



*Strengthening the importance of music  
in our life and culture since 1940*

# NEWSLETTER

Summer 2007

## **NATIONAL MUSIC COUNCIL SUPPORTS MUSIC EDUCATION ADVOCACY WITH "25 WAYS TO SUPPORT MUSIC IN OUR SCHOOLS" CAMPAIGN**

The National Music Council has created a tri-fold brochure and single page magazine ads to highlight ways in which the music community can support music in the schools of our nation. The ads and brochures are attached to this email, available electronically at [www.musiccouncil.org](http://www.musiccouncil.org), or can be ordered by contacting David Sanders at [sandersd@montclair.edu](mailto:sandersd@montclair.edu).

The NMC encourages its constituents to distribute the brochures at member conventions, and to run the ads in your journals, magazines, and newsletters.

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## **MUSIC EDUCATION THE KEYNOTE AS THE NATIONAL MUSIC COUNCIL BESTOWS 2007 AMERICAN EAGLE AWARDS**

Music education was the spotlight on Thursday, May 24th as the National Music Council presented its 26th annual American Eagle Awards in a luncheon ceremony at New York's Supper Club.

Awarded the special American Eagle honors last week were Clive Davis,

chairman of the BMG Group of Labels; Broadway music composer Sheldon Harnick, and the VH1 Save the Music Foundation, which has grown in the past 10 years into a prime force for music education in the nation's middle schools.

Clive Davis' music education credentials include a major commitment to the genre through his landmark gift to the NYU Tisch School of the Arts creating the world's first degree-awarded college major in contemporary music, known as The Clive Davis Department of Recorded Music. Prior to the luncheon, the Council's annual *Leadership in Music Symposium* featured a "Conversation with Clive Davis", hosted by NMC board member Charles Sanders.



Clive Davis with members of the Marine Park Junior High School Band at the Eagle Awards

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Sheldon Harnick, one of the most prolific of all Broadway composers, started his career in the 1950s with musical revues both on and off Broadway. Later, with partner Jerry Bock, he created the scores for “Fiddler on the Roof,” (which won a Tony Award); and “Fiorello,” which won both a Pulitzer Prize and a Tony. Harnick is a member of The Dramatists Guild and The Songwriters Guild of America, and has always given unstintingly of his time and effort to the cause of music education.

VH1’s Save the Music Foundation has also been in the forefront of the drive to keep music alive in the public schools of the country. During its first decade, the Foundation has helped restore and sustain music instrumental programs in more than 1400 schools nationwide. During the luncheon, The Marine Park Middle School Jazz Band of Brooklyn, recipients of the largesse of VH1, entertained with a group of big band style jazz offerings during their appearance on stage.



Sheldon Harnick accepting his 2007 American Eagle Award

## **NAMM OFFERS NEW SUPPORTMUSIC COMMUNITY ACTION KIT FREE TO CITIZENS WORKING FOR MUSIC EDUCATION**

NAMM, the trade association of the international music products industry, is offering free copies of a new SupportMusic Community Action Kit, which offers step-by-step guidance, action tools and handouts about how to support music education in local communities. Free copies of the kit are also available to parents and community organizations.

Previously nicknamed the “Einstein Kit,” the new redesigned SupportMusic Community Action Kit includes:

- A 24-page guide to grassroots advocacy, and the same information provided in Spanish
- A CD-ROM with community action tools including presentation materials, handouts, and petition and press release templates
- 50 copies of the “Why Learn to Play Music?” brochure, which can be customized with a company name and address.

“The new kit is another resource NAMM is providing our Members and active music supporters to proactively spread the word about the benefits of music education in their communities,” said Mary Luehrsen, director of public affairs and government relations at NAMM.

To request a SupportMusic Community Action Kit, call NAMM at 800-767-6266 or e-mail a request to [info@namm.org](mailto:info@namm.org)

## **AMERICAN SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA LEAGUE SUPPORTS IN-SCHOOL MUSIC EDUCATION**

The American Symphony Orchestra League has recently released a statement of common cause entitled "**Orchestras Support In-School Music Education**".

The document was drafted with input from more than 50 orchestras and reflects a collective opportunity for all orchestras to take individual, community-specific action to improve access to music education in schools nationwide.

The League is encouraging all adult and youth orchestras to endorse this statement of common cause, take action in their own communities, and share information about their advocacy experiences.

Take Action Now:

- View and Discuss the Statement. We are asking orchestra executive directors to officially sign the orchestra onto the statement, "Orchestras Support In-School Music Education."
- Sign On! All orchestra executive directors are invited to let us know that your orchestra endorses this statement of common cause by completing this short form.
- Inform us of your local advocacy activity. The sign-on form invites you to let us know of existing and emerging advocacy underway by your orchestra.

- Take a first step. Whether beginning for the first time or building on existing advocacy, check out our Tips for Launching Your Advocacy Effort and consider the list of Sample Actions your orchestra might take to advocate for music education in your community.
- Learn More. View the League's complete Music Education Advocacy Tools, available to support your local efforts.

Contact: Heather Noonan, League Vice President for Advocacy.

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## **NAMM TO EXHIBIT AT AARP EVENT & EXPO TO DEMONSTRATE THE HEALTH, SOCIAL BENEFITS OF RECREATIONAL MUSIC MAKING**

NAMM, the trade association of the international music products industry, will be exhibiting at the sixth annual AARP Life@50+ National Event & Expo at the Boston Convention Center, Sept. 6-8, 2007, demonstrating to nearly 25,000 attendees the social and physical wellness benefits experienced by people over age 50 who participate in recreational music making (RMM).

RMM involves making music of any type for the pure pleasure it brings to the player. The activity entails no formalities in style or method, and research has shown that it physically and socially benefits people of all ages, especially those entering their older years.

"The Creativity & Aging Study," a study funded by the NAMM Foundation and published in the Journal of Aging, Humanities and the Arts in 2007, states

that seniors who are involved in participatory art programs for older adults show positive effects in relation to physical health, number of doctor visits, medication usage, depression, morale and activity level.

In addition, according to "The Einstein Aging Study" published in The New England Journal of Medicine in 2003, leisure activities such as making music are associated with a reduced risk of dementia.

To expose attendees to the many facets of RMM, NAMM has arranged for its members, who are retailers and manufacturers of music products, to host multiple hands-on music presentations at the NAMM Music Village booth focusing on RMM programs and products. There will also be a new Lesson Area hosting mini music lessons, a Presentation Stage where speakers will talk about the benefits of making music each day, and a daily drum circle.

NAMM will wrap up its activities at the Expo with a performance by a local New Horizons Band. Located nationwide, New Horizons Music programs provide entry points to music making for adults, including those with no musical experience and those who were active in school music programs but have been inactive for a long period.

For more information about RMM, go to <http://rmm.namm.org/> or visit the New Horizons International Music Association <http://www.newhorizonsmusic.org/nhima.htm>.

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## **2007 CMA MUSIC FESTIVAL BREAKS ATTENDANCE RECORD WITH MORE THAN 191,000 COUNTRY MUSIC FANS ATTENDING**

CMA Music Festival set a new aggregate attendance record in 2007 with 191,154 people attending the four-day Festival, June 7-10, in Downtown Nashville.

"It was an amazing event on many different levels - from the outstanding lineup of artists; to our incredibly enthusiastic fans, who traveled from around the globe to be here; to the outpouring of support from Nashville and our surrounding communities," said **Tammy Genovese**, CMA Chief Operating Officer. "Each year I find myself saying this, and it is happening again in 2007, but this is the *best* CMA Music Festival ever."

Attendance at the Festival hit an all-time high. Single concert tickets for the Nightly Concerts at LP Field were up 14 percent from 2006. In fact, CMA opened the upper level of LP Field to meet the demand for four-day ticket packages and single night concert tickets. CMA also experienced a 20 percent increase in the sale of four-day ticket packages.

"Increased single concert ticket sales are an indication of increased local support and participation in the Festival," Genovese said. "It is a trend that started two years ago and we are seeing it grow from year to year. Local companies and individuals are embracing this event as never before - especially now that it benefits music education. In fact, we had 400 Metro Nashville students attend Saturday night thanks to the generosity of the Nashville Area Chamber of Commerce."

Fans enjoyed themselves and made it known at the Box Office. Tickets for CMA Music Festival 2008, June 5-8, went on sale Saturday and Gold Circle four-day ticket packages sold out in a record 90 minutes. By Sunday, advance sales bested sales during the same period in 2006, by a robust 25 percent.

"You know you are giving the fans what they want when they put down their hard-earned money for an event and we haven't even announced who will be performing," Genovese said. "That speaks to the dedication of our fans, the popularity of the Festival and the strength of our format."

Surprise appearances are a hallmark of this event. And 2007 didn't disappoint. The first night at LP Field included an unannounced appearance by first season "American Idol" winner **Kelly Clarkson**, who joined **Reba McEntire** on two songs - "Does He Love You" and their recent duet release "Because of You." On Friday evening Motor City madman **Ted Nugent** joined **Montgomery Gentry** onstage for a ferocious rendition of his classic "Cat Scratch Fever." And reigning CMA Vocal Group of the Year **Rascal Flatts** made a surprise concert appearance the following night.

"We love giving our fans something special and unexpected," Genovese said. "It is amazing to hear the stadium erupt in applause when an unannounced guest steps out on that stage."

And it all benefits children and music education in Nashville. The artists and celebrities participating in CMA Music Festival donate their time. They are not compensated for the hours they spend signing autographs and performing. In

appreciation of their exhaustive efforts, CMA donates half the net proceeds from the event to music education on their behalf through a partnership with the Nashville Alliance for Public Education called "Keep the Music Playing."

To date, CMA has donated more than \$1.1 million to worthy causes on behalf of the artists who participate in the Festival for free - including \$368,500 from the 2006 CMA Music Festival for "Keep the Music Playing." Several student groups participated in the Festival including drum corps from Hillwood High School and Hunters Lane High School, who marched in the Kick-Off Parade along with students from the Nashville School of the Arts, which received a Chevy Silverado truck to transport band equipment to community performances as part of the "Keep the Music Playing" campaign.

During opening night ceremonies, CMA Board member **Kix Brooks of Brooks & Dunn** presented \$10,000 to "Keep the Music Playing" on behalf of Nashville Mayor **Bill Purcell** in appreciation of his support of the Festival during his tenure.

The \$10,000 donation has been earmarked by the Nashville Alliance and Metro Nashville Public Schools to purchase a sound system and lighting for the performance center at Isaiah T. Creswell Middle Arts Magnet School.

The charity donation is appreciated, but at its heart, CMA Music Festival is - and always will be - about the fans and their relationship with the artists and the music. The theme is universal and in 2007, Festival attendees came from every state and 21 foreign countries.

The Country Music Association and ABC Television Network have

announced that "The 41st Annual CMA Awards" will air live Wednesday, Nov. 7 (8:00-11:00 PM/EST) on ABC from Nashville, Tenn.

"The CMA Awards is 'Country Music's Biggest Night' and is one of the most highly anticipated events for our industry each year," said CMA Chief Operating Officer **Tammy Genovese**. "It's a night to applaud our best and brightest performers, songwriters, record producers and music video directors. And we are ready to make this the most outstanding Awards broadcast to date."

The CMA Awards moved from September to November Sweeps in 2003 and the placement right before the important holiday retail sales season has been good for the Country Music industry. 2003 also marked the last time the Awards were held on Wednesday. In 2007, the CMA Awards moves back to Wednesday night.

"Some of our highest-rated programs have been on Wednesday and our partners at ABC support the move based on the strength of the CMA Awards and the configuration of the fall lineup," Genovese said. "We all feel that the position at the start of Sweeps on a night that has been successful for us in the past is the right move for the Awards, the industry, and ABC."

The 2006 CMA Awards, held in Nashville during November Sweeps (Nov. 6), ranked behind only the Academy Awards, the Golden Globes and GRAMMY Awards during the 2006-2007 season for awards shows among total viewers. With "The 40th Annual CMA Awards," ABC won Monday evening in both total viewers (16.0 million) and adults 18-49 (5.4/13).

## **NATIONAL GUILD OF COMMUNITY SCHOOLS OF THE ARTS CONFERENCE REGISTRATION OPENS**

Registration for the National Guild's **2007 Conference for Community Arts Education** is now open! This year's conference will be held at the Wilshire Grand Hotel in Los Angeles from November 7 -10.

Guided by the conviction that participation in the arts is vital to individual fulfillment and community life, the Conference for Community Arts Education provides essential networking and professional development opportunities for executive directors, program directors, development directors, teaching artists and trustees of community-based arts education organizations. As a conference delegate, you will gain practical skills and insights into growing trends from nationally renowned experts in the field of advocacy, arts integration, student assessment, board development, evaluation, marketing, fundraising, and partnerships.

The National Guild's 2007 Conference for Community Arts Education will feature a diverse line-up of innovative speakers with compelling perspectives on the intersections between arts, education and community. Featured Conference Speakers include: **Eli Broad**, arts and education philanthropist; Eli Broad is a renowned business leader and founder of The Broad Foundation, an LA-based venture philanthropic organization which plays a leadership role in art, education, science and civic development. Broad also founded The Broad Education Foundation, whose mission is to improve public education through better



governance, management and labor relations. In its first five years, The Broad Education Foundation committed over \$400 million to support new ideas and innovative leadership in the nation's largest urban school systems. **Liz Lerman**, community-based choreographer and educator; Liz Lerman founded the Liz Lerman Dance Exchange, a unique multi-generational ensemble that aims to bring community groups together to experience the expressive power of dance and explore important issues through movement and story. In the past two decades, her company has created and performed over 50 innovative dance/theater works and led participatory art-making residencies in cities, towns, and rural communities from Los Angeles, California to Lewiston, Maine to Gdansk, Poland. **Chike Nwoffiah**, filmmaker & executive director; Chike Nwoffiah is the founder and executive director of Oriki Theater, a Mountain View-based performing arts company dedicated to the promotion of Africa's culture and heritage through workshops, performances, education and youth development programs. An award-winning filmmaker and director, Mr. Nwoffiah currently serves on the boards of the Alliance for California Traditional Arts and the California Black Arts Alliance among others. Join us in LA to share ideas and build relationships with a dynamic network of community arts education professionals!

[JonathanHerman@nationalguild.org](mailto:JonathanHerman@nationalguild.org)  
[www.communityartsed.org](http://www.communityartsed.org)

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## **SESAC ANNOUNCES LANDMARK LICENSING AGREEMENT WITH MYSPACE**

SESAC, Inc. has announced a landmark licensing agreement with social networking site, MySpace. The agreement allows the hugely popular website full access to SESAC's extensive repertory and provides a retroactive licensing agreement dating back to the founding of MySpace.

Since its launch in 2004, MySpace has grown into the largest online social networking portal and the second largest destination on the web, hosting over 50,000 groups including fashion, health, fitness, sports, and, of course, music. MySpace is certainly one of the fastest growing sites in the history of the Internet.

"MySpace is undoubtedly one of the most visited, influential, and interactive websites in the world. Music is central to the MySpace experience," says SESAC President Pat Collins. "This important licensing agreement not only ensures that SESAC's songwriters will be compensated for their MySpace performances, but it is also an important step in creating a robust online marketplace that demonstrates respect and value for intellectual property. SESAC is proud of its long history of negotiated license agreements and will continue, through licensing arrangements, to make copyrighted content conveniently available for the entertainment and enjoyment of the public in the commercial marketplace."

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**SESAC ADVANTAGE TRACKING SYSTEM CREATES REVOLUTIONARY SYSTEM FOR TRACKING PERFORMANCES OF MUSIC IN COMMERCIAL ADVERTISEMENTS AND PROMOTIONAL ANNOUNCEMENTS**

SESAC, Inc., announced the launch of the SESAC AdVantage Tracking System, a cutting-edge new method of tracking and paying royalties for performances of its musical repertory in commercial advertisements and promotional announcements (ads and promos) on network, cable and local television.

The SESAC AdVantage Tracking System combines data provided by Competitrack, which uses a proprietary fingerprinting technology to track national, regional and local ads, and DigSound (OTC DGSU), which utilizes watermarking technology to track production music used in television programming airing in local markets. The integration of these services will allow SESAC to electronically track actual performances of its repertory in ads and promos and integrate the data into its royalty distribution systems for payment. This means that SESAC-affiliated composers will no longer have to provide proof-of-performance via media buys, traffic schedules, or station logs in order to receive royalties for these performances.

“The SESAC AdVantage Tracking System represents a new, innovative and highly efficient mode of tracking musical performances in ads and promos,” said Hunter Williams, SESAC’s Vice President of Royalty Distribution & Research Services. “SESAC has taken a lead role in establishing what we know to be a

ground-breaking service that will benefit our affiliates. Composers and publishers of this music have spoken and SESAC has listened.”

The gateway to the SESAC AdVantage Tracking System will be the performing rights organization’s online works registration utility at [www.sesac.com](http://www.sesac.com). SESAC will use the information collected via the registration process to cross-reference the works with the Competitrack and DigSound systems in order to download the performance data. The data will then be fed seamlessly into SESAC’s royalty distribution systems in a virtual paperless process.

“We are pleased that SESAC is the first performing rights organization to capitalize on the value of our data in ensuring that their affiliated composers and publishers of music in commercials receive fair and accurate payment,” said Hans Vredeling, Senior Vice President of Broadcast Monitoring Services, Competitrack. “The burden of proof no longer rests squarely on the shoulders of the creator or rights-holder in order to get paid royalties for these performances.”

“We are thrilled to be one of SESAC’s technology partners in this exciting solution,” said Paul Martin, President/CEO, DigSound. “The goals of SESAC and DigSound are one and the same: providing accurate and efficient methods of tracking, collecting and distributing royalties. We look forward to a long and productive relationship.”

About Competitrack, Inc.

Competitrack is a full service competitive tracking firm with headquarters in New York City. They



provide competitive advertising tracking services for ads running in the U.S. and over 60 countries around the world for television, radio, newspapers, magazines, trade publications, FSIs, outdoor, online, cinema, infomercials and alternative media. For two decades they have provided custom competitive solutions to premier brand clients, ad agencies, and Fortune 2000 firms.

Using sophisticated technology and industry-specialized staff, Competitrack offers client-specific, customized competitive solutions that permit detailed information gathering not available from other vendors. In the U.S. they provide competitive spending data, ad monitoring, intellectual property use reports, and co-operative advertising tracking services. U.S. monitoring includes Hispanic and Asian media. [www.competitrack.com](http://www.competitrack.com).

#### About DigSound, Inc.

Using Nielsen Media Research's music detection software, DigSound, Inc. has created a web-based platform (VR24/7) that allows music providers, broadcasters and advertisers an online interface, which enables more efficient methods for distributing and monitoring content usage. VR24/7 allows users to access their content. It also provides broadcasters who use DigSound's watermarked content the ability to automate and manage the process of licensing music. [www.digsound.com](http://www.digsound.com).

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## MEMBER REPORTS

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### AMERICAN FEDERATION OF MUSICIANS

The 97th Convention of the American Federation of Musicians was held in Las Vegas from June 18-20. Over 300 delegates from almost 200 locals deliberated and acted on 67 resolutions, 27 recommendations, and a proposal from the Revenue Committee.

The Convention called on Congress to correct the injustice of unequal copyright treatment for sound recordings in the Copyright Act, and to amend the Copyright Act to include a full performance right for sound recordings that applies to terrestrial and analog broadcasts as well as to digital broadcasts.

Delegates officially condemned all forms of music piracy and urged all music lovers and consumers to support recording musicians who are royalty artists and musicians by refusing to purchase pirate CDs and by refusing to engage in unauthorized peer-to-peer file sharing of copyrighted music files.

In addition, the Convention called on the FCC to reverse its efforts to permit further consolidation of media ownership, to reconsider the threat to localism inherent in the consolidation of media ownership, and to recognize and define local programming as programming in which the material to be played or aired is chosen by local individuals with a connection to the local community.

Some prominent leaders who spoke at the Convention (live and through video) included Bill McFarlin from the International Association of Jazz Educators, Congressmen and current and former AFM members Sen. Daniel Akaka (D-HI), Rep. Colin Peterson (D-MN), Rep. John Hall (D-NY), and Rep. Paul Hodes (D-NH), and Canadian Senator Tommy Banks.

On Day 2 of the Convention, AFM International President Thomas Lee presented the AFM Youth Diversity Award to Tyrone Lamont Martin and the Charles Walton Advocacy Award to Dr. Fred Wheatt. And he awarded the President's Award to the Officers of the Houston local.

The delegates re-elected International President Lee, International Secretary-Treasurer Sam Folio, and International Vice-President Harold Bradley. They elected a new VP from Canada, Bill Skolnik.

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### **Chopin Foundation of the United States Celebrates Thirtieth Anniversary**

WHO: Founded by Mrs. Blanka A. Rosenstiel in 1977, the Chopin Foundation stemmed from the First National Chopin Piano Competition held in Miami in 1975 under the auspices of the American Institute of Polish Culture. Chopin Foundation's mission is to assist young talented American pianists in their career development and to promote classical music among general audiences. National Chopin Piano Competition, the only major music competition in the country open exclusively to the citizens of the U.S., is held in Miami every five years. The

Foundation also offers scholarship program, grants and public concert opportunities to young outstanding artists.

WHAT: The Celebration of the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary will bring together patrons, friends and supporters of the Chopin Foundations, as well as some of the 250 young artists who have benefited from our programs.

WHY: We are proud of our unique mission of helping young talented American artists and of the promotion of classical music among South Florida audiences. We are proud of our contribution to enrichment of American culture. There is a growing need for assistance to young emerging artists, therefore we hope to expand our Chopin Family of caring music lovers who would help us carry on our mission and further promote the universal values of classical music.

WHEN and WHERE: Besides offering the audiences our annual activities, such as the *Chopin for All* free concert series in Fort Lauderdale and in Coral Gables, and the membership concert season, we would like to invite all who care for our future master musicians to join us on November 10, 2007 at the Surf Club in Miami Beach. Proceeds from this event will supplement our Scholarship Program for Young American Pianists.

For more information please call the Chopin Foundation office at 305/868-0624 or send an email to [info@chopin.org](mailto:info@chopin.org).

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## THE CONDUCTORS GUILD

The Conductors Guild welcomes Scott Winger as Assistant Director. Scott is second trombonist for the Richmond Symphony (VA) and a former member of the "Pershing's Own" U.S. Army Band. Scott will oversee the membership and publications departments of the Conductors Guild.

The Conductor's Guild and the Eastman School of Music are proud to announce the first annual Frederick Fennell Memorial Conducting Masterclass. This three-day conducting symposium will premiere this October 18-20, 2007 at the Eastman School of Music. The Conductor's Guild is honored to have Eastman Wind Ensemble Conductor Emeritus, Dr. Donald Hunsberger, to headline as the first master conductor/teacher. Also on the faculty will be current Eastman Wind Ensemble conductor Mark Scatterday and Eastman School of Music alumnus Michael Votta. More information can be found at [www.conductorsguild.org](http://www.conductorsguild.org). The Conductors Guild will hold its Annual Conference for Conductors January 10-13, 2008 in Baltimore, Maryland. The program for this event includes an open rehearsal with the Baltimore Symphony, an open rehearsal, panel discussion and performance of the "President's Own" Marine Band with conductors from every branch of the military, a session on opera with Phyllis Bryn-Julson, a music critics panel, the Conductors Guild New Music Project and much more! Exhibitor space is still available. Registration will begin in September. For more information, visit [www.conductorsguild.org](http://www.conductorsguild.org).

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## DELTA OMICRON INTERNATIONAL MUSIC FRATERNITY

Delta Omicron International Music Fraternity's mission is to promote and support music and musicianship.

In September 2006, Delta Omicron International Music Fraternity received three awards from the Professional Fraternity Association. PFA recognized Delta Omicron's Triennial Composition Competition with its Outstanding Program Award. Delta Omicron alumni member **Judith Eidson** received the PFA Outstanding Volunteer Award for her work as Chair of the Triennial Composition Competition. **Dr. Kay Wideman**, Past President of the Fraternity and current Foundation President, received PFA's Career Achievement Award.

Delta Omicron International Music Fraternity held its Triennial Conference at Illinois Wesleyan University in Bloomington, Illinois in July, 2006. The conference featured concerts by alumni and collegiate members, an Artist Concert by pianist **Mary Fahrenbruck**, and a Premiere Concert. At that concert two new compositions were performed. A song cycle for mezzo-soprano and piano, *Songs for Emmy* by **Dr. Jay Anthony Gach** of New York, premiered as the winning composition of the 2006 Delta Omicron Triennial Composition Competition. Mezzo soprano **Desiree Baxter** of New York City performed the song cycle. Also performed for the first time was *Carmina Whitmania* by **Dr. Marshall Onofrio**. It was selected as the Delta Omicron Foundation's Thor Johnson Commission for 2006. The composition for baritone and seven-piece ensemble was based on 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> century Gaelic poems and selected poetry of Walt Whitman. **Robert Hall** of

Laurentian University in Sudbury, Ontario was the featured baritone soloist. Nationally recognized music pedagogy clinician **Joan Frey Boytim** also was an honored guest at the conference. She presented educational seminars on vocal pedagogy and studio teaching for attendees.

This year Delta Omicron inducted three musicians as National Patrons, an honorary distinction of Delta Omicron awarded to outstanding national and international musicians. Composers **Dr. Jay Anthony Gach** and **Dr. Marshall Onofrio** were inducted as National Patrons at the 2006 Conference in July, and **Dr. Siegwart Reichwald**, nationally recognized musicologist-educator-conductor, was inducted in May, 2007.

This year, a new chapter of Delta Omicron was installed at historic Talladega College in Talladega, Alabama. The chapter Epsilon Eta was installed on April 21, 2007 by International President **Jonny H. Ramsey**, assisted by Iota Province President **Laura Thurer** and Stamford University's Omicron Gamma chapter members.

Members are eligible for financial assistance through summer scholarships from the Fraternity's Endowment Fund and for educational grants through the Delta Omicron Foundation, Inc. The Foundation also supports the Delta Omicron Studio and the Petzold-Collyer Piano at the McDowell Colony in Petersborough, New Hampshire for use by composers, musicians, writers, and artists to work and study throughout the year. The Foundation has endowed chairs at New York's Metropolitan Opera, Lincoln Center, at the Kennedy Center in

Washington, D.C., and at Carnegie Hall in New York City. The Foundation and Fraternity also contribute to the National Federation of Music Clubs, the Brevard Music Center in South Carolina, and to the National Music Camp in Interlochen, Michigan. The Fraternity also offers annual rotating grants to its chapters; those grants help chapters support local music projects in their communities.

Delta Omicron's 2009 Triennial Composition Competition is seeking new compositions for cello and piano. Judges for that competition will be **William Bolcom**, **Kirk Trevor**, and **John White**. The selected composition will be premiered at Delta Omicron's Centennial Conference in July of 2009.

The Fraternity website is [www.delta-omicron.org](http://www.delta-omicron.org). The Fraternity's educational journal *The WHEEL of Delta Omicron* is published quarterly. The current International President is **Dr. Jonny H. Ramsey** of Denton, Texas.

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## MUSIC TEACHERS NATIONAL ASSOCIATION

Music Teachers National Association continues to develop new programs and initiatives to meet the needs of its independent and collegiate teacher membership and further the value of music study nationwide. Activities and new initiatives include:

2007 Summit for MTNA Leadership  
The tenth annual Summit for MTNA Leadership will be held in Cincinnati, Ohio, September 7–9, 2007. Nearly 100 MTNA leaders including state and division presidents, state and division presidents-elect, program chairs and the board of directors will attend the

weekend summit, which is designed to educate, support and motivate association leaders. Kris Chesky of the Performing Arts Medicine Association will be the keynote speaker.

#### 2008 MTNA National Conference

The 2008 MTNA National Conference will be held March 29–April 2, in Denver Colorado, at the Hyatt Regency Denver and the Colorado Convention Center. The conference will have a collaborative artist focus. Pianist Lang Lang will headline the list of evening performers. In addition to evening concerts, there will be more than 100 educational sessions and industry showcases, the finals of the MTNA national competitions and a comprehensive exhibit hall.

#### MTNA Board of Directors Participates in MENC Centennial Congress

The MTNA Board of Directors June 2007 meeting was held in conjunction with the MENC Centennial Congress. The Congress, held at the Coronado Springs Resort in Orlando, Florida, provided an opportunity for key stakeholders in music education to discuss shared goals for music education.

#### 2007 National Conference on Keyboard Pedagogy

The National winners of the 2007 MTNA piano competitions performed in a recital August 2, 2007, at the opening of the National Conference on Keyboard Pedagogy (NCKP) at the Doubletree Hotel in Oak Brook, Illinois. The performers were Anna Han, winner of the 2007 MTNA Junior Piano Performance Competition, sponsored by Baldwin Piano Company; Jeffrey Lee, winner of the 2007 Senior Piano Performance Competition, sponsored by Yamaha Corporation of America, Piano Division; and Elena Miraztchiyska, winner of the 2007 Young Artist Piano

Performance Competition, sponsored by Steinway & Sons. MTNA sponsored a reception following the recital. This performance marked the fourth time MTNA's competition winners have performed for this conference, the first being in August 2001.

European Piano Teachers Association  
Executive Director Gary Ingle attended the European Piano Teachers Association UK Conference July 27–29, 2007, at Warwick University in Coventry, England. During the conference, he presented a session about how associations can effectively communicate with the various generations that make up their members and prospective members.

#### Recreational Music Making Teacher Training Seminars

MTNA, in partnership with the National Piano Foundation, offered four Recreational Music Making (RMM) Teacher Training Seminars in Madison, Wisconsin; Harrisburg, Pennsylvania; Seattle, Washington; and Raleigh, North Carolina, during the summer. Innovative clinicians and a comprehensive curriculum prepared participating teachers to return to their communities and immediately initiate RMM classes in a variety of settings such as music stores, home studios, churches, retirement communities, senior centers, etc.

#### New MTNA Piano Duet Competition

MTNA is pleased to announce its new Senior Piano Duet Competition for 2007–2008. This new competition will offer students the opportunity of collaborating with others and explore literature published for one-piano, four-hands. Kawai America Corporation will sponsor the competition.

### IAJE Sponsorship

MTNA sponsored the keyboard track of the International Association for Jazz Education's Teacher Training Institute at Moravian College in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, June 21-23, 2007. MTNA member Skip Wilkins served as keyboard faculty member for the institute.

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### **SIGMA ALPHA IOTA**

The members of Sigma Alpha Iota International Music Fraternity express their sense of loss at the passing of SAI Honorary Member, Beverly Sills. Her voice will always be remembered.

The Fraternity has added three new chapters to its roster this year. At Alderson-Broaddus College in West Virginia, the Lambda Kappa Chapter was installed, and at Texas A&M University-Kingsville, the Lambda Lambda chapter was installed. In addition, the SAI members living in the Hampton Roads area of Virginia chartered a new alumnae chapter.

Recipients for SAI Philanthropies scholarships and grants have been selected, with a total award amount of over \$80,000. Many of the Impact Project Grants given to music departments will support festivals and music education events. And two fortunate SAI members were awarded summer internships at the Kennedy Center: Kimberly Robey from Bradley University, is interning in the Friends of the Kennedy Center Volunteers office and Chelsey Green from the University of Texas-Austin, is interning in the National Symphony Orchestra Press office.

We are also most pleased that a new recording released by Rachel Barton Pine, SAI Honorary Member, is receiving rave reviews, including an appearance on the Billboard Classical Chart at #12 with her new album, "American Virtuosa: Tribute to Maud Powell."

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