

JANUARY 2025

# FORUM FOCUS

Minneapolis Music Teachers Forum Monthly Newsletter

## MMTF/SPPTA Monthly Meeting

**Presenter: Tadeusz Majewski**

**Topic:** *Chopin and the Dances of Poland*

**Description:** Exploration of Chopin Polonaises and Mazurkas in the context of their ethnic origins. A musical journey from his childhood in the Polish countryside near Warsaw, to the salons of Parisian aristocracy. An in-depth look at the idiomatic nature of the folk dances and their influence on Chopin's creative genius.

**Tadeusz Majewski** was born in Krakow, Poland. He began his study of the piano with Janina Garscia-Gressel and later graduated from the Chopin Conservatoire under the supervision of Maria Szmyd-Dormus. In 1977, he won the top award at the annual Chopin Society competition in Warsaw. However, it was the prize in the 1984 First New York Chopin Competition which provided greater recognition as a Chopin interpreter. In 1997, Majewski was honored with a McKnight Fellowship Grant which led to his New York City debut recital.

Mentoring from Andras Schiff, Murray Perahia, Richard Goode and, above all, the unforgettable inspiration of Mieczyslaw Horszowski were guideposts along the path of Majewski's growth as a musician. Chopin has been an essential companion in all of his artistic endeavors, from his early studies at the esteemed Chopin Conservatoire and Academy of Music in Krakow, to the formation and ongoing artistic leadership of the Chopin Society of Minnesota.

**DATE:** Tuesday, January 7th

**TIME:** 10:30 AM

**VENUE:** Schmitt Music, Bloomington

In-person or via zoom. A zoom link will be sent prior to the meeting.

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The MMTF recital program is in need of committee members for the March 23rd, 30th and April 27th recitals. If you are able to help, please contact Stephanie Tesch @ [tesch.piano@gmail.com](mailto:tesch.piano@gmail.com)

## Newsletter Highlights

MMTF/SPPTA Monthly Meeting

Volunteers Needed

Marian Hutt Award for Teachers

Topics in Teaching

Upcoming Events/Deadlines

### MMTF Board Members

President - Kris Olson

President Elect - OPEN

VP of Student Ed - Stephanie Tesch

Treasurer - Corey Sevett

VP Member Ed - Narissa Bach

VP Special Events - OPEN

VP Membership - OPEN

Recording Secretary - Sondra Howe



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

# Marian Hutt Memorial Award for Teachers

The Marian Hutt Memorial Award is used for teacher enrichment and volunteer engagement. Monetary awards are available to MMTF members who attend the MTNA National Conference or the MMTA State Convention for the **FIRST** time. In addition to these two events, we hope to broaden our focus and to expand the opportunities for teachers to avail themselves of these monetary awards. If you wish to attend another conference or musical alternative that would enrich your life as a music teacher, check with Pat Kreuziger (m spatpianos@outlook.com) to find out if it qualifies for a monetary award.

## TOPICS IN TEACHING

Topics in Teaching is an informal gathering that takes place once a month on Fridays at 10:30AM–noon. Meetings are held at various coffee shops in the metro area. Topics is an opportunity to meet with colleagues in an informal setting to discuss anything related to our profession. The format is very informal and open to all. If you have questions, please contact Kris Olson at krisolsonpiano@gmail.com.

**DATE:** Friday, January 10th

**TIME:** 10:30AM

**VENUE:** Lunds/Byerlys - 7171 France Ave. S. Edina (in the bakery section seating area)

## UPCOMING EVENTS and DEADLINES

Event	Date	Registration Deadline
Ninth Grade Awards	Sat., Feb. 22nd	January 22nd, 2025
Young Artist Critiqued Event Performance	February 1-2, 2025	January 6th, 2025
MMTF Regular Recital 1st EV Free Church, Mpls.	February 9th, 2025	January 19th (paper) January 22nd (online)
MMTF Regular Recital MacPhail	February 23rd, 2025	February 2nd (paper) February 5th (online)