

OMTA Music News

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May 2015

No. 9



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Time to Register for the Conference!

by Kathy Gault

Our annual OMTA state conference, June 19–21 in Welches, is coming up soon. Registration forms and complete conference schedule information are available on the OMTA website:

<http://tinyurl.com/purppkm>

- **Early Bird Registration at reduced rates offered through May 25.**
- **Online registration will close on June 11.**
- **Registration will reopen at the conference on June 19 at 8:30 a.m.**

Menu choices are available on the registration form. Lunches included, unless otherwise noted.

Conference Presenter Spotlight: Forrest Kinney, NCTM

Many of you have been fortunate enough to attend one of Forrest's intensive workshops on improvisation or arranging, or heard him speak at past OMTA or MTNA conferences. This year he is all ours!

ALL THE MUSICAL ARTS

In addition to being a teacher for over 35 years, he is a composer, arranger, performer author and creative innovator, whose goal is to

FINANCIAL INCENTIVES

Remember, there are new and continuing financial incentives available to attendees through OMTA and our OCF grants, making the conference more affordable than ever. These include:

- Travel grants of \$200 per district, for established members who have never attended an OMTA state conference.
- FREE conference registration for college music students.
- FREE conference registration for new OMTA/MTNA members in their first year (joined since June 2014).
- Partial room rebates for those who need financial assistance with housing.

If you haven't yet registered for the conference, be sure you do so before May 25 to get the discounted rate.

help his students become whole musicians adept in all the musical arts.

IMPROV, PERFORMANCE, INTERPRETATION, & PRACTICE

Forrest will be presenting four sessions for us, including an Improvisation Master Class, and a look back at the history of music performance over the past 200 years. He will also share some creative ways to practice and an unusual perspective on interpretation.

2015 State Conference Schedule



Schedule for 2015 OMTA State Conference Resort at the Mountain Welches, Oregon

Friday, June 19

- Dr. Pete Jutras ~ The Road Ahead: Piano Study for the Next Generations
- Forrest Kinney ~ The Four Arts of Music: A New Paradigm for Music Education
- Dr. Alexander Tutunov ~ Master Class
- Art Resnick ~ Composer of the Year Recital
- Forrest Kinney ~ Creative Practicing and the Art of Interpretation

Saturday, June 20

- Wendy Stevens NCTM ~ Best Stress-Free Business Practices
- Dr. Pete Jutras ~ Shall We Play a Game? Pedagogical Principles in Video Games
- Wendy Stevens NCTM ~ Have You Forgotten What It's Like to Be a Child?
- Dr. Pete Jutras ~ It's Never Too Late: Teaching Adult Beginners
- Forrest Kinney ~ Improvisation Master Class
- Banquet
- Artist Recital ~ Dr. Alexander Tutunov

Sunday, June 21

- General Membership Meeting
- Dr. Claire Wachter ~ The Virtual Pedagogue
- Forrest Kinney ~ Stories of the Masters—The Shift from Improvisation to Interpretation (with Improv Interludes)



President's Corner



Calling All Voting Members

I think we can all agree that change is hard. We like to feel comfortable, to know what to expect and how things will be. But we also know that if we don't allow for change we can't grow and flourish. Our organization faces the same challenge—adapt and change with the times, or dwindle and fade. It is with that thought in mind that I bring to you the issue of our . . .

MEMBERSHIP REQUIREMENTS

For many years now, Oregon has been one of only two states in MTNA to require a music degree for active membership. No other states, with the exception of Florida, have this requirement. *Recruiting and retaining members has become a critical issue for MTNA and OMTA alike.* Without new members to carry the organization forward, we can't survive. It's time to consider if our organization is perceived as inclusive and welcoming to teachers or exclusive and aloof.

SEEKING EXCELLENCE

The argument is often made that the degree requirement is an assurance of the quality and professionalism of our members. But I think we all know excellent teachers who do not have a college degree in music. And I suppose we can also think of teachers who do have that degree but might not be better teachers for it. While the degree requirement may have made sense in the past, we've all seen the current statistics about the exorbitant cost of college. For so many varied reasons, excellent teachers in our state may have been unable to obtain a college degree in music. Should we hold that against them?

The further argument is that the Provisional status we offer gives those teachers a path to active membership. But the truth of the matter is that established, excellent teachers in our community are often not willing to “jump through the hoops” to achieve Active status. It's just not worth it to them. Do we want to discourage these teachers from sharing their time and talent in our organization?

Finally, I would argue that the only assurance of quality and professionalism that we can offer is our excellent continuing education program. By including teachers, regardless of their degree status, we can offer them the chance to grow and improve. Through participation in our syllabus program and state festivals, attendance at our workshops and master classes, and through the support and guidance of our experienced colleagues, we all grow and improve. I certainly feel I've learned more in the trenches than I did in the classroom.

At our February OMTA Board meeting, Liz Willis, Membership Chair, gave this statement:

“I believe that Oregon's two-tiered structure of membership is both outdated and unnecessary. The “Provisional” category is both old school and exclusive, and actually discourages many prospective members from joining that are fine teachers and excellent professional musicians, but have not attained an actual degree.”

(Continued on next page)



President's Corner *(Continued)*

VOTING ON JUNE 21ST

After some discussion, the board voted unanimously to recommend this change to OMTA's membership requirements. In accordance with our bylaws, any change involving membership must be approved by a vote of our members. This vote will take place at our General Membership Meeting, Sunday June 21st, during our Annual Conference. All members are invited.

You do not need to be registered for the conference to attend this meeting.

I believe the time has come to more fully embrace OMTA's mission as stated in Article II, Sections 1 and 2 of our Constitution:

"The object of the Association is the advancement of musical knowledge and education."

And:

"Activities of the Association are aimed at the promotion of the art of music and the advancement of musical knowledge by providing educational opportunities that further the appreciation of music throughout the state."

I hope you will carefully consider this issue and join us for the vote in June.



Cindy Peterson-Peart, NCTM
President, OMTA



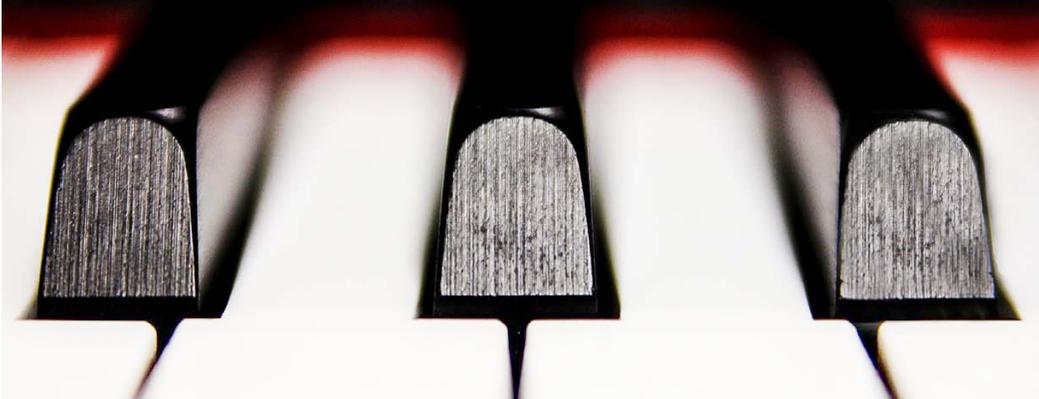
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Eileen Knox



Summer Music Camp Scholarships

Music Link Teachers! It is time to complete your application for Music Link Scholarships. The forms are on the Portland OMTA and State OMTA sites. All applications must be completed by May 1. The Music Link committee will meet on May 5 to award the scholarships. Any student who has been in the program since November of 2014 is eligible.

The Music Link Summer Music Camp Scholarships will be given to Music Link students of any age who have been in the program for six months or more and are registered for a Summer Music Camp.

The OMTA-Music Link Continuing Education Scholarship will be given to one or more OMTA-Music Link high school students under the age of 18, to help them pay for continuing education expenses of any nature and in any field of study. Applications must be postmarked no later than May 1 of the same calendar year. 🌿

Editor's Note: Although this application deadline has passed, Music Link requested this posting for future reference.



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

Angela Kelly,
Marketing



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experiences and successes in their teaching studios.

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State News *Membership*

Liz Willis, NCTM
Membership Chair



Membership Update

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

Mid-Columbia District

Nathan Reimche-Vu, student member

Portland District

Ken Bookstein
Joan Gardner
Yunhee Lee

Salem District

Dr. Erma Armstrong

Tualatin Valley

Jeanette Shempert

Member at large

Jeanine Jacobson

Renew Online!

MTNA has sent e-mails to all current members with renewal of membership details for the next year which runs July 1, 2015, through June 30, 2016. It is so easy to renew online at the MTNA site with your membership number and credit card.

Please remember that in order to be listed both in our printed OMTA Handbook and on our state online directory (at www.oregonmta.org), your dues must be received by the June 30 deadline.

In addition, our Leggiero online registration for all syllabus and festival registrations will not allow registration if your dues are not current.

Please respect the time of your volunteer officers and chairs by paying your dues on time so that there is no need for panicked calls and e-mails in the last hours before these registration deadlines.

Your attention to this will be very much appreciated.



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www.bodymap.org

A one-day Body Mapping course taught by national experts will be offered Thursday, June 18th, for a special fee of \$100.00. (Note: Price for the one-day course will remain the same after early bird special ends April 15th.)

Visit www.bodymap.org for conference and registration details.



State News *Note from Dorothy Fahlman — 2015 Foundation Fellow*

Dorothy Pederson Fahlman



The MTNA convention in Las Vegas this Spring was a most satisfying experience for me. It was a meaningful culmination of a 71 year career as a music teacher. (For the record I started teaching piano when I was eleven years old.) I much appreciate the OMTA support in sending me as your representative!

Over the years Oregon has provided significant leadership in programs later acclaimed and supported by MTNA.

Looking back I treasure the opportunity of working with the members of OMTA in programs such as Syllabus, The Russian Exchange program, the Adjudication Conferences, and the Oregon Musician. These experiences and many more led to most meaningful relationships and friendships.

I can only add:

A heartfelt Thank You!



Dorothy Fahlman receiving Foundation Fellow Award from Ken Christensen (L) and Gary Ingle (R).



State News *Sonata & Sonatina Festival 2015*

Sandy Hull, NCTM
OMTA Sonata & Sonatina
Festival Chair



The OMTA Sonata & Sonatina Festival is scheduled for Saturday, October 24, 2015 at the University of Oregon School of Music and Dance, Eugene. Complete information and the 2015 required repertoire list is available on the OMTA website at www.oregonmta.org. The deadline for entries is September 25, 2015.

REPERTOIRE LISTS COMING SOON!

We look forward to another successful festival this year. All participating students will receive participation ribbons and comment sheets. Up to three deserving students in each level will receive an Honorable Mention medal, and first and second place winners will receive trophies. We encourage you to start assigning these great sonatas and sonatinas from the repertoire list as soon as the syllabus season comes to a close so students may begin preparing for the October 2015 festival.

NEW THIS YEAR

Please note two important changes to the format this year.

1. Judges will choose the top two students in each level to compete for first and second place at the Honors Recital, held later in the day and open to the public.
2. We request that students entering level 1, 2, or 3 not be over 12 years old. No age limit for levels 4–10.

Hope to see you at the OMTA Sonata & Sonatina Festival 2015. If you have any questions, please contact me:

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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, May 8, @ TUMC, 9:15 am

TV-OMTA Election of Officers/Spring Brunch

For more information, please contact TV-OMTA

President, Sherrene Walker at rswalker1@comcast.net

Friday, Sept 11, @ TUMC, 10 AM – 11:30 a,

Heidi Evans & Bev Mayhew

Spooky Improvisation in Six Easy Lessons

Ten minutes to hooked students! Learn how to improvise at the piano through listening to dark and eerie classical masterworks. In six quick ten-minute lessons, students can prepare a performance-ready improvisation by deriving short motives from spooky favorites.

For more information, including a listening list of works to be used in the presentation, please contact TV-OMTA President-Elect, Carma Glausi at carmarenee@aol.com

Friday, Oct 9, @ TUMC, 10 AM – 11:30 am,

followed by a meet and greet reception

The von Trapps

A Morning of Exquisite Harmonies With the von Trapps

October 9th is Professional Day for Oregon public schools; this is a day off school for all public school students in Oregon, when they can devote their day to their own personal educational pursuits. Mark your calendars, and please invite your friends, students and their families to attend this very special concert!

For more information, or for a digital flyer you may print or forward on to others, please contact TV-OMTA President-Elect, Carma Glausi at carmarenee@aol.com



Liz Cooper



Shaking Up Your Studio

In a very inspiring program at our April meeting, Lea Emerson challenged us to look at what we are doing in our own studios and suggested many ways to personalize our lessons for each individual student. Lea is a dynamic, creative teacher with a diverse studio and it was a treat to hear some of the things she and her students are doing. Lea challenged us to stay aware of what is happening in today's world, and to respond to it, not to simply teach the way we were taught.

A sample of ideas from Lea's handout:

1. Shaking up the order of attack: Intentionally change it up. Make it fun. Let the student choose the order. Draw from a hat.
2. Shaking up what practicing means: Moving away from amount of time to other creative ideas. Be specific in what they should be able to do with a piece at the next lesson.

3. Shaking up studio layout. Kids notice when something is different.
4. Shaking up your resources: Look at everything out there and use it. Other people have done the work; take advantage of their ideas.
5. Shaking up targets: Brainstorm with students and let them choose a project they want to do.

Part of Lea's presentation was based on Australian teacher Philip Johnston's *The Dynamic Studio*. This, and his earlier book *The Practice Revolution* are full of ideas that may prompt you to try something different in your own studio. 



Lea Emerson advises: "Shake Up Your Studio."



District News *Central Oregon*

Helen Jones, NCTM



High Achievers Recognized

We are excited to have many outstanding young musicians living in central Oregon.

Violinist Kiarra Saito-Beckman recently won the MTNA National Senior Strings competition at the MTNA National Conference in Las Vegas. Kiarra was just accepted to Cleveland Institute of Music for the Fall of 2015 and will receive a full tuition scholarship. She will be graduating early as she is only a sophomore at Summit High School. She got one of two spots in the studio of Jaime Laredo, world renowned pedagogue and violinist.



MTNA outgoing President, Ken Christensen and Gary Ingle, CEO in Las Vegas with Kiarra Saito-Beckman, national winner in Senior Strings competition.



Ten-year-old Jude Dow-Hygelund, piano student of Peter Brownlee, has been selected as one of three young musicians (and the only one from Central Oregon) to perform May 16, 17 & 18 with the Central Oregon Symphony in Bend. The Young Artist Competition, sponsored by the Central Oregon Symphony Association, includes cash prizes to the winners as well as the opportunity to perform with the orchestra. Jude will perform the first movement of Haydn's Concerto in D Major.



Jude Dow-Hygelund,
Young Artist piano soloist.

Our April program featured Dr. Claire Wachter, who spoke and demonstrated her new order of Schumann's "Album for the Young" plus a sneak preview of her new video series, "The Virtual Piano Pedagogue." Claire will also be a presenter at our State Conference in June.



Drs. Claire Wachter and Dean Kramer.

Our last student event of the 2014–15 year will be the ever popular Ensemble Recitals June 6. More information about that event next month. 🌿



District News *Eugene*

Fern McArthur



Adventure and Imagination in Eugene

Eugene District has been enjoying a busy and productive year. We are pleased to welcome six new members along with seven from last year, and attendance at our monthly meetings has been ever-increasing. Recently we've benefited from programs by Dr. Joy J. Song, U of O's Michael Seregow and Dr. Peter Mack. Our annual May brunch brings socializing and inspiring conversation.

Student performance opportunities have included our annual District Recital, which is

open to all musical genres. The annual spring theme festival featured music of "Adventure and Imagination" and, of course our May Syllabus. Eugene boasts 18 student composers in our Composition Celebration, six of whom were chosen as honored composers.

Good warm weather wishes to all our colleagues. If any districts want to inquire about our meeting programs, please contact me. Hope to see you all at the Conference! 

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Jessica Treon



Spotlight on Teachers: A Broadway Revue

Spotlight on the Teachers, A Broadway Revue, 3rd Edition, a benefit for the Suzanne Brown Student Aid Fund hosted by the Lincoln County District of the Oregon Music Teachers Association was held on Sunday, February 22 at the Newport Performing Arts Center.

“The *Spotlight Concerts* are the primary means of funding our scholarships,” says Rita Warton, president of the local district. “Without community support our scholarship students would really suffer. We have many talented students on partial scholarships that would not be able to continue lessons without financial help. In addition, it gives us the opportunity to showcase our own members as well as many local musical performers who join us as guests.”

Sarah Ball performed piano duets from *My Fair Lady* with local guest pianist, Ginger Hodge. Mary Lee Scoville and Jessica Treon played Cole Porter numbers, *Begin the Beguine* and *Night and Day*, on two pianos. Rita Warton sang a delightful rendition of *Lydia the Tattooed Lady*, accompanied by Treon.

“In addition to paying tribute to Broadway hits from the 1930s to today, our program this year celebrated Milo Graaman’s musical, *She Loves Me Not*. Milo is an alumnus of OMTA and we are extremely proud

of him,” says Treon. “We had three numbers from his play on the program. We think of his musical as a Broadway hit of the future.” Singers Pete Theodore, Gidget Manucci, Kathy Elbert, Akia Woods, Cynthia Wilkes, and Brian Haggerty sang with musical accompaniment by Graamans, piano, Ian Smith, guitar, Kevin Kemper, bass, Curtis Colt, drums and Richard Henrikson, violin.

Other guests included Stephan who sang, and also shared trivia and stories about each Broadway show. Vickie Steen danced in her inimitable style. Katrina and Pete Theodore, Stuart Clausen, Akia Woods, and Brian Haggerty sang other numbers from a variety of shows and composers. Singers were accompanied by Scoville, Treon, and Graamans on piano. “Over the years, some of the best and certainly best loved music has been written for Broadway. This concert was definitely our best yet. We all had a great time, performances were topnotch, and we gave our scholarship fund a big boost,” says Treon.

Other activities and membership of Lincoln County OMTA can be viewed at www.lincolncountyomta.org or on Facebook: Lincoln County Oregon Music Teachers Association. 🌿



Sarah Ball and Ginger Hodge.



Rita Warton with Jessie Treon.



Cast of Spotlight Concert.



District News *Linn-Benton*

Stella Meinzer
Linn-Benton District President



In February Paul Safar, OMTA 2014 Composer of the Year, presented “Inspiring and Nurturing Young Composers.”

In March Dr. Rachele McCabe challenged and encouraged us with “Preparing Students for Performance.”

In April Kimberly Gifford, Theater Artist and Drama Teacher, presented a workshop on “Freeing up Expression in Students and Developing Stage Presence.”

New officers for 2015 – 2017

Co-Presidents: Linda Hansen

Caren Luckenbill

Vice-President: Mary Ann Guenther

Secretary: Joy Byers

Treasurer: Lucy Watts



Paul Safar, OMTA 2014 Composer of the Year.



District News *Tualatin Valley*

Carma Glausi
President-Elect



On Wednesday, April 1, at the Old Church in downtown Portland, six of our TV-OMTA teachers gave a beautiful recital for the Noon Sack Lunch Program, with over 100 people in the audience. A guest cellist also joined with the group of performers. Inspired by the theme “Dances,” the program was as follows:

HEIDI EVANS

Waltz in Eb, Op. 15 F. Chopin

Tango a la Mango D. Alexander

ANDREA GRANAT

Waltz in B minor, Op. 69, No. 2 F. Chopin

VICTORIA DROZDOVA

Batyushkov Waltz V. Gavrilin

LILIN CHEN

Polonaise in C# minor, Op. 26, No. 1

F. Chopin

TIM SCOTT, CELLO

& LILIN CHEN, PIANO

Five Pieces in Folk Style, Op. 102, No. 1.

Mit Humor R. Schumann

Cello Sonata in # Minor, Op. 38 2nd mvt.:

Allegretto quasi Menuetto J. Brahms

Sicilienne in G minor, Op. 78 G. Faure

ANDREA GRANAT

Jamaican Rumba A. Benjamin

Lisa Mendes and Nancy Brown

Petite Suite for piano 4-hands No. 4 Ballet

C. Debussy

Thank you to Andrea Granat, our playing class chair, for organizing our performers for the Old Church concert; and thank you to Anne Young for preparing the beautiful printed programs!

Our third annual Scholarship High Tea, held at the home of Fran and Jack Geer on Saturday, April 4, was a stun-



Heidi Evans' Harp Prelude

ning success. 19 students performed in the beautiful fundraiser concert, playing their original compositions, Jr Bach State pieces and Ensemble State pieces. Joining with them on the program was teacher Heidi Evans, performing on for us on her harp as well as on the piano. During the intermission, the performers and the audience of more than 35 adults, treated themselves to a wide variety of tea sandwiches, fruits, veggies, chocolates and baked delicacies. Delicious! Thank you to the Geers for hosting this elegant event! Thank you to Sherrene Walker for being our gracious MC and for helping to organize and present the food. Thank you to Anne Young for bringing together all of our performers and for creating such beautiful certificates and programs for the event. Thank you to Joyce Bradshaw for keeping track of the funds collected at this fundraiser. A lucky and deserving graduating senior student will soon be the recipient of the collected funds!

Immediately following our TV-OMTA business meeting on Friday, April 10, we were privileged to hear *The Genius of Do-*





Delicious Buffet at our Scholarship High Tea.

menico Scarlatti and *Rare Scarlatti Masterpieces* presented by Claire Wachter, DMA, Associate Professor of Piano and Piano Pedagogy at the University of Oregon. After giving us an introduction to Scarlatti's life and his place in history, Claire performed over 20 of Scarlatti's Sonatas for us, pointing out the unique features of each one, and describing Scarlatti's exciting keyboard innovations. Wow—What a treat! As Scarlatti said, "The ear must find the sound pleasing." We certainly found the sound pleasing. Thank you, Claire for teaching and inspiring us!

Claire concluded by giving us an overview of her new online piano course *The Virtual Piano Pedagogue (VPP)*, due to be released online by May 15, 2015, at the website www.pianomastercourse.com. Claire will be presenting VPP in more detail at

our OMTA State Conference in Welches, coming up in June. Looking forward to this! As Claire explains on her VPP flyer, "VPP is a series of online video lecture-performances in piano repertoire. Videos that have been completed or are currently in post-production include *The Art of the Phrase*, *The Essence of Chopin* (with Dean Kramer) and *The Genius of Domenico Scarlatti*. The Oregon Community Foundation (OCF) Nellie Tholen Fund has donated most of the funding for the development of this video series. Piano teachers can study these videos on their own or share them with their students. The videos can be used for OMTA meetings. The videos are also appropriate for university classes in piano pedagogy and/or piano literature. VPP fulfills the wishes of the late Nellie Tholen to offer advanced professional training for all Oregon piano teachers. The online format allows teachers the maximum freedom to continue their study of the great piano repertoire without the expense of tuition or travel."

Please see "Upcoming District Events" in this newsletter, and our website www.tvomta.org, for more information on our future TV-OMTA meetings and programs. 



Performing at the Old Church Recital (left to right): Heidi Evans, Lilin Chen, Nancy Brown, Lisa Mendes, Victoria Drozdova and Andrea Granat





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

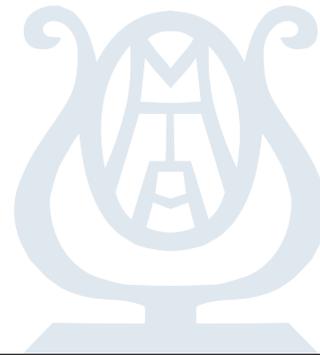
The link below connects you to your local District Associations, OMTA Board of Directors and Committee Chairs:

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.

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Laura Davis

lauradavis47@gmail.com

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Administrative Assistants

Robin Power & Caris Power

OMTA, PO Box 5335, Portland, OR 97228

office@oregonmta.org



State Website

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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:

May 15, 2015

August 15, 2015

October 15, 2015

