



September 12, 2011

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

We had a wonderful “kickoff” meeting last Friday and it was good to see such a good attendance. Thank you to all who came – it was good to see you all again after the summer break. Dr. Scott McBride Smith was entertaining and insightful, and all enjoyed his presentation on “*Musical Punctuation and the Art of Interpretation*” and “*Preparing for Competitions – What are judges **really** looking for.*” Thanks to Jennifer Spohr for coordinating and organizing the opening meeting. I would also like to acknowledge and thank **MMTA** who provided us with a \$500 matching grant. We are grateful for their support. Thanks also to Steinway Gallery and Jerry Malzone for providing the refreshments.

A few important reminders:

- District Auditions take place this coming weekend at St. Charles Community College. Please note that there is major road construction going on at the Mid-Rivers Mall Intersection and that there may be delays. Please allow extra time in case there are delays. Please be sure to arrive on time for your “monitoring” shift – we rely on you being there. Many thanks. Please take a moment to thank Marlana Strasburg who once again graciously agreed to serve as Chair for District Auditions. We are so grateful for her time and dedication.
- The Hal Leonard workshop featuring Phillip Keveren is this **Wednesday, September 14<sup>th</sup>**, at 09:00. Location is M-R Music – please call mark at 314.291-4686 to register, or e-mail [music@mrmusicinc.com](mailto:music@mrmusicinc.com).
- **Jennifer Linn** is introducing two **Studio Recitals** to the SLAMTA calendar this year. The first one is **October 2, 2011** at Piano Distributors in Chesterfield. Each teacher may submit 3 students with a total time limit of 15 minutes (or as time allows) on a first come, first serve basis. **Deadline for registration is September 23, 2011.** Please go to the SLAMTA website for further details and to download the registration form. This is a wonderful opportunity for your students to perform.
- Our next meeting will be **October 28<sup>th</sup>, 2011 at 10:00 a.m.** **Dr. Jeffrey Brown and Colleagues** (Western Illinois University) will discuss “The Cross-Pollination of Spanish, French and Jazz Styles in the Early 20th Century.” Location: Steinway Gallery. We look forward to seeing you all there.

- We will have another book discussion this year (February, 2012). **Dr. Hugh McDonald** will once again lead the discussion. The book is entitled: ***Beethoven's Piano Sonatas: A Short Companion*** by Charles Rosen. You might want to order the book now from Amazon.com. Please plan on joining us at Shaw's Coffee House for an enjoyable and lively discussion of this important book.

Musically yours

Laureen Di Bisceglie  
President: SLAMTA