

### **Nehama Patkin OAM**

Nehama Patkin, Vice-President of the VMTA, is an internationally acclaimed music educator whose extraordinary energy is directed to teaching children with unwavering imagination and also to teacher training with exemplar knowledge of piano pedagogy. Her vocation in creative fields extends beyond the ambit of music into many Arts areas. As a piano soloist she has performed concerti nationally and internationally; as composer, her ballet 'Arena' was danced by The Australian Ballet Company echoing her own training as a dancer. Her love of children and music has been the catalyst for the entertaining Patma Family concerts held at BMW Edge. As a highly respected Suzuki teacher and Teacher Trainer, she is regularly invited to present at international conferences from Italy to Iceland, as well as provide Master Classes to some of the most outstanding piano prodigies worldwide. Her enthusiasm and dedication to the advancement of excellence in teaching standards and contribution to the music community has been acknowledged by an OAM (Order of Australia Medal), the Paul Harris Fellowship by Rotary International and a Churchill Fellowship. Nehama is the Australian representative on the Board of the International Suzuki Association and a Victorian Ambassador for the Australia Day Council.

### **Majella Drew**

Under the careful guidance of Meryl Ross and Eda Schurmann in her early years, Majella Drew then completed a BA (Music) at the VCA, studying with Stephen McIntyre. After graduating with distinction and being awarded the John Gaitskell Memorial Mensa Prize for top student, she continued her studies at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama in London under Leslie Howard. A Commonwealth Scholarship enabled her to attend Edinburgh University where she was awarded the Masters Degree with distinction, majoring in Pianoforte Repertoire & Technique. Since returning to Australia in 1993, Majella has performed regularly throughout Australia and New Zealand. As a teacher, she specializes in working with children from kindergarten age upwards.

### **Peter Hurley**

Peter Hurley has had a broad and lengthy career contemplating aural training. During a 25 year period, he has been involved in primary, secondary and tertiary music programs as a teacher, assessor and curriculum developer. Peter is currently lecturer in Aural Studies and Topics in Musicology – Music Theatre and Cabaret at the University of Melbourne. He continues to be involved in curriculum development and as an assessor with the AMEB, the VCAA and the Yamaha Music Foundation. Peter has also lectured at the VCA, Box Hill Institute, Melba Memorial Conservatorium, the VMTA, and the Suzuki Talent Education Association and continues associations with these institutions. He is currently engaged in post graduate research in audio cognition, specifically relating to pitch and memory.

Peter Hurley performs regularly around Australia in many different guises - he has performed for the A.B.C., with the State Orchestra of Victoria, as a classical musician with pianist Nehama Patkin, and with children's entertainer Franciscus Henri. To Melbourne audiences he is a frequent performer at Chapel Off Chapel and a regular in the Melbourne Comedy Festival, Fringe Festival and Midsumma Festivals. His involvement with Cabaret goes back to such venues as Mietta's and the Athenaeum.

Currently Peter is working regularly with Opera Australia principal Suzanne Johnston and with Judi Connelli (AM).



Victorian Music Teachers' Association Inc.

# Piano and Aural Day

*Presented by three innovative teachers - Nehama Patkin, Majella Drew and Peter Hurley, who will offer creative and practical ideas for teaching in 2010*

Sunday March 14, 2010

9.45am - 3.45pm

Melbourne High School Music Department  
Forrest Hill, South Yarra

9.45am	Registration
10.00am	Session 1: Success from the Start Nehama Patkin
11.30am	Break
11.45am	Session 2: Technique for Young Pianists Majella Drew
1.15pm	BYO lunch (tea/coffee provided)
2.15pm	Session 3: Developing Aural Training at a Young Age Peter Hurley
3.45pm	Close

VMTA office: Ph:9415 1314 Fax: 9415 1014 email: [vmta@ozemail.com.au](mailto:vmta@ozemail.com.au)  
[www.vmta.org.au](http://www.vmta.org.au)

# Session Information

## Session 1: Success from the Start - Nehama Patkin

Nehama will explore how to achieve success from the start, from both the student and the teacher's perspective. This session is ideal for younger or newer teachers wanting to pick up useful ideas and tips when starting out, including how to approach a student's first lesson. It is equally useful for more experienced teachers wanting to focus their teaching for the new year. Whether you've been teaching for one year or forty-one years, you are sure to come away from this session with practical and inspiring ideas to breathe new life into your teaching!

## Session 2: Technique for Young Pianists - Majella Drew

Fundamental to Majella's approach, is the concept that technique is best taught in a musically relevant context. She will explore some interesting and innovative ways in which to engage young pianists in their own technical development, including the encouragement of effective practice. Some strategies for addressing common technical problems will be discussed. Alongside this, the benefits and challenges of setting up students with a reliable and secure technical basis, so that they have the confidence and skills to tackle more advanced repertoire as they develop, will also be covered. Questions will be welcome at the end of the session.

## Session 3: Developing Aural Training at a Young Age - Peter Hurley

Peter will present a range of activities to take you back to childhood, to stimulate the aural capacities for a joyous celebration of the most natural part of music making. From simple imitation through singing, clapping, body responses and memory stretching work - our students are much more responsive to both lessons and outside musical stimulus if aural work is central to teaching and learning. This session contains work on melody, rhythm, pitch discrimination, harmony, and articulation - but all dressed as games so that children think they are just playing. Come and play!

Certificates of Attendance will be provided for Professional Development purposes.

## Registration Form Piano and Aural Day - Sunday March 14 2010

Please return to VMTA, C1.4/1 St Heliers St, Abbotsford, VIC 3067 or fax to 9415 1014 by **Monday March 8 2010**

Name: .....

Address: .....

Town: ..... PC: .....

Phone: .....Email: .....

	no. of tickets	VMTA member/ full-time student	non-member	total cost
Session 1 (Nehama Patkin) [ ]		\$30	\$40	\$ _____
Session 2 (Majella Drew) [ ]		\$30	\$40	\$ _____
Session 3 (Peter Hurley) [ ]		\$30	\$40	\$ _____
All sessions (special rate) [ ]		\$70	\$95	\$ _____

**TOTAL \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

All prices include tea and coffee

All prices include GST

Payment:

Cheques payable to: Victorian Music Teachers' Association Inc.

[ ] Cheque [ ] Mastercard [ ] Visa

Credit card number:

\_\_\_\_\_

Expiry Date: \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_

Name on card: .....

Signature: .....