

The Northern Nevada Music Teachers Association is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization



NNMTA is affiliated with Nevada Music Teachers Association (NMTA)



MUSIC TEACHERS NATIONAL ASSOCIATION

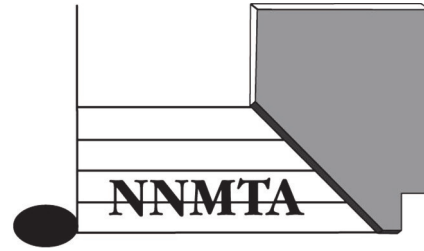
NNMTA and NMTA are affiliated with Music Teachers National Association (MTNA)



Teachers who achieve certification status from MTNA are given print-quality NCTM logos to use in business cards, recital programs, studio newsletters, brochures, etc.

**Northern Nevada Music Teachers Association**

[www.nnmta.org](http://www.nnmta.org)



Northern Nevada Music Teachers Association



*Providing performance opportunities to music students and continuing education opportunities to music teachers*

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## Northern Nevada Music Teachers Association

NNMTA was created in 1973 by music educators in the area who saw a great need for developing educational and performance opportunities for not only students of private teachers, but also for the teachers themselves. NNMTA is affiliated with the state organization, Nevada Music Teachers Association and with the Music Teachers National Association (est. 1876). MTNA, whose headquarters lie in Cincinnati, Ohio, is the oldest professional organization in the U.S. that was set up by, and remains specifically for, music teachers. By sharing professional standards and ethics, members of NNMTA are thus able to offer a high quality of music education.

### Why Join?

- Connection with other teachers via social meetings, recitals, the Nevada state convention, a monthly newsletter and the internet
- Continuing education through group discussions, seminars, masterclasses, workshops, and lectures
- Valuable teaching tools including an extensive graded repertoire syllabus and theory study guides
- Incredible national conventions
- A new issue of a national music teacher journal every two months

- National certification program for private music teachers
- Insurance plans designed for self-employed teachers
- Students evaluated at judged musical events by highly qualified judges
- Extra motivation for students through recitals, festivals and competitions
- A community of teachers who choose to do business by a Code of Ethics (see back side of this brochure)
- Monthly newsletters that keep everyone informed of upcoming events, current issues and teacher advertisements.

One of the most common ways teachers join the NNMTA is when one of their students find out about an event they wish to participate in, usually “The Festival” (Reno Youth Music Festival). Teachers initially think they will join temporarily to accommodate their one student. After experiencing various events, these teachers begin to wonder how they ever got by without the NNMTA, and they stay! To join, visit [www.nnmta.org](http://www.nnmta.org) and send an e-mail to the Membership Chair.



## For Teachers

### Growth

The NNMTA hires great artists, clinicians and teachers from other states to give concerts, seminars and *master classes* (piano lessons with an audience). All teachers' students are given equal and fair access to perform in each master class since performers are chosen only based on age and repertoire. Teacher and student names are anonymous on applications. The Reno Youth Music Festival also provides growth for teachers as they get written feedback (or verbal feedback, if the teacher chooses) from three qualified judges. Since student and teacher names are not revealed while the judges are in the room, the feedback is always unbiased and as constructive as possible. Members receive a newsletter each month which keeps them informed of everything coming up and also sometimes includes helpful articles written by local teachers like yourself.

### Tools

Teachers gain access to an extremely valuable teaching syllabus created and maintained by the NNMTA. The syllabus lists well over a thousand piano pieces from beginning to advanced repertoire, arranged in 12 levels of difficulty. Even those teachers who do not participate in the festival find the syllabus to be an extremely valuable teaching tool.

### Connection

At the local level, the NNMTA serves to provide continuing education opportunities to teachers in the otherwise lonely world of private teaching. Teachers have opportunities to exchange ideas and support each other at informal teacher discussions held at teachers' homes and music stores. Teachers also have the opportu-

nity to share the joy of performing with each other at an annual Teacher Recital. Teachers gain access to the NNMTA Yahoo Group, which allows teachers to send e-mail that is instantly delivered to all other NNMTA teachers. There is a general atmosphere of camaraderie as teachers reach out to help one another.

### The National Level

NNMTA members are automatically members of the Music Teachers National Association, the umbrella organization over each state and local MTA chapter. MTNA members receive the *American Music Teacher* journal every two months, which keeps teachers up-to-date in the world of music pedagogy. Members can attend the annual MTNA National Conference, which is five straight days of workshops and seminars given by the nation's best music pedagogues. The MTNA offers services including the opportunity to achieve Nationally Certified Teacher of Music status through certification testing, and insurance to self-employed MTNA members. Highly competitive students can compete in the state level of the MTNA competition each November, with winners proceeding to the southwest divisional in January, and those winners competing at the national level in March at the MTNA Convention.

### Student Referrals

Students who inquire about piano lessons through the NNMTA website are given teacher names by the Membership Chair based purely on requested zip code. Also, all teachers who achieve NCTM certification status are automatically listed at [mtnacertification.org](http://mtnacertification.org). When students move to another city, teachers who are nationally certified will often refer their students to this website to locate certified teachers in the new area.

### We're All Volunteers!

The NNMTA is run purely on a volunteer basis, and those who serve are met with deep gratitude from other teachers. We can all have a direct impact on the quality of private music teaching in Northern Nevada.

## For Students

### Reno Youth Music Festival

Students thrive when they are given more challenging goals to achieve. The Reno Youth Music Festival, NNMTA's core event each year, provides the perfect opportunity for students. Since the Festival is a judged event, it feels far more important than a routine recital. The Reno Youth Music Festival allows everyone to "win" as long as they play up to certain set standards. Students can aim for the "Superior" rating, which will earn them a place in one of the Command Performances along with a trophy or medal (depending on the student's level). Students must pass a theory exam appropriate to their level in order to participate in this event, which helps to develop good musicianship. The festival syllabus provides theory test study guides, ratings criteria and a repertoire list from which students choose 2-4 pieces depending on their level.

### Silver State MusikFest

Designed to serve as a fundraiser for the Nevada Music Teachers Association activities, the Silver State MusikFest is a competition that *any student* can hope to win. Unlike the Reno Youth Music Festival, there is no required theory exam, nor is there a syllabus that restricts repertoire that students choose. Students can play anything from J.S. Bach to John Williams, and the most advanced performer is not necessarily the one who will win: a great performance of an easy piece just might win out over a good performance of a difficult piece! And to level the playing field, students who achieve extremely high levels of playing at the Reno Youth Music Festival or who have ever participated in the MTNA competition are not eligible to compete in certain categories of the Silver State MusikFest.

### Christmas Play-a-Thon

This fundraiser for the NNMTA gives students a unique opportunity to perform at a local mall during the busiest time of the shopping year! Just as students get donations for every mile walked during a walk-a-thon, students get donations for every piece played at this play-a-thon. This event is open to all instruments, memorized or not memorized, solos or duets, classical or popular. Christmas music is not required!

### NNMTA Recitals

When any of the above-mentioned events approach, recitals are offered for a small entry fee so students can get critical performance experience to help in the preparation process. These recitals are held either at music stores or retirement homes, the latter of which provides an even bigger audience for each performer. Extra recitals may be scheduled throughout the year during times when demand for them is greater.

### Student Teachers

Students who teach music themselves can join the NNMTA for a discounted price. Students who do not teach can ask their teachers to join the NNMTA to gain access to all these wonderful events and benefits. Teachers can also participate in these events when they pay non-member registration fees, but it is almost always more cost effective to become a member.

### Join Now

To join, visit [www.nnmta.org](http://www.nnmta.org) and send an e-mail to the NNMTA Membership Chair.

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