

TOP TEN REASONS* FOR BEING AN APTA MEMBER

(*in no particular order)



#10 The Video Lending Library

APTA believes strongly in continuing education, so we have over 100 DVDs on topics such as pedagogy, history, technique, performance styles, composers, famous performers and even light relief comedy. The lending library is a perfect opportunity to have a continuing education "course" in the comfort of your own home. If you don't have a music teachers association in your community, invite your fellow teachers to watch the video together and discuss it afterwards (over snacks, of course!). The lending period is 28 days. The fee of \$6 for one DVD or \$10 for two covers the cost of mailing the DVD and the postage-paid envelope to your door.

<https://aptaonline.net/resources/apta-lending-library>

#9 Our Bursary Programs

No one is immune from the occasional bout of financial difficulty. That's why we created a bursary for students of APTA members back in 2008. Bursary recipients don't have to be top performers; they just need to demonstrate a love for music and be in need of some financial help towards their piano lessons. Do you know someone in your community who could benefit from the program? Application deadline is October 31 of each year.

<https://aptaonline.net/apta-programs/apta-student-bursary>

We also have a bursary program for teachers. Whether you are just starting your career or have had a recent financial setback, this bursary helps teachers attend conference by offering a half-price registration fee. To access this send a brief request and note of explanation to president@aptaonline.net The application deadline is July 31.

#8 Our Facebook Group

One of the great things about conference is the opportunity to talk to other piano teachers and share ideas, ask questions, and make professional connections. The APTA Facebook group allows you to do the same thing all year round. To be a member of the group, simply send a request

to <http://www.facebook.com/groups/albertapianoteachersassociation> Once we've confirmed that you are an active APTA member, we'll approve your request and you can begin posting. Want to let people know about a piano for sale? An upcoming concert? Share a link or a funny picture? We'd love to have you part of the APTA Facebook group.

#7 We are Inclusive

APTA believes firmly in supporting all piano teachers no matter where they may be on their professional journey. The organization was started more than 20 years ago by Hedy Klause from Wetaskiwin. She felt that the rural teacher was just as important as the urban teacher and that workshops and continuing education opportunities should be available to everyone, regardless of their level of music education, how much experience they have teaching or the size of their studios. We still follow that philosophy today. Read our Mission, Credo and Code of Ethics at

<https://aptaonline.net/about-us-2/mission-credo-and-code-of-ethics>

#6 Our Creative Music Writing Competition

Do you have students who dabble in composition? Are you at a complete loss when they come to you for help? Or do you struggle with how many suggestions you can offer while still respecting the originality of your student's work? Every year, APTA offers a Creative Music Writing Competition for students and teachers. Each composition is sent to an adjudicator who offers written feedback. The winners and runners up in each category are invited to perform their pieces at the conference in September. We encourage composers of all ages and abilities. The entry deadline is June 1.

<https://aptaonline.net/apta-programs/apta-annual-creative-music-writing-competition>

#5 The News & Views

The APTA quarterly digest is more than just a newsletter. It's an important resource with inspiring articles, quotations, reviews of CDs, books, workshops and new music, information about APTA, and lists of upcoming events. It's also a place for our corporate members to advertise their products and services. For advertising deadlines and rates, please go to <https://aptaonline.net/resources/apta-news-views-newsletter>

#4 Different Levels of Membership

APTA has two different levels of active membership. Individual teachers can take out a personal membership for \$45. Corporate memberships (\$60) are for music schools, publishers, retail stores or other businesses related to the music industry. Corporate members are listed in our online directory. One representative from each business is allowed to take advantage of the benefits of personal membership. Membership forms are available on our website at <https://aptaonline.net/about-us-2/membership>

#3 Scholarships

APTA's commitment to continuing education is evident in the many scholarships we offer our members. Some of the scholarships are mark-based, that is, they are awarded to the member receiving the highest mark on a Conservatory Canada, Royal Conservatory, or Canadian National Conservatory of Music exam within the past year. Other scholarships are adjudicated, that is, applications are reviewed in complete confidentiality by a third-party judge. We are very grateful to the donors of these scholarships and encourage members to take advantage of this excellent opportunity to get financial recognition for their hard work! Scholarship application forms are available on our website at <https://aptaonline.net/apta-programs/scholarships> Application deadline is July 15.

#2 Conference

If you've never been to an APTA conference before, we strongly encourage you to set aside the last Friday and Saturday in September to join us in Red Deer. The two days are filled with informative and inspiring sessions, an evening concert, and a trade show area packed with vendors so you can do all your shopping at once. You'll meet teachers from Alberta, BC and Saskatchewan who are eager to share their thoughts and ideas over breakfast, lunch, coffee breaks, and the sumptuous Friday banquet. Many teachers say the conference is the professional development highlight of their teaching year. More information is on our website <https://aptaonline.net/apta-conference>

#1 Online Directories

APTA maintains an online teacher directory of names, email addresses and neighbourhoods that the general public can use when trying to find a piano teacher. This is also handy if you wish to refer a student who is moving. Check out <https://aptaonline.net/find-a-teacher> We also have a music industry directory at <https://aptaonline.net/find-a-teacher/corporate-members>

BONUS REASON

APTA is a Model for Other Provinces

That's right! We've had requests from teachers in Manitoba and Ontario to use our credo and mission statement in order to form inclusive organizations based on the APTA model. We have members in British Columbia and Saskatchewan who are active in APTA because there's nothing like us in their own provinces. Maybe the first "A" in APTA should stand for Awesome. We truly are an Awesome Piano Teachers Association! Pass the word around ... and have an Awesome Teaching Year!