber | Au Clair de la Lune | 30 sec. |
| 2. Brown | Rainbow Song | 60 sec. |

Sample Program B

- | | | |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------|---------|
| 1. Alfred Premier Piano Course 2A | Butterfly World | 40 sec. |
| 2. Alfred Premier Piano Course 2A | Boogie Bounce | 25 sec. |
| 3. Goldston | The Lady and the Dragon | 75 sec. |

Level II: Late Elementary to Early Intermediate (audition time limit: 5 minutes)

Sample Program A

- | | | |
|----------------|------------------------|---------|
| 1. Latour | Sonatina in C Allegro | 1 min. |
| 2. Siegmeister | Song of the Dark Woods | 40 sec. |
| 3. Mier | Lady Brittany's Ballad | 2 min. |

Sample Program B

- | | | |
|----------------|-------------------|----------------|
| 1. Petzold | Minuet in g minor | 2 min. |
| 2. Tchaikovsky | Old French Song | 1 min. 45 sec. |
| 3. Kabalevsky | The Clown | 45 sec. |

Level III: Mid-Intermediate to Early Advanced (audition time limit: 8 minutes)***Sample Program A***

- | | | |
|-------------|------------------------------------------|--------|
| 1. Clementi | Sonatina Op. 36 No. 3 Allegro con spirit | 3 min. |
| 2. Clementi | Sonatina Op. 36 No. 3 Rondo | 2 min. |
| 3. Grieg | Puck | 2 min. |

Sample Program B

- | | | |
|------------------|----------------------|---------|
| 1. Bach | Invention No. 8 | 30 sec. |
| 2. Mozart | Sonata K.545 Allegro | 3 min. |
| 3. Khatchaturian | Etude (Ivan is Busy) | 2 min. |

Level IV: Advanced (audition time limit: 11 minutes)***Sample Program A***

- | | | |
|-----------------|-----------------------------|----------------|
| 1. Bach | Prelude WTC Book 1, No. 21 | 1 min. 30 sec. |
| | Fugue WTC Book 1, No. 21 | 2 min. 30 sec. |
| 2. Chopin | Mazurka Op. 33, No. 1 | 2 min. |
| 3. Shostakovich | Fantastic Dance Op. 5 No. 1 | 1 min. 30 sec. |
| | Fantastic Dance Op. 5 No. 3 | 1 min. 30 sec. |

Sample Program B

- | | | |
|---------------|-----------------------------|----------------|
| 1. Beethoven | Sonata Op. 2, No. 1 Allegro | 3 min. 30 sec. |
| 2. Chopin | Nocturne Op. 2, No. 71 | 5 min. |
| 3. Kabalevsky | Prelude Op. 38, No. 2 | 1 min. |

VMTA SPRING FESTIVAL AUDITION RULES

1. **Students entered in levels I and II** shall perform a program of 2 or 3 pieces that are contrasting in mood, style, or tempo. At these levels (I and II) each individual piece or movement counts as one item, with no restrictions as to number of composers or periods. Students entered in levels III and IV shall perform a program of 2 or 3 Program Items, each item representing a different historical period and style from the other(s). At these levels, the student and teacher may Combine shorter pieces or movements from a work by the Same Composer into One program item. The time limit for the overall program still applies regardless of the number of pieces within the program items. No arrangements of any kind are allowed.
2. No repeats shall be taken in long intermediate/advanced level works (i.e. sonata allegro form). Repeats may be performed in short elementary level pieces or when differing 1st and 2nd endings are important to the structure of the piece.
3. All programs **must adhere** to the **stated time limits**. Please allow time for a brief pause between pieces.
4. The student must provide the judges with a copy of the music. No Photocopies are allowed.
5. For pianists, all pieces must be memorized. For instrumentalists, it is suggested that one piece be memorized.
6. **For keyboard students, no simplified arrangements of original piano works by Baroque, Classical, Romantic, or Contemporary composers are permitted.** Arrangements of folk/traditional songs are acceptable for levels I and II. Original repertoire is encouraged for all students. For instrumentalists, the use of arrangements is at the discretion of the teacher.
7. Instrumentalists must provide their own accompanists.
8. Repertoire for pianists is limited to solo works (no ensemble pieces). All auditions are conducted in an **open recital** format where students play for an audience of parents and other students in addition to the judges.
9. Only students of member teachers may participate.

10. The student must have studied with his/her teacher for at least 6 months.
11. All students in keyboard auditions levels III and IV are advised to number the first measure of each line in their music. Other students may also wish to enter measure numbers in their scores.

If you are sending students to the auditions, **it is required that you volunteer your time to judge or monitor.** To make the Spring Festival a success, we must have high teacher participation! **For every 2 students entered, a teacher should volunteer 1 hour.** The *Guidelines* sheet for monitors will be sent to you by email when you register. **Teachers not sending students are highly encouraged to volunteer as judges or monitors. Please email Lilly to volunteer.**

To expedite the enormous task of scheduling please observe the February 24th deadline.

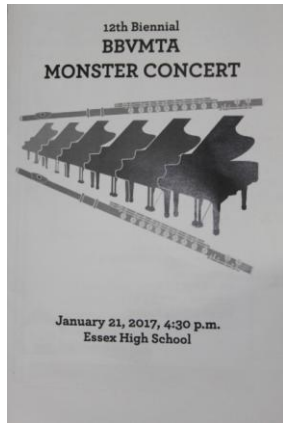
Monster Concert 2017

On January 21, the BBVMTA presented its 12th Biennial Monster Concert at Essex High School. 130 piano students participated by playing duets, trios, and two piano / eight-hand music on six pianos simultaneously. Students learned their music with their individual teacher and rehearsed for the first time as a group on Friday, January 20. A second rehearsal was held Saturday, January 21, with a concert of all ensembles held at 4:30 that afternoon.

As well as learning to follow a conductor, this ensemble experience helped the students improve continuity in rhythm and reading while having fun. For some, this was the first time being led by a conductor. Ginger Yang Hwalek returned for her eighth appearance as the conductor of the BBVMTA Monster Concert.

New this year was a flute ensemble directed by Laurel Ann Maurer. Ten flute students performed, accompanied by Sam Whitesell.

Students performing in the monster concert were from the studios of: Claire Black, Patricia Bergeron, Melissa Dickerson, Joan Foster, Lisa Goodrich, Gale Hansen-Patenaude, Keren Johnson, Marie Johnson, Cindy Livingston, Laurel Ann Maurer, Emily Mott, Susan Nicholas, Andrea Orlyk, Nancy Osborne, Lilly Ramsey, Mary Ann Samuels, Jina Smith, and Lynn Smith.



Monster Concert Dedication

The teachers of the BBVMTA dedicated the monster concert to the memory of Dale Howe. Dale was a big supporter of the VMTA and was involved with the Monster Concert since 1996 by providing pianos for the students to play. The teachers, students and families of Chittenden County have appreciated his support.

Dale Howe was born April 4, 1941 in Randolph, VT. He grew up on the Howe dairy farms in Tunbridge, and graduated from South Royalton High School. Although he grew up baling hay, he spent his free time playing music. In 1964, he received his degree in Agriculture Economics from the University of Vermont yet chose to pursue his lifelong love of music when he attended the North Bennett Street School in Boston and received a certificate of Piano Technology. Dale began tuning pianos for Frederick Johnson Pianos in 1965 and later became a partner in the business. As President and co-owner he enjoyed the business of piano sales and service as well as interacting with musicians and customers, many of whom he had maintained a long term relationship. As a concert tuner he was proud to provide a Steinway Concert Grand Piano and tune it for many big name performers throughout Northern New England, including popular artists such as Count Basie, Ella Fitzgerald, Ray Charles and Dolly Parton. In addition to tuning, Dale played the piano and performed in various venues. He also took pleasure in playing for family, friends and customers. As a talented musician, he could play a variety of instruments. While piano was his main instrument he also enjoyed playing his saxophones in several big bands, most recently the Moonlighters of Hartland. As an avid collector of music memorabilia, he has amassed an impressive collection of old sheet music, books, and autographed programs and posters. Dale was a Shareholder and past Director of the Tunbridge World's Fair where he most recently was Stage Manager and on the Entertainment Committee.

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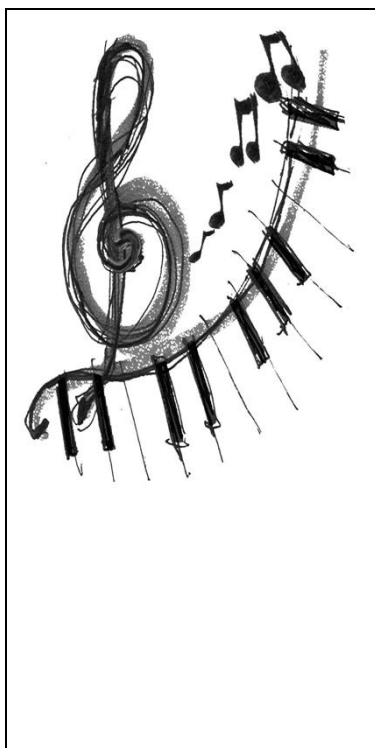


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Dale died October 18, 2016 at Dartmouth Hitchcock Medical Center with his wife Nancy and daughters Julie and Melissa by his side. Dale is survived by his wife Nancy, of 50 years, his daughters Julie Howe of New York City and Melissa Pitts,

her husband Jeff and their sons Alex and Ryan of Nazareth, PA. He is also survived by: his sister Karen Davies (Fred Krhut) of Fairhope, AL; his brother Timothy James Howe (Linda) of Williston, VT; as well as aunts, an uncle, and many cousins, nieces and nephews. His love of family, both immediate and extended, was always a great source of joy and pride to him. Services were held on Saturday, November 5 at the Tunbridge Church.



Pianist Diana Fanning and cellist Dieuwke Davydov are celebrating 40 years of performing together with a series of concerts that includes their eighth concert tour in Europe. The Duo will present works by Beethoven, Hindemith, Debussy, Chopin, Saint-Saëns, and Kathy Wonson Eddy. The local concerts are listed below.

Saturday, February 4, 7:30 PM

Chandler Center for the Arts, 71 N. Main St., Randolph, VT

[802-728-6464](tel:802-728-6464) www.chandler-arts.org

Sunday, February 26, 4:00 PM

Mead Memorial Chapel, Middlebury College, Middlebury, VT

[802-443-3168](tel:802-443-3168) www.middlebury.edu/arts

Saturday, April 1, 7:30 PM

Brandon Music Café, 62 Country Club Road, Brandon, VT

[802-247-4295](tel:802-247-4295) www.brandon-music.net

Sunday, April 9, 3:00 PM

Saranac United Methodist Church, 8 UMC Road (Route 3), Saranac, NY

[518-293-7613](tel:518-293-7613) www.hillandhollowmusic.org

Wednesday, May 17, 12 :00 noon

Stowe Community Church, 137 Main Street, Stowe, VT

[802-253-7792](tel:802-253-7792) www.stoweperformingarts.com

Classicopia presents pianists **Elizabeth Borowsky** and Daniel Weiser the weekend of **February 17-19** in the Upper Valley (performances in Hartland, Lebanon, and Hanover). Take a thrilling four-hand piano journey to Paris at the turn of the 20th century to explore the important role of the music hall and cabaret culture. The influence of ragtime and jazz is revealed, culminating in a performance of a new arrangement of Gershwin's "American in Paris." The program includes works by Faure, Chabrier, Satie, Poulenc, and Milhaud. www.Classicopia.org

Siblings. Best Friends. Musicians. Composers. Storytellers! On Friday, **March 24** at 7pm (First Congregational Church of Lebanon) and Sunday, **March 26** at 4pm (Dartmouth's Vaughan Recital Series), siblings Emmanuel Borowsky (violin), Frances Borowsky (cello), and **Elizabeth Borowsky** (piano) will be presenting a recital of original compositions that reflect their life experiences and travels to over 35 countries. With performances rooted in their cohesive and loving familial bond, the trio has delighted listeners of all ages with their passionate interpretations of standard repertoire and their moving original compositions. Additional dates and performances TBA (BorowskyMusic@gmail.com).

Upcoming Concerts

More Concerts...

Paul Orgel will be performing a recital with Mary Bonhag, soprano, on Thursday, **Feb. 23**, at 7:30 PM, at the UVM Recital Hall, Free Admission. This is part of the President's Concert Series, and features songs of Schubert, Schumann, Clara Schumann, Aaron Copland, Libby Larsen, and others. Future concerts include solo and chamber music performances with Vermont Virtuosi on **March 4th and 5th**, and Capital City Concerts on March 11th and 12th.

Contrasts: Quintets for Strings and Piano

Violinists Letitia Quante and Brooke Quiggins, violist Stefanie Taylor, cellists John Dunlop and Emily Taubl, and pianist **Claire Black** coalesce to present a program of quintets by Boccherini, Glazunov, and Shostakovich. 50% of proceeds will be donated to the Fresh Food Fund, a collaborative effort between the Hinesburg Food Shelf and Full Moon Farm.


Dates and Times

Saturday, February 4, 7:30 p.m. Unitarian Church of Montpelier

Sunday, February 5, 7:30 p.m. Richmond Free Library

Free admission. Donations accepted.

Contact vermontchamberartists@gmail.com for more information.



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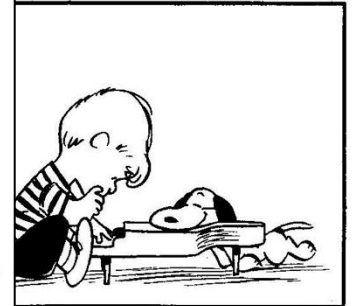


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BBVMTA News

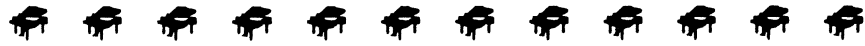
On Sunday February 12 the Burlington Branch of the Vermont Music Teacher's Association will hold its Winter Student Recital.

This event takes place at St. Paul's Cathedral in Burlington at 2:30 PM. Free and open to the public.

This event is only open to members of the BBVMTA, which is the local branch of our state organization. Please consider joining the BBVMTA if you are not a member; it only costs \$5.00!

Nancy Osborne,

BBVMTA President



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Vermont Virtuosi



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2016-2017 Season

Pipe Dreams 5. The Vermont Virtuosi Flute Ensemble, Vermont’s only professional flute choir, performs new works and classical transcriptions. Sep. 30 and Oct. 1 and 2, 2016.

Twilight at the Opera. Singers Sarah Cullins and Wendy Hoffman join flutists Anne Janson and Laurel Ann Maurer and pianist Claire Black in a panoply of luscious operatic arias. Nov. 5 and 6, 2016.

New Beginnings. Clarinetist Karen Luttk, flutist Laurel Ann Maurer, cellist Emily Taubl, and pianist Paul Orgel perform Brahms’ Op. 114 clarinet trio as well as newly commissioned works by Vermont composers Gwyneth Walker and David Gunn. March 4 and 5, 2017.

April Cool. Flutist Laurel Ann Maurer, violinists Letitia Quante and Jane Kittredge, violist Paul Reynolds, and cellist John Dunlop play Mozart, Debussy, Jacques Hétu, David Gunn, and other cool composers. April 1 and 2, 2017.

The concerts are free; donations are appreciated. For venues and other data, visit www.LAMaurerflute.com or www.facebook.com/VermontVirtuosi.



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<http://pianoguild.com>

Ellis Music Company, Inc.

P.O. Box 437
Bethel, VT 05032
(802) 234-6400

<http://www.ellismusic.com>

Garner Headjoints

Kate Montross
www.garnerheadjoints.com
kate@garnerheadjoints.com
(802)272-6434

Frederick Johnson Pianos, Inc.

344 North Hartland Road
P.O. Box 736
White River Junction, VT
05001
(802) 295-2674

<http://www.fj pianos.com>

Hilbert Pianos

40 Pleasant Street
Bristol, VT 05443
(802) 453-3743

www.hilbertpianos.com

Vermont Virtuosi

Laurel Maurer
96 Tremont St.
Barre, VT 05641
(802) 881-9153

laurelflutemaurer@yahoo.com

Little Valley Piano Service

Greg Moore, Jr. RPT
1863 Howard Hill Road
Benson, VT 05743
Office: (802) 438-5279
Cell: (802) 247-4266

www.littlevalleypiano.com

Piano Service by Rose Kinnick, RPT

(802) 598-3385
roselynkinnick@comcast.net
www.rosespianoservice.com

St Michael's College

1 Winooski Park
Colchester, VT 05439
(802) 654-2580

<http://www.smcvt.edu>

Vermont Piano Service

Ben Giroux
64 Paquette Road
St. Albans, VT 05478
(802) 343-1333

Ben@vermontpiano.com
<http://www.vermontpiano.com>

Intermuse International Music Institute & Festival

Elizabeth Borowsky,
Executive Director
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