

# OMTA Music News

Opus 69

March 2015

No. 7



## IN THIS ISSUE

### State News

President's Corner	3
Certification	4
Communication Corner — Finance & More	6
Facebook! You Know You Like Us!	7
Membership	8
Students Shine at OMTA Jr. Bach State Recital	9

### District News

Up Coming Events	11
Central Oregon	12
Tualatin Valley	14

## 2015 State Conference

by Kathy Gault

Our members in Portland have a tantalizing view of Mt. Hood from their hometown all year long. But this summer we will all have the opportunity to spend time at the foot of the mountain—learning, reconnecting, networking and recharging at the OMTA State Conference.

The Resort at the Mountain has offered us a special group rate, giving us an excellent excuse to plan a fun weekend for ourselves and our families.

Room reservations may be made now—see information on

the following page. Be sure to reference the group name “Oregon Music Teachers” and/or Group Code “OMTA” to get the special discounted rate of \$105 per night. Reservations at this rate are available until June 1, 2015, or until the block of rooms is filled.

The Resort at the Mountain is located within an hour of both the city of Portland and Portland International Airport. The hotel is nestled in the Mt. Hood National Forest, offering views of lush evergreen forests, waterfalls and



## 2015 State Conference *(continued)*



wildlife. Recreational opportunities include golf, hiking, biking, croquet (you know you love it), fishing and white water rafting. Details on the Resort website.

If you haven't already done so, be sure to put June 19–21 on your calendar, and make that room reservation now. Peter Jutras, Alexander Tutunov and Forrest Kinney await you!

Book your room at The Resort at The Mountain for **June 18–21, 2015** starting at the special group rate of \$105 per night plus tax.

Use the Link below to go directly to The Resort website and book standard rooms with your group.

Each year it seems there are more financial incentives available to attendees through OMTA and our grants through Oregon Community Foundation. In addition to the ongoing partial room rebates we can request through the Nellie Tholen Teacher Improvement Fund of OCT, these additional monies are available:

1. **Travel grant** of \$200 per district, for established members who have never attended a state conference before.
2. **FREE** conference registration for college students.
3. **NEW for 2015: FREE** conference registration for **new members** in their first year.



### 2015 OMTA State Conference

June 19–21

Resort at the Mountain  
Welches, Oregon

#### Online room reservations

<http://tinyurl.com/pm4rxeq>

#### Or simply call

1-877-439-6774

#### Reference group name

Oregon Music Teachers  
and/or  
Group Code "OMTA"



# President's Corner



## *Volunteering with Heart*

This month, I'd like to share with you a particularly appropriate quote:

*Volunteers do not necessarily have the time; they just have the heart.*

—Elizabeth Andrew

We are, at our core, a volunteer-run organization, full of dedicated, hard-working, creative individuals. Our numbers continue to grow and OMTA currently stands at almost 650 members. Why then is it that such a small percentage of those members do such a vast majority of the work? Many of the amazing teachers I know are habitual OMTA volunteers. They hold state board or committee positions while also helping with the numerous tasks in their own districts. Some simply roll over from one appointed position to another, year after year, graciously saying “yes” to all that is asked of them. But if we are to continue to grow and thrive as an organization, we need new, energetic volunteers with fresh and exciting ideas. I'm asking each of you to consider what you could do to become more personally involved in OMTA.

Naturally, the benefits of OMTA membership include our fabulous Syllabus program and the many and varied festivals and programs offered to our members and their students. But if you're not involved as a volunteer, you're really missing out on the best that OMTA has to offer. Through getting involved as a volunteer at the district and state levels, I've met so many wonderful, inspirational, and amazing individuals. I count among my closest friends some of these teachers. We've raised our children together, grown older together, and been a constant source of support for each other.

Your story may be different, but I promise you that lifetime friends and colleagues are waiting for you, if you just take the first step to get involved. Everyone has

gifts and talents to share. You don't need to be a “Type A” organizational guru or a computer wizard to help out. As the old saying goes, “Many hands make light work.”

*Nobody can do everything,  
but everyone can do something.*

—Gil Scott-Heron

## **OMTA'S 100TH YEAR**

As we begin to celebrate OMTA's 100th year, I'm asking for a *very special group* of volunteers. OMTA is in need of a team to go through our historical materials and determine what could be archived online, and what might be donated to the Oregon Historical Society. Joan Gathercoal, our current historian, is one of those incredibly dedicated members to whom I referred. She's been a faithful and stalwart keeper of our rich history. But it's time for her to pass the torch. Please consider giving a little of your time and talents to this important task, in the hopes that we can celebrate our 100th year knowing that the history of our organization will carry forward. If you would be willing to serve on this committee, please let me know.

So I challenge you to reach out to your district president, or your syllabus chair, or a festival committee and say to them “I'd like to help. What do you need?” I guarantee you'll be glad you did. And I leave you with this final lovely thought:

“Volunteers are not paid—not because they are worthless, but because they are priceless.”

Cindy Peterson-Peart, NCTM  
President, OMTA



Dr. Marianne Bryan  
Certification Chair,  
West Central Division



## *Lifelong Learning as a Piano Teacher*

*Is lifelong learning in your teaching philosophy? Is it on your “to-do” list? Have you recently taken the time to reflect on the value of lifelong learning for yourself, and for your students? Perhaps this article by Dr. Marianne Bryan will inspire you to find the time and energy to become a Nationally Certified Teacher of Music.*

—Wilma Hawkins, NCTM  
OMTA Certification Chair

So much has been written about this subject over the last decade, but what does it mean for us as piano teachers? In what ways do we continue to grow, stretch and expand our knowledge and expertise?

We practice our instrument. We learn new repertoire. We go to conferences. We read. We listen to a wide variety of music. We take a class. We network with other musicians and teachers. We become Nationally Certified.

The NCTM process is one of the most productive experiences a teacher can be involved in. It is a catalyst for self-reflection in all the most important areas of our work—teaching, performing, running a small business, and connecting with our profession.

I have mentored over 40 teachers in the NCTM process now. Watching teachers grow, stretch and expand has been one of the most rewarding things I have ever done. Every teacher I have mentored found the NCTM process much more meaningful than they had ever imagined. They were practicing lifelong learning at the highest level.

It is through deep self-reflection that we create significant growth in ourselves. Writing our teaching philosophy, watching ourselves teach, digging deeply into the repertoire, solidifying our business practices—this work creates depth and breadth in our professional lives. It is life changing and we will never be the same.

Keep growing. Keep lifelong learning as a priority in your life. Become a NCTM. 



**O** UNIVERSITY OF OREGON  
School of Music and Dance

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2014-15 Season presents

## ANDERSON & ROE PIANO DUO

**Wednesday, April 1, 7:30 p.m.**

Hudson Concert Hall, Mary Stuart Rogers Music Center



Known for their adrenalized performances, original compositions, and Emmy-nominated videos, Greg Anderson and Elizabeth Joy Roe are revolutionizing the piano duo experience for the 21st century.

Described as “the intense synchronization of genius” (*ThirdCoast Digest*) and “the most dynamic duo of this generation” (*San Francisco Classical Voice*) the Anderson and Roe Duo aims to make classical music a relevant and powerful force around the world. Of a recent performance *Backtrack* writes –“Believe all the hype!—they are electric.”

Highlights of their upcoming season include a worldwide tour and promotion of their new joint release *An Amadeus Affair*. Together they have appeared on

MTV’s *Total request Live*, NPR’s *All Things Considered*, *From the Top*, and dozens of summer chamber music festivals, including the Portland Piano International series. Their highly inventive program will include beloved masterworks like Ravel’s “La Valse” in addition to their own arrangements and transcriptions of Mozart, Radiohead, Pharrell Williams, and Camille Saint-Saens.

“As with everything I have heard or seen from this dynamic duo, there is an overriding joy in their music-making. Couple that with incredible technical abilities, ensemble second to none, and, in their videos, a true sense of theatrical entertainment, and you have a positive look at the future of classical music performance. They do have it all, and any classical music lover owes it to himself to hear Anderson & Roe.”  
— *American Record Guide*

[www.andersonroe.com](http://www.andersonroe.com)

**MASTER CLASS FEATURING WILLAMETTE UNIVERSITY  
PIANO DUOS — free and open to the public**  
Tues. March 31, 7 - 9 p.m., Hudson Concert Hall

### **CONCERT TICKETS — reserved seating**

Season Tickets Adults (2 concerts) \$40; Single Tickets \$23

Students w/ID \$8 Willamette student w/ID \$5 Willamette faculty/staff w/ID \$18

Available at [absolutelytix.com](http://absolutelytix.com) and Travel Salem, 181 High St. NE, 503-581-4325 or 800-874-7012.

For more information: Willamette University Music Department, 503-370-6255. [music-info@willamette.edu](mailto:music-info@willamette.edu)  
[willamette.edu/arts/goudyartistseries](http://willamette.edu/arts/goudyartistseries)

Anne D. Young, DM  
Finance Chair, OMTA



## *An Abundance of Musical Offerings*

Ravi Shankar was an advocate for music who brought to the West the ancient discipline of Indian music and a completely new awareness of the refined, complex rhythms of the tabla and the unique melodies based on the particular qualities of a raga. One beautiful thought he shared was, “Sound stretched is music, movement stretched is dance, mind stretched is meditation, life stretched is celebration and breath stretched is inspiration.”

### **CONCERTOS**

Rewards of the master class for our young musicians are many, and the recent coaching experience at Michelle’s Pianos with Maestro Andreas Klein was proof of this particular kind of enrichment for students, teachers and general audience members. The session was to focus on the challenges of the concerto and, though only one concerto movement was represented, a great deal was communicated on preparing soloist and orchestra for performance. The reliance upon YouTube can only be a partial aid while, at the same time, a very valuable one. Study from the full score is essential to understanding the full character of the composer’s intentions, the character of the themes, and the overall structure and expression of material through the powerful palette of orchestral instruments.

### **COMPOSITIONS**

OMTA’s recognition and support of young composers is manifested in the annual competition. With current technology it is relatively easy to print a score, record a work

and submit it for consideration, all electronically. Some composers still adhere to the “old-fashioned” approach of writing scores out by hand, at least for one stage of the compositional process. So much is gained through this process that enhances the physical realization of a new piece of music. New things have a special quality about them, and historically both performing and composing were of equal importance.

### **OCF GRANT**

Exciting times ahead! The OMTA has garnered a grant from the OCF, to be partitioned into a five-year plan under the guidance of project manager, our own Susan Todd. The grant will support our districts in presenting and participating in special projects that will highlight and invigorate our organization and our mission.

Many musical offerings continue to prove how the fine efforts of our teachers are alive and productive! 

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Web: [www.lomusicacademy.com](http://www.lomusicacademy.com)  
E-mail: [aypiano@comcast.net](mailto:aypiano@comcast.net)



# State News *Facebook! You Know You Like Us!*

Angela Kelly,  
Marketing



*Teachers!* Are you connected on Facebook?  
Please locate OMTA on Facebook as  
Oregon Music Teachers Association.  
When you find us, please “LIKE” us. It’s that easy.

### *Like OMTA on Facebook*

Great. Now you are connected to dozens of other amazing  
music teachers all around Oregon who appreciate sharing ideas,  
experiences and successes in their teaching studios.

*It’s s-o-o-o . . . 21st century!*



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<b>Steven Byess</b> music director	<b>Keith Buncke</b> principal bassoon Chicago Symphony



Liz Willis, NCTM  
Membership Chair



## *Membership Update*

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

### **Eugene District**

Judy Ingham

### **Lincoln County District**

Kathleen Follett

### **Portland District**

Jessica Dickinson

Spencer Finnan

Junko Gilliland

Doug Hanvey

Denise Kangas

Jung Ah Lee

Elaine Soldo

Yvette Starkey (student member)

Jiwoo Yoon

### **Umatilla Morrow District**

Michael Kellison



## **JUNIOR PIANO FESTIVAL**

with

**Deborah Weingard Lee,**

President, Honolulu MTA

**Chung Haing Lee**

**David Yeomans,**

MTNA Certified Master

Teacher

**July 8-14, 2015**

**Halfway, Oregon**

- For pianists ages 9-14
- Learn & perform in a nurturing atmosphere
- Enjoy recreation in a beautiful rural setting

~~

## **PIANO TEACHER'S WORKSHOP**

**July 11, 2015**

- Workshop and master class sessions for students and teachers
- Clear Creek Music Festival Faculty Recital, July 11, 2015

For more information:

[www.clearcreekmusicfestival.org](http://www.clearcreekmusicfestival.org)

[clearcreek@flash.net](mailto:clearcreek@flash.net)



# State News *Students Shine at OMTA Jr. Bach State Recital*



District winners from around Oregon had the opportunity to perform at the annual Jr. Bach Festival in Corvallis on February 28th. Baroque music was on tap, and aficionados

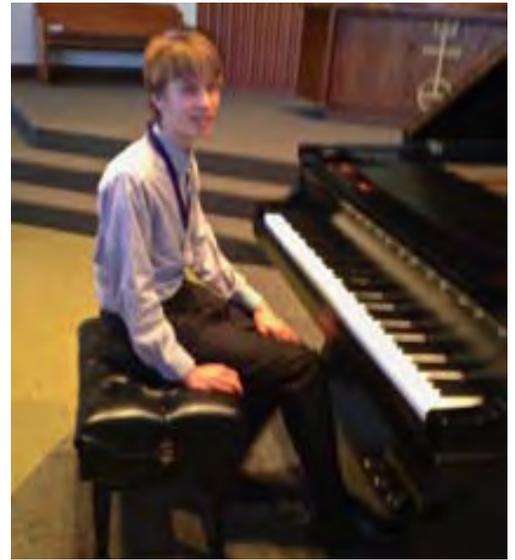
were impressive in their artistry and poise. Thanks to Lucy Clevenger for overseeing this much-anticipated event!   
*(Photos by Dr. Anne Young.)*



Lucy Clevenger, chair  
OMTA State Jr. Bach Competition



Ben Frueh, violin and Kai Frueh, piano



Ellwood Zwovic



Jalen Wang



Sofia Megert



# HANDS-DOWN WINNER.



## SYNERGY OF SUPERB SOUND AND FINE DESIGN.

Classic Pianos showcases the stunning Yamaha CFX nine-foot concert grand on stage, and invites teachers to inquire about booking our 100-seat Recital Hall at special OMTA rates.

Contact Peggie Zackery, [pzackery@classicportland.com](mailto:pzackery@classicportland.com) for more information.

### "CFX TRIUMPH IN HAMAMATSU"

Piano finalists of Yamaha's 8th annual Hamamatsu International Piano Competition.



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# District News *Calendar of Upcoming District Events*

*District Leadership:* Please regularly submit the *full details* of upcoming District events (not more than 3 months at a time) that are open for OMTA members to attend. *Thank you!*

## Tualatin Valley OMTA – Upcoming District Events

Friday, March 13

10:00 am *TV-OMTA Teacher Recital*  
Location: Tigard United Methodist Church,  
9845 SW Walnut Place, Tigard  
*All are welcome.*

Wednesday, April 1

Noon Tualatin Valley Teachers Concert  
Location: “The Old Church”  
in downtown Portland  
Admission: FREE weekly Brown Bag Concert

Saturday, April 4

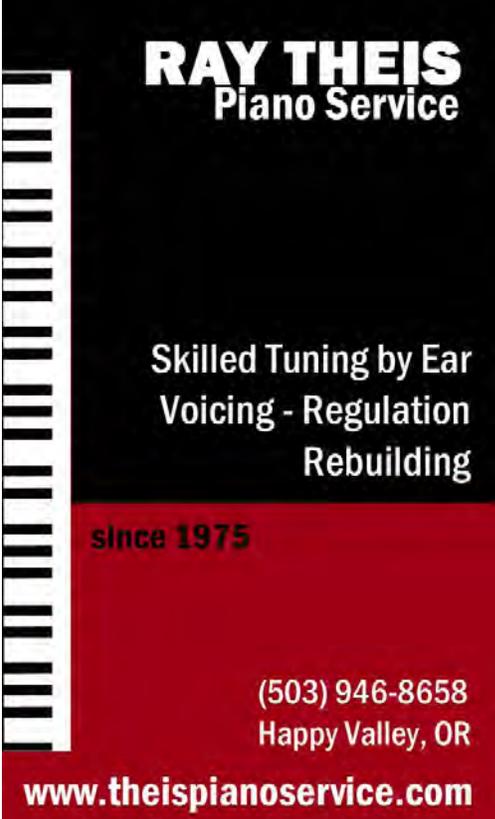
2:30 to 4:30 pm *Annual High Tea Musicale Scholarship Concert*  
Location: Home of Fran Geer in Sherwood  
Tickets and more details see [www.tvomta.org](http://www.tvomta.org)

Friday, April 10

10:00 am *Rare Masterpieces of Domenico Scarlatti*  
by Dr. Claire Wachter  
Location: Tigard United Methodist Church  
9845 SW Walnut Place, Tigard  
*All are welcome.*

Friday, May 8

9:15 am TV-OMTA Election of Officers / Spring Brunch  
For more information contact TV-OMTA President  
Sherrere Walker at [rswalker1@comcast.net](mailto:rswalker1@comcast.net)



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Helen Jones, NCTM



## *Mentoring, Coaching, Celebrating Excellence*

Our first student event of 2015 was the Impressionistic/Contemporary Festival on February 7. We introduced several new elements. In addition to having a wonderful recital, students wore our new Central Oregon District T-shirts and we had a program cover contest with student-

submitted art. Bridget Roe, student of Mariann Slavkovsky, submitted the winning drawing, which was featured in our February article. We also had a student 2-D & 3-D art display, and the debut of our new Central Oregon District banner and A-Frame sign.

*(Continued on next page)*



Students performing in the Central Oregon Contemporary Festival in February.



More students performing in the Central Oregon Contemporary Festival in February.



Patti Peterson, one of our members, presented an informative program at the February 13 meeting entitled “Artistry in Piano Teaching”. She referenced two sources: Menahem Pressler and Ingrid Jacobson Clarfield partnering with Dennis Alexander. A lively audience discussion followed.



Patti Peterson



Central Oregon members and guests show off their brand new event banner.

Internationally known pianist Kotaro Fukuma was recently in Bend to perform Gershwin’s Piano Concerto in F with the Central Oregon Symphony. He conducted a master class that featured Gabriel Reed (student of Jan Saito-Beckman), Owen Hucke (student of Jill Geil), Mattie Herringshaw (student of Jean Shrader) and Jude Dow-Hygelund (student of Peter Brownlee).



## Grand Piano Scholarship Competition Presented by The Piano Santa Foundation

The winner of the 2015 Piano Santa Foundation Grand Scholarship Competition will receive the use of a grand piano for 2 years, including moving costs, annual tuning and maintenance.

The competition is open to all students, ages 12–16, who have passed at least syllabus level 6 (or equivalent) and live in the Portland Metro area.

Applications and more information are available at [www.pianosanta.org](http://www.pianosanta.org) or contact us at [info@pianosanta.org](mailto:info@pianosanta.org) or (503) 245-6269 for more information.

**Applications Due**

*May 8, 2015*

**Auditions**

*June 13, 2015*

We wish Kiarra Saito-Beckman, daughter of Central Oregon District member Jan Saito, our best as she represents the Northwest Division in Senior Strings at the March MTNA National Conference in Las Vegas.

On a sad note, we report the passing in late December of Bill Elkins, father of Margaret Littlehales. Many will remember the numerous occasions Bill and his wife Connie hosted musical events in their home. 🌿



Carma Glausi  
President-Elect



## MEDALLIONS FOR TEACHERS

At our February 13 business meeting, we had the opportunity to celebrate our momentous national award, that of being named the *2015 MTNA Local Association of the Year*. We enjoyed a delicious cake and received beautiful medallions as commemorations of the award, gifts from our TV-OMTA President Sherrene Walker. We know it is due to the tremendous hard work and dedication of each and every one of our teachers, and our current and past leaders, that we have been honored with this award. We feel deeply grateful to everyone who plays a role in making our district special. Thanks as well to OMTA and MTNA for their guidance and continuing support.

## FESTIVALS, COMPOSERS & HIGH TEA!

This is a busy time of year for our teachers and students. At our business meeting, Susan Marandas reported on our successful Junior Bach Festival of January 31. Nancy Brown collected entry forms for our Sacred Music Recitals, which will take place on



Tualatin Valley members shared this scrumptious Celebration Cake at their February meeting.

Sunday, March 8. Gayle Bland updated us on our Sonatina Gallery coming up on Saturday, February 28. Chikako Doane collected the student compositions being entered into our Composition Festival. After adjudication this month, results and comments will be returned to teachers at our March meeting.

Composition winners will be invited to perform their compositions at our Spring Brunch on May 8 and also at the OMTA State Composition Celebration Recital on Saturday, May 30.

*(Continued on next page)*

## LAKE OSWEGO MUSIC ACADEMY



## SUMMER CAMP SPECTACULAR!

**SUMMER CAMP I** - AUG 10-13 9AM - Noon  
Rhythm, conducting patterns, sight singing

**SUMMER CAMP II** - AUG 17-20 9AM - Noon  
Creating a song, instruments we love

**SPECIAL DAY** - AUG 21 Performance 10AM - Noon  
Parents Invited!



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# District News *Tualatin Valley (continued)*



Jennifer Wright brought her inspirational and engaging presentation on composition through “Inspiration Books.”



February attendees were pleased with their commemorative medallions presented by President Sherrene Walker.

Dr. Anne Young updated us on plans for our third annual Scholarship Tea, taking place on Saturday, April 4, at the home of Frances Geer. More details will be forthcoming.

## COMPOSITION INSPIRATIONS

Following our business meeting, our guest speaker, Jennifer Wright, presented *Muse Whispering: Teaching techniques that make musical composition possible for every student*. Jennifer gave us many creative ideas to work with! At the center of her presentation: helping students create “Inspiration Books.”

Toward the end of her presentation, Jennifer invited us to come up to the front table and make our own inspiration page. We saw unique feelings and concepts characteristic to each person. What a freeing and empowering way to begin a composition! There is no fear in creating an inspiration book.

Finally, Jennifer chose one audience member to come up to the piano with her inspiration page, to try out different riffs and themes that might express what was on her page. Fascinating and completely open-ended.

Thank you for sharing your amazing creativity with us, Jennifer. We can all take these ideas and use them in our studios to help inspire our students to compose! 🌿

## Tualatin Valley District - OMTA

### ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIP HIGH TEA

Saturday, April 4, 2015  
2:30 - 4:30 p.m.

Held in the beautiful home of  
Frances & Jack Geer  
17325 SW Parrett Mountain Rd  
Sherwood OR 97140

Tickets: Individual & family  
[tvomta.org](http://tvomta.org) for information  
503.342.6896

### COMING UP:

- March 13 at 10 am: TV-OMTA Teacher Recital, chaired by Andrea Granat, where several of our teachers will perform—always a delight.
- April 10 at 10 am: Dr. Claire Wachter presenting *Rare Masterpieces of Domenico Scarlatti*.
- All are welcome to attend these events. Please see “Upcoming District Events” in this newsletter, and our website [www.tvomta.org](http://www.tvomta.org) for more.





## 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](mailto: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](mailto: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

<b>Jan</b>	Dec 15	<b>June</b>	May 15
<b>Feb</b>	Jan 15	<b>Sept</b>	Aug 15
<b>Mar</b>	Feb 15	<b>Oct</b>	Sept 15
<b>Apr</b>	Mar 15	<b>Nov</b>	Oct 15
<b>May</b>	Apr 15	<b>Dec</b>	Nov 15

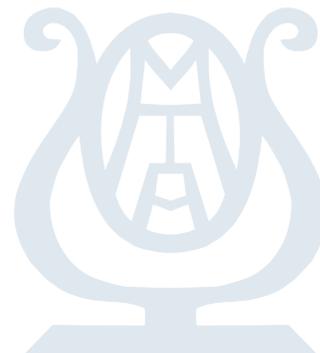
The link below connects you to your local District Associations, OMTA Board of Directors and Committee Chairs:

[www.oregonmta.org/contact/](http://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](mailto:office@oregonmta.org)





## Music News

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*Published by:*

**Oregon Music Teachers Association, Inc.**

*Affiliated with:*

**Music Teachers National Association, Inc.**

*Graphic Design by:*

**Julie Weiss, Tobias Weiss Design**

[julie@tobiasweissdesign.com](mailto:julie@tobiasweissdesign.com)

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## Administrative Assistants

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[office@oregonmta.org](mailto:office@oregonmta.org)



## State Website

[www.oregonmta.org](http://www.oregonmta.org)

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:

*March 15, 2015*

*April 15, 2015*

*May 15, 2015*

