

OMTA Music News

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It's Conference Time!

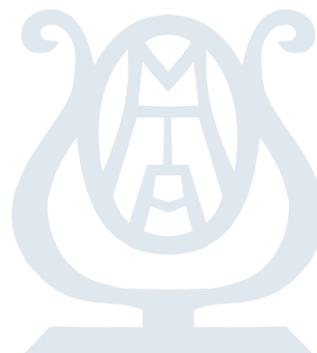
It's not too late to join us at the OMTA Conference, June 28–30 in Bend. Registration forms and conference schedule information are available on the OMTA, <http://oregonmta.org/calendar>. Registrations must be postmarked by June 15 or you'll need to register in person at the conference.

Bend is the perfect place to unwind and recharge after our busy school year. In addition to

our wonderful conference activities, you can enjoy such local treasures as the High Desert Museum, the Deschutes Brewery tour, and the charming atmosphere of downtown Bend. Check out the www.visitbend.com for more information on a wide range of Bend activities for yourself and your family.

I hope to see you there!

—Cindy Peterson-Peart, NCTM
2013 Conference Chair



President's Corner



Dr. Bonnie Esbensen
President, OMTA



OMTA Members Rock

One of the fun things I've discovered about OMTA is that our members are multi-talented, and they lead the most interesting and varied lives. Here are two examples.

CAROLEE HARBOUR, NCTM
ROSEBURG DISTRICT

Carolee Harbour is our State Treasurer, and she has led an eventful life, much of it spent helping others. Until the age of 14, she lived in Ethiopia with her missionary parents. There she attended a boarding school where piano lessons were part of her school day. She remembers practicing pieces in the *John Thompson* method book. (Well, many of us remember *that!*)

Carolee spent her high school years in Canada, where she continued her piano study and achieved Level 10 in the Trinity College of London curriculum.

Carolee has worked all her adult life as a registered nurse. She worked for 20 years in the behavioral health field as a psychiatric nurse. She was in charge of making assignments and supervising the health and safety of the patients. The work on the behavioral health unit was very intense and stressful. She says she appreciated being able to come home in the evenings and teach piano because it gave her a totally fresh perspective after the pressures of working on the unit.

Carolee no longer works in a psychiatric ward. Now she does medical chart reviews for an insurance company, which in the past few months has involved 50 – 60 hour

weeks. She still teaches piano, and on top of all that, she finds time to be an amazingly responsive and reliable state treasurer.

Carolee says, "Joining OMTA was the best thing for my teaching. Being able to attend master classes, conferences, lectures, and especially preparing for certification have all given me a priceless music education."

LINDA HANSEN, NCTM
LINN BENTON DISTRICT

Linda Hansen was the former editor of our newsletter, *Music News*. When she took on that job, I really appreciated her calm willingness and ability to manage *Music News* during its transition to a monthly publication.

Linda lives on a small sheep farm in Philomath and teaches piano in the afternoons. From her farm, she runs a business called Bellwether Wool, which supplies wool products for hand spinners. Linda can usually be seen wearing a beautiful sweater or vest she knitted from wool she sheared from her sheep and then dyed and spun.

Linda hasn't always been a sheep farmer. At one time she worked for the University of California at Davis setting up Continuing Ed classes and arranging large conferences and workshops for people, such as the anthropologist, Margaret Mead, and the author, Euell Gibbons. There was a period when Linda did sculpting and bronze casting, and a period in Brazil when Linda began writing. She soon became a published author, writing articles and short stories for magazines.

(Continued on next page)



President's Corner *(Continued)*



In Oregon, Linda has done fin clipping of Coho salmon at the Fall Creek Hatchery to earn money for Christmas presents, and sold Steinway pianos at Stone's. (Yes, there was a time when Corvallis had a Steinway dealer.)

Now Linda lives on her sheep farm, running her wool business and teaching piano to rural students. She is an avid horse-woman, she is a 4H judge, and she loves to

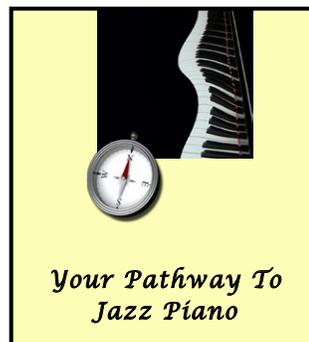
camp and fish. She is—in the true sense of the word—an active member of the Linn Benton district. She is also a member of our Piano Group, as am I. We play for each other once a month and it's wonderful.

So, there are two examples of the amazing members who make up OMTA. I hope to write about others in future issues. For now, as the school year winds down, I wish all of you a warm and relaxing summer.

See you at the state conference in Bend!

Bonnie

Dr. Bonnie Esbensen,
President, OMTA



... for those who already have some piano experience but want to learn how to go beyond what is on the written page.

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\$14.95 each



State News *OMTA Member Highlight – Getting to Know You!*

Helen Jones, NCTM



Can you guess who we are featuring without reading the end of the article or glancing at the pictures?

Our featured member grew up in the San Francisco Bay area and hails from a long line of musicians. Her father was an amateur musician playing bass trombone in a group similar to the all-volunteer Central Oregon Symphony in Bend. Oh yes, his “day job” was as an expert on meteorite craters for NASA. There was always classical music playing in the home. Our member didn’t begin piano lessons until age 10, when her family purchased a piano. When she left for college at Humboldt State University, she wanted to be forestry major—but when she found out that meant “cutting down trees instead of saving them” she changed to a history major. After taking various levels of piano classes just for her own enjoyment, her professor told her she should major in music. So began her path as a musician and teacher.

Always a lover of outdoor activities, she met her husband, Don, in a college hiking club. They married and moved to Bend in 1974. She began teaching class piano at Central Oregon Community College and in her home studio. She has done graduate studies in piano pedagogy and piano with Mary Kogan and Harold Gray at Portland State University. At one point she took a 15 year break from teaching, and studied harp therapy, flower essence therapy and the use of music as a healing tool.

Presently she maintains a private piano studio in Bend and is the pianist/keyboardist with the Central Oregon Symphony. She has also performed with the Cascade Chorale, Central Oregon Mastersingers, Cascade Winds and Youth Choir of Central Oregon, and has appeared in numerous local and instrumental chamber music recitals. She is founder and director of the Bend Piano Monster Concert.

She is Nationally Certified through MTNA, and is currently the President of the Central Oregon District. (Have you guessed who she is yet?)

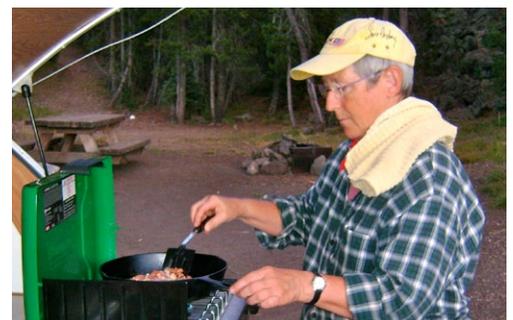
Yes, it is Kathleen (Kathy) Gault from Bend, Oregon!



Kathy believes that music is the most powerful force in the universe and our window into the human heart and soul. She believes that making music with others brings healing, love for our fellow humans and other creatures, and great joy to the world. “When we make music together, something MAGICAL happens.”

When not teaching or playing piano, she can often be found in her garden making music with the flowers, hiking and camping with her husband or tending to her adorable chickens.

Check out the May/June 2013 issue of *Clavier Companion* for an interview on technology with Kathy and *Clavier Companion Technology* Editor, George Litterst. “I have a blog!” You can follow Kathy at: arabellagarden.blogspot.com. 





If you haven't been on the OMTA Website recently (www.oregonmta.org), you may not have noticed a new addition to our site. Just last month we introduced the "Bulletin Board." The Bulletin Board is a place for members to post upcoming events that they feel other members may be interested in. These are events such as non-OMTA sponsored recitals, seminars,

or conferences. It is also a place for members to publish items they have for sale that may also interest other members; for example, teaching resources, music, or even musical instruments.

Check out the Bulletin Board at <http://oregonmta.org/bulletin-board/> and use the link to contact the Bulletin Coordinator to request an item to be posted. 

The screenshot shows the Oregon Music Teachers Association website. At the top left is the OMTA logo and the text "Oregon Music Teachers Association". To the right are two buttons: "FIND A TEACHER" and "BECOME A MEMBER". Below this is a navigation bar with links: HOME, CALENDAR, PUBLICATIONS, PROGRAMS FOR STUDENTS, INFORMATION FOR TEACHERS, BULLETIN BOARD, and CONTACT. The main content area is titled "Bulletin Board" and includes a disclaimer: "This page is provided as a service to members. None of the products or information on this page is sponsored by or endorsed by OMTA." Below this is a paragraph explaining that users can post notices of items for sale or community events. The page is divided into two columns: "Events" and "Items for Sale", both of which are currently empty. On the right side, there is a search bar and a sidebar with several announcements, including one about the 2013 OMTA State Conference and another congratulating Gloria Dakin.



Jan Mittelstaedt



Extended Study of Musicianship and Repertoire

Three students of Jan Mittelstaedt, NCTM, and Bella Sheykman, NCTM, successfully completed the 2013 ESMAR Assessment on April 27. Dr. Jill Timmons evaluated and conducted a 90 minute master class for each student. Parents and teachers attended the sessions which were extremely motivating and educational for all those involved. Throughout May the students finished their Community Service requirement and planning for the ESMAR recital on June 2. Everyone is invited to attend the 7:00 PM concert at Portland Piano Company.

ESMAR is a new educational program that gives advanced high school and adult students a challenging goal and culminates in a non-graded 90 minute individual assessment/master class, with a college teacher who has a doctorate in music. Students also plan a group recital. The curriculum requirements include a major scale routine, minor scales, an arpeggio routine, a chord progression which modulates via a German Sixth chord, sight reading, beginning transposition, beginning harmonization from a lead line, beginning work in playing a few songs by ear, tapping counterpoint, some basic music history (verbal), a community service project, and the performance of five compositions from at least four periods of music history.

If you have students interested in being part of the ESMAR (2013 – 2014) program, please contact Jan Mittelstaedt:

janrm@frontier.com. Our 2014 Portland area assessment will be held on May 3 and 4, 2014, and Dr. Timmons will again be our Assessor. If there are interested students in other parts of the state, we will make arrangements for Assessors to be located closer to the students' homes.

Forms and applications are available on the OMTA Website under Programs for Students:

<http://oregonmta.org/programs/esmar/>.

General Chair and Portland area:
Jan Mittelstaedt, 503-645-2066

Central and Southern Oregon Chair:
Fern McArthur, 541-484-1567

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Beverly McDaniel, NCTM



A huge thank you goes out to Kelli Stephens and Paula Watt for coordinating the 2013 OMTA Scholarship Event. The successful event took place at the new location of Portland Piano Company, formerly known as Sherman Clay. There were 40 Competition Winners representing 15 different cities. Students from age 12 to 22 received awards ranging from \$75 to \$600. Voice, Strings and Piano Scholarships were given. This top level competition is possible only because of donations given in loving memory of the dedicated Oregon Music Teachers who have gone on before us.

Thank you to our judges!

Piano:

Ivona Kaminska &
Christopher Bowlby

Voice:

Konstantin Kvach

Strings:

Adam LaMotte

Congratulations to the 2013 Scholarship Awards Winners!

Maude Sardam Collaborative

1st Place:

Piano Trio (Hae-Jin Kim, teacher)

Emily Kim, violin
David Kim, cello
Daniel Hughes, piano

Donna and David Eason

1st Place:

Ruta Kuzmickas
(Jean-David Coen, teacher)

2nd Place:

Valerie Ding
(Kelli Stephens, teacher)

Portland District Instrumental

1st Place:

Hannah Moon
(Kelli Stephens, teacher)

2nd Place:

Henry Ha
(Barbara Parker, teacher)

Tom O'Brien Senior

2nd Place tie:

Ana Kraft
(Elena Istratova, teacher)
Sharon Zhang
(Paula Watt, teacher)

Tom O'Brien Junior

1st Place:

Christina Im
(Julia Hwakyu Lee, teacher)

Honorable Mention:

Aveek Ganguly
(Barbara Parker, teacher)
Lauren Yoon
(Elizabeth Stern, teacher)

D. Suzanne Raines

1st Place:

Nathan Kim
(Ron Fabbro, teacher)

2nd Place:

Allina Chang
(Linda Barker, teacher)

3rd Place:

Pieter Top
(Shirley Brendlinger, teacher)

Honorable Mention:

William Chun
(Hui Mimi Shen, teacher)
David Yelchaninov
(Lena Nikulin, teacher)

(Continued on next page)



State News *2013 State OMTA Scholarship Results (Continued)*



Cris Tapang Memorial

1st Place:
Richard Lu
(Lena Vozheiko-Wheaton, teacher)

2nd Place:
Andrew Chang
(Jean-David Coen, teacher)

3rd Place:
Serenity Wade
(Barbara Parker, teacher)

Honorable Mention:
Raley Schweinfurth
(Dorothy Fahlman, teacher)

Eleanore East and Edward G. Michaels

1st Place:
Matthieu Galizia
(Shirley Brendlinger, teacher)

2nd Place:
Hannah Wang
(Elizabeth Stern, teacher)

3rd Place:
Cathie Youn
(Dorothy Fahlman, teacher)

Honorable Mention:
Christopher Yoon
(Paula Watt, teacher)

Gladys Strong

1st Place:
Anika Top
(Jill Timmons, teacher)

Edith Strange

1st Place:
Nikolaas Top
(Harold Gray, teacher)

Dorothy Pederson Fahlman

1st Place:
Kaitlyn Hahn
(Patricia Scordata, teacher)

2nd Place:
Taylor Gonzales
(Mariann Slavkovsky, teacher)

3rd Place:
Katrina Hermoso
(Elena Istratova, teacher)

Lillian Pettibone

1st Place:
Adary Zhang
(Rosalie Justen, teacher)

Jean Williams

1st Place:
Edison Tsai
(Kelli Stephens, teacher)

2nd Place:
Ik Hoon Jung
(Linda Barker, teacher)

3rd Place:
Evan Chen
(Dorothy Fahlman, teacher)

Honorable Mention:
Tram Bui
(Barbara Parker, teacher)

Chloe Larkin
(Jill Timmons, teacher)

Aurora Underwood

1st Place:
Caitlyn Koester
(Barbara Roberts, teacher)

2nd Place:
Jennie Jiang
(Barbara Gustafson Chapman, teacher)

OMTA Voice

1st Place:
Sarah Derhalli
(Natalie Gunn, teacher)

2nd Place:
Michael Ash
(April Duvic, teacher)

3rd Place:
Mallory Matheson
(Natalie Gunn, teacher)

Lina Belle Tartar

1st Place:
Kelsey Muller
(Natalie Gunn, teacher)

2nd Place:
Kristian Apland
(Sonja Decker, teacher)

(Continued on next page)



State News *2013 State OMTA Scholarship Results (Continued)*



Jeannette Scott Briggs Elementary

1st Place:

Ellie Chang
(Clarisse Atcherson, teacher)

2nd Place:

Ashley Yoon
(Carol Sindell, teacher)

Jeannette Scott Briggs Middle School

1st Place:

Symphony Koss
(Kathryn Gray, teacher)

2nd Place:

Alex Yao
(Hae-Jin Kim, teacher)

Jeannette Scott Briggs High School

1st Place:

Justin Tung
(Hae-Jin Kim, teacher)

Orchestral Instrumental

1st Place:

Byron Fulop Laing
(Kathryn Gray, teacher)

2nd Place:

Jonathan Ho
(Hae-Jin Kim, teacher)



State News *Membership*

Liz Willis
Membership Chair

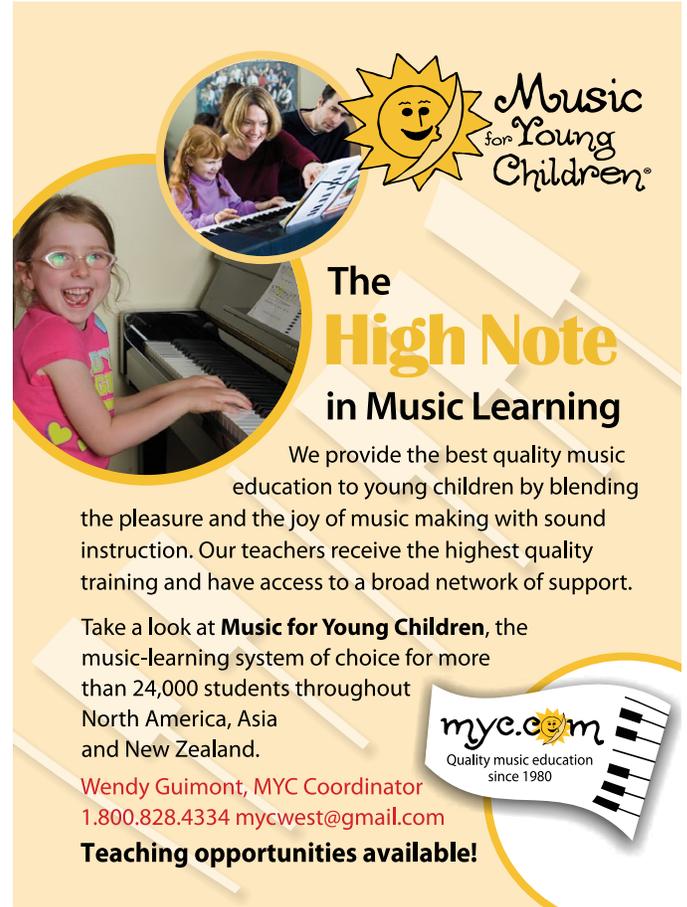


*Welcome
New Members!*

Eugene District
Arsen Gulua

Blue Mountain
Lindsey Martin
student member

Lincoln County
Carlyn Jefferson
student member



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District News *2013 Calendar of Upcoming District Events*

Sunday, June 2

1:30, 3:00, 4:30 pm

Syllabus Level X State Recital
Portland Piano Company
711 SW 14th Ave, Portland
(New location inside the Tiffany Center)
More information: Claudia Hegberg, Chair

Sunday, June 2

7:00 pm

ESMAR Recital
Portland Piano Company
711 SW 14th Ave, Portland
(New location inside the Tiffany Center)
More information: Jan Mittelstaedt

Monday, June 10

10:00 am

Mid-Columbia District *presents*

Gary Ruppert in a two-hour program/workshop on teaching piano from lead sheets (chords and melody line). Location to be determined by the number of participants.
RSVP is required: GoochMr.@centurylink.net.

Friday–Sunday, June 28–30

2013 OMTA State Conference
(Pre-Conference Business Meetings: Thursday, June 27)
Riverhouse Hotel and Convention Center, Bend, OR
Guest artist: Dr. Peter Mack
More information: Cindy Peterson-Peart, Chair

PAUL ROBERTS in **PORTLAND** **JULY 2013:** PERFORMANCE and COMMUNICATION



Liszt, Love and Petrarch:
the Pianist as Narrator
A lecture recital

Wednesday, July 10 7:30 pm

The Old Church, 1422 SW 11th Ave.
Portland, Oregon
Tickets available on-line at
brownpapertickets.com
Adults: \$30 Students: \$15

**Master Classes at
Portland Piano Company**

located at 711 SW 14th Ave.

Monday, July 8 9:30am-12:30pm
Beethoven Sonatas
1:30pm-4:30pm

Tuesday, July 9 1:30pm-4:30pm
Debussy and Ravel
General repertoire
followed by open discussion


Special thanks to
Portland Piano Company
for their generous support of
Paul Roberts in Portland

Paul Roberts will also present a master class and recital in Battle Ground, Washington, July 11.
For information contact Helen Murray, kargmurr@earthlink.net phone (360) 687-3470

For full information on **Paul Roberts in Portland July 2013**, go to paulrobertspiano.com



Helen Jones, NCTM



Our next student event is June 8— Student’s Choice recitals, held at Holy Trinity Catholic Church, 18143 Cottonwood Road, Sunriver. We are looking forward to hearing an interesting mix of music as well as instruments.

Members of the Central Oregon district were treated to a very enlightening program May 10 by Susan Todd, NCTM. She spoke about copyright laws and zoning and liability issues as they apply to us as independent music teachers.



Susan Todd, NCTM

For the last seven Music News issues we have featured Central Oregon attractions that are a “must see” when you come to Bend for the State Conference at the end of the month. And just to test how well you remember them, here’s a picture that appeared in one of the issues. Can you name it?



And, can you name the other six attractions we featured? Bravo to you if you got at least three. Here they are again: Tumalo Falls, Deschutes River and Drake Park, High Desert Museum, Sunriver and SHARC pool, Mt. Bachelor, the town of Sisters, and finally, your “home away from home during the conference:” the Riverhouse hotel and Conference center.

The members of Central Oregon district are looking forward to welcoming you to our town and look forward to seeing you here in a few weeks. 



District News *Tualatin Valley*

Heidi Evans



The Tualatin Valley District celebrated the Spring Season with a highly successful fundraiser: a Scholarship Concert and High Tea which featured guest artists Elizabeth Eklund, mezzo-soprano, and Suzanne Brockmeier, piano, who performed Vier Songs, Op. 2 by Alban Berg.



Our hostess, Frances Geer, with Lisa Mendes

30 music-lovers purchased tickets to support the TV OMTA Annual Scholarship Fund, and many members performed solo, duet, and duo works on the two grand pianos at the lovely home of Frances Geer, with a delectable intermission of tea and goodies. We hope to repeat this event each year and think it a lovely way to fund our District Scholarship. 



Dr. Anne Young, Angela Kelly, Heidi Evans, and Laura Davis



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In Memoriam

Jacob Avshalomov



It is with great sadness I write that Jacob Avshalomov, known as “Mr. A” by the Portland Youth Philharmonic (PYP) family, passed away on April 25 at the age of 94. Mr. A was instrumental in making PYP what it is today—a professional-caliber training ground for young musicians. Under his baton and influence it grew from the Portland Junior Symphony (PJS) to the Portland Youth Philharmonic, saw a change in concert venues from the Civic (Keller) Auditorium to the Arlene Schnitzer Concert Hall, and matured from a group that concertized locally to one that tours internationally.

I had the amazing blessing and privilege of being under Mr. A’s tutelage for 11 years of my childhood, from three years in Prep (the Preparatory Orchestra of PJS/PYP, now called PYCO), to eight years in the PJS/PYP, serving as concertmaster for 3 years. The training that I received under Mr. A has had an enormous impact on how I function as a musician, both as a performer and as a teacher. We PYP members learned so much from Mr. A. ... the importance of working cohesively together in a group, the satisfaction of putting our hearts and minds into a piece of music and hearing the amazing outcome, how to follow a conductor, how to present ourselves professionally, how to accompany a soloist. Ah, yes, and how to count ... I remember the entire orchestra sitting down at two rehearsals without instruments and clapping the difficult rhythms of Stravinsky’s *The Rite of Spring*.

Mr. A demanded a professional standard from each of us. Absences from rehearsals were rarely granted. Less than 15 minutes early to a rehearsal was late! He helped to provide us incredible opportunities. In 1984’s concert tour, we had a double orchestra concert—Leonard Bernstein conducting alongside Mr. A—with the New York Philharmonic in Avery Fisher Hall of Lincoln Center in New York City. I remember well how Mr. A looked out for our best interests. Light dress rehearsal the morning of concert day was followed by a stern admonition to stay away from activities to preserve our full focus for the evening concert. With a little fear and trepidation, all we who had reached that pinnacle of achievement—membership in the top orchestra—remember having our annual audition up at his house. How thankful I am, in our adult years, that so many of us have found Mr. and Mrs A’s grand home a pleasant place to visit and catch up.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Mr. A’s wife, poet Doris Avshalomov, and his two sons—David, composer and conductor, and Daniel, violist of the American String Quartet. A giant has left us and will be sorely missed.

http://www.oregonlive.com/performance/index.ssf/2013/04/jacob_avshalomov_longtime_dire.html
<http://www.portlandyouthphil.org/musicblog/>

by Ruth Sadilek,
Teacher of Violin and Piano





Submit Articles in *Music News*

Please send articles and accompanying graphics in TIFF, EPS, JPEG or PDF format to Natalie Gunn via e-mail: natalie@nataliegunn.com. MS Word attachments are best.

Advertise in *Music News*

Please send ads and accompanying graphics in TIFF, EPS, JPEG or PDF format to Rhonda Ringering: rhondaringering@hotmail.com.

1/4 column ads (and articles about events which require an admission fee or tuition):
\$35.00

Larger ads at a proportional cost.
(Contact Rhonda for amounts.)

Publication dates and deadlines are listed below.
Submitting material before deadlines is always helpful and appreciated.

Issues Deadlines

| | | | |
|-----|--------|------|---------|
| Jan | Dec 15 | June | May 15 |
| Feb | Jan 15 | Sept | Aug 15 |
| Mar | Feb 15 | Oct | Sept 15 |
| Apr | Mar 15 | Nov | Oct 15 |
| May | Apr 15 | Dec | Nov 15 |

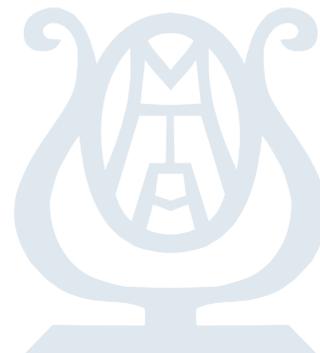
The link below connects you to your local District Associations, OMTA Board of Directors and Committee Chairs:

<http://oregonmta.org/contact/>

Let Us Know

If you have changed your e-mail address please contact the office so you don't miss any OMTA News.

office@oregonmta.org





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Please visit our Website to find any further information you need. We encourage you to explore the pull-down menus under *Information for Teachers* and *Programs for Students*. Complete listings of State and District leadership are found in the pull-down menu under *Contact*.

Upcoming Music News copy DEADLINES:

August 15, 2013

September 15, 2013

October 15, 2013

