

***We hope this packet gives you some
information about all of the wonderful
programs that VASTA offers you!***

Come join us!

You'll be glad that you did!

Gretta Sandberg, grettasandberg@gmail.com

— VASTA President

Saving the world - one string player at a time



American String Teachers Association

**Virginia Chapter
(VASTA)**

***National Foundation to Promote
String Teaching and Playing***

www.vastaweb.org

VASTA Board – 2010-2012

President – Gretta Sandberg
grettasandberg@gmail.com

President Elect & School Liaison – Vacant

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lmanning@odu.edu

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dkringel1@cox.net

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maynarlm@jmu.edu

Northwestern Region – Donovan Stokes
dstokes@su.edu

Southern Region – Mike Mitchell
mitchmusic@swva.net

Grants Awarded

2009 - Electrify Your Strings (McLean HS, Fairfax Co.)
2010 – Arlington Prelude Orchestral Program
2010 – Highland County String Program
2011 - Master Teacher Legacy Workshop
2011 - Scottish Fiddling Workshop (ODU Student Chapter)
2009-2011 - Paul Rolland Workshop
2011 - Bobby Yang Workshop (McLean HS, Fairfax Co.)

VASTA Award Winners for 2011

Outstanding String Teacher Award – Elizabeth Blakeslee
Distinguished Service Award – Gerald Ashby
Distinguished Service Award (Business) – Foxes Music Company

Marianne Perkins Collection @ JMU

Lisa Maynard, coordinator, *maynarlm@jmu.edu*

Website

Margaret Whiteside, webmaster, *mwcviolin@gmail.com*
The website www.vastaweb.org - Check it out!!

Newsletter

Elizabeth Blakeslee, editor, elizabethblakeslee@gmail.com

The Fingerboard appears quarterly (on-line this year!) with *Forums* on Violin, Viola, Cello, Bass, Harp, and Guitar, and regional reports from your Member-at-Large VASTA board members. Submit your photos, events, and ideas to a Forum editor, your regional representative, and articles to Elizabeth Blakeslee.

Edwin S. Johonnott, V - Memorial Fund

1st annual scholarship for a deserving violinist or violist music major in Virginia will be available Fall 2012. Look for the application process soon. Please donate to this worthy cause in memory of our dear friend and colleague. Send contributions to Treasurer, Carol Stone, with checks made out to VASTA.

Recital Series

The VASTA Recital Series provides performance opportunities for students of VASTA members beyond the studio setting. These recitals are non-competitive and have no requirement as to length of study. Each teacher is allowed 10 (total) minutes playing time per recital. This may be several students playing shorter selections or one student playing a longer selection.

Possible performance sites include retirement communities, churches, and University or College recital halls. When possible, a location will provide an audience (such as the residences of a retirement community) and is at a central location with ample parking.

NORTHERN VIRGINIA RECITAL SERIES –

Marta Howard, chair, marta@pupworks.com

The recital series in Northern Virginia has been held at the Braddock Glen Assisted Living Center and for the 2010-2011 season will be held at The Fountains at Washington House, another assisted living center.

HAMPTON ROADS RECITAL SERIES –

Alice Lindsay, chair, violalady@cox.net

The recital series in the Hampton Roads region rotates to different areas for the convenience of teachers throughout the area.

ASTA National Solo Competition

The finals for the 2010 National Solo Competition were held in March at the ASTA Conference in Kansas City, Missouri. Virginia was proudly represented by violinists Brendon Elliott of Newport News and Rebecca Wilkins of Winchester. The competition is open to ASTA student members or students of a current ASTA member with instrument categories of Violin, Viola, Cello, Double Bass, Harp and Guitar. Look for updated procedures for the 2012 Competition soon!

What can membership in ASTA do for you?

The American String Teachers Association, founded more than 60 years ago, is a membership organization for string and orchestra teachers and players, helping them to develop and refine their careers. ASTA's members range from budding student teachers to artist-status performers. The organization provides a vast array of services, including instrument insurance, an award-winning scholarly journal, discounts on publications and resources, annual professional development opportunities, and access to collegial network of colleagues throughout the string profession.

Some good reasons to join:

When you join ASTA, you are not simply joining a national organization of approximately 12,000 members. Your ASTA membership also includes membership in your local state chapter. State chapters are often able to address local issues that the national office cannot. Members should feel free to contact their local state chapter.

Musical Instrument Insurance:

As an ASTA member, you are eligible to receive specially discounted insurance rate coverage on instruments through Merz-Huber Co., as well as access to dental, life, disability and business overhead insurance plans. Additional insurances will be available soon.

On-Line Facebook discussion group

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Virginia-String-Teachers-Association/26737728562>

• ADVOCACY!!

VASTA is an advocate for instrumental programs! We are there for all Virginia counties facing string & band program cuts!

Look at all of the Programs for you and your students sponsored by VASTA!!



Senior Regional Orchestra Prep Days

SRO is for any stringed student planning to audition for Senior Regional Orchestra. Expert faculty work with students to improve their skills and understanding of the required scales and orchestral excerpts.

NoVA SRO - McLean High School in Fairfax:

Contact: Katie O'Hara LaBrie, kolabrie@fcps.edu

Southeastern SRO - ODU in Norfolk:

Contact: Lucy Manning, Imaning@ode.edu

North Central SRO Prep Day - Riverbend High School in Spotsylvania County:

Contact: William Wassum, wwassum@comcast.net

South Central SRO at JMU -

Contact: Carl Donakowski, donakocp@jmu.edu

Seminars Partnered with NoVA SRO Prep Day

2007 - Burton Kaplan, director of Magic Mountain Practice Marathon Retreats

2008 - Barry Green, Inner Game of Music

2009 - Christine Vitale, Sports Psychologist, Music Performance Coach

2011 - Karina Canellakis, Violin Master Class

VASTA Masterclass

SEPTEMBER 17: KARINA CANELLAKIS VIOLIN MASTERCLASS

– Helen Fall, chair vaviola@gmail.com



VASTA, Potter Violin Co., and the Fairfax Symphony sponsored this Masterclass

Soloists performing included violin finalists and winners from the Fairfax Symphony's 2011 Feuer Young Soloist Competition, VASTA members, and students of VASTA members.

Benefits of the ASTACAP program for both teachers and students include:

- Uniformity of expectations between states.
- Continual feedback on students' progress with constructive comments.
- Documentation of achievements that can be used in applying to youth orchestras, summer music camps, and for college admission.
- Professionally designed and printed certificates for students.
- Member access to the ASTACAP Handbook online.
- Access to a marketing brochure (for teachers).
- Use of a specially designed logo on materials and cards.
- Listing of participating teachers on the ASTA Website.



*Latoya Slocum and Adrienn Salazar
ASTACAP Participating Teachers*

Virginia ASTACAP
(Formerly the Certificate Program)
(American String Teachers Association
Certificate Advancement Program)

Co-Chairs: Carol Stone, carolstone@mac.com and Lynne Denig, violynne@cox.net



ASTACAP stands for American String Teachers Association Certificate Advancement Program. Begun in Maryland in 1998 under the leadership of Lya Stern and advanced in Virginia in 2002 by then President Lynne Denig, the ASTACAP is now a national program, much like similar programs in Great Britain, Canada, and Australia. It consists of eleven graded levels of technical and musical development. These levels in the form of a graded list of studio materials can be found in ASTA's The Certificate Program for Strings Handbook, available at www.astaweb.com or by contacting the National Office at 703-279-2113.

- There are eleven levels of graded curricula for strings and harp (a first in VA just this year, organized by Elizabeth Blakeslee)
- The student, under the guidance of his or her teacher, prepares scales, an etude, one or more pieces, and hones sight-reading skills.
- These are performed at a yearly non-competitive exam before an examiner who offers constructive written comments.
- The examiners are VASTA members known for their fine, supportive teaching skills and professional experience.
- The student is awarded a Certificate of Achievement for each level successfully completed.

CELLOBRATION

Beth Reed, chair, vacellobration@gmail.com

VA Cellobration is an event for all cellists, whether young, old, professional or a student. The VA Cellobration cello choir, in its third year, is held at Lake Braddock Secondary School in Burke, VA and coordinated by Beth Reed, Director of Orchestras. This year, Cellobration was held on Saturday, September 24th with Kenneth Law, from George Mason University, as the master clinician. Mr. Law also conducted a master class on Friday, September 23rd. Approximately one hundred cellists had the opportunity to play in a large scale cello choir and advanced cello choir, learn new ideas in technique classes, and perform in an afternoon concert at the Saturday Cellobration.

PAUL ROLLAND SUMMER WORKSHOP

Lynne Denig, chair, violynne@cox.net

Rolland Workshop at GMU was held on Aug.1 - 5, 2011. Faculty included Marla Mutschler, Lynne Denig, Michael Fanelli, Peter Rolland, Nancy Kredel and Lucy Manning. The *Paul Rolland String Method Workshop* at George Mason University presented teachers of all levels opportunities to learn the internationally renowned playing and teaching techniques of Paul Rolland. All aspects of the Workshop were based on his DVD and book "The Teaching of Action in String Playing" as defined and demonstrated by qualified instructors who were students of the late Mr. Rolland. His movement techniques are usable in string class and private studios in both introductory and remedial string education. Emphasis was on violin and viola.

MASTER TEACHER LEGACY WORKSHOP

Gary Frisch, chair, gfrisch1@cox.net

The first Master Teacher Workshop at GMU was held April 2, 2011. The teaching methods of David Oistrakh and Dorothy Delay with clinicians Peter Haase and Laura Kobayashi were presented. The participants learn, by example, the teaching methods of leading 20th century's pedagogues. The Master Teachers Legacy Workshops are co-sponsored by George Mason University, with generous funding from Nova Strings and Eastman Strings.

Upcoming Workshop: Teaching Methods of Cellists Janos Starker (Carl Donakowski); Aldo Parisot and Orlando Cole (Amy Baumgarten) – Date to be announced.

Student Chapters at Colleges & Universities:

GMU STUDENT CHAPTER -

Evan Schefstad, eschefst@masonlive.gmu.edu

JMU STUDENT CHAPTER -

Anna Kobylski: kobylski@dukes.jmu.edu

ODU STUDENT CHAPTER -

Michael Frohnappfel: mfroh002@odu.edu

SU STUDENT CHAPTER -

Ethan Lawrence: elawrenc08@su.edu

VCU STUDENT CHAPTER -

Katherine Wooldridge: wooldridgekr@vcu.edu

***Scholarships for College/University Chapter Presidents
(or representative) to attend National ASTA Conference - \$150***

National High School Honors Orchestra

Elizabeth Blakeslee, chair, elizabethblakeslee@gmail.com

This orchestra is a performing group of 150 competitively selected high school musicians who assemble biennially to perform at the national conference under the direction of world renowned conductors. Congratulations to Patrick Miller; Herndon, VA (viola), Shannon Smith; Annandale, VA (viola), and Christopher Byrne, Manassas, VA (double bass)

Complimentary One-Year ASTA Membership

Given to:

- 1st Chair Players in Virginia All - State Orchestra: 1st & 2nd violins, viola, cello, bass & harp.
- College string majors who remain in Virginia to teach and perform.
Contact Joan Griffing, chair, Griffing@emu.edu

VASTA-Corrochano Scholarship

Joan Griffing, chair, Griffing@emu.edu

This scholarship opportunity is made possible by the generous donation of an anonymous violin collector in Virginia. VASTA is proud to administer the program and encourage the continued training of talented college string students in Virginia. A set of modern Italian string instruments is awarded to a college student quartet for one year. Current award winners are permitted to re-apply for one additional year. The maker is Alvaro Corrochano, who is based in Milan and studied violin making in Cremona. www.a-corrochano-liutaio.it

ELIGIBILITY: Virginia Colleges or Universities with current ASTA student chapters may apply.

BENEFITS: Four students selected by the awarded college will have free use of these fine instruments for one year; be invited to participate in VASTA sponsored master classes; and given student membership in ASTA for one year.

PROCEDURE: VASTA sponsoring faculty member will complete an application form [www.vastaweb.org/Membership Resources/Corrochano](http://www.vastaweb.org/MembershipResources/Corrochano) and submit it no later than October 30 to Joan Griffing. Selection is made by the VASTA College Advisory Committee and the selected college will then select the deserving students. The instruments are presented at the VASTA annual meeting at the VMEA Conference and Colleges retain use of the instruments until the next Conference.

