

# History

*The Charlotte Piano Teachers Forum* grew from a Charlotte Music Club workshop conducted by Dr. Robert Pace in September of 1953. A Planning Committee was formed to draw up plans for a new piano teachers' organization. One month later, in October, twenty-one piano teachers participated in the first meeting. During the year 2004-2005, the Forum was designated as a 501(c)3 organization, affirming our status as a non-profit, tax-exempt arts organization.

## Activities & Services Offered

One of the Forum's projects is to help parents **locate piano teachers**. This information is available to parents through this website.

**Noteable Notes**, is a monthly newsletter which serves to inform members of programs and other Forum activities, current events, and news of individual members.

**The [charlottepiano.org](http://charlottepiano.org) website**, was originally set up and managed by Annette Shaw in 1998. The purpose of the site is to convey specific, helpful information to piano and other music teachers.

**Monthly programs** are offered with the goal of improving teaching methods and musicianship. These meetings occur from September through May. Programs may include panel discussions, guest speakers, guest artists, and master classes.

**Sounding Board**, began around 2003, as an informal time for teachers to gather. Colleagues learn from each other, ask questions, share experiences, and support one another in the process of becoming better teachers.

**Student recitals**, which are held throughout the year, provide performance opportunities. Graduating seniors are honored each spring in a special program, and are awarded a certificate by the President. At the conclusion of each recital, a reception is given for the performers, their guests, and their teachers.

The Forum sponsors a **circulation library**, which grows each year through funds allocated in the annual budget. Teachers may check out reference books, current pedagogy books, biographies, and recordings. Videos have been added to the library in recent years.

**Solo Auditions and Concerto Auditions** are held annually. Theory tests are part of the Solo Auditions.

**Individuals may be honored via a named scholarship.** In 1968, the first honoree was Louise Nelson Pfohl. Other awards are the Wolff- Holmes Scholarship and the Charlotte Chapter of The Piano Technicians Guild Scholarship.

**Awards** named after Nell Scoggins, John Whitaker, and Mildred Silver are available to students in kindergarten through grade twelve by participating in Solo Auditions and/or Concerto Auditions. The awards for Solo Auditions are presented at the May Honors Recital, one of the highlights of the year.

**The CPTF Legacy Scholarship Fund** was established to provide scholarships to worthy, need-based piano students whose names are drawn annually in May. Legacy Scholarships are named with a \$10,000 gift. There are currently two Legacy Scholarships, one named for Debra Buggie-Elizabeth Hughston and another for Harriette Line Thompson. Each Legacy provides funding for two need-based scholarships of \$500 for ten years, one for students in K-6, another in grades 7-12.