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Three Honorary Lifetime Members Recognized

Serving on the OMTA Honors Committee with Fern McArthur and Carol White is a real treat! Our task was to set in place procedures for nominating persons to receive Honorary Life Member, Foundation Fellow, and the OMTA Teaching Award. Award criteria and nomination forms for each award are posted on the OMTA website. Caris Power was a great help in creating the online nomination form, which sends a copy of the submitted nomination to each of the sub-committee members.

The Honorary Life Member sub-committee (Cherise da Cunha, Carolyn Mayer and chair Fern McArthur) recommended Shirley Nebergal (formerly Umatilla-Morrow, now member-at-large), Sue Nelson (Umatilla-Morrow) and Ramona Goddard (Portland) for the 2014 award. District Presidents Carolyn Mayer and Deborah Cleaver nominated them, and they were recognized at the conference banquet in August. Criteria for the award includes a minimum of 25 years OMTA membership and outstanding service at the local and state levels. Excerpts from their nominations follow.

SHIRLEY NEBERGAL has chaired every student event held in the Umatilla-Morrow District. She was Syllabus Chair, Junior Bach Festival Chair, Ensemble Festival Chair—you name it, she was in charge of it at one time or another. Her students always excelled in every event. She was 100 per cent behind her students and did whatever she could to help them throughout their time with her, and on into their careers. Although Shirley had many outstanding students the one we remember most was Kelly Kuo, who is now an up and coming young conductor. He is the Director of the Oregon Mozart Players in Eugene. Shirley held most offices at the local level and served as the IMTF Chair, MTNA Competitions Chair, and is a Syllabus Adjudicator. Along with Carolyn Mayer and Sue Nelson, Shirley was a founding member of the Umatilla-Morrow District and was the one who, in 1984, invited then OMTA President to visit their area to tell them about OMTA. We decided that was the way to go, and because of our Shirley we became the Umatilla-Morrow District of OMTA. None of us have ever regretted it. Shirley





Dear OMTA,

I am compelled to express my gratitude for the Honorary State Life Membership award I was given at the recent Conference at Newport.

There are so many of you who have mentored me in many ways, including encouraging me to move forward, lifting me up when I was down, and becoming my forever friends. I couldn't even begin to name you all.

My career was completely transformed when we formed our little Umatilla-Morrow District. It made all the difference!

So thank you all!

Sincerely,
Shirley Nebergall, NCTM

transferred her enthusiasms to OMTA and pulled us all along with her.

SUE NELSON has been one of the stalwart, ever-ready to work, steadfast members of Umatilla-Morrow District OMTA since she joined. She has been Chair of almost every student event at one time or another including Syllabus Chair, Ensemble Festival Chair, Ribbon Festival Chair and more. She believes in giving her students many opportunities to excel and they have always lived up to her expectations. Sue is a splendid performer who energizes and inspires her students. She has held probably every office in the District and worked for the state organization for many years as Assistant Treasurer. She enjoys the OMTA Conferences and attends as many of them as possible. A State and Nationally Certified (NCTM) and a Syllabus Adjudicator, Sue is one of those people whom you know you can always count on. If she says she will do something, it gets done without fuss, efficiently and effectively. She is a reasonable voice in any discussion, with a solution to almost every problem. Sue is also lots of fun! We are so very lucky to have her in our District.

RAMONA GODDARD is a wonderful teacher, much loved by her students. I have been especially impressed by her ability to work with students who have either emotional or developmental difficulties, empowering them to achieve much more than they ever thought possible. Her studio is a place of encouragement and creative learning that has ushered students into degree programs at Portland State University and the University of Oregon. Ramona served as Syllabus chair for her area for many years. She is a remarkably inventive and energetic person. Over the last eight years, she and her husband Jeff Goddard have worked unbelievably hard to develop Leggiero, an online registration site, first for Portland District's festivals, and more recently for the state syllabus program. The hours and hours she has logged to perfect the site have had a huge effect on the ability of the chairmen to handle with ease the registration, scheduling, and administration. Ramona's vision includes understanding the problems and needs of both programs. Ramona is always there to give a helping hand, no matter what the project. She has brought many new members into OMTA, and helped them meet colleagues.

—Susan Todd, NCTM
Honors Committee Chair



Left to right: Susan Todd, NCTM (chair of Honors Committee); Ramona Goddard, NCTM; Sue Nelson, NCTM; Shirley Nebergall, NCTM; Fern McArthur, NCTM (chair of Honorary Lifetime sub-committee).



President's Corner



Try Something New!

As I write my first President's Corner, I'm submersed in last-minute details for this year's OMTA Conference. As you read this, those who attended the annual conference will hopefully feel refreshed, renewed, and anxious to apply what you've learned to this year's teaching.

September always reminds us of how exciting the learning process can be. From fresh-faced, eager students to new teachers just stepping into the world of education, to seasoned teaching professionals, we all enjoy the chance to learn and grow. I sincerely hope you take advantage of the many opportunities for continued education through your local districts, throughout the state, and even nationally.

I challenge each of you to step outside your comfort zone and try something new this year. Maybe attend a master class, enter

a student in a festival, participate in an online webinar—there are so many options! Most of all, I encourage you to attend this year's MTNA National Conference, March 21–25, 2015 at the Rio Hotel & Casino in Las Vegas.

For those who've been to previous National Conferences, you already know how incredibly valuable the experience can be. For those who've never gone, I hope you'll consider making this your first of many. The educational sessions are amazing, the performances are stunning, and the opportunity to get to know teachers from all over the country is exhilarating. It's well worth the investment of time and money. And, very reliable sources reveal that we can expect to enjoy a recital by the Canadian Brass, as well as a master class from Lang Lang.

Hope to see you there!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Cindy".

Cindy Peterson-Peart, NCTM
President, OMTA



Beverly Serra-Brooks,
DMA & NCTM
IMTF Chair



What is IMTF? The Independent Music Teacher's Forum has been supported by MTNA since 1972. IMTF is all about members and issues important to the profession; studio business, technology & pedagogy trends, networking, sharing concerns and most importantly, building community.

By the time you read this, almost all of you will be in the throes of a full teaching schedule, balancing a myriad amount of ages, levels, personalities, schedules and learning styles. Every fall brings a certain amount of excitement and feeling of renewal, especially if you have just returned from attending an OMTA state conference.

Although an influx of family for a family reunion prevented me from attending the main part of the conference, I was able to attend the meetings prior and feel that I gained insight and inspiration from listening to members' ideas & concerns.

President Bonnie Esbensen mentioned she had been reading about the relevancy of associations such as ours in this 21st century. She inspired me to wonder how relevancy might fit into my teaching. Could I find a balance between tradition, new trends and technology? Could I honor all musical journeys while keeping my standards intact? Am I reflecting relevancy in repertoire choices which connect with my students in today's world, as well as the more standard works?

I began to think about how I might reflect relevancy to students growing up in the smart phone world: can students access a studio Facebook page, or studio website? Do I offer them apps for sight reading, note spelling, rhythms and intervals? Do my studio lesson plans, policies and rates reflect relevancy and value within the community? Am I keeping my skills relevant with con-

tinuing education and active membership in professional organizations? While the answers are different for everyone, the idea of relevancy is an excellent way to bring a fresh perspective to your teaching in the new school year.

Here are some links for tweaking the studio school year kickoff:

Everything Ipad:

<https://www.facebook.com/ipadpianostudio>

Studio business (including a free website):

<http://www.musicteachershelper.com>

Apps for students:

<http://melodycats.com>

Groups for online networking
& instructor support:

Piano Pedagogy Roundtable

<http://tinyurl.com/k2mtr8u>

The Three Ps:

Piano, Performance & Pedagogy

<http://tinyurl.com/mx298qv>

Happy Teaching!

Beverly Serra-Brooks, DMA & NCTM
IMTF Chair

dr.beverlysb@earthlink.net

or call me, I'm in the OMTA directory.



Anne D. Young, DM
Finance Chair, OMTA



Setting the Bar for Achievement

Summer is coming to a close and soon will enter the golds, reds and yellows of fall. Time to re-inspire the gifts that feed the souls of the students. Teachers envision and set the bar for development and achievement, organize the process, and accept the eventual outcome, knowing the investment is always worthwhile at some level.

Now is not too early to plan for next summer's conference, budgeting both time and money. The harvest for the last two years has included ten ways to play chords; the playing of Bach and developing a time line for practice; three kinds of legato; body canon and rhythms from the Spanish world; as well as a plethora of brain teasers that work especially well for

the young beginners. The potential and reward in joining with your colleagues helps create a statewide community and standard of excellence.

We are all off to an excellent start, the bell has sounded, let the action begin!

With warmest regards, Anne

Anne D. Young, DM,
Finance Chair, OMTA
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1. Log onto our website at www.musiclinkfoundation.org
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3. If you want to volunteer – complete the "Teacher Volunteer Form."
4. If you are already teaching a student at half or less of your normal fee, complete the "MusicLink Registration Form."

Every child deserves the opportunity to nurture his or her musical talent to its full extent.
You can make a difference!



State News *Foundation Fellow Nominee — Dorothy Fahlman*

Susan Todd, NCTM
Assistant Treasurer, OMTA



Dorothy Fahlman, NCTM

The Foundation Fellow sub-committee (Virginia Bunn, Patti Duthie and chair Susan Todd) recommended Dorothy Fahlman as the Oregon nominee. If funded by January, 2015, Dorothy will be recognized at the MTNA Conference in March. We recognized Dorothy at the OMTA conference banquet. Donations in Dorothy's name may be sent to MTNA. Complete information about the MTNA Foundation, including the donation form, may be found at www.mtnafoundation.org.

Dorothy's nomination included many positive comments. Dorothy is a well-known and respected teacher and many of her students have won both local, state, district and national MTNA and other competitions. She is a huge believer and supporter of Syllabus and has created a state scholarship for students who have completed exam 10. In both the local and state OMTA, Dorothy has served as president, as well as serving on many local and state committees. She also served at the National level as Treasurer and as Baldwin Competition chair. She gave a highly regarded presentation at the Portland MTNA conference. She was on the original committee to create the adjudicator training, served as state syllabus chairman, has served as a syllabus adjudicator, and participated fully in the Russian exchange between Khabarovsk, Russia and Oregon. Dorothy is an outstanding teacher and a huge supporter of the value of OMTA. Included in her bio were some facts that might surprise you! Her professional careers include teacher of piano, theory, and musicianship, script writer, director and puppeteer in Oregon, in association with Puppeteers of America; and co-creator of the musical video "Wee Sing Together." 

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State News *State Ensemble Festival at WOU*

Pamela Miller, NCTM
State Ensemble Chairman

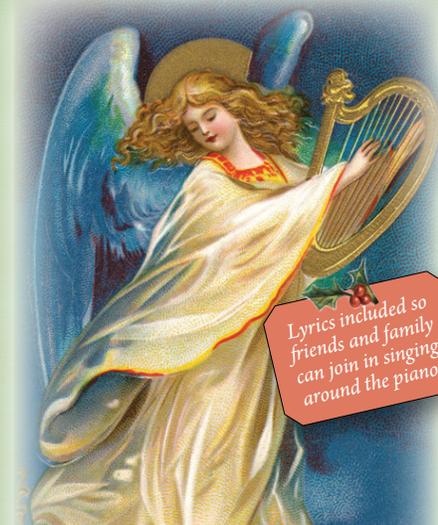


The 2014 OMTA State Ensemble Festival will be held on Saturday, November 15 in Smith Music Hall on the campus of Western Oregon University in Monmouth. Six recitals will be held at 10:00, 11:30, 1:00, 2:30, 4:00 and 5:30.

We are very fortunate that Dr. Diane Baxter has agreed to host this event. WOU has two beautiful grand pianos on stage and practice rooms where students can warm up before their performance. Each student will receive a medal. 

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Laura Davis has taught private piano for over 20 years. She studied piano and music history at the University of Redlands, and music ministry and song arranging at Portland Bible College. Other instruments she has played include organ, violin, French horn and tympani. As a member of the William Hall Chorale in Los Angeles she sang in the LA Music Center and Hollywood Bowl.



Equally adept working with children and adults, she has produced, directed and accompanied several Christmas musicals for churches and Christian schools. Her background in music ministry, choir directing and community theater enriches all her current endeavors. Laura's piano students frequently perform in OMTA festivals and competitions.

www.FriendofMusic.com



State News *Membership*

Liz Willis, NCTM
Membership Chair



We are delighted to welcome the following new members to OMTA:

Blue Mountain

Erin Stauffer

Central Oregon

Holly Wright

Eugene

Ingrid Keller

Central Oregon

Dow Yeh

Portland

Emily Brother (student member)

Chih-Chun Chie

Sophie Christian

Jana Hanchett

Dmytro Nazarenko

Greta Pedersen

Hannah Vandemeer

Jeongmi Yoon

Tualatin Valley

Joseph Forster

Rogue Valley

Chris Bingham

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District News *Calendar of Upcoming District Events*

Carma Glausi



September 12, 2014

10:00 a.m.

After our 9:15 business meeting, **Margaret Littlehales** will present her “Albums for the Young: Four Centuries,” and her “Pedagogical Wheel of Fortune.” Topics covered: choosing student repertoire; syllabus levels 1–10; considering music history; nationality; historic forms; and harmony. Also discussed: music for the gifted, average and the non-practicing student. All are welcome to attend!

Location: Tigard United Methodist Church.

October 10, 2014

10:00 a.m.

Forrest Kinney will present a free session for teachers, students, parents, and the community entitled, “The Secret of Musical Creativity,” demonstrating how he teaches improvisation by engaging the student’s latent intuitive guidance. He will also discuss the Four Arts of Music: improvising, arranging, composing and interpreting. All are welcome to attend!

Location: Tigard United Methodist Church.

Later, from 1:00–4:00 he will present his Pattern Play Program, Levels 1–6, for all interested teachers who would like to attend. This session is also free of charge. We are using an MTNA grant and possible OMTA grant to help pay for Mr. Kinney’s day of presentations.

October 11, 2014

9:30–5:30 (approximately) exact times to be confirmed

Forrest Kinney will present his Chord Play Intensive at George Fox University Piano Lab to eleven teachers. This one-day class presents a clear way to understand and artfully make arrangements with triads, 7th chords, 9th chords, and 13th chords. Teachers also make arrangements of familiar melodies in various musical styles. Teachers will have a “hands on” experience with the three main techniques of arranging (styling, coloring, and substituting.) The cost will be \$90.00 per teacher. This covers his fee of \$75.00 and \$15.00 rental to George Fox for each teacher. Teachers sign up and send their check (made out to Tualatin Valley OMTA) to our District President, Sherrene Walker. **We only have 11 slots and the first 8 are now filled. Only 3 spots are left, so contact Sherrene immediately if you would like to attend.** Sherrene’s email address is rswalker1@comcast.net.

November 1, 2014

TV-OMTA Festival of Ribbons/Ensemble Festival.

December 12, 2014

Christmas Brunch, special music, and business meeting.



District News *Central Oregon*

Helen Jones, NCTM



Welcome Back Everyone!

Members of Central Oregon District will gather Sept. 12 for the first meeting of the year after a summer filled with vacations, workshops and conferences. Our program will be a sharing of ideas from our State Conference, as well as other teaching ideas to begin the new school year.

We welcome our new officers 2014–2016: Judy Kamperman, President; Margaret Littlehales, President Elect; Gina Rosbrook, Secretary; and Jean Shrader, Treasurer. Our outgoing District President Kathy Gault won't be idle, as she is now

President-Elect of OMTA. We are proud of these ladies who have stepped up to serve our District and State associations.

We are excited that one of our new members, Holly Wright, received a travel grant from OCF to attend the State Conference in Newport.

We welcome our newest member of Central Oregon District, Margarite Michas who lives in Redmond.

Have a great teaching year!



Central Oregon group at state conference L to R: Kathy Gault, Mariann Slavkovsky, Margaret Littlehales, Sharla Graves, Holly Wright, Judy Kamperman & Patti Peterson.



District News *Eugene*

Fern McArthur, NCTM



Honors Abound in Eugene

Last May, we met for a delicious brunch at the Valley River Inn, overlooking the Willamette River. We had a free discussion of ideas and concerns, which is our tradition for our May meeting. New officers were installed which include:

PRESIDENT David Cragun
PROGRAM CHAIR Genevieve Mason
TREASURER Wyatt Burger
RECORDING SECRETARY Neil Patton
CORRESPONDING SECRETARY Fern McArthur

Local students were recognized at our June potluck and performed for our members. Christina Lu, student of Lucy Clevenger, NCTM, was the winner of the Eugene District's Beverly Soule scholarship. Christina graduated high school last spring and will be attending Cornell University this fall.

Sean Murphy, age 16 and a student of Patricia Morse, also performed. He completed his Level X Syllabus evaluation with distinction last fall, received 2nd place in the Dorothy Pederson Fahlman scholarship auditions, and was chosen to perform last June in the Oregon Community Foundation master class.

Many of our members enjoyed the OMTA State Conference held in Newport last month. We were very proud of our member Virginia Hawley Buhn, NCTM,



L to R: Christina Lu, Lucy Clevenger, Patricia Morse, Sean Murphy.

who was recognized as the well-deserved first recipient of the OMTA Nellie Tholen 'Excellence in Teaching' award. Virginia was also the first MTNA Foundation Fellow from Oregon. Eugene's Paul Safar was recognized as the OMTA Composer of the Year and presented an exciting performance of his commissioned work "The Warbler Sings," a setting of haiku by Basho. Paul will now be considered for the MTNA distinguished composer award. Congratulations to Virginia and Paul!

Eugene District will once again host the Sonata-Sonatina Festival at the University of Oregon on Oct. 25. We look forward to seeing many of you here. Good wishes to all for a great start to the new teaching year. 



A great turnout for Eugene District's May Brunch.



Rita Warton



Two Annual “Spotlight” Concerts

The few but very active members of the Lincoln County District have made a tradition of performing two Spotlight Concerts every year.

Starting in 1997, Mary Lee Scoville and Jessica Treon, members of OMTA, decided to perform 2-piano and duet music at the Performing Arts Center in Newport to raise funds and provide entertainment for the local community. They were having so much fun that the other members of the district thought they should be involved too, and over the years the concert has morphed into some quite involved performances with guest instrumentalists and singers.

As the series became better known, Al Brown suggested that we call the series “Spotlight on the Teachers” as a more apt description. The group decided to use all proceeds as funds for student scholarships and moved from a suggested cost to a donations only model. In 2008, we lost our own Suzanne Brown and shortly thereafter renamed the fund “The Suzanne Brown Student Aid Fund”, which has been used over the years to help many students continue their music education with OMTA teachers.

2011 was a banner year as we decided to take on Darius Milhaud’s “Paris” Suite for four pianos with a slide presentation of the six districts of Paris illustrated by the music.

It was a huge undertaking to find, practice, and perform on four pianos. Sarah Ball and I joined Mary Lee and Jessie. However, on the morning of the performance Sarah cut her thumb and had to have three stitches! She still wanted to perform but, obviously, was unable to do anything but stay home and recover. To the rescue came one of our outstanding students—Milo Graamans who filled in on the spot. It was an amazing day altogether. At the fall recital we performed “Paris” again with our original foursome, however this time it was Mary Lee playing with a broken finger. We may need to resuscitate “Paris” and see if we can manage to get 40 healthy fingers!

This year’s Fall Spotlight Concert is on September 14 at 2:30 p.m. We have another great lineup of performances by members Sarah Ball, Jessica Treon, MaryLee Scoville, Lyndsey Morven and Rita Warton, with guests Kathy Follet, Milo Graamans, Justin Herndon, Ginger Hodges, Walt Hogsett, Evan Pardi, Stephan Pierce and Akia Woods.

Those of you who attended the State Conference have experienced first hand the quality of the venue and equipment we are fortunate to have available here. We invite you all to come to the Newport Performing Arts Center and enjoy our Fall Spotlight Concert. 



Carma Glausi



Inspiring High Tea-Musicale in Tualatin Valley



This past summer, Tualatin Valley District held a wonderfully successful scholarship fundraiser. Our “Scholarship Concert and Summer Afternoon Tea” took place on Saturday July 19th at the home of member Francis Geer in the beautiful Sherwood hills. The concert program was divided into three parts.

Part I, “All That Jazz,” featured Gina Pruitt on piano, with her husband Garner on trumpet, and daughter Jessica as vocalist, with enticing and soulful jazz selections.

In Part II, “Music & Words,” Chikako Doane sang a Japanese song, self-accompanied at the piano. Natalie Gunn and guest vocalist Sarah Maines sang two Mendelssohn duets, accompanied by Anne Young at the piano. And finally, Sarah Maines sang Ravel’s three “Songs of Madagascar,” accompanied by guest artist LeeAnn McKenna on flute and Anne Young on piano.

Part III, “Americana,” featured Natalie Gunn singing Barber’s “Sure on this Shining Night” and Duke’s “The Bird.” Our final number was Copland’s “Billy the Kid—Excerpts from the Ballet” piano duo, performed by members Angela Kelly and Carma Glausi.

Between the three sections guests and performers were treated to delicious foods and refreshing drinks laid out in the kitchen and on the back deck. What an inspiring, relaxing afternoon full of good conversation, inspiring music and tasty treats. Proceeds from Musicale help fund our annual scholarship, awarded to a deserving graduating senior with plans to major or minor in music in college. A big thank you to Joyce Bradshaw, Scholarship Tea Chair, and her committee for providing such a wonderful event! 🍵





Submit Articles in *Music News*

Please send articles and accompanying graphics in TIFF, EPS, JPEG or PDF format to Laura Davis via e-mail: lauradavis47@gmail.com. MS Word attachments are best.

Advertise in *Music News*

Please send ads and accompanying graphics in TIFF, EPS, JPEG or PDF format to Caris or Robin Power: office@oregonmta.org

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

Larger ads at a proportional cost.
(Contact the office 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

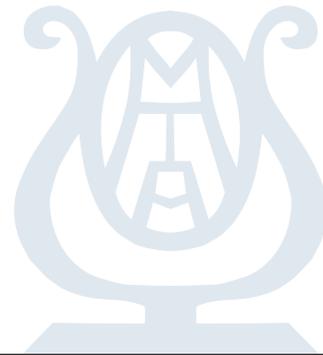
The link below connects you to your local District Associations, OMTA Board of Directors and Committee Chairs:

www.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





Music News

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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:

September 15, 2014

October 15, 2014

November 15, 2014

