

THE F·J·H MUSIC COMPANY INC.

THE PIANO ADVENTURES® TEACHER

Marianne Uszler, Editor
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Editorial Directors
Cover: Terpstra Design, San
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Advisory Board

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Frank and Gail Hackinson,
Publisher

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The FJH Music Company Inc.
(custserv@fjhmusic.com)
(800) 262-8744

Websites:

www.PianoAdventures.com
www.PianoTeaching.com
www.FJHMusic.com

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From the Editor

BY MARIENNE USZLER

This is the first issue of an “adventurous” newsletter. It’s coming to you courtesy of a music publishing company that wants to support and encourage you as a piano educator. That’s neither a casual nor merely a sound-good statement. FJH is serious about offering this service because we know that independent piano teachers often search for a sense of community. This newsletter says, “Let’s work together.”

The newsletter is designed for both the pedagogy student and teachers already “in business.” In some ways, these groups have similar concerns and questions. In other ways, group needs and interests may diverge. At times articles and columns may favor a particular group with this-is-for-you recommendations. But most of the time the content will be directed to encouraging all readers to become—and remain—the ideal, professional piano educator.

We’re eager to share ideas and suggestions to make your teacher-training days and the hours in your teaching studio a bit easier, a bit richer, and perhaps even a bit more fun. Our intention is to be down-to-earth and practical even as we urge you to aim high and reflect deeply. We’re in a journey together, and our aim is to help map the territory, to show the best possible routes, and sometimes to point out detours and potholes. The “yellow brick road” to a successful professional career is not always easy to determine or follow. We’re here to serve as guides.

You’ll get the most from this newsletter if you join us in this common quest. Try out the teaching hints and test their effectiveness yourself. Answer the questions posed (no one will be keeping score) and see how ready you are to stretch your horizons and take on new challenges. The key is to be active, to *do* something with this material. In that way you’ll be carving out a personal path instead of ambling down easy street. One thing is certain: You make your own career. A universal blueprint to success doesn’t come with a degree, nor does it evolve from hit-or-miss teaching experiences.

Another way to use this newsletter is to let us hear from you. What do you like/not like? Do you have a burning question you want answered? Are there opinions you’d care to share? Are there issues you feel we’re not addressing? Is there a story you’d like to tell? What would you *really* like to know? All you need is a bit of enterprise and courage. We’re listening ...

How to contact us

Editor: Marianne Uszler
(muszler@pianoteaching.com)

Editorial Directors: Randall and Nancy Faber
(faber@pianoteaching.com)

Websites: www.PianoAdventures.com
www.PianoTeaching.com
www.FJHMusic.com

Position Announcement

The FJH Music Company will begin interviewing highly qualified candidates to fill the position Director of Keyboard Pedagogy Publications for the Fall, 2003. Significant college teaching experience required. Doctorate preferred. Composition background a plus for this distinguished position. Excellent compensation and benefits.

Please send resume and cover letter to: Frank J. Hackinson, President, 2525 Davie Rd., Suite 360, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33317.